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Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, January 19, 2016

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The Post and Courier

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Tuesday, January 19, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

A message of hope

Charleston MLK celebration focuses on reconciliation, solutions



BRAD NUTTLES/STAFF

Participants aboard the Owens Christian Academy float wave to crowds lining the route on Monday during the Martin Luther King Jr. parade, which traveled from Burke High School to just past Emanuel AME Church on Calhoun Street in Charleston. To read more, please see Page A4 or go to postandcourier.com.

Flag's absence lifts spirits on King Day at Dome

Democratic presidential hopefuls urge crowds to carry on MLK's work

BY GAVIN JACKSON
gjackson@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — For the first time in 17 years, the divisive Confederate battle flag cast no shadow over the thousands gathered at the Statehouse Monday to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in a moving tribute that included the three Democratic presidential candidates.

For Howard Rogers of Cheraw, the sight was something he'd waited for every year that he's attended the South Carolina NAACP's King Day at the Dome event. The battle flag finally came down last summer after an avowed white supremacist fatally shot nine black worshippers at Emanuel

pc Gallery
For more photos, go to postandcourier.com/galleries

AME Church in Charleston in June. "I'm a Vietnam veteran and I do believe whenever you lose the battle you take the flag down," Rogers said. "It always hurt my heart to see that flag still flying because it's assumed that we're still operating under what that flag represents...we're one now."

While education equality was the focus of the King Day event, many remarks centered around the inequality that still exists in society.

The Democratic candidates for president, fresh from the debate stage in Charleston, all urged the crowd to carry on the work and spirit of the famed civil rights leader, who was killed in 1968.

Please see COLUMBIA, Page A4



PAUL ZOLLER/STAFF
Dmitri Ford traveled from Charleston to celebrate Martin Luther King and the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds during the King Day at the Dome event on Monday at the State House in Columbia. Ford carried a sign calling for the removal of the flag at The Citadel.

Case may help solve S.C. legal dilemma

Does 'stand your ground' law apply in local domestic killing?

BY ANDREW KNAPP
aknapp@postandcourier.com

South Carolina's "stand your ground" law should not protect someone who kills a romantic partner in self-defense if the deadly confrontation happens in a home they share.

That's the view that local prosecutors have portrayed in a renewed bid to pursue charges against a North Charleston woman who fatally stabbed her boyfriend less than an hour after he dragged her down the street by her hair in 2012.

Citing the woman's self-defense account, a judge granted her immunity from prosecution, but the prosecutors' appeal could turn on two words in the law: another place.

Please see STAND, Page A4

Carson seeks S.C. Tea Party support

Joins attorney general at state convention

BY ROBERT BEHRE
rbehre@postandcourier.com

MYRTLE BEACH — Republican presidential hopeful Ben Carson and S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson both received warm receptions on the third and final day of the South Carolina Tea Party convention here.

Carson urged its members to get behind his flat tax plan and to end lifetime U.S. Supreme Court appointments.

The retired neurosurgeon also talked a lot about his personal story, his medical experience and why he decided to make what many considered an improbable run for president.

Please see TEA, Page A4

Inside

YOUR HEALTH

Boxing offers new hope for patients with Parkinson's. D1

NATION

Calls grow for boycott of Oscars ceremony. A5

SPORTS

Citadel coach accepts job at James Madison. C1

Questions remain in Iran's seizure of 10 U.S. sailors

Military says Navy investigation to provide more details, focus on treatment of sailors

BY ROBERT BURNS
rburns@postandcourier.com

WASHINGTON — In its first official account of Iran's seizure and subsequent release of 10 U.S. sailors in the Persian Gulf, the U.S. military said Monday the only items found missing from their two recovered boats were SIM cards for two satellite phones.

But key questions, such as why the sailors had deviated from their planned route to enter Iranian terri-

torial waters, remain unanswered in the account released by U.S. Central Command. It's calling the description a preliminary timeline of the events of Jan. 12-13.

"A Navy command investigation initiated Jan. 14 will provide a more complete accounting of events," Central Command said.

The investigation will focus on the U.S. sailors' treatment while in custody, including any interrogation by Iranian personnel, the command said.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter said last week while visiting Central Command headquarters in Florida that the boat crews had "misnavigated." He did not say how that mistake happened or provide other substantial details about an episode that posed a potential complication to efforts by Washington and Tehran to establish better relations.

