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WEATHER, A14

WARM AND PLEASANT
 Temperate and sunny today; partly cloudy and mild tonight
HIGH 79, LOW 57

DEATHS, A12

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
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| Joseph L. Nelson Sr. | James B. Benjamin |
| Cheryl B. Forsman | Fred Jones |
| Raymond D. Guyette | Joseph Doughty Sr. |
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| Maggie H. Benenhaley | |

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Homeland Security spotted at residence

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
 adrienne@theitem.com

U.S. Homeland Security personnel were seen at a residence in the west side of Sumter County last week, *The Sumter Item* has confirmed.

Though no arrests resulted that day, the newspaper received an

email from a resident of the Wintergreen subdivision stating other neighbors posted on social media they saw a possible federal agent and law enforcement vehicles at the home on Oct. 26. The resident who wrote the Facebook posts described officers taking items from the home on Oleander Drive and detaining a woman when she arrived home that

evening. The woman who sent the email said the Facebook posts were later taken down after law enforcement — she did not state which agency — requested the page administrator remove them.

Bryan Cox, southern region communications director with U.S.

SEE **HOMELAND SECURITY**, PAGE A13

Video gamers get varsity treatment



PHOTOS BY MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

University of South Carolina Sumter student Kadrin Pack focuses on the video game "Overwatch" during a practice session Thursday in the USC Sumter eSports Arena. Pack is a member of the college's eSports varsity team.

USC Sumter team, in its 3rd year, still growing

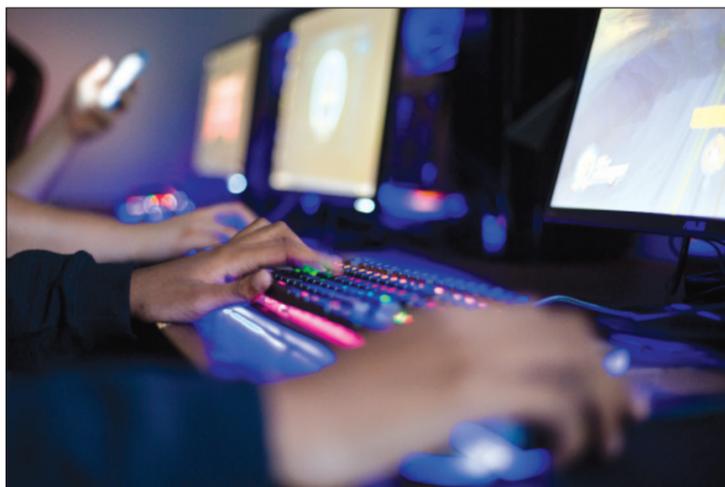
BY BRUCE MILLS
 bruce@theitem.com

It's the biggest sport you may have never heard of.

Colleges and universities across the U.S. have teams for the sport that is not played on a field or in a gym. Players don't even touch an actual ball or racket.

While most of the about 50 schools that participate have teams organized in unofficial clubs, University of South Carolina Sumter's varsity team was among one of the first groups to join what has become a digital craze.

Varsity eSports teams, or organized competitive video gaming, have coaches, recruit players, use a dedicated facility to play and practice in,



USC Sumter eSports Team Coach Kris Weissmann said student gamers learn the value of teamwork and competition and build hand-eye coordination through the program.

SEE **ESPORTS**, PAGE A13

District hosts breakfast for community leaders

BY BRUCE MILLS
 bruce@theitem.com

"We can be great, if we work together."

That was the overall message presented by Sumter School District Interim Superintendent Debbie Hamm and other community leaders Friday during the inaugural Leaders for Learning Partnership Breakfast hosted by the school district.

About 130 business, education, government and faith-based leaders attended the event held at First Church of the Nazarene on Patriot



BRUCE MILLS / THE SUMTER ITEM

Dennis Turner, left, chairman of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee, talks with Cynthia Graham, Sumter School District's director of literacy programs, on Friday at the Leaders for Learning Partnership Breakfast.

SEE **DISTRICT**, PAGE A13

2010 robbery still unsolved

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
 adrienne@theitem.com

As *The Sumter Item's* cold case series continues, the types of unsolved crimes examined

will venture from murder mysteries and missing person cases to include unsolved incidents of a different category,

such as a robbery.

Shortly after 10 p.m. on Oct. 14, 2010, two suspects allegedly approached an employee of a

SEE **COLD CASE**, PAGE A13



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LOCAL & NATIONAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Volunteers needed to prepare tax returns

Sumter AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program is in need of volunteers to assist in preparing tax returns for low- to moderate-income taxpayers. This program is provided free of charge to eligible taxpayers.

No experience is needed; training will be provided. The demand for the AARP tax aide program increases each year, and because of both growth and attrition, new volunteers are needed each year. Volunteers of all ages are welcome and do not need to be members of AARP.

In addition to tax preparation, many other volunteer opportunities are available.

Once trained, volunteers are asked to commit a minimum of four hours per week over the 10-week tax filing season.

To learn more or volunteer, visit www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaide or contact Lula King at (803) 316-0772 or Henry Dinkins at (803) 651-7361.

Vets invited to NEEDS Stand Down on Monday

Veterans in need are invited to the NEEDS Stand Down at the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday.

Sponsored by Voluntary Services at Dorn, veterans with ID cards can get information on benefits and suicide prevention and can get flu immunizations and other items.

Limit one visit per veteran.

For more information, call Voluntary Services at Dorn at (803) 776-4000, extension 6780.

OB-GYN's office flooded with calls from men

ALTOONA, Pa. — A Pennsylvania gynecologist says she has been inundated with calls from men trying to set up appointments after hearing she was permitted to prescribe medical marijuana.

Dr. Liang Bartkowiak tells the *Altoona Mirror* she was mentioned in the media as being eligible to certify medical marijuana users, and then her office phone started ringing off the hook. It was primarily men on the line.

Bartkowiak tells the newspaper she was shocked, since she's an OB-GYN who treats women exclusively.

A 2016 state law gives people under a doctor's care access to medical marijuana if they suffer from an illness on a list of 17 qualifying conditions.

The law permits pills, oils, vapor or liquid marijuana but not marijuana in plant form.

Doctors must certify the illness, and patients must obtain an identification card from the Health Department.

Help Manning High class experience what some folks take for granted

BY SHARRON HALEY

Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — Attending a live theater performance, dinner ordered off a menu in a nice restaurant or visiting an indoor mall are all activities that many folks take for granted, but for many youngsters living in Clarendon County, that is not the case.

"I teach at a school where all of my students receive a free breakfast and a free lunch," said Tracy Weeks, a teacher at Clarendon School District 2's Manning High School. "Many of my students have never ventured outside of Clarendon County. They've never slept in a motel. They've never eaten at a restaurant where you order from a menu. It's not because they don't want to do all those things. Their parents can't afford to pay for those things or buy the gas to travel there."

Weeks teaches special-needs students with disabilities ranging from autism to intellectual disability-moderate and intellectual disability-severe. She also supervises an additional 70 special-needs students within the school.

"My students face many obstacles on a daily basis," she said. "None of those obstacles are things they can control. They

'They've never eaten at a restaurant where you order from a menu.'

TRACY WEEKS

 Manning High School
special-needs teacher

deserve the opportunity to experience activities that other students take for granted."

Weeks would like to broaden her students' horizons with a trip to Pirates of the Carolinas on Dec. 17. The students will get to enjoy a live "swash-buckling" show in Myrtle Beach with a four-course dinner, aerial acrobats, sing-a-longs, a sea lion show and a battle that takes place on a full-sized pirate ship that's located in a 15-foot indoor lagoon.

"This trip could be the trip of a lifetime for my students," Weeks said. "The trip would also be a learning trip where I hope to spark their enthusiasm for learning by getting them to try new things while taking a trip outside of Clarendon County."

Just this week, Weeks said she learned that the bus they planned on using for the trip would not be available, so now she'll need to add the cost of a charter bus to the trip's bottom line.

"That's another \$900 or more," she said. "These students could learn so much from this trip and not just educationally, but socially as well. Seeing the smiles on their faces as they experience these new things will be worth the trip."

Before needing a bus for the trip, Weeks' budget was \$1,110, of which only \$353 has been raised through DonorsChoose.org, a website where teachers who need funding for classrooms or events can solicit donations.

"If the trip isn't 100 percent funded, we get nothing," Weeks said. "No trip means no new experiences for these students."

Ahoy, all mates! Scrounge through those wallets, purses, even couches for hidden treasure or doubloons. Send your bounty to DonorsChoose.org by logging onto the website DonorsChoose.org and typing in Manning High School in Manning. Scroll down to "Arrrrggghhh, Mates! Let's learn about the Pirates of the Carolinas!" and then make your donation. It's that easy to help these students experience the trip of a lifetime.



PHOTO PROVIDED

First Citizens Bank presented a \$15,000 grant to Clarendon Hall for construction of the Saints Wellness Center at the Wednesday chapel service for students. From left, front row: First Citizens Senior Vice President and South Midlands Market Manager Matthew Way, First Citizens Vice President and Financial Sales Manager Elaine Elmore, First Citizens S.C. East Area Executive Assistant Tessa Corbett and Clarendon Hall Board Members Tripp James and Travis McIntosh. From left, second row: Clarendon Hall Varsity Football Head Coach Mike Corbett, Clarendon Hall Land Trust Chairman John Ducworth, Clarendon Hall board members Brian Corbett, Emily Robinson-Bair, Whitney Phillips, Ray Elliott and Bridget Wells, and Clarendon Hall Athletic Director Richie Way.

Clarendon Hall receives \$15,000 grant from First Citizens Bank

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Clarendon Hall received a \$15,000 grant on Wednesday from First Citizens Bank for construction of the Saints Wellness Center. The facility will be next to the Clarendon Hall Gym and will promote strength training and wellness for all students, not just athletes, according to a news release.

The building, at 1140 S. Duke St. in Summerton, will house a weight room and training center with treadmill and elliptical machines.

"This has been a longtime need, and our students are excited about having a facility dedicated to physical fitness," Headmaster Phillip Rizzo said.

Mike Wolfe, South Carolina east area executive for First Citizens Bank, said he hopes the facility can be an inspiration for children to reach their highest potential.

"These students are our future, and we applaud the school's efforts to provide a quality education, encourage a healthy lifestyle and prepare students

to make successful life choices," he said.

Clarendon Hall, an independent co-educational school for kindergarten 3-year-olds through 12th grade, launched a capital campaign to raise the funds needed for construction, the release said. Because Clarendon Hall is a nonprofit organization, all contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information, call the school office at (803) 485-3550 or visit the website at www.clarendonhall.net.

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Teams learn about our city's namesake



The Sumter Item's archivist, Sammy Way, points out details on the statue of Thomas Sumter outside the Sumter County Courthouse to members of the USC Sumter softball and women's golf teams Wednesday afternoon during a historical tour of downtown.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

U.S. hiring jumps as employers add 261K jobs

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers added a solid 261,000 jobs in October in a bounce-back from the hurricanes that slammed the Southeast in September.

The unemployment rate declined to 4.1 percent, the lowest in nearly 17 years, from 4.2 percent in September, the Labor Department said Friday. But the drop in the rate occurred mostly because many people stopped looking for work and so were no longer counted as unemployed.

October's burst of hiring largely reflects a rebound from the hurricanes that temporarily depressed job gains in September. But it also shows that for all their fury, the storms didn't knock the economy or the job market off course. Over the past three months, job growth has averaged 162,000, similar to the pace of hiring before the hurricanes.

"Hiring got a boost from the post-hurricane rebound, but the underlying trend remained steady," said Jed Kolko, chief economist at Indeed, a job-search website.

In part because of the durability of the job market, the

Federal Reserve is likely on track to raise its short-term interest rate in December. That could lead to slightly higher mortgage rates and other borrowing costs over time.

At the same time, Republicans in Congress proposed tax cuts Thursday that they say would fuel faster economic growth and job gains. That might be hard to achieve with unemployment already so low. Many employers already complain that they can't find the workers they need.

Because the tax proposals would also swell the budget deficit by \$1.5 trillion over a decade, the tax cuts might also be temporary. Tax experts generally say that permanent tax cuts are more likely to bolster the economy than are tax cuts that expire.

When the Penn Wharton Budget Model examined a similar plan, it found that tax cuts would increase economic growth by 0.13 percent annually for a decade. That is a far cry from President Trump's claims that he could lift annual growth by a full percentage point on a sustained basis.

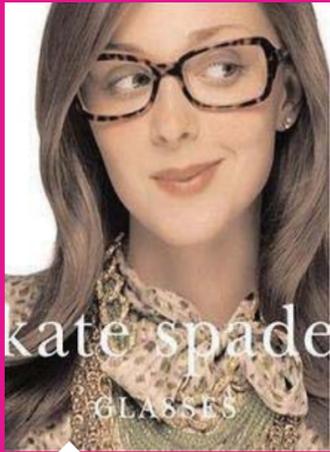
The proportion of adults who

are either working or looking for work fell last month to 62.7 percent, slightly lower than a year ago. That drop suggests that there aren't many people on the sidelines who want jobs.

Despite a shortfall of workers, average hourly pay rose just 2.4 percent from a year

ago, nearly one-half percentage point lower than September's annual gain. That figure might have been distorted by the storms: Many lower-paid workers at restaurants and bars returned to work last month, and their influx could have depressed overall pay.

Still, the figure illustrates a chronic shortcoming of the economy: Even as the unemployment rate has reached a nearly two-decade low, employers haven't yet been forced to offer significantly higher wages to attract or retain workers.





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'Homegrown' sounds fill opera house

On Thursday, Palmetto Health Tuomey presented "Homegrown" at the Sumter Opera House. The event, a fundraiser for the Sounds of Grace music ministry, featured local musicians to raise money for the upkeep of instruments, transportation and other essentials to enable the volunteer musicians to continue playing for those whose need for peace might not otherwise be met. Kipper Ackerman, harpist and vocalist who founded the ministry, said its mission is to bring peace and healing through music by placing musicians in classrooms and hospitals for those with special needs and in other settings where comfort is needed.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS MOORE / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM



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PANORAMA

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Fine art, fine food, fine music

Gallery event features painting of renowned artist Phillip Mullen

BY IVY MOORE
Special to The Sumter Item

The Sumter County Gallery of Art will present a gala cocktail party celebrating the art of renowned South Carolina and international artist Phillip Mullen. "A Winter Garden Party, Exhibition and Fine Art Raffle," while centered on Mullen's donation of an original painting to the gallery for an auction fundraiser, comprises many other elements to enhance what Randa Carole DuBose calls "an amazing evening."

DuBose, chairwoman of the gala committee, said guests at the Thursday fundraiser will enjoy a "one-time only, exciting event."

"The party grew out of Mullen's painting 'Libby's Vase,' which he donated to the gallery because of his admiration of its exhibition space, its programs and its service to the community," DuBose said. "This is an opportunity we jumped at."

The plan for the party was shaped as an elegant garden party with many facets by DuBose and her committee comprising Randa Edmunds, Sue Fienning, Carolyn Buckner, SCGA curator Cole Miller and SCGA director Karen Watson. These facets, Watson pointed out, will appeal to guests' senses.

DuBose said Chef Crawford Pressley of Loosh Culinaire Fine Catering in Columbia will offer a cocktail menu of shrimp tempura, seared duck breast, glazed roasted vegetables, short rib sliders and macaroons. Many will remember the elegant, gourmet meals Pressley prepared for Sumter Wine-Fest a few years back.

Cocktails will be mixed in the Ackerman Gallery by Twist Bartending of Lexington, and music will be provided by the USC Jazz Quartet.

In addition, DuBose said, "The Columbia Chapter of Ikebana International will choose one of Mullen's paintings as inspiration for several floral arrangements that will be placed in the gallery for the evening."

Watson said Mullen will be present for the gala, which will culminate with a raffle drawing for Mullen's 2008 painting, "Libby's Vase," valued at about \$5,000.

"Your ticket to the event doubles as



PHOTO PROVIDED

"Libby's Vase," a 2008 painting by celebrated South Carolina artist Phillip Mullen, will be raffled Thursday evening during A Winter Garden Party, Exhibition and Raffle at the Sumter County Gallery of Art. The 7-to-10 p.m. cocktail party will also feature an exhibition of Mullen's paintings, gourmet food, live jazz and more. Mullen will be present for the event that raises money for the gallery.

your raffle ticket," DuBose said, adding that the floral Ikebana arrangements will also be raffled. "No additional purchase is necessary for those either."

She added that Mullen's "Libby's Vase" is "accessible to everyone, not just the seasoned art lover. It's a beautiful painting."

Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Art at the University of South Carolina, Mullen has had his work featured in numerous prestigious exhibitions, among them the Biennial of Contemporary Art, Whitney Museum, New York, New York's Simon Guggenheim Museum, Biennial of Painting and Sculpture, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, National Drawing Exhibition; San Francisco Museum of Art, 21st National Print Exhibition; The Brooklyn Museum; a 35-Year Retrospective, McKissick Museum, Columbia (1995), and a Permanent Solo Exhibition, Koger Center for the Arts, Columbia. His work is in several important museum collections including Brooklyn Museum, The Guggenheim Museum, Denver Art Museum, Mint Museum, Smithsonian Institute and many others.

Watson said that, as with the gallery's regular exhibitions, A Winter Garden Party is made possible by community partners. For "this elegant evening," she thanked Wells Fargo Advisors, Carolina Geriatric Specialists, Reliable Medical Equipment, NBSC/Synovus, Galloway & Moseley Fine Jewelers, Anne and Mack Kolb, Dr. DeAnne and Elielson Messias, Sarah and Archie Parnell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fienning and Elizabeth McLeod Britton, (with) special thanks to Gary's Florist for providing the floral centerpiece."

