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The Post and Courier

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Friday, March 11, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Officer says teen gangs strong at DJJ school

Lawmakers told Juvenile Justice staff works in fear; National Guard suggested as backup

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
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COLUMBIA — A corrections officer at the Department of Juvenile Justice described the agency as a holding pen for teen gangs where employees are overworked, understaffed and operating in fear.

"The gangs are strong at DJJ," Catherine McKnight, an agency corrections officer, told lawmakers Thursday. "Is DJJ in a crisis? Yes. Am I afraid? Yes. Is there an escalation of violence? Yes." McKnight described the agency's school at its Broad River Road Complex as a "battleground for gangs," saying the agency doesn't have the

manpower or appropriate training to handle them.

She suggested the state send the South Carolina National Guard as backup until officers regain control. McKnight's testimony enraged members of a House's Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Subcommittee. She appeared just days after

Gov. Nikki Haley made an unannounced and unscheduled visit to the agency in the wake of reports that more than a dozen youthful offenders damaged state and private property during a riot.

DJJ announced late Thursday five teens would be facing charges related to the Feb. 26 incident. One is facing

an attempted murder charge for trying to run over a man whose role in the agency is not identified in the arrest report.

That same teen and three others are facing charges of burglary for breaking into the transition home where

Please see **GANGS**, Page A7

Residents ask for changes in policing

Town hall gives voice to community

BY CHRISTINA ELMORE
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Concerned citizens filled a North Charleston community center Thursday night, united in their disdain and pleading for a change in police tactics that they say disproportionately impact the city's minorities.

Among them was 68-year-old Moses Garrett, who from behind a lectern said he can't feel at peace in his own city.

"When I want to catch my breath, I drive downtown (Charleston)," Garrett said. "To me, it's not so much the police. It's the leadership. ... North Charleston's biggest problem is replacing the mayor. People are voting, but the system is not working."

Roughly 100 people attended the town hall meeting at the Alfred Williams Community Life Center on DuRant Ave. The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc., the American Civil Liberties Union of South Carolina, the Concerned Community Citizens Alliance and the Community Resource Center organized the event.

The meeting served as an opportunity for the NAACP defense fund to record community voices and complaints for an investigation it is

Please see **POLICING**, Page A6

pc Poll
Do you trust the police to do their jobs without bias? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

Inside



NATION
Trump, GOP rivals rumble — politely — in crucial debate. **A9**

SPORTS

Clemson players perform for NFL scouts on Pro Day. **C1**

LOCAL

Slave auction marker dedicated Thursday tells "a bigger story." **A4**

Missing Colleton County children found in a closet after all-night search. **A5**

Letter perfect



WADE SPEES/STAFF

Seventh-grader Landon Ethredge basks in the applause after winning SpellBound! on Thursday night at Charleston Southern University's Lightsey Chapel, sharing the stage with Advanced Studies Magnet guidance counselor O'Brian Spann (left) and his father, Chad Ethredge. Read more about the spelling bee on Page A3. To see more photos and a video, go to postandcourier.com/multimedia.

2,500-pound great white hooked off Hilton Head

Anglers battled behemoth for hours

BY BO PETERSEN
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HILTON HEAD ISLAND — They had already caught a few big redfish and Troy Bowman was worn down. Then ting! The bigline baited with fish carcass raced out. "It took off like a bus," said Capt. Chip Michalove of Outcast Fishing. Any doubt what they had hooked vanished when the massive fish leapt out of the ocean — a great white shark. "It jumped completely out like a killer whale at SeaWorld. Straight up," Michalove said. "Oh, man, it was unbelievable."

said Bowman of Bulls Gap, Tenn., who was Michalove's charter customer Wednesday. "It was like you'd seen an elephant out there. So big."

Bowman, a math teacher more accustomed to a 10-pound bass being a big fish, was about to get the fight of his fishing life. The 2,500-pound great white battled for more than four hours before getting brought to the boat at 7 p.m. in dark so pitch black that if you had closed your eyes it wouldn't have made any difference, Michalove said. The men used iPhones for light.

Please see **SHARK**, Page A6



PROVIDED BY CHIP MICHALOVE
Chip Michalove checks on the 2,500-pound great white shark he and charter customer Troy Bowman caught Wednesday.

