

From: Symmes, Brian

To:

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Subject: SC Front Pages - Monday, September 16, 2013

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PANTHERS ANOTHER CLOSE ONE



SPORTS Falcons come up with a win

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

FOOTBALL

ACC title is next goal for Clemson Tigers, 1B

Summers bows out of ring for Fed

He'd been considered likely to replace Bernanke as chief

By William M. Welch
USA Today

Former Treasury Secretary and White House adviser Larry Summers, who had been a leading candidate to become the next chairman of the Federal Reserve but faced rising opposition in Congress, withdrew his name from consideration Sunday, the White House said.

The move strengthens the outlook for current Fed Vice Chairwoman Janet Yellen, the other leading candidate to replace Fed Chief Ben Bernanke.

President Barack Obama said he accepted Summers' decision in a statement released by the White House. He praised Summers for his economic advice and said he would "seek his guidance and counsel in the future."



Larry
Summers

"Larry was a critical member of my team as we faced down the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and it was in no small part because of his expertise, wisdom and leadership that we wrestled the economy back to growth and made the kind of progress we are seeing today," Obama said.

Reason: Political opposition

In a letter to the president, Summers cited political obstacles in his path to Senate confirmation, had he been named.

"I have reluctantly concluded that any possible confirmation process for me would be acrimonious and would not serve the interests of the Federal Reserve, the Administration, or ultimately, the interests of the nation's ongoing economic recovery," Summers wrote.

Summers faced opposition from within the president's own party because of his past role in financial deregulation and a leadership style that many found abrasive.

After serving as Treasury secretary under President Bill Clinton, Summers became president of Harvard University but resigned under pressure in 2006 after alienating much of the faculty and losing support of the university's governing board.

He sparked international controversy in 2005 for speculating at an economics conference that innate differences between men and women might be a reason women lag in some science and math

See SUMMERS, Page 4A

65,605 BRIDGES WERE CLASSIFIED AS "STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT" AND 20,808 AS "FRACTURE CRITICAL." OF THOSE, 7,795 WERE BOTH



A crane removes a pickup truck from the wreckage of the Interstate 5 bridge over the Skagit River in Mount Vernon, Wash. Metal fatigue is evident in a steel truss bridge over Interstate 5. WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION/AP

OLD, RISKY AND RUNDOWN

Structures carry weight of the nation

By Joan Lowy and Mile Baker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Motorists coming off the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge into Washington are treated to a postcard-perfect view of the U.S. Capitol. The bridge itself, however, is about as ugly as it gets: The steel underpinnings have thinned since the structure was built in 1950, and the span is pocked with rust and crumbling concrete.

District of Columbia officials were so worried about a catastrophic failure that they shored up the horizontal beams to prevent the bridge from falling into the Anacostia River.

And safety concerns about the Douglass bridge, which is used by more than 70,000 vehicles daily, are far from unique.

An Associated Press analysis of 607,380 bridges in the most recent federal National Bridge Inventory showed that 65,605 were classified as "structurally deficient" and 20,808 as "fracture critical." Of those, 7,795 were both — a combination of red flags that experts say indicate significant disrepair and similar risk of collapse.

A bridge is deemed fracture critical when it doesn't have redundant protections and is at risk of collapse if a single, vital component fails. A bridge is structurally deficient when it is in need of re-



Reflectors and signs block a closed bridge over the Marais des Cygnes River near Osawatomie, Kan. ORLIN WADSWORTH

habilitation or replacement because at least one major component of the span has advanced deterioration or other problems that lead inspectors to deem its condition poor or worse.

Engineers say the bridges are safe. And despite the ominous sounding classifications, officials say that even bridges that are structurally deficient and fracture critical are not about to collapse.

The AP zeroed in on the Douglass bridge and others that fit both criteria — structurally deficient and fracture

See BRIDGES, Page 4A

State hopes extra funds will help bridges

By Jeffrey Collins
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina is setting aside an additional \$1 billion for its roads over the next decade, and officials plan to use part of that money to get some of the state's worst bridges replaced or repaired more quickly.

The exact details of the plans haven't been hashed out yet because the new money is just starting to come in, South Carolina Department of Transportation spokesman Pete Poore said.

The money isn't exclusively for bridges. Some will go to widening interstates, and some will be spent resurfacing highways. But the extra money — which comes from a combination of borrowing, new revenue from growth, and reallocated sales taxes from vehicles — should be able to make a difference, Poore said.

