

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 1/25/2016 11:11:17 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Monday, January 25, 2016

SC Front Pages – Monday, January 25, 2016



SPORTS NEXT STOP: SUPER BOWL



METRO No school in Pickens, Greenville

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

MONDAY,
JANUARY 25, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM



USA TODAY

SANTORUM SUGGESTS IOWA WILL MAKE OR BREAK HIS WHITE HOUSE RACE PAGE 1B

State lags in drug treatment funding

ANNA LEE
ALEE@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

The calls came 95 times last year. In each, a Greenville County coroner was summoned to a hospital, home or hotel room after someone was found dead of a drug overdose.

Roughly half of the 95 overdoses in 2015 involved either heroin or fentanyl, an opioid about 50 times more powerful

than morphine.

Another 24 were caused by other opiates, such as prescription painkillers, Coroner's Office reports show.

As heroin use rises, more people are dying of overdoses than ever before. Yet one area hasn't caught up with the need — the money to treat addiction.

South Carolina ranks fourth-worst in the nation in how much funding it commits to fighting drug and alcohol addic-

tion, according to an analysis by *The Greenville News*.

Using data from the 47 states that reported spending to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *The News* found South Carolina spent \$1.35 per capita on substance abuse services in fiscal year 2013.

Wisconsin spent the least at 65 cents per capita, followed by Texas, which spent 89 cents.

Among Southern states, Georgia spent \$4.80 per person, North Carolina more than \$12 and Alabama roughly \$3.40.

The national average was \$9.69.

South Carolina has traditionally had limited resources to deal with substance abuse, according to a new report from the South Carolina Institute of Medicine

See TREATMENT, Page 5A

Core Campus project pushes to completion



Work continues on the Core Campus dormitory construction project at Clemson University, which has faced some weather setbacks.

Clemson's new dormitory faces August deadline

RON BARNETT
RBARNETT@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

Clemson University's new Core Campus dormitory project will be finished in time for students to move in this August, despite setbacks caused by the rains of the past year, officials say.

"The weather has been terrible, but progress is continuing to be made and it seems to be moving ahead in a timely fashion," said Gerald Vander Mey, director of campus planning.

The nearly 700-bed facility is part of the biggest construction boom in Clemson's history, including the recently completed Watt Family Innovation Center and another housing project, Douthitt Hills, which isn't expected to be completed until August 2018.

"There's a lot of disruptions to the campus, but the campus is taking it as well as can be expected with so much traffic and heavy construction," Vander Mey said.



Clemson University expects to open the Core Campus dormitory when students return for the fall term in August.

"It's been a burden to try to stay on track because we know we have a deadline that we can't flip," she said. "Typically, buildings don't have construction delays."

The project is located across from the John C. Calhoun home and behind Johnstone Hall, and hemmed in by the physical plant of the university.

Lawmaker wants end to quotas on traffic citations

Advocates challenge it as 'predatory policing'

SEANNA ADCOX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA — A South Carolina lawmaker who doubles as an attorney for the family of a police shooting victim is offering solutions to what advocates call "predatory policing" policies, which pressure officers to generate revenue by ticketing citizens for minor offenses.

Rep. Justin Bamberg wants to prohibit law enforcement agencies in the state from setting traffic ticket quotas, or evaluating officers by the number of citations they write. A companion bill would prohibit cities and counties from approving budgets that depend on future revenue from traffic fines.

"It puts pressure on officers to go out and stop people for ridiculous stuff or things they normally wouldn't. It puts officers in a difficult position," said Bamberg, who filed the bills for the session. "It also makes citizens feel like they're being harassed or stopped for petty things."

Bamberg, a Democrat, also represents the family of Walter Scott, the black man who was shot repeatedly in the back last year as he ran from North Charleston officer Michael Slager, now charged with his murder.

That fatal encounter never would have happened if public institutions in South Carolina didn't count on funding from fines and fees, advocates say.

Scott's family says he likely fled because he feared going to jail for unpaid child support. Slager's lawyer, Andy Savage, said the fired officer never would have pulled Scott over for a broken third brake light if not for a police quota system that he claimed required officers to stop three drivers a day.

