

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>  
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Subject: SC Front Pages – Thursday, May 12, 2016

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SC Front Pages – Thursday, May 12, 2016

# The Post and Courier

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Thursday, May 12, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

## Scott family: Charge a 'turning point'

Says Slager's indictment on federal civil rights charge milestone for issue of questionable use of police force

BY ANDREW KNAPP  
aknapp@postandcourier.com

Former North Charleston officer Michael Slager was indicted this week on a federal civil rights charge in Walter Scott's death, a rare measure in police shootings that gives authorities another route to reach a conviction.

Scott's loved ones and their attorneys on Wednesday also called it a watershed moment for a nationwide push in recent years to shed light on questionable uses of force by police officers.

Chief among Slager's three charges is a count of deprivation of rights un-



### Video

To see a video of the news conference, go to [postandcourier.com/videos](http://postandcourier.com/videos).

der color of law. Public officials are barred under federal laws from using their powers to violate personal "rights, privileges or immunities." The indictment alleges that Slager was acting with his authority as a policeman when he used unreasonable force — a violation of the Constitution — by shooting Scott five times from behind.

He also was indicted on counts of

using a firearm in a violent crime and obstruction of justice. He's accused of misleading state investigators by saying he fired as Scott came at him with his own Taser; a video showed Scott running away.

The officer is white and Scott was black, but race is not alleged to have played a role.

"This is history," said Chris Stewart, a Scott family attorney. "It could be a turning point in history that the federal government is no longer going to sit on the sidelines. They're going to make police officers face federal justice."

Please see **CHARGE**, Page A5



Judy Scott, mother of Walter Scott, composes herself before speaking to the media after a federal hearing for former North Charleston Police officer Michael Slager.

## Honoring the fallen



Officers who have died in the line of duty, including 64 in the Lowcountry, were remembered Wednesday during the Tri-County Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony.

Their names were read aloud during the event at Felix C. Davis Community Center in North Charleston's Park Circle. The observance included guest speakers, a rifle salute, a flag-folding ceremony and playing of taps. North Charleston

Police Chief Eddie Driggers sang "Amazing Grace."

Charleston County Council Chairman Elliott Summey thanked the officers and their families for their service. He said the officers were loved by the community and that it was because of their dedication that the Charleston area did not react like other places after the Walter Scott shooting and the shooting deaths of nine people at Emanuel AME Church.

—Staff reports

## Freedom Caucus may talk to Trump

S.C. conservatives hope to influence candidate

BY EMMA DUMAIN  
edumain@postandcourier.com

WASHINGTON — U.S. Reps. Mark Sanford, Mick Mulvaney and Jeff Duncan didn't endorse Donald Trump in the height of primary season, and none are particularly sure how they feel about him.

But the three conservative South Carolina Republicans could soon find themselves in close quarters with the presumptive Republican presidential nominee.

The lawmakers are members of the House Freedom Caucus, the 40-member contingent established last year to push party leadership farther to the right. Having successfully driven out former House Speaker John Boehner

Please see **TRUMP**, Page A6

## Activists want AG to weigh in on slayings

Claim 'stand your ground' doesn't apply

BY BO PETERSEN  
bpetersen@postandcourier.com

MONCK'S CORNER — Calling the killing of two men who were buried in a backyard blatant murder, civil rights activist James Johnson said Wednesday his group would not stand for the trial of James Edward Loftis to be handled as a "stand your ground" case.

Johnson, state coordinator for activist Al Sharpton's National Action Network, said the group will call for Attorney General Alan Wilson to intervene in the Berkeley County case against Loftis, 39, who has said that he acted in self-defense when he shot two people, taxi driver Guma Or Dubar, 46, and James Cody Newland, 32, on March 5.

Please see **CASE**, Page A6

## Birth control a key topic as South prepares to battle Zika

Risk of brain-damaging defects also raises abortion questions

BY MIKE STOBBE  
mstobbe@postandcourier.com

NEW YORK — There's little doubt: Zika is coming to the continental United States, bringing frightening

birth defects — and, most likely, new urgent discussions about abortion and contraception.