The boat seizure happened just hours before President Barack Obama delivered his State of the Union address and just days before implementation of the Iran nuclear deal with the West. The implementation triggered the end of crippling international sanctions on Iran and a U.S.-Iran

prisoner exchange.

The timeline released Monday said the U.S. sailors were not mistreated during approximately 15 hours in Iranian hands. It said a post-recovery inventory of the boats found that all weapons, ammunition and communications gear was accounted for, minus two SIM cards apparently removed from two hand-held satellite phones.

The sailors were traveling in small armed vessels known as riverine command boats, headed from Kuwait to Bahrain, which is the location of the Navy's 5th Fleet.

Please see IRAN, Page A8



Clear, High 44, Low 26, Complete 5-day forecast, B10

Bridge — B9
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Classifieds — C6
Comics — B8, 9
Crossword — B6, C10
Editorials — A6
Entertainment — B7
Games — B4
Obituaries — B4
Sports — C1
Subscriptions — B7
Television — B6
Your Health — D1

Charleston Deals today

Holy City Comic Con
\$30 for two tickets.
See A2

Flag's removal changes King Day

About 1,000 people, Democratic presidential hopefuls turn out for state's celebration

JEFFREY COLLINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA - For the first time in 17 years, civil rights leaders gathered Monday at the South Carolina Statehouse to pay homage to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. without the Confederate flag casting a long shadow over them.

The banner was taken down over the summer after police said a young white man who had posed for photos with a rebel flag shot nine black church members to death during a Bible study in Charleston. After the massacre at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley reversed course and made it a priority for lawmakers to pass legislation to remove the

INSIDE

Local community honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. **Page 3A**

flag.

"Isn't this a great day? It's so nice to be standing here and not looking at that flag," said Ezell Pittman, who attended most of the King Day anti-flag rallies since they started in 2000. "I always had faith it would come down. I hate it took what it did but was real happy to see it go."

Across the country, the 30th anniversary of the holiday to honor the civil rights leader assassinated in 1968 was remembered in different ways. In Michi-

gan, people delivered bottled water to residents of Flint amid the city's drinking water crisis. In Atlanta, an overflow crowd listened as the nation's housing secretary talked about the 50th anniversary of King's visit to Chicago to launch a campaign for fair housing. In Minnesota, a rally against police brutality was planned.

South Carolina NAACP President Lonnie Randolph said the flag's removal was tangible evidence the state cares about civil rights when pushed hard enough. But he warned there would be other fights ahead.

"I promise you, the people that gather in this building — your building — will do

See KING, Page 5A



Attendees hold a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. during King Day Monday in Columbia.

MEETING ADA STANDARDS



George McLeer, left, Andrew Ratchford, Kim Hamel and Van Brannon attend an ADA workshop Friday.

Greenville CAN focuses on different topics for people with disabilities, parents, more

SCOTT KEELER
SKEELER@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

What began as a simple request from a church to utilize Mauldin's Ray Hopkins Senior Center for Sunday services has led city officials to make sure all of the city facilities meet current ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards.

When Freedom Church asked for use of the Senior Center's auditorium for

assembly and thus changed building codes. As it turns out, the Senior Center's standards met the needs for Freedom Church, which has been holding services there for a few months now. However that hasn't stopped Mauldin from beginning the inspection process of all of its facilities to make sure they meet current ADA standards.

Mauldin officials have done this with the assistance of Greenville CAN (Col- laborative Action Network), which was

"The city of Mauldin, in my opinion, has the most effective ADA policies and procedures in place."

SANDY HANEBRINK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TOUCH THE FUTURE

Greenville CAN. "We all came together with a goal of trying to make Greenville a better place to live for people with disabilities."

Greenville CAN has a number of workshops focused on different topics

Tree theft reported in wildlife conservancy

Criminal charges filed after timber was taken from group's property

TONYA MAXWELL
TMAXWELL@CITIZEN-TIMES.COM

The best of the trees had disappeared from a tract in Leicester's Sandy Mush area, soaring oaks and hickories, some estimated to have taken root a century ago.

Criminal charges stemming from tree theft, a larceny by blade and heavy machinery, is somewhat uncommon, but this vanished timber has been made doubly unusual by the stewards who owned it.

Until they were reduced to stumps, the hardwoods were under the care of the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, a conservation organization whose mission is to preserve mountain habitats and scenic beauty.