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INSIDE

Syrian official calls agreement 'victory'

Summers withdraws name from consideration for Federal Reserve chairman. **A8**

BUSINESS, D3
Family business builds success in fan gear

How did Clemson, USC fare in Top 25 football polls?
SPORTS, C2

The Post and Courier

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SPECIAL REPORT | THE INVISIBLE WOUNDS OF WAR



Marine Sgt. Dana King explains how he was knocked down by the blast wave of an explosion. King served with the Marines in Afghanistan in 2001 during the first part of the United States' fight against the Taliban. King has a traumatic brain injury caused by blast waves.

BLAST WAVE

A Marine from Myrtle Beach survived a hellacious bombing mission in Afghanistan without visible injuries, but invisible brain trauma left lasting scars.

BY TONY BARTELEMI
tbarlemi@postandcourier.com

The kill zone was just a battlefield sprint away as Marine Sgt. Dana King felt one bomb after another drop. It was early 2002, and King was part of a mission to scout one of al-Qaida's most important hideouts. Amid the firefight, ground troops guided coalition aircraft to their targets, which unleashed some of the biggest bombs in the American arsenal.

At times, King was only a few hundred yards from these targets. Over and over, he felt the blast waves ripple through his body. "The explosions came right at you," he recalled. Over and over, he threw up, his body's involuntary response to the blast waves' punches. During the night, bombers dropped 1 million pounds of explosives around him.

Today, King has no visible scars from his time in combat. But his injuries are as real as any veteran hit by shrapnel. Instead of losing a limb, King lost functions in his brain that help him remember things, control his emotions and sometimes talk clearly.

He covers it up well. He said most people around him don't know he's suffering from the effects of a traumatic brain injury — don't know the invisible battle with his disability that he wages every day.

And King is far from alone. Since 2000, more than 270,000 troops have been diagnosed with concussions and other traumatic head injuries. Experts say the numbers likely are much higher. A RAND Corp. study in 2008 put the number of brain-injured troops at more than 300,000, and that was two years before a massive surge in improvised explosive device attacks in Afghanistan.

As highlighted in Sunday's Post and Courier, the military's documentation and focus



King was among the first troops to go to Afghanistan after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. He was part of a security detail at Bagram airfield (pictured here) in early 2002, and a mission to secure and destroy an al-Qaida cave complex.



Order the eBook of **BLAST WAVE** from Amazon at amazon.to/1gknz5M

on the dangers of concussions was shaky until 2009, when commanders made traumatic brain injury issues a priority. "Traumatic brain injury 'is the silent epidemic,'" said Mark George, director of the Medical University of South Carolina's Brain Stimulation Laboratory. "We're just coming to grips with how much it might be affecting normal and abnormal behavior in society."

Please see **BLAST**, Page A4.

postandcourier.com/blast-wave

VIDEO: Visit www.postandcourier.com/blast-wave for a video of Air Force Sgt. Jonathan Badley describing his experiences as a military bomb hunter.

INTERACTIVE GRAPHIC: Map showing exactly where more than 7,000 IEDs exploded in Afghanistan.

Q&A: Questions for retired Army Gen. Peter Chiarelli explore the military's slow response to the traumatic brain injury issue.

PREVIOUS STORY: Read the first part of the series about invisible injuries, what sports taught the military about concussions, and what bomb hunters from Charleston Air Force Base and elsewhere are teaching us in return.

Industry too close to home?

Neighbors oppose N. Charleston plan

BY DAVID SLADE
dslade@postandcourier.com

Between Interstate 26 and the Ashley River, there's a swath of land around Baker Hospital Boulevard that's suffered from a long history of industrial pollution, where the vacant properties are only fit for industrial use, according to developers.

On that same swath of land around Baker Hospital Boulevard, one properties right next to the vacant ones, 108 families live in apartments with river views, near a nursing home with 160 patients, not far from a mental health facility with live-in clients.

The fact that these conditions co-exist in the same place has raised pressing questions about pollution and redevelopment at the southern tip of North Charleston.

"I don't understand how our area is OK to live on, but that land is not OK for regular businesses," said Lana Wilder, manager of Osprey Place apartments, at a recent North Charleston meeting.

Please see **LAND**, Page A7.