Senate roads plan could be in a jam

House speaker calls it 'reckless budgeting'

BY GAVIN JACKSON
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COLUMBIA — A clear path for fixing South Carolina's roads fell into doubt Thursday when House lawmakers slammed the Senate's plan as "reckless budgeting."

Shortly after senators gave final reading of their plan and declared their work done, House leaders criticized the Senate's proposal, saying the House plan for a dedicated source of money through a 10-cent per-gallon gas tax increase remains the better option. "The Senate's deceptive plan to fix our crumbling roads system is irresponsible and prioritizes politics over a sound solution," House Speaker Jay Lucas, R-Hartsville, said.

"Not only does their plan mislead the people of South Carolina into thinking that a large pot of general fund money will be available every year for roads," Lucas added, "it also practices reckless budgeting."

Please see **ROADS**, Page A7

pc Poll
Do you think the roads in South Carolina can be fixed without a gas tax? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

Addition planned for Riley Park

Club level to be used at games, for events

BY GENE SAPAROFF
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With the start of their 20th anniversary season at Riley Park just a few weeks away, the Charleston RiverDogs are planning a significant addition to the ballpark: the minor league baseball team shares with The Citadel. A new 6,000-square-foot, \$3 million club level will be available for fans during games and for banquets, weddings and other events year-round beginning in February 2017.

"It will give us the feel and impression of a more modern facility," RiverDogs President and General Manager Dave Echols said. "Venues being built now are including something like this. It will just enhance the beautiful aspects of our ballpark. I'm real excited. We think the event use will be off the charts."

Please see **PARK**, Page A7



Partly cloudy.
High 82, Low 58.
Complete 5-day
forecast. **B10**

Bridge B9 Crossword B8, D7
Business B1 Dear Abby B4
Classified D1 Editorials A8
Comics B8-9 Local A2 Television B6

Charleston Deals today

Footlight Players
\$16 for two tickets to
Dorothy in Wonderland.
(Valued at \$30). See **A2**

USC MEN'S BASKETBALL
Near lock for
NCAAs, USC wants
to win in SEC
Tournament, 1B



PREP BASKETBALL
Dreher's Jhileiya
Dunlap named
top girls player in
South Carolina, 1B



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TODAY: PARTLY SUNNY HI 83 LO 59
YESTERDAY: HI 84 LO 52 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0.00"
FORECAST, 8C

The State

DJJ lacked police chief, gang expert when riots broke out

“THERE WAS NOTHING THAT I COULD DO. THERE WAS NOTHING THAT THE DIRECTOR COULD DO.”

Catherine McKnight, DJJ

BY JAMIE SELF
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The state's juvenile detention center had no police chief, gang intervention specialist or rapid-response emergency team on staff when riots broke out recently, the agency's leader said Thursday.

The vacant police chief's duties were being handled by the agency's inspector general, S.C. Department of Juvenile

'Am I afraid? Yes. Is there an escalation of violence? Yes'

Director Sylvia Murray says lack of a police chief 'probably' contributed to violent incidents

Justice director Sylvia Murray told an S.C. House panel reviewing the agency.

Meanwhile, a juvenile justice officer who spends 12-hour shifts working directly with the agency's youthful inmates told

lawmakers that gang activity led to a Feb. 26 riot at the agency's Broad River Road facility.

Catherine McKnight, who joined Juvenile Justice after retiring from a 31-year career with the Federal Reserve, said

gang members jumped a rival gang member at a Black History event.

After the incident, McKnight said she noticed inmates hatching a plan to retaliate. She said she told a coworker, "They're planning something." There was nothing that I could do. There was nothing that the director could do.

Poorly trained officers, mistrust among employees and absent supervisors leave employees and youth inmates vulnerable, McKnight added. "Is DJJ in a crisis? Yes. Am I afraid? Yes. Is there an escalation of violence? Yes."

McKnight testified under oath before a House Legislative Oversight panel tasked with reviewing the agency. The Feb-

SEE DJJ, 8A



Sam Light is among parents pressing for improvements in Lexington High School's softball field. Drainage is a problem when raining or irrigating.

'REAL SAFETY CONCERNS'

Lexington High's softball field is unsafe, players' parents say

Parents seek end to conditions they deem dangerous

Anger prompts complaint to U.S. civil rights officials

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

TRENHOLM PLAZA WORK

DHEC drops fine levied for asbestos in dumpster

Asbestos tossed in dumpster at Trenholm Plaza, board told

DHEC says subcontractor should not be penalized for 2014 work

BY SAMMY FRETWELL
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The state's environmental protection board overturned a \$10,000 fine Thursday against a company accused of digging up asbestos-laden material and depositing the substance in a dumpster at the bustling Trenholm Plaza shopping center in Forest Acres.

