

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 5/25/2016 8:44:58 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, May 25, 2016

SC Front Pages – Wednesday, May 25, 2016

USC BASEBALL

Reed Scott
and bullpen lead
USC into SEC
Tournament, 1B



BUSINESS

Batesburg-Leesville
rated among worst
places for stress in SC
by online firm, 6B

WEDNESDAY MAY 25 2016

\$1.00

VOL. 126TH, No. 98
STAY CONNECTED THESTATE.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/THETATENEWS
TWITTER.COM/THETATE



TODAY: MOSTLY SUNNY HI 89 LO 65
YESTERDAY: HI 88 LO 57 PRECIP. (in of 5 pm) 0.00"
FORECAST, 8C

The State

FORT JACKSON PREPS FOR ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY



Victory Tower, in some form, has been at Fort Jackson since at least World War II. Recruits have to overcome their fear of heights quickly to perform well. Fort Jackson is turning 100 years old next year.

Fort Jackson is set to celebrate its centennial with a yearlong series of events beginning with the 241st Army Birthday Ball on June 18. More than 30 events will help the fort and the Midlands celebrate the nation's

ONLINE

Visit thestate.com for video highlights of training at Fort Jackson.

its 100 years in Columbia. Fort Jackson officials released details of the celebration during a media tour of the base.

ACCUSED CHARLESTON CHURCH GUNMAN

Feds want the death penalty for Roof

Feds say Dylann Roof, charged with killing nine African-Americans, "attempted to incite violent action by others"

Roof's targeting of people "vulnerable due to old age" contributed to decision to seek death penalty



Roof

in (July's) indictment," the notice said.

Roof, 22, who is from Columbia, is white. Each of his nine victims was African-American, as are the three survivors.

"Roof targeted men and women participating in a Bible-study group at the Emanuel AME Church in order to magnify the societal impact of the offenses," the notice said.

David Bruck, one of Roof's lawyers, said Tuesday the defense team would have no comment on the government decision.

In what appeared to be a new government allegation, Tuesday's notice also said that in preparing for June's mass killings at an African-

SEE ROOF, 7A

BY JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

Federal prosecutors on Tuesday announced they intend to seek the death penalty against accused hate-crimes Charleston church gunman Dylann Roof.

"Dylann Storm Roof has expressed hatred and contempt towards African-Americans, as well as other groups, and his animosity towards African-Americans played a role in the murders charged

Prayer, portrait will honor Pinckney's life

BY JAMIE SELF
jself@thestate.com

VIDEO

thestate.com: Pinckney talks about the flag; also, the artist talks about the slain state senator's portrait

MORE INSIDE

Schedule of activities for "A Day of Remembrance: A Day of Celebration"

issue," then-state Rep. Pinckney said, before lawmakers struck a compromise to remove the banner from the State House dome and fly it on the grounds.

Pinckney had no way of knowing that his death - he

Slain S.C. Sen. Clementa Pinckney feared in 2000 that South Carolinians would be debating what to do about the Confederate flag at the State House for more than a decade.

"I'm afraid, as many in my generation are afraid, that five, 10, 15 years down the road, you



Pinckney



SPORTS DECISION A BIG GAMBLE



LIFESTYLE Grilled salad easy, healthy

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

WEDNESDAY,
MAY 25, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY TSA SEEKS WAYS TO EASE LONG WAITS AT AIRPORTS PAGE 1B

Delegation members ask FTC to probe GHS

LIV OSBY
LOSBY@GANNETT.COM

Nine members of the Greenville County legislative delegation have asked the Federal Trade Commission to investigate Greenville Health System's plans to expand.

In a letter to the agency, the legislators say they are "very concerned that this plan will severely reduce competition in our health-care marketplace, which will in turn have a negative impact on health-care prices, health-care quality, on the poor, our local businesses and

our community as a whole."

GHS spokeswoman Karen Potter said the hospital is not aware of any request for an investigation. She declined further comment.

The letter was signed by state Reps. Mike Burns, Garry Smith, Dwight Loftis, Tommy Stringer, Leola Robinson Simpson and Bill Chumley and state Sens. Tom Corbin, Shane Martin and Lee Bright.

