

From: Taillon, Jeff
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Date: 12/28/2012 9:54:04 AM
Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Friday, December 28, 2012

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Fashion that turned heads in 2012

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The Post and Courier

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FRIDAY, December 28, 2012

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Schwarzkopf, who led coalition forces in Gulf War, dies at 78
Nation, A3



Time running out to avert strike of over 14,000 longshoremen
Business, B6



Local teams fall in high school basketball tournaments
Sports, C1

Coming Sunday

The Chinese dubbed 2012 the Year of the Dragon, and a fiery and blustery year it was, full of stories that moved and captivated us. Find out which ones rose to the top in The Post and Courier.



Catch Some Air
\$25 for a \$50 gift card toward the purchase of a paddle board
See A2



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Setting the record straight A2



'They're not going to take my gun'



The Twin Ponds Rifle Range in the Francis Marion National Forest was filled with a variety of firearms Thursday, including an AR-15 (foreground), made in South Carolina, being shot by Alex Hendry.

Bill would exempt S.C. from federal regulations

By BO PETERSEN
bpeters@postandcourier.com

The AR-15 military-style rifle that 18-year-old Alex Hendry fired Thursday at the Twin Ponds Rifle Range is smack in the cross hairs of a nationwide uproar over regulating "assault rifles" in the wake of the Newtown, Conn., massacre. It also is at the crux of a debate that awaits the 2013 General Assembly. Why? It was made in South Carolina. A state lawmaker wants to exempt

South Carolina from federal regulation of firearms, ammunition or accessories made in the state. "The Firearms Freedom Act," filed by Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, is similar to bills that already have been approved in eight states, filed in 40 others, and are being challenged in court by the U.S. District Attorney.

Please see BILL, Page A4



An AR-15 made in Columbia at the Twin Ponds Rifle Range on Thursday.

10th Amendment

The 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is the Powers of the State and the People amendment. It reads:

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

By the numbers

4,679,230

U.S. Census 2011 estimated population of South Carolina.

186,916

Concealed-weapon permits in the state.

Unknown

Number of firearms permits in the state. Federal law prohibits the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives from assembling that record.

— State Law Enforcement Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, U.S. Census

Political funding will face scrutiny

S.C. fight looms over secret gifts

By STEPHEN LARGEN
slargen@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — The wild times of South Carolina campaign finance could be coming to a close if cohorts of politicians and officials have their way. But a fight is coming, with libertarian-leaning state lawmakers defending the new era of dark money in state politics as a matter of free speech.

"I've just had a lot of concern because that just goes to the power of incumbency," GOP state Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, said of lawmakers attempting to again regulate the spending.

Since a 2010 federal court ruling, anonymous groups in South Carolina have been able to raise and spend unlimited amounts of money from undisclosed sources to attempt to swing elections.

The public is left to theorize who is funding the secretive forces and what their agendas are.

"It's loose as a goose, so to speak, as to who's out supporting whom," Senate Judiciary Chairman Larry Martin said during a hearing on ethics reform last week.

Please see FUNDING, Page A4



This is Clemson University student Nathan Weaver's fake turtle that consistently got creamed.

Turtles bring out drivers' dark side

By JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

CLEMSON — Clemson University student Nathan Weaver set out to determine how to help turtles cross the road. He ended up getting a glimpse into the sullen souls of some humans.

Weaver put a realistic rubber turtle in the middle of a lane on a busy road near campus. Then he got out of the way and watched over the next hour as seven drivers swerved and deliberately ran over the animal. Several more apparently tried to hit it but missed.

"I've heard of people and from friends who knew people that ran over turtles. But to see it out here like this was a bit shocking," said Weaver, 22, a senior in Clemson's School of Agricultural, Forest and Environmental Sciences.

To seasoned researchers, the practice wasn't surprising.

Please see TURTLES, Page A5

Mall robbery spurs emphasis on safety

By CHRISTINA ELMORE
celmore@postandcourier.com

As shoppers scoured Citadel Mall for last-minute gifts on Christmas Eve, one man's holiday shopping took a turn for the worse when he was robbed at gunpoint.

He wasn't roaming the parking lot or stepping in some dark corner where he didn't belong. He was minding his own business in a bathroom when a gunman with bad teeth cornered him in a stall and stole all his money, Charleston police said.

Mall officials said such incidents are rare at the West Ashley shopping complex, and they said they take customer safety very seriously.

Monday's armed robbery, which happened near Citadel's Palmetto Moon store, was the latest in a series of incidents



The Citadel Mall has been hit by a string of crimes in recent months — the latest on Christmas Eve — but mall officials said they are confident in the security they offer to shoppers.

Please see MALL, Page A5

Famously Hot New Year's Eve

What you need to know about Columbia's celebration, in **Weekend**

The State

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2012 | THESTATE.COM

COLUMBIA Council offers assistant top job

Wilson would
replace Gantt as
city manager

By MINDY LUCAS
mlucas@thestate.com

Columbia City Council has offered the top position of city manager to assistant city manager Teresa



Wilson

Wilson was offered the job during a special meeting Thursday in anticipation of current city manager Steve

Gantt's retirement next year.

An assistant manager for more than a year and a half, Wilson was one of several staff members promoted in 2011 after Gantt reorganized his staff. Wilson was asked to revamp the troubled Community Development department.

Mayor Steve Benjamin said it was Wilson's experience with economic development that gave her the edge.