A Department of Health and Environmental Control lawyer questioned whether the asbestos-tinted flooring had exposed shoppers in 2014, but DHEC has been unable to confirm that — and agency board members said during an enforcement hearing that the fine isn't warranted.

"It is difficult for me to see a case for enforcement at this point," DHEC board member Clarence Batts said, noting that he didn't believe the toxic substance posed a threat to the

SEE FINE, 7A

For more information

See frequently asked questions



SPORTS TIGERS GET AUDITION



E GREENVILLE Upstate getting an Irish vibe

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

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MARCH 11, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY TRUMP SAYS HE HATES POLITICAL JOURNALISTS PAGE 1B

Water rate increase arrives in April bills



Construction continues on the \$13.5 million redevelopment of the downtown campus of the Greenville Water System on Washington Street.

ERIC CONNOR
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When the water bill arrives in inboxes and mailboxes in Greenville come next month, customers will notice a slight increase — again.

The Greenville Water System has implemented a 3 percent increase in monthly bills as part of a four-year plan to ensure sound financial footing as it pays for system-wide infrastructure improvements.

The increase comes as the utility enters the backstretch of a \$13.5 million redevelopment of its downtown campus, a project the water system says has

thus far met its budget.

The rate increase became effective on March 1 and will appear on April bills.

It isn't the only increase customers might face.

The final round of increases — as part of a plan approved by the Public Works Commission to invest in the utility — is eyed for 2017, though that in-

crease hasn't yet been approved for next year.

"The increase would need to be approved next year with the budget," Water System spokeswoman Olivia Vassey said. "The commission will consider the staff's financial evaluation and recommendation."

In the city, the base meter fee for residents is now \$4.52 per 1,000 gallons, 13 cents higher than last year, and the consumption fee is \$1.47, which is 4 cents more, Vassey said. The out-of-city base fee is \$6.78, 20 cents higher, and \$2.22, 6 cents more, respectively.

The increase amounts to less than \$7 more this year for the typical household.

"The increase will support long-range financial planning efforts and the ongoing commitment to the renewal and replacement of system infrastructure, Greenville," Vassey said.

See WATER RATES, Page 7A

County working to cut stench drifting from landfill

ANGELIA DAVIS
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The county has beefed up efforts to contain odors drifting from the Twin Chimneys Landfill and out into the Southern Greenville County community.

But there's no guarantee that once the odors are contained that they'll never migrate offsite again.

Greenville County environmental engineer Susan Harrison and Marcia Papin, manager of the landfill, met with residents who live near the landfill on Thursday to update them on what's being done to control the landfill odor, which residents have likened to vomit and rotten eggs, among other things.

They initially met with county and state Department of Health and Environmental Control leaders in January to express their concerns about the odor, which they said is impacting their quality of life.

Harrison said since that meeting, a system which captures the odorous gases, the source of the smell, has been expanded on the landfill site to "make sure that we can contain that odor."

Harrison has said that landfill odors are caused by bacteria that are breaking down the garbage. She'd said the "exorbitant amount of rain" is the reason the odor from Twin Chimneys became so noticeable.

Household and commercial waste brought to landfills decompose over time largely through bacteria, according to a form DHEC representatives brought to give out to residents. The process produces "odorous gases."

Harrison said she hoped residents had noticed some improvement in regard to the odor, but she said the gas system will take a little while for everything to be tied on.

"We expect by early April to have everything fine-tuned, connected, stable and to be flaring as much gas as possible," she said. But residents should "continue to see improvement as we go."

As the county worked to improve

See LANDFILL, Page 6A

Senate panel presses DSS on overdue computer project

TIM SMITH
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COLUMBIA - Federal fines on a state child support enforcement system decades overdue could total almost \$200 million if the system is running in 2019.

That's the estimate a state Department of Social Services official gave to the Senate DSS Oversight Committee on Thursday as senators pressed DSS to accelerate the project, which has been in the works since the early 1990s.

"They built the Internet in 14 years.

has made progress in lowering caseloads for caseworkers in Anderson County, a month after officials said one worker there was handling 119 children, the most in the state.