Fearful they might bear children who suffer from brain-damaging birth defects caused by Zika, more women are

expected to look for ways to prevent or end pregnancies. But the highest risk of Zika spreading is in Southern states where long-lasting birth control and abortions are harder to procure, and where a mosquito that transmits the

virus already is plentiful.

"I think it's really important, facing this potential for Zika transmission in the U.S., to be thoughtful and prepared to have straightforward conversations about reproductive health services," said Dr. Christine Curry.

Please see **ZIKA**, Page A6

### Inside

#### CHARLESTON SCENE

D'Allesandro's Pizza celebrates 10 years in Elliottborough with block party. **E16-18**



Review: Home Team BBQ's downtown location sports a feather in its cap. **E20-21**

#### BUSINESS

Harris Teeter to open in renovated West Ashley shopping center in 2017. **B1**



#### SPORTS

Stingrays' playoff hopes go into overtime. **C1**



Partly cloudy:  
High 90. Low 67.  
Complete 5-day  
forecast. **B10**

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**Charleston Deals**  
today

**Woolfe Street Playhouse**  
\$20 for one ticket to Flock of Ages at Woolfe Street Playhouse. (Value at \$35). See **A2**



# USC BASEBALL

Chad Holbrook still trying to escape shadow left by Ray Tanner, 1B



# GO COLUMBIA

9 cool places to see along the new Governor's Cup Road Race course.

INSIDE TODAY



THURSDAY MAY 12 2016

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TODAY: PARTLY CLOUDY, STORMS POSSIBLE 81-91  
YESTERDAY: 49-64 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0.00"  
FORECAST, BC

# The State

# USC FOOTBALL

## POSITION SWITCH?

Not so fast: Switching Lorenzo Nunez from quarterback to wide receiver might have some roadblocks, 1B



## EXCLUSIVE

# Some Richland voters misled on GOP primary

State House District 71 will host Richland County's sole Republican primary in June with race between Ballentine, Malinowski

203 voters in the district who requested absentee ballots were told there is no Republican primary

BY SARAH ELLIS  
sellis@thestate.com

More than 200 voters in Richland County mistakenly were told by the beleaguered county elections office that they could not vote absentee in the June Republican primary for state House District 71.

Thousands of voters across

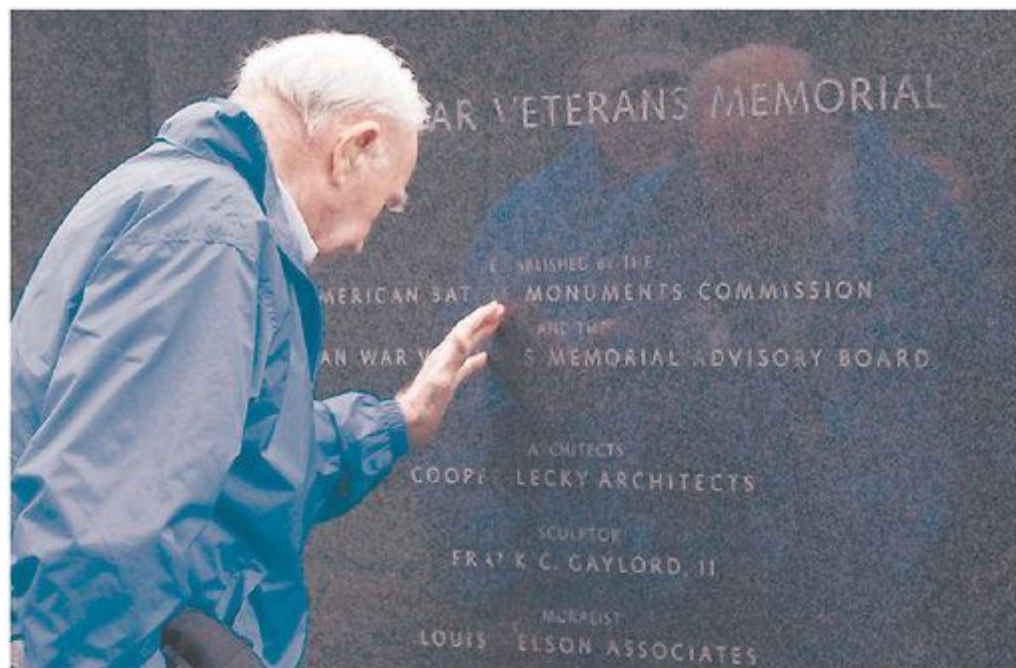
the county requested absentee ballots for the June 14 primary. Most of them correctly received letters from the Richland County Voter Registration and Elections office telling them there is no Republican primary for them to vote in, elections director Samuel Selph said.