That department, once headed by embattled director Tony Lawton, had come under fire earlier in 2011 after the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration questioned the city's handling of millions in federal dollars for low- to moderate-income communities and

SEE CITY PAGE A11

USC VS. MICHIGAN



TIM DOMINICK/TIMDOMINICK@THESTATE.COM

Toni Kirkland Day and twins, Kirkland and Trotter, 4, are rabid USC fans. At age 2 in 1980, she greeted the team after they beat Michigan.

Gamecock fever is in her DNA

By JOEY HOLLEMAN
jholleman@thestate.com

The last time South Carolina beat Michigan, its opponent in the Jan. 1 Outback Bowl, the result created such excitement that 5,000 fans flocked to Columbia Metropolitan Airport to greet their returning heroes.

That was 1980, and the front-page photo in The State featured a cute 2-year-old girl in a Gamecock jersey. Thirty-two years later, that girl is even more of a USC fan. In fact, she's a USC grad and works for the Gamecock Club.

"That was always my favorite photo of myself as a child," said Toni Kirkland Day. "I have grown up a Gamecock my entire life, as

SEE FANS PAGE A11

INSIDE

Brad Lawing has seen a lot in his 17 years as a USC coach; Garcia moving on with life. C1

S.C. SCHOOLS



C. MICHAEL BERGEN/BERGEN@THESTATE.COM

South Carolina has purchased 342 new school buses, the first such purchase since 2008.

'80s buses driving off into sunset

State buys 342 school buses;
most older ones to be retired

By JAMIE SELF
jself@thestate.com

South Carolina is getting 342 new school buses — brand-new, that is.

The new buses, costing \$82,030 each, will allow the state to replace its oldest buses. Some of those buses are 28 years old. Most of the buses that will be replaced were made between 1984 and 1987, education officials said.

"We will be retiring most but not all of the Ronald Reagan-era buses," said state education superintendent Mick Zais at a news conference Thursday.

Making up 6.8 percent of the state's fleet of 5,023 active buses, the \$28 million purchase is the state's first substantial acquisition of new buses since 2008.

About a third of the new buses have been distributed, replacing the state's oldest buses wherever they are located. Lexington and Richland counties will receive 49 of the new buses.

In recent years, the S.C. Department of Education has purchased used buses from Kentucky and Alabama to replace even old-



Zais

SEE BUSES PAGE A8

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TODAY'S DEAL

Dynamic Health & Fitness

Clemson student's turtle crossing project takes dark turn

By JEFFREY COLLINS
The Associated Press

lane on a busy road near campus. Then he got out of the way and watched over

ONLINE
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COMING
SUNDAY

WHY LOCAL police could have a tougher time making DUI



CLEMSON FOOTBALL NO HUDDLE, NO PROBLEM



BUSINESS
Jobless
claims hit
5-year low

The Greenville News

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FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 28, 2012
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

INSIDE

Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, leader of Desert Storm, dies at age 78, 10A

FINAL EDITION

SLED PROBES LATEST HACKING

Agency official says she's unaware of any link between breaches at jobs agency and Department of Revenue

By Tim Smith

Staff writer
tsmith@greenvilleonline.com

COLUMBIA — The State Law Enforcement Division is investigating last week's hacking of a state agency's website, an agency spokeswoman has told GreenvilleOnline.com.

The spokeswoman also said that certain software used by the agency is being discontinued in the wake of the Dec. 22 "defacement," which replaced the normal website homepage for the state De-

partment of Employment and Workforce with a message that read, "This site was hacked."

SLED and the U.S. Secret Service are investigating the more ambitious hacking at the Department of Revenue in September. That breach exposed 3.8 million Social Security numbers, 3.3 million bank account numbers and information belonging to nearly 700,000 businesses.

Kathryn Richardson, a SLED spokeswoman, said she is unaware of any connection between the website hacking and the data breach at the Department of

Revenue. She said her agency was asked to investigate the DEW defacement because it was a state agency.

DEW officials said no sensitive data was exposed during the hacking of their website, and the website's operation was returned to normal soon after it was defaced.

Agency officials declined to say much about the probe, including whether someone was apprehended.

"The agency is cooperating with SLED, and we do not comment on ongoing investigations," said DEW spokeswoman Molly Brantley.

Sen. Kevin Bryant of Anderson, who

"I'm glad they've gotten SLED involved, but it sounds like there's more reason to be concerned. ..."

SEN. KEVIN BRYANT
of Anderson

See HACKING, Page 3A

Obama invites leaders to 'cliff' talk

4 days left until tax hikes, spending cuts take effect

By David Espo

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A deadline looming, President Barack Obama will meet with congressional leaders at the White House on Friday in search of a compromise to avoid a year-end "fiscal cliff" of across-the-board tax increases and deep spending cuts.

The development capped a day of growing urgency in which Obama returned early from a Hawaiian vacation while lawmakers snarled a partisan divide over responsibility for gridlock on key pocketbook issues. Speaker John Boehner called the House back into session for a highly unusual Sunday evening session.

See OBAMA, Page 3A

ABOUT THE 'FISCAL CLIFF'

Without congressional action, current tax rates will expire on Dec. 31, resulting in a \$536 billion tax increase over a decade that would touch nearly all Americans. In addition, the military and other departments would have to begin absorbing about \$110 billion in spending cuts. » The new Congress could vote to cancel the tax hikes and spending cuts retroactively after it begins its work next year.



