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To:

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Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, January 6, 2016

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**SC Front Pages – Wednesday, January 6, 2016**



# Morning News

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 2016

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Warmer with periods of sun. High 50, low 34. DETAILS 2A

www.senow.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

## Pee Dee split on Obama gun action

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO  
Morning News  
jimbomb@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — President Barack Obama's executive orders on guns are drawing some support and some skepticism among people involved in the firearms industry in the Pee Dee.

Obama's executive action re-

### INSIDE

For more information about President Barack Obama's executive action see **Page 4A**.

quires anyone who is selling a firearm to have a license and conduct background checks. Currently, only federal licensed gun dealers are required to per-

form background checks. Now sellers at gun shows, flea markets and on the Internet all must be licensed and provide background checks in order to sell firearms.

Jim Wood, a co-owner of Blue Line Shooting Center in Florence, said he has no problems with the president's idea to require licensing and background checks, specifically at gun shows.

### If you go

**What:** Florence Gun & Knife Show  
**Where:** Florence Civic Center  
**When:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday  
Tickets sold at the door.  
No loaded firearms allowed.

"The gun show becomes an easy place for somebody that

may be having bad ideas to be able to go and buy a gun, because there is no check," Wood said. "I don't have a problem with him stopping that."

Mike Kent of MK Shows produces gun and knife shows all across the Southeast. The Florence Civic Center will host the

See **GUNS**, Page 4A

## Gov. Haley to give GOP response to State of Union

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will give the Republican response to a State of the Union address that is sure to include President Barack Obama's plans for tightening gun sales, seven months after both spoke at funerals for the victims of a massacre at a historic black church in Charleston.



Haley

House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell jointly announced Tuesday that Haley will speak for Republicans after Obama's Jan. 12 speech.

The South Carolina-born daughter of Indian immigrants is the state's first female and first minority governor. At 43, Haley is also the country's youngest governor.

"In a year when the country is crying out for a positive vision and alternative to the status quo, Gov. Haley is the exact right choice," Ryan said in a statement.

The selection will likely fuel speculation that Haley would join a potential Republican administration in 2017.

Haley, governor of a state that holds the first-in-the-South presidential primary, becomes the third Republican woman ever to give the response. It's a role typically reserved for a member of Congress. Last year, Sen. Joni Ernst of Iowa gave the response. In 2013, it was Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, who's now among a crowded Republican field running for president.

It's also an opportunity that can backfire: Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, who abandoned his 2016 presidential bid, was widely panned for what critics said was a less-than-spectacular speech in 2009.

The speech will further the profile of a governor put in the national spotlight after the June 17 mass shooting at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church, in which the nine killed included its pastor, state Sen. Clementa Pinckney. The white man charged with killing them could be seen in photos brandishing the Confederate battle flag.

Since taking office in 2011, Haley has staunchly criticized Obama on everything from health care reform to immigration. But the two seemed

## HINES SWORN IN AS DARLINGTON MAYOR



Darlington's new mayor, Gloria Hines, is sworn in during a ceremony on Tuesday afternoon.

Gloria Cheeseboro Hines was sworn in as Darlington's new mayor on Tuesday evening in a filled city courtroom. Hines won a runoff election last November by just 10 votes, making her not only the city's first female mayor but the city's first black mayor as well. Hines told the crowd she intends to make Darlington the "Pearl of the Pee Dee" once again and take the city in a new direction. More photos on [senow.com](http://senow.com).

## Three Darlington council members take seats



Carolyn Bruce, John Milling and Bryant Gardner were sworn in Tuesday night as the three new at-large Darlington City Council members. Darlington lawyer Albert James III administered the oath of office.

### Council seeks communications grant

BY MELISSA ROLLINS  
Morning News  
mrollins@florencenews.com

DARLINGTON — The room was packed Tuesday night as three at-large members took the oath of office for the Darlington City Council.

As one of the first orders of business during the first council meeting of the new year, Carolyn Bruce, John Milling and Bryant Gardner were sworn in by Darlington city attorney Albert James III.