"We are asking them to look at what's going on in Greenville," Burns told *The Greenville News*. "They always say (the plan) will drive down prices and raise the

quality of health care and increase access. We believe the opposite."

GHS is moving to change its governance structure so that it can remain a public nonprofit as part of a larger private, nonprofit multi-regional health system. Officials say that will allow the system to respond quickly in a rapidly changing health-care environment and expedite partnerships with other health care facilities.

Under that plan, GHS would lease its assets to an affiliated organization run by the multi-regional, and a new board for the private entity would make strategic

and operating decisions. Trustees of the public entity, who are approved by the delegation, have those responsibilities now.

But the restructuring plan was challenged by several members of the delegation as taking public assets out of public oversight.

GHS got about \$82 million in county tax funds during the 1960s and 1970s to build parts of Greenville Memorial, Hillcrest Memorial, North Greenville Hospital and Allen Bennett Memorial.

See PROBE, Page 9A



Residents raise concerns to the Greenville Housing Authority during a press conference at Brookhaven Apartments on Tuesday.

LAUREN PETRACCA/STAFF

Housing authority tries to calm fears

Residents concerned about forced move

ERIC CONNOR
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The leadership of the Greenville Housing Authority tried Tuesday to assure residents of the Brookhaven and Westview public housing communities that they would not permanently lose their homes as part of a \$22 million renovation project.

However, the news conference became an argument between housing officials and residents who were present over whether the authority is being truthful and, if so, whether temporary housing will be safe.

The meeting was designed to answer claims made at a news conference last week convened by Greenville County Council candidate Ennis Fant in which residents of the communities expressed concern that they would be displaced and didn't know where they were going.

The chairwoman of the housing authority's board, Felsi Harris, said that housing officials needed to clear up "lies"

renovation project until more assurances can be made.

"They've been lying to these people for so long, it's pathetic," Fant said.

Mayor Knox White was on hand and told the crowd that getting personal was not the best path but that "there's always room for more communication." The mayor said the two communities, dating back as far as the 1940s, have long needed improvement.

The housing authority has shared plans for the renovation since November 2013, said Ivory Mathews, the housing authority's executive director. In December, residents were informed that in the coming months they would be receiving letters stating that they would have to move, with 90 days notice, and would be relocated for about a year until the work was done.

The authority, Mathews said, will pay for moving expenses and provide moving service. The agency also will help with home application fees and the costs to shift utility ser-

Greenville parents ask for metal detectors in schools

NATHANIEL CARY
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Anzula Banks grew up in New York City and walked through a metal detector every day she went to school.

"We had metal detectors in our high schools and I felt safe going to school every day because we had those metal detectors in our schools," Banks said. "I knew going to class that I didn't have to worry about someone in the classroom having a gun or having a knife."

It's time, Banks said, for Greenville County Schools to install metal detectors in its schools.

Banks joined a group of parents and community members who delivered a petition to the district's school board Tuesday asking for the district to install metal detectors in the wake of the first reported shooting inside of a school in recent history at Southside High School on May 13.

Twelve days later, school district and Greenville County Sheriff's Office officials still haven't said why a student had a loaded gun at the school when it apparently was fired accidentally and injured a 16-year-old who has been charged in the incident along with a 17-year-old student.

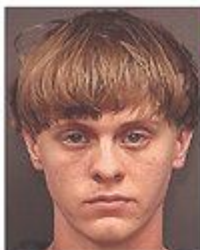
Speakers told school board trustees that Southside's was not a lone gun incident.

"My son comes home and he talks to me and there have been incidents where students have had guns in school and just were not caught," Banks, whose son goes to Greenville High School, said.

Metal detectors would catch those guns or knives and would make Banks feel her son is safe when he goes to school, she said.

But school district officials said Tuesday there's no evidence that metal detectors provide any more safety to schools or would prevent a gun from being brought to school.

The district is open to suggestions for improved safety and will conduct a review of its safety procedures this summer but is leaning against putting metal detectors in its schools, said Superintendent Burke Royster.



Morning News

WEDNESDAY MAY 25, 2016

The Voice of the Pee Dee

TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly sunny and seasonably warm.
High 89, low 63.
DETAILS 2A

www.snow.com

75 cents

Bill banning ticket quotas advancing in SC Senate

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Law enforcement officers could not be required to write a certain number of tickets under legislation that reached the Senate floor on Tuesday.