DSS is hiring more caseworkers for Anderson County and has used workers from neighboring counties as it continues to work on a more even distribution of caseloads, she said. Currently, 11 workers in Anderson County have caseloads of 50 or more children each, she said, but none have 100 or more.

Statewide, 58 workers have such ca-

South Carolina remains the only state not to have an automated child support enforcement system up and running in response to a 1988 federal law.

The project has thus far incurred \$134 million in federal fines, though previous vendors have paid about half of that, said Jimmy Early, who has been overseeing the project for DSS for the past year.

Early said DSS estimates the state will incur another \$63 million in fines by the time the project is up and running, now planned in the 2019 fiscal year.

Last year, officials decided to aban-

for with federal funding.

Early said between Xerox and the state, about 150 people will be working on the project at its peak. The system will provide an automated and centralized system for handling child support enforcement instead of counties doing it on their own.

He said the system includes financial accounting and court management components and must integrate with other government agencies.

"They are just big, complex systems," Early told the panel.

LOCAL

Lee Jean and 'Idol' final 6: Did Bluffton teen advance? 3A



LOCAL

Learn how you can see the Clydesdales in area next week 4A



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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON



Partly cloudy
74°/58° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

LEGISLATURE AND CAR SAFETY

Bill could keep more kids out of front seats

Lawmakers consider changing rules to keep kids in back seats till they are 13

Some say change to 8 years old more likely

Bill also would alter rules for rear-facing safety seats

BY JAMIE SELL
jsell@theislandpacket.com

S.C. lawmakers are considering raising the age of children allowed to ride in the front-passenger seat of a vehicle.

A House bill, in its original form, would ban children from riding in the front seat of a vehicle until they are 13 years old, more than doubling the age that a child must be now.

Under current law, children cannot ride in the front seat until they are 6, unless a vehicle does not have a rear passenger seat or all passenger seats are occupied by children under 6.

At 13 years, most children are 57 inches tall — the height that a

pediatrics association deemed safe for a child to ride in a car using an adult seat belt, Whitney Tucker with the Children's Trust of South Carolina told a House panel Thursday.

But state Rep. Neal Collins, R-Pickens, called the 13-year-old requirement "arbitrary" and said it would face certain opposition on the House floor.

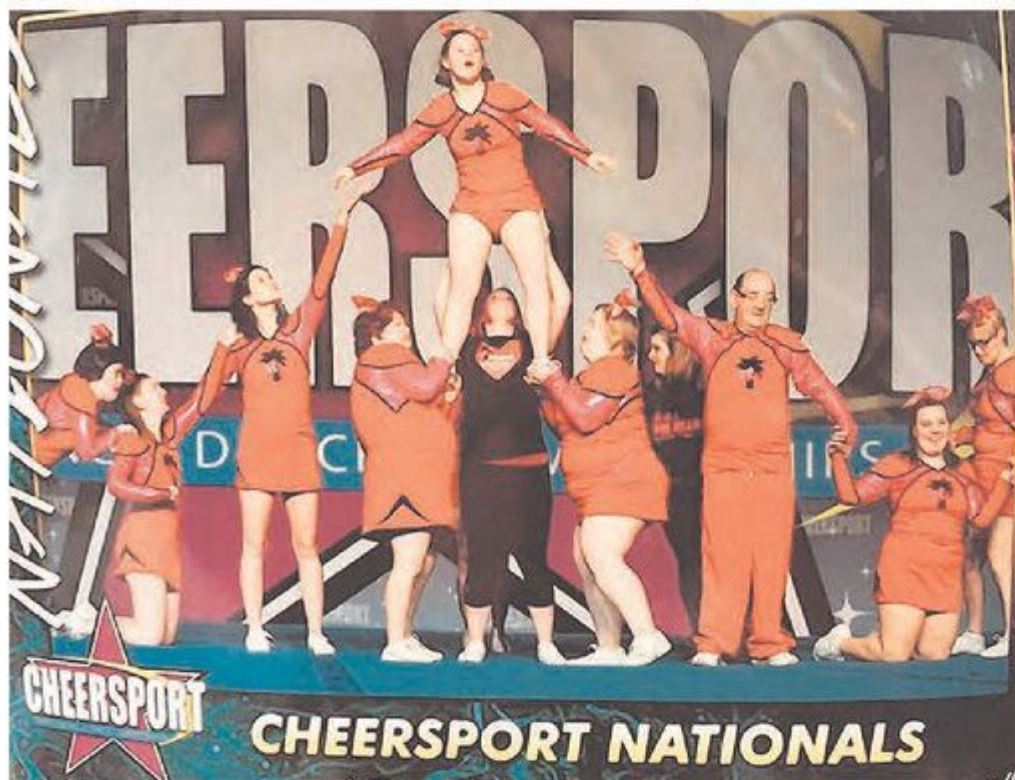
Members of the House panel did not vote on the bill, agreeing instead to consider raising the age requirement for riding in the front seat to 8 years up from 6, and allowing a child to meet either a height or age requirement to ride up front.