Admission to Thursday's 7-to-10 p.m. A Winter Garden Party, Exhibition and Fine Art Raffle at the Sumter County Gallery of Art, 200 Hasell St., is \$75 in advance, \$100 at the door, if any tickets remain. Purchase tickets by calling the gallery at (803) 775-0543. All tickets are will-call at the door. Dress is cocktail attire.

Admission during regular gallery hours, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, is free to the public. For more information, call (803) 775-0543, or visit <https://sumtergallery.com>.

PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT:

- Sumter County Gallery of Art's art education programs for children and adults, the seven-week summer art camp, which serves hundreds of children
- The SCGA Art Education Scholarship Fund that provides creative instruction and activities to children who could not otherwise participate
- Partnership with M.H. Newton Family Life Center's HYPE (Helping Youth Pursue Excellence) afterschool program for at-risk youth in South Sumter, now in its 10th year. SCGA provides art instruction and materials at four sites in the community, including two HOPE centers
- SCGA participation in the Iris Festival, Fall For The Arts and Festival on the Avenue in South Sumter, offering free art activities for children
- Partnership with Covenant Place Continuing Care Community to provide three exhibits a year for the residents and the public
- Free admission to the gallery

Spiky mystery plant resembles dinosaur eggs

BY JOHN NELSON
Curator, USC Herbarium

When I was a kid I was very interested in dinosaurs. I had plenty of plastic dinosaur toys, too, but this was way back before "accurate" versions of dinosaurs, whether on screen or in toy form. One of my creatures was the "ankylosaurus," modeled after a squat, toad-like animal with a weird, club-shaped tail, an animal that lived 70 million years ago, and was about the size of a VW Beetle. (Although a vegetarian, this particular dinosaur would probably not have made a very good pet unless you had a really big backyard and didn't mind your azaleas being chewed up.) Now this was an armored dinosaur, and its body was pretty much covered with thick, pointed spikes. It makes you wonder: Do they ever find spiky dinosaur eggs?

Our mystery plant looks like it could be some kind of

dinosaur egg, complete with spikes. (When you think about it, though, it wouldn't make much sense for any kinds of eggs to be covered with spikes or spines. That probably wouldn't go over too well with whatever kind of animal was laying them.)

This is a fruit that has gained popularity in American markets. It is a native of tropical Africa, and is grown now commercially in California. It's a close relative of the common cucumber and thus is a member of the plant family "Cucurbitaceae," which also gives us pumpkins, watermelons, gourds and zucchini. As are just about all of the members of the cucumber family, our spiky fruit comes from an annual plant, one that grows very quickly once sprouted and makes a vigorous vine. It likes to climb with its tendrils and can cover up a trellis in no time. The flowers are either male or female (like a cucumber). The fruits devel-



PHOTO PROVIDED

This mystery plant looks like it could be some kind of dinosaur egg, complete with spikes.

op from the ovary of the female flower, starting out green, but as they ripen, turning a wonderful shade of yellow-orange. Inside the ripe fruit there are lots and lots of seeds, all surrounded by a green pulp. This pulp is quite

juicy, and after straining, and augmentation with some considerable amount of sugar, renders a fruity drink, which tastes, to some, like a mixture of banana and citrus. However, this is one of those fruits that may demand some time

learning to enjoy: Some find the pulp bitter and quite disagreeable. Tasty or not, the pulp is full of vitamin C.

Seeds are available, and the plants are easy to grow. They would be great for a child's garden. Just give the vines plenty of sunlight, water and room for growing. If you don't want to eat the fruits, they make great table decorations for the holidays. Or, you could scoop out the insides and use the shells for little bowls. Fun for the whole family.

Answer: "Horned melon," "Kiwano," *Cucumis metuliferus*

John Nelson is the curator of the A.C. Moore Herbarium at the University of South Carolina, in the Department of Biological Sciences, Columbia SC 29208. As a public service, the Herbarium offers free plant identifications. For more information, visit www.herbarium.org or call (803) 777-8196, or email nelson@sc.edu.

ENGAGEMENT

Smith-DaSilva

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beasley Smith of Sumter announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine Lewis Smith of Charlotte, to William Brooks DaSilva of Charlotte, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Paul Brandel of Greenville and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Mario Hale DaSilva of Columbia.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Speed Williams of Sumter, formerly of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, and Mrs. Edward Lewis Smith and the late Mr. Smith of Whiteville, North Carolina. She graduated from Wilson Hall in

2009 and Wofford College in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a minor in Business. She is employed as a relationship manager with Wells Fargo Middle Market Banking in Charlotte.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of the late Mrs. Sarah McNeeley Mills and the late Dr. and Mrs. Ercia Mario DaSilva, all of Columbia. He graduated from Hammond School in 2009 and Wofford College in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Finance and a minor in Business. He is employed as a sales officer with BB&T Government Fi-



MISS SMITH

nance in Charlotte. The wedding is planned for Jan. 27, 2018, at First Presbyterian Church in Sumter.

ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, BIRTH AND ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Engagement, wedding, birth and wedding anniversaries (25th, 50th and above) of local interest are published on Sundays free of charge. The deadline is noon on the preceding Monday. Deadlines vary during holiday weeks.

Forms may be obtained at The Sumter Item, 36 W. Liberty St., or downloaded from www.theitem.com. Click on the drop down arrow next to the Lifestyle tab on the navigation bar of the website.

When filling out form, please type or print all information, paying particular attention to names. Do not print in all capital letters.

Photographs must be vertical and of reproduction quality and must be received by the Monday noon deadline.

Email wedding and engagement forms and photos to brides@theitem.com. For additional information, call (803) 774-1264. Email birth and wedding anniversary forms and photos to sandra@theitem.com. For additional information, call (803) 774-1226.

EDUCATION NEWS

Morris College

BUSINESS WEEK

Morris College will hold Business Week Monday through Friday. The week will feature several events geared toward the business community including a featured speaker on Thursday. Ann August, interim director of Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority, will speak in the Neal-Jones Auditorium at 10 a.m.

COLLEGE DAY

Joshua Baptist Church will observe Morris College Day on Sunday, Nov. 12, at 10 a.m. Interim President Dr. Leroy Stagers will bring updates and greetings. He will be accompanied by the Morris College Chorale.

MORRIS COLLEGE BASKETBALL

The Lady and Men Hornets will take on Concordia College on Wednesday at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. respectively in the Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center.

The Men Hornets will take on Columbia International University on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center.

SPRING SEMESTER ENROLLMENT

Spring semester enrollment is underway. Prospective students can contact the Office of Admission and Records at (803) 934-3225. — *Anika Cobb*

Sumter School District

BREAKFAST HELD

Sumter School District held its first ever Leaders for Learning Partnership Breakfast on Friday morning. Business, civic, government and faith-based leaders enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by the Sumter School District Food Services Department while learning about the district.

Interim Superintendent Debra W. Hamm addressed the audience regarding the then, now and future of Sumter School District. She addressed the fiscal issues of the past while talking about some of the programs in the schools now that are preparing our students to be college and career ready. She talked about her goal to exceed the community's expectations.

Hamm asked the audience to imagine a future where every student achieves success in whatever path he or she has chosen. She aspires to the building of a technical high school that offers advanced professional studies in high-demand career areas that puts us on the national map as a place to emulate. She talked of a future that nurtures the many varied gifts children bring to our schools and of exceptional magnet schools that will cause more people to want to live and work in Sumter. She mentioned many other opportunities for the future that are real possibilities with the help and support of the community.

Following the address by Hamm, principals and other district leaders led roundtable discussions, brainstorming ideas and suggestions from the assembled leaders.

Entertainment was provided by the Sumter High School orchestra ensemble and the Lakewood High School chorus.

The event was held at the First Church of the Nazarene on Patriot Parkway; the district appreciated the hospitality of the Rev. Gregg Pressley and his staff for all their assistance.

Thompson was the presenting sponsor for the event, and Sumter Economic Development and USC Sumter were supporting sponsors. Co-hosts for the event included the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber Military Affairs and the education committees, Sumter city and county councils, the mayor, members of the legislative delegation including Sen. Thomas McElveen and Reps. Murrell Smith and J. David Weeks, Central Carolina Technical College, Sumter Economic Development/TheLINK, USC Sumter, Morris College, Sumter Concerned Clergy and Sumter Ministerial Association, Thompson Construction Group and Duke Progress Energy.

EATON MAKES GENEROUS DONATION

The Sumter Education Foundation recently purchased 2,990 books for classroom libraries at Kingsbury Elementary School. The purchase was the result of a generous grant from Eaton, a Commercial Distribution Products and Assemblies Division's facility in Sumter. The books were distributed by a team from Eaton to each classroom teacher.

"The Profile of the South Carolina Graduate aims for students to develop world-class skills of critical thinking, communication and knowing how to learn. The earliest step toward that goal requires that young students have access to books that open up a world of information and knowledge," said Jonnell Atkins, Kingsbury Elementary School Reading Coach. "The donation of more than 2,900 informational texts to our elementary classrooms will have a tremendous impact as we prepare our students to be college and career ready."

VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY

All Sumter School District schools and the district office will be closed on Friday, Nov. 10, in honor of Veterans Day. — *Mary B. Sheridan*

Thomas Sumter Academy

STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Thomas Sumter Academy had another great week here on "The Hill." TSA had an opportunity to recognize our elementary students with awards during our first Recognition Rally of the year. Awards included:

Head of School Honors (all grades 95 and above): Autumn Crockett; Landon McLellan; Sebastian O'Connor; Lela Reilly; Alannah Schrank; Liam Smith; Bella Stephenson; Alexis Wolf; Emily Arnold; Sadie Long; Riya Patel; Jaydon Ray; Skylar Spilker; Juli Tupper; Anna Bell; Ben Kessinger; Reese Distelzweig; Diya Patel; and Trenton Spilker

Faculty Honors (grades 87 and above): Cassidee Boyd; Grayson Sosbee; John Amick; Stella Lindler; Riley Lohr; Janvie Patel; Braeden Stevens; Madison Wolf; Julian Wooten; Jackson Boykin; Abigail Harken; Abby Hodge; Whiteleigh Langston; Landon West; Riley Carnes; Kira Davis; Trey O'Bradovich; Peyton Triplett; Colby O'Connell; Paisley Hill; Boone Hitch; Emma Jackson; Emily Lindler; Jack McGary; Sophia Miranda; Madison Morrow; Amy Spivey; Taelor



PHOTO PROVIDED

Thomas Sumter Academy participated in the South Carolina Middle School Math Meet and performed well.

Stevens; Annabelle Broman; Sadie Cox; Layden Moore; Will Morris; Mikayla Razor; Ronia Sanders; Sydnie Shaffer; Payton Sosbee; Tyler Walton; Reed Dollard; Mary Elise Drakeford; Olivia Drakeford; John Morgan; Brynna Nedderman; Alex Phillips; Christian Razor; Molleigh Ross; Brandon Marshall; Blake O'Bradovich; and Hope O'Bradovich

Most improved in grades: Ayla Zolinski; Sam Isler; Omnaa Patel; and Madeline Newton

Citizenship: first grade — Stella Lindler and Alannah Schrank; second grade — Ashlynn Singleton and Shawn Lasica; third grade — Boone Hitch and Emmy Hurley; fourth grade — Brayden Finan and Lucy Gore; and fifth grade — Wes Carter and Luke Wyrick

Physical Education Award: first grade — Riley Lohr and Stella Lindler; second grade — Colby O'Connell and Shawn Lasica; third grade — Jack McGary and Paisley Hill; fourth grade — Omnaa Patel and Paisley Newman; and fifth grade — Reed Dollard and Jack Burke

Accelerated reader: first grade — Lela Reilly and Alexis Wolf; second grade — Riya Patel and Jaydon Ray; third grade — Taelor Stevens and Emily Lindler; fourth grade — Anna Bell and Benjamin Kessinger; and fifth grade — Taryn McBrayer and Tanner Stiles.

Elementary Spanish Awards: first grade — Stella Lindler and Lela Reilly; second grade — Jaydon Ray and Eden Stokes; third grade — Madison Morrow and Peyton Broman; fourth grade — Benjamin Kessinger and Annabelle Broman; and fifth grade — Taryn McBrayer and Hope O'Bradovich. — *Dr. F.L. Martin III*

Wilson Hall

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Meg Greene and Cooper Wilson received the 25th-annual Distinguished Alumni Awards at a special presentation on Spencer Field during half-time of the varsity football game. Fred Moulton, headmaster, and William Croft, chairman of the board of trustees, presented the awards on Oct. 27. Greene, a 2005 graduate, is an editorial and desktop publisher and freelance designer who lives in New York City and works for the United Nations in the Documents Division. She previously worked for the U.S. Supreme Court as a composition specialist and for the U.S. Library of Congress as a visual information specialist. Greene graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Graphic Communications from Clemson University and will graduate in May with a Master of Science in Publishing from New York University. She serves as an NYU Grad Student Council representa-

tive and as the NYU Publishing Association vice president. Greene received the NYU President's Service Award in recognition of her volunteer work, and she is a member of the New York Women in Communications. Wilson, a 2000 graduate, is a litigator for the McLeod Law Group in Charleston. He has been named a Rising Star by S.C. Super Lawyers since 2013, and he co-authored The Law of Automobile Insurance in S.C., Seventh Edition. Wilson is a member of the James L. Pettigru Inn of Court, an organization comprised of judges, lawyers and law students from the 9th Judicial Circuit. He attended Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia and graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in History and the University of South Carolina School of Law with a Juris Doctor. Wilson serves on the board of directors for the Special Olympics of S.C., and he has been named the Star of the Quarter by the South Carolina Young Lawyers Division several times for his volunteer efforts with this group.

FIFTH GRADE VISITS WASHINGTON

Filling three chartered buses, the 65 fifth-grade students and their chaperones, led by the trip's coordinator, Charles Smith, departed for the 36th-annual Washington, D.C., area trip on Oct. 22. The group spent two full days sight-seeing in the city and the surrounding area, visiting such points of interest as the Capitol, White House, Library of Congress, Arlington National Cemetery and National Cathedral, as well as the Holocaust Museum, Embassy Row, Kennedy Center for Performing Arts and National Archives. They also visited the Smithsonian's Air and Space, Natural History and American History Museums. An evening tour of the city included the illuminated Lincoln, Jefferson and Roosevelt memorials, as well as the Iwo Jima, Korean War and Vietnam War memorials. They also toured Mt. Vernon and its educational center. The group spent a day at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia and visited Jamestown Festival Park before returning home on Oct. 26. As an assignment in conjunction with their U.S. History unit of their social studies class taught by Frances James, the students will give a Power Point presentation about their trip.

FOURTH-GRADE SERVICE

As part of the My Community and Me program, fourth-grade students and their teachers, Tammie Amick, Laura Brogdon and Louise Dixon, visited five Sumter community organizations on Oct. 27. During the visits, students also delivered donated items to these agencies that help others who are in need. The students donated canned food to Christian Charities, Emmanuel Soup Kitchen and United Ministries, clothing to The Crisis Closet and toiletry items to Samaritan House.

FIELD TRIPS

The 4-year-old preschool classes, taught by Pat Dew, Cathy Hanzlik, Frankie Moore and Angie Sistare, visited the Sumter Opera House on Oct. 25 to see the play "Pete the Cat" which is part of the Matinee Series. On Oct. 27, the 4-year-old preschool classes visited the Covenant Place as a community service project. — *Sean Hoskins*

SEE EDUCATION, PAGE A7

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Central Carolina Technical College

SPRING SEMESTER REGISTRATION

Register now for spring semester at CCTC. Classes start Jan. 16, 2018. For more information on enrollment, visit cctech.edu/how-to-enroll-5-easy-steps/ and to view the classes offered visit cctech.edu/academics/class-schedule-search/.

DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

On Oct. 28, several students enrolled in CCTC's Pharmacy Technician Program participated in a National Prescription Drug Take Back Day at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Hosted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the event allowed the public to turn in unused or expired medication for safe disposal. The students reviewed more than 155 prescriptions and counted more than 4,000 items. The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

CHRISTMAS TREE DONATIONS NEEDED

Central Carolina Technical College is starting a new tradition. The college will be displaying Christmas trees for two weeks in December. The trees will be on display for public viewing and voting. If you have a gently used, artificial Christmas tree that you would like to donate, contact Cathy Wood, director of public relations, at (803) 778-6602 or woodcm@cctech.edu for drop-off directions. — *Catherine M. Wood*

Clarendon School District 2

MANNING EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

The 2017-18 mentor program at Manning Early Childhood Center has begun and is roaring right along. Volunteers from across Clarendon County have begun to pour in, offering their time and compassion to students in need of a little more TLC during the school day.

"We realize that a strong village is necessary in order to effectively educate our students," Manning Early Childhood Center Principal Otis Reed said. "Thankfully, our village consists of educators and a concerned community, creating a partnership to maintain a positive learning environment promoting support for our students' academic, social and emotional well being."

Volunteer mentors have three different options available to them at MECC: classroom mentor, individual student mentor or lunch bunch mentor. A classroom mentor helps with small groups or the entire class in various capacities. An individual student mentor works one on one with a student in or out of the classroom to provide academic assistance, support and encouragement. A lunch bunch mentor reads to or with an individual student during the lunch period. All volunteers are asked to commit to at least one day per week for 30 minutes to ensure consistency.

MECC is fortunate to have a community filled with people who are able to volunteer their time to work with students and to share their interests and skills with them. For community volunteers like Marie Land, there are benefits for both the students and the volunteers in the experience.

"I enjoy working with the children, getting to know them and providing some enrichment programs," Land said. "Since I help in their reading groups, it is amazing to observe how much they learn and how well they read by the end of the year. I have gained much, and I have been so enriched by working with the students. Best of all, it is a lot of fun!"

Reed, who ran a successful mentoring program at Manning Primary School during his tenure there, has very high hopes for the program at MECC too.

"I envision our mentoring program as a pathway for our students to gain access to positive role models with whom positive relationships can foster a student-centered and goal-oriented environment which will aid in the success of the entire Manning Early Childhood Center community," Reed said.