With just five legislative days left in the session, the Senate Judiciary Committee approved the bill unanimously. The House passed it 99-0 last month.

Sponsoring Rep. Justin Bamberg said quotas pressure officers to stop people for minor offenses, and his bill would help repair their frayed relationships with the communities they serve. Both citizens and officers will be happier, he said.

"An officer operating under a quota system stops somebody he probably wouldn't have, and one thing leads to another," said Bamberg, a Democrat who also represents the family of Walter Scott, the black man shot and killed as he ran from a North Charleston police officer last year.

Quotas also add stress to an already stressful job, he said: "Good officers who are patrolling communities — doing things like checking on the elderly — may not be meeting a set number of ticket requirements and get literally drained. It silently kills their career."

Officer Michael Slager was fired and charged with murder in the shooting of Scott, who he pulled over for a broken third brake light. The dead man's family said Scott likely fled because he feared going to jail for unpaid child support.

Slager's lawyer, Andy Savage, said his client would never have pulled Scott over if not for a quota system that he claimed required officers to stop at least three drivers a day.

Police in North Charleston have denied imposing any quotas, and other law enforcement leaders say they don't exist.

The bill says officers can instead be evaluated on their "points of contact," defined as their interactions with residents and businesses and their involvement in community initiatives. It provides whistleblower protections to officers alleging their bosses are requiring quotas.

What's unclear in the bill is what happens if an agency breaks the law. It contains no punishment, but Bamberg said a mayor or city council could fire the police chief, and they could be sued.



PHOTOS BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY/MORNING NEWS

Help 4 Kids Florence provided dinner and thanked their volunteers Tuesday afternoon at its warehouse on Hoffmeyer Road.

Help 4 Kids thanks volunteers



Help 4 Kids Florence volunteers gathered at the Hoffmeyer Road warehouse Tuesday afternoon for a special dinner.

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Help 4 Kids Florence volunteers were thanked Tuesday afternoon for their help to the nonprofit organization over the past year.

Volunteers and Help 4 Kids Florence officers gathered at the nonprofit organization's warehouse on Hoffmeyer Road in Florence and ate hamburgers and hot dogs while reflecting on the effect it has had

in the lives of the children it serves.

"We do this every year to just say thank you to these people that give so willingly and so regularly of their time and their money and their gas, all the things a volunteer organization couldn't operate without," said Help 4 Kids Florence President Diane Welsh.

Help 4 Kids Florence provides weekend bags of food to elementary school children in each Florence

See **KIDS**, Page 3A

Celebrate Jamestown to add spoken word, poetry events

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Members of the Celebrate Jamestown event committee were in search of a way to expand the awareness of African-American history. Reconstruction and Jamestown.

They came up with an idea for a series of spoken word and poetry events to begin June 25.

"This is a way of expanding and digging deeper into our culture and our history," said Jamestown Foundation director Terry James. "Many people who don't have the knowledge, don't know about spoken word and

how powerful it is ... we just want to go back to the African-American tradition."

Spoken word is a form of expression that can include storytelling, poetry and monologues. It has been a tradition in African culture to share stories, or folklore, such as "Br'er Rabbit."

To broaden the scope of the

annual James family reunion that will feature several community events during July 22-24, the committee felt spoken word was a necessary aspect of the celebration and recognition. The goal is to preserve the rich oral tradition of

See **POETRY**, Page 4A

Couple win Pride of Darlington award for house, yard beauty

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com



DARLINGTON — Sam and Nora Grant take pride in their Circle Drive home.

And now it's official. The Grants received the Pride of Darlington award Tuesday afternoon in recognition of their efforts at

She said the board advises the city council on various projects and recently upgraded Wells Park. There's constant work on the Rose Garden on Pearl Street, and the board holds a clean-up day twice a year while also being responsible for the planters around Town Square.

"We do appreciate that

ing pond out back, she joked that she wouldn't go past a stoplight Sam Grant installed along the path as a lighthearted means of keeping folks at bay. Hines called the award "well deserved."

"It's quite an honor for us," Nora Grant said. This is the second time they have received the award.