"It left me stunned," said Sarah Sheeran, a Conservancy stewardship associate who discovered the cuts to both trees and land during a routine check of the property, accessible only by crossing a neighboring private parcel.

"When I came upon the logging area, it was very obvious that it was quite the departure from the surrounding forest. It was clear it had been recently harvested for timber."

Earlier this month, a Buncombe County grand jury indicted Scott Bobby Turner, a 45-year-old Leicester man, on charges he illegally cut and removed the Conservancy's trees - valued at more than \$1,000 - while logging in the summer of 2013.

The Conservancy has estimated the mill value of the timber - wood it never intended to harvest - at \$25,000 to \$30,000 and expects erosion repair and ecological rehabilitation to reach into the thousands of dollars.



Dutch Fork wrestler doesn't let autism hold him back, 1B



Hammond defeats Keenan 68-60 in MLK Bash, 1B

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The State

KING DAY AT THE DOME

Presidential-race rivals rev up SC King Day rally



A crowd joins South Carolina civil rights groups as they march to the State House for the annual King Day at the Dome rally Monday.

Democrats Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, Martin O'Malley and Willie Wilson speak

Annual Martin Luther King Day rally draws about 2,000

"All children can learn no matter where they live, who their parents are, their situation in life," S.C. schools chief tells MLK breakfast

BY JAMIE SELF AND CASSE COPE
jself@thestate.com; ccope@thestate.com

Democratic presidential candidates and a focus on education drew throngs to a cold but clear King Day at the Dome Monday in Columbia, the first rally since the Confederate flag was removed from the State House grounds.

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley joined marchers who walked from a prayer service at the AME Zion Church to the State House rally, which drew about 2,000, state public-safety officials said. Democratic frontrunner Hillary Clinton noted the occasion

was momentous. "That flag always belonged in a museum, not at the State House," the former secretary of state said of the Confederate flag that flew nearby until last summer.

"I want to thank (S.C.) Gov. (Nikki) Haley and the Legislature for finally taking it down," Clinton said. "We couldn't celebrate (slain civil rights leader) Martin Luther King Jr. and the Confederacy. We had to choose, and South Carolina finally made the right choice."

The event was a chance for the Democratic candidates, including Chicago businessman Willie Wilson, to appeal to African-American S.C. voters, who make up more than half of the

ONLINE

thestate.com: A video and more pictures from Monday's King Day at the Dome rally

MORE INSIDE

What would Martin Luther King Jr. think of the US now? 1C

state's Democratic primary voters.

The candidates also touched on the theme of Monday's King Day: Education.

Clinton tied education to gun violence, including the slaying of nine African-Americans in a

SEE KING DAY, 7A



USC RECRUITING STAYING CLOSE TO HOME

RNE linebacker T.J. Brunson commits to Gamecocks after weekend visit, 1B



LOCAL 'WAIT AND HOPE'

Devine Street eyesore will remain reminder of October flood until new flood-plain maps go into effect later this year, 3A



USC MEN BACK ON THE ROAD

Frank Martin's Gamecocks will try to keep sharpshooter Stefan

Carson seeks campaign spark as he meets SC voters



Shorter days may lead to eating more **4B**

The Beaufort Gazette

TUESDAY, January 19, 2016

beaufortgazette.com

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REMEMBERING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

'WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?'

Beaufort service calls attention to lingering issues of violence, poverty

By STEPHEN FASTENAU • sfastenau@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8182

Work remains to continue Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of fighting injustice, violence and poverty, Beaufort leaders and residents said Monday.

Beaufort Mayor Billy Keyserling used the city's Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration to call attention to one of the city's most historic neighborhoods — characterized of late for its violence and large percentage of vacant homes. The Northwest Quadrant needs a new name, fresh signs and a public effort in restoring dignity to an area afflicted by gun violence and the dilapidated properties of heirs who can't afford to maintain them, Keyserling said.

"I know the answers are going to come," Keyserling said. "I know this year we're going to do more than we've talked about year after year after year."

He delivered the comments at a service recognizing King at USC Beaufort Performing Arts Center. The service followed an annual parade through downtown.

The events were part of a county-wide celebration. On Hilton Head Island, King was remembered with a march at Hilton Head Island High School followed by a memorial service. Bluffton held a memorial service at Town Hall followed by a march and a cookout at Oyster Factory Park.

Beaufort's parade included vehicles with King's picture taped to the sides. Others walked with signs reading "Let freedom ring" and "Racism hurts everyone."