Reed, along with the faculty and staff of Manning Early Childhood Center, are grateful to everyone who volunteers their time and other resources to help make every child count.

For more information or to become a volunteer mentor at MECC, contact Briana Whitaker, school counselor, at (803) 473-4744. — *Briana G. Whitaker*

Sumter Christian School

HANDWRITING CONTEST

First and second grade completed their first weekly handwriting contest on Oct. 26. The two classes will be competing each week with their schoolwork to encourage better penmanship, and a changing panel of high school students will evaluate them to determine the class winner



Second-graders at Sumter Christian School get to keep the "super pencil" for winning the handwriting contest on Oct. 26.

and individual winner. The individual winners for the first week were first-grader Mason Gant and second-grader Saydee Force. Because second grade won the contest overall, they got to keep the "super pencil" as their trophy for the week.

English students in grades six through 12 are polishing up their best original poems for the Scholastic Publishing Poetry Contest. With an emphasis on originality, creativity and authenticity in this contest, students are encouraged to try to achieve a complete poem anywhere between two and 20 lines long that represents their imaginations, concerns, aspirations and true selves. Of course, there is always an incentive in addition to learning to write good poetry: first place in each division will receive \$500, and cash prizes for entering range from \$25 to \$150. — *Miriam Marritt*

Lee County School District

BISHOPVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Students at Bishopville Primary School were honored Sept. 29 for displaying "Outstanding Character." The character award recognizes students who display good character on a consistent basis and serve as student role models. Students were nominated by their teachers. Each honoree received a certificate signed by Principal Lamont Moore.

Bishopville Primary School held its annual Parent University on Sept. 29. Participants enjoyed breakfast and a presentation from Moore, who shared the importance and the need for cooperation between home and school to ensure all students are successful.

The school's administrative team honored students for September based upon their outstanding achievements in academics and their excellent behavior. The students were treated to ice cream by Moore.

Teachers at Bishopville Primary School participated in Professional Learning Communities Oct. 9-13. The teachers collaborated on strategies to enhance student academic performance and shared common academic goals. A professional learning community is a group of educators that meet regularly, share expertise and work collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students.

Students at Bishopville Primary School participated in a Keyboarding Zoo on Sept. 9-13 during computer lab class. Keyboarding Zoo is a fun and educational activity to help elementary students learn the keyboard.

LOWER LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Lower Lee Elementary School's fourth-grade classes are preparing to ace the upcoming benchmark tests. Fourth-grade teachers Teresa Harris and Jean Moore have been reviewing lessons with students and discussing various standards and testing strategies.

Music is in the atmosphere. Billie Williamson's music classes are making progress on playing the soprano recorder, xylophone, drum and piano. Fifth-grade students Yi'dayja Baker, Kemyra Dennis and Elijah Handy are enjoying learning to play their instruments. Hats off to fourth-grade student Maurice Miles for mastering the song, "Hot Cross Buns" on the recorder. Williamson is looking forward to showcasing her students' progress and hard work at the District's Holiday Concert.

Juakina Abraham's third-grade girls are having fun creating rhythms that incorporate their names.

Wanda Frederick's first-grade class is studying short and long rhythms.

Second- and fourth-grade students at Lower Lee Elementary School are learning about the weather. On Oct. 12, the students enjoyed a presentation on weather from Von Gaskin, meteorologist with WIS-10 News.

Lusann Jones and Gwendolyn Frederick's 4K students are having fun exploring their new learning community. The students are engaged in social interactions and class and group discussions. The students are also utilizing interactive read-alouds to assist them with reading. James Simon and Ma'Lajah Lloyd are emerging readers in the class. James and Ma'Lajah can

read simple stories and follow story events using illustrations.

Beauty Veney's and Capreshia McCall's kindergarten students are working on number recognition. In English and language arts, the students are working on letter sounds and capital and lowercase letters. The students learned about rules and community workers in social studies. Science class opened up a whole new world for the students as they studied living and nonliving things.

The importance of education and a cohesive team are being emphasized in the media center. The theme is centered on baseball. Tiffany Lancaster, media assistant, said "Education is like a baseball game. We need all of our players: parents, teachers, students and community members." Lancaster encourages all students to read a minimum of 30 minutes each day.

Principal Shelia Stukes rewarded good citizens for September with a pizza party. The teachers selected students who consistently demonstrated the three Rs: Ready, Respectful and Responsible. Lower Lee Elementary School would like to extend a big "bear hug" to Allechia Hooks, MaKayla Fleming, Kaiden Durant, Kailey Primes, Jordan Wilson, My Keria McDowell, Tealyx Kendell, Keivon Hopkins, Angelique Mundy, Jaedyn Spann, Makiya Lowery, Maciah Wilson and Kobe Shaw.

WEST LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

West Lee Elementary School hosted Family Literacy Night on Oct. 3. Families had an opportunity to explore how learning to read and write begins and how it should be supported at home.

"Grits for Grandparents" was held on Sept. 15. Grandparents enjoyed breakfast with the students and mingled with the faculty and staff. Principal Damon Officer was pleased with the outcome of the event.

LEE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lee Central Middle School is committed to student success through the implementation of the AVID Program. AVID is an elective class offered to eighth-grade students who would like to prepare for four-year colleges and universities. Students must have satisfactory citizenship, good attendance and a GPA. of 2.0 or higher. Students must be motivated to work toward college eligibility. AVID coordinator and eighth-grade math teacher Devetter Bradley is excited about her new role as well as the benefits the program will bring to the students.

Lee Central Middle School's football team had a successful season. The team ended the season with a 4-2 record. The team is led by head coach David Williams and assistant coaches Cedric McDuffie and John Couser.

Von Gaskin, a meteorologist with WIS-10 since 2010, visited the school on Oct. 12. Gaskin spoke with the entire sixth-grade class. Kedrick Lusk, sixth-grade science teacher, said Gaskin's visit was an extension activity to support the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards unit on the Earth's atmosphere and weather.

LEE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



Lee Central High School Homecoming King and Queen for 2017 are Tasia Canty and Donte Moses.

Seniors at Lee Central High School participated in College Application Day on Oct. 20. The students had the

opportunity to meet with various college and university representatives and recruiters. Lee Central High School Principal Baron Turner was pleased with the number of students who participated in the event.

The school celebrated homecoming Oct. 9-13. The theme was "Blast from the Past." Students, faculty and staff had a blast participating in Spirit Week. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Central High School were crowned at the coronation ceremony on Oct. 12. The annual homecoming parade took place on Oct. 13. The parade featured marching bands from Timmonsville High School, Crestwood High School and Savannah State University.

Lee Central High School Homecoming and Coronation Winners are: homecoming king, Donte Moses; homecoming queen, Tasia Canty; first runner-up homecoming king, Kaquan Simon; first attendant homecoming queen, Arteria Cooley; second runner-up homecoming king, Allen McMillian; second attendant homecoming queen, Quaneisha Wright; Mr. LCHS, Demetrius DuBose; Miss LCHS, Tionne Slater; first runner-up Mr. LCHS, Deontae Lowery; first attendant Miss LCHS, Beyounce Cooper; second runner-up, Mr. LCHS D'Angelo McQuillar; and second attendant Miss LCHS, Dway-Leeka Dickey.

DISTRICT OFFICE

Lee County School District is excited to implement technology in all classrooms for the 2017-18 school year with the rollout of Chromebooks to all students.

Chromebooks are small, basic laptops that connect to the internet using Google Chrome's operating system. The district's elementary schools, Bishopville Primary School, Lower Lee Elementary School and West Lee Elementary School, were the first to receive the innovative technology. Lower Lee Elementary School's fourth-grade students are becoming more knowledgeable each day using their Chromebooks. They have completed assignments in Google Classroom and have created documents using the Google Docs platform.

Lee Central Middle School received their Chromebooks Oct. 16-20.

Lee Central High School will receive its new technology devices soon. The district's technology team is diligently working to ensure that all students have Chromebooks before Nov. 20.

Special thanks to director of operations James Vance Jones, network technician Duane Robinson, instructional technology coach Pierre Brown and instructional technology specialist Tonette Jones for leading the Chromebook rollout. — *Shaunta McKenzie*

CAMPUS CORNER

NEWBERRY COLLEGE

NEWBERRY — **Orlandria McCray of Sumter** has been selected to serve as a Newberry College student ambassador for the 2017-18 academic year.

Student ambassadors support the Office of Admission, which is responsible for recruiting new students and guiding them through the enrollment process.

As a student ambassador, McCray is responsible for leading campus tours for prospective students, working with prospective students and families during open house events and hosting prospective students as overnight guests during the college's Accepted Student Experience event. Ambassadors also provide administrative support for department projects and other recruitment efforts.

Devin Blackwell of Manning has been selected to serve as a Newberry College Alpha Leader for the fall class of incoming first-year students. The Alpha Leader program is a peer mentoring initiative designed to help incoming first-year students make a smooth transition to college life.

Alpha Leaders are specially trained to connect with first-year students and help facilitate the process of building relationships and forming connections to campus. Each Alpha Leader is assigned a small "pack" of students who they mentor throughout Newberry's new student orientation, known as Wolf Pack Welcome and Howl Effect, a series of skill-building activities and social events that run from move-in day to the start of classes.

Alpha Leaders serve as role models and introduce students to campus resources.

COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

CONWAY — Ten student musicians with Coastal Carolina University's Saxophone Ensemble and Low Brass Ensemble presented an annual fall concert Oct. 17 in the Edwards Recital Hall.

Musicians included Clinton Patton and Brandon Vaughn, both music majors from Sumter.

Polygamous group slowly loses influence in hometown

BY BRADY MCCOMBS
Associated Press

HILDALE, Utah — In a place where political contests are virtually unknown, the campaign signs offer the latest hint that a polygamous group is losing its grip on this remote red rock community straddling the Utah-Arizona border.

"For Hildale mayor vote Donia," reads one sign featuring Donia Jessop, a candidate pictured with a contemporary hairstyle and a red business suit.

The signs hanging from fences and walls are unusual because elections here have long been decided behind the scenes by the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, a Mormon offshoot that has made its home among the rocks for more than a century and hand-picked men to run unopposed.

Just five years ago, Jessop was a member of the group also known as the FLDS. She wore the sect's traditional prairie dresses and her hair in a conservative up-do. Now she is among a swelling number of former members who have returned to buy foreclosed homes, open businesses and try to turn Hildale into a place that resembles a typical Western town, not a cloistered religious community.

The competitive elections scheduled for Tuesday could deal a crushing blow to traditionalists if the 367 registered voters elect Jessop and the non-FLDS candidates for two city council seats. It would be another in a series of recent changes to shake up Hildale and its sister city, Colorado City, Arizona, which have a combined population of nearly 7,800.

The government-ordered evictions of sect families from nearly 150 homes forced many members to seek refuge in trailers around town or in different cities across the West. The town governments and the police are being watched closely by court-appointed monitors after a jury found them guilty of civil rights violations. And a food-stamp fraud case led 10 people to plead guilty and exacerbated a leadership void.

Jessop and other former sect members hail the changes as long-overdue progress that will help the community break free from the reign of sect leader Warren Jeffs, who is serving life in prison in Texas for sexually assaulting underage girls he considered brides.

"The things that were happening in the church were so destructive. And now that destruction can stop, and we can start to rebuild," Jessop said. "This city is completely at a



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Young girls play together in Colorado City, Arizona. The community on the Utah-Arizona border has been home for more than a century to a polygamous sect that is an offshoot of mainstream Mormonism.

standstill until we change the city government."

But FLDS members think the town they built is being destroyed. Norma Richter, a 50-year-old mother of 13 kids, said the changes overtaking the town feel like a "cultural cleansing," echoing a common refrain among church members and sympathizers.

At the heart of the split is Jeffs, who has been jailed in Utah or Texas continually since 2006.

His followers consider him a prophet and believe he was the victim of religious persecution based on fabricated allegations. Former sect members and outsiders consider him a dangerous man who tore apart families and committed sex crimes.

Jeffs is "a very sick man" who controls the people through "fear of not making it to the highest celestial kingdom of glory," Jessop said. She

notes that it was he and other leaders who set the evictions in motion more than a decade ago when they opted not to challenge in court allegations of mismanagement of the church trust, leading Utah and Arizona governments to take it over.

His supporters are steadfast in their beliefs. Jeffs "still is the only man on this earth that can receive revelation from heavenly father for the people," FLDS member Lori Barlow said. "That's a pretty important link to me."

Authorities say Jeffs still sends some guidance from prison, but Richter says followers have not heard his voice for years and that it's unclear who is in charge of the church locally.

One of Jeffs' brothers, Lyle Jeffs, ran the day-to-day operations until last year, when he was arrested in the food-stamp case. He fled home confine-

ment while awaiting trial and was captured in South Dakota after a year on the run. He faces up to five years in prison.

Amid the leadership void, and with so few people left in town, followers no longer meet for regular worship services, Richter said. Marriages that are arranged by the religion's prophet are on hold until Jeffs returns, Richter said.

Members of the FLDS think the evictions were accelerated this year to clean out voter rolls and rig the elections to usher in the outside candidates. The evictions stem from an order by a Utah state judge who became fed up with people not paying \$100-a-month occupancy fees.

Sect members refused to pay the fees because they think the money was being used by attorneys overseeing the church trust to take legal action against the FLDS. They also believe the trust should still belong to them.

Across town, many large houses with enough room for plural families stand empty as a community board in charge of the trust works out redistribution of the evicted homes. Others are in disrepair, a result of an edict from Jeffs in the early 2000s, when he ordered a halt to all construction in the Utah-Arizona community to focus on building a compound in Texas.

After seeing so many of her fellow church members evicted, Barlow and her husband want to buy a home but fear they won't find anything suitable in other towns in the region for their five kids and 14 cows.

"Everything I ever needed

was here," Barlow said. "The very idea that I'm looking to buy a house somewhere else is shocking to me."

When authorities recently served an eviction notice at the sect's meetinghouse, Barlow and Richter hugged and cried as they recalled the building's history and all the funerals and services held inside. The trust leaders made a deal to stave off eviction, but it served as more evidence of the sect's waning power.

Other signs of the sect's dwindling presence abound. Public elementary and high schools that reopened several years ago are now bustling with some 500 kids, despite most FLDS families home-schooling their children.

Women and girls in prairie dresses used to be seen all around town — pumping gas, riding horses and chatting. Now they are harder to find. Several new businesses are opening, including a brewery and hotels.

Incumbent Mayor Philip Barlow, a member of the FLDS and lifelong Hildale resident, said people are coping with change by "doing what they have to do." He acknowledges that having a challenger is new but says he will accept whatever the voters decide.

Jessop wants to make the town an accepting place for everyone. She said she would love to rekindle fond memories of growing up there with her two mothers and 25 siblings.

"I would love to see families reunited," she said. "I want them to stay. ... They are my sisters, my brothers, my aunts, cousins, uncles. They are my people."

Faced with the match of his life, COACH NELSON WAS GLAD *we were* ON HIS TEAM.

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Pressure mounts on Apple to live up to iPhone X hype

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE and TALI ARBEL
AP Technology Writers

SAN FRANCISCO — The iPhone X's lush screen, facial-recognition skills and \$1,000 price tag are breaking new ground in Apple's marquee product line.

Now, the much-anticipated device is testing the patience of consumers and investors as demand outstrips suppliers' capacity.

Apple said Thursday that iPhone sales rose 3 percent in the July-September quarter, a period that saw the iPhone 8 and 8 Plus come out in the final weeks. Sales could have been higher if many customers hadn't been waiting for the iPhone X, which came out Friday.

Apple shipped 46.7 million iPhones during the period, according to its fiscal fourth-quarter report released Thursday. That's up from 45.5 million at the same time last year after the iPhone 7 came out but represents a step back from the same time in 2015, when Apple shipped 48 million iPhones during the quarter.

As with recent quarters, one of the main sources of Apple's growth is coming from its services, which are anchored by an app store that feeds the iPhone and other devices.

Revenue in that division surged 34 percent to \$8.5 billion during the July-September period. All told, Apple earned \$10.7 billion on revenue of \$52.6 billion, compared with a \$9 billion profit on revenue of \$46.9 billion a year earlier.

Apple shares were up 2.7 percent in after-hours trading.

Nonetheless, the just-ended quarter largely became an afterthought once Apple decided to release the iPhone X six weeks after the iPhone 8.

"The Super Bowl for Apple is the iPhone X," GBH analyst Daniel Ives said. "That is the potential game changer."

But it also brings a potential stumbling block. While conspiracy theorists might suspect that Apple is artificially reducing supply to generate buzz, analysts say the real reason is that Apple's suppliers so far haven't been able to manufacture the iPhone X quickly enough.

Making the iPhone X is proving to be a challenge because it boasts a color-popping OLED screen, which isn't as readily available as standard LCD displays in other iPhone models. The new iPhone also requires more sophisticated components to power the facial-recognition technology for unlocking the device.

Even with the iPhone X's delayed release, Apple is still struggling to catch up. Apple is now giving delivery times of five to six weeks for those ordering in advance online (limited supplies were available in Apple stores for the formal release Friday). Most analysts are predicting Apple won't be able to catch up with demand until early next year.

The company was optimistic. "As we approach the holi-

day season, we expect it to be our biggest quarter ever," CEO Tim Cook said on an earnings call with analysts Thursday. He added that the company is increasing its iPhone X production capacity every week.

On Thursday, Apple predicted revenue for this quarter from \$84 billion to \$87 billion. Analysts, who have already factored in the supply challenges, expect \$85.2 billion, according to FactSet.

Analysts are expecting Apple to ship 80 million iPhones during the current quarter, which includes the crucial holiday shopping season, according to FactSet. That would be slightly better than the same time last year.

Apple is counting on the iPhone X to drive even higher-than-usual sales during the first nine months of next year — a scenario that might not play out if production problems persist and impatient consumers turn instead to phones from Google or Samsung.