She finds it therapeutic. "And rewarding."

Jimmy White, who has served on the Beautification Board for two years, said the board receives from six to 12 nominations each time.

"It's immaculate. I'm jealous," he said, laughing. "It adds to the character of our town."



SPORTS: Post 20 ready to start season, **1B**

INDEX-JOURNAL

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IJ indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Drug testing discussion on hold

By **ARIEL GILREATH**
agilreath@indexjournal.com

Abbeville County school board members want guidance on proposal

ABBEVILLE — Abbeville County School District's board of trustees approved delaying its discussion on drug testing students involved in extracurricular activities.

The board voted 7 to 1 to hold off

on the proposal, with board member David Carter dissenting.

The proposed policy would drug test all students involved in extracurricular activities in the district and require counseling for students with

positive tests.

Carter proposed the idea to the board several months ago after citing a need for the district to test its students.

Superintendent Jonathan Phipps

told board members Tuesday night he needed some directive on the proposed policy after having brought all of the information requested to the board.

"I'm just not sure how to proceed,"

because the board — you guys — have asked specific questions (and) I've tried to answer everything if I have answers," Phipps said. "To give

See **HOLD**, page 3A

CHURCH MASSACRE

US to seek death penalty in Charleston shooting case

By **ERIC TUCKER**
and **MEG KINNARD**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department intends to seek the death penalty against Dylann Roof, the man charged with killing nine black parishioners last year in a church in Charleston, South Carolina, Attorney General Loretta Lynch said Tuesday.

"The nature of the alleged crime and the resulting harm compelled this decision," Lynch said in a brief statement that said the department had considered "all relevant factual and legal issues."

Roof is awaiting trial on federal hate crime charges in connection with the June 17 Emanuel AME Church shooting, which contributed to a national conversation about race relations and ultimately led to the removal of a Confederate battle flag from the grounds of the South Carolina Statehouse.

Roof is also charged in state court with nine counts of murder, and South Carolina prosecutors have already announced plans to seek the death penalty when he stands trial on those charges next year. Solicitor Scarlett Wilson has said she wants her case to be tried first.

Roof, who is white, appeared in photos waving Confederate flags and burning or desecrating U.S. flags, and purportedly wrote of fomenting racial violence. Survivors told police that he hurled racial insults during the attack. He was arrested a day after the shootings when a motorist spotted his Confederate license plate.

Federal prosecutors charged Roof with hate crimes one month after the shooting, saying he was motivated by racial hatred and a desire to commit a "notorious attack" when he opened fire inside the church.

"To carry out these twin goals of fanning racial flames and exacting revenge, Roof further decided to seek out and murder African-Americans because of their race," Lynch said at the time.

Though the Justice Department said it's committed to seeking the death penalty, federal executions are exceedingly

POWERFUL



Volunteers begin work on the roof of the home of Rodney and Doretha Harrison.

KATE PEARSON/INDEX-JOURNAL

PARTNERSHIP

Lowes, Habitat for Humanity join forces to help Westside neighborhood

By **KATIE PEARSON**
kpearson@indexjournal.com

Lowes awarded \$1.5 million in grants to 19 Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the nation. One of the recipients of these funds was the Greenwood area Habitat for Humanity.

The Greenwood affiliates received

\$70,000 from Lowe's. They, partnered with 14 different Upstate Lowe's stores, helped revitalize Greenwood's Westside community Tuesday.

"We are proud to serve the Westside community, and we are grateful to Lowe's for helping our efforts to go even further through their neighborhood revitalization

"We are proud to serve the Westside community."

— **CHAD CHARLES**
executive director of
Greenwood Habitat for
Humanity

See **PARTNERSHIP**, page 4A

MODELS program aims

LOCAL

What have we come to when a suspect curses a victim's mom? 3A



LOCAL

Bluffton coffee shop named best roaster — in Savannah 4A



WEDNESDAY MAY 25 2016

75¢

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON

Sunny
81°/70° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX

Officials lean toward letting voters decide

1 percent sales tax increase referendum would go before county voters Nov. 8

If it passes, the tax would raise \$120 million for capital projects over 4 years

County Council must grant final approval next month before referendum goes on ballot

BY LUCAS HIGG
lhigg@islandpacket.com

Local voters are one step closer to being able to choose whether to add a penny of sales tax to every dollar spent in Beaufort County — money that could be used on a host of infrastructure projects.

