

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>  
To:  
Date: 4/3/2014 7:32:39 AM  
Subject: SC Front Pages – Thursday, April 3, 2014

---

**SC Front Pages – Thursday, April 3, 2014**



LIFESTYLE

## GO DEEPER

Immerse yourself in nature

SPORTS, 1C

Clowney makes an impression at pro day

# The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

FINAL EDITION

THURSDAY,  
APRIL 3, 2014  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY 4 KILLED IN FORT HOOD SHOOTING PAGE 1B



The state Department of Health and Environmental Control has warned Duke Energy that it could face civil fines for violating rules designed to protect the Saluda River from the toxic byproducts of burning coal at the Lee Steam Station. MYKAL MCELLOWNEY/STAFF

## INSPECTION RAISES SAFETY CONCERNS

Duke says Lee station dams regularly inspected, but DHEC demands action on coal ash ponds

By Eric Connor  
Staff writer

State environmental regulators have warned Duke Energy that the company could face civil fines for violating rules designed to protect the Saluda River from the toxic byproducts of burning coal at its Anderson County plant.

The company must also provide a projected date that it will make a decision on its review of what it will ultimately do with stockpiles of wet "coal ash" that are stored in ponds alongside the river, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control wrote in a

letter obtained by The Greenville News on Wednesday.

The agency's action comes as Duke faces a criminal investigation in North Carolina related to a coal ash spill into the Dan River north of Greensboro.

A spokesman for Duke told The News that W.S. Lee station in Williamston "is safe and inspected regularly by the company and outside agencies."

In response to questions, Duke spokesman Ryan Mosier referred to a 33-page response that the company sent to DHEC a week after the agency issued



In response to concerns, Duke said safety factors for the exterior, downstream portion of its dams meet minimum recommendations. MYKAL MCELLOWNEY/STAFF

See PLANT, Page 4A

## Ideas flow at homeless forum

Event gets community talking about solutions

By Lyn Riddle  
Staff writer

lriddle@greenvillenews.com

The white bracelet at every seat said it all.

"Ending homelessness begins with me."

About 200 people came together at Furman University Wednesday night to testify to that. They wanted to be part of a communitywide effort to ensure that every person has a place to live that's not a shelter or a tent or a sleeping bag in a doorway.

Sponsored by A Year of Altruism, the meeting was designed to spur interaction between people who are homeless — or were — and residents who have means and connections.

It was held in response to a five-part series The Greenville News published last November that showed what it is like to be homeless in Greenville County, which has the second highest number of homeless in the state after Richland County.

The newspaper found that despite Greenville County's many services, hundreds of people remain on the streets, in Tent City under the Pete Hollis bridge and in individual camps. They live in shelters and in temporary housing as they try to piece their lives together. It was estimated Wednesday night that 2,300 people are homeless now in Greenville County.

Their progress is stymied by low-paying jobs, a lack of affordable housing and systemic problems such as reduced state and federal funding and programs that severely restrict

See HOMELESS, Page 4A

## CertusBank vice chairman resigns

Officials say move had been planned for several months

By David Dykes  
Staff writer

CertusBank officials said Charles M. Williams resigned as vice chairman of the Greenville-based company in a long-planned move.

In announcing Williams had decided to step down, Certus officials Wednesday made no mention of issues raised by

Instead, the officials said Williams "had been considering this transition for several months as the bank has shifted its focus away from mergers and acquisitions, which was his specialty."

"We appreciate Charlie's many contributions to the business' growth and development and wish him well in his future endeavors," Certus officials said. Williams couldn't be reached for comment.

Certus officials last week said the company was looking into issues raised in a story by trade publication American

Business.

In the article published Friday, American Banker reported that some investors have questioned a number of expenses by the private company, whose corporate headquarters are in the One development in downtown Greenville.