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

"I know there's a perception that there are quotas, but I don't have

The Post and Courier

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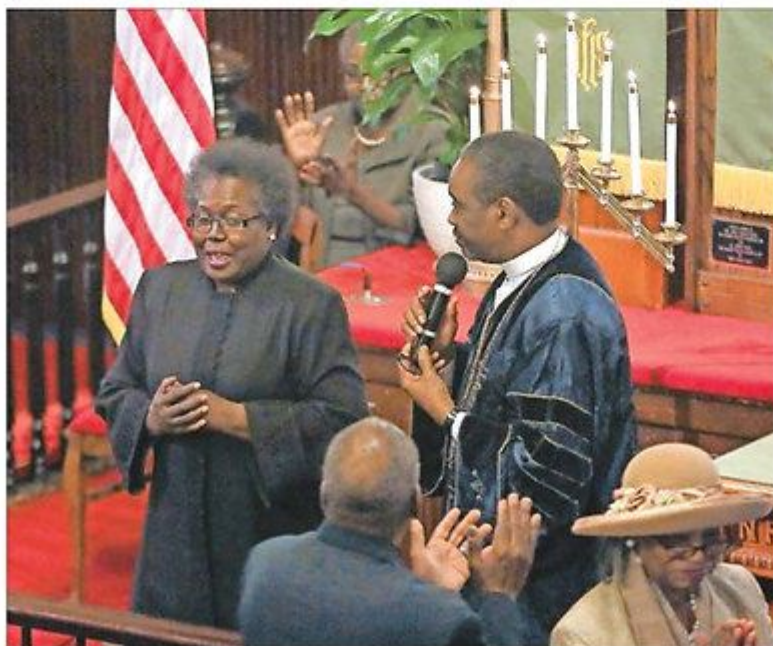
Monday, January 25, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

'Better days are coming'

Emanuel's first female pastor to lead grieving flock into future



Emanuel AME Church's new pastor, the Rev. Dr. Betty Deas Clark, seen with the Rev. Dr. Norvel Goff, is the congregation's first female pastor. She was appointed to lead the downtown church Saturday and delivered her first message Sunday morning.

BY MELISSA BOUGHTON
mboughton@postandcourier.com

The Rev. Dr. Betty Deas Clark was trembling and scared Sunday morning as she stood in the pulpit at Emanuel AME Church.

She had less than 24 hours to prepare the first sermon she would deliver to her new congregation. She wrote from the heart but agonized over every word — praying she would be able to minister to the needs of people she had yet to get to know.

It wasn't an unfamiliar feeling, addressing

a congregation, but there was something different about this time. Maybe it was because members of Mother Emanuel were still healing after the June 17 slaying of nine worshippers during a Bible study by a self-proclaimed white supremacist. Maybe it was because the church had been in a type of "limbo" for more than half a year since the attack.

Either way, Clark knew there was one message everyone could relate to: hope.

"In my heart I felt that it was the right word," she said after the church service. "I did not want to dwell too heavily on the past, but I wanted

to embrace the reality of the present and the future."

Clark was appointed pastor of the downtown church Saturday by current Bishop Richard Norris. She is the church's first female pastor.

A warm goodbye

Since the shooting, the congregation of more than 1,000 had been led by interim pastor the Rev. Dr. Norvel Goff.

Goff is running for bishop and now serves

Please see **PASTOR**, Page A4

Gulping down bits of plastic?

Particles in drinks, snail diets, subject of Citadel study

BY BO PETERSEN
bpetersen@postandcourier.com

Tiny squiggles of plastic likely are floating in the juices, sports drinks, sodas and bottled water you drink. Microplastics already have been shown to kill marine life.

The tiny bits are turning up virtually everywhere plastics are made, used or discarded on land and in the water; they are being consumed just as widely. No one knows yet what the impact will be for humans.

Research at The Citadel, complemented by work at the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah, is making new findings about just how pervasive and potentially dangerous a problem it is in the region.