Bladen Street resident Jabari Moketsi pointed out another sign: "Social justice means jobs that pay a living wage." Moketsi



JAY KARR • Staff photo

Daysha Green, 11, of Yemassee, carries a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. during the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day memorial walk and parade through Old Town Bluffton on Monday. The parade, part of Bluffton's 31st Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, was preceded by a memorial service at town hall and followed by a cookout at Oyster Factory Park.

MORE ONLINE

AT THE STATEHOUSE

Rally shifts focus since Confederate flag removed

By JEFFREY COLLINS
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — For the first time in 17 years, civil rights leaders marched to the South Carolina Statehouse to pay homage to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Only this year, the Confederate flag wasn't there casting a long shadow over them.

The rebel banner was taken down over the summer after police said a young white man shot nine black church members to death during a Bible study in Charleston. Following the massacre at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley reversed course and made it a priority for lawmakers to pass legislation to remove the flag. "Isn't this a great day? It's so nice to be standing here and not looking at that flag," said Ezell Pittman, who attended most of the King Day anti-flag rallies since they started in 2000. "I always had faith it would come down. I hate it took what it did but was real happy to see it go."

Across the country, the 30th anniversary of the holiday to honor the civil rights leader assassinated in 1968 was remembered in different ways. In Michigan, people delivered bottled water to residents of Flint amid the city's drinking water crisis. In Atlanta, an overflow crowd listened to the nation's housing secretary talk about the 50th anniversary of King's visit to Chicago to launch a campaign for fair housing. In Minnesota, a rally against police brutality was planned.

South Carolina NAACP President Lonnie Randolph said the flag's removal was tangible evidence the state cares about civil rights when pushed hard enough. But he warned there would be other fights ahead.

"I promise you, the people that gather in this building — your building — will do something this year to cause us to return to ensure freedom, justice and equality is made possible for all people," Randolph said, motioning toward the capitol behind him.



GLENN FREY DIES; EAGLES CO-FOUNDER

INSIDE, C2



PANTHERS' OFFENSE IN HIGH GEAR

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Tuesday, January 19, 2016



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 36°/17° 42°/28° 47°/36°
 Complete forecast, B6

MLK DAY

With flag gone, rally shifts focus

By Jeffrey Collins
The Associated Press

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Across the country, the 30th anniversary of the holiday to



Attendees hold a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. during the King Day at the Dome event Monday in Columbia. RAINIER EHRHARDT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEE MLK, A6

SPORTS



Morris earns award for third time

The honors keep piling up for Logan Morris. The Spartanburg Christian Academy senior has been named the state's Gatorade Runner of the Year for the third time in her career. B1

UPSTATE

Back home for Unity Celebration

Vicky Free was thrilled to be home Monday evening as she stood before hundreds of community members and delivered the keynote address at the 29th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration. Free, an executive vice president of marketing and chief marketing officer for BET Networks, is a Spartanburg native. C1

New restaurant coming downtown

Local businesswomen Denise Mehl and Elaine Hoffman have leased the former Sandwich Factory space downtown and will open their French-themed creperie Chez Madeleine in early March. C1

NATION/WORLD



Military releases

WOODRUFF PRAYER VIGIL

Community shows support for missing Marine



The search continues for a Woodruff man who is among the 12 Marines missing after two helicopters crashed off Hawaii on Thursday. Sgt. Jeffrey A. Sempler, 22, is a 2011 graduate of Woodruff High School. On Monday, in front of Woodruff City Hall, supporters gathered to offer comfort to the Marine's family. Jeremy Beauvier, a Woodruff police officer, center, is Sempler's father. PHOTOS BY ALEX HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SHJ.COM

Sgt. Jeffrey A. Sempler

"I wish I could tell the whole world what a

DAY OF SERVICE

Volunteers lend helping hands on MLK holiday

Community projects reflect on serving others

By Alyssa Mulliger
alyssa.mulliger@shj.com

Converse College freshman Reagan Barnard spent her Monday morning with Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network adding small bottles of shampoo and conditioner to hygiene kits for Spartanburg County's homeless population.

At the opposite end of the room, R. P. Dawkins sixth-grader Kyler Bailey added other toiletries before placing kits into drawstring backpacks at the hospitality network (SPIHN) office.

"I'm just volunteering to help out the community," Bailey said.