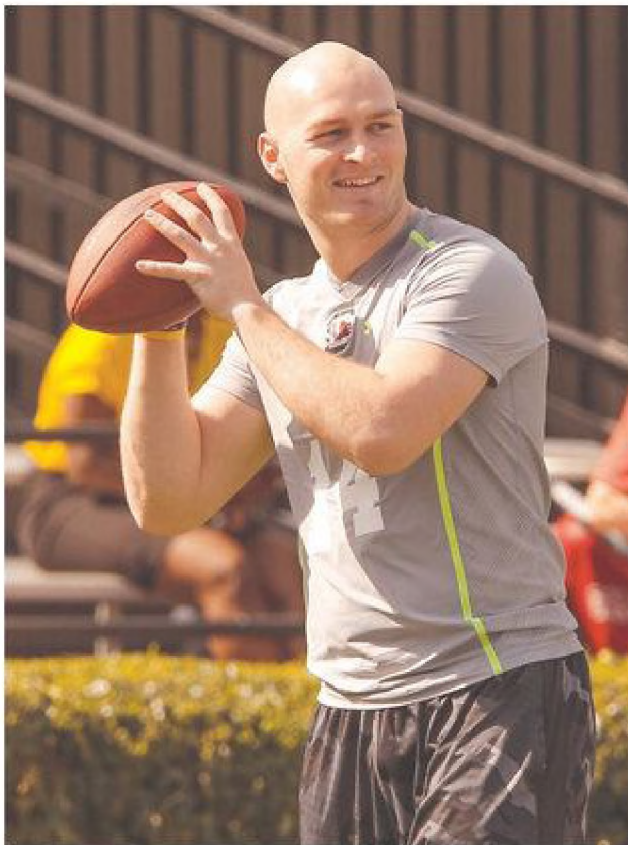
Those expenses, the magazine reported, include "nearly \$10 million paid to a consulting firm owned by Certus' top officers; \$146,000 for three months of work by an executive's son fresh out of college; \$2.5 million for three executive apartments and high-end upgrades;



Tammi Hart, who was once a homeless mother, shared her experiences during a group discussion at Furman University on Wednesday. MYKAL MCELLOWNEY/STAFF







## Pro Day at USC

Connor Shaw, above, was among former Gamecocks on display for the pros; most eyes were on Jadeveon Clowney, **C1**

Photos and video from Pro Day at [GoGamecocks.com](http://GoGamecocks.com)

## State Museum reaches for the stars, **B1**

**The State**

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014 | [THESTATE.COM](http://THESTATE.COM)

## SOUTHERN SUFFERING

College students find Midlands an inhospitable land of sneezing, wheezing when pollen ushers in allergy season

By JOLEY HOLLEMAN  
[jholleman@thestate.com](mailto:jholleman@thestate.com)

Mara Reiss finally got her spring allergy problems under control in high school in Nebraska. Then she came to Columbia College, and they cropped up again.

Reiss is like many out-of-state students who discover pollen changes by geography every bit as much as accents and barbecue styles.

Her first year, she especially noticed that the pollen season lasted longer in South Carolina, but she was able to kick an allergy-related sinus infection relatively quickly.

"Last year, I was on medication most of the spring time trying to kick another sinus infection that also began with allergic responses," Reiss

said. "It took a very long time to get rid of, much longer than my first year here."

Thus far this spring, her body hasn't reacted much to the pollen. But it's likely coming. The weather.com forecast says pollen levels were moderate Wednesday, heading to high on Thursday and very high on Friday.

Local residents have begun to notice the annual pine pollen explosion on their cars this week. College freshmen from outside the Southeast often spend their first spring in Columbia grossed out by the pine pollen that covers every surface for several weeks.

Then their second year, some end

SEE **POLLEN** PAGE **A5**

## Senate approves mammoth measure

But, 'we have enough state official whatevers'

By CASSIE COPE  
[ccope@thestate.com](mailto:ccope@thestate.com)

A state senator brought the Columbian mammoth back from the brink of extinction as the official state fossil Wednesday, reversing his objection from earlier in the day.

Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler, R-Cherokee, backpedaled Wednesday afternoon, dropping his objection to the bill, the idea of Lake City third-grader Olivia McConnell. But Peeler added an amendment to the mammoth proposal that would put a moratorium on new official state emblems and other symbols.

Peeler's reversal came after he said he received many tweets, emails and calls in opposition to his objection. "I am not in the business of breaking third-graders' hearts," Peeler told the Senate.

## CRACKING DOWN ON DUI OFFENDERS

# House unanimously passes Emma's Law



Bill targeting hard-core drunken drivers now goes back to Senate, then to the governor

By JOHN MONK  
[jmonk@thestate.com](mailto:jmonk@thestate.com)

Emma's Law passed the S.C. House overwhelmingly Wednesday — in an unexpectedly lopsided 112-0 vote — after a yearlong battle to get it through that chamber.

The victory came after a lunchtime rally outside the State House and months of intense lobbying of state lawmakers and working behind the scenes to make sure various state agencies, such as the Department of Motor Vehicles, were comfortable with details of the 48-page, often technical

*"I'm a selfish mom — I would rather have her here. I would have liked to see her reach 7 and 8. I'd like to have seen her lose a tooth. . . . I miss those monkey kisses, and I miss not brushing her hair. I miss*





# Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

THURSDAY, April 3, 2014

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 148, No. 93 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

## MOX stand-by coming Construction stop-order on horizon

BY DERREK ASBERRY  
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

Officials confirmed that an order to stop construction at the Savannah River Site's MOX facility is on the horizon, but

has not yet been issued.

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., questioned Arne Harrington, deputy administrator for defense nuclear non-proliferation for the National Nuclear Security Administration, on Tuesday about

the Site's Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.