I-526 plan moving forward

County seeking project manager

BY DIANE KNICH
dknich@postandcourier.com

Charleston County is pushing ahead with a plan to take more control and build the controversial extension of Interstate 526, even though the project's contract remains unsigned and such tasks usually are left to the state Department of Transportation.

County Council Chairman Teddie Pryor said the county is working along two tracks to move forward on the \$558 million project, which has made little visible progress since council voted in favor of it in December. County staffers are looking for a qualified company to manage the project, Pryor said. And they are working with the S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank and the DOT to complete the revised, three-way contract necessary to move the project forward.

Please see **INTERSTATE**, Page A7.

Inside

What homes, facilities are in proximity of the industrial property? **A7**



Partly cloudy.
High 69. Low 70.
Complete 5-day
forecast **B8**

Business	D1	Editorial	A10	Obituaries	B4
Celebrity	C6	Insurance	B7	South	B1
Cards	B6, 7	Local News	A2	Sports	C1
Classifieds	B6, C10	Waves	D5	Television	B4

Charleston Deals today

Parson Jack's Cafe:
Pay only \$10 for \$20
of food and drink.
See **A2**

WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG?

Ron Morris looks at three-hour-plus college football games. **B1**

YOUR WEEK



FILE PHOTOGRAPH/THE STATE

Kourambiedes, the Greek version of wedding cookies, will be sold during the Greek Festival.

Greek Festival

The 27th annual Greek Festival begins Thursday at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Enjoy Greek dishes, pastries, entertainment and music.

Hours are 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and noon-8 p.m. Sunday on the church grounds at Sumter and Calhoun streets.

Details: (803) 461-0248 or www.columbiasgreekfestival.com

Jam Room Festival

Main Street is the place for the second Jam Room Festival noon-8 p.m. Saturday. Headlining the all-day music festival are alt-country veterans Son Volt. Other performers include The Woggles, Great Book of John and Josh Roberts & The Hinges. The fun starts early with a bike ride benefiting the American Diabetes Association (register at sctourdecur.com) and a kids' zone. Details: www.jamroommusicfestival.com

Summers out of running to head the Fed — Yellen in?

By JULIE PACE and MARTIN CRUTSINGER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lawrence Summers, who was considered the leading candidate to succeed Ben Bernanke as Federal Reserve chairman, has withdrawn from consideration, the White House said Sunday.

Summers' withdrawal followed growing resistance from critics, including some members of the

CLOWNEY WATCH

POINTING THE WAY

Clowney gets second sack, **C1**

Bone spurs causing pain, **B1**

LATEST AP POLL: Clemson No. 3, USC No. 12

The State

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2013 | THESTATE.COM

'Top to bottom' review planned for Richland jail

By JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

Richland County's Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center is to undergo major scrutiny by outside auditors focusing on pay, medical services and mental health programs.

"It will be a top-to-bottom examination, with emphasis on mental health issues and medical programs," Richland

County Council member Seth Rose said Sunday. "A study on pay and salaries has already begun."

Rose is chairman of an ad hoc jail review committee named by council earlier this year in the wake of a brutal February beating of an inmate by a guard.

After the beating, one guard was fired and charged with assault and battery of a high and



Rose

aggravated nature. Six others were terminated because, officials said, they knew about the beating but did not report it.

The inmate, Robert Sweeper III, was a homeless man sleeping in a doorway on the University of South Carolina campus

early last February. Campus police picked him and took him to jail, where he was booked on trespassing charges. Officials logging him in suspected he might be in mental distress and put him in a special unit where he would be continuously watched, according to authorities.

While in that unit, a guard

SEE JAIL PAGE A6

CIVIL RIGHTS LANDMARK



KIM KIM POST/12/10/13/WWW.KIMPOSTFORSTHESTATE.COM

Mary Skinner-Jones, director of the Renaissance Foundation, says restoration of the historic church along Taylor Street has been estimated at \$3,668,000. The renovation project has moved slowly so far.

Group hopes to speed up restoration of historic Bethel AME church

THE RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION PRESENTS ...

What: "Preserving Gospel Heritage" with the Rev. Shirley Caesar

When: Sunday, Sept. 22, 6 p.m.