In other business, Fire Chief Pat Cavanaugh got unanimous approval from the council to apply for a FEMA grant to upgrade the radio communications system used by the fire department. Cavanaugh said that the new system is not a want; it is a need, and it is only a matter of time before it is required to do the job.

"The current system we are using is a VHS system and we've had it for years,"

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3A

## Florence representatives preview 2016 at breakfast forum

BY JOSHUA LLOYD  
Morning News  
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — A group of

District 61; and Jay Jordan, a Republican from District 63, answered a slew of questions about infrastructure funding, flood-related problems, edu-



From left: Reps. Phillip Lowe (R-Florence), Roger Kirby (D-Florence) and



## SPORTS CLEMSON CAUTIOUS



METRO  
It was a  
busy day  
for Haley

# The Greenville News

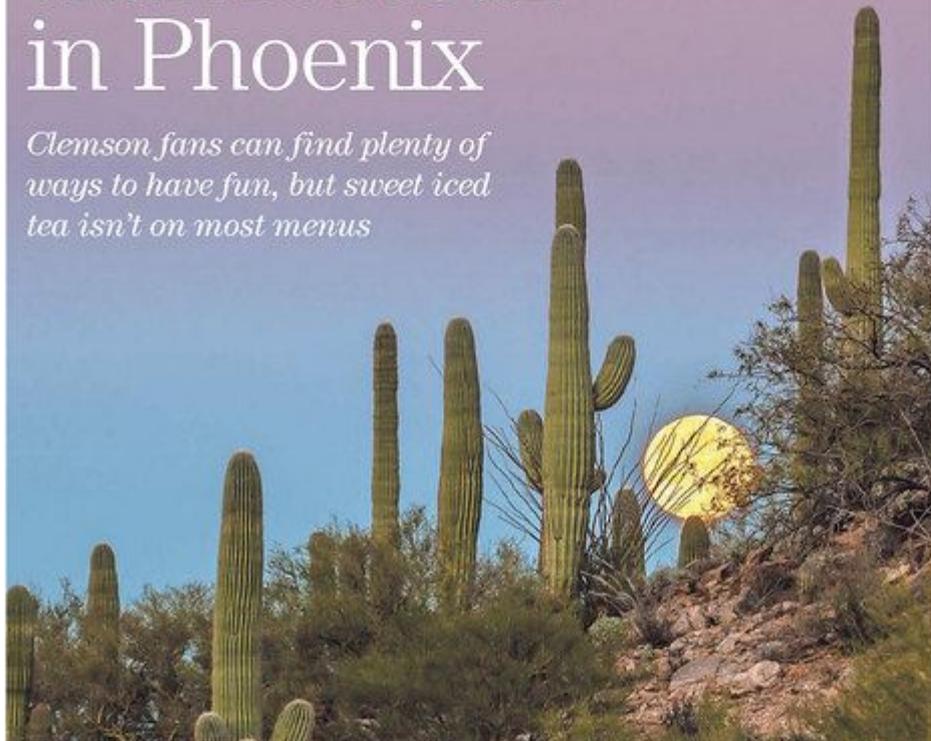
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JANUARY 6, 2016  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY SUV SALES LEAD AUTO INDUSTRY TO BEST YEAR EVER PAGE 5B

## There's more than football in Phoenix

*Clemson fans can find plenty of ways to have fun, but sweet iced tea isn't on most menus*



MIKE NOLAN

Fans visiting Phoenix can enjoy some breathtaking views at Arizona Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson.

DONNA ISBELL WALKER | DWALKER@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

Downtown Phoenix will be a sea of orange this weekend, and not just from all the Clemson fans wearing their Tiger spirit on their sleeves.

The city's Downtown Ambassadors are clad in bright orange, and their purpose is to help visitors find restaurants, fun attractions, or just how to get to where they're going. Clemson fans going to Phoenix to see the Tigers take on Alabama's Crimson Tide in the College Football Championship on Monday might want to take advantage of their compatriots in color.

That's just one bit of advice from Scott Dunn, senior director of marketing and communications for Visit Phoenix.