When asked if the order to stop construction had been issued, Harrington said there hasn't been one yet.

"The order to stop construction has not

yet been given, but we expect it to be,"

Harrington said during the meeting. Graham grilled Harrington on several other MOX issues, including how the federal government can use funds intended for construction to put the project

in a cold stand-by. Harrington replied by referencing the lawsuit that the state of South Carolina filed against the Energy Department last month.

Please see **MOX**, Page 5A

### INSIDE TODAY



No injuries reported in Wednesday house fire  
Local News, 4A



The eyes of Texans on Clowney at Pro Day  
Sports, 1B



Course design for Aiken Horse Show begins  
Local News, 3A

### AREA DEATHS

Clinton Lewis "Clint" Pallister, Aiken  
Estelle Mary Ferguson, Burnetown  
Gene Ross Stewart, Aiken

Deaths and Funerals, 6A

### WEATHER



## Contractors begin city debris pickup



STAFF PHOTO BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER

Crews watched as New York contractors pick up ice storm debris off residential properties on Teague Street on Wednesday afternoon.

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER  
mschechter@aikenstandard.com

Debris contractors from as far as New York were seen picking up ice storm debris on Wednesday, after what City Manager Richard Pearce called "confusion" to who was working what roads during a City Council work session on Tuesday.

Many Aiken residents and Council members have voiced concern about the longevity of ice storm debris cleanup, especially with Masters week looming.

In an email to Pearce, SCDOT Chief

Engineer of Operations Leland Colvin said SCDOT has actively worked ice storm recovery operations since Feb. 12. As of Feb. 17, SCDOT activated

**VIDEO**  
To learn more about the debris cleanup process, visit [www.aikenstandard.com](http://www.aikenstandard.com)

on-call debris contractors and monitoring firms in 19 "critically affected counties" across the state, including Aiken County, with the intent of keeping all associated costs Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, eligible, according to the email.

"Based on our conversation this afternoon, SCDOT will begin debris removal and disposal operations from state roads within the city limits of Aiken on Wednesday, April 2, in coordination and cooperation with the City," Colvin said. "Also, as you requested, SCDOT will not mobilize these operations within the historic central district as defined by Beaufort Street to the east, Hampton Avenue to the north, Greenville Street to the west and South Boundary Street to the south."

Please see **DEBRIS**, Page 5A



AP PHOTO/TAMER KALIFA

Lucy Hamlin and her husband, Spc. Timothy Hamlin, wait for permission to re-enter the Fort Hood military base, where they live, following a shooting on base on Wednesday, in Fort Hood, Texas.

## Lockdown lifted after Fort Hood shooting

BY WILL WEISSERT  
AND PAUL WEBER  
Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — All-clear sirens have sounded at Fort Hood as the lockdown was lifted hours after a deadly shooting at the Texas Army post.

Hundreds of cars began streaming from the giant complex, including children who had been kept in locked-down schools.

U.S. law enforcement officials said four people, including the shooter, were killed when a gunman opened fire on Wednesday at Fort Hood.

One of the officials, citing official internal U.S. Justice Department updates, said 14 others were hurt. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release information by name.

The Texas Army base was the scene of a mass shooting in 2009.

A U.S. law enforcement official said reports circulating within the Justice Department indicate the shooter died of what appears to be a self-inflicted wound. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because the investigation is still ongoing.

Please see **HOOD**, Page 5A

## Mental health services increased State grants fund Aiken School District counselors

BY ROB NOVIT  
rnovit@aikenstandard.com

**Editor's note:** This is the first part of a three-part series on a collaboration between the Aiken-Barnwell Mental Health Center and the Aiken County School District to introduce counseling services.

**VIDEO**  
Interested in hearing more about mental health services? Visit [www.aikenstandard.com](http://www.aikenstandard.com).

mental health problems can benefit with early intervention, said Rick Acton, the executive director of the Aiken-

counselor. For the past five months, that service has been provided in two Aiken County schools — North Aiken Elementary School and Aiken Middle School. "Child-based services are near and dear to me," said Acton. "The earlier those services are available, the less the cost and the better the outcome."

South Carolina's other 16 mental

programs in Barnwell's Williston and Blackville Districts, with a third within the City of Barnwell coming soon. The grant for Aiken County is funding two counselors; the second is expected to locate in Wagener in early May. That counselor will work at Busbee-Corbett Elementary-Middle School, which serves grades 4 and 5 and kindergarten.