Where: The Koger Center for the Arts



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OVARIAN CANCER
 AWARENESS MONTH
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Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

MONDAY, September 16, 2013

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INSIDE TODAY



Horsemen take to course for First Tee's fundraiser
 Local News, 2A



Aiken's Makin' trash is transformed by group
 Local News, 2A



Atlanta Falcons beat St. Louis Rams, 31-24
 Sports, 1B



The Aiken Standard word of the day contest
 Inside

AREA DEATHS

Bobby Wayne Smith, Aiken
David Hiram Ergle, Monetta
Lillian Atkins Scroggs, Beech Island
Willie Melton Fulmer Jr., Aiken
 Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER

Aiken NAACP announces expansion at 95th anniversary

BY DEDE BILES
 dbiles@aikenstandard.com

The Aiken Branch of the NAACP, which has more than 300 members, has a new name. Moving forward, it will be known as the Aiken County Branch of the NAACP.

Philip Howell, the branch's president, announced the change during the Aiken NAACP branch's 95th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday at Wesley United Methodist Church on Richland Avenue.

"All of Aiken County will be under one roof," Howell said.

The NAACP's national board of directors made the decision to combine the North Augusta and Wagener branches with Aiken's branch, according to Howell.

"The North Augusta branch tried to get started several times and always failed ultimately, because of a lack of this, that and the other," he said. "The Wagener branch had similar problems. The (NAACP) national board of directors decided to pull their charters and combine them with ours."

In Howell's opinion, that action should make the NAACP's presence locally stronger.

"It will give us a bigger pool of people to draw from," he said. "The people from North Augusta and Wagener can come to our meetings and be voting members of the Aiken County branch if they want to."

In addition to the announcement of the new name, the 95th Anniversary Celebration included music by The G-Boys — brothers Un'Sel, Westley and Micah Guyton — of Randall Branch Baptist Church in Aiken and the Ronald Coleman Gospel Choir from Valley Fair Baptist Church in Graniteville. There were speeches from the Rev. Walter Strawther, who is the pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church, and local NAACP



Micah Guyton, left, Leona Guyton and Shirley Abney sing "We Shall Overcome" during the Aiken Branch of the NAACP's 95th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday. Behind them, to the left, are P.K. Hightower and her husband, Aiken County Council member Willard Hightower. The organization's name has been changed to the Aiken County Branch of the NAACP.

It will give us a bigger pool of people to draw from. The people from North Augusta and Wagener can come to our meetings and be voting members of the Aiken County Branch if they want to.

Philip Howell, Aiken NAACP Branch president

leaders.
 Aiken County Council member Willard Hightower represented the

council in congratulating the local NAACP branch and proclaiming Sunday as "Aiken Branch of the

NAACP Day."

Please see NAACP, Page 5A

Redefining the American Dream

Success and upward mobility determined by hard work, effort

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER
 mschechter@aikenstandard.com

Editor's note: The American Dream is a national ethos of the United States, and at its heart is the desire for prosperity and success. But the American Dream is changing. The Aiken Standard looks at why that is in a four-part series continuing today.

The notion of having a day off likely seems abnormal to USC Aiken sophomore Sheloni Patel, 19.

"I'm a second-generation American," Patel said. "I started out with 18 credit hours this semester, but I dropped it to 15, still a full-time student. Before school started, I was working two jobs, taking an online math class and working here (K&M Food Mart in Graniteville)."

tireless days, stocking the shelves, calling in orders and making sure the day-to-day business runs smoothly. Patel recently gave sole custody of the store to her parents, but helps run almost every entity of the business while still going to college.

"It's different, but it's a good different from running motels like my parents used to do," Patel said. "Years were going by and opening this store was something we needed to do. The American Dream is moving up the ladder, so it was time for us to move up the ladder as well."

Patel's mother worked for a camera company and her father worked in a makeup factory before running various motels. Patel said due to a decline in the motel market, her family wanted to do something different, and gas stations are profitable



STAFF PHOTO BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER

HEARTBREAKER

Panthers collapse late in a 24-23 loss to Bills B1



Herald-Journal

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

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HJ
IN A HURRY
5 Things to read today



Miss America

Nina Davuluri became the second consecutive contestant from New York to win the Miss America pageant. Davuluri won the title as the nationally televised pageant returned home to Atlantic City. **PAGE A7**

Biden to talk ports

The Port of Savannah hopes to add another prominent supporter of deepening its busy shipping channel when Vice President Joe Biden visits its docks today. **PAGE A3**

Money to bridges

South Carolina is setting aside an additional \$1 billion for its roads over the next decade, and officials plan to use part of that money to get some of the state's worst bridges replaced or repaired more quickly. **PAGE A4**

Colorado floods

Days of rain and floods have transformed the outdoorsy mountain communities in Colorado's Rocky Mountain foothills affectionately known as the "Gore-Tex Vortex" from a paradise into a disaster area with little in the way of supplies or services — and more rain falling Sunday. **PAGE A9**

Kenseth prevails

Matt Kenseth restored order to a chaotic week for NASCAR with a steely victory over teammate Kyle Busch in the opening race for the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship. **PAGE B1**

"The men served under notable military leaders of South Carolina — Thomas Sumter, Andrew Pickens, Francis Marion and Nathanael Greene."