A three-time host city for the Super Bowl, Phoenix is accustomed to giant crowds of sports fans, and organizers estimate as many as 300,000 people taking

part in the weekend-long roster of activities leading up to the game.

With all those fans, there's sure to be a festive atmosphere, said Dunn, a Tennessee native and former resident of Columbia.

"As an SEC football fan who's from

the South, I'm really excited about Clemson and Alabama and their fan bases being in Phoenix because those are two storied programs and have such great fan bases," he said.

Despite the crimson and orange tide of visitors swelling the city, fans will find that Phoenix is a clean and relatively safe city, Dunn said.

Here are a few more tips from Dunn on maximizing your trip to Phoenix:

» "The No. 1 thing you want to do is experience the Sonora Desert because it really is different," Dunn said. For starters, it's the only place in the world to see the iconic saguaro cactus. There are many ways to ex-

See FANS, Page 4A

## Malloy, senator's wife at speech

Honor a sad echo of Charleston church shooting last summer

MARY ORNDORFF TROYAN  
THE GREENVILLE NEWS

WASHINGTON - South Carolina state Sen. Gerald Malloy had a front-row seat at the White House on Tuesday when President Obama announced his executive actions to curb gun violence, but the honor came with a certain sense of regret.

"This is a terrible place for us to end up being," said Malloy, D-Hartsville, a friend of the late Sen. Clementa Pinckney, who was shot dead in his Charleston church last summer.

Malloy accompanied Pinckney's wife, Jennifer, and his daughters, to the White House event and it was another sad reminder of the terror that a lone gunman can inflict.

Pinckney and eight others, all black, were shot and killed during an evening Bible study at Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in June. Dylann Roof, who is white, is facing state and federal charges, including murder and hate crimes. The death penalty is possible.

"We have lost a loved one that requires us to be here," Malloy said in an interview after Obama's announcement. "But Jennifer... is now part of a club no American wants to join."

See SPEECH, Page 5A



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP  
Jennifer Pinckney joins victims of gun violence at the White House Tuesday.

## Most doctors will be required to use prescription database

Announcement will go out in February on mandate

SEANNA ADCOX  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The changes will direct any doctor who wants to bill either Medicaid or the state health plan to use the database that's been voluntary since 2008, said Christian Soura, director of the state's Department of Health and Human Services.

other step thrown into the mix," said its CEO, state Rep. Todd Atwater.

"Some say it will slow me down another minute and half I don't have, but really?" said Atwater, R-Lexington. "Sometimes you have to have a little inconvenience to do the right thing and get some

few years and it's been useful in reducing inappropriate prescriptions.

"We do consult it for patients where some concern is raised, whether through behavior, history or presentation," he said, "like if a patient has been in the ER multiple times a year, always with pain



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## Activists protest Slager's release in killing

Call it 'very sad day in Charleston,' while others say move sensible due to trial delay

BY ANDREW KNAPP and CHRISTINA ELMORE  
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celmore@postandcourier.com

Michael Slager spent 28 more weeks behind bars than the seven officers charged in high-profile police-involved deaths in Chicago and Balti-

more combined. The bail he posted earlier this week, \$500,000, was higher than most amounts set in pending Charleston-area murder cases.

But it's the cellphone video of the former North Charleston policeman shooting Walter Scott in the back that civil rights activists and protesters cited again Tuesday in labeling Slager a



Slager

### Inside

**HICKS:** Don't throw away the community's good reputation on a technicality. **Page A2**

threat to their community who should not have been granted freedom while awaiting trial.

Judge Clifton Newman delivered the ruling a day earlier, when he expressed

concern over delays in the case while Slager has pushed for speedy trial.

Activists rallied outside the Charleston County jail Tuesday morning and protesters gathered in front of North Charleston City Hall later in the day, hoping prosecutors could somehow appeal the decision and revoke the bail. If the authorities don't make that move within two days, they said, the activists promised more protests.

By law, though, it would take another change of circumstances in the case or a violation of Slager's release con-

ditions.

"It's a very sad day in Charleston," National Action Network state President James Johnson said. "Make no mistake about it — we're united, and we will fight."