But 203 voters in House District 71, who are eligible to vote in the county's sole Republican

primary, received those letters by mistake, Selph said.

"We were just trying to be proactive" by informing voters when there were no primaries in their districts, Selph said. "We made a mistake and sent it to some people in District 71, and we corrected that. ... You don't like for these things to happen,

SEE ABSENTEE, 7A



Korean War veteran Henry Padgett Jr. of South Carolina mourns at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington Wednesday. Sixty-six World War II and Korean War veterans flew from Columbia to Washington to tour monuments.

# NORTH CHARLESTON

## Ex-officer's federal indictment cheered, criticized

Michael Slager's shooting of unarmed black motorist was captured on video by a bystander

One charge against Slager carries the death penalty

BY JOHN MONK  
jmonk@thestate.com

The federal indictment of an ex-North Charleston police officer either sends a signal that the nation has had enough or that he is a scapegoat for all white-on-black police shootings, lawyers said Wednesday.

"This has brought us one step closer to justice," said Rep. Justin Bamberg, D-Bamberg, an attorney who represents the family of Walter Scott, who was shot to death while fleeing from then-officer Michael Slager in April.



Slager

# Veterans enjoy acclaim as S.C. Honor Flight program ends





## SPORTS THE BEAT GOES ON



## CITY PEOPLE More than a children's theater

# The Greenville News

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THURSDAY,  
MAY 12, 2016  
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USA TODAY

U.S. MILITARY SAYS IRAQ VIOLENCE SHOWS ISIL DESPERATION PAGE 1B

## Second amendment bill gets to Senate floor

TIM SMITH  
TCSMTH@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

COLUMBIA — A House-passed bill that would prohibit the enforcement of certain federal gun laws is headed to the Senate floor but its detractors could keep the legislation from being passed before next month's adjournment.

The Second Amendment Preservation Act would ban the state enforcement of any federal law or regulation which goes into effect after last year that limits the right of a person to own, possess or use a firearm, ammunition or accessory.

The bill also would prohibit accepting

any federal funds for the enforcement of such laws or spending state funds on enforcement of any federal law or regulation which goes into effect after last year requiring the registration or confiscation of firearms.

The House passed the bill in March by a vote of 64-30.

Sen. Brad Hutto, an Orangeburg Democrat, told members of the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday that the bill would not prevent the federal government from enforcing its gun laws and some laws which are copied by the state would be enforced anyway.

But he characterized the bill as "feel good legislation" and said he believes it

could be challenged in court. He said he believes it is aimed at some of the proclamations by President Obama earlier this year.

"It's unconstitutional," he said, explaining that the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution would not allow the state to refuse to enforce federal law.

"It raises issues that only a court is going to be able to resolve properly," he said.

But Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Larry Martin of Pickens pointed to a 1999 U.S. Supreme Court ruling which he said found a local sheriff was not required to enforce a federal gun confiscation law.

"I think it's pretty clear on immigration and other issues you cannot require a state or local official to enforce a federal law," he said.

Hutto also said as a practical matter, it doesn't affect the seizure of guns in situations such as drivers who forgot to place their gun in a trunk or locked glove box or console.

"I don't think this is as far reaching as what we already do," he said. "It's really narrowly focused on regulations or proclamations that happened after Jan. 1 of this year," he said.

Sen. Marlon Kimpson, a Charleston

See SECOND, Page 4A

## Expanded school to have manufacturing emphasis



PROVIDED BY THE GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

View from above of the 2,400-foot front in the proposed plans for Rudolph Gordon Elementary School's expansion into a K-8 school.