MARK ANTHONY, member of the Daniel Morgan Sons of the American Revolution chapter



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL JUSTUS/MICHAEL.JUSTUS@SHJ.COM



Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), dressed in Revolutionary War-era clothing, stand near the graves of patriots buried at Padgett's Creek Baptist Church in Union during a grave-marking ceremony on Sunday. A wreath laying and a reading of the service of each patriot buried in the church cemetery was held during the event. Below, Dale Murphy, left, of Boiling Springs, talks with Ray Maxson, of the Sons of the American Revolution Mecklenburg (N.C.) Chapter. For a photo gallery of the event, visit GoUpstate.com.

SAR pays respects to 5 patriotic warriors

By JENNY ARNOLD
jennifer.arnold@shj.com

CROSS KEYS — On a quiet Sunday in Union County, worshippers filed out of Padgett's Creek Baptist Church and into the church cemetery.

There, flags were raised and men in militia garb or the blue coats of soldiers of the Revolution marked the graves of five militia members who served their country in its fight for freedom.

Though it was a modern-day Sunday, the white church tucked among tranquil, green fields of farmland was established in 1784, a couple of miles from the Blackstocks



♦ SEE SAR PAGE A11

SYRIA

Deal's merits under debate

Lawmakers wonder if US got outfoxed

By LIBBY QUAID
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers assessing the agreement on Syria's chemical weapons argued Sunday about whether President Barack Obama was outfoxed by the Russians and had lost leverage in trying to end the civil war, or whether his threat of military action propelled the breakthrough.

Obama said the turn to diplomacy had laid "a foundation" toward political settlement of the conflict.

The deal announced Saturday in Geneva by U.S. and Russian diplomat sets an ambitious timetable for elimination of Syria's chemical weapons by mid-2014, with rapid deadlines including complete inventory of its chemical arsenal within a week and immediate access by international inspectors to chemical weapons sites.

The agreement came in response to an Aug. 21 chemical weapons attack near Damascus, the capital, that the U.S. believes was carried out by the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Republican lawmakers said that committing to remove or destroy Syria's chemical weapons was laudable, the agreement fell short by not mandating military action should Assad fail to comply.

Rep. Mike Rogers, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said the U.S. is "being led by the nose by" Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"So, if we wanted a transition with Assad, we just fired our last round, and we have taken our abil-

♦ SEE SYRIA PAGE A11

50 YEARS AGO ...

Hundreds held hands

Summers pulls

Panthers battle Bills

Plus other results from around the NFL in today's Sports section.



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INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 96, NO. 137

STATE ROADS

Bridge work ahead?

Extra funds could help some of SC's worst structures

By JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina is setting aside an additional \$1 billion for its roads during the next decade, and officials plan to use part of that money to get some of the state's worst bridges replaced or repaired more quickly.

The exact details of the plans haven't been hashed out yet because the new money is just starting to come in, South Carolina Department of Transportation spokesman Pete Poore said.

The money isn't exclusively for bridges. Some will go to widening interstates, and some will be spent resurfacing highways. But the extra money — which comes from a combination of borrowing, new revenue

38

The number of bridges in South Carolina considered "fracture critical" as well as "structurally deficient," according to federal data.

See FUNDS, page 3A

AP IMPACT

Many US bridges old, risky, rundown

By JOAN LOWY
and MIKE BAKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Motorists coming off the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge into Washington are treated to a postcard-perfect view of the U.S. Capitol. The bridge itself, however, is about as ugly as it gets. The steel underpinnings thinned since the structure



A CLOSER LOOK

Codi Hudgens
Box office manager at GCT

Codi Hudgens, 26, leans on the rails in the former ballet studio where she learned how to dance in Uptown Greenwood.