More than 7 tons of plastic are estimated to be breaking down to microplastics in the tide and waves of Charleston Harbor at any given time, according to a study led by Citadel physiology professor John Weinstein. Sooner or later, a portion of that 7 tons of waste gets eaten by marine critters.

Please see **PARTICLES**, Page A4

It's a bumpy ride for S.C. roads panel

Left-out legislators frustrated as group looks for solution

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
croltan@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — A state Senate working group that is expected to propose a new plan for fixing South Carolina roads is also highlighting just how much the issue has divided lawmakers.

When the session started two weeks ago, a group of eight lawmakers gathered as a "working group," at the suggestion of Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence. They were told to find a way to solve the impasse that arose over roads during the 2015 legislative session.

The group, however, is having closed-door meetings and neither the public nor other legislators are invited. That has frustrated many, including Lowcountry Sen. Tom Davis.

"My main concern (is) by not being a part of the group, I feel as if some important facts are not being taken into consideration," said Davis, R-Beaufort.

Please see **ROADS**, Page A4

Severe storms stir power grid worry

Associated Press

EDITOR'S NOTE: Part of a yearlong effort by The Associated Press and the Associated Press Media Editors, examining the state of America's infrastructure.

WAVELAND, MISS. — When Hurricane Katrina's punishing storm surge plowed ashore in 2005, it scuttled seven of Coast Electric Power Association's substations, vital to powering thousands of Mississippi homes and businesses.

When Hurricane Hugo struck South Carolina 16 years earlier, dozens of coastal and inland counties battled with blackouts as the storm's vicious winds pushed over hundreds of power lines.

Those lines were eventually repaired, and Mississippi's facilities have long since been fixed, but a decade after Katrina, they remain at the same elevation, and just as vulnerable to catastrophic hurricanes.

Such storms are a growing threat. An Associated Press analysis of industry

pc Poll

Would you be willing to pay higher electric rates to improve reliability of service? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

data found that severe weather is the leading cause of major outages on the nation's power grid.

The number of weather-related power outages has climbed over the last decade, with the greatest spikes in 2008 and 2011, according to the AP analysis and independent studies.

That leaves Coast Electric and other utilities across the country struggling to balance customer costs with the need for improvements to counter the rising number of violent storms, floods and droughts threatening the U.S. power grid's core infrastructure.

Hundreds of companies own and manage the equipment that makes up the U.S. power grid. They range from large investor-owned companies

Please see **GRID**, Page A5



Republican presidential candidate Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, greets a supporter after speaking at a rally Saturday in Waterloo, Iowa.

Wealthy alliance crafted \$36M plan to boost Cruz

BY JULIE BYKOWICZ
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Four of America's wealthiest businessmen laid the foundation for Ted Cruz's now-surge Republican presidential campaign and have redefined the role of political donors.

With just over a week until voters get their first say, the 45-year-old

Texas senator known as a conservative warrior has been ascendant. The \$36 million committed last year by these donor families is now going toward television, radio and online advertisements, along with direct mailings and get-out-the-vote efforts in early primary states.

The donors' super political action

Please see **CRUZ**, Page A4



Mostly sunny.
High 59, Low 41.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B6

Bridge B7
Business B1
Classified B6
Comics B6,7
Cruz B6, C10
Editorial A10
Movies B1
Obituaries B2
Some B1
Sports C1
Sudoku B7
Television B4

Charleston
Deals today

Winterfest
Discounted tickets for
Winterfest.
See A2



MONDAY JANUARY 25 2016

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TODAY: MOSTLY SUNNY HI 55 LO 38
YESTERDAY: HI 53 LO 36 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0"
FORECAST, 8C



PALMETTO VOICES PENNY PROGRAM MUST CHANGE NOW

Columbia Chamber president Carl Blackstone outlines reforms the Richland County Council must approve to clean up, regain public trust in road-funding program, IC



USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAMECOCKS STAY UNBEATEN ON ROAD

USC closes fourth quarter strong to fend off No. 10 Mississippi State in Starkville, 1B

LOCAL CLOSER LOOK AT FUNDING

Suggested changes for awarding \$10 million in meal tax income get mixed reviews, 3A



David Pointer, 71, walks through his flood-damaged home in the Chaldon neighborhood off Piney Grove Road. Pointer suffered major water damage to his home along Kinley Creek and now has to sleep in an upstairs loft.