The panel also is weighing whether to:

- Raise the age a child must be secured in a rear-facing car seat to 2 years old from 1

- Require a child at least 2 years old and up to 7 to ride in a forward-facing car seat and, later, a booster seat until the child is tall enough to use an adult seat belt in the back seat

State Reps. Shannon Erickson, R-Beaufort, and Mia McLeod, D-Richland, are sponsoring the legislation.



Hilton Head's Island Special Team competed earlier this year at the Cheersport National Competition in Atlanta.

BEAUFORT COUNTY SPIRIT

Special-needs cheer team headed for competition

Team of adults with special needs have competed for 12

BY ERIN HETTERMAN
ehetterman@islandpacket.com

Team, a competitive cheerleading squad for adults with special needs, will defend their spots

“WHENEVER IT'S PRACTICE DAY, I KNOW I'M GOING TO HAVE A GOOD DAY BECAUSE I GET TO SEE MY TEAM.”

Julie Dafer,
Island Special Team coach



OPINION

THE SEDUCTIVE LOWCOUNTRY

Columnist Kathleen Parker on how Pat Conroy's works were so good they begged to be read aloud. 6B



SPORTS

HERITAGE DEBUT SET FOR YOUTH

Heritage gives wild card spot to golfer who can claim accomplishments shared by Woods and Nicklaus. 1C

SPRING FORWARD: Remember to set clocks forward an hour Sunday.

THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

50 CENTS

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City Council OKs referendum on Sunday alcohol sales

BY JIM FAILE
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Hartsville voters will decide in November whether to allow Sunday alcohol sales in the city.

The Hartsville City Council gave final approval by a 6-1 vote Tuesday to an ordinance that will put a public referendum on the Sunday sale of alcohol in Hartsville on the November general election ballot. The vote came during the council's

regular monthly meeting.

The measure passed overwhelmingly, with Councilman Billy Shirley casting the only negative vote, just as he did when the ordinance came up for a preliminary vote on first reading in February.

The council took only a few minutes to approve the ordinance.

During a public hearing on the ordinance before the vote, only one person spoke about

the measure. Patricia Tomlinson urged the council to approve the ordinance.

Representatives of the Hartsville Hospitality Council went before the City Council in February and requested a public referendum on Sunday alcohol sales. Affected businesses would include restaurants and bars for on-premises consumption on Sunday and convenience stores, grocery stores and other stores that sell alcohol for off-premises

consumption on Sunday. Liquor stores, which are controlled by the state, will not be able to sell on Sunday.

Council members stressed that Tuesday's vote was not a vote to approve Sunday alcohol sales, simply to put the question on the general election ballot for voters to decide.

The Hospitality Council sees Sunday sales as something that would boost Hartsville's economy for restaurants and other

businesses, and that would help stem the flow of dollars from Hartsville to surrounding communities like Florence that allow Sunday alcohol sales.

Businesses located outside the city limits will not be able to sell alcohol on Sunday.

Only registered voters who live within the Hartsville city limits will be eligible to vote in the referendum.

The election will take place Nov. 8.

Sheriff Byrd to run for re-election

From staff reports

DARLINGTON — Darlington County Sheriff J. Wayne Byrd announced his plan to run for re-election during a Society Hill Town Council meeting Tuesday.



Byrd

Byrd said it is a tradition to start his campaign in his hometown of Society Hill among his friends and family. Byrd also began his law enforcement career there in 1987.

"Having been born and raised in Darlington County, I have spent my entire career serving the citizens of Darlington County," Byrd said in a release. "I look forward to the opportunity to continue that service."