Sen. Mitch McConnell



The two state-owned facilities that service the Greenville County school system will receive 39 new buses

FILESTAFF

By David Dykes

Staff writer
ddykes@greenvilleonline.com

The state has made its first purchase of new school buses in four years, marking what officials said is the initial step in modernizing the nation's oldest school bus fleet.

State Superintendent of Education Mick Zais said Thursday that after all deliveries are completed, 342 new school buses, equipped to transport students with and without disabilities, will be in service in state-owned bus shops across South Carolina.

The two state-owned facilities that service the Greenville County school system — in Greenville and Taylors — will receive 39 new buses, state officials said.

342
Nation's oldest fleet to get
6.8 percent of total in service



INSIDE



Retired Gulf War general Schwarzkopf dies, 6A

Aiken Standard

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FRIDAY, December 28, 2012

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Girl's wish of shoes for needy granted



STAFF PHOTO BY HALEY HUGHES

Rebecca Moore, back middle, asked Santa for 300 pairs of shoes to donate to those in need. She received more than 600. Also pictured are her sisters Sam Moore, left, and Heather Moore.

Santa delivers more than 600 pairs of shoes

BY HALEY HUGHES
hhughes@aikenstandard.com

Sisters Rebecca, Heather and Sam Moore are certain Santa must have had an extra-large sleigh to fulfill Rebecca's Christmas wish for shoes to give to those in need.

Hundreds and hundreds of pairs of shoes greeted Rebecca on Christmas morning.

"I wrote a letter to Santa in November, but I didn't let anyone read it and didn't tell anyone about it," Rebecca said and explained that in her letter she asked for 300 pairs of shoes — 125 for girls, 125 for boys, and 50 for babies. "Shoes were like, the first thing that came to mind."

Rebecca, 9, was inspired by her older sister Heather who, several years ago, donated clothes and toys to charity.

Santa more than granted Rebecca's wish.

Bags and bags full of boots, sandals, flip-flops, high heels and sneakers were found in the family's living room

I wrote a letter to Santa in November, but I didn't let anyone read it and didn't tell anyone about it. ... Shoes were like, the first thing that came to mind.

Rebecca Moore, 9

on Tuesday totaling 613 pairs of shoes. "There's like, a lot of stuff," Rebecca said. "It was just crazy. This is really cool that he got me more than I asked for."

"He probably took a long time here," said mother Emily Moore. "(Rebecca) was very nonchalant about it. We're like, 'What is this? Can somebody explain?' She was like, 'I asked for shoes.' Then later she got emotional."

Santa even left Rebecca a letter, thanking her for her unselfish Christmas spirit.

"I'll be keeping an eager eye out to see all the greatness that comes from

this special Christmas gift," reads Santa's letter.

Santa also wrote that he had to enlist the help of several elves to help him gather all the shoes, some old and some new.

"His sleigh had to have been bigger to carry all of that," Heather said. "All of us were like, 'Oh, my gosh, that is a lot of shoes.'"

Some of the shoes will be going with Rebecca's uncle to Honduras when he travels there on a mission trip.

"The rest is going to Children's Place," Rebecca said. "I think they'll just be really surprised."

LOOKING BACK AT 2012

2012 a year of change, achievement for SRS

BY MIKE GELLATLY
mgellatly@aikenstandard.com

2012 was a year of great change and great accomplishment at the Savannah River Site.

The completion of work funded by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act and the closure of two million-gallon, cold war-era waste tanks were accomplishments that, literally and figuratively, changed the face of the Department of Energy site. These actions were done as the Site shed significant quantities of staff.

"When I look back over 2012 and all that we have accomplished, I am proud, and you should be, as well," said Dr. David Moody, DOE Manager at the Savannah River Site.

Tank Closures

The biggest milestone of the year was achieved by the liquid waste contractor at SRS, Savannah River Remediation. On Oct. 1, they marked the closure of the first tanks of their kind in 15 years and two of the oldest, and therefore posing the most significant environmental threat.

Underground tanks 18 and 19, located in the F-Area tank farms, are 85 feet in diameter, 33 feet high and have a storage capacity of about 1.5 million gallons of highly radioactive liquid waste — large enough to fit a high school basketball court inside of it. The tanks were emptied of 99 percent of the waste, which was glassified and turned into logs for storage.

Thomas D'Agostino, Under Secretary of Energy, called the closings "historic" for the site and DOE.

The tanks were constructed in 1958 and were in operation until the early 1980s, when waste removal began. The closure of the tanks signified "the most substantial environmental risk reduction achievement for the site since 1997,"

according to Catherine Templeton, director of the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. DOE closed Tanks 17 and 20 in 1997, the first for SRS and the nation.

According to Moody, another 13 tanks are in various stages of emptying and preparing for closure. The first of these is scheduled to be closed in 2013.

ARRA Completion

One of the most significant initiatives of the ARRA era was that of removing the legacy TRU at SRS. In 2012, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions shipped 1,600 cubic meters of SRS legacy transuranic waste to Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, N.M. for disposal. According to DOE, this was the SRS TRU Waste Program's best year ever.

At the end of the year, SRNS said that 95 percent of legacy waste will have been removed.

TRU waste is solid waste, consisting of clothing, tools, rags, residues, debris and other items contaminated with trace amounts of plutonium.

Reducing the footprint of the site, so that secure land could be used for future projects was another goal of ARRA funding. In August, SRNS announced that the 75 percent reduction in footprint goal had been surpassed. With the completion of the Lower Three Runs Project, the management and operations contractor reached an 85 percent reduction.