FLOOD OF 2015

Flood-prone homes: What's the solution?

BY TIM FLACH
tflach@the-state.com

One homeowner group in St. Andrews wants to address homes damaged by constant flooding along Kinley Creek with a new tax on neighbors.

The Whitehall Homeowners Association is developing a plan to create a district that could impose additional prop-

erty taxes in three neighborhoods. Those taxes could be used, along with federal and state aid, to buy and demolish

Whitehall homeowners developing plan, knowing Lexington County aid unlikely

Pre-October study: Up to 99 homes along Kinley Creek should be demolished

Flooding in three neighborhoods common for 30 years, made worse by Harbison development

erty taxes in three neighborhoods. Those taxes could be used, along with federal and state aid, to buy and demolish

up to 36 homes in the most flood-prone areas.

Supporters of the idea describe it as blight prevention,

removing homes likely to become rundown and possibly abandoned. They don't want to wait on Lexington County to come up with the money because they don't think the county will. Some of those homes were damaged in the record Oct. 4 rain, while others long have had problems with flooding.

Many details remain to be settled, such as the amount of taxes needed to produce an estimated \$9 million to acquire and raze the homes. In addition, County Council - and possibly voters in the neighborhoods of Whitehall, Chaldon and Country Walk - must agree to the step.

Nearly 2,900 homes are in the three neighborhoods where the demolitions would occur and where the tax district could be established,

SEE HOMES, 7A

STATE OF THE CITY

When: 6 p.m. Tuesday | Where: City Council chambers, third floor, City Hall, 1137 Main St. | Reception: In the lobby of City Hall immediately after the speech

COLUMBIA'S KEY CHALLENGES IN 2016

The theme of Mayor Steve Benjamin's State of the City address Tuesday will be reinvesting in the Capital City after the flood damage from last fall. The specifics of the speech were unavailable in advance. But some of Columbia's biggest challenges in 2016 include how to pay for a mounting list of expensive projects, how to rebuild the weakened Columbia Canal that feeds half of the city's water system, how to improve a sense of security for residents, and how to get City Council members to work together better.

— CLIF LEBLANC, CLEBLANC@THESTATE.COM





The Beaufort Gazette

MONDAY, January 25, 2016

beaufortgazette.com

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Old Town buildings incorporated with reclaimed materials

By **ASHLEY FAHEY**
afahey@islandpacket.com
843-706-8137

At Tom Banach's warehouse in Hardeeville, parts from Ohio barns, New York refineries, cotton mills and the Savannah River lay on the ground.

Banach has been tearing down centuries-old barns, mills and other structures across the county for the past 15 years and incorporating the roofs, siding, beams and interiors into new homes and businesses in the Lowcountry — in developments including Palmetto Bluff, Spring Island and Bray's Island.

"We're taking the material from the grassroots of a barn, and we're re-utilizing every portion of that barn," Banach said.

His company, TimberStone Antique Building Products, has seen an uptick in business as more people seek materials with a story in new construction.

Two of Banach's current projects are in Old Town Bluffton. He is sourcing pieces for six Stock Farm cottages, owned by Bluffton real-estate investor Eugene Marks of Mayberry Holdings.

Please see RECLAIMED on 11A

Clear skies follow blizzard

Dangers remain
as snow is cleared

By **VERENA DOBNIK**
and **BEN NUCKOLS**
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Brilliant sunshine and gently rising temperatures followed the mammoth blizzard that paralyzed Washington, D.C., and set a single-day snowfall record in New York City, enabling millions to dig out Sunday and enjoy the winter.