The Beaufort County Council

gave preliminary approval earlier this week to a measure that would add a referendum to November's election ballot that, if approved, would allow the county to raise \$120 million in additional sales tax revenue over a period of four years.

The Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission, a panel of six that evaluates infrastructure project proposals from local govern-

ments and colleges, met about a dozen times over the past six months to whittle a massive list of proposed projects to get under that \$120 million threshold.

The final projects list, which totals \$199.9 million, includes items from all over the county — roadwork on Hilton Head Island, a parking garage in Beaufort and a waste disposal facility on Daufuskie Island.

The list must be approved in its entirety by the County Council before going before the voters.

"The council has one job to do to. They either approve (the entire projects list) or they don't approve what we've presented," sales tax board chairman Mike Sutton said. "They don't have the opportunity to dig in on this

and discuss and debate the merits of our proposal."

The commission's proposal breaks the projects into four categories: public safety, quality of life, economic development and environmental impact.

"We think it's a very good package to offer the public in asking for their support," Sutton said.

While all members of the council supported letting voters decide whether to tax themselves, not all agreed with Sutton's assessment of the quality of the projects.

Some of the projects "are pure pork," Councilwoman Cynthia Bensch said.

"Everyone is going to get their hands in the till to get what they can; that's the way it works," she said.

Councilman Jerry Stewart said he "think(s) it's a good list, and I think it's important to get it out to the citizens."

"There are a few things I'd like to change," he said. "But my rule of thumb is if you can

SEE SALES TAX, 7A



STATE

ROOF FACING DEATH PENALTY

The Justice Department will seek the death penalty when Dylann Roof goes on trial in the Charleston church shootings. 7A



BUSINESS

MAKE MINE MEDIUM RARE

Beginning June 3, the Fillin' Station, a popular Lady's Island bar, is bringing back its Friday night steak dinner. You'll have to order in advance though. 7B



BUSINESS

COST OF FLYING LOWEST IN YEARS

Low oil prices mean lower airfare for the summer travel season, but be prepared to wait in a few lines on the way. 7B



Heidi Hanson, mother of Grace Sulak, poses with a quilt on Tuesday in their Bluffton home. The quilt was given to the family in remembrance of Hanson's daughter, Grace. Grace Sulak, 14, died May 7 on eastbound I-26 in a hit-and-run wreck that injured driver Andrea Dewey and Dewey's daughter, Emma Dewey, also 14 and Sulak's best friend.

FATAL HIT-AND-RUN

Mom: 'There's no place for this person to hide'

In her weekly talks with the Highway Patrol, Hanson said she is convinced investigators have made her daughter's case a priority.

"Basically, they say Grace deserves the justice, Andrea and Emma deserve it, we deserve it," she said.



PANORAMA

Fourth Fridays

Popular downtown concert series cranks up this week with beach/R&B Fantasy c1

County council approves balanced budget

Millage bump would offset reduced funding

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter County Council approved second reading of the county's proposed balanced 2017 budget of \$19.45 million

along with a 2.6 millage increase during its regular meeting on Tuesday.

Council approved second reading with a majority vote; five to two in favor. Councilmen Charles Edens and Jimmy Byrd voted in opposition.

Sumter County Administrator Gary Mixon said a large portion of the millage increase, 1.8 mills, has been applied to the budget to offset projected reduced local government funds from the state, which is supposed to be 4.5 percent of the state government's revenues from the previous year.

County residents should know that

the mills will increase because the state has not been a good steward with its money, said Councilman Gene Baten.

Mixon said the 1.8 mills will be removed from the county's budget if the state provides the \$500,000 that is proposed.

SEE COUNTY, PAGE A3

City gives 2017 budget thumbs up

Council tweaks 2016 budget post-flood

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter City Council gave the go-ahead for a proposed balanced 2017 budget of \$62.58 million during its budget workshop in City Council Chambers on Tuesday afternoon.