## Ready to dance?

Music on Main returns today  
in downtown Spartanburg escape

# Herald-Journal

THURSDAY

APRIL 3, 2014  
SPARTANBURG, S.C.  
50 cents

www.GoUpstate.com

ANOTHER FORT HOOD  
TRAGEDY

## Shooting leaves 4 dead, 16 wounded

Base was scene  
of attack in 2009

By WILL WEISSERT  
The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — A soldier opened fire Wednesday on fellow service members at the Fort Hood military base, killing three people and wounding 16 before committing suicide at the same post where more than a dozen people were slain in a 2009 attack, authorities said.

The shooter apparently walked into a building and began firing a .45-caliber semi-automatic pistol that had been purchased recently. He then got into a vehicle and continued firing before entering another building and kept shooting.

He was eventually confronted by military police in a parking lot. As he came within 20 feet of an officer, the gunman put his hands up but then reached under his jacket and pulled out his gun. The officer drew her own weapon, and the suspect put his gun to his head and pulled the trigger a final time.

The gunman, who was married and served in Iraq for four months in 2011, had sought help for depression, anxiety and other problems. Before the attack, he had been undergoing an assessment to determine whether he had post-traumatic stress disorder, according to Lt. Gen. Mark A. Milley, the senior officer on the base.

The suspect had arrived at Fort Hood in February from another base. He was taking medication, and there were reports that he had complained about suffering a traumatic brain injury, Milley said. He did not elaborate.

The gunman was not wounded in action, according to military records, Milley said.

There was no indication the attack was related to terrorism, Milley said.

## Man killed in drive-by shooting

Officers looking for  
witnesses in slaying  
near fitness center

By DANIEL J. GROSS  
daniel.gross@shj.com

Gunshots rang out near The Westside Club fitness center Wednesday night as a drive-by shooting left a Spartanburg man dead.

Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright is now calling on witnesses to reach out to law enforcement to help identify and locate the individual responsible for the seemingly random killing.

Willis Road west of Spartanburg was blocked off throughout

Wednesday night after the sheriff's office received reports of a shooting around 8:45 p.m.

Emery Lorenzo Williams, 64, of Glen Ridge Road, had been on the phone with his wife as he was gunned down in his vehicle, according to Wright.

He had just left church and was passing by the athletic club between Blackstock Road and Highway 29 when he was shot, Wright said.

Wright, who was on the scene Wednesday night as the criminal investigation got under way, said he knew Williams and Williams' family personally.

"I know this family. They do great work, and it's a great loss to

◆ SEE SLAYING PAGE A7



Spartanburg County Sheriff's officers investigate the scene of a fatal shooting on Willis Road in Spartanburg on Tuesday night.

TIM KIMZEY/TIM.KIMZEY@SHJ.COM

## Blaze scorches 4 homes



Multiple fire departments battle a blaze in the Riverwood Farm community in Greer that damaged several homes, including this structure on Gladstone Way. Officials say no one was injured. See more photos at GoUpstate.com.

JOHN BYRUM/JOHN.BYRUM@SHJ.COM

TOSSED CIGARETTE TO BLAME?

## 'Raging' brush fire roars through Greer subdivision





## Civic center demolition an option

By CHRIS TRAINOR  
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

In December, Greenwood County Council appointed a committee to evaluate the possible future use of the long-closed Greenwood Civic Center building on S.C. 72/221.

On Tuesday, that committee gave its final report to council, and in doing so provided council with a dense, thoroughly researched assessment on what could prospectively come of the property.

Civic center committee chairman Charlie Herndon was among the

### Recommendation calls for master plan of county's total facility needs first

committee members who addressed council Tuesday evening, presenting an overview of the committee's findings. Members of the committee included Herndon, Nancy Hudson, Steve Dorn, Herbert Foster, Travis Brownlee, Robert Brewer, Gray Stallworth, Richard Crowe and Rossie Corvonn.

The members of the committee came from diverse backgrounds, including experience in the private sector, the governmental sector and nonprofit world.

After months of exhaustive study and research, the committee came to the following conclusions about the civic center building:

- Reopening the facility as an event venue is not feasible because of other competing facilities available in the area.

- The civic center has minimal or no appeal for industrial use.

- The immediate development of a master plan for county facility needs is advised.

- If a master plan indicates the need for additional county offices, training and/or recreational facilities, the county should evaluate the feasibility of adaptive reuse of the civic center.

- If adaptive reuse of the building for county use is not feasible, demolition is recommended.

The Greenwood Civic Center building has been closed since 2009. At the time of its closure, County Council said it was a financial albatross for years. Figures presented by

See **CENTER**, page 4A

## ELECTIONS

### 1 county-level primary vote scheduled in Lakelands

By FRANK BUMB  
fbumb@indexjournal.com

Only one Lakelands county will have a county-level partisan primary June 10.

Three candidates will vie for the Democratic nomination for the District 2 seat on Abbeville County Council. Those candidates are John Calhoun, Brian Johnson and Regina Lee.