## \$36.76M addition to create project-based environment

NATHANIEL CARY NCARY@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

**G**reenville County Schools plans to develop a cluster of programs with an advanced manufacturing emphasis at several schools in the Golden Strip — the first of which will be a \$36.76 million addition to Rudolph Gordon Elementary School, which will turn the school into a K-8 grade program.

Similar to Fisher Middle School, Rudolph Gordon's addition is designed with a project-based learning environment. It will include two major labs, which will be filled with equipment similar to what would be found in advanced manufacturing businesses in the area, district officials said.

The academic program and curriculum drove the design — also similar to Fisher — with teamwork, group projects and technology that translates to most careers, said Superintendent

Burke Royster.

The design at Rudolph Gordon will drive an educational makeover of several Golden Strip schools, eventually reaching a pinnacle when Fountain Inn High School is built to open in the 2021-2022 school year if long-range projects and school population projections stay on track.

The district plans to design academic programs at Fountain Inn Elementary, Bryson Middle and Rudolph Gordon Elementary with a manufacturing,

project-based learning program as well, Royster said.

The district has already begun to lay plans for Fountain Inn High School to include a manufacturing focus, possibly with its own machine shops on campus. The new high school would become the capstone of the manufacturing programs for students, most of whom would likely come from Fountain Inn and Simpsonville though attendance zones haven't been drawn yet, Royster said.

The high school would be designed around a science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics and manufacturing program, Royster said.

"The compelling reason to look at manufacturing is the huge presence of manufacturing in the Upstate and the tremendous job opportunities associated with it," Royster said. "But more im-

See SCHOOL, Page 5A

## Candidate forum in Greer tonight

RUDOLPH BELL  
DBELL@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

Voters in Greenville and Spartanburg counties get a chance to scrutinize candidates for two state Senate seats at a forum tonight in Greer.

Candidates for two seats on Greenville County Council were also invited to the forum, which begins at 7 p.m. at the Cannon Centre.

Representatives of The Greenville News and the Greenville Chamber will pose questions to the candidates for Senate Districts 5 and 12 and Greenville County Council Districts 18 and 21.

All of the races are likely to be decided in the June 14 Republican primary since all of the candidates are Republicans with one exception.

Both Senate contests involve districts populated by residents of both Greenville and Spartanburg counties.

In Senate District 12, most of the territory is in Spartanburg County. The only portion in Greenville County is part of the Eastside along the county line.

The Senate 12 race may end up being a referendum on incumbent Lee Bright, who has become a well-known and controversial figure in South Carolina politics since he won the seat in 2008.

Some see Bright as a champion of conservative values and others as needlessly divisive.

His controversial positions include unsuccessful support for keeping the Confederate flag flying on the Statehouse grounds and requiring transgender people to use bathrooms corresponding to their biological gender instead of the gender with which they identify.

Bright has also used the power of filibuster to hold up a road-funding plan.

He was among seven Republicans who unsuccessfully challenged U.S.

See FORUM, Page 4A

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## STATE

Ex.-S.C. officer  
faces federal  
charges in black  
motorist's death 3A



## NATION

Trump, restive  
GOP leadership  
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cautiously 5A



THURSDAY MAY 12 2016

75¢

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BLUFFTONPartly cloudy  
81°/69° See 2A

# THE ISLAND PACKET

## TRIBUTE TO GRACE SULAK

## Teen's sister: 'You'll forever be a part of me'



Grace Sulak's mother, Kristen Sulak, right, and Grace's twin sister, Faith, back to camera, are comforted by other mourners before the start of Wednesday's memorial service for the teenager killed in a car accident on Saturday. The service was held in the Bluffton High School gym.

14-year-old killed in hit-and-run accident Saturday on way home from track meet

Hundreds of friends fill Bluffton High's gym for memorial service

Two others, Andrea and Emma Dewey, still hospitalized

BY LUCAS HIGG  
lhigg@islandpacket.com

While hundreds of Grace Sulak's friends, family members, classmates and neighbors gathered Wednesday night to share memories of the 14-year-old killed in a hit-and-run crash last week, there are some me-

mories her twin sister is keeping for herself.