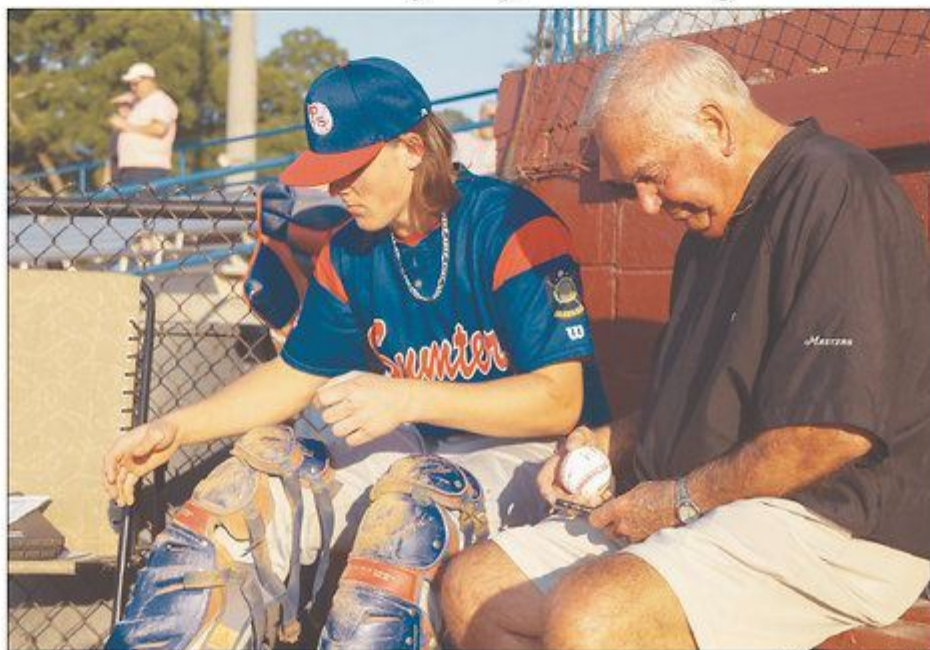
Mayor Joe McElveen said this is the ninth consecutive year the city has balanced its budget without a tax increase.

City Manager Deron McCormick said the proposed 2017 budget also includes increased starting salaries for Sumter Fire Department and Sumter Police Department.

Council will consider first reading of the budget during its next meeting.

SEE CITY, PAGE A3

Sumter P-15's take the field for 2016 Legion season



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter P-15's catcher Reese Hankins puts on his gear while N.Y. Yankees legend Bobby Richardson, a Sumter native, signs a baseball for a fan during the first game of the 2016 American Legion season against Dalzell-Shaw Post 168 Jets on Tuesday night at Riley Park.

Taste at the Gardens opens Iris Festival on Thursday



PHOTO PROVIDED

Terence Lonon and the Untouchables will play rhythm and blues, Carolina beach music, rock 'n' roll and more during Thursday night's Taste at the Gardens. Food samples from various restaurants, chefs and service clubs will be available during the event.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Opening ceremonies for the 76th Sumter Iris Festival begin shortly after 5 p.m. Thursday at the Heath Pavilion in Swan Lake-Iris Gardens. The brief program includes the ribbon cutting to make the opening official followed by the crowning of King and Queen Iris.

Festival goers can then walk from the pavilion to the Garden Street Stage for Taste at the Gardens, which this year features the variety band Terence Lonon & the Untouchables. Bring a lawn chair for a rest between dancing to beach music, R&B, line dances and a few slower selections or

IRIS FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY
5:15 p.m. — Ribbon Cutting/Crowning of the King & Queen — Heath Pavilion
6 — 9 p.m. — Taste at the Gardens featuring Terence Lonon & the Untouchables, Garden Street Stage. Purchase tickets at gate, \$5.
FRIDAY
9 — 11 a.m. — Palmetto Health Tuomey Community Health Initiatives free screening, Visitors Center.
10 a.m. — 6 p.m. — Just Kidding Around, Children's Area - Palmetto Amusements.
10 a.m. — 6 p.m. — Children's Art in the Park, Bland Gardens. Also 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday.