Across town, Jennifer Barksdale, a senior at Converse College, joined classmates to

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Morning News

TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Plenty of sunshine, but colder. High 40, low 19. DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

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South Florence High volleyball coach dies in I-95 accident

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

CLARENDON COUNTY — South Florence High School's varsity volleyball coach was killed Sunday evening after she

was thrown into Lake Marion when her vehicle was struck by a car on Interstate 95, officials say.

Michelle Hickson, 38, of Florence, was found dead in the lake near the Clarendon and Orangeburg County line, officials said. South Carolina Highway Patrol

Cpl. Sonny Collins said Hickson was involved in a crash on the Lake Marion bridge near mile marker 100. Her vehicle was stopped when a second car passing the crash scene struck Hickson's vehicle, resulting in Hickson falling from the bridge.

Collins said Hickson's vehicle did not go into the water, and it's unclear whether she was directly hit by another vehicle or her own. No charges have been filed at this time.

The incident remains under investigation by the South Caro-

lina Highway Patrol, the Department of Natural Resources and the Clarendon County Coroner's Office.

The Morning News and SCNow.com is gathering more information about this incident.

Fire Safety

Groups to install smoke detectors

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO
Morning News
jimbo@florencenews.com

DARLINGTON — The Darlington City Fire Department and the American Red Cross are teaming up to provide hundreds of smoke detectors to a neighborhood in southeast Darlington starting Saturday, Jan. 23.

The fire department will post flyers on doors of homes within the neighborhood on Tuesday, Jan. 19 so residents who need detectors can call and schedule an installation appointment. The Red Cross will also be providing educational materials to residents about fire safety and detector maintenance.

The neighborhood the detectors will be installed in has seen two people die in house fires over the past couple of years, the incidents happening just a few hundred yards from one another. The most recent death occurred Jan. 10. Fire Chief

See DETECTOR, Page 5A

Fire officials warn public of carbon monoxide

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO
Morning News
jimbo@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — With temperatures dropping as winter continues, Pee Dee fire officials urge the community to be cautious of carbon monoxide poisoning when using gener-

MLK JR. DAY



People filled the streets during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day march on Monday in Florence.

PHOTOS BY JOSHUA LLOYD/MORNING NEWS

Hundreds march in Florence

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Despite near-freezing temperatures, hundreds of people turned out Monday morning in Florence to march in honor of civil

rights icon Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Marchers gathered at Monumental Baptist Church before marching down Oakland Avenue, across the Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge and into downtown for a brief program at the Francis Marion University

Performing Arts Center.

Some marchers carried signs that read "Keep the Dream Alive" and "I Have A Dream Too" and "Black Lives Matter," while others sang "We Shall Overcome" or Stevie Wonder's rendition of "Happy Birthday." Florence City Councilman

Ed Robinson, who has organized the march for the past 17 years, said the vision Dr. King had more than half a century ago remains relevant today.

"Over the past few years, we've seen so much turmoil

See MARCH, Page 3A

Pastor addresses race relations at Darlington MLK event

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com



DARLINGTON — Race relations in America, both past and present, and the future of black Americans were the focus of the Rev. Michelle Law-Gordon's keynote address Monday at St. James United Methodist Church's 30th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. memorial

the audience.

Her 17-year-old nephew's stabbing death several years ago has led her to talk about how too many black men "disappear" from civic life, referencing an April 20, 2015 article in The New York Times titled "1.5 million missing black men."

"There are only 83 black men living outside of jail for every 100 black women," she said, "in strik-

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Tuesday, January 12, 2016

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Rep. Tom Rice in Cheraw

U.S. Rep. Tom Rice will be in Cheraw today for Coffee with your Congressman. Rep. Rice will be at Mary's Restaurant, which is located at 134 Market St., from 10 a.m. to noon.

Coach Johnny White steps down

LEIGHTON BELL
Staff Reporter

Cheraw head football coach Johnny White has announced he will not be returning for the 2016 season.

White led the Braves for 16 years, making it to the playoffs 14 times and advancing to at least the third round in 12 of those seasons.

"I would like to thank Coach Johnny White for his service and commitment to our football program and athletic department at Cheraw High School for the past 32 years," said Cheraw athletic director David Byrd. "Coach White has represented

Cheraw High with great dignity and respect of which our school, town and community can be extremely proud."

Over the past 32 years, White has served as a math teacher, assistant football coach, head junior varsity football coach and head varsity football coach. He will continue to serve as a math teacher at Cheraw High.