MATT WALSH | INDEX-JOURNAL

LIFE'S DANCE

Hudgens takes different path after ballerina dream ends

By JOSEPH SITARZ
jsitarz@indexjournal.com

The auditorium at Greenwood Community Theatre bares the name Donald McKellar. It's there to honor the Greenwood theater legend and remind everyone of his contributions on and off the stage.

Box office manager Codi Hudgens doesn't need to see the sign above the door to remember McKellar. She's got plenty of memories of the man she used to call Boppa. Hudgens grew up down the street from the McKellar family house on Northwood Drive and

it was like I was surrounded by him."

Hudgens returned to Greenwood in 2011 looking for answers and direction for her life after realizing her dream of becoming a ballet dancer was finished.

"It's very ironic how it all ties together," Hudgens said, adding she believes she was led to be at GCT.

"My love for this theater goes back to everything that he loved about it and everything that Oma loved about it. It's in my heart and sometimes, I can feel he's in here everywhere," Hudgens said, pointing to her heart. "It's

The Codi Hudgens file

- **Age:** 26
- **Position:** Box office manager at Greenwood Community Theatre
- **Family:** Parents are Billy and Vicky Hudgens; brothers are Robb and Josh Drinkard
- **Education:** Emerald High School graduate; one semester away from graduating from college
- **Of note:** She was a Junior Miss from Greenwood
- **Favorite ballet:** "Swan Lake" or "Dracula"
- **Favorite ballet to dance:** "Cats"
- **Favorite book:** "Living Buddha, Living Christ" by Thich Nhat Hanh
- **Favorite song:** "Maggie May" by Rod Stewart
- **Favorite food:** Spaghetti with ranch dressing; crab legs,

GCT box office manager triumphs over past tragedy

By JOSEPH SITARZ
jsitarz@indexjournal.com

The audience could never tell it by the bright smile ballet dancer Codi Hudgens put forward while on stage, but she was hiding a dark secret.

Hudgens continues to come to grips with something that happened to her before she reached the age of 5. Now, 21 years later, she wants to help people who might have gone through what she did.

"I have a story. I have a story of tragedy ... and hope. There's hope," Hudgens said, adding she wants to write a book one day.

Hudgens was sexually abused by a family member until she was 5. The family went to court and won its case. Multiple other girls followed Hudgens.

"He was put away," Hudgens said.

The box office manager at Greenwood Com-



Morning News

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

TODAY'S
WEATHERPartly sunny,
high 88, low 66
DETAILS 2A

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Coming Events

Information Meeting for Residential Fire Sprinklers: Monday, 6 p.m. at Lawton Park Pavilion, 716 Prestwood Drive in Hartsville. Hartsville Fire Department invites local residents to a meeting on residential fire sprinklers. Session will be presented by Kyle Minick, deputy fire chief of the North Charleston Fire Department and chairman of the S.C. Fire Sprinkler Coalition. Members of the public and the media are encouraged to attend. For more information, email bryan.crowley@hartsville-sc.gov.

Pee Dee Coalition Volunteer Orientation: Monday, 6-8 p.m. at Elizabeth Durant Children's Center Conference Room, 226 S. Irby St. in Florence. Participants will get a chance to find out how to volunteer with the Pee Dee Coalition. For more information, call 843-669-4694 or visit www.peedeecoalition.org.

Vino's Palette: Monday, 7-9 p.m. at Art Trail Gallery, 185 W. Evans St. in Florence. Artist/instructor Jenny Altman guides participants through a social painting class with easy step-by-step instructions. Cost is \$35 and includes all materials. To register, call 843-250-4592.

Soprano Lori Phillips Performance: Monday, 8 p.m. at College of Charleston School of Arts Simons Center for the Arts, 54 Saint Philip St. As part of the college's Remington Master Artists Series and Monday Night Concert Series, soprano Lori Phillips delivers an exciting performance, accompanied by pianist and college faculty member Robin Zemp, presenting works by Franz Schubert and Richard Wagner, beginning with songs and progressing into opera selections. Admission is \$10 at the door. For more information, visit www.sota.cofc.edu.

Joe Stukes History Series: Tuesday, 3-6:30 p.m. at Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation Library. Dr. Benjamin Mays will be portrayed. Dr. Mays, born to slave parents in Epworth, overcame great difficulties to become one of the outstanding black leaders of the state. Event is free. For more information, visit florencelibrary.org.