Eight months after Scott's death, there's "still no sense of healing, still no reconciliation," said Black Lives Matter organizer Muhyiddin d'Alaba.

He likened Slager's release to a "slap in the face."

Please see **SLAGER**, Page A4

## Pinckney's widow backs action on guns

Emanuel AME survivor joins Obama as he unveils plans



President Barack Obama embraces Sen. Clementa Pinckney's widow, Jennifer Pinckney, on Tuesday at the White House.

BY JENNIFER BERRY HAWES  
jhawes@postandcourier.com

The widow of Emanuel AME Church's slain pastor who survived the shooting stood on stage with President Barack Obama on Tuesday as he unveiled executive actions to bolster background checks and improve gun-safety technology.

In a stirring speech, Obama rattled off the nation's most recent mass shootings and other types of gun violence that claim 30,000 lives a year.

Even more are injured by firearms.

"Many have had to learn to live with a disability or learned to live without the love of their life," he said as Jennifer Pinckney stood stoically behind him.

She hid in an Emanuel AME Church office with her 6-year-old daughter as her husband, pastor and state Sen. Clementa Pinckney and eight others were gunned down on June 17.

The man charged with the murders purchased a gun two months before the shooting, even though a proper background check should have indicated he was ineligible.

The Pinckneys' two young daughters, including one who survived the shooting, sat in the front row beside the late pastor's friend and fellow state Sen. Gerald Malloy.

"Jennifer and her girls are part of a club they really don't want to be part of," Malloy said. And that club is growing.

Please see **OBAMA**, Page A5

## Opponents trade fire on hot issue for S.C. voters

Cruz attacks plan for 'taking away our guns;' MUSC doc backs Clinton

BY SCHUYLER KROPP and LAUREN SAUSSER  
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lsausser@postandcourier.com

Guns just became a bigger part of South Carolina's 2016 presidential primary battle.

After President Barack Obama unveiled his

unilateral package of executive reforms Tuesday, the blowback from Republicans on the campaign trail was loud and immediate.

So were the words of support from Democrats. "We don't beat the bad guys by taking away our guns," Republican Ted Cruz said on the stump in Iowa. "We beat the bad guys by using our guns."

Across the aisle, Democratic hopeful Bernie Sanders countered, "It's become clear that no mass shooting, no matter how big or bloody, will inspire Republicans to put children and innocent Americans over the interests of the National Rifle Association."

Please see **PRIMARY**, Page A4

## Executive steps on gun violence

President plans new policies for sales, aims to research 'smart guns'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is announcing a series of executive steps aimed at curbing gun violence, including broader background checks and the hiring of additional specialists to process those checks.

Here are some of the highlights:

### Expanded background checks

The president's actions will make clear that anyone who's in the business of selling guns must obtain a license, regardless of whether they sell firearms online or at gun shows, and must conduct background checks on their customers.

Currently, only federally licensed gun dealers must conduct background checks on buyers.

Please see **CHECKS**, Page A5

## Haley will give State of Union response

Big GOP moment next week follows summer in spotlight

BY SCHUYLER KROPP  
skropp@postandcourier.com

Gov. Nikki Haley has been chosen to deliver the Republican response to President Barack Obama's final State of the Union address next week, giving her a national platform heading into the critical 2016 election season.

The move comes as Haley's profile has been elevated in recent months as a possible vice presidential pick, and follows the biggest summer of her political career, one that was flanked by the June 17 Emanuel AME Church shooting and the removal of the Confederate battle flag from S.C. Statehouse grounds.

Tuesday's announcement was made jointly by House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. It is the first time a South Carolinian has been given the role. Haley is the third woman in a row put up by the Republicans to deliver the party's main opposition message.

"In a year when the country is crying out for a positive vision and alternative to the status quo, Gov. Haley is the exact right choice to deliver the Republican Address to the Nation," Ryan, R-Wis., said in a media release.

McConnell, R-Ky., called Haley a proven leader and committed reformer. "Gov. Haley knows the American Dream and wants to see every American share in it," he added.

The president's State of the Union speech is set for 9 p.m. Tuesday.