Fighting through tears at Sulak's memorial service inside the packed-to-the-rafters Bluffton High School gymnasium, Faith Sulak said, "Everyone doesn't have to know all of our secrets — you'll forever be a part of me."

Faith said her sister — a River



Grace Sulak

Ridge Academy student also survived her parents, Heidi Hanson and Kristin Sulak — was "by far the funniest person I know."

"There wasn't a time when we wouldn't be laughing," she said. "... (Grace was) the closest thing to perfect in my eyes. (She was) kind, pretty, smart and every good adjective you could think of."

One after another, Sulak's friends and family stood at a podium before the crowd of nearly 1,000 to echo Faith's sentiment.

"To see this room filled up is incredible," Hanson said. "But she deserves it."

"I guess this is what you get when you're a good person," she said, referring to the outpouring of support.

SEE TEEN, 7A

## ONLINE

To watch a video and see more photos from the memorial, go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com)

## MORE INSIDE

For an update on Emma Dewey's condition, go to 7A



## LOCAL

### YOU GUYS SHOULD BE ASHAMED

Thieves make off with a Habitat for Humanity trailer filled with the tools the group uses to build homes for the needy. 3A



## THE LONG READ

### VILLAGE PUNISHES RAPE VICTIM

Rural village councils in India are dealing out brutal punishment to victims of rape, in some cases forcing marriage to the attacker. 1C



## NATION

### JUST HOW LUCKY CAN YOU BE?

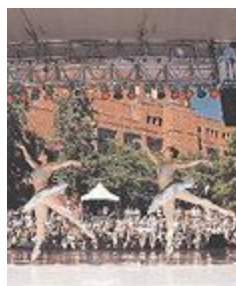
For the second time in

## Report of rape a chance to change our response

at knifepoint early May 7 by an unknown assailant who was there waiting for her.

The man, she said, was a tall, possibly white or Asian man, who spoke in broken English.





## ARTISPHERE HAS 'SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE'

ESCAPE, D1



## FURREY IS NEW LIMESTONE FOOTBALL COACH

SPORTS, B1

# Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thursday, May 12, 2016



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87°/64° 83°/52° 82°/49°

Complete forecast, B6

CHEROKEE COUNTY

## Company moving to Chesnee

Sioux Chief to create 77 jobs, invest \$2.5M

By Bob Montgomery  
bob.montgomery@shj.com

A Missouri-based company that makes plumbing fixtures will invest \$2.5 million and create 77 new jobs in Cherokee County, Gov. Nikki Haley's office announced Wednesday.

Sioux Chief Manufacturing has acquired the Watts Regulator facility and will move its

corporate headquarters and its engineering, manufacturing and warehouse distribution operations to 815 Pickens St., just outside Chesnee.

The business already employs 100 and plans to add 77 more jobs in an expansion that includes capital spending on new machinery and equipment, said Jim Cook, executive director of the Cherokee County

Development Board.

"We're very pleased to be able to keep those jobs and add new jobs in Cherokee County and Chesnee," Cook said. "It's good for everybody."

The purchase price was not disclosed. An affiliated Sioux Chief company, Tribal Manufacturing, will run the operation.

The company has already begun hiring for new positions, according to the governor's office.

"We're thrilled to see the impact this decision will have

on the people of Cherokee, and look forward to seeing this fantastic company thrive here for many years to come," Haley said in a statement.

Chesnee officials said although the company is located just outside city limits, the jobs benefit many city residents and help boost the local economy.