The timing could not have been better: Most people stayed home as the heaviest snow fell Friday evening and all day Saturday, enabling crews to clear roads and rails, then awoke Sunday to see grimy cities blanketed in lovely but unfamiliar terrains.

It was just right for a huge snowball fight in Baltimore, where more than 600 people responded to organizer Aaron Brazell's invite on Facebook.

"I knew people would be cooped up in their houses and wanting to come outside," said Brazell, who was beamed by multiple blasts of perfectly soft but firm snow.

But treacherous conditions remained: Waist-high piles of plowed snow blocked Manhattan bus stops, forcing riders to risk waiting on streets, inches from traffic. Judy Tenenbaum refused, and walked a dozen blocks to reach a stop where at least some snow was cleared.

"I decided, I don't want to die," she said, boarding a bus to the YMCA.

At least 28 deaths were blamed on the weather, first in car crashes and then while shoveling snow or breathing carbon monoxide.

The storm dropped snow from the Gulf Coast to New England. The heaviest official report was 42 inches, in Glengary, W. Va., but huge accumulations elsewhere stranded tens of thousands of travelers and forced countless others to change plans.

Please see BLIZZARD on 11A



'CITIZEN SCIENTISTS' MAP FLOODING

NATION, A5



IOWA CAUCUSES SHOULD ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS

POLITICS, A3

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Monday, January 25, 2016



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TODAY **TUE** **WED**

 51°/32° 55°/43° 49°/30°
 Complete forecast, A10



NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
 PANTHERS 49, CARDINALS 15

NFC CHAMPS

NATION & WORLD



Billionaire donors helped Cruz's bid

Four of America's wealthiest businessmen laid the foundation for Ted Cruz's now-surging Republican presidential campaign and have redefined the role of political donors. With just over a week until voters get their first say, the 45-year-old Texas senator known as a conservative warrior has been ascendant. **A4**

TIP SHEET

Today

■ Spartanburg City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall, 145 W. Broad St., Spartanburg.

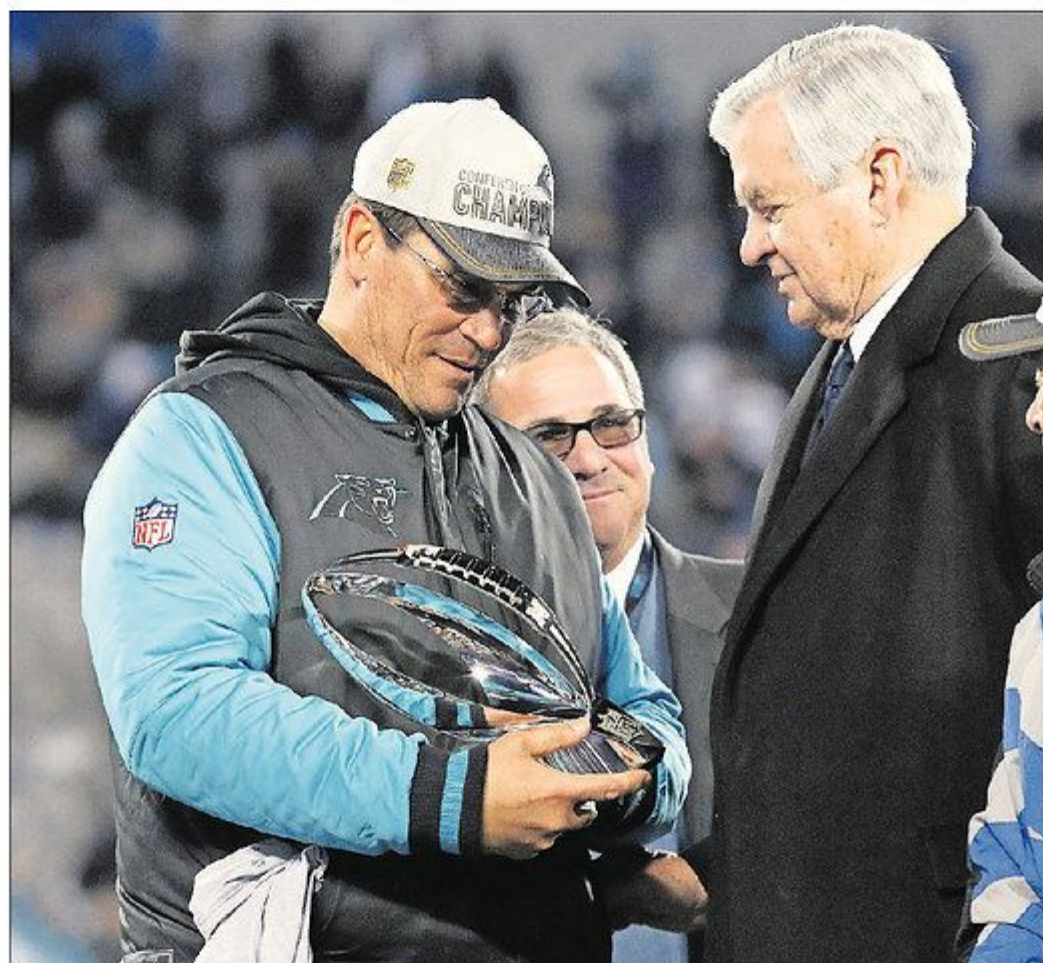
■ Spartanburg County Council meets at 5:30 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 366 N. Church St., Spartanburg.