Byrd was first elected in 2008 and then won re-election in 2012. When announcing his bid for re-election

See **BYRD**, Page 4A

Staffing changes at the Messenger

From staff reports

HARTSVILLE — Staffing changes at the Hartsville Messenger are set to bring a bigger community voice into the publication, with new additions Donna Tracy and Mark W. Rowe joining long-time staff writers Ardie Arvidson and Jim Faile and inside sales and customer service representative Donna Wiggins.



Tracy

Tracy took on editorial duties of the Hartsville Messenger in mid-February and has plans to broaden the community's presence on Hartsville Messenger.com and SCN.com.

Originally from London, England, Tracy is an Air Force veteran and plans to help make the

See **STAFF**, Page 4A

COKER COLLEGE



PHOTO BY ARDIE ARVIDSON/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Participants in the live-action shooter drill Wednesday at Coker College find their places as the scenario is about to unfold. First responders from around the county used the drill to test their preparedness for such a disaster.

Emergency responders tested with shooter drill

BY ARDIE ARVIDSON
aarvidson@hartsvillemessenger.com



First responders prepare to go into the science building at Coker College during a drill where shots were fired and a suspected shooter or shooters have

HARTSVILLE — Coker College looked like a true crime scene Wednesday as ambulances, police cars, and firetrucks, all with sirens blaring, converged on the campus for a live-action shooter drill that would test the skills and readiness of Darlington County first responders and of Coker College in the event of a real shooter situation.

It all occurred around 10:30 a.m. at the science building. Participating in the exercise were the Hartsville Police Department, Hartsville Fire Depart-

Emergency Management, city of Hartsville, Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center, Darlington County Sheriff's Office, 911 Communication Center, Red Cross, Darlington County Emergency Medical Services and Coker College.

"We are so grateful to the many agencies and people who have collaborated to put this together," said Brianna Douglas, vice president for administration at Coker College, in a release announcing the event. "It is unpleasant to even think about the possibility of something like this happening on our campus,



TIGERS AIM TO IMPRESS NFL PERSONNEL

SPORTS, B1



BMW EMPLOYEES RAISE WALLS OF HABITAT HOME

UPSTATE, C1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Friday, March 11, 2016



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TODAY SAT SUN



78°/59° 73°/58° 68°/56°

Complete forecast, B8

ONLINE



Photo gallery

Visit GoUpstate.com to view more photos of the wall-raising ceremony for the house being built by BMW Manufacturing Co. and Habitat for Humanity.

UPSTATE

Guard: SC juvenile prison in crisis

Gangs are taking over the main Department of Juvenile Justice prison in South Carolina, starting three riots in eight months and causing prisoners and staff to fear for their lives, a corrections officer said Thursday. **C1**

False call puts schools on lockout

A call falsely claiming two lions had escaped from Hollywild Animal Park in Wellford put several Spartanburg County schools on lockout Thursday morning. **C1**

CAMPAIGN 2016



Obama: GOP to blame for Trump 'circus'

President Barack Obama says years of knee-jerk GOP hostility toward him has fueled Donald Trump's rise, arguing Thursday that Republicans have no one to blame but themselves. **A3**

NATION

REPUBLICAN DEBATE

Trump, rivals rumble politely

By Nancy Benac and Julie Bykowitz
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Abandoning the nasty insults of past debates, Donald Trump and his Republican rivals turned Thursday night's presidential face-off into a mostly respectful but still pointed discussion of Social Security, Islam, trade and more. Trump shook his head and declared at one point: "I can't believe how civil it's been up here."

Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio didn't hesitate to lay out their differences with Trump, but the candidates largely managed to

present those arguments without vitriol.

In a lengthy discussion of the threat posed by radicalized Muslims, Trump refused to back away from his recent statement that "Islam hates the West." He said he wouldn't stoop to being "politically correct" by avoiding such statements.

Rubio had a sharp comeback: "I'm not interested in being politically correct. I'm interested in being correct."

The Florida senator noted the Muslims in the U.S. military and buried in Arlington National Cemetery and said the



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, left, answers a question as fellow candidate Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, listens during the Republican presidential debate Thursday at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla. WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEE GOP, A4

SPARTANBURG CHAMBER

Study: District 7 building plan would benefit local economy



A study done by the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce shows a plan by Spartanburg School District 7 to build a new Spartanburg High School

INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

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REPUBLICAN DEBATE



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republican presidential candidate, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., answers a question during the Republican presidential debate Thursday sponsored by CNN, Salem Media Group and the Washington Times at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.