Lower Three Runs is 20 miles long and leaves the main body of the site and runs through areas of Barnwell and Allendale counties until it flows into the Savannah River.

Biomass Replaces Coal

In March, SRS celebrated the operational startup of the Biomass Cogeneration Facility, a project completed

Please see SRS, Page 4A

COMING UP

- ☒ Dec. 26: City Council, County Council
- ☒ Dec. 27: Business
- ☒ Dec. 28: SRS
- ☐ Dec. 29: Education
- ☐ Dec. 30: Top stories of the year
- ☐ Dec. 31: Person of the Year

Advent calendar drawing

Please don't forget to send in your photos of the completed Aiken Standard advent calendar. Photo entries must be submitted to editorial@aikenstandard.com by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 3. Be sure to include a name and phone number with your submission. The Aiken Standard will pick a winning entry by random drawing for a \$100 VISA gift card courtesy of Wayne's Automotive and Towing Center.

AREA DEATHS

James Hynes, Aiken

Obama invites heads of congress to 'cliff' talk

BY DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Barack Obama will meet with congressional leaders at the White House today in search of a compromise to avoid a year-end "fiscal cliff" of across-the-board tax increases and deep spending cuts.

The development capped a day of growing urgency. Obama returned early from a Hawaiian vacation while lawmakers started across a partisan divide

Adding to the woes confronting the middle class was a pending spike of \$2 per gallon or more in milk prices if lawmakers failed to pass farm legislation by year's end.

Four days before the deadline, the White House dispatched reporters that Obama was sending lawmakers a scaled-down plan to avoid the fiscal cliff of tax increases and spending cuts.

Administration officials confirmed the Friday meeting at the White House in a bare-bones announcement that said the president would "host a meeting"

has already passed legislation to avert the entire fiscal cliff and now the Senate must act.

Top Senate leaders said they remain ready to seek a last-minute agreement. Yet there was no legislation pending and no sign of negotiations in either the House or the Senate on a bill to prevent the tax hikes and spending cuts that economists say could send the economy into a recession.

Far from conciliatory, the rhetoric was confrontational and at times unusually personal.

to keep taxes steady for most while letting them rise at upper incomes. The bill "would pass overwhelmingly," Reid predicted, and said the Ohio Republican won't change his mind because he fears it might cost him re-election as speaker when the new Congress convenes next week.

Boehner seems "to care more about keeping his speakership than keeping the nation on a firm financial footing," he said in remarks on the Senate floor.

A few hours later, McConnell expressed frustration and blamed the



The Beaufort Gazette

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Talks resume — but can a deal be reached?

Political leaders increasingly pessimistic about averting 'fiscal cliff' before Tuesday deadline

By ANITA KUMAR
and WILLIAM DOUGLAS
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and the Senate returned Thursday to Washington to revive stalled negotiations to avert a

potentially devastating series of tax increases and spending cuts — but both parties remained pessimistic they would find a solution before a crucial end-of-the-year deadline.

"I have to be very honest," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid,

D-Nev. "I don't know time-wise how it can happen now."

The president cut short his family vacation in Hawaii to fly back to Washington on Thursday. The Democratic-controlled Senate also returned. But House Speaker

John Boehner, R-Ohio, on Thursday instructed members not to come back to the Capitol for votes until 6:30 p.m. Sunday, less than 30 hours before the New Year.

Please see FISCAL CLIFF on 13A

MORE INSIDE

Investors and consumers are shaken by the possibility a deal won't be made by deadline. **13A**

'Freed that day'



This wood engraving, called "Emancipation Day in South Carolina," was published in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper on Jan. 24, 1863. The original caption reads: "The Color-Sergeant of the 1st South Carolina (Colored) addressing the regiment, after having been presented with the Stars and Stripes, at Smith's plantation, Port Royal, January 1."

Port Royal service honors 1863 reading of Emancipation Proclamation



SARAH WELLIVER • Staff photo

Chief Hospital Corpsman Amanda Hughes, Naval Hospital Beaufort's historian, stands by the Emancipation Oak on Wednesday afternoon. Jan. 1 marks the 150th anniversary of the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation beneath the oak at Camp Saxton.

By ERIN MOODY • emoody@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8184

A century and a half ago, thousands of former slaves, Union troops and area residents gathered at a Port Royal plantation for a celebration centered on the reading of the newly issued Emancipation Proclamation.

On Tuesday — the anniversary of the Jan. 1, 1863, proclamation — residents will gather again to remember and honor that moment.

"We are going to actually set foot on the site, and I imagine that some people who go out there will really relive that event and feel the spirit of the people who were there that day," state Rep. Kenneth Hodges, D-Green Pond, said. "When the Emancipation Proclamation was read in Beaufort County, those former slaves were freed that day."

Please see SERVICE on 13A

FATAL CAPSIZING



Fisherman loved his life on the river

By ANNE CHRISTNOVICH
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843-706-8125

Martin Luther Stewart Sr. felt "blessed" to make his living on the river.

He died there Wednesday night after the 19-foot skiff he was on with fellow fisherman Vincent Chaplin capsized.

Sea Eagle Market owner Craig Reaves, who hired Stewart a few months ago, recalled gathering oysters with him last Sunday.

"He looked at me and said, 'You know, most people go to work because they have to. Me and you are blessed because we get to do something we love.'"