"What Apple needs to do is manage consumer expectations so they don't get frustrated having to wait for so long for a new phone," Ives said.

Analysts think Apple can pull off the juggling act. They are expecting the company to sell 242 million iPhones in the fiscal year ending in September 2018 — the most in the product's history. The previous record was set in 2015



The new iPhone X is displayed in the showroom after the new product announcement at the Steve Jobs Theater on the new Apple campus Sept. 12 in Cupertino, California.

AP FILE PHOTO

when Apple shipped 231 million iPhones, thanks to larger models introduced just before the fiscal year began. By comparison, Apple shipped

nearly 217 million iPhones in its just-completed fiscal 2017.

If Apple falters, investors are likely to dump its stock after driving the shares up by

45 percent so far this year on the expectation that the iPhone X will be the company's biggest hit yet.

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Family, businesses benefit from World Series run

Raffle raises money to repair Texas home

BY JUAN A. LOZANO
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Astros' victorious World Series run has not only given an emotional boost to a city still recovering from Hurricane Harvey. It has provided an economic lift as well.

And for one Houston family, the journey to a championship led to a financial opportunity that will help their grandparents rebuild after the devastating storm.

Brianne Bueno's family had bought two tickets for Game 3 of the World Series in Houston but didn't use them to watch their beloved Astros. Instead, the family raffled them off last week on Facebook and raised enough money to help repair the Houston-area home of Bueno's grandparents.

"During Game 6, I got a text from one of the ladies who purchased a ticket. She put, 'Glad it went well with the raffle. Was bummed to not win the tickets but really hope you guys were able to help out your folks,'" Bueno said. "This is like ... a whole week since the raffle and people are still showing their support for us, which is pretty amazing."

Local businesses saw increased sales, with people spending more money at restaurants, bars and hotels.

"It's obvious more people



This Sept. 16 photo shows the home of Beatrice and Dominique Gerard, which was damaged by flooding during Hurricane Harvey in Angleton, Texas. Brianne Bueno, the Gerards' granddaughter, helped organize a raffle on Facebook in which her family gave away two World Series tickets they had bought in order to raise money to help repair the Gerards' home. The fundraising effort which collected about \$10,000 was one example of the economic boost the Astros' run to a World Series championship provided to local families and businesses in the wake of Harvey.

PHOTO COURTESY BRIANNE BUENO VIA AP

were out on the streets, and more people were out spending money that they wouldn't have spent otherwise," said Patrick Jankowski, regional economist for the Greater Houston Partnership. "It's like a shot in the arm for the city."

He said Houston's economy had been rebounding after bottoming out in August 2016 because of falling oil prices —

and then Harvey hit.

That recovery will likely be delayed about three months because of the hurricane.

Bueno said after Harvey's torrential rainfall in late August flooded her grandparents' home about 44 miles south of Houston in the city of Angleton, her father bought the World Series tickets with the purpose of raffling them off to

raise money. Her grandparents, both 70 years old, lost most of their possessions and now live in the grandfather's small law office.

Bueno said when her father "saw that the tickets for Game 3 were on sale, there was no hesitation for him to buy those and use them for a better purpose rather than fulfilling a desire he had to go to the World

Series himself."

She promoted the \$20-a-ticket raffle on social media as well as in her classes at the University of Houston. One of her professors bought five tickets.

Bueno was surprised so many people found out about the raffle and wanted to buy a ticket. "I didn't expect this reaction honestly," she said.

The tickets were given away on Oct. 26.

With the raffle being a success, having the Astros win the World Series "was definitely the icing on the cake," Bueno said.

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said Harvey highlighted the "can-do spirit" of the city's residents.

"It almost seems as though the greater the challenge, Houstonians see the greater the opportunity," Turner said at a news conference Thursday. "So we meet challenges, and then we turn around and take advantage of the opportunity."

Marcus Davis, owner of The Breakfast Klub, said the popular restaurant's sales slowed down because of Harvey. But business picked up a lot when the Astros started their playoff run. The Breakfast Klub even hosted Dodgers fans who traveled to Texas from Los Angeles.

"It's not that our spirits are dampened. We just wanted to communicate to the world how strong Houston is, and the Astros winning was just symbolism for us," Davis said. "It verified and validated that yes we are strong. We've gone from underwater to the mountain top."

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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Are these the tax changes we want?

My father used to tell me to believe half of what you see and even less of what you hear. When it comes to what people in Washington or in the media have to say about tax policy, that's usually pretty good advice. Now that we have more than a rough sketch of the new GOP tax plan, I decided to dig in and check it out. I'm glad I did.

Since my first days as an attorney, fresh from USC Law, I have worked as an attorney specializing in taxation. I've worked for U.S. corporations doing business around the world, and earlier in my career I worked for the House Ways and Means Committee, where tax law originates. That experience has allowed me to have a bit of a bird's-eye view on this bill, where it comes from and how it might affect families and small businesses all across South Carolina.

There's no question that tax reform is necessary and long overdue. I support tax reform — who doesn't? There are some aspects of the Nov. 2 tax bill that could make sense and carry meaningful benefits. That said, the plan as currently drafted is flawed in several respects, most of which boil down to this: the primary beneficiaries of the proposed changes are big corporations and people who are very, very rich.

Now, some details. **Doubling the standard deduction.** The GOP proposal would double the standard deduction for individuals. Increasing the standard deduction would, if that was the only thing done, reduce taxes for individuals. The child tax credit would also be increased. However, in addition, the GOP bill eliminates personal exemptions and changes tax bracket thresholds. The new GOP individual tax brackets would start at 12 percent (now 10 percent under current law).

It's important to make this point clear: Not everyone's tax bill will be decreased by the GOP tax bill. The combined effect of these changes could cause some folks with a large number of dependents to have a higher tax bill. A lot of folks who could use a break will see their tax bill go up.

Lowering the corporate tax rate and overseas income. The GOP tax plan would cut the statutory tax rate on corporations from 35 percent to 20 percent. That said, the effective (i.e., the real world) tax rate paid by large corporations is much lower than the 35 percent statutory rate already. Even by the reckoning of the GOP, this reduction would add nearly \$1.5 trillion (that's 12 zeroes) to the national debt.

The GOP bill would also change the taxation of overseas corporate income. The many trillions of dollars in untaxed corporate earnings stashed overseas is a real problem that needs to be dealt with. To its credit, this issue has been acknowledged by GOP's plan. The challenge of dealing with income stashed overseas is how to tax it when brought back to the U.S. The GOP plan would impose rates of either 5 percent or 12 percent (depending on the type of overseas income).

We will need to debate whether 5 percent or 12 percent rates of tax are appropriate when compared to the rate such income would otherwise been taxed at a 35 percent rate or the proposed statutory rate of 20 percent. We should be realistic about finding the balance between taxation rates that will result in an influx of new money into our domestic economy and those that are just a giveaway to big multinational corporations.

Non-corporate business income to

be taxed at 25 percent. Instead of being taxed at individual income tax rates, under the GOP plan, business income would be taxed at a 25 percent rate. This would create substantial incentive for those individuals whose income would otherwise be taxed at higher rates on wages to "shoehorn" into the 25 percent non-corporate business tax rate. The IRS has a tough job already. Having to police this would require a massive increase in the size of the IRS bureaucracy if it is to be successfully enforced at all and further complicate our overly complex tax rules.

The Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). The AMT, which the GOP plan would repeal, exists to ensure that the wealthy pay at least something in taxes. It was created after



Archie Parnell

Treasury Secretary Joseph Barr informed the public that 155 wealthy individuals had paid no federal income tax in 1966. This lit a fuse, and public pressure was brought to bear for Congress to fix this. More letters were sent in 1969 to Congress about the "untaxed 155" than about the Vietnam

War. Congress acted and came together to create a minimum tax to prevent wealthy individuals from taking undue advantage of special tax deductions and tax credits to eliminate their federal income tax liability. In short, without the AMT, some ultra-wealthy would pay little or no tax at all.

The same conditions that led to the AMT's enactment still exist today, and President Trump knows this well. We know from President Trump's own 2005 tax return that he would have paid \$31 million less in his 2005 taxes without the AMT. Without the AMT, President Trump's federal income tax rate would have been a bit more than 3 percent, but with it he paid a 25 percent rate.

There is a continuing need for the AMT to ensure the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share. The AMT should be improved, not repealed. First, it should be indexed to inflation so it only applies to the wealthiest Americans — the AMT can now affect non-wealthy families, so that needs to change. Second, even though some of the wealthiest Americans derive their income from dividends and interest, the AMT currently excludes those two categories in its calculation. That also needs to be fixed.

Estate tax. The GOP tax plan would abolish the estate tax entirely by 2024. The fact is, the estate tax is one of the most progressive and least intrusive federal taxes. A 2015 report showed that 99.82 percent of estates owe no taxes at all. IRS data shows only 4,700 estates (or the richest 0.18 percent of all estates) owed any estate tax in 2013.

Contrary to some Democrats, I believe there is merit to reforming the estate tax so that family farms and small family businesses are not hit by the estate tax. Family farms are the bedrock of rural America, and small businesses are the vital threads in the fabric of our national economy. I would support an increase to the estate tax threshold, but it should not be completely repealed. Tax reform should reflect our rural and entrepreneurial values.

Bottom line. We must be vigilant and not let the GOP tax plan be a Trojan horse that appears to help the many when in actuality it primarily benefits the top 1 percent.

The tax code should be an extension of our moral code — it should enable good jobs, secure families and a fair shot at a better future.

Editor's note: Archie Parnell recently announced he will again seek election to the U.S. House District 5 seat in 2018.

Birds that could be harmed by offshore drilling in South Carolina :



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WE SHOULD THANK AND PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS

If God doesn't matter, our flag, our military doesn't matter, what does?

We have thousands of soldiers who gave their lives for our flag and country. They did not have a choice. They were drafted; yet they gave their all, even their lives.

All they have to show for their service is "a Purple Heart and their name on a headstone." They died so we could live beneath "our blanket of freedom," our American flag, a free nation.

We, as a people, should be eternally grateful to every person who wears a uniform. When we disrespect our flag, we disrespect our country, our flag and God, and our soldiers.

They proudly served so our enemies are on foreign soil and not our home front. We are constantly threatened. Our enemies are many. The only thing standing between us and them are our military, our country and, yes, even our flag!

We should be thanking them and praying for God's protection around each one of them. Their lives matter also. They have families, and sometimes they are separated for months at a time. Sometimes longer. Yet, they aren't protesting and marching. They pick up their weapon and protect each and every person that stands beneath our flag of freedom, "Our Red, White and Blue." Long may she live, and long may she fly above our country of freedom and as a country that serves and respects God and all that he stands for.

God has truly blessed America. Now it is time for America to bless God, for we are a thankful and blessed people and "In God We Trust" and depend. For our God is a God of love and unity. A God of peace and prosperity. God was, God is and God will always be our God.

SHERIAN MATTHEWS
Manning

ROGERS WAS OFF BASE ABOUT RELEASING BODY CAMERA VIDEO

Bill Rogers was off base in his column "Transparency is under the rug."

JOHN GAYDOS
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COMMENTARY

Democrats should work with Republicans on tax reform

BY MIKE HUCKABEE

Yesterday, Congressional Republicans unveiled their new tax plan, the first major tax reform since the 1980s. And in response, Congressional Democrats hauled out the same greatest hits they've been replaying since at least the 1980s.

We had Nancy Pelosi wailing the moldy oldie "Tax Cuts For The Rich," and Chuck Schumer and the Nose Glasses with their big smash, "Crushing Burden On The Middle Class." Like any act that's been on the road too long, they can mouth the words in their sleep, and to be honest, that's what a couple of them appeared to be doing.

One problem: The bill doesn't raise taxes on the middle class or give big "giveaways" to the rich (I always love the Democratic mindset that anytime taxpayers get to keep a little more of their own money, it's a "gift" from the government.) It reduces the number of tax brackets from seven to four. A married couple making \$24,000 to \$90,000 will pay a rate of just 12 percent, with rates rising with income to 25 percent, 35 percent and finally 39.6 percent for a

It should be; facts don't matter, viewership does.

His assessment that "in instances of the use of force by police officers, the prompt public release of these videos would go a long way in building public trust of police" is not the problem with public trust.

Even when video is released most times it only complicates the issues. Seeing a video without context or understanding of the law only serves to cause confusion. Who benefits from a confused and enraged public? The media. The release of such videos can also hinder prosecution if it is warranted. Those demanding release of such videos usually have ulterior motives and the truth is rarely one of them.

The real issue is rush to judgment for political or monetary gain. The media is complicit because in several high-profile cases they have been caught manipulating videos and pictures to promote their stories and to stir emotions so the 24-hour news cycle can get more viewers. The media has also been caught promoting outright false narratives that they knew were wrong even before they were aired.

The problem with trust is not caused by not releasing body camera footage. It is caused by a media that hides behind the First Amendment when they knowingly spread false information. I think a fix would be to allow those who have lost their livelihood to such acts to sue media outlets who knowingly concocted false stories or published images/video they manipulated to increase viewership. There is a difference between reporting facts and slander.

Until the media quits publishing propaganda created in house to sell their stories, journalism is dead and trust will not be had because most people can no longer tell fact from fiction. The public's attention span is just long enough to see if they agree or disagree with what was written so they can like it with a thumbs up or hate it with a thumbs down before moving on to the next story.

JOHN GAYDOS
Wedgfield

married couple making over \$1 million.

Will everyone pay less? No, all tax forms are wildly different, and payments will vary depending on where you live and which deductions you take. For instance, a new \$10,000 ceiling on property tax deductions and a \$500,000 limit on mortgage deductions may hurt wealthy and upper-middle-class taxpayers in blue states like New York and California, which have high state taxes and home prices. That's one reason why Democrats might want to knock off the kneejerk opposition and work with Republicans to get some concessions in exchange for support, if posturing for the cameras isn't more important than protecting their constituents.

But on average, it's estimated that a middle class family of four will save \$1,182 a year in taxes. The claim that the plan raises taxes on the middle class is so blatantly false that even the *Washington Post* fact-checker gave it his highest baloney rating of Four Pinocchios.

Editor's note: Mike Huckabee served as Arkansas' governor from 1996 to 2007. He ran for the Republican nomination for president in 2008. He is a contributor to Fox News.

Trump's Asia trip presents a crucial international test

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — On his most grueling and consequential trip abroad, President Trump stands ready to exhort Asian allies and rivals on the need to counter the dangers posed by North Korea's nuclear threat.

The 12-day, five-country trip, the longest Far East itinerary for a president in a generation, comes at a precarious moment for Trump. Just days ago, his former campaign chairman was indicted and another adviser pleaded guilty as part of an investigation into possible collusion between his 2016 campaign and Russian officials.

With Trump set to arrive Sunday in Japan, the trip presents a crucial international test for a president looking to reassure Asian allies worried that his inward-looking "America First" agenda could cede power in the region to China. They also are rattled by his bellicose rhetoric about North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The North's



President Trump, left, welcomes Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe outside the West Wing of the White House in Washington in February. Trump can expect a friendly reception in Japan, his first stop on a five-nation Asia trip that kicks off today.

growing missile arsenal threatens the capitals Trump will visit.

"The trip comes, I would argue, at a very inopportune time for the president. He is under growing domestic vulnerabilities that we all know about, hour to hour," said Jonathan Pollack, a senior fellow at the Brookings Insti-

tution in Washington. "The conjunction of those issues leads to the palpable sense of unease about the potential crisis in Korea."

Trump's spontaneous, and at times reckless, style flies in the face of the generations-old traditions and protocol that govern diplomatic exchanges in Asia. The grand receptions expected for him in Tokyo, Seoul, Beijing and beyond are sure to be lavish attempts to impress the president, who raved about the extravagances shown him on earlier visits to Saudi Arabia and France.

The trip will also put Trump in face-to-face meetings with authoritarian leaders for whom he has expressed admiration. They include China's Xi Jinping, whom Trump has likened to "a king," and the Philippines' Rodrigo Duterte, who has sanctioned the extrajudicial killings of drug dealers.

Trump may also have the chance for a second private audience with Russian President Vladimir Putin, on the sidelines of a summit in Vietnam.

The White House is signaling that Trump will push American economic interests in the region, but the North Korean threat is expected to dominate the trip. One of Trump's two major speeches will come before the National Assembly in Seoul. Fiery threats against the North could resonate differently than they do from the distance of Washington.

Trump will forgo a trip to the Demilitarized Zone, the stark border between North and South Korea. All U.S. presidents except one since Ronald Reagan have visited the DMZ in a sign of solidarity with Seoul. The White House contends that Trump's commitment to South Korea is already crystal clear, as evidenced by his war of words with Kim and his threats to deliver "fire and fury" to North Korea if it does not stop threatening American allies.

MORE TO THE STORY

Read on at www.theitem.com.

OBITUARIES

FLORINE H. WHITE

Florine Hannah White was born on Dec. 20, 1951, in Florence, to the late Josh and Pearlie Bryant Hannah. She was the wife of the late Franklin White Sr.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three sisters, Anna Grace Hannah, Teresa Hannah and Shirley Hannah; and two brothers, Chalmers Hannah and Joseph Hannah.

She departed this life on Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, in Columbia.

She leaves to carry on her memory: five children, Pastor Samantha (Bishop Sylvester) White-Francis, Franklin (Linda) White Jr., Fredrick White, Lashonda (Quin) White and Devon Williams; 16 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; three brothers, the Rev. Ollie (Annie) Hannah, Irvin (Ruby) Hannah and Frank (Jennifer) Williams; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 14 Brand St., Sumter, with the Rev. Larry W. Barnes, pastor, and Bishop Sylvester Francis III, eulogist. The interment will follow at Hillside Memorial Park.

