

Title: **Charleston mostly 'dodged a bullet'**  
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# Charleston mostly 'dodged a bullet'

## Flooding, outages lead to curfew

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CHARLESTON - The already flood-prone "Holy City" spent a large part of Saturday underwater as Hurricane Matthew passed close to Charleston. The deadly storm was downgraded to a Category 1 before approaching the city.

No deaths were reported in Charleston, but the storm left "significant" flooding in its wake. As winds from the backside of the storm buffeted the area, officials urged people not to drive on flooded streets or across bridges because of remaining dangers.

Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg said there was "serious localized flooding" a few feet deep around the Medical University of South Carolina's hospital. Charleston Police Chief Greg Mullen said about 100 roadways in the city were flooded or made impassable because of the storm and about 50 trees or tree limbs fell. "It's very important for people to understand we want them to stay inside," he said.

Because of severe flooding, downed trees and powerlines, Charleston was enacting a curfew that would last from 8 a.m. Saturday until 8 a.m. Sunday.

The cable-stay Ravenel Bridge was shut down most of the Saturday until an engineering inspection could be completed. It was reopened around 7 p.m. Saturday. Hurricane Matthew was the bridge's first exposure to significant storm-force winds.

Downtown damage appears minimal. Some Charleston business owners who nervously left their businesses before the storm were pleasantly surprised at the lack of damage when they returned late Saturday afternoon.

"I guess we dodged a bullet for the most part," said Kevin LePrince, owner of LePrince Fine Art, which was protected by plywood sheets. An interior camera, he said, didn't show any damage.

Further down King Street, Geemeen Kim, owner of So Good Jewelry, was sweeping up broken glass from an apartment window across the street. But he said his store had no damage. "We were very worried last night, but everything is OK," he said. Fharah Jafri, whose wife owns a Subway on King Street, said the business had some water inside and a broken awning. "It's not really bad," he said. "It could be worse."

Ashley Parham said she "stressed out all night" about the safety of her antique store but found it undamaged Saturday. "I'm going to go home and have a nice cocktail," she said.

Other residents who stayed through the storm said they didn't lose power and the streets that flooded normally do so in heavy rains.

A residential neighborhood in Charleston that flooded during last year's October rains filled up with water again Saturday.

Harleston Village, which backs up to Colonial Lake, resembled the canals of Venice after a storm surge pushed water up streets and into parts of some homes. The neighborhood is on the lowest part of the peninsula, residents say.

Isaac Morton, a neighborhood resident who peddled his bike through the water Saturday afternoon, said the flooding "is a little more than normal for sure."

He said the surge stopped at about 10 a.m., and he calculated

he had about 4 feet left before his first floor would flood. He said it did not come that far but his house sits higher than others.

Jamie Kunkle said her house also sits up high and did not suffer from the flooding, but others were not so lucky. But she said she expects the floodwater to drain quickly.

Jack Alterman, another resident of the village, said the flooding is a sad outcome for all the work that was recently done to Colonial Lake, which was decorated with sweetgrass and palmetto trees. "Hopefully it will survive but if it is flooded with salt water it's going to kill a lot of it."

Ashley Anderson and Chris Sykora said they rode out the storm downtown in a house that survived Hugo. She said the lights flickered but they didn't lose power. "We felt safe," she said.

Dee Stracey said she stayed in the Charleston Place hotel downtown where her husband worked and felt fine. The couple own a home in Mt. Pleasant, she said. Stracey said she is amused the power stayed on because several weeks ago a mishap with a squirrel in a transformer caused a power outage. "But Matthew isn't doing anything to it," she said laughing.

Officials reported rainfall of 10 to 14 inches in parts of the Lowcountry. Gov. Nikki Haley asked those who'd evacuated to plan to stay out through Sunday so officials could assess the damage.

At Fort Sumter, the storm surge peaked Saturday morning at 9.29 feet, the third highest on record and the highest since Hurricane Hugo in 1989, the National Weather Service.

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Charleston-area authorities have reported about 100 roads closed or blocked as a result of the storm and almost 20 traffic signals either out or malfunctioning.

More than 762,000 people across the state were without power Saturday evening.



HEIDI HEILBRUNN/STAFF/HEIDI HEILBRUNN/STAFF

A scooter rides through Charleston's historic area as rain and winds from Hurricane Matthew pound the city's historic district on Saturday.