Please see FISHERMAN on 13A

Marine motorcyclist struck, killed

By TOM BARTON
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843-706-8169

A Marine motorcyclist was killed Thursday

Herald-Journal

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IN A HURRY
5 Things to read today



For the community

Mary Lynn Tollison, who works for the Spartanburg Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, has a spacious office, but most of her time in the past 15 years has been spent in the community, evoking changes to policy and speaking out against the drug and alcohol issues that trouble her the most. **PAGE E1**

Bright's bill

State Sen. Lee Bright, R-Roebuck, has reintroduced a bill that would exempt firearms, ammunition and gun accessories made in South Carolina from federal regulation. The Firearms Freedom Act was introduced by Bright during South Carolina's 2011-12 legislative session, where it died in committee. **PAGE A5**

House fire

One person was taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation after a house fire in Boiling Springs on Thursday that displaced six people. The cause of the fire was unknown Thursday afternoon and is under investigation. **PAGE C1**

New school buses

State Superintendent Mick Zais announced Thursday that South Carolina is receiving 342 new school buses to replace vehicles up to 28 years old, marking the state's first significant purchase for the fleet in four years. **PAGE C4**

Lacking confidence

U.S. consumers peering over the "fiscal cliff" don't like what they see. Fears of sharp tax increases and government spending cuts set to take effect next week sent consumer confidence tumbling in December to its lowest level since August. **PAGE C5**

Pneumonia claims Desert Storm hero

Schwarzkopf, 78, dies after retiring to quiet life in Fla.

By MITCH STACY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Truth is, retired Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf didn't care much for his popular "Stormin' Norman" nickname.

The seemingly no-nonsense Desert Storm commander's reputed temper with aides and subordinates supposedly earned him that rough-and-ready moniker. But others around the general, who died

Thursday in Tampa, Fla., at age 78 from complications from pneumonia, knew him as a friendly, talkative and even jovial figure who preferred the somewhat milder sobriquet given by his troops: "The Bear."

That one perhaps suited him better later in his life, when he supported various national causes and children's charities while eschewing the spotlight and resisting efforts to draft him to run for political office.



Schwarzkopf

He lived out a quiet retirement in Tampa, where he'd served his last military assignment and where an elementary school bearing his name is testament to his standing in the community.

Schwarzkopf capped an illustrious military career by commanding the U.S.-led international coalition that drove Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in 1991 — but he'd managed to keep a low profile in the public debate over the second Gulf War against Iraq, saying at one point that he doubted victory would be as easy as the White House and the Pentagon predicted.

Schwarzkopf was named commander in chief of U.S. Central Command at Tampa's MacDill Air Force Base in 1988, overseeing the headquarters for U.S. military and security concerns in nearly two dozen countries stretching across the Middle East to Afghanistan and the rest of central Asia, plus Pakistan.

When Saddam invaded Kuwait two years later to punish it for allegedly stealing Iraqi oil reserves, Schwarzkopf commanded Operation Desert Storm, the coalition of some 30 countries organized

◆ SEE GENERAL PAGE A5

Craftsman at work



PHOTOS BY ALEX C. NICKS JR./ALEX.NICKS@SHU.COM

Artist Abe Duenas of Gaffney is a blacksmith and works with copper. Above, Duenas uses copper to create art at the Gaffney Visitors and Art Gallery. Below, one of his finished products. See a photo gallery at GoUpstate.com.

Metalsmith welds together trade with creative vision of an artist

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles looking at old-fashioned arts and skills. Coming Saturday: Darkroom photography.

By KIM KIMZEY
kim.kimzey@shu.com

Like generations of iron and metalsmiths before him, Abe Duenas' skills were shaped and melded under the training of craftsmen. The Gaffney artist's work can be seen throughout the area. Duenas created a 5-foot-tall Eastern Tiger Swallowtail butterfly and a 3-foot-tall ladybug displayed at Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve.



He designed and constructed iron fencing around the fountain in downtown Gaffney's City Park, in addition to restoring the fountain cherub. His three-dimensional image depicting the Battle of Cowpens was erected in November 2003 at the entrance to the

Lost Arts

same thing. How can I apply this and be creative with it?" he said.

Metalsmithing is something of a "happy compromise" for the man who learned a trade and married it with art.

After learning to weld, Duenas moved to New York City for a "change of pace" and worked as a blacksmith. He assisted in a restoration project in Brooklyn Heights and made items to give to others. He was 19 years old when that "part of (his) life began."

Duenas got a kick out of applying heat to hard, unmoving steel to create objects.

"It was practical and creative. It's something that people needed," he said.

He took weekend courses to acquire skills

Obama, leaders to meet on 'cliff'

Personal attacks mar negotiations

By DAVID ESPINO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A deadline looming, President Barack Obama will meet with congressional leaders at the White House today in search of a compromise to avoid a year-end "fiscal cliff" of across-the-board tax increases and deep spending cuts.

The development capped a day of growing urgency in which Obama returned early from a Hawaiian vacation, while lawmakers snarled across a partisan divide over responsibility for gridlock on key pocketbook issues. Speaker John Boehner called the House back into session for a highly unusual Sunday evening session.

Adding to the woes confronting the middle class was a pending spike of \$2 per gallon or more in milk prices if lawmakers fail to pass farm legislation by year's end.

Four days before the deadline, the White House disputed reports that Obama was sending lawmakers a scaled-down plan to avoid the fiscal cliff of tax increases and spending cuts.

An aide to Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell said the Kentucky lawmaker "is eager to hear from the president."