A public viewing will be held from noon to 6 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Online messages of hope can be placed at www.whites-mortuary.net

The family is receiving friends at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Pastor Samantha and Bishop Sylvester Francis, 4200 Christine Drive, Sumter.

Services entrusted to Whites Mortuary LLC of Sumter.

JOSEPH L. NELSON SR.

SUMMERTON — Joseph Louis Nelson Sr., 81, husband of Eliza Oliver Nelson, died on Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, at his residence, 6343 MW Rickenbaker Road, Summerton.

He was born on May 30, 1936, in Summerton, a son of the late Rufus and Judy Lemon Nelson.

Family viewing will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. today and public viewing from 4 to 6 p.m.

Final arrangements will be made by Mitchell Funeral Home, 8080 NW 22nd Ave., Miami.

The family is receiving friends at the residence.

Arrangements made by Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

CHERYL B. FORSMAN

Cheryl Biondy Forsman, 58, beloved wife of the late David Jonathan Forsman, died on Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, at her residence.

Born in Somers Point, New



FORSMAN

Jersey, she was the daughter of Alice Hackett Biondy and the late Marius Biondy. Cheryl was always smiling and had an infectious personality. She loved to travel, especially to Alaska where she and her husband renewed their wedding vows. Cheryl enjoyed a good book but most of all enjoyed being with her family and her German Shepherds. She will be remembered as a very loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Surviving are: one daughter, Stephanie Conover; one brother, Marius Biondy Jr. and his husband, Frank; two grandsons, Kevin Flanagan Jr. and Anthony Farrell; and Dan Forsman and his wife, Terri; one sister-in-law, Peggy Bleyberg and her husband, Derek.

In addition to her father and husband, she was preceded in death by a sister, Melody Conover.

Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the SPCA, 1140 S Guignard Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

You may go to www.bullock-funeralhome.com and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



RAYMOND D. GUYETTE

SUMMERTON — Raymond Dale Guyette, 77, widower of Mildred Virginia Ingram Guyette, died on Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, at his home.

Born on May 1, 1940, in East Tawas, Michigan, he was a son of the late Clifford Francis Guyette and Gladys Margaret Fernette Guyette. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and a member of the DAV.

He is survived by two daughters, Joan E. Chandler (Mike) of Lawtey, Florida, and Cynthia Guyette of Jacksonville, Florida; two stepsons, Larry Pace (Rose) of Palmetto, Florida, and Bob Pace (Karla) of Colorado Springs, Colorado; a stepdaughter, Lois Schmidt of Summerton; a brother, Neil Guyette (Shirley) of Michigan; 13 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m. on Monday at the residence, 3962 Princess Pond Road, Summerton.

Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church St., Manning, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 435-2179. www.stephensfuneralhome.org

LYNWOOD COOPER

Lynwood Cooper, 69, died on Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017, at 300 Kindal St.

Born on Nov. 19, 1947, in Sumter County, he was a son of Henry and Mary Washington Cooper.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home of his sister, Lisa Williams, 7001 Acton Road, Dalzell.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Williams Funeral Home Inc.

MAGGIE H. BENENHALEY

WEDGEFIELD — Maggie Virginia Hood Benenhaley, 76, widow of John Hampton Benenhaley, died on Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017, at her home.

Born on Aug. 16, 1941, in Sumter County, she was a daughter of the late Adam and Corrine Hood. She was a member of Wedgefield Baptist Church and the Sunshine Ladies. She enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Survivors include a son, John "Bubba" Benenhaley (Lisa) of Sumter; a daughter, Patricia "Patti" Barrett of Sumter; four grandchildren, John Fredrick Barrett, Michael Cameron Benenhaley, Matthew Peyton Benenhaley and Joshua Hampton Benenhaley; a sister, Cora Lee Hood of Sumter; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a brother and four sisters.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday at Wedgefield Baptist Church with the Rev. Paul Goff and the Rev. Dr. Eleazer Benenhaley. Burial will be at the church cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Tim Benenhaley, Ronnie Benenhaley, Scott Bolser, Tim McMickell, Jimmy Hood and Raymond Bolser.

Honorary pallbearers will be Mike Hargrove, Darrell Benenhaley, Marvin Benenhaley, Robbie Hood, Larry Hood, Andy Hood, Jimmy Nettles and David Blackwell.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to Wedgefield Baptist Church, 6220 Wedgefield Road, Wedgefield, SC 29168.

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

JUSTINA Y. REYES

Justina Ybarra Reyes, 81, died Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born May 8, 1936, in Las Cruces, New Mexico, she was a daughter of the late Carlos Ybarra and the late Librada Sanchez Ybarra. She retired from the Shaw Air Force Base Housing Department. She was a member of Woodland Church of Christ.

Survivors include: five children, Carol Lynch (Jesse) and Jesse Banilla (Vickie), all of Lewisville, Texas, Carmen Currie (Kenneth L.) of Bishopville, Benny Reyes (Christie) and Irene Evans, all of Sumter; 13 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and siblings, Romana Patino, Eliseo Ybarra, Librada Martinez, Grace Thomas, Amanda Henderson and Armida Clark.

She was preceded in death by a son, Freddie Reyes; and five siblings.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at Plaza Church of Christ with Minis-

ter Arnie Granke officiating. Burial will be in the Sumter Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 5 p.m. today at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home; from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at Plaza Church of Christ; and other times at the home of her sister, 1836 Palomino Circle, Sumter.

Memorials may be made to Woodland Church of Christ, P.O. Box 3171, Sumter, SC 29151-3171.

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

JAMES B. BENJAMIN

MANNING — James B. Benjamin, 72, died Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017, at his residence, 114 Nelson Circle, Manning. He was born Sept. 17, 1945, in Columbia, a son of the late Leroy Shannon and Sarah Ann Benjamin and reared by Sarah Gethers.

The family is receiving friends at the residence.

These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

FRED JONES

Fred "Freddie" Jones was born on Jan. 15, 1946, to the late Lee Jones and Lucille McFadden Jones. He departed this earthly life on Oct. 30, 2017, when God said yes.

Freddie, as he was affectionately known, loved music and playing his bass guitar. His joy was helping different groups. His major groups were the Gospel Jubilees and the Sumter Violinaries. He played for anyone he could help.

He was married to Jerrildine Jefferson Jones. Freddie was retired. During his working career, he was employed with Southern Coating, Georgia Pacific, Kaydon and Carolina Furniture.

He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1963. He furthered his education at Central Carolina Technical College.

Left to cherish his memories are: his wife of 11 years; his sons, Derrick (Carolyn) Jones of Delaware, Andre (Belgin) Jones of Washington state, Tracy (Julia) Jones of Charleston, Kelly (Cornelia) Jones of California, and Tamadi (Oni) Jones of Texas; one sister, Geneva Covington of Sumter; two fathers-in-law, Eddie C. Harvin of Mayesville and Walter McClary of New York; seven sisters-in-law, Shirley (Herbert) Myers, Bettie Harvin, Valorie Harvin, Elsie (Brand) Wells of Mayesville, Darlene Brown of Sumter, and Alice Walker; 12 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, two step children; and a host of nieces, nephews and close friends.

He was preceded in death by four sisters, two brothers and his parents.

Public viewing will be held today from 2 to 6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary.

Mr. Jones will be placed in the church on Monday at 10 a.m. for viewing, until the hour of service.

Funeral service will be held on Monday at 11 a.m. at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center (Westend Community Church), 101. S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with the Rev. Roos-

velt McFadden. Officiating.

Interment will follow in Mt. Sinai Presbyterian Church Cemetery in St. Charles.

Family will be receiving friends at the home, 2150 Ave. C, Mayesville.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at: jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com or visit us on the web at: www.jobsmortuary.net.

JOSEPH DOUGHTY SR.

GEORGETOWN — On Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017, Joseph Doughty Sr., husband of Janie Lee Lindsay Doughty, departed this life at the Prince George Healthcare Facility in Georgetown.

Born on Jan. 5, 1936, in Summerton, he was a son of the late Robert and Mary Magdaline Stukes Doughty.

Memorial services shall take place on Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. from the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses of 4342 Greeleyville Highway, where Brother Edward Ross Sr. will deliver the discourse.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the residence, 51 W. End St., Bellwood Subdivision, Manning.

GEORGE CHAVIS JR.

George Chavis Jr., 85, husband of Patricia Kirven Chavis, died Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born in Charlotte, he was a son of the late George Chavis Sr. and Mattie Lowery Chavis.

Mr. Chavis was retired from Santee Print Works and was a U.S. Army Korean veteran.

Surviving are his wife of Sumter; two sons, Michael Gene Chavis and Randy George Chavis, both of North Carolina; three daughters, Judy Kirpatrick (Johnny), Carol Chavis, and Tina Duncan (Ken), all of North Carolina; one sister, Mae Ramsey of Bennettsville; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; one step-son, David Beck of Sumter; one step-daughter, Amy Meeks (Brian) of Sumter; four step-grandchildren, Brandon Beck, Britany Beck, Samantha Meeks and Jacob Meeks.

He was predeceased by a step-son, George (Buddy) Beck.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday at the Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home and other times at the home, 2052 Columbia Circle.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday in the Chapel of the Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home with the Rev. Bill Tschorn officiating.

Burial will follow in the Chavis Family Cemetery in Bennettsville.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com.

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of the arrangements. 803-775-9386.



Elmore Hill McCreight
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

DISTRICT FROM PAGE A1

Parkway, where Hamm laid out the recent past of the school district, the present and a bright future if various community and school leaders work together to achieve goals.

Hamm emphasized how having high expectations and working to meet and exceed them are critical to building a culture of excellence in any public school district.

A life-long public educator spending most of her career in Richland School District 2 — the last four years as superintendent — Hamm came on board as interim superintendent in Sumter on Aug. 1. She is expected to stay with the district through June 2018, when a new full-time superintendent will likely begin.

Hamm replaced previous Superintendent Frank Baker, who mutually agreed with Sumter School District's Board of Trustees to retire at the end of July, after months of turmoil and challenges following the December release of the 2016 audit report. That audit revealed the district overspent by \$6.2 million that fiscal year and had an ending general fund balance on June 30, 2016, of \$106,449 — a critically low level, according to the district's auditor.

Hamm opened her comments Friday to the assembled leaders by fully acknowledging the district's past shortcomings, but she also emphasized the steps forward the district has already made in recent months and several outstanding academic programs currently in the district.

Some of those steps forward include: the hiring of a new district chief financial officer in Certified Public Accountant Chris Griner; a renewed emphasis on academic achievement spearheaded by school principals; and growth in standard, effective practices and procedures to include the area of human resources in the district office.

Traditionally a county with two smaller school districts, Sumter School District 17 and Sumter School



BRUCE MILLS / THE SUMTER ITEM

From left, Willow Drive Elementary School Principal Trevor Ivey talks with Sumter Economic Development Board staff members Brian Rauschenbach and Eliza Buxton on Friday at the Leaders for Learning Partnership Breakfast.

District 2 were consolidated into one district in 2011.

Hamm noted that now — with close to 17,000 students — Sumter School District is the 12th largest of the 82 public school districts in the state.

"We're now a large district, and I am happy to say we're growing in the systems and standard practices that we need to have in place as a large district," Hamm said.

She went on to discuss several noteworthy academic programs already in place that are preparing students for the 21st-century workforce and that can help lay the foundation for a brighter future.

Those programs include a dual enrollment program that had more than 250 high school students enrolled last year in credit courses with local colleges, and a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiative in place at Alice Drive Middle School. Other initiatives helping to create a skilled workforce for the future include revamped technical course offerings at the Sumter Career and Technology Center, a soft skills pilot program in two middle schools and laying the groundwork for a new technical high school on Broad Street where students can learn about cutting-edge, advanced careers.

With "good things already happening," Hamm said she thinks the school district has potential to become a

great school district with the help of community leaders through partnerships and agreements.

"Ultimately, I want you to help us make it come true," Hamm said.

She said for a good future, the district must continue to transition into a new era with new leadership and make positive changes. Another must is to communicate transparently with the community and build trust back, according to Hamm.

If the district can continue to do the right things internally and develop community partnerships, Hamm said the district can exceed people's expectations.

"We are committed to giving you the very best efforts in the months ahead," Hamm said. "We are at a time where we can expect nothing less than the best from ourselves and our leaders to shape policies and develop programs that advance our vision and achieve our goals for learning. We can be great if we work together."

Community leaders also held roundtable discussions on a future they imagine for Sumter's public schools and on agreements and partnerships it will take to get there. Several table leaders then reported to the larger group on their brainstorming exercise.

To close Friday's event, Jay Schwedler, president and CEO of the Sumter Economic Development

School board, legislative delegation meet Tuesday

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@thetitem.com

Sumter School District's Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday morning with the local legislative delegation to discuss educational issues related to the upcoming legislative session, which begins in January, according to a district staff member.

The Sumter County Legislative Delegation consists of state Reps. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter; David Weeks, D-Sumter; Will Wheeler, D-Bishopville; Wendy Brawley, D-Hopkins; and Bobby Ridgeway, D-Clarendon; and state Sens. Thomas McElveen, D-Sumter; and Kevin Johnson, D-Manning.

The meeting begins at 8 a.m. at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road, and like all board-related meetings is open to the public.

Board, addressed the audience and echoed Hamm's sentiments.

Schwedler congratulated her on her work so far in the interim position and discussed rapid changes in the global economy that impact Sumter's economy and cause workforce skills gaps that must be addressed.

"We have amazing opportunities and challenges in front of us to provide the appropriate workforce talent for our businesses and industries going forward," Schwedler said. "That can be accomplished with the buy-in and commitment of all of us as stakeholders. Growth can occur when we actively and positively engage with our school district."

COLD CASE

FROM PAGE A1

business in the 500 block of West Liberty Street while she was leaving work and stole a bag containing personal items and money, according to an incident report.

The employee, who does not wish to be named, said before closing the business she took out the trash and went back inside the building to gather her things. While she was exiting the business — the employee said she was backing out of the building and locking the door — she heard footsteps quickly approaching.

"As soon as I clicked the lock, I heard footsteps, and they were right in my face," she said.

She said both of the men were wearing navy blue bandannas over the lower portion of their faces and wore a hoodie or hat to cover the top of their heads.

From what she could tell, the employee said, one of the men was carrying a sawed-off shotgun.

She said neither of the men said a word, but one of them grabbed the bag she carried on her left shoulder and pulled her to the ground. She said she would have handed over the bag without resisting if the men had asked for it.

The incident report states the suspects took off toward Blanding Street on foot.

After the robbery, the employee got into her vehicle and drove to the nearest well-lit business and called law enforcement.

She said she thinks the suspects saw her when she took out the garbage and waited for her to leave the business. Unfortunately, people check your behavior, even if it is just one time, she said.

Capt. Angela Rabon with the Sumter Police Department said the agency receives calls about the robbery from time to time but that no concrete information has come to light.

The robbery has not been linked to others that happened around that time, she said.

Rabon said the fact that the suspects' faces were covered up makes it difficult to send out a description to the public. The employee said she could tell the suspects were black because the upper portion of their faces were visible despite the bandannas, hoodies and hats.

Anyone with information about the 2010 robbery can contact Sumter Police Department at (803) 436-2700. Information can also be provided anonymously by calling Crime Stoppers at (803) 468-2718 or 1-888-CRIME-SC.

Though the main purpose of resurfacing details of the robbery is to gain information to apprehend the suspects, the incident also serves as a reminder to be cautious when leaving work at night.

Law enforcement personnel will walk you to your vehicle if you're leaving work alone at night, Rabon said.

The important thing is to trust your instinct, she said.

People don't realize what can happen in a split second, the employee said.

She said she considers herself to be typically aware of her surroundings, but she has since increased her safety practices when leaving work. She asked police officers to escort her to her vehicle for some time after the incident and requested more patrols in the area.

Waiting for the officer to arrive is worth the additional safety, she said.

She said employees always leave with another person now and never stay at the business alone.

The business also has security lights outside that shine on the parking lot, and business hours are adjusted according to daylight saving time, she said.

"I just don't want it to happen to someone else," she said. "I was very lucky. My faith in God helped with that."

ESPORTS FROM PAGE A1

are part of a national collegiate association, broadcast games and even offer scholarships to students.

Kris Weissmann, USC Sumter's team coach and eSports director, said the college has close to 30 students in the program who are on three teams that each compete in one game — video games called "League of Legends," "Overwatch" and "Hearthstone."

Students are called "gamers," and the program is housed under the Student Services umbrella at USC Sumter, not the Fire Ants Athletics Department.

USC Sumter has the only official varsity team in South Carolina, Weissmann said. Other schools, such as USC and Clemson, have club-level teams.

Although organized online and offline competitions have long been part of the video game culture, participation and spectatorship has surged in popularity just within the last decade, according to Weissmann.

Led by professional events with large prize pools in sports arenas that draw millions of online viewers, eSports has become an entertainment industry.

Most colleges were slow at first to meet demand for a collegiate version, but interest is growing as more schools see a chance to benefit from the industry's growth, according to *The Associated Press*.

Robert Morris University in Illinois launched the first college varsity eSports team in 2014.

Weissmann said USC Sumter and about 20 other schools across the U.S. jumped on board with teams in 2015, when the National Association of Collegiate eSports was created.

He said the college's dean, Michael Sonntag, thought an eSports varsity team could increase exposure for USC Sumter and expand activities available for students.

Other small colleges — both public and private — have shared a similar perspective, Weissmann said.

The varsity eSports program at USC Sumter has grown in each of its three



WEISSMANN

years in both the number of students who participate and video games they compete in, Weissmann said. The college is looking to add its fourth and fifth games next year, he said.

The college streams portions of its competitions online and practices through a platform called Twitch, which Weissmann described as "YouTube strictly for gaming." Other USC Sumter students help promote the team and competitions on social media.

The college holds fundraisers to offer partial scholarships for the gamers, Weissmann said.