"We need all the good news we can get," said Mayor Max Cash. "We're not the only ones

SEE COMPANY, A5

### UPSTATE

#### Planning for new D7 schools

Construction of two Spartanburg District 7 schools is still a long way off, but planning for the new buildings is in full swing. C1



#### Trucking company relocating to Greer

Trucking company J. Grady Randolph Inc. plans to bring 100 jobs to Greer in July. The company has outgrown its facility in Greenville and is currently constructing a 12,000-square-foot building at 3085 Highway 101 near Sharon Church Road. C1

#### Bankruptcy, guns

South Carolinians going through bankruptcy could keep \$5,000 worth of their guns from creditors under a bill advanced Wednesday to the Senate Judiciary Committee. C3

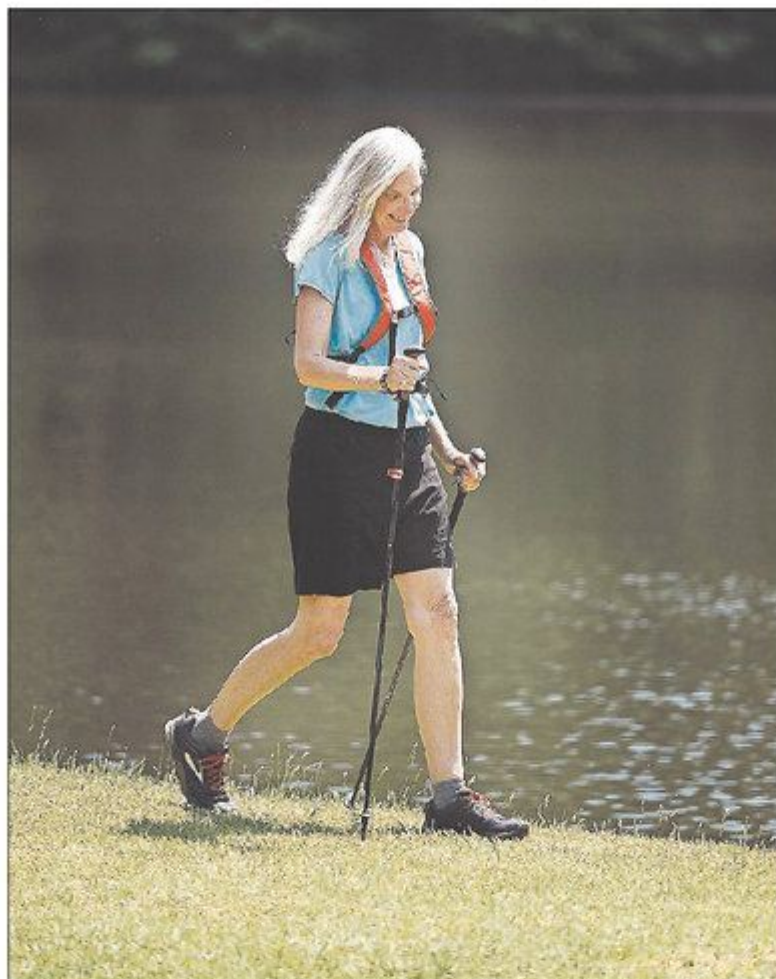
### BUSINESS

#### Old Chicago Pizza coming to SC

Old Chicago Pizza & Taproom, known for its handcrafted pizzas and craft beer selection, is planning to open four new restaurants in Spartanburg, Greenville and Horry counties. C4

### NATION/WORLD

#### THE ULTIMATE HIKE FUNDRAISER



Hollie Walker, 57, of White Stone has been training to hike nearly 30 miles Saturday in the Ultimate Hike, which raises funds for cancer research. ALEX HICKS/DALEY HICKS PHOTO

#### DEATH OF UNARMED BLACK MOTORIST

## Ex-officer faces federal charges

By Bruce Smith  
and Meg Kinnard  
The Associated Press

CHARLESTON — As federal charges were filed against a white former South Carolina police officer who already faced a state murder charge in the shooting death of unarmed black motorist Walter Scott, Scott's lawyer and family praised the federal prosecutors for pressing the case.

"I think the Justice Department is tired of sitting on the sidelines and they think this is one they can definitely win and send a message to police departments around the country," attorney Chris Stewart told The Associated Press.

A federal indictment unsealed Wednesday charges Michael Slager, 34, with depriving Scott of his civil rights.

During a hearing Wednesday, federal Magistrate Judge Bristow Marchant agreed that Slager could remain free on the bond he has already posted in state court.