A spokesman for House Speaker John Boehner issued a statement that said the Ohio Republican would attend and "continue to stress that the House has already passed legislation to avert the entire fiscal cliff, and

Nation: Obama invites congressional leaders to cliff talk. **7A**



Schwarzkopf dies at 78, Page 7A

Sports: Ninety Six native wraps up career with all-star games. **1B**

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INDEX-JOURNAL

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UPDATED FLEET

State receiving nearly 350 new school buses

Out with the old

■ The buses replace models dating from 1984-87 and some from 1988. Those decommissioned will take their place at the back of lots to be cannibalized for parts to service other old buses.

By SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Superintendent Mick Zals announced Thursday that South Carolina is receiving 342 new school buses that replace vehicles up to 28 years old, marking the state's

first significant purchase for the fleet in four years.

"Some students in South Carolina are riding in the same buses that their parents rode to school in," the Republican schools chief said. "We will be

See FLEET, page 4A



HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

GOOD, CLEAN FUN



MATT WALSH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Marquise Anderson and his brother, A.J., left, play on the bleachers at the Emerald-Abbeville basketball game Thursday evening during the opening day of the Emerald City Classic basketball tournament. A.J. is on winter break from Long Cane Primary school, and his mother said she brought her two boys to the game to have a good time. For coverage of the tournament, see **Page 1B**.

■ LAKELANDS

Towns, counties boast upgrades

By FRANK BUMB

fbumb@indexjournal.com

Organizing and completing building renovations, water and sewer upgrades and bringing business to any town is tough enough in the best of times. But even with the lingering effects of the Great Recession, several county and municipal governments managed to complete a slew of projects in 2012.



FRANK ADDY

McCormick County was honored for one of its projects by the South Carolina Association of Counties for their resurrection of a vacant, overgrown lot next to the county's new library into a playground. The project received an honorable mention in the J. Mitchell Graham award for counties under 50,000 people.



BRUCE COOLEY



CHARLES JENNINGS

"It's a great asset for McCormick County," McCormick County chairman Charles Jennings said. "Kids can enjoy the playground, but then they have access to books and the computers. And if kids don't have computers at home, they can use them at the library and even set up their own e-mail at the library."

One of the biggest complet-

■ GREENWOOD COUNTY COUNCIL

SEAL OF APPROVAL: Moon asks to keep old sealing device

By CHRIS TRAINOR
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

Ingram Moon gave much to the county in the nearly three decades she has worked in the clerk of court office.

Moon has worked in the clerk of court office since 1985. She has been the county's elected clerk of court since 2004. She decided not to seek re-election this year and is set to officially retire next week.

Council at its administration and finance committee meeting. Moon formally asked Council if she could have a small memento from the clerk's office: an old sealing device once used to put the Greenwood County seal



THE ISLAND PACKET

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2012

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Cloud cover will increase as the day progresses. 6B



United Way passes 73 percent of its \$2.8M 2012 fundraising goal 2A



Save 50 percent on dinner, lunch at Hugo's — go to dealsaver.com/HiltonHead

Obama, Senate return; no deal in sight

Senate majority leader: 'I don't know time-wise how it can happen'

By ANITA KUMAR and WILLIAM DOUGLAS
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and the Senate returned Thursday to Washington

to revive stalled negotiations to avert a potentially devastating series of tax increases and spending cuts — but both parties remained pessimistic they would find a solution before a crucial end-of-the-

year deadline.

"I have to be very honest," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. "I don't know time-wise how it can happen now."

The president cut short his family

vacation in Hawaii to fly back to Washington. The Democratic-controlled Senate also returned. But House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, on Thursday instructed members not to come back to the

Capitol for votes until 6:30 p.m. Sunday, less than 30 hours before the new year.

Obama will meet at the White House with congressional leaders of both parties this afternoon, according to the White House.

MORE INSIDE

Wall Street worries the U.S. might actually go over the "fiscal cliff." 13A

Everyday people are losing faith in stocks. 14A

Please see DEAL on 13A

'FREED THAT DAY'

Celebration planned to honor 150th anniversary of reading of Emancipation Proclamation in Port Royal



This wood engraving, entitled "Emancipation Day in South Carolina," was published in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper on Jan. 24, 1863. The original caption reads: "The Color-Sergeant of the 1st South Carolina (Colored) addressing the regiment, after having been presented with the Stars and Stripes, at Smith's plantation, Port Royal, January 1."

Library of Congress

By ERIN MOODY
emoodys@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8384

A century and a half ago, thousands of former slaves, Union troops and area residents gathered at a plantation in Port Royal for a celebration centered on the reading of the newly issued Emancipation Proclamation.

On Tuesday — the anniversary of the Jan. 1, 1863, proclamation — residents will gather again to

remember and honor that moment.

"We are going to actually set foot on the site, and I imagine that some people who go out there will really relive that event and feel the spirit of the people who were there that day," state Rep. Kenneth Hodges, D-Green Pond, said. "When the Emancipation Proclamation was read in Beaufort County, those former slaves were freed that day."

WANT TO GO?

For information on the celebration, see the box on page 13A.

Please see EMANCIPATION on 13A

FISHERMAN DIES WHEN BOAT CAPSIZES

River life was man's passion

By ANNE CHRISTNOVICH
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843-706-8125

Martin Luther Stewart Sr. felt "blessed" to make his living on the river.

He died there Wednesday night after the 19-foot skiff he was on with fellow fisherman Vincent Chaplin capsized.