He said he doesn't get into the debate of whether eSports is a sport. He said he treats it like one — teams compete, and students must attend practices and maintain a certain GPA. The program benefits students similar to any other sport — gamers learn the value of teamwork, camaraderie and competition.

"It's just as competitive and just as viewed as other sports, so it's kind of hard not to consider it a sport," Weissmann said. "It just depends on what your definition on what a sport is."

He said eSports is even being considered for the Olympics.

The national collegiate association says interest is growing daily by colleges and universities.

Weissmann, 33, said he grew up playing video games and probably had every console — Nintendo, PlayStation, Xbox. He said he would have been "ecstatic" if an eSports program was available while he was in college.

He said the program meets the current generation of high schoolers where they're at and that it could entice kids to go to college.

"Some kids may never go to school, but if they see this they might change their mind," Weissmann said. "They might say, 'Hey, I can do that and get an education. Maybe make Mom and Dad happy because I am going to school and getting a degree, but I am also doing something I want to do.'"

USC Sumter student and eSports Team Captain Clark McDaniel said he has enjoyed the opportunity to compete on the team.

"Being able to play with other like-minded people in a game that I love to play has been fun," McDaniel said. "It's been a good outlet to meet other people."

HOMELAND SECURITY FROM PAGE A1

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), confirmed that ICE Homeland Security Investigations, the criminal investigative division of the federal agency, was at the residence on Oleander Drive on Oct. 26. He also confirmed no arrests were made.

"Beyond that, we cannot give any comment at this

time," he wrote in the email.

Cox was asked if ICE Homeland Security Investigations can charge an individual without arresting that person. He neither confirmed nor denied if anyone has been charged but said any potential federal charges would be filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The Sumter Item reached

out to the U.S. Attorney's Office District of South Carolina for information about potential charges against the homeowners who purchased the house on Oct. 4, according to Sumter County's property registry. The online registry is available to the public.

A response to that inquiry was not received by press

time on Friday.

Cox did not confirm if the homeowners were the subject of the investigation and visit.

He also refused comment on the neighbors' report of seeing officers remove items from the residence, nor did he state the reason investigators went to the residence.

According to Homeland Security's website, ICE Homeland Security Investigations has "broad legal authority to enforce a diverse array of

federal statutes" including: financial crimes, money laundering and bulk cash smuggling; commercial fraud and intellectual property theft; cyber crimes; human rights violations; human smuggling and trafficking; immigration, document and benefit fraud; narcotics and weapons smuggling/trafficking; transnational gang activity; export enforcement; and international art and antiquity theft.

FYI

Palmetto Health Tuomey Hospice is in need of volunteers. A volunteer application can be obtained at www.palmettohealth.org/giving/volunteer-programs/homecare-and-hospicevolunteers.

Contact Brennan Brown at bbrown@sc.wish.org or (864) 250-0702. Hospice Care of Sumter LLC is in need of volunteers in Sumter and surrounding counties.

PUBLIC AGENDA

Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments Board of Directors. Monday, noon, Central Carolina Technical College Advance Manufacturing Technology Training Center, 853 Broad St.

Sumter City Council. Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St.

Bishopville City Council. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Colclough Building

League of Women Voters Board Meeting. Monday, 5:30 p.m., Sumter Sheriff's Office conference room

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put more time and effort into your plans.

personal agreements with loved ones and what you can do to make them more applicable to your current lifestyle.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Consider your options regarding work and money matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Channel your energy into making progress at home by revamping the way you live to suit your current goals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Channel your emotions into socializing, doing things with children or making physical changes that will make you feel good about the way you look.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If something doesn't turn out the way you want, put in the extra time needed to make adjustments.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Someone will withhold information from you. Ask questions and do a little investigating until you are satisfied that you have all the facts straight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make home improvements. The changes you implement will help you run your household more efficiently.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Help someone in need today. Don't make a donation -- offer your time and your skills instead.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional deception is prevalent. Think before you say something you may regret.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Issues concerning friends and relatives should be brought out into the open.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Consider

WEATHER

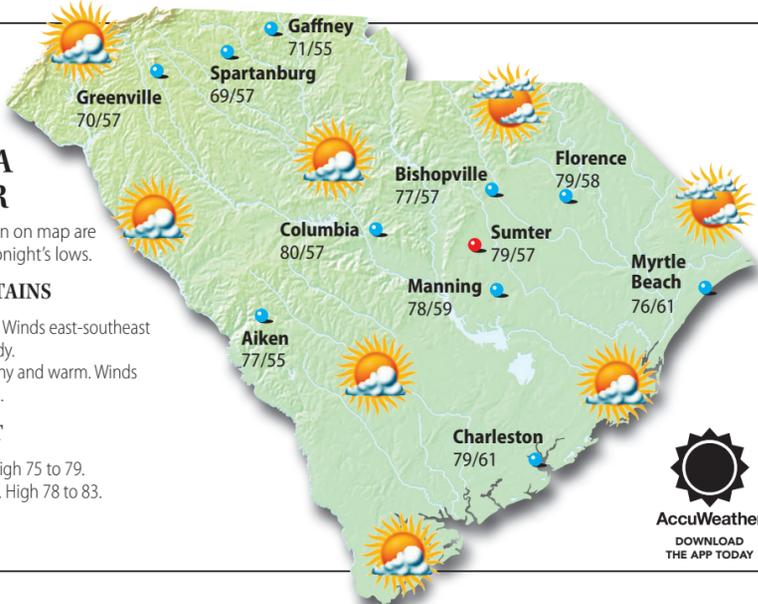
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

Table with 6 columns: TODAY, TONIGHT, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY. Includes weather icons, temperatures, and wind speeds.

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.



IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Partly sunny. Winds east-southeast 4-8 mph. Monday: Partly sunny and warm. Winds southwest 6-12 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Some sun. High 75 to 79. Monday: Some sun. High 78 to 83.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Precipitation. Includes high, low, normal, and record values.

LAKE LEVELS

Table with 4 columns: Lake, Full pool, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg. Lists lakes like Murray, Marion, and Wateree.

SUN AND MOON

Table with 4 columns: Sunrise, Moonrise, Sunset, Moonset. Includes times for Nov. 10 and Nov. 18.



TIDES

Table with 4 columns: Time, High, Low, and another High/Low. Shows tide times for Myrtle Beach.

NATIONAL CITIES

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Mon., and another Today/Mon. Lists cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, etc.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Mon., and another Today/Mon. Lists regional cities like Asheville, Athens, Augusta, etc.

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, I-ice

Advertisement for 'We have a NOSE for NEWS' featuring a cartoon dog detective and contact information for The Sumter Item.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

TEAM PLAYERS: Now in season By Gail Grabowski

ACROSS

- 1 Shout after a tough week
5 Least satisfactory
10 Pretending to be
15 Pulverize
19 Roughly speaking
20 Porthole view
21 Michaels of SNL
22 Predatory dolphin
23 Security legislation of 2001
25 Molasses product
27 Stuffed shirts
28 Member of the deer family
29 Sharp, as vision
30 Guarantee
31 Labor over
33 Uncool person
34 Meadowlike

ni

launcher
69 Last

stage

- 71 Shriek bark
73 Nuptials site
74 SWAT team supply
77 None of the above
79 One side to consider
80 Had a quick bite
83 Wrath
84 Gucci competitor
85 In the past
86 Supreme Court appointee of '06
87 Cutting-edge
88 Art on an arm, for short
89 Inauguration VIP
94 Tamper (with)
95 Tour of duty
96 Restless feeling
97 Color TV pioneer
99 Gown fabrics
101 Foul mood
102 Test pilots' attire
105 Unwilling to

negotiate

- 106 Enticement
107 Loaf at a bakery
109 Unemotional sort
111 Troop stand-out
113 Bear native to China
115 Overabundance
116 Is ___ (probably will)
117 Casual shirts
118 Checklist line
119 Taproom servings
120 Stun gun
121 Grilling candidate
122 Covers with pregrown grass

DOWN

- 1 Pajama parts
2 Funds from a foundation
3 "Not so!" reply
4 Doesn't allow
5 Try to win over
6 Duo times four
7 Not imagined
8 Potato holder
9 Demolition material
10 A Prairie Province
11 Studied, with "over"
12 Symbol of strength
13 Compass pt.
14 No-name
15 Hair stylist's application
16 Mythical guardian
17 Spine-chilling
18 Rabbit relative
24 Cruise stop
26 Theme park eatery
29 Seaweed in some sushi
32 Smirnoff rival
33 D.C. baseballer
34 Electrical networks

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-119.

- 36 Titanic theme singer
37 Feminizing suffix
38 Durable game-show host
39 Petty clash
40 Clarification introducer
41 Western topper
43 Video arcade pioneer
44 Something to talk about
45 Source of plane power
46 Wee hour
47 Stream bottom
49 Main mail ctr.
52 Drama direction
55 Colors lightly
56 Feetoon
59 Cooked like much com-
61 Hunters' org.
65 Dartboard, for instance
66 Standoffish
67 Moral principle
68 Moves unsteadily
70 Shows some courage
72 Law firm
75 Commotion
76 Clinches, with "up"
77 Withdraw, with "out"
78 ___ la la
79 Considerable care
81 Horse farm supply
82 Open with a letter opener
90 Suggests subtly
91 Maintenance worker
92 Self-storage rental
93 PFC's superior
94 Rum cocktails
95 Clown's gear
98 Transitional point
99 Delay strategically
100 Debate
101 Cook onions, poops
102 Port of Italy
103 Western sidekick
104 Teamed (with)
105 Big name in arcade games
106 Web-crawling software
107 Barrel of laughs
108 Nathan Hale alma mater
110 Rotating ma-
112 E-file preparer
113 Family MDs
114 Scolding sound
In 1954, RCA (97 Across) introduced its first color TV, which had a list price of \$1000. The GIANT PANDA (113 Across) is one of the few rare animals whose natural habitat has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. MOUSSE (15 Down) is the French word for "froth."

SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

CROSSWORD

Grid for Saturday's crossword answers.

SUDOKU

9x9 grid for Saturday's sudoku puzzle.

JUMBLE

SKIER HELLO LIVING GLOBAL The goats that grazed on the slope were -- "HILL-BILLIES"

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-119.

CLEMSON FOOTBALL



Clemson quarterback Kelly Bryant (2) dives into the end zone for a touchdown in the Tigers' 38-31 victory over North Carolina State on Saturday in Raleigh, North Carolina.

No. 6 Clemson knocks off No. 20 Wolfpack 38-31

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Clemson trailed much of the day. It faced a veteran ranked team with a strong defensive line. And it was playing in front of a hostile crowd in a game the sixth-

ranked Tigers had to win to stay in the race for another College Football Playoff appearance.

In the end, Dabo Swinney's bunch responded with the same big-game compo-

sure — even with a younger team that lost so many stars from last year's national championship squad.

Tavien Feaster ran for an 89-yard touchdown to end the third quarter and K'Von

Wallace picked off Ryan Finley on the final play to help Clemson beat No. 20 North Carolina State 38-31 on Saturday.

SEE **TIGERS**, PAGE B4

USC FOOTBALL

No. 2 Georgia gets past Gamecocks 24-10

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Jake Fromm proved he can throw — and block a little, too — as his two touchdown passes led No. 2 Georgia to a 24-10 win over South Carolina on Saturday.

Fromm, the freshman best known for handing off to a deep group of Georgia tailbacks, was underestimated this week by South Carolina defensive back Chris Lammons, who said the Bulldogs "can't pass."

Fromm was accurate and efficient, completing 16 of 22 passes for 196 yards with scoring passes of 10 yards to Javon Wims and 20 yards to Mecole Hardman. He did not throw an interception.

Fromm also had the final block to clear the way for Sony Michel to score on a direct-snap, 8-yard run in the first quarter.

Georgia (9-0, 6-0 Southeastern Conference, No. 1 College Football Playoff) has won its first nine games for the first time since 1982. The Bulldogs needed a Mississippi win over Kentucky on Saturday to clinch a spot in the SEC championship game.



Georgia running back Sony Michel (1) is tackled by South Carolina linebackers Skai Moore (10) and T.J. Brunson (6) during the Bulldogs' 24-10 victory on Saturday in Athens, Georgia.

SEE **USC**, PAGE B4

PREP FOOTBALL

Swampcats hold off Wilson Hall 20-14 in OT

BY **TREVOR BAUKNIGHT**
trevor@theitem.com

MANNING — For the second straight week, the injury-depleted Wilson Hall varsity football team lined up against archrival Laurence Manning Academy and took the Swampcats down to the wire.

And for the second straight week, the result was heart-break for the Barons.

Last week, it was a last-second touchdown pass and a partially deflected point-after kick that made the difference in a 14-13 LMA victory.

On Friday, with the full moon hanging over Billy Chitwood Field, the Barons took the Swampcats to overtime before running out of gas in a 20-14 loss.

With the win, LMA improved to 9-2 on the season and will head to Columbia next week to face No. 2 seed Ben Lippen in the semifinals.

The Falcons, who beat the Swampcats 26-23 in a close regular-season game, received a first-round bye.

Wilson Hall's season ended with the Barons at 5-6, dropping their last five as injuries mounted.

Laurence Manning looked like it might have a chance to win in regulation after a short Wilson Hall punt set the 'Cats up at the Wilson Hall 44-yard line. The drive chewed up much of the last four minutes of the game, but ended when Wilson Hall fell on a fumble at its 14-yard line. Wilson Hall was content to go to overtime, and got the ball first in the Kansas City Shootout from the 10-yard line. Three runs netted minus six yards and Mills Herlong's field goal attempt sailed wide right.

The 'Cats' Burgess Jordan ran the ball to the 4-yard line on first down, and quarterback Braydon Osteen plunged in on second down to secure the 20-14 victory.

"I thought it was really a classic game," said LMA head coach Robbie Briggs, in his fifth season at the helm. "The kids showed a lot of poise and a lot of pride. We tried to get back to running the football a little -- we didn't do a very good job against them in the first game as coaches.

"But you've got to give them

SEE **LMA**, PAGE B6

PREP FOOTBALL

Sumter cruises past White Knoll 35-7

BY **DENNIS BRUNSON**
dennis@theitem.com

The message was heard loud and clear.

After being reminded of its gut-wrenching 29-28 overtime loss to Lexington High School at home in the first round of the 5A football state playoffs last season, Sumter High made sure history didn't repeat itself on Friday at Memorial Stadium's Freddie Solomon Field.

The Gamecocks, led by a 203-yard rushing effort by running back Jonathan Henry, scored on five of their six possessions in the first half of their state playoff game against White Knoll on the way to a 35-7 half-time lead that ended up being the final score.

Sumter advances to the second round and will hit the road to take on Summerville next week. The Green Wave defeated Irmo 29-7 on Friday.

SEE **SHS**, PAGE B6



Sumter running back Jonathan Henry (16) scores a touchdown during the Gamecocks' 35-7 victory over White Knoll in the opening round of the 5A state playoffs on Friday at Memorial Stadium. Henry rushed for 203 yards and two touchdowns.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

PREP FOOTBALL

Crestwood rallies to top Chapin 28-14, get Nelson's 1st playoff win

CHAPIN — Crestwood High School's 4A football first-round playoff game on Friday at Chapin High's Cecil Woodbright Field could not have gotten off to a much worse start for the Knights.

Crestwood's defense held the Eagles to three downs and out on the game's first possession, but the first two offensive plays for the Knights resulted in lost fumbles deep in Crestwood territory. The first was cashed in by Chapin on a 20-yard pass from quarterback Larob Gordon to Taison Thomas, with the Crestwood defense holding and forcing a punt on the second after the Eagles took over at the Crestwood 29.

Chapin added a score on a 9-play, 80-yard drive, with

Larob Gordon and wide receiver Xzavion Gordon hooking up on a 34-yard pass early in the drive and a 15-yarder for the score, putting the Eagles up 14-0 with 4:37 left in the opening quarter.

The Eagles would not score again and Crestwood would overcome the shaky start and reach the end zone four times for a 28-14 win that sends the Knights into a second-round matchup at North Myrtle Beach on Friday.

"I told them before the game (to) have windshield mentality. Do not look back at the negative on the next play. Just stack good play on top of good play," Crestwood head coach Roosevelt

SEE **KNIGHTS**, PAGE B5

SCOREBOARD

TODAY

6:15 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Paris Masters Doubles Final Match from Paris (TENNIS).
6:55 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Crystal Palace vs. Tottenham (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
9 a.m. — Road Racing: New York City Marathon from New York (ESPN2).
9 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Paris Masters Singles Final Match from Paris (TENNIS).
9:10 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Arsenal vs. Manchester City (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
9:30 a.m. — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Hoffenheim vs. Cologne (FOX SPORTS 1).
11:25 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Manchester United vs. Chelsea (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
11:50 a.m. — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Hertha Berlin vs. Wolfsburg (FOX SPORTS 2).
1 p.m. — NFL Football: Denver at Philadelphia (WLTN 19).
1 p.m. — NFL Football: Atlanta at Carolina (WACH 57, WFFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
1 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament Championship Match from Charleston (ESPN2).
1 p.m. — College Field Hockey: Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament Championship Match from Louisville, Ky. — North Carolina vs. Louisville (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
1 p.m. — Professional Basketball: NBA G-League Game — Erie at Maine (NBA TV).
1 p.m. — Women's College Volleyball: Georgia at Alabama (SEC NETWORK).
1:30 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: Big East Conference Tournament Championship Match from Washington — Butler at Georgetown (FOX SPORTS 1).
2 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: American Athletic Conference Championship Match (ESPN2).
2 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series AAA Texas 500 from Fort Worth, Texas (NBC SPORTS NETWORK, WEGX-FM 92.9).
3 p.m. — Road Racing: New York City Marathon Highlights from New York (WOL 25).
3 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Eastern Conference Playoffs Semifinal Series Leg 2 Match — New York at Toronto (ESPN).
3 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: Southeastern Conference Tournament Championship Match from Orange Beach, Ala. — Arkansas vs. Texas A&M (SEC NETWORK).
3:30 p.m. — Figure Skating: ISU Grand Prix Skate Canada from Regina, Saskatchewan (WIS 10).
3:30 p.m. — PGA Golf: Shriners Hospital for Children Open Final Round from Las Vegas (GOLF).
4 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: Big 12 Conference Tournament Championship Match from Kansas City, Mo. (FOX SPORTS 1).
4:25 p.m. — NFL Football: Kansas City at Dallas (WLTN 19).
4:30 p.m. — Figure Skating: ISU Grand Prix Cup of China from Beijing (WIS 10).
5 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Eastern Conference Playoffs Semifinal Series Leg 2 Match — Columbus at New York City (ESPN).
7 p.m. — Women's Professional Tennis: WTA Elite Trophy Singles Championship Match from Zuhui, China (TENNIS).
7:30 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Western Conference Playoffs Semifinal Series Leg 2 Match — Houston at Portland (FOX SPORTS 1).
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Minnesota (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
8:20 p.m. — NFL Football: Oakland at Miami (WIS 10, WFFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).