Please see **HALEY**, Page A7

### Inside

**LOCAL**  
Riley thankful for 'extended opportunity' to serve Chas. **A3**

**BUSINESS**  
Santee Cooper under review after Mount Holly deal. **B1**

**FOOD**  
Chinese-Southern cuisine thrives at N. Chas. eatery. **D1**



Partly sunny, High 51, Low 41. Complete 5-day forecast, **B10**

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Business — B1 Editorials — B10 Sports — C1  
Classifieds — E1 Food — D1 Sudoku — B7  
Comics — B2-9 Movies — B7 Television — B6

**Charleston Deals Today**

**Valet Dry Carpet Cleaning**  
\$45 to clean two rooms. See **A2**

From Howard to Swinney, Clemson connections to Alabama are many, **1B**



**ONLINE**  
VIDEO AT THESTATE.COM:  
Dabo's preview of Alabama game

**USC MEN'S BASKETBALL**

USC opens SEC play with road win against Auburn, **1B**



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YESTERDAY: HI 44 LO 28 PRECIP. 1in of 5 pm-10p  
FORECAST: 10C

# The State



**LOCAL**  
**GONZALEZ GARDENS RAZING GETS OK**

- City Council endorses helping with \$1 million in demolition costs but stops short of granting funds.
- Also, committee proposes new pet rules, **3A**



**STATE OF THE UNION RESPONSE**  
**HALEY TO GET NATIONAL STAGE**

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the GOP response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union speech next week, **3A**



**CARDINAL NEWMAN SITE**  
**FOREST ACRES PANEL OKS PLAN**

Roughly 120 Forest Acres residents attend meeting; some of them boo at the end; plans still must go to City Council for approval

**FALLOUT FROM PROBE OF PENNY SALES TAX**

## Local leaders failed to pay taxes, SC says



Brian DeQuincey Newman, second from left, and his attorney Bakari Sellers, second from right, leave court after Newman's appearance on state tax charges.

BY JOHN MONK  
jmonk@thestate.com



Washington

**Brian DeQuincey Newman dodges a prison sentence**

**Richland councilman Kelvin Washington facing 3 counts of failing to file tax returns**

**Evidence surfaced during sales tax probe**

Former Columbia City Councilman Brian DeQuincey Newman avoided prison Tuesday and was sentenced to probation for failing to file income tax returns and failing to pay state taxes for two years.

The guilty plea from Newman, an attorney who once worked for the 5th Circuit solicitor's office and whose father is a state judge, was only part of an unexpected day of criminal tax charges brought against Richland County leaders.

The state Department of Revenue also brought charges against current Richland

County Councilman Kelvin Washington. He was charged with failure to file state income taxes for three years and faces a maximum three years in prison and \$30,000 in fines. He is free on bond.

The charges against Newman and Washington came out of an ongoing DOR investigation into the Richland County penny tax program, which was passed in 2012 when Washington was the County Council chairman.

Lawyers for both men as well as the prosecutor in Newman's case insisted Tuesday's charges were personal and have nothing to do with the alleged public corruption investigation.

State Judge Cordell Maddox gave Newman two years' probation but said it would be shortened to six months once Newman had paid \$10,843 in back taxes for 2012 and 2013. That sum includes \$1,000 in court

**MORE INSIDE**

Councilman proposes changes to penny sales tax management, **3A**

costs. Newman paid DOR \$10,843 later Tuesday afternoon, so is now serving a six-month probation, his attorney Bakari Sellers said Tuesday evening.

Newman, 33, who was raised in Columbia and served on City Council from 2010-15, also will have to pay an as-yet-undetermined amount to the Department of Revenue in interest and penalties on his unpaid taxes. Another of Newman's lawyers, Pete Strom, told the

SEE TAXES, 7A



**PRESIDENT TAKES ON GUN VIOLENCE**

## Slain senator's widow backs Obama's efforts

**MORE INSIDE**

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## House speaker to push for more resolutions in 2016



FILE PHOTO THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

S.C. House Speaker Jay Lucas.