Greenwood, McCormick and Saluda counties do not have partisan primaries June 10. Greenwood County elections director

**CONNIE MOODY**  
Greenwood County elections director

Connie Moody said she could not remember the last time in 15 years where Greenwood did not have a local county office on the June primary ballots.

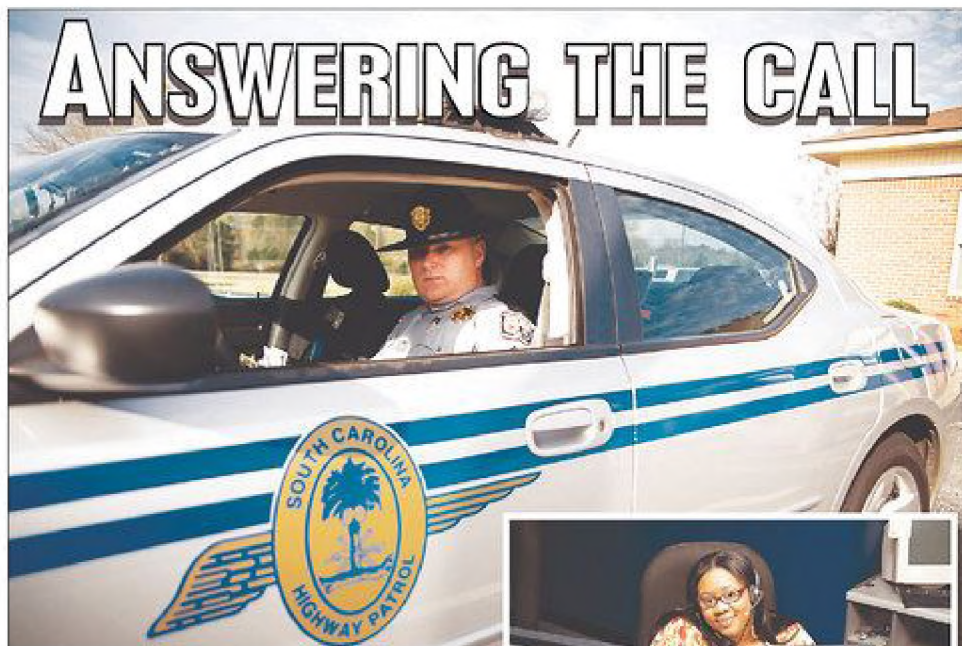
"The fact that Greenwood County will not have local contests on the primary ballot will not affect the precincts that are open or the number of poll workers we need," Moody said in an email. "This number is mandated by state law. However, it will result in savings for the taxpayers of the county because the reimbursement of expenses from the primaries will be the responsibility of the state."

Moody pointed out there is a precinct change for Greenwood County voters.

"The creation of four new precincts this year should reduce lines and expedite the voting process for many voters in the upcoming 2014 elections," Moody said. "Voters affected have been mailed new cards. If you have recently received a new voter registration card, please note the precinct location highlighted on the card."

Abbeville County, like Greenwood, has no local county primaries but does have a

See **PRIMARY**, page 4A



PHOTOS BY MADON JONES | INDEX JOURNAL

**ABOVE:** Lance Cpl. James Ashley sits inside his patrol car outside South Carolina Highway Patrol Troop Two office in Greenwood. Ashley earned the South Carolina Highway Patrol Troop 2 Trooper of the Year award. He was also a Trooper of the Year award recipient in 2010.

**AT RIGHT:** Tamesha L. Strong, sitting inside the communications room in Highway Patrol Troop Two office, earned Greenwood's TOC of the Year Award. TOC, also known as a dispatcher, stands for telecommunications officer.

By MATT BRUCE

mbruce@indexjournal.com

### AREA TROOPERS, OPERATORS AMONG HIGHWAY PATROL AWARD WINNERS

Ten years ago, James Ashley was a criminal justice student at Piedmont Technical College with dreams of becoming a deputy or investigator.

But a brush with tragedy changed those plans and put him on his current course in life. Ashley's sister-in-law died in a car crash in 2003 and the Donalds native became engrossed in another law enforcement agency.

"I started meeting all the guys, and kind of got immersed into the (South Carolina) Highway Patrol," he said. "It just kind of sparked my interest. So I applied and I was lucky enough to get hired."

In 2006, Ashley earned his badge and became

an SCHP trooper downstate. Last week, the SCHP Lance Corporal was rewarded for his work on the roadways, being named the Highway Patrol's Trooper of the Year for Troop Two.

"It just feels nice to be recognized for your hard work and dedication," he said. "I just try to be as thorough as I possibly can, and try to do my job as best as I can. When I see violations, I address them. Try to take impaired people off the roadway, and just that extra step."