■ Spartanburg School District 5 meets at 6:30 p.m. at the district office, 100 N. Danzler Road, Duncan.

Tuesday

■ Spartanburg County Land Management Board of Appeals meets at 4:30 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 366 N. Church St., Spartanburg.

POLL POSITION



Carolina Panthers head coach Ron Rivera, left, and owner Jerry Richardson, right, admire the Vince Lombardi Trophy after the Panthers defeated the Arizona Cardinals 49-15 on Sunday night in Charlotte to win the NFC championship. Looking on is Panthers general manager Dave Gettleman, center. Carolina will face the Denver Broncos in the Super Bowl on Feb. 7 in Santa Clara, Calif. **JOHN BYRUM/JOHN.BYRUM@SHJ.COM**

Carolina rips Arizona, will face Denver in Super Bowl 50 on Feb. 7

By Eric Boynton
 eric.boynton@shj.com

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — In what's been the most special season in franchise history, there are only two things left on the Carolina

Panthers' checklist — for the team to go win the Super Bowl and for Cam Newton to go pick up his MVP trophy.

The only ending that would've been both fitting and satisfactory to a season in which the Panthers were

dominant throughout came to full fruition with Sunday's 49-15 NFC Championship victory over Arizona. Next stop is Super Bowl 50 against Denver on Feb. 7 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif.

Carolina's 49 established a new NFC Championship record for points.

Inside

For additional coverage of the NFC championship game see Sports, B1.

SEE PANTHERS, A7

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Morning News

MONDAY JANUARY 25, 2016

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**
Mostly sunny,
cloudy later.
High 57, low 34.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents



Each Monday, the Morning News features a good news story on a person, place or organization in the Pee Dee. If you have a suggestion for someone or something to profile, send it to news@scnw.com.

A positive perspective

FMU nursing student returns to school after car accident

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Grayson Hucks used to have a perfectly organized plan.

But that all changed last May when Hucks, a junior nursing student at Francis Marion University, was in

a car accident that nearly took her life.

"It helped me learn that this is not my plan. I'm not the one in charge here," Hucks said. "It's God's plan, and how he wants it, it's going to happen, regardless of what your expectations are."

One week after she was

accepted into FMU's nursing program, Hucks was driving home from a summer internship at Beach Urgent Care in North Myrtle Beach. As she headed south, Hucks was involved in a six-car collision on U.S. 17 Bypass.

See **HUCKS**, Page 3A



Grayson Hucks smiles at The Grille, a spot on campus where FMU students can grab food. Hucks was in a car accident in May and just began taking classes again in the spring semester.