BY JOSHUA LLOYD  
BHMedia  
jloyd@bhmediacms.com

HARTSVILLE — In a recent interview with BH Media, S.C. Speaker of the House Jay Lucas (R-Darlington) spoke on his first year in the position. He gave insight on his most important moment in 2015 and a look into what might come in the next legislative session.

**Q:** What were some highlights during the 2015 legislative session for you?

**A:** By and large I think the House had a very good year. Obviously the one major piece of legislation we passed was an

infrastructure bill. That was the first time we've really taken a good hard look at how we fund roads, bridges and highways in South Carolina. Some of the other achievements we had in the House were the passage of the omnibus ethics bill, and the 13 smaller ethics components of that bill. I think given where we were at the time and where we are now, ethics reform was an issue we needed to address quickly in the House, and we essentially did that in January. ... We also looked at our budgeting practice. I think for the first time in a long time we had a supplemental budget in the House. We actually budgeted a surplus through a separate

budgeting process. I think that was more transparent and it got more members involved, which is always a good thing.

**Q:** What disappointed you last year?

**A:** We had been working on an infrastructure bill for about nine months, and for South Carolina, it is without a doubt the biggest need we face as a state. It was disappointing that we did not get a bill back from the Senate. But I've spoken with Sen. (Hugh) Leatherman, and I believe he intends to pass an infrastructure bill the last year of the legislative session.

**Q:** Do you think the Senate

bill will be the same as what the House passed in 2015?

**A:** No. I think it will be different, but in this case different is not necessarily a bad thing. There's not one specific way to fix roads and highways. I think it would be nice to have input from the upper chamber, and certainly we can iron out any differences and accomplish that.

**Q:** Education reform was a hot topic in 2015 that included a task force and multiple working committees, but we didn't see much resolution. Where does the House stand on that

See LUCAS, Page 3A

## New Year's DUI arrests increase from 2014

BY JESSICA IMBIBO  
BHMedia

The number of DUI arrests made in South Carolina this New Year's holiday weekend is just slightly higher than last year's totals, according to a preliminary report from the South Carolina Highway Patrol.

The average number of DUI arrests made per day was more than 54. In the four days between Dec. 31 and Jan. 3, 219 arrests were made by SCHP. This number can still increase, pending law enforcement reports being submitted.

SCHP also released the number of arrests made during their "Sober or Slammer" campaign. Between Dec. 18 and Jan. 3, 692 people were arrested for DUI. An average of 40 people were arrested per day.

In 2014, the date range of the campaign was four days longer and resulted in 840 total arrests. If this year's campaign would have run for that amount of time, it is predicted the SCHP would have arrested a total of approximately 842 people for DUI.

Though last year's numbers nearly mirror this year's, the total amount is still very high. Sgt. Bob Beres of the South Carolina Highway Patrol said these totals are troubling.

"Over 800 people were arrested for DUI in just a few weeks," Beres said. "It's a concern, because statistically over 40 percent of traffic fatalities are alcohol related."

When it comes to comparing traffic fatalities from 2015 to 2016, the state has improved thus far. Between Jan. 1 and Jan. 3, 2016, three people died on state highways. During the same time period in 2015, eight were killed. Beres said it is good that the number has decreased, but the objective

See ARRESTS, Page 3A

## Recreating history



PHOTOS BY WIGAN WATSON/BH MEDIA

James Walters of Florence looks over his model of the Florence Stockade, which he is donating to the Darlington Historical Society.

### Man donates Florence Stockade model to Darlington Historical Society

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN  
BHMedia

James Walters poses for a portrait in his work room attached to his home. Much of Walters' time is spent in the room creating historical war



FLORENCE — Though he considers himself an avid history lover, James Walters was never particularly interested in the Civil War.

Until he visited the site of the Florence Stockade, that is.

The Florence Stockade was a Confederate prisoner-of-war camp located on the outskirts of Florence during the Civil War. Many Union soldiers died there and ultimately were buried in what is now the Florence National Cemetery.

When Walters, 76, visited the grounds for the first time, he was inspired immediately. He went home

Brian Symmes

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