Title: MATTHEW SCARS SC COASTLINE
Author:
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MATTHEW SCARS SC COASTLINE

A deadly Hurricane Matthew made a relentless slog up the South Carolina coast Saturday, leaving in its wake 833,000 customers without power, historic storm surges, flooded streets, washed out roads, uprooted trees and downed power lines.

State officials attributed no deaths in South Carolina to the storm that dumped more than a foot of rain in some areas.

Emergency workers in Florence County continued their search for a person whose car was washed off a road. Gov. Nikki Haley said she couldn't rule out fatalities until search and rescue operations are complete.

Thousands were without power Saturday night as barrier islands remained inaccessible and portions of Interstate 95 were shut down while officials waited for floodwaters to recede. Several coastal counties remained under a state-imposed curfew as darkness fell.

The Ravenel Bridge in Charleston, closed much of the day for engineering inspections, was reopened at 7

Storm

Continued from Page 1A

'Bottom line: What we have seen is lots of trees down, lots of power lines down, a lot of roads that are not passable,' she said. 'We're not seeing as much structural damage, which is the good news.'

The governor said state authorities working with local officials planned to rescind evacuation orders beginning Sunday. As of Saturday evening, 6,500 were staying in 77 shelters.

South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Chief Mark Keel said 761 state officers and 278 National Guard members were patrolling evacuated areas and other parts of South Carolina where there is no power.

Authorities received reports of two breached dams in Dillon County and one in Lexington County.

The hurricane roared out of the Caribbean, where it

p.m.

Though several homes and piers were severely damaged or destroyed, particularly on the barrier islands, Haley said the state largely escaped widespread structural damage.

See STORM, Page 5A

MANY LACK POWER

More than 833,000 throughout South Carolina are currently without power

STORM WEAKENS

Hurricane Matthew made landfall southeast of McClellanville as a Category 1 storm

NO DEATHS IN SC SO FAR

No reported deaths so far in South Carolina, though search and rescue efforts continue

killed hundreds in Haiti. At least 10 U.S. deaths were attributed to Matthew since it hit the Florida coastline as a Category 4 hurricane. The U.S. death toll included one man killed in his Savannah, Georgia, home when he was crushed by a tree that crashed through the roof. His wife had evacuated to Anderson.

After battering Florida on Friday and pounding Savan-



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nah overnight, Hurricane Matthew arrived on Charleston's doorstep in the pre-dawn hours Saturday.

The eye of the storm remained offshore as it crept past Charleston, lashing the city with high winds and causing flash flooding that swamped some roads and streets, including the area around the downtown market.

Matthew made landfall southeast of McClellanville about 11 a.m. as a Category 1 storm with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph, the National Weather Service reported.

The storm churned up the state's coast, dumping large amounts of rain, pushing storm surge and battering the region with punishing winds.

The storm brought 10 to 15 inches of rain to the Lowcountry, Pee Dee and Grand Strand, according to the National Weather Service.

The surge that has accompanied Hurricane Matthew generated a record crest of 12.5 feet at Fort Pulaski, above the previous record crest from Hurricane David in 1979. The Charleston Har-

bor recorded its third-highest tide at 9.3 feet, the highest since Hurricane Hugo in 1989.

Wind gusts of 88 mph were recorded in Hilton Head Island, 83 mph in Beaufort and 75 in Folly Beach, according to the Weather Service.

Palmetto Bay Marina, the oldest marina on Hilton Head Island, was swallowed by the storm.

"It looks like it is gone," said Capt. Bob Bromage of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

The storm tossed aside boats, damaged piers and turned the island's Harbourtown into a debris field. Edisto Beach's main drag, Palmetto Boulevard, was submerged in 3 to 5 feet of water, the town's mayor, Jan Darby, said in a Facebook post. State 174, which leads to the island, was impassible.

The eye passed over Myrtle Beach at almost precisely high tide about 1:30 p.m. The storm obliterated the Springmaid Pier, sheared off 50 feet of the Surfside Beach pier, shoved water across Ocean Boulevard, knocked down

signs and left utility poles leaning precariously. Dozens, perhaps hundreds, of uprooted or splintered trees and branches littered roads and yards.

Haley said rising rivers will be an issue of concern in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew.

She urged people to avoid flood waters.