Ashley, who patrols Greenwood and Abbeville counties, was one of about a dozen troopers across the state honored for their service during the annual banquet Friday afternoon in Blythewood. A handful of Highway Patrol telecommunications

See **CALL**, page 4A



## SC House allows CBD oil for epilepsy treatments

By SEANNA ADCOX  
Associated Press

The Senate passed its own version last week that limited use to clinical trials test-

force behind the bills being introduced by Republicans in both chambers and gaining

need," said Rep. Jenny Horne, R-Summerville, the House bill's main sponsor. The Sen-







SERVING SOUTH CAROLINA SINCE OCTOBER 15, 1894  
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014 75 CENTS

## 4 dead after 2nd Fort Hood shooting A8



## Buy reused, help animals in need



Lee County Animal Shelter administrator Doris Winstead, left, and Judy Ingle show off a reusable bag created from a deer corn feed bag. Winstead said it would be great for a man to take to a gun show or to the beach. Winstead's and Ingle's Re-purposed items will be on sale during Earth Day celebrations starting at 7 a.m. April 12 at Swan Lake-Iris Gardens.

PHOTOS BY JADE REYNOLDS / THE SUMTER ITEM

## Re-purposed bags, leashes, toys benefit Lee shelter

BY JADE REYNOLDS  
jade@theitem.com  
(803) 774-1250

BISHOPVILLE — Judy Ingle hates waste. But she loves quilting and animals.

So after seeing an animal shelter in Montana turn woven plastic feed bags into reusable bags, she shared the idea with her good friend and Lee County Animal Shelter administrator, Doris Winstead.

"We like junk," Winstead said. "We are all into re-purposing."

That was three years ago, and their collection of re-purposed items has grown to include leashes, bed pads, cat cubbies, cat toys and wind chimes. They will be selling their items at the Earth Day celebrations starting at 7 a.m. April 12 at Swan Lake-Iris Gardens, 822 W. Liberty St.

The fundraiser originally provided for the spaying and neutering of cats. Now, the goal is to raise money for a transport van for the shelter. The shelter holds between 75 and 80 animals at any given time, and often they must be taken to vet appointments, groomers

or to meet up with transportation to a rescue, Winstead said.

The bags are great for carrying all sorts of stuff, the women said.

"You can go to the beach and throw your wet clothes and towels in there afterward," Winstead said. "They'll hold up to 50 pounds and won't leak."

When possible, they even take requests. Ingle turned the last feed bag from her friend's horse into a reusable bag after the animal died.

"It has a sentimental meaning," she said.

They make leashes, bed pads and cat toys from leftover quilting scraps and old clothes.

"They are so much easier to work with than big blankets," Ingle said referring to the bed pads. "They are stiff and don't wad up in the corner."

She also uses old key chains on the leashes. When people adopt a dog from the shelter, they get one of these transporting leashes that Winstead said are great for dogs.

In November, she was taking some to Lexington to fly out to Missouri.

SEE REUSED, PAGE A8



Ingle uses old key chains and fabric scraps to make leashes. The quilter also uses leftover material to make bed pads for animals.

### PURRFECTLY PRICED

Reusable bags (special requests honored when possible) — one for \$7 or two for \$10

Leashes — \$3 apiece or two for \$5

Wind chimes — \$10

Bed pads — \$10

Cat toys — \$1 apiece

## Opening budget has nearly \$1M gap

City's plan must be  
balanced by July 1

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT  
bmarchant@theitem.com  
(803) 774-1272

Members of Sumter City Council got their first look at the proposed 2014-15 city budget Tuesday, as well as an idea of how much work they have to do during the next three months.

The initial budget presented at council's first meeting of April shows a nearly \$1 million gap between the projected revenue for next year and the city's proposed general fund expenditures.

It's not unusual for the first budget of the year to be imbalanced, as the council has to balance — and trim — competing requests for funding from different departments during its budget-writing process.

"As always, we have more needs than we have revenue," City Manager Deron McCormick told council in presenting the budget.

City personnel project Sumter's general fund will take in \$32,602,126 to spend during fiscal year 2015. But expenditures in the draft budget total \$33,574,716, which would leave the city with a deficit of \$972,590. By state law, the city's budget must be balanced by the start of the new budget year on July 1.

The draft budget presented Tuesday is already the result of a lengthy behind-the-scenes discussion of the city's budget priorities. McCormick met with all city departments in preparing the document, and the deficit council now has to work with was reduced from an initial \$2.6 million imbalance.

"I'm really proud of our finance team," the city manager said. "We've spent quite a bit of time with the finance team and the department heads, and this new budget serves us well."

The total city budget, which includes several smaller specific funds besides the general fund, is \$56,648,726. The other funds, set aside for things such as water and sewer money and hospitality fees, are already balanced.



MCCORMICK

SEE CITY BUDGET, PAGE A8







Enjoy. | Get back to the life you love.

THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED  
JOINT AND SPINE CARE  
AT CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM

CarolinasHospital.com

# Morning News

THURSDAY APRIL 3, 2014

TODAY'S  
WEATHER

Partly sunny, nice,  
warmer, high 88, low 55  
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Consumer Group Findings

## One loan likely to lead to another

Critics: Payday advances trap borrowers in costly debt cycle

BY GAVIN JACKSON  
Morning News  
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — A recent government report shed light on the issues that face deferred presentment borrowers, also known as payday loan borrowers, many

of whom get trapped in a cycle that eventually costs them more money than they originally borrowed.

Throughout Florence and towns across the country, signs promising fast cash and loans in minutes beckons to people living paycheck to paycheck, in

need of a small loan to float between paydays.

By giving a lender a check, dated for the next payday, borrowers get money, but leverage a fee of \$15.40 for \$100 or \$82.90 for \$550 — the state limit. Those fees translate into APRs of 401.5 percent and 392.96 percent,

respectively, in South Carolina.

Come payday, the lender cashes the check. Chances are, though, the person can't pay it back and takes out another advance — like 80 percent of payday loans, according to findings from the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau that came

after analyzing 12 million loans in 30 states in 2011 and 2012.

"For more than 80 percent of the loan sequences that last for more than one loan, the last loan is the same size or larger than the first loan in the sequence," the report found. "Loan size is more likely to go up in longer loan sequences, and principal

See **PAYDAY**, Page 4A



High  
jump

Devontae Pressley kicks his leg forward while jumping in an event Wednesday during the fourth annual Project Unify Special Olympics at Johnsonville High School. Johnsonville and Hannah-Pamplico schools participated in the event. For more photos from the event, see **Page 4D** and **scnw.com**.

CHRIS MCMASTEN/NOBLES NEWS

Hartsville

## High-speed chase ends with 2 dead

Darlington County sheriff: Pursuit policy was followed

BY TRACI BRIDGES  
Morning News  
tbridges@florencenews.com

HARTSVILLE — Two people were killed early Wednesday morning during a high-speed chase with a deputy from the Darlington County Sheriff's Office.

Darlington County Coroner J. Todd Hardee identified the victims as 27-year-old Amberly McKenzie Hunnicutt and 23-year-old Tyler Evans Terry, both of Hartsville.

Hunnicutt and Terry were in a car that was in the early stages of being pursued when their vehicle struck the Black Creek Bridge on Old Camden Road, flipped onto its roof and was then struck by the pursuing cruiser, Darlington County Sheriff Wayne Byrd said.

The incident began while Deputy Richie Stevens was on patrol in the area of West Old Camden and New Market roads.

Stevens passed a car that was going 77 miles an hour in a 45-mile-per-hour zone. When he turned around and activated his blue lights, the car accelerated away from the cruiser, Byrd said. The deputy lost sight of the car for a minute but saw it again — upside-down in the middle of



Byrd

See **CHASE**, Page 3A

## Barbecue cookoff to benefit local Big Brothers Big Sisters

BY LINDSAY S. BUCHANAN  
Morning News  
lbuchanan@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Some of the best barbecue in the state will be served up Friday and

WANT TO GO?

» **WHAT:** Big Brothers Big Sisters 2014

Barbecue Cookoff

» **WHEN:** 5-7 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday



Barbecue cookoff contestant Keith Wilks, of Lexington, takes a minute to play the banjo to start the 2013 Big Brothers Big Sisters







CMYK



Odd

'THE WIZARD OF OZ': OCB DELIVERS NEW TAKE ON CLASSIC TALE, A8

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014

# The Times and Democrat

75 CENTS • ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA



TheTandD.com

3 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES • VOL. 133 • NO. 93

## Survivor tells of being surprised in fatal attack

Group planned  
to buy drugs,  
Fla. man says

By RICHARD WALKER  
T&D Staff Writer

A survivor from Saturday's gun battle near Denmark gave investigators a chilling, detailed story of drugs, death and point-blank gunfire.

Authorities have recovered at least seven handguns and blood-covered money after a fatal shoot-out over

what is said to be a drug deal gone very bad.

Investigators have determined that two groups of three men each were meeting for a drug deal. In the end, all three occupants of a Chevrolet truck at the scene were found to have suffered gunshot wounds. At least one of three men in a Chrysler passenger car was shot.

The Bamberg County Coroner's Office has identified 20-year-old William Pearson of Waycross, Ga. as the man authorities found dead at the scene.

A 21-year-old Florida man who was in the truck is now on life support in Columbia. He suffered a gunshot wound to the head. The third person in the truck, a 10-year-old

Floridian, was shot in the face.