FRIDAY MAIN STAGE*
12:30 — 1 p.m. — Lakewood High School Chorus.
1 — 1:30 p.m. — Believe in Fate - Fitness with Rudi.
1:30 — 3 p.m. — Hands on Praise Puppets - Harmony Church.
3 — 3:30 p.m. — USC Blazer Star Steppers.
3:30 — 4 p.m. — Sandy Banks, Hartsville.
4 — 5 p.m. — Sumter High School Jazz Band.
5 — 5:30 p.m. — Dreamworks Dance Academy.
5:30 — 6 p.m. — Believer's Quartet.

* Main stage is on the south side of Liberty Street (Heath Garden) inside the gate just beyond the marketplace and food vendors.

just sit, visit with friends and enjoy the food and beverages while listening to the band. A wide variety of prepared

foods will be available for purchase from local restaurants, caterers, civic clubs and individuals. No coolers are permitted.

Deadline approaches for passing military retiree tax break



RISOTTO A SATISFYING MAIN DISH

FOOD & HEALTH, D1



HARTSVILLE DENIES UNION COUNTY THREE-PEAT

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Wednesday, May 25, 2016



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TODAY THU FRI

86°/62° 86°/62° 85°/59°

Complete forecast, B6

NEWS DIGEST

Road bill coming soon

COLUMBIA — A bill that would borrow \$2 billion to fix major highways and bridges in South Carolina may have only a short distance left to go.

The House voted 102-3 Tuesday to give key approval to a combined bill with both the extra money for roads and a change in the commission that runs the state Department of Transportation.

The Senate passed similar proposals separately, and Gov. Nikki Haley has indicated she supports them.

The vote with just six days left in the General Assembly's session puts lawmakers as close as they have been during their two years in Columbia to putting a significant dent in the nearly \$1 billion a year for 30 years the Department of Transportation said it needs to get South Carolina roads to good condition.

Currently, the DOT says 54 percent of the state's primary roads are now in poor condition, compared with 31 percent eight years ago.

"This is not the end all, to fix all. But it is the start to getting it fixed," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Brian White, the Anderson Republican who runs the chamber's budget committee.

The bill uses the remaining part of the state sales tax on vehicle purchases currently sent to the general budget fund and the fee paid for a driver's license to come up with \$200 million, which would be used to get bonds of up to \$2.2 billion over 10 years.

That money will free up funds the DOT would have spent on the bridge repairs and interstate widenings that can be used to pave rural roads and fix other problems, DOT Secretary Christy Hall has said.

Special session likely next month

COLUMBIA — Legislators will likely return to Columbia in mid-June for a special legislative

CHARLESTON CHURCH SLAYINGS

Feds to seek death penalty

Roof accused of killing nine in June

By John Monk
The (Columbia) State

COLUMBIA — Federal prosecutors on Tuesday announced they intend to seek the death penalty against accused hate-crimes Charleston church gunman Dylann Roof.

"Dylann Storm Roof has

expressed hatred and contempt towards African-Americans, as well as other groups, and his animosity towards African-Americans played a role in the murders charged in (July's) indictment," the notice said.

Roof, 22, who is from Columbia, is white. Each of his nine victims was African-American,



Roof

as are the three survivors.

"Roof targeted men and women participating in a Bible-study group at the Emanuel AME Church in order to magnify the societal impact of the offenses," the notice said.

David Bruck, one of Roof's lawyers, said Tuesday the defense team would have no comment on the government decision.

In what appeared to a new government allegation,

Tuesday's notice also said that in preparing for June's mass killings at an African-American church, Roof "attempted to incite violent action by others."

Other factors contributing to the government's decision, the notice said, to seek the death penalty are that Roof intended to kill more than one person "in a single criminal episode," that he acted "after substantial

SEE PENALTY, A4

SPARTANBURG'S FIRST SLAYINGS THIS YEAR

Two men fatally shot



A crime scene investigator gathers evidence after two men were found shot to death in a parked car at Fisher Avenue and Williams Street on Tuesday morning. PHOTOS BY JOHN BYRUM/JOHN.BYRUM@SHJ.COM

Police uncertain of motive

By Daniel J. Gross
daniel.gross@shj.com

Tears streamed down Faye Woodruff's face as she stood behind yellow police tape calling her son's cellphone over and over again.