Trump, rivals fight on, but politely, in debate

By NANCY BENAC and JULIE BYKOWICZ
Associated Press

MIAMI — Abandoning the nasty insults of past debates, Donald Trump and his Republican rivals turned Thursday's presidential face-off into a mostly respectful discussion of Social Security, Islam, trade and more. Trump shook his head and declared at one point: "I can't believe how civil it's been up here."

Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio found plenty of areas of difference with Trump, but the candidates largely managed to lay them out without vitriol.

In a lengthy discussion of the threat posed by radicalized Muslims, Trump refused to back away from his recent statement that "Islam hates the West."

Asked if he meant all Muslims, Trump said: "I mean a lot of them" and he wouldn't be "politically correct" by avoiding such statements.

Rubio had a pointed comeback: "I'm not interested in being politically correct. I'm interested in being correct."

The Florida senator noted the Muslims in the U.S. military and buried in Arlington National Cemetery and said the only way to solve the problem of violent extremists is to work with people in the Muslim faith who are not radicals.

Cruz bundled together his criticisms of Trump for what he called simplistic solutions on trade and on Islamic terrorists, saying, "The answer is not to simply yell, China: bad, Muslim: bad."

Trump, though, clearly was intent on projecting a less bombastic — and more presidential — image.

"We're all in this together," he said early on, sounding more like a conciliator than a provocateur as he strives to unify the party behind his candidacy. "We're going to come up with solutions. We're going to find the answer to things."

Trump's rivals, in a desperate scramble to halt his march to the nomination, gradually ramped up their criticism as the night wore on.

Rubio's overarching message: "I know that a lot of people find appeal in the things Donald says. The problem is presidents can't just say anything they want because it has consequences around the world."

Cruz, eager to cement his position as the party's last best alternative to Trump, had a string of criticisms of the GOP front-runner, too, saying flatly at one point: "His solutions don't work."

Trump refused to take the bait when Cruz repeatedly poked at his foreign policy positions and at one point lumped Trump with Hillary Clinton and John Kerry in supporting the Obama administration's Iran nuclear deal.

Trump's restrained response: "If Ted was listening, he would have heard me say something very similar" to what Cruz had said about the failings of the deal.

In a meaty discussion of Social Security, Cruz and Rubio both said they'd gradually raise the retirement age for younger workers to help stabilize the system and stave off financial disaster for the system.

Trump, in contrast, said he'd do something

McCravy to make House run

By MATTHEW HENSLEY
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John R. McCravy III, a local attorney, announced Thursday he will run for the District 13 state House seat as a Republican.

Garbed in a navy blazer and white shirt with no tie, the 57-year-old sat down with the Index-Journal Thursday to say why he was making a second run for the seat currently occupied by Rep. Shannon Riley, R-Greenwood.

"As a state, we have to stand firm and prevent the federal government from coming in here and

prescribing everything that we do, every part of our life," McCravy said, stressing the need for the region to preserve its values.

A self-described conservative, McCravy at times spoke as much with his hands as his mouth as he laid out what he planned to accomplish if elected.

"I don't want to pass more laws when we have so many on the books already," he said. "I think

there are solutions to our problems that we have. ... I know that there's a surplus now in the state. Why aren't we using that surplus to fix our roads?"

McCravy said there are "too many regulations now and too many requirements on the small businessman" and that the layers of red tape adds cost and difficulty to starting a business.

"A person who wants to start a small business probably has to go to five to 10 government agencies just to get started," he said. "... I'd like to see all of that combined to make it easy to start a small business, to streamline the process

and instead of the government being the problem, let the government help the small businessman."

A supporter of Second Amendment rights, McCravy said he would loosen unnecessary gun restrictions.

"With the people in Washington that we have and their attitude, they'd just as soon disarm us all, and I don't think that's what we want," he said. "Anything heading in that direction, I wouldn't be in favor of it. I'd be in favor of what we have, but nothing further."

See McCRAVY, page 4A

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



PHOTOS BY ARIEL GILREATH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Students from Boston College worked all week on a house at 126 Spring Woods Trail for the Greenwood Area Habitat for Humanity, and next week students from Harvard University will pick up where they left off.



Taylor O'Connor, a student at Boston College, pulls siding off of a Greenwood Area Habitat for Humanity House Thursday morning that students worked on all week.