"The success of the football program that he developed over his 16 years as the head coach at Cheraw High speaks for itself," said Byrd. "The championships won and the players developed throughout the years who played at the collegiate and professional



Photo/Ken Buck

level are both testaments to his leadership. These suc-

cesses have brought a lot of pride to our school, town and surrounding community."

During his head coaching career, White compiled an overall record of 134 wins and 71 losses, which represents the second most wins in school history. He also accumulated eight region titles.

White led Cheraw to six upper or lower state championship games, as well as a school-record four consecutive state title game appearances from 2004 until 2007, winning back-to-back state championships in 2006 and 2007. During his time as an assistant coach, he coached in two more state championship

games, winning the title in 1993.

White has won many coaching awards, including eight Region Coach of the Year Awards, two State Coach of the Year Awards, and served as assistant coach of the Shrine Bowl and North-South Football Classic all-star games. Overall, during his tenure as head football coach, 15 players went on to play collegiate football, and two of his players made it to the National Football League.

Prior to his successful stint as head football coach, White served as head junior varsity coach and assistant coach

Hall of Fame Coach Burney Bourne. He also coached junior varsity basketball for several years with considerable success.

Cheraw High School Principal Jason R. Bryant credited White with mentoring young people to successes both on and off the field.

"Coach White represents the highest standard of coaching in our profession," says Bryant. "His professionalism goes well beyond the football field and motivates everyone around him to be better people. His coaching record and accomplishments are incredible and represent his commitment to excellence."

Chesterfield prepares for rally

JOAN YATES
Editor

Last Thursday Chesterfield Town Council received town clerk Betty Lynn Watson's report that the town is halfway through its fiscal year, and overall each department is running at about 50 percent of its budget. While some departments are over or under budget a little, the difference is consistent with where each one should be at this point in the year.

Council entertained a second reading of Ordinance 2015-7, the FEMA flood mitigation program, and passed it unanimously. By law, the town must have the ordinance on the books in order for any property owner to buy flood insurance in the town.

In other business, council heard a presentation from Ashley Shiwerski of Utility Service Partners Inc. about the programs they offer and agreed to look further into the service.

Council also heard a presentation from Chesterfield Police Chief Eric Hewitt about the Sandblast Rally. The rally will have its Par-



Joan Yates/Editor

Ashley Shiwerski of Utility Service Partners Inc. addressed Chesterfield Town Council last week about the programs the company offers.

Exposed in downtown Chesterfield Friday evening, March 4, where spectators can view the rally vehicles and meet the drivers. Then the race will begin in Chesterfield on Saturday, March 5, as it has in the past. Neither event will require any street closings.

In further business, council approved matching up to \$20,000 in order to apply for a

historic preservation fund grant. One of the requirements of applying for the grant is for the town to provide these matching funds.

Meeting in executive session, council agreed to approve a contract to work with planning contractor Rodney S. Tucker of Hartsville to update the town's comprehensive plan.

Davis terminated for false reports

JOAN YATES
Editor

Lance Cpl. Leslie Davis of the S.C. Highway Patrol was terminated Jan. 11 in accordance with the agency's disciplinary policy for failure to provide truthful and complete information, according to a statement from the Communications Office for the S.C. Department of Public Safety.

Davis served in Troop 4, Post D, which encompasses Chesterfield and Lancaster counties. He was a trooper with the highway patrol from January 2006 until his termination.

Prior to his termination, Davis was one of three officers named in a wrongful death lawsuit filed in November 2012 by the family of David Watson. The lawsuit claims Davis and the other officers made false ac-

cusations against Watson when Watson was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol June 2 of the same year. Watson was dismissed from his position with the Cheraw Police Department the day after his arrest and committed suicide a few weeks later.

The S.C. Highway Patrol and local law enforcement won't comment on Davis' termination due to pending litigation.

Cheraw Council discusses Sandblast, lighting

JOAN YATES
Editor

At its Jan. 12 meeting Cheraw Town Council reappointed Anthony Harris as town attorney and J.A. Graves as town judge for another two years.

Andrew Frick with the 2016 Sandblast Rally addressed council, reminding everyone the rally will be held March 5 and saying he expects around 100 entries this year in the car and dirt bike divisions. Frick also raised the question of adequate lodging, saying participants would rather stay in town than travel to other cities.

NAACP President Steevenson Pierre thanked the mayor and council for keeping his organization informed on the many projects going on and said he looks forward to continuing to work with council.