MONDAY

6 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Baseball Writers' Association of America Awards (MLB NETWORK).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXV-AM 1240).
8 p.m. — Professional Basketball: NBA G-League Game — Lakeland at Sioux Falls (ESPN2).
8:15 p.m. — NFL Football: Detroit at Green Bay (ESPN, ESPN2, WFFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).
9:30 p.m. — Horse Racing: Melbourne Cup from Melbourne, Australia (FOX SPORTS 1).

NFL STANDINGS

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	2	0	.750	216	179
Buffalo	5	3	0	.625	174	149
Miami	4	3	0	.571	92	152
N.Y. Jets	4	5	0	.444	191	207
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	4	3	0	.571	158	173
Jacksonville	4	3	0	.571	183	110
Houston	3	4	0	.429	215	188
Indianapolis	2	6	0	.250	142	246
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750	167	131
Baltimore	4	4	0	.500	170	148
Cincinnati	3	4	0	.429	122	135

Cleveland	0	8	0	.000	119	202
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West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	6	2	0	.750	236	180
Denver	3	4	0	.429	127	147
L.A. Chargers	3	5	0	.375	150	152
Oakland	3	5	0	.375	169	190

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	7	1	0	.875	232	156
Dallas	4	3	0	.571	198	161
Washington	3	4	0	.429	160	180
N.Y. Giants	1	6	0	.143	112	156

South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	5	2	0	.714	191	145
Carolina	5	3	0	.625	148	142
Atlanta	4	3	0	.571	153	152
Tampa Bay	2	5	0	.286	148	168

North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	6	2	0	.750	179	135
Green Bay	4	3	0	.571	164	161
Detroit	3	4	0	.429	176	169
Chicago	3	5	0	.375	134	171

West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	5	2	0	.714	175	132
L.A. Rams	5	2	0	.714	212	138
Arizona	3	4	0	.429	119	191
San Francisco	0	8	0	.000	133	219

THURSDAY'S GAME

N.Y. Jets 34, Buffalo 21

TODAY'S GAMES

Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
 Baltimore at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
 L.A. Rams at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
 Indianapolis at Houston, 1 p.m.
 Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
 Denver at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
 Arizona at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
 Washington at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
 Kansas City at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.
 Oakland at Miami, 8:30 p.m.
 Open: Chicago, Minnesota, New England, L.A. Chargers, Cleveland, Pittsburgh

MONDAY'S GAME

Detroit at Green Bay, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOV. 9

Seattle at Arizona, 8:25 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOV. 12

Pittsburgh at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
 Minnesota at Washington, 1 p.m.
 L.A. Chargers at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
 New Orleans at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
 Green Bay at Chicago, 1 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
 Cleveland at Detroit, 1 p.m.
 Houston at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
 Dallas at Atlanta, 4:25 p.m.
 New England at Denver, 8:30 p.m.
 Open: Kansas City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Oakland

MONDAY, NOV. 13

Miami at Carolina, 8:30 p.m.

NBA STANDINGS

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	7	2	.778	—
Toronto	5	3	.625	1½
Philadelphia	5	4	.556	2
New York	4	4	.500	2½
Brooklyn	3	6	.333	4
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	6	3	.667	—
Charlotte	5	4	.556	1
Washington	4	4	.500	1½
Miami	3	5	.375	2½
Atlanta	1	8	.111	5
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	6	3	.667	—
Indiana	5	4	.556	1
Cleveland	4	5	.444	2
Milwaukee	4	5	.444	2
Chicago	2	5	.286	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	7	3	.700	—
Memphis	6	3	.667	½
San Antonio	5	4	.556	1½
New Orleans	4	5	.444	2½
Dallas	1	9	.100	6
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	5	3	.625	—
Utah	5	4	.556	½
Portland	5	4	.556	½
Denver	5	4	.556	½
Oklahoma City	4	4	.500	1

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	5	3	.625	—
Utah	5	4	.556	½
Portland	5	4	.556	½
Denver	5	4	.556	½
Oklahoma City	4	4	.500	1

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	6	3	.667	—
L.A. Clippers	5	3	.625	½
L.A. Lakers	4	5	.444	2
Phoenix	4	5	.444	2
Sacramento	1	7	.125	4½

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Chicago 105, Orlando 83
 Cleveland 130, Washington 122
 Detroit 105, Milwaukee 96
 Philadelphia 121, Indiana 110
 Houston 119, Atlanta 104
 New York 120, Phoenix 107
 New Orleans 99, Dallas 94
 San Antonio 108, Charlotte 101
 Denver 95, Miami 94
 Toronto 109, Utah 100
 Boston 101, Oklahoma City 94
 L.A. Lakers 124, Brooklyn 112

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Memphis 113, L.A. Clippers 104
 Sacramento at Detroit, 7 p.m.
 Dallas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 New Orleans at Chicago, 8 p.m.
 Golden State at Denver, 9 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES

Atlanta at Cleveland, 3 p.m.
 Miami at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
 Boston at Orlando, 6 p.m.
 Washington at Toronto, 6 p.m.
 Phoenix at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
 Utah at Houston, 7 p.m.
 Indiana at New York, 7:30 p.m.
 Charlotte at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at Portland, 9 p.m.
 Memphis at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
 Miami at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAMES

Dallas at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
 New Orleans at Indiana, 7 p.m.
 Charlotte at New York, 7:30 p.m.
 Chicago at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Denver, 9 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Utah, 9 p.m.
 Memphis at Portland, 10 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	14	10	2	2	22	54	38
Ottawa	13	6	2	5	17	47	42
Toronto	14	8	6	0	16	53	49
Boston	11	5	3	3	13	32	34
Detroit	14	6	7	1	13	38	41
Buffalo	13	4	7	2	10	34	48
Florida	12	4	7	1	9	43	51
Montreal	13	4	8	1	9	34	51

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	12	9	3	0	18	45	37
Columbus	13	9	4	0	18	44	33
Pittsburgh	15	8	5	2	18	40	54
N.Y. Islanders	13	7	5	1	15	48	42
Philadelphia	14	7	6	1	15	43	38
Washington	13	6	6	1	13	40	44
N.Y. Rangers	14	5	7	2	12	42	48
Carolina	11	4	5	2	10	31	35

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	14	10	3	1	21	44	32
Winnipeg	12	7	3	2	16	38	34
Colorado	12	7	5	0	14	39	37
Dallas	13	7	6	0	14	36	38
Nashville	13	6	5	2	14	33	38
Chicago	13	6	5	2	14	41	34
Minnesota	11	5	4	2	12	37	33

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	13	10	2	1	21	45	27
Vegas	12	8	4	0	16	42	33
San Jose	12	7	5	0	14	34	29
Vancouver	12	6	4	2	14	31	29
Calgary	13	7	6	0	14	30	34
Anaheim	13	6	6	1	13	39	41
Edmonton	12	4	7	1	9	30	39
Arizona	14	1	12	1	3	37	61

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Edmonton 6, New Jersey 3
 Nashville 5, Anaheim 3

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Vegas 5, Ottawa 4
 N.Y. Rangers at Florida, 7 p.m.
 Montreal at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
 Washington at Boston, 7 p.m.
 Toronto at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
 Columbus at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
 Colorado at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
 Chicago at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Buffalo at Dallas, 8 p.m.
 Carolina at Arizona, 9 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
 Nashville at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
 Anaheim at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES

Detroit at Edmonton, 4 p.m.
 Colorado at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
 Montreal at Chicago, 7 p.m.
 New Jersey at Calgary, 9 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

AUTO RACING

Johnson still 2 options for chance at 8th NASCAR Cup title

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
The Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Jimmie Johnson still has two very conceivable options for a chance to race for his record-breaking eighth NASCAR Cup Series championship.

Win one of the next two races, or just be in the top four in points after that, and Johnson will get one of the four championship-contending spots in two weeks.

"I do feel good about getting in," Johnson said.

Johnson is a seven-time winner at Texas, where the Cup Series races Sunday. He won there in April in the first race after the 1 1/2-mile track was completely repaved and restructured in Turns 1 and 2. And in the current driver standings, he is only three points out of the top four spots.

As for Chase Elliott, his Hendrick Motorsports teammate is probably in a must-win situation after being oh-so-close to being locked into a title shot at Homestead.

Elliott arrived in Texas eighth among the eight championship contenders, and 26 points out of the top four, after being wrecked by Denny Hamlin when leading two laps shy of the scheduled checkered flag at Martinsville last weekend. His first Cup victory would have locked him into a championship chance, and a top-five finish could have been a points boost. He instead finished 27th.

"As long as the week has gone along, it has given me a lot of time to think about how close we were to going to Homestead," Elliott said. "I think if anything else that will drive you up the wall more if you think about it."

Making things even more difficult and frustrating for Elliott in Texas, the No. 24 didn't make it through tech inspection in time to make a qualifying run Friday. He will start 34th while all the other seven championship contenders qualified in the top 10.

Martinsville winner Kyle Busch, who held off points leader Martin Truex Jr. in the race that needed five extra laps, is the only driver who has clinched one of the four championship-contending spots in the season finale.

Kurt Busch, out of championship contention and with his Cup status for next season still unsettled, is on the pole at Texas after being one of five drivers with qualifying laps of more than 200 mph. He is now with Stewart-Haas Racing, though doesn't have a deal settled for 2018 with that or any other team.



Jimmie Johnson, left, talks to a crew member in the garage during a Friday practice session for Sunday's NASCAR Cup series auto race at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"No updates for me. We are in negotiations," Busch said, without elaborating after qualifying. "Days like today help quite a bit."

Hamlin, who is seventh in points, qualified second after going 200.617 mph. Kevin Harvick, now holding down the fourth spot, starts third. Points leader Truex starts seventh, two spots behind Kyle Busch.

"Definitely confidence is high. Feel good about it. Mile and a half is — obviously they've been good for us this year, but honestly, I feel like everywhere we go this year, right now especially, we can run up front and have a shot at winning," Truex said. "Being able to come here with a pretty nice points cushion feels good, and hopefully we'll be able to go out here and take care of business."

Brad Keselowski, the other driver currently in the top four spots, starts 10th. That is a spot lower than Johnson, who has gone 20 races without a win.

"Comfortable here, we've stayed alive. It hasn't been pretty, but we've stayed alive," Johnson said. "And we're at one of our best tracks. ... We want to win. If we can't do that, we understand where we are at the

points. Hopefully we can do it."

Hamlin has apologized publicly on social media to Elliott, but that didn't change the frustration for Elliott, who said in Texas that he wouldn't answer any questions about whether he was going to try to get Hamlin back on the track.

That led to Johnson being asked if he had to be extra careful if he found himself behind Hamlin and

his teammate Sunday.

"Yeah, you stay aware. There is no doubt about it you don't want to be caught up in something that you don't need to be," Johnson said. "But, we will just see how that evolves. Last weekend was crazy on a lot of levels."

There is certainly a lot more room, and a whole lot more speed, at the high-banked oval in Texas.

TEXAS 500 LINEUP

By The Associated Press
After Friday qualifying; race Sunday
At Texas Motor Speedway
Fort Worth, Texas
Lap length: 1.5 miles
(Car number in parentheses)

1. (41) Kurt Busch, Ford, 200.915 mph.
2. (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 200.617.
3. (4) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 200.378.
4. (77) Erik Jones, Toyota, 200.326.
5. (18) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 200.252.
6. (19) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 199.593.
7. (78) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 199.431.
8. (21) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 199.380.
9. (48) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 198.727.
10. (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 198.478.
11. (42) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 198.143.
12. (17) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 198.078.
13. (1) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 197.694.
14. (10) Danica Patrick, Ford, 197.643.
15. (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 197.534.
16. (47) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 197.469.
17. (88) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 197.441.

18. (43) Aric Almirola, Ford, 197.267.
19. (5) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 197.102.
20. (14) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 196.528.
21. (27) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 196.221.
22. (34) Landon Cassill, Ford, 195.645.
23. (95) Michael McDowell, Chevrolet, 194.196.
24. (38) David Ragan, Ford, 194.175.
25. (31) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 195.150.
26. (37) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 194.770.
27. (13) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 193.924.
28. (32) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 193.903.
29. (72) Cole Whitt, Chevrolet, 191.877.
30. (7) Joey Gase, Chevrolet, 188.042.
31. (51) Ray Black II, Chevrolet, 187.104.
32. (33) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 187.007.
33. (66) David Starr, Chevrolet, 181.794.
34. (24) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 0.000.
35. (20) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 0.000.
36. (22) Joey Logano, Ford, 0.000.
37. (6) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 0.000.
38. (15) Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, 0.000.
39. (23) Corey LaJoie, Toyota, 0.000.
40. (83) Gray Gaulding, Toyota, 0.000.

AREA ROUNDUP

REL advances in SCISA 2A playoffs with 42-7 thumping of HHC

BISHOPVILLE — Robert E. Lee Academy advanced to the semifinals of the SCISA 2A football state playoffs with a 42-7 victory over Hilton Head Christian on Friday at McCutchen Field.

The Cavaliers improved to 10-2 on the season. They will travel to Charleston on Friday to meet First Baptist.

CLARENDON HALL 29
RICHARD WINN 28

WINNSBORO — Clarendon Hall advanced to the semifinals of the SCISA 8-Man Division II state playoffs with a 29-28 victory over Richard Winn Academy on Friday at the RWA field.

The Saints improved to 7-4 on the season. They will travel to Ehrhardt on Friday to

take on Andrew Jackson Academy.

WADE HAMPTON 23
MANNING 18

HAMPTON — Manning High School saw its season come to an end with a 23-18 loss to Wade Hampton in the first round of the 3A state playoffs on Friday at the WH field.

The Monarchs end their

season with a 7-4 record.

GREEN SEA-FLOYDS 20
SCOTT'S BRANCH 18

GREEN SEA — Scott's Branch High School had its season come to an end with a 20-18 loss to Green Sea-Floyds in the first round of the 1A state playoffs on Friday at GSF field.

The Eagles finish the year with a 5-6 record.

CROSS 26
EAST CLARENDON 10

CROSS — East Clarendon High School had its season come to an end with a 26-10 loss to Cross in the first round of the 1A state playoffs on Friday at the Cross field.

The Wolverines finish the year with a 2-9 record.

From staff reports

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

No. 8 Oklahoma survives shootout against No. 11 OSU

STILLWATER, Okla. — Bedlam sure lived up to its name.

Baker Mayfield passed for a school-record 598 yards and No. 8 Oklahoma outlasted No. 11 Oklahoma State 62-52 on Saturday in one of the highest-scoring games in the history of the rivalry.

Mayfield threw five touchdown passes and ran for another score to outduel Oklahoma State's Mason Rudolph in a battle of two Heisman Trophy contenders. Rudolph passed for 448 yards and five touchdowns, but he had three turnovers in the second half.

Marquise Brown caught nine passes for a school-record 265 yards, and he had touchdown receptions of 84 and 77 yards for the Sooners (8-1, 5-1 Big 12, No. 5 CFP). Oklahoma gained 785 total yards.

IOWA 55
(3) OHIO STATE 24

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Big Ten teams with national title hopes should know by now to be wary of Kinnick Stadium in November.

The Ohio State Buckeyes weren't — and their playoff aspirations are likely cooked because of it.

Nate Stanley threw for 226 yards and five touchdowns, and Iowa throtled third-ranked Ohio State 55-24 on Saturday, dealing what's likely to be a fatal blow to the Buckeyes' hopes of reaching college football's Final Four.

(2) MICHIGAN 27
(7) PENN STATE 24

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Matt Coghlin kicked a 34-yard field goal as time expired to give No. 24 Michigan State a 27-24 victory over No. 7 Penn State on Saturday night in a game that was delayed nearly 3 1/2 hours by severe weather in the second quarter.

Brian Lewerke threw for 400 yards and two touchdowns for the Spartans (7-2, 5-1 Big Ten, No. 24 CFP), and Michigan State was aided at the end by a roughing the passer call on Penn State's Marcus Allen. Lewerke was hit by Allen on a third-down pass that fell incomplete in the final minute. The penalty moved the ball to the Penn State 22, and the Spartans were able to run the clock down before Coghlin's winning kick.

STATE
WOFFORD 24
CHATTANOOGA 21

SPARTANBURG — Luke Carter booted a 34-yard field goal in the second overtime and Wofford escaped with a 24-21 victory over upset-minded Chattanooga on Saturday.

Carter's game-winning kick was set up when Devin Watson picked off Cole Copeland on Chattanooga's first play of the second OT.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield (6) is sacked by a number of Oklahoma State defenders in the second half of the Sooners' 62-52 victory on Saturday in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Andre Stoddard rushed for 85 yards and two scores on 24 carries for the Terriers (8-1, 6-1 Southern Conference). Stoddard has scored 12 of Wofford's 27 rushing TDs this season.