Sea Eagle Market owner Craig Reeves, who hired Stewart a few months ago, recalled gathering oysters with him last Sunday.

"He looked at me and said, 'You know, most people go to work because they have to. Me and you are blessed because we get to do something we love.'"

"He'd been in the river his whole life," Reeves said. "That's what he loved and that was his passion."

Please see RIVER on 13A



TOP STORIES OF 2012
TODAY: NEWS OF THE ODD AND UNUSUAL

In 2012, odd stories kept surfacing in the water

Self Help keeps family afloat during stroke rehab

John, who is in his 40s, suffered a stroke that left him unable to cover their mortgage payment.

TO CONTRIBUTE

Those who wish to participate in the Bluffton Self Help fundraising campaign, which





STORMIN' NORMAN Retired Gen. Schwarzkopf dies at 78. **Page 8A**

Morning News

FRIDAY DECEMBER 28, 2012

TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly sunny with clouds and rain later in the day
High 58, Low 39

DETAILS 2A

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Drivers, not Super Mario Bros, stomp turtles



Clemson University student Nathan Weaver holds a fake turtle he is using in his research to try and save the animals in Clemson on Dec. 12.

Clemson student's project shows some purposely hit crossing reptiles

The Associated Press

CLEMSON — Clemson University student Nathan Weaver just wanted to put together a project to help figure out the best way to assist turtles in crossing the road. But he also ended up with a peek into the dark souls of some human beings.

Weaver put realistic-looking rubber turtles, no bigger than a saucer, in the middle of a lane on a busy road near campus. Then he got out of the way and watched as over the next hour, seven drivers intentionally ran over the turtle, and several more appeared to try to hit the defenseless animal, but missed.

"It was a bit surprising. I've heard of people and from friends who knew people that ran over turtles. But to see

it out here like this was a bit shocking," said Weaver, a 22-year-old senior in Clemson's School of Agricultural, Forest and Environmental Sciences.

But to seasoned researchers, the targeting of turtles and other reptiles isn't surprising. The number of box turtles is on a slow decline, with one prominent reason being the riskiness of crossing the road because the trip takes several minutes.

And even in today's more enlightened, modern world, sometimes humans feel a need to prove they are the dominant species on this planet by taking a two-ton metal vehicle and squishing a defenseless animal under the tires, said Hal Herzog, a Western Carolina University psychology professor.

"They aren't thinking, really. It is not something people think about. It just seems fun at the time," Herzog said. "It is the dark side of human nature."

See **TURTLES**, Page 8A

TRIPLE OVERTIME THRILLER



PHOTOS BY GAVIN JACKSON/MORNING NEWS

South Florence's Michael Ellis goes up against West Florence's Cameron Bostick at the tipoff of their game's third overtime during the 27th annual Pepsi Carolina Classic on Thursday at West Florence High School in Florence. West Florence beat South Florence in the third overtime 102-100.

For more on that game and others Thursday in the Pepsi Carolina Classic, see **Page 1D**.

West Florence players Kelso Wright and Cameron Bostick celebrate with teammates after beating South Florence in the third overtime of 27th annual Pepsi Carolina Classic at West Florence High School in Florence.



Emotional days at the courthouse

BY TRACI BRIDGES
Morning News
tbridges@florencenews.com

2012 REMEMBERED
CRIME

The Morning News is taking time to look back at the stories that made the news in 2012. Today, we look at the news the top crime stories crime in the Pee Dee and beyond.

Top story: Sentencing in pawn shop murder

The man accused in a brutal 2011 murder/robbery at a local pawn shop that left a beloved Florence musician dead and his co-worker wounded was sentenced in April to life in prison plus 75 years for his crimes.

Jurors deliberated about two hours before finding now-18-year-old Tavarion Brunson guilty of murder, attempted murder, armed robbery, second-degree burglary and possession of a firearm in an April 12, 2011, robbery at Rick's Pawn Shop on U.S. 52/West Lucas Street that left 33-year-old Stephen Christopher "Chris" Deaver dead and 37-year-old Donna Robinson wounded. The three-day trial was filled with dramatic and emotional testimony.

Robinson recounted how Brunson entered the store shortly before closing and immediately opened fire on Deaver. As he ordered Robinson to empty the jewelry cases, he put the gun to Deaver's head and shot him again. As he was leaving the store, he made Robinson lie on the ground before shooting her in the head. The bullet went down her face and took her eye. She pretended to be dead until he left.

Cammie Carroll, Deaver's fiancée and mother of their 5-year-old daughter Morgan, told jurors about the loss they felt. "Chris was the type of man you wanted in this world. He loved life," Carroll said, sobbing. "Chris loved Morgan with all his heart, and she loves and misses her daddy so much," Carroll said. "And to ever think that this man could walk out of jail one day ... I just

See **CRIME**, Page 3A

South Carolina receive nearly 350 new school buses

Pee Dee will get 24 to replace outdated models that serve disabled students

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Superintendent Mick Zais announced Thursday that South Carolina is receiving 342 new school buses that replace vehicles up

The new arrivals — costing \$82,000 each for a total of \$28 million — will replace all models dating from 1984 to 1987, plus some from 1988, Zais said. All feature lifts and spaces for wheelchairs, as well as air condition-

maintain," Zais said.

The new buses are 29 percent more fuel efficient than those they're replacing, making them cheaper to run and better for the environment and students' health, Zais said.