"Don't let your kids play in it, don't walk in it," she said. "Be very careful. That is where we see the bacteria, that is where we could possibly see chemicals. So it is very, very important to stay out of any of the stormwater as you come across it because it could be dangerous."

At 5 p.m., Matthew was headed east-northeast with sustained winds of 75 mph. The Category 1 hurricane was 15 miles west-southwest of Cape Fear, North Carolina. The National Hurricane Center's forecast called for Matthew to weaken to a tropical storm as it headed out to sea.

*Greenville News reporter Anna Lee contributed to this story.*

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HEIDI HEILBRUNN/STAFF  
 Rain and winds pound downtown Charleston on Saturday during Hurricane Matthew.

ELIZABETH LAFLEUR, TIM SMITH, ERIC CONNOR, KIRK BROWN AND TONYA MAXWELL | THE GREENVILLE NEWS, ANDERSON INDEPENDENT MAIL, ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES

Title: **Storm lashes Charleston, S.C., may pack more havoc ahead**  
 Author: Doug Stanglin and Tim Smith USA TODAY Network  
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# DEADLY HURRICANE MATTHEW

# Storm lashes Charleston, S.C., may pack more havoc ahead

Hurricane weakens but surge and floods still threaten coast

**Doug Stanglin and Tim Smith**

USA TODAY Network

**CHARLESTON, S.C.** Hurricane Matthew weakened to a Category 1 storm on Saturday, but packed a strong enough punch to down trees and deliver a 6-foot storm surge and severe flooding to historic downtown Charleston.

The deadly hurricane, which roared out of the Caribbean, killing hundreds in Haiti and at least nine in the U.S., officially made landfall Saturday morning 40 miles northeast of the South Carolina port city.

After hugging the coastline for two days as it swept northward from southeastern Florida, Mat-

thew finally touched land over the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge near McClellanville, S.C., the first hurricane to make landfall in the state since Hurricane Gaston in 2004.

As of 5 p.m. ET, Hurricane Matthew had winds of 75 mph and was located about 15 miles west-southwest of Cape Fear, N.C. It was moving to the east-northeast at 13 mph.

The main threat from Matthew: heavy rain over the Carolinas and Virginia. Torrential rainfall from the hurricane was swamping eastern North Caroli-

na, leading to "life-threatening" flash floods.

At least 3 people had died in

► **STORY CONTINUES ON 2B**

**"Every boat we have in the city is working water rescue right now, and we have calls pending."**

**Michael Martin**, director of Fayetteville, N.C., emergency management office

## Storm kills at least 9 in U.S.

► **CONTINUED FROM 1B**

North Carolina from the floods, according to the governor's office.

More than a foot of rain had been recorded in Fayetteville, where much of the city was underwater. "We've got people stuck in houses everywhere," Michael Martin, the city's emergency management director, told *The Fayetteville Observer*. "Every boat we have in the city is working water rescue right now and we have calls pending."

Forty percent of the state's counties were under a flash flood warning, the National Weather Service said.

The water level at one river County: Greenville

gauge in Wilmington broke a record high set during Hurricane Hazel in 1954, the weather service said. "Please stay home," the weather service in Wilmington tweeted. "Do not put yourself or your loved ones at risk!"

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said Saturday that 437,000 people were without power in the state. She also pleaded with residents driven out of their homes not to rush back in immediately.

"The one thing I do want to say is that now is when the frustration comes," Haley said at a briefing at the state's Emergency Operations Center in West Columbia. "Most injuries, most fatalities occur after a storm

because people attempt to move in too soon. ... It is not going to be safe for you to go in between downed power lines and trees and just unsafe structures, bridges, all of those things."

Haley also warned of a "cyber situation" in which hackers send bogus emails offering to provide updates on power outages to get access to private computers.

At least four people died in Florida and more than 1.1 million people were without power. An elderly St. Lucie County couple died from carbon monoxide fumes while running a generator in their garage, and two women were killed in separate events when trees fell on a home and a

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camper. As of 3 p.m. ET, 7% of the state's residents were without power.

In North Carolina, Gov. Pat McCrory reported three deaths, telling a news conference that "this is a very, very serious and

deadly storm." In Georgia, Bull-och County deputy coroner Richard Pylant said two people died north of Savannah. Media reports said both were from falling trees, one onto a car and the other onto a mobile home.