FMU Cinema Series: Tuesday, 3:35 and 7:30 p.m. at Francis Marion University. FMU's Cinema Series presents "In Between Days." The free film is shown in the Lowmore Auditorium in the Cauthen Education Media Center. For more information, call 843-661-1385.

Family Movie: Tuesday, 4 p.m. at Hartsville Memorial Library, 147 W. College Ave. in Hartsville. A family-appropriate movie is shown in the community meeting room. For more information, call 843-332-5115.

Line Dancing: Tuesday, 6-7:15 p.m. at Lake City Public Library. In cooperation of

FLORENCE COMIC-CON



Aiden Abernethy (right) takes his turn shooting a Nerf gun at Star Wars Storm Troopers Sunday at the first Florence Comic-Con hosted by Legends Comics and Art Trail Gallery.

PHOTOS BY LINDSAY BUCHANAN/MORNING NEWS

Organizer 'blown away'

More than 1,300 descend upon Florence to indulge in love of comics, films and TV

BY LINDSAY S. BUCHANAN
Morning News
l.buchanan@florencenews.com

FLORENCE
When Legends Comics owner Denny Stevenson saw the first 500 people come Sunday afternoon through the doors of the Art Trail Gallery in downtown Florence, he was pleasantly surprised at the good turnout for the town's first Comic-Con which he and others had been organizing for the past three

months. But when that number grew to more than 1,300, he knew he had a success on his hands — a big one — and Stevenson said much of that can be attributed to social media.

"When we got to about 500, I thought, 'Wow,' but then they just kept coming," Stevenson said. "The social network is what did it. We put it out on Facebook and had a website, and with everyone working to promote downtown, that's helped a lot, too."

Through his connections with other East Coast comic sellers, Stevenson was able to pull in big names from as far away as Charlotte and Charleston. Several of them run their own large shows every year.

"This is three months of work," Stevenson said. "I was here at 5 a.m. this morning, and I was so stressed out, because I didn't know what to expect. I didn't want to have sellers come from Charlotte and everywhere and not have anyone show up. But now, well, the crowd

See
COMIC,
Page 5A



Mary Rusthoven (left) looks through a box of comics as comic fans file into the Art Trail Gallery in Florence.

Ports fight rages

Georgia, SC greet Biden in search for permits, funds

The Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The Port of Savannah hopes to add another prominent supporter of deepening its busy shipping channel when



Biden

Vice President Joe Biden visits its docks Monday. Hours earlier, Biden is scheduled to bring a similar message of growing jobs by investing in U.S. seaports to the Port of Charleston, S.C., which has harbor expansion plans of its own.

Biden scheduled back-to-back trips to the ports, which are both among East Coast ports scrambling for federal permits and funding to make room for supersized cargo ships expected to begin arriving in 2015 through an expanded Panama Canal. The timing of Biden's visit ensures that both Georgia and South Carolina can claim White House support without the Obama administration appearing to favor one over the other.

One former port executive who's familiar with the long-standing rivalry between the two seaports, which operate barely 100 miles apart, said he suspects the administration squeezed both ports into Biden's schedule intentionally with at least some knowledge of their competitive — and sometimes combative — history.

South Carolina officials in the state Legislature and the courts have tried to stop or at least stall Georgia's plans to deepen more than 30 miles of the Savannah River until a settlement was reached in April. The river forms a shared boundary between the states and is the gateway for cargo ships to reach the Savannah port.

"These projects have added controversy of opposition from across the river, which I think is very unfortunate because they're both very critical," said Bernard Groseclose, an international port

See PORTS, Page 4A

Honest account of post-Civil War South sheds light on past

Florence native's essays faced racism and inequality head-on

The book, titled "When South Carolina Was an Armed Camp," a collection of essays written by Belton O'Neill Townsend, chronicles the violence against African

from the author and Stephen Hofus about the book.

Townsend, a native of Bennettsville, originally wrote





CMYK



Odd

NBAK BERGER, BAY AREA
TOLL AUTHORITY/AP

A bridge troll is shown standing by the Bay Bridge's east span tower shortly before the bridge opened to traffic in San Francisco. The troll is meant to be a protector and good luck charm, modeled after a similar statue placed on the old span after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

YOU'VE GOT TO READ THESE

T&D and wire reports

■ 'Weird' intruder

A "weird" intruder who has broken into four women's apartments in Columbia during the night is to be considered dangerous even though he has not hurt anyone, Richland County Sheriff Leon Lett told The State of Columbia.