CMYK



Odd

DEALING
WITH
DENARDCarolina practices
in Tampa. B1, B4Turtle
talesA Clemson student is placing
fake turtles in roads near
campus and seeing how many
drivers intentionally run over
them. Read about what he has
found. B10

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2012

The Times and Democrat

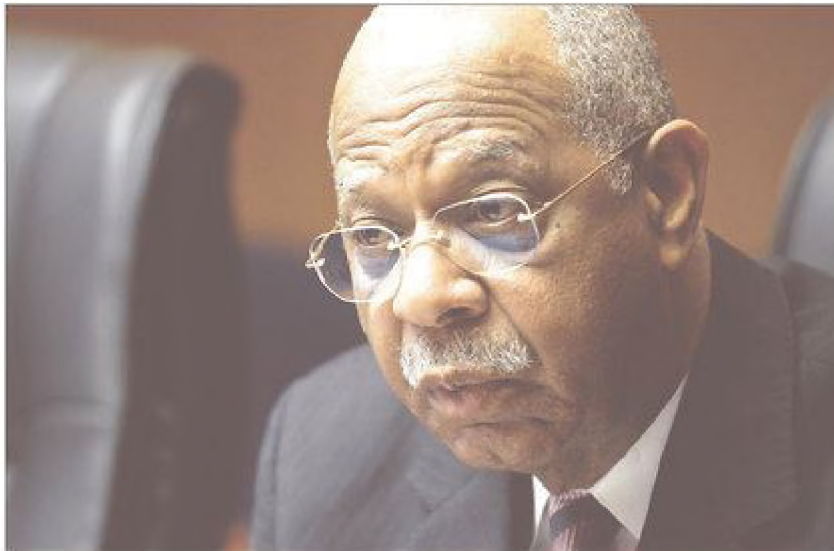
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Looking ahead



CHRISTOPHER HURST/160

The Rev. Dr. Caesar Richburg will become chairman of the Regional Medical Center board on Jan. 1. He says he wants
to conduct business with transparency.RMC ready for challenges,
new board chairman saysBy GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff WriterThe newly elected chairman of the
Regional Medical Center board says he is
confident the hospital has the leadership
and staff in place to help it navigate the
uncertain waters of health care reform.The Rev. Dr. Caesar Richburg, who will
assume the chairmanship of the RMC
board on Jan. 1, said the hospital has done,
"an excellent job in being proactive.""We knew the Affordable Care Act was
soon to be law and now is the law of the
land. I say the hospital is plenty ready."Richburg was elected on Nov. 19 in a
7-6 vote over RMC Strategic Planning
Committee Chair Betty Henderson after
the board split three times previously be-*"We are making
available state-of-
the-art medical care
for persons who
experience health
challenges."*— RMC BOARD CHAIRMAN THE
REV. DR. CAESAR RICHBURGtween two other candidates. The board
chairman typically sets the agenda for the
meetings and directs discussion.Richburg said he will ensure the hos-
pital conducts its business with "clear
transparency" and that the public recog-
nizes the jewel that is RMC."There are excellent services that are
offered here, core services, if you will,"
Richburg said. "We are making available
state-of-the-art medical care for persons
who experience health challenges. Therein
lies a great future for the hospital."He says the board can help the hos-
pital prepare for the uncertainties of the
future.A study conducted by the Univer-
sity of South Carolina estimates RMC
will see about \$72 million in cuts from
Medicare reimbursement and Medicaid

See LOOKING, A5

Local schools
discuss officers,
cost following
Conn. shootingBy LEE HENDREN
T&D Government WriterEvery school needs a trained school resource officer,
state Rep. Bakari Sellers said Thursday. He added that
local and state officials, working together, can make it
happen.Two local school officials of-
fered their support."I would love to have a school
resource officer in each school
full-time," said Dr. Steve Wilson,
superintendent of the Calhoun
County Public Schools."The problem, obviously, is
funding," said Tim Newman, as-
sistant superintendent for human
resources and public relations in
Orangeburg Consolidated School
District 4.With the multiple shootings in Newtown, Conn.,
fresh on everyone's minds, Sellers said school resource
officers are critical to preventing and responding to
school violence."Although I am adamantly opposed to the proposed
idea of arming our teachers, it is my hope that we can
increase the presence of trained law enforcement in
our schools to ensure the safety of our community's
greatest assets," Sellers wrote in a letter to school su-
perintendents throughout House District 90, which he
represents.One of the lessons of the shootings at Sandy Hook
Elementary School is that violence is not limited to
middle and high schools, which is where most SROs
are assigned."The cost associated with assigning these officers to
every school has proven to be a challenge for many
districts across South Carolina," Sellers said. "The state
Legislature should help local districts overcome that
obstacle. ... We ought to be focused on the best way to
protect our children, not the cheapest. Anything less is

See SHOOTING, A5

Retired Gen. Norman
Schwarzkopf, 78, diesBy RICHARD PYLE
and LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated PressWASHINGTON — Retired Gen. H. Norman
Schwarzkopf, who topped an illustrious military career
by commanding the U.S.-led international coalition that
drove Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in 1991
but kept a low public profile in controversies over the
second Gulf War against Iraq, died
Thursday. He was 78.A sister of Schwarzkopf's, Ruth
Barenbaum of Middlebury, Vt.,

Area schools to get some new buses soon

By DALE LINDER-ALTMAN
T&D Staff WriterSome area school districts
will soon receive at least 13
modern buses, but it's not

Jeff Taillon

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