In Savannah, Ga., a historic town of moss-draped squares and antebellum mansions, a stretch of President Street was submerged by several feet of water.

**Contributing: Doyle Rice.  
 Smith reported from Charleston, S.C.**



HEIDI HEILBRUNN, THE GREENVILLE (S.C.) NEWS

**A car drives through flooded Market Street as rain and winds pound from Hurricane Matthew in downtown Charleston, S.C., on Saturday. The storm weakened to a Category 1 hurricane but still had many coastal residents inundated with worry if not water.**

Title: **State 'newbie' shares screen time with Haley**  
 Author: JAMIE SELF THE STATE  
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# State 'newbie' shares screen time with Haley

JAMIE SELF

THE STATE

You may have seen him on television or the internet – standing next to Gov. Nikki Haley and other state officials this week as they discuss Hurricane Matthew — his hands and arms moving in rapid, calculated motions.

Jason Hurdich, a nationally certified deaf interpreter, has been sharing with deaf residents what they need to know about the approaching storm and the state's plans.

The Charleston-based counselor for the State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation — who once interpreted for President Barack Obama — has created some buzz on Twitter from people watching Haley's news conference.

"Nikki Haley has the GREATEST SIGN LANGUAGE GUY EVER!" one tweeter wrote.

Another tweet said Hurdich upstaged Haley: "The sign language interpreter is the best part of Nikki Haley's press conference," and adding his facial expressions were hot — expressed by three flame emojis.

Hurdich is a newcomer

to the Palmetto State.

The New York City native moved to Charleston only two months ago.

"I'm a newbie to the state. I love it. It's a beautiful state. People are so friendly," Hurdich, who was born deaf, told *The State* through interpreter Shonna Magee, with whom he works at Vocational Rehabilitation.

Hurdich said he did not expect to become part of the story this week, adding

he is a humble guy who is happy just to help get information to the people who need it.

"My job is not about me," he said. "It's about the state and what they need and the governor needs. I'm just giving that information and interpreting it to the deaf citizens of South Carolina."

In his everyday low-profile state gig, Hurdich counsels the deaf and hard of hearing.

Having worked with the deaf for more than 20 years, Hurdich said he finds the counseling rewarding.

He appreciates "really seeing deaf people succeed

and know that they can do anything except hear," he said.

Because Hurdich cannot hear what Haley and other state officials are saying about the state's hurricane plans, Magee sits in front of him, listening to Haley and others speak, and then signing that information to Hurdich. He then reinterprets the information for a deaf audience.

"Interpreting work is not easy," he said. "It's hard work."

But sometimes it also is exciting, like when he interpreted for Obama who was campaigning in Florida, he said.

"When you get to interpret for the president it's an honor. It's an honor because you're also serving your country."

**"I'm a newbie to the state. I love it. It's a beautiful state. People are so friendly."**

JASON HURDICH,  
WHO WAS BORN DEAF

Title: **REMEMBERING JACOB HALL**  
Author:  
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# REMEMBERING JACOB HALL

Hundreds showed up at Oakdale Baptist Church in Townville on Oct. 4 for a wake service honoring 6-year-old Jacob Hall, a student who died after being shot Sept. 28 at Townville Elementary. The community was asked to dress in their favorite superhero outfit or shirt to honor Jacob, who was

a huge fan of superheros. Several state lawmakers, including Gov. Nikki Haley, attended the funeral the next day.

PHOTOS BY KEN RUINARD/INDEPENDENT MAIL



Rebecca Hunnicutt, left, aunt, of Jacob Hall, listens to U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan, South Carolina, during the wake service.



Rob Sosebee of Anderson, S.C. dressed as Captain America, meets family before hundreds of visitors arrive.

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John Buckland of West Virginia, dressed as Batman to honor Jacob Hall during a wake service at Oakdale Baptist Church in Townville on October 4.

Title: **Wise decision to act quickly and decisively**  
 Author:  
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# In our view

## Wise decision to act quickly and decisively

We can all agree that every decision ever made in public can be questioned with the utmost of certainty once the consequences have already been assessed. So, of course, it is substantially easier one week after Gov. Nikki Haley ordered the evacuation of the South Carolina Lowcountry in advance of Hurricane Matthew to second guess her decision now that, literally, the storm has passed.