"He just stands there and looks at them until they wake up and sense someone is in the room," Lett said. "There have been no sexual assaults — that's what makes it weird. He's just standing there and looking at them."

The sheriff said the man runs away when discovered.

Lett told The State that he advises any women who see the man to make noise, scream and call 911.

■ Captain America, Batman to the rescue

MILTON, W.Va. — Who says superheroes aren't real?

When a West Virginia home caught fire, trapping a kitten inside, it was Batman and Captain America who came to the rescue.

John Buckland, dressed as Batman, and Troy Marcum, dressed as Captain America, saw smoke at a house nearby when they were entertaining children as part of their business. They ran to the house along with another bystander, kicked in the door and broke out a window so some smoke could escape.

Buckland, a former firefighter, says he crawled into the front room and felt something furry. He grabbed the animal, ran outside and gave it mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

■ All stuck up

TACOMA, Wash. — Firefighters chiseled a hole through bricks to rescue a man who had gotten himself stuck inside a 20-inch wide chimney space at a Washington home that had been converted to apartments.

The young man was not hurt and was not suspected of a crime, but it's unclear why he apparently climbed into the unused chimney, Tacoma Battalion Chief Dyrge Fudge said.

"Stories range from 'hide and seek' to 'repairing the ceiling.' Nobody was able to get the straight story," Fudge said.

"I'm in my 35th year, and it's something different every day. You can't make it up," he said.

■ Stolen ashes found

CLARTON, Pa. — A girl has found cremation ashes that had been stolen from a van belonging to the dead man's son.

Robert Smith says he thinks someone in the crime-ridden Pittsburgh suburb of Clarton mistook his father's ashes for a powdery drug like heroin or cocaine. He says, "You know this is a high drug area. ... It's sad."

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SCSU
DEFENSE
INTENSE

Sports, B1

Plans for large sawmill still moving ahead, official says

By GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

Plans for a large lumber mill north of Rowesville are still moving forward, according to Orangeburg County's lead economic development official.

"We are still in the process of going through a memorandum of understanding, which is an agreement that

spells out what we are working on, what we are going to do and what they are going to do," Orangeburg County Development Commission Executive Director Gregg Robinson said.

"It is very much still moving forward," he said.

Klausner Holding USA plans to construct a lumber mill that would create more than 300 jobs and produce up-

ward of 700 million board-feet annually of dried lumber and by-products, such as bark, wood chips, sawdust and dry shavings.

The mill would be located on about 248 acres at 3374 Rowesville Road, between Orangeburg and Rowesville and behind Dempsey Wood Products.

A public hearing was held in December on the state air quality permit

for the company. Klausner got its permit on Jan. 3.

In April, the company received a boost when Orangeburg County Council authorized an option agreement giving it the ability to purchase a parcel of property for economic de-

See SAWMILL, A2

HOME DESTROYED



RICHARD BEO/15.0

Fire destroyed a single-family home in the Wolfon area Sunday afternoon. Firefighters were called to the scene at the corner of Trotter Lane and Northlake Drive at about 6 p.m., Wolfon Fire Chief Joel Redmond said. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. The Pine Hill and North fire departments also responded. See more photos and video at TheTandD.com



Vice President Joe Biden picks up a steak off the grill Sunday during Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin's annual fundraising steak fry dinner in Indianola, Iowa.

Biden avoids favoritism by visiting Charleston, Savannah ports today

Keitt named Legacy of Leaders National Alumni President of Year



Keitt

Special to The T&D

Orangeburg City Councilwoman Liz Zimmerman Keitt, immediate past president of the Claflin University International Alumni Association, will receive the Legacy of Leaders National Alumni President of the Year Award from the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation Inc.

In addition, the Greater New York Chapter of the Claflin University International Alumni Association will receive the Legacy of Leaders Small Alumni Chapter of the Year Award.

Keitt was nominated for the

Under her leadership, the organization added a second vice president between the ages of 21 and 35, giving the younger group an opportunity to learn leadership skills and get more involved in the CUJAA. Keitt also led alumni to their highest point of giving ever, with 45 percent of alumni donating to the university.

In 1988, Keitt became the first African-American since Reconstruction to be elected to Orangeburg City Council. She is also founder and director of the free after-school tutoring program Project Life: Postteen.

Keitt will share the National Alumni President of the Year

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