**\$82,000
raised for
Florence
families**

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO
Morning News
jimbimbo@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The Salvation Army in Florence raised more than \$80,000 through the Empty Stocking Fund during the 2015 holiday season. Those donations, as well as gifts and toys given to the Salvation Army, provided Christmas meals and presents to hundreds of families and will continue to help those in need in 2016.

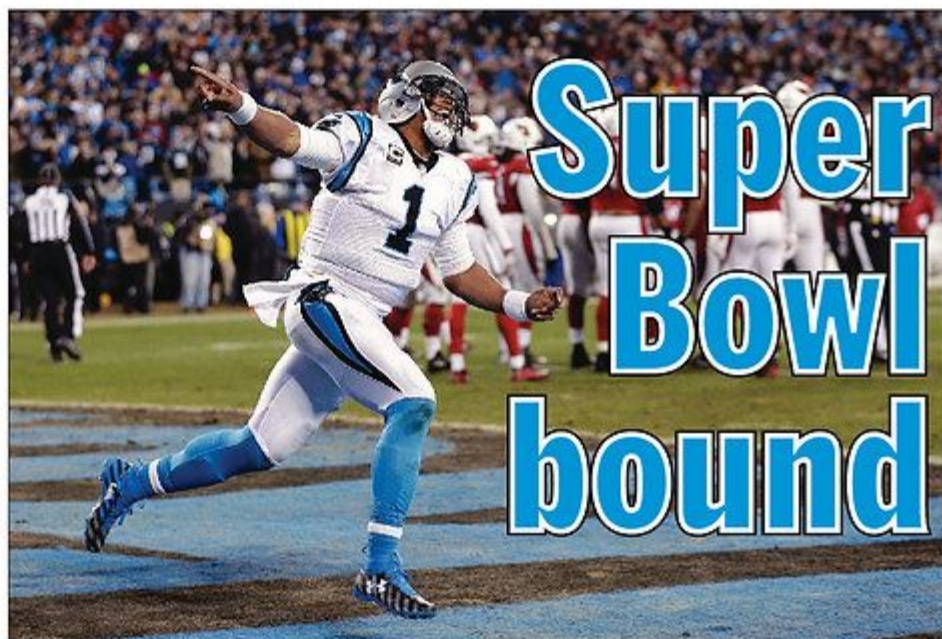
A total of 4,475 gifts were distributed during the holidays by the Salvation Army. More than 300 bicycles were also handed out during Christmas. The Salvation Army held its "Distribution Day" on Dec. 21, when the toys and bicycles were given to families in need. The Army also provided individuals with gift cards for food.

During Distribution Day, 895 children received Christmas gifts, and gift cards were given out to 1,248 individuals. In total, the Empty Stocking Fund raised \$82,175 that not only provided for families in need during the 2015 holiday season but will continue to help people into 2016.

Salvation Army Corps officer Lynda Thornhill said the Florence community came together to make Christmas special for so many people. Thornhill said the unused donations left over from the holidays will not go to waste.

"This (the donations) will allow

PANTHERS 49, CARDINALS 15



The Carolina Panthers' Cam Newton celebrates his touchdown run in the first half of a 49-15 victory over the Arizona Cardinals in the NFC Championship Game on Sunday in Charlotte, N.C.

CHARLOTTE, N.C.

Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers are headed to the Super Bowl. They defeated the Arizona Cardinals 49-15 on Sunday in the NFC Championship Game and will meet the Denver Broncos in the Super Bowl on Feb. 7 in Santa Clara, California. See coverage in Sports.

Second-time contestant inspires others to join competition



BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Richard Sprague competed in Florence's Biggest Loser last year. He decided to participate again this year and has rallied a team of approximately five other people to join him. Some of them are his co-workers at Honda of South Carolina.

During last year's competition, Sprague



December.
During the first week of Florence's Biggest Loser 2016, Sprague lost 9 pounds. He said it is a result of his good diet and

Super Bowl 50
Who's in? How did
Norman, Swearingen do?
Find out **Sports, 1B**



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2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

TICKETS FOR THE STUDENTS

SC Education Lottery broken down to trace where the money goes

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

With the Powerball jackpot reaching over \$1.5 billion two weeks ago, South Carolina's Education Lottery sales spiked as excitement grew, and with it, money to go toward education.