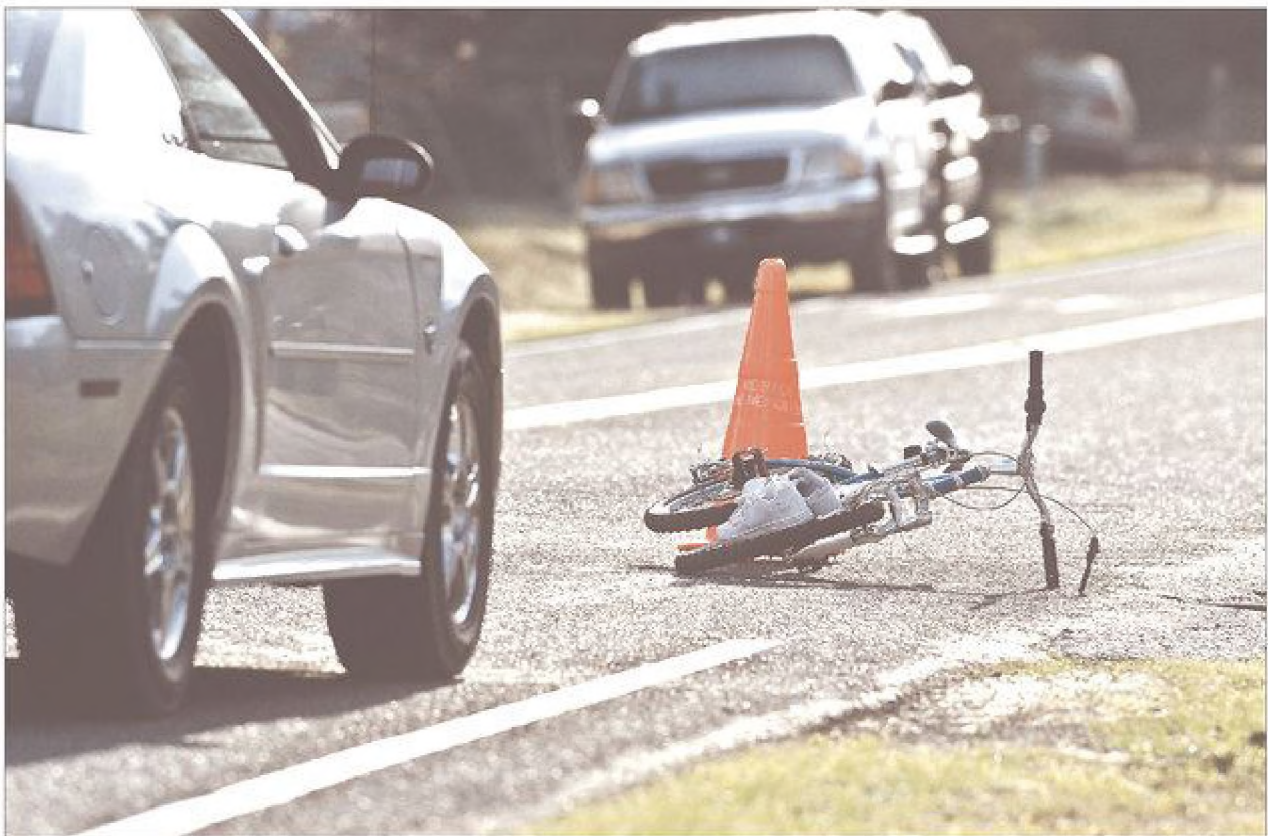
A 22-year-old Blackville man in the Chrysler was airlifted to Palmetto Health Richland in Columbia.

Authorities have recovered at least seven handguns from or near the scene.

The only man in the truck who was

See SURVIVOR, A3

### ONLY INJURED



A 10-year-old girl was injured Wednesday when her bicycle was hit by a car on Benson Road. S.C. Highway Patrol investigators said her bike ran into the path of the Ford Mustang. PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KUTY/TSO

## 10-year-old injured in collision with car

T&D Staff Report

A 10-year-old girl was flown to the hospital Wednesday after her bicycle was hit by a car on Benson Road.

The bike lay on its side, two bright, white sneakers lying on the front tire. It was marked by an orange cone and protected by a guy pickup.

Nearby, a group of people watched as a firefighter directed traffic around the bike until a S.C. Highway Patrolman could finish collecting evidence at the scene.

The collision occurred at 5:36 p.m. as the child was riding her bicycle west on Rosedale Drive, according to S.C. Highway Patrol Sgt. Bob Beres.

The 10-year-old went through a stop sign, made a wide right turn and collided with a 1999 Ford Mustang driven by 20-year-old Alejandra Chavez Alas, Beres said. The Mustang was traveling south on Benson Road.

The collision is still under investigation. The child's condition was not available Wednesday night.



After the collision, the child was transported by helicopter to Palmetto Health Richland.



Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437