We have heard a variety of criticisms – that Gov. Haley made her decision too soon and should not have closed state offices at mid-week or that a lack of coordination led to some wasted efforts like the attempt by Greenville County schools to lend their buses to evacuate less than two dozen people. In hindsight, maybe officials did jump the gun a little. But, again, we can only say that now from the vantage point of a present in which our state avoided what could have been a more catastrophic outcome. A week ago, the forecast was far from certain that the coastal region of South Carolina would not endure the brunt of Matthew's fury and, lest we forget, it did enough damage and cost enough lives in the Carolinas to warrant such precautions.

That many South Carolinians decided to wait until the last possible moment to evacuate or that they chose instead to hunker down and wait out the hurricane is not the fault of a careful public official and certainly not one who chose to err on the side of caution. We have only to look to those island nations such as Haiti to see what happens when people do not have the advantages of mass communication, safe places to which they can evacuate or even infrastructure able to withstand the forces of nature to understand that we are fortunate by our circumstances to have avoided a much worse fate.

That is no comfort to any of the people who lost family members, homes or livelihoods as a result of Hurricane Matthew. But we should at least acknowledge that our state's leaders were wise to act quickly and decisively days in advance of the storm instead of waiting too late to save as many lives as possible. It was bad enough and tragic enough as it was. But it truly could have been much, much worse.

Title: **State economic development needs scrutiny, accountability**  
 Author:  
 Size: 45.10 column inches  
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## ■ WHAT OTHERS SAY

# State economic development needs scrutiny, accountability

Economic development has been a major achievement of Gov. Nikki Haley's administration. By waging an aggressive campaign for prospects, the governor and her Commerce Department have been able to attract new businesses to South Carolina, and new employment opportunities for its citizens.

But the effort, which typically involves tax breaks and incentives, doesn't always work out. That's to be expected. Economic development takes place in a highly competitive environment among the states.

The case involving the payment of \$1.2 million in state incentive funds to a Navin Xavier, a Malaysian businessman who promised to redevelop a closed factory in job-hungry Marion is something else, though.

Xavier is being held in custody by federal officials pending an arraignment on fraud charges. He faces charges in what federal officials describe as a \$29 million Ponzi scheme.

Federal authorities allege that some of the money came from the taxpayers of South Carolina, was sent to banks in other countries and also supported the businessman's lavish lifestyle.

As far as South Carolina is concerned, the question is whether the necessary due diligence was done. The payment of state funds was made by the S.C. Economic Coordinating Council, an arm of the Commerce Department.

So far, neither the governor's office nor Commerce officials have been very forthcoming about the matter. In comments to our reporter, department spokeswoman Adrienne Fairwell declined to specify whether the agency is changing the way it vets prospective recipients of state incentive money, saying only that "the department is always looking for ways to improve its systems and processes."

That's not an adequate response. And the matter

can't be excused by the numerous economic development successes that the state has enjoyed, or the many instances where incentives have proven effective. Anytime there is state funding involved there has to be accountability.

The state inspector general has been involved in the investigation, and the state should expect his findings to be made public at some point.

Otherwise, the Legislative Audit Council should be called in to give the matter a thorough review, and eventually a public airing. The LAC has performed audits related to successful economic development initiatives, such as BMW and Boeing in the past. It could try its hand at one that failed in the worst way.

Lawmakers should be interested in what went wrong with the state's supposed investment. An LAC review could suggest safeguards for the future. And in doing so it could prevent the sad experience of Marion, when the hopes of a new factory and hundreds of new jobs were dashed.

Incentives are an important part of the state's economic development efforts. South Carolina has to be prepared to meet the competitive level of other states that are also in the race for new industry and new jobs.

And the nature of that campaign requires a degree of secrecy. This case suggests the need for greater scrutiny and, finally, more public accountability for one that really got away.

The administration is always happy to boast of its achievements in the economic development realm. It should be willing to acknowledge the occasional failure as well. In this instance, the public deserves an explanation.

— *The Post and Courier*

*The following is the opinion of the newspaper represented and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Index-Journal.*

Title: **COPING WITH FLOOD**  
 Author: Associated Press  
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ASSOCIATED PRESS

A herd of deer crosses a flooded Highway 9 on Tuesday near Nichols.