In October, the odds of winning a Powerball jackpot grew slimmer as developers wanted to increase the length of a jackpot run and ultimately raise the jackpot amount, Hollis Armstrong, a spokesperson for the S.C. Education Lottery said.

On average, for every dollar that is spent on lottery games, 24.44 percent goes to the Education Lottery

Account, which is appropriated by the General Assembly each year to scholarships, school districts and educational needs.

Another 65.76 percent is distributed to the lottery winners, and the rest of the money is allocated to retailer commissions and incentives, administration costs, gaming contract costs and advertising costs.

The state Education Lottery's website makes clear that the funds raised from the lottery are only meant to supplement the Department of Education and local school districts and not to replace property taxes or revenue raised by local governments.

Individual games will have higher and lower percentages of each dollar

that goes to education, Armstrong said.

Armstrong said Powerball ticket sales for the week of the record jackpot, the state took in about \$21 million, and about \$10 to \$15 million will go to education because the Powerball lottery has a higher percentage of funds that go to the Education Lottery Account than the average game.

"A typical week, when there's not a jackpot run, we probably do about \$1.1 to \$1.2 million in sales," Armstrong said.

According to the Department of Administration, there was over \$360 million that went into education for

See **LOTTERY**, page 4A



JOSHUA S. KELLY/INDEX-JOURNAL

During the Powerball jackpot run last week, the Quick Pantry on Calhoun Avenue did more than \$8,500 in Powerball ticket sales from Jan. 10 to Jan. 16.

NFC CHAMPIONS

Two Greenwood natives represented in NFC title

By **MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER**
mchristopher@indexjournal.com

L CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Locked away in the Greenwood High School trophy case sits two gold footballs.

The footballs commemorate Ben Coates and Robert Brooks, the only Greenwood alumni to play in and win the Super Bowl.

No matter the outcome of Sunday's NFC Championship game, Greenwood would have another player in the Super Bowl.

That third player will be Josh Norman as the Panthers routed the Arizona Cardinals 49-15. Norman accounted for one tackle, one assisted tackle and two passes defended. Carolina's defense as a whole was dominant as they forced seven turnovers — the most in a NFC title game since the

AFL/NFL merger.

Both Norman and Arizona's D.J. Swearingen were trying to reach Super Bowl 50, and Norman hopes to become the third Greenwood graduate to win a Super Bowl.

The Panthers will face the Denver Broncos on February 7th in San Francisco at Levi's Stadium.

Despite all the success Norman's had, he was proud of where he came from and the player he's become.

"It's been a great honor to be a part of Greenwood as just a community," he said. "The way of life there is just hard-nosed down to the core. There are no handouts, you've got to work for everything."

"I've had to work for everything I've gotten to this point, and that right there, that experience molded me into who I am today from there. I

just try to do everything I can to give back and do all I can because this is where I come from, and I won't ever deny that."

Swearingen played sparingly for the Cardinals on special teams but was grateful for the opportunity to play in a championship game and represent Greenwood, even if it was against a former teammate.

"It says a lot about Greenwood," Swearingen said. "Congratulations to Josh. (The Panthers) did an outstanding job. I hope Josh goes on to the Super Bowl and wins it. He was from Greenwood, and to have two guys in the NFC Championship is a tremendous honor. I'm looking forward to next year and good luck to Josh."

"I hope we are role models for the guys at Greenwood High and Emerald and the state period."



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY SETH MARY

Greenwood native and Carolina Panthers cornerback Josh Norman excites the crowd during his introduction before Sunday's NFC championship game at Bank of America Stadium.

Local Habitat head finds solace in helping people help themselves



By **COLIN RIDDLE**
criddle@indexjournal.com



CLOSER LOOK

librarian at Charles' school. Bryson created Greenwood Area Habitat for Humanity in 1988.

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437

Office: 803-734-0304