The federal indictment unsealed a few hours earlier also





## Spieth returns to the golf course

Sports, 1B

# INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

## School food receives good grade

### SCDE gives Ninety Six another positive lunch review

By ARIEL GILREATH  
agilreath@indexjournal.com

**NINETY SIX** — After photos of Ninety Six High School's lunch were spread on social media in April, the state Department of Education's Office of Nutrition Programs revisited the middle and high school to review the lunches.

The office previously reviewed

the food offered by the school in November, and typically conducts a visit to a random school in the district every three years according to Sharon Wall, interim superintendent in Greenwood County School District 52.

The report, done by education associate Suzy Bright, shows the high school was compliant in each area, and the middle school was compliant with

the exception of the Wellness Policy.

The report said there were snacks being sold at the middle school during school hours that were not Smart Snack compliant.

"Smart snack items are being sold by the PE coach during school hours," Bright said in the report. "This is a violation of the Smart Snack Regulation, Competitive food policy, (cafeteria food vs. foods being sold in competi-

tion), and the wellness policy."

Bright also said the lunch offered that day was "excellent" and all documents were readily available for review.

"We were pleased with it — there was a smart snack issue," Wall said. "There are pretty strict things now, nutritionally, what you can offer to kids at school."

Wall said administrators were

glad the department did a follow-up review to dispel worries about the high school's lunch.

"All in all, we were pleased — she made some good comments about things," Wall said. "It was a very good report."

Contact Ariel Gilreath at 864-943-5644 or follow on Twitter @JARIEL-GILREATH.

### GREENWOOD

## Templeton seeks re-election to County Council

By KATIE PEARSON  
kpearson@indexjournal.com

Robbie Templeton has served on the Greenwood County Council for 22 consecutive years.

And he doesn't plan on stopping. He has decided to run for re-election in the June 14 Republican primary.

"Together, we have accomplished great things, but there is more work to be done," he said. "Individual ideas are great, but you have to be able to work collaboratively with others and that is not an easy task if you have never done that before. We need experienced leadership."

First elected in 1994, Templeton, 53, has decided to seek another term because he feels the County is in a "critical position to take another step forward."

"It is extremely important that we have strong, experienced, proven leadership to ensure continued growth and development to advance Greenwood County forward," Templeton said.

Since his first term, Templeton has played a role in a number of local developments. He was a part of the County Council that helped put businesses on the once empty lot that now holds Target, Kohl's, and Best Buy.

## A LIVING LEGACY



Inn on the Square bakers crafted a layered birthday cake for 104-year-old Margaret Lander Scheibler who was honored for her milestone birthday Wednesday at Lander University's Foundation and Alumni Center. The cake's candles represent each decade of Scheibler's life.

## Milestone birthday celebrated by Samuel Lander's granddaughter

By ST. CLAIRE DONAGHY  
sdonaghy@indexjournal.com

Lander University legacy celebrated a milestone birthday with a surprise luncheon Wednesday at the Foundation and Alumni Center on Hampton Street. Margaret Lander Scheibler, granddaughter of the Rev. Samuel Lander, celebrated her 104th birthday.

Luncheon tables at the Lander Foundation and Alumni Center were set with place

roses. There was a layer cake with candles for each decade of Scheibler's life, lots of well-wishes and a framed artist's rendering of Laura Lander Hall.

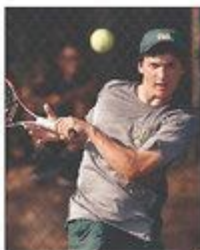
"It was an utterly unsuspected surprise," Scheibler said of the birthday celebration. "My nephew pretended he was taking me out to lunch in Greenwood. I never planned to be this old."

"It just happened," Scheibler said. "It's purely accidental. There's no particular formula for it. You just keep on breathing. I



Myra Greene and Margaret Lander Scheibler's nephew, Bob Lander, escort Scheibler into her 104th birthday celebration. Scheibler is a granddaughter of Lander's founder and a





**KNIGHTS TENNIS** West Florence falls in lower state championship. **Page 1D**

# Morning News

THURSDAY MAY 12, 2016

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

An afternoon thunderstorm in spots.  
High 86, low 67.  
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents



Seven Darlington High School seniors will graduate with associate degrees today from Florence-Darlington Technical College. Pictured (from left) are Alexis Ramirez, Hayden Happ, Kenya White, Thomas Gibson, Jade McPhatter, Russell Summerlin and Brittney Hales.