# COPING WITH FLOOD

## SC residents react to Matthew damage

Associated Press

NICHOLS — To Natalie McDowell, whose family has lived in Nichols for three generations, the flooding from Hurricane Matthew that swamped the Marion County hamlet is like nothing in memory.

But Rawlings LaMotte knows it all too well. The Columbia resident was in Nichols Tuesday checking on his mother-in-law's house and helping others get around when the only way to do so was by boat.

He did the same thing just over a year ago in a Columbia subdivision when flood-

ing from a 1,000-year storm inundated the state's capital city.

As South Carolina slowly recovered from Matthew on Tuesday, President Barack Obama declared 13 counties disaster areas, opening the way for federal aid to help local governments and state agencies recover from the storm. Aid for individuals is not now included.

Residents of Hilton Head Island finally got to return to their homes four days after the storm and about 290,000 electric customers around the state remained in the dark.

Gov. Nikki Haley said

South Carolina has gone from battling a hurricane to dealing with flooding and warned the flood threat, especially in the Pee Dee, may not ease for days.

In Nichols, about 10 miles from the North Carolina line, McDowell, her husband Tim and two sons, ages 10 and 14 were having a late lunch Sunday after Matthew was headed to sea and thought they had safely weathered a storm that had dropped 15 inches of rain in the area.

"We were fine from the storm. There was no water," she recalled Tuesday.

That's why what happened next was so unexpected.

In only 45 minutes the Lumber River more than a mile away rose so quickly the water covered the driveway of their modest ranch house north of town. Just over an hour after that they grabbed some belongings and drove to the nearby hospital where they both work, spending the night with their family in two unoccupied patient rooms.

This week about 150 people from Nichols, a community of only 400, were rescued from rising waters. On Tuesday the National Guard had closed all roads leading to the small business district where buildings stood in several feet of water.

Title: **Some have never seen this; others know it all too well**  
 Author: MEG KINNARD ASSOCIATED PRESS  
 Size: 54.87 column inches  
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# Some have never seen this; others know it all too well

MEG KINNARD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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This week about 150 people from Nichols, a community of only 400, were rescued from rising waters. On Tuesday the National Guard had closed all roads leading to the small business district where build-

ings stood in several feet of water.

The water was over the porch and almost to the bottom window sill of the McDowell home.

"I've just never seen anything like this" McDowell said as she and her husband returned by boat to rescue some more belongings. "Luckily we had a little bit of warning. Some people had none."

Water has risen throughout the small community's downtown with a square with a couple of churches and public buildings and a main street with graceful homes with verandas, one owned by LaMotte's mother-in-law.

He drove to Nichols on Tuesday to check on the home which had standing water inside. He also helped others who needed to get

around just as he did a year ago for residents in the flooded Kings Grant subdivision in suburban Columbia.

"You have thousands of people in Columbia ready to help each other. Nobody has even heard of Nichols," he said.

Now people in Nichols can only wait for the Lumber River to fall, something they hope will happen by Friday.

Returning to her house on Tuesday reassured McDowell that her children's baby pictures, which she had left on the upper shelf of a closet, had survived the flood. The water had fallen a bit from Monday.

Despite her family's loss, she was thinking of others.

"So many other people have it so much worse than we do," she said.

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RAINIER EHRHARDT/AP

**Floodwaters surround downtown Nichols, S.C. on Tuesday. About 150 people were rescued by boats from flooding in the riverside village on Monday.**



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Hundreds showed up at Oakdale Baptist Church in Townville on Oct. 4 for a wake service honoring 6-year-old Jacob Hall, a student who died after being shot Sept. 28 at

Townville Elementary. The community was asked to dress in their favorite superhero outfit or shirt to honor Jacob, who was a huge fan of superheroes. Several state lawmakers,

including Gov. Nikki Haley, attended the funeral the next day.

PHOTOS BY KEN RUINARD/INDEPENDENT MAIL



Rebecca Hunnicutt, left, aunt, of Jacob Hall, listens to U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan during the wake service.

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Zowie Sanders, gives a fist bump to John Suber, left, of Greenville, dressed as Superman, during a wake service for Jacob Hall. With her are her sister Lindsey Sanders, and their mother, Brooke Starks. Zowie was Jacob's classmate.

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John Buckland of West Virginia, dressed as Batman during a wake service for Jacob Hall at Oakdale Baptist in Townville.