"He ain't answering the phone," she



THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

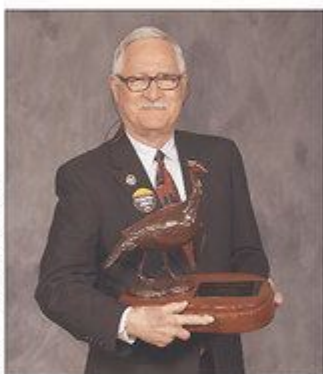
50 CENTS

WEDNESDAY MAY 25, 2016

WWW.HARTSVILLEMESSENGER.COM

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Louis Yount honored by National Wild Turkey Federation



Louis Yount of Hartsville is the recipient of the National Wild Turkey Federation Five Star Award.

BY ARDIE ARVIDSON
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Louis Yount of Hartsville, a lifelong member of the National Wild Turkey Federation, has received the NWTF Five Star Award, for "his dedication and volunteer efforts to further the mission of the conservation organization" during the 40th annual NWTF Convention and Sport Show, sponsored by RAM.

The Five Star Award is the highest award an NWTF volunteer can receive, Yount said.

He said this is a "very,

very special award."

"I am only the fifth person they have given the award to," he said. "It is only given when they feel it is warranted."

Each of the five stars represents a trait found in the recipient: service, integrity, longevity to the NWTF, leadership and respect, according to a release from the NWTF.

Yount said he is by far the oldest member on the board of the NWTF and has the most years of service.

He has recently been re-elected to another three-year term on the board of

directors.

"Louis has been, and continues to be, a driving force in the betterment of the NWTF mission and more recently our Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt initiative," said George Thornton, NWTF CEO in a release from the organization. "His commitment to the NWTF and the future of our hunting heritage is unwavering, and we are honored to present him with the Five-Star Award."

"I was very humbled to be recognized. It was emotionally overwhelming," said Yount. "The wild

turkey brought me to the NWTF. Their mission is outstanding. The lifestyle of a hunter and conservationist is such a great thing, that we cannot let it die."

Yount's service to the NWTF began in 1978. He joined the South Carolina State Board of Directors in 1979, he said, at the urging of Kurt Dunlap. He became a member of the National NWTF Board of Directors in 1987.

According to the release, Yount "assisted in the groundbreaking of

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DCSD announces principal changes

From staff reports

Two Hartsville elementary schools will be under new leadership for the 2016-17 school year, district officials announced Monday. Current West Hartsville Elementary School principal Tara King will move to Washington Street Elementary School as principal. Former Thornwell School for the Arts principal Julie Mahn will assume the leadership role at West Hartsville Elementary School.

"Shifting these experienced leaders will provide new opportunities for our schools, students and staff," said Superintendent of Education Dr. Eddie Ingram. "We want to create schools that nurture 21st Century ideas and promote communication, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. Ms. King and Ms. Mahn will help lead our schools in that direction while also strengthening ties between the two schools."

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Duke Energy powers up summer reading



Duke Energy and Reading Is Fundamental help students by letting them choose eight books to take home for summer reading.

Partners with Reading is Fundamental to reduce seasonal slide

From staff reports

Duke Energy's South Carolina state president Clark Gillespy read to children at Thornwell School for the Arts in Hartsville on May 18. He and employees of Duke Energy volunteered to participate in a book distribution at several schools in Darlington County.

As Gillespy read to the children from the book, "Papa's Mechanical Fish," the children shouted sounds heard in Papa's workshop as the inventor work. At the appropriate times during his reading, the students shouted "clunk," "clankety," "bang," "thump" and "whirr."

"During the summer months, all children are at risk of losing some of the learning and skills they've acquired over the school year," states a release from Duke Energy. "If the summer learning slide is not addressed at an early age, some children may fall behind as much as three years in reading comprehension by the end of fifth grade."

Duke Energy and Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), the nation's largest children's literacy organization, are partnering to minimize the summer slide and improve the reading proficiency of more than 3,000 current second-grade students in South Carolina.

The program is available in dozens of Title I elementary schools in the Pee Dee region in northeast South Carolina, including Thornwell School for the Arts in Hartsville. As part of RIF's Read for Success program, Thornwell students received eight summer books of their choosing and a book bag of

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Manheim Darlington launches Retail Solutions services

From staff reports

lutions services, unveils a new location's growth and commitment honoring its 73 years in opera-

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