## An added degree of difficulty

8 high school seniors to graduate today from Florence-Darlington Tech

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY  
Morning News  
smccray@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Even before graduating from high school, eight Pee Dee students will receive associate degrees today after completing the Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC) Early College Program.

Established in 2014, the Early College Program offers students the opportunity to take college classes leading to an Associate

of Arts degree.

The program offers 71 college hours, according to a news release from the college, which will fulfill most general education requirements for any public college or university in

South Carolina. Students in the class of 2016 are the first to finish taking advantage of the opportunity.

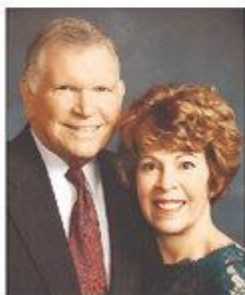


Griffin

Wilson High School senior Ashley Griffin and Darlington High School seniors Thomas Gibson, Brittney Hales, Hayden Happ, Jade McPhatter, Alexis Ramirez, Russel Summerlin and Kenya White will graduate from the program this evening at the Florence Civic Center. Many of these students completed most of their high school requirements by 11th grade.

Griffin was part of the

See **GRADUATE**, Page 3A



Benjamin and Starr Ward were Florence-area philanthropists and music enthusiasts who both died last year.

## New FMU scholarship honors Ben, Starr Ward

From staff reports

FLORENCE — Francis Marion University is honoring Florence-area philanthropists and music enthusiasts Ben and Starr Ward with a new, endowed scholarship that will aid FMU students studying the performing arts.

The Benjamin and Starr Ward Endowed Scholarship will serve as an enduring memorial to the cultural contributions of the Wards, both of whom died last year. Dr. Ben Ward, a local physician, was a tireless supporter of the arts and arts groups such as the Masterworks Choir and the Florence Symphony Orchestra. Starr Ward was the longtime concert mistress for the symphony. She was also a noted instructor of music and the violin.

Terry Roberts, director of FMU's Music Industry program, the conductor and musical director of the Florence Symphony Orchestra and a longtime colleague of Starr Ward, said the new scholarship is "particularly fitting" given Starr Ward's lifelong interest in music and musical instruction.

"Starr's love of music was exceeded only by the joy she took from seeing one of her students grow and excel," Roberts said in an FMU news release.

Julia Krebs, who played with

**DARLINGTON**

## 'A new toy in town'



PHOTOS BY JOE PERRY/MORNING NEWS

Walmart manager Kevin Lane (middle) gives a pep talk to a throng of associates Wednesday morning just before a ceremony to officially open the new 122,000-square-foot Supercenter.

## Long-awaited Walmart draws large crowd for grand opening

BY JOE PERRY  
Morning News  
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DARLINGTON — Letha Martin was a little excited about the Wednesday grand opening of

the new Walmart. "I got here at 4:30 this morn-

ing," she said with a smile just before the celebration kicked off at 7:30 a.m. "First one here. This is a good turnout — we're very blessed."

She and her aunt Sadie Craig were part of the huge crowd

that showed up to watch Darlington High School's color guard, chorus and marching band take part in an event that marked a huge boost to the

See **WALMART**, Page 3A

**United Way of Florence County**

## Willie wins the car as campaign comes to a close

BY JUSTIN JOHNSON  
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FLORENCE — Willie Lewis of WestRock won the grand prize — a one-year

grand prize drawing, individuals had to have made a pledge or donation to the UWFC of at least \$100 or more. Every pledge earned an entry into the drawing. Ten finalists were ran-

lated him from the driver's side window.

The other finalists were Donald Brown of Assurant, Susan Brown of Florence School District 1, Trudy Brown of Johnson Controls

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