College students give of their time, talents to fix up Habitat homes

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

Students from Boston College in Massachusetts worked every day this week stripping floors and tearing down siding while renovating a house in the Spring Woods Trail neighborhood in Greenwood.

The community sits off Marion Avenue and is made up of houses renovated or built by Habitat for Humanity.

The Boston College students will leave today and students from Harvard University will begin working on the house Monday to pick up where their counterparts left off.

Pattie Fender, volunteer and family services coordinator for Habitat, said the students are a

part of the Collegiate Challenge Habitat for Humanity does every year. Schools can look at different area-Habitats that signed up for the challenge across the United States in need of volunteers and send students during their spring breaks.

"We, as a local affiliate, post on the Collegiate Challenge portal which weeks we want to host students, and how many students we can accommodate, what kinds of things they will be doing and then a little bit about the area, so a little bit about Greenwood, and then from there I guess the individual colleges make their choice about where they're coming," Fender said. "In Boston College's case, they actually sent around 450 students down here and they spread them out — they're spread out

See HABITAT, page 4A

Colombo Energy, Senate election topics of Chamber's meeting



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Early Enrollment for 2016-2017 School Year
Open Enrollment for New Families
3K-12th Grade & After School Program

Morning News

FRIDAY MARCH 11, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Sun and clouds.
High 85, low 60.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Kingstree man cleared of murder charge

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO
Morning News
jimbinbo@florencenews.com

KINGSTREE — A man arrested and charged with murder in October 2015 had his charges dismissed Thursday after evidence showed the man acted in self-defense.

Darnel O'Brian Thomas Fulton,

25, of Kingstree was arrested after shooting another man in the face in the parking lot of a Lake City McDonald's in October. Since then, video evidence from businesses in the Lake City area have shown that Fulton was acting



Fulton

in self-defense.

According to Fulton's attorney, Rose Mary Parham, Fulton and his family were traveling from Kingstree to Lake City because Fulton's 5-year-old daughter wanted McDonald's. Parham said Fulton's family couldn't go to the McDonald's in Kingstree because of a curfew set due to the flooding that had occurred

in the area. Parham gave this account:

"As they were driving from their family's house to McDonald's, a pickup truck ran a stop sign in front of them," Parham said. "They honked their horn to let the person know they ran a stop sign."

The driver of the pickup truck, James Adam Culick, 28, of Lake

City, pulled over to the side of the road and tried to start an altercation with Fulton.

Fulton's wife was driving. Fulton was in the passenger seat and their two children, a 5-year-old daughter and a 6-month-old son, were in the back seat.

Fulton's family continued

See FULTON, Page 3A

S.C. House of Representatives

Pee Dee delegates slam new road plan

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — That dog won't hunt — Deceptive — Patch job — A slap in the face — Distasteful.

These are some of the phrases used by South Carolina House representatives from the Pee Dee to describe the Senate's plan for \$400 million a year to fix roads.

The plan doesn't include a gas tax increase and has no cut to income taxes, unlike the House-passed bill that included a 10-cent-per-gallon gas tax increase and a small income tax cut.

The Senate's plan would put \$400 million each year from the general fund toward the state Department of Transportation. Proponents say the state is running on a \$1.2 billion budget surplus, so the deal allocates that money into roads wisely.

The deal, however, has drawn

See **ROADS**, Page 4A

A DAY FOR RUNNING



WILSON MAY MORNING NEWS

Wilson's Roy Hyman leads in the boys' 100-meter hurdles during the track meet Thursday.

West Florence, South Florence and Wilson track teams met at Wilson High School on Thursday for a boys and girls track meet. On a bright, warm day, the athletes competed in events such as relay races, 400-meter dash 3200-meter run, shot put and high jump. For coverage of the meet, turn to Page 1D. More photos visit scnw.com.

Skirmish at Gambles Hotel

Civil War battle to be re-enacted this weekend

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Re-enactors, rejoice! The Skirmish at Gambles Hotel returns today.

The skirmish depicts an encounter that occurred March 5, 1865, when 500 federal soldiers marched into Florence to destroy the railroad depot. These federal troops were met by a group of



Florence One School District

R.N. Beck proposal causes concern for some board members

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Thursday night the Florence School District One Board

The plan as described by Lionel Brown, assistant superintendent of administrative services, led to lengthy discussion among board members.

Currently, a building that

Camlin Moore

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