Council member Jacques



Joan Yates/Editor

Andrew Frick addresses council about the Sandblast Rally, which will be held March 5.

support and encouragement people provided the NAACP and marchers in the Journey for Justice in the fall.

In other business, council approved first reading of an ordinance changing the dates

ing it from November to the first regular meeting in January following the election. Council also voted to deny Jimmy Thompson's request to de-annex properties he owns on S.C. Highway 9.

Mt. Croghan tackles trash

JOAN YATES
Editor

Mt. Croghan Mayor Kevin Griggs and re-elected town council members Jesse Jordan, Susan Jordan, Lisa Johnson and Lillie Mae Gordon were sworn into office at a council meeting Jan. 4. Jesse Jordan was elected Mayor Pro Tempore.

Council agreed to continue working on the town's pavilion and picnic shelter, with the goal of completing the project this year.

Council also set dates for several upcoming events. A Valentine's dance will be



Joan Yates/Editor

The first of Mt. Croghan's community cleanups will be March 21-26.

with a DJ and karaoke. The "entry fee" is to bring a finger food to share. The town will provide beverages at this non-

"This is the first Valentine's dance the town has ever had, and we're all excited about



Shorter days may lead to eating more **4B**

THE ISLAND PACKET

TUESDAY, January 19, 2016



Hilton Head Island • Bluffton

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REMEMBERING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

'WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?'

Beaufort County services call attention to lingering issues of violence, poverty

By STEPHEN FASTENAU • sfastenau@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8182

Work remains to continue Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of fighting injustice, violence and poverty, Beaufort leaders and residents said Monday.

Beaufort Mayor Billy Keyserling used the city's Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration to call attention to one of the city's most historic neighborhoods — characterized of late for its violence and large percentage of vacant homes. The Northwest Quadrant needs a new name, fresh signs and a public effort in restoring dignity to an area afflicted by gun violence and the dilapidated properties of heirs who can't afford to maintain them, Keyserling said.

"I know the answers are going to come," Keyserling said. "I know this year we're going to do more than we've talked about year after year after year."

He delivered the comments at a service recognizing King at USC Beaufort Performing Arts Center. The service followed an annual parade through downtown.

The events were part of a county-wide celebration. On Hilton Head Island, King was remembered with a march at Hilton Head Island High School followed by a memorial service. Bluffton held a memorial service at Town Hall followed by a march and a cookout at Oyster Factory Park.

Beaufort's parade included vehicles with King's picture taped to the sides. Others walked with signs reading "Let freedom ring" and "Racism hurts everyone."

Bladen Street resident Jabari Moketsi pointed out another sign: "Social justice means jobs that pay a living wage." Moketsi



JAY KARR • Staff photo

Daysya Green, 11, of Yemassee, carries a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. during the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day memorial walk and parade through Old Town Bluffton on Monday. The parade, part of Bluffton's 31st Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, was preceded by a memorial service at town hall and followed by a cookout at Oyster Factory Park.

MORE ONLINE

AT THE STATEHOUSE

Rally shifts focus since Confederate flag removed

By JEFFREY COLLINS
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — For the first time in 17 years, civil rights leaders marched to the South Carolina Statehouse to pay homage to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Only this year, the Confederate flag wasn't there casting a long shadow over them.

The rebel banner was taken down over the summer after police said a young white man shot nine black church members to death during a Bible study in Charleston. Following the massacre at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley reversed course and made it a priority for lawmakers to pass legislation to remove the flag.

"Isn't this a great day? It's so nice to be standing here and not looking at that flag," said Ezell Pittman, who attended most of the King Day anti-flag rallies since they started in 2000. "I always had faith it would come down. I hate it took what it did but was real happy to see it go."

Across the country, the 30th anniversary of the holiday to honor the civil rights leader assassinated in 1968 was remembered in different ways. In Michigan, people delivered bottled water to residents of Flint amid the city's drinking water crisis. In Atlanta, an overflow crowd listened to the nation's housing secretary talk about the 50th anniversary of King's visit to Chicago to launch a campaign for fair housing. In Minnesota, a rally against police brutality was planned.

South Carolina NAACP President Lonnie Randolph said the flag's removal was tangible evidence the state cares about civil rights when pushed hard enough. But he warned there would be other fights ahead.

"I promise you, the people that gather in this building — your building — will do something this year to cause us to return to ensure freedom, justice and equality is made possible for all people," Randolph said, motioning toward the capitol behind him.

Brian Symmes

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