WESTERN CAROLINA 31
CITADEL 19

CHARLESTON — Detrez Newsome raced 81 yards for a tie-breaking touchdown and Western Carolina survived three blocked punts to defeat The Citadel 31-19 on Saturday.

Tyrie Adams passed for 133 yards and three touchdowns for the Cata-mounts (7-3, 5-2 Southern Conference), two to Terryon Robinson. Newsome gained 197 yards on 24 carries. It's his second straight 100-yard game since returning from injury.

The Citadel (5-4, 3-4) opened the second half with a Dominique Allen 26-yard touchdown run to pull the Bulldogs into a 17-17 tie after just three plays.

ACC
(5) NOTRE DAME 48
WAKE FOREST 37

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Notre Dame quarterback Brandon Wimbush had a wrap protecting his left hand during the second half of the 48-37 victory over Wake Forest.

Good thing he throws with his right. Wimbush passed for a career-high 280 yards, ran for 110 more and totaled three touchdowns as the Irish (8-1, No. 3 CFP) won their seventh straight game Saturday on a day standout running back Josh Adams missed the second half because of weariness.

SEC
ARKANSAS 39
COASTAL CAROLINA 38

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. -- Cole Kelley

scored on a 1-yard touchdown run with 1:55 remaining to help Arkansas rally for a second straight week to earn a 39-38 win over Coastal Carolina on Saturday.

The Razorbacks (4-5) trailed 38-25 early in the fourth quarter but were boosted by an 88-yard touchdown run by T.J. Hammonds and Kelley's final scoring run.

Hammonds accounted for 179 yards in the comeback win over the first-year FBS Chanticleers, scoring on the long run and a 60-yard pass in the first half.

(16) AUBURN 42
TEXAS A&M 27

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — When Auburn coach Gus Malzahn has had championship teams in the past he's seen the players take things up a notch this time of year.

In a win over Texas A&M on Saturday he saw that quality in his 16th-ranked team, and it left him feeling encouraged with a huge test looming next week against No. 2 Georgia.

Jarrett Stidham threw for 268 yards and three touchdowns as Auburn pulled away in the second half and cruised to a 42-27 win over Texas A&M.

MISSOURI 45
FLORIDA 16

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Three weeks ago, Missouri coach Barry Odom set fire to game plans, scouting reports and negative articles from the first half of the season in a motivational ploy. The Tigers haven't lost a game since.

Perhaps Florida interim coach Randy Shannon should gather flammable objects for his own bonfire.

In a game pitting two teams riding emotional waves in opposite directions, Missouri trounced Florida 45-16 on Saturday. The Tigers (4-5, 1-4 Southeastern Conference) have won three straight games, while the Gators (3-5, 3-4) have dropped four straight.

MISSISSIPPI 37
KENTUCKY 34

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Jordan Ta'amu threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to D.K. Metcalf with 5 seconds remaining, pushing Mississippi past Kentucky for a wild 37-34 victory on Saturday.

Moments after replay review overturned the officials' initial call that Ta'amu had fumbled the ball away to Kentucky, Metcalf pulled down the quarterback's throw in the left corner of the end zone and kept his feet in-bounds to spark a huge celebration for the Rebels. Ta'amu threw for career highs of 382 yards and four TDs, including two to Metcalf, who had 83 yards on five catches.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCORES

- SOUTH**
Alabama St. 13, Jackson St. 3
Alcorn St. 47, Alabama A&M 22
Austin Peay 35, Tennessee Tech 28
Averett 41, Brevard 17
Benedict 20, Kentucky St. 16
Bethel (Tenn.) 35, Kentucky Christian 14
Bethune-Cookman 41, Morgan St. 28
Birmingham-Southern 20, Millsaps 17, OT
Bowie St. 77, Elizabeth City St. 21
Butler 23, Stetson 6
Campbell 42, Davidson 29
Campbellsville 58, Cumberland (Tenn.) 34
Carson-Newman 42, Lenoir-Rhyne 28
Catawba 17, Newberry 13
Centre 47, Sewanee 0
Charleston Southern 10, Gardner-Webb 9
Cincinnati 17, Tulane 16
Clemson 38, NC State 31
College of NJ 21, Christopher Newport 19
Cumberlands 52, Point (Ga.) 19
Delta St. 33, North Greenville 30
ETSU 24, VMI 6
Elon 33, Towson 30, 2OT
Fayetteville St. 23, Winston-Salem 22
Ferrum 52, Greensboro 13
Florida St. 27, Syracuse 24
Frostburg St. 17, Kean 14
Georgia 24, South Carolina 10
Georgia St. 21, Georgia Southern 17
Hampden-Sydney 49, Shenandoah 43
Howard 37, Florida A&M 26
Huntingdon 55, Methodist 7
Jacksonville 20, Valparaiso 17
Jacksonville St. 59, Murray St. 23
Johns Hopkins 57, Juniata 14
Johnson C. Smith 27, Livingstone 14
Lane 28, Central St. (Ohio) 20
Liberty 27, Duquesne 24
Lindsey Wilson 37, Georgetown (Ky.) 14
Louisiana-Lafayette 19, South Alabama 14
Louisiana-Monroe 52, Appalachian St. 45
Mars Hill 56, UNC-Pembroke 44
Mary Hardin-Baylor 51, Louisiana College 20
Maryville (Tenn.) 35, LaGrange 23
Mississippi 37, Kentucky 34
Mississippi College 30, Shorter 29
Mississippi St. 34, UMass 23
Morehouse 40, Clark Atlanta 0
NC A&T 35, Norfolk St. 7
NC Central 14, Hampton 6
New Hampshire 35, William & Mary 16
Nicholls 23, Houston Baptist 17
North Texas 24, Louisiana Tech 23
Old Dominion 6, Charlotte 0
Randolph-Macon 38, Guilford 22
Reinhardt 54, Bluefield South 0
Samford 20, Mercer 3
Savannah St. 35, Delaware St. 21
Southern U. 37, Prairie View 31
St. Augustine's 31, Shaw 14
Tennessee St. 60, Va. Lynchburg 0
Texas Southern 38, MVSU 21
Thomas More 56, Thiel 7
Tuskegee 50, Miles 20
UAB 52, Rice 21
Union (Ky.) 43, St. Andrews 42
Vanderbilt 31, W. Kentucky 17
Virginia 40, Georgia Tech 36
Virginia St. 40, Virginia Union 39
W. Carolina 31, The Citadel 19
Warner 34, Pikeville 21
Webber 42, Ave Maria 10
Wesley 30, Salisbury 20
West Florida 30, North Alabama 7
West Georgia 20, Florida Tech 13
Wofford 24, Chattanooga 21, 2OT

USC FROM PAGE B1

South Carolina (6-3, 4-3) had its three-game winning streak snapped. The Gamecocks also lost hopes for winning the SEC East.

Nick Chubb ran for 102 yards on 20 carries for Georgia. Michel added 81 yards rushing.

Georgia, accustomed to lopsided SEC wins, faced a tougher challenge from South Carolina. The Bulldogs led only 14-7 at halftime. Each team had first-half touchdown catches determined by reviews.

Jake Bentley's 12-yard pass to Bryan Edwards early in the second half was ruled incomplete before the officials' review determined Edwards made the catch before going out of bounds. The touchdown tied the game at 7.

On Georgia's next drive, a review determined Wims had his left foot in bounds on his touchdown catch.

The Bulldogs opened the second half with a 75-yard touchdown drive capped by Fromm's touchdown pass to Hardman, who made a leaping catch over Jamyest Williams.

South Carolina's Parker White kicked a 25-yard field goal late in the third quarter. Georgia's Rodrigo Blankenship kicked a 20-yarder in the fourth quarter.

Following Blankenship's field goal, Georgia stopped South Carolina at its 44 when cornerback Deandre Baker deflected Bentley's fourth-down pass. Malkom Parrish's interception ended the Gamecocks' final possession.

Bentley completed 21 of 35 passes for 227 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions.

TAKEAWAYS

South Carolina: The Gamecocks gave the Bulldogs their toughest game since a 20-19 win at then-No. 24 Notre Dame on Sept. 9. South Carolina stacked the defensive front against the run, forcing Fromm to pass. The strategy was partially successful, but Georgia still ran for 242 yards. The Gamecocks were held to

43 yards rushing.

Georgia: The test from the Gamecocks should help the Bulldogs in tougher matchups ahead, including the visit to Auburn and possibly in the SEC championship game. Georgia showed poise when tested early and was impressive in its long touchdown drive to open the second half, stretching the lead to 14 points. The win should be a confidence booster for Fromm as well as Georgia coaches when future opponents load up their defenses against the run.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

The win should strengthen Georgia's hold on the No. 2 spot in the AP Top 25 and possibly its top spot in the CFP ranking.

UP NEXT

South Carolina: Hosts Florida on Saturday.

Georgia: Visits No. 16 Auburn on Saturday.

(2) GEORGIA 24
SOUTH CAROLINA 10

South Carolina	0	7	3	0-10
Georgia	7	7	7	3-24

First Quarter
UGA_Michel 8 run (Blankenship kick), 2:21

Second Quarter
SC_Edwards 12 pass from Bentley (White kick), 14:07
UGA_Wims 10 pass from Fromm (Blankenship kick), 9:27

Third Quarter
UGA_Hardman 20 pass from Fromm (Blankenship kick), 9:28
SC_FG White 25, 3:36

Fourth Quarter
UGA_FG Blankenship 20, 6:36

	SC	UGA
First downs	14	26
Rushes-yards	17-43	53-242
Passing	227	196
Comp-Att-Int	21-36-2	16-22-0
Return Yards	13	-3
Punts-Avg.	3-41.0	3-33.33
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	2-15	5-55
Time of Poss.	21:38	38:22

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING_South Carolina, Turner 8-35, Denison 3-9, T.Williams 3-8, Bentley 3-(minus 9), Georgia, Chubb 20-102, Michel 16-81, Swift 5-22, Herrien 2-18, Fromm 5-11, C.Payne 2-6, Ridley 1-5, (Team) 2-(minus 3).
PASSING_South Carolina, Hurst 0-1-0-0, Bentley 21-35-2-227, Georgia, Fromm 16-22-0-196.
RECEIVING_South Carolina, Hurst 7-93, Edwards 7-62, O.Smith 3-36, S.Smith 2-28, Turner 1-5, T.Williams 1-3, Georgia, Wims 5-46, Godwin 3-53, Hardman 3-41, Nauta 1-17, Michel 1-16, Chubb 1-9, Blazeovich 1-7, Ridley 1-7.
MISSED FIELD GOALS_South Carolina, White 46.

TIGERS FROM PAGE B1

Feaster's break-loose run up the middle and gave Clemson (8-1, 6-1 Atlantic Coast Conference, CFP No. 4) a 31-21 lead entering the fourth, then the Tigers had to hang on in the final seconds as the Wolfpack (6-3, 4-1, CFP No. 20) got one more shot to tie it.

"We've got a really young team," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said, "and I thought a lot of guys grew up tonight."

Wallace was a good example. The sophomore came up with two huge plays after the Wolfpack's final drive pushed to the Clemson 28, first when he broke up a pass to Jaylen Samuels near the goal line with a hard hit.

Then, after an illegal formation penalty by N.C. State wiped out completion for a first-and-goal, Wallace picked off Finley's final overthrown fourth-down ball and returned it 55 yards to burn the clock and give Clemson a huge step forward to another ACC Atlantic Division title.

"There was no chance to win the division if we didn't win up here," Swinney said.

Finley threw for 338 yards and three touchdowns — including a 40-yard scoring throw to Kelvin Harmon on the first possession to lead the Wolfpack, whose players had talked openly about pursuing revenge after squandering a road win against Clemson in overtime last year.

In the end, this one ended like so many in the series, with the Tigers beating the Wolfpack for the sixth straight year and 13th time in 14 meetings.

"I mean it was a revenge game," said Samuels, who had a touchdown catch and run. "We've been thinking about this game since last year. But they came in and played hard, that's a great football team over there."

THE TAKEAWAY

Clemson: The Tigers showed off their big-game experience, doing just enough to put themselves in control of the ACC's Atlantic Division race yet again.

"Adversity had kicked in for us early on and throughout the course of the game," said quarterback Kelly Bryant, who ran for two scores. "Just sticking together and having that brotherhood that we've got ... that was our mentality on the sideline."

N.C. State: The Wolfpack had a shot to all but wrap up the Atlantic Division title with a win, but likely saw those hopes end with this loss.

PENALTIES

The Wolfpack had six penalties for 69 yards a week after being flagged 12 times for 89 yards in the loss at Notre Dame.

"Coming into this game, we already knew the refs were going to be on their side," Samuels said. "That's just how it is, when you've got the defending national champions coming into our place."

(6) CLEMSON 38
(20) NC STATE 31
Clemson 7 10 14 7-38
NC State 14 7 0 10-31

First Quarter
NCST_Harmon 40 pass from Finley (Wise kick), 13:09
CLE_R.McCloud 77 punt return (Al.Spence kick), 8:59
NCST_Samuels 1 run (Wise kick), 2:25

Second Quarter
CLE_K.Bryant 10 run (Al.Spence kick), 14:04
NCST_Samuels 7 pass from Finley (Wise kick), 9:29
CLE_FG Al.Spence 26, 5:15

Third Quarter
CLE_Cain 12 pass from K.Bryant (Al.Spence kick), 3:31
CLE_Feaster 89 run (Al.Spence kick), :00

Fourth Quarter
NCST_Meyers 15 pass from Finley (Barnard kick), 12:23
CLE_K.Bryant 1 run (Al.Spence kick), 6:31
NCST_FG Barnard 22, 1:51

	CLE	NCST
First downs	20	27
Rushes-yards	35-224 3	4-153
Passing	191	338
Comp-Att-Int	20-38-1	31-50-2
Return Yards	166	49
Punts-Avg.	5-34.8	5-31.6
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	3-23	6-69
Time of Poss.	25:12	34:48

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING_Clemson, Feaster 7-105, K.Bryant 20-88, Etienne 8-31, NC State, Gallaspy 6-46, Samuels 12-38, Finley 8-35, Hines 8-34.
PASSING_Clemson, K.Bryant 20-38-1-191, NC State, Finley 31-50-2-388.
RECEIVING_Clemson, Cain 9-84, H.Renfrow 4-33, Thompson 2-18, Rodgers 2-11, Richard 1-29, Etienne 1-10, T.Chase 1-6, NC State, Meyers 9-105, Harmon 8-155, Louis 6-55, Samuels 3-6, Hines 2-5, Lockley 1-8, Gallaspy 1-6, Finley 1-(minus 2).
MISSED FIELD GOALS_Clemson, Al.Spence 39, NC State, Wise 34.

PREP FOOTBALL

Stallions whip Keenan in 2A playoffs opener

BY J.B. BRUNSON
Special to The Sumter Item

BISHOPVILLE — The Lee Central High School football team utilized its physical defensive play and stout running game to rout W.J. Keenan by the score of 42-16 on Friday at Stallion Stadium in a first-round game in the 2A state playoffs.

The defense for Lee Central only allowed one touchdown, as the Raiders' other points came from a special teams touchdown and a safety.

"I give credit to our defensive staff," said LC head coach Justin Danner, whose team improved to 10-1 on the season. "They did an exceptional job getting our guys ready to play today."

The Stallion defense was led by Shileake Albert with 11 tackles. DeAndre Oliver had eight stops while Deontae Lowery, Travis Hickson, Shykeem Cooper and Corey King each had five. Jamonte Belin and Trey Robinson each had a quarterback sack.

Lee Central's rushing attack, which features numerous running backs, garnered a total of 334 yards on 39 carries, averaging 8.5 yards a carry.

The offense was led by Shamari Simon with 108 yards rushing and a touchdown. Demetrius Dubose added 119 yards rushing. Edward Benjamin, Owen Lewis and Mike Watters each had a rushing touchdown.

When asked what is the secret to his team's rushing attack, Danner said, "We have a lot of different backs that all bring different things. Our offensive line is a huge part as well."

Lee Central received the opening kickoff and started at its 42-yard line. The Stallions established their run game early by marching down the field into the end zone on an all running 8-play, 58-yard scoring drive for a 7-0 lead with 8:36 left in the first quarter.

The Stallions stopped the Raiders on defense, forcing them to punt the ball. On the next drive, the Stallions found the end zone again with a 26-yard run from Benjamin.

After appearing to be stopped again, the Raiders got into the end zone off of a fake punt direct snap to quarterback Alajawaun Robinson, who went 65 yards to cut Lee

Central's lead to 14-7 with 26 seconds left in the first quarter. Lee Central's special teams redeemed itself instantly when wide receiver Dayrice Austin returned the ensuing kickoff 83 yards for a touchdown to give his team a 21-7 through the first quarter.

After being pinned at its 1-yard line, Lee Central gave up a safety, making the score 21-9 with 9:52 left in the second quarter.

The Stallions settled down, however, and scored on a 61-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Ti'jaun Durant to wide receiver Ontavious Jackson. A 15-yard rushing touchdown gave them a stout 35-9 lead at halftime.

The second half was more of the same as Lee Central stood behind its intimidating defense and unstoppable rushing attack. An all rushing 7-play, 56-yard scoring drive finished the Stallions' scoring on the night.

The Stallions will play host to the Sabres of Southside Christian on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

"No matter what, it's going to be tough coming through here next week," Danner said of the upcoming contest.

S.C. PREP SCORES

SCHSL

5A First Round
Upper State
Dorman 42, Woodmont 7
Gaffney 33, Easley 14
Hillcrest 40, Fort Mill 14
Mauldin 27, Rock Hill 7
Spartanburg 31, Westside 17, OT
T.L. Hanna 57, James F. Byrnes 7
Greenwood 35, Nation Ford 14
Northwestern 58, Laurens 7
Lower State
Carolina Forest 34, Lexington 21
Conway 34, Wando 10
Dutch Fork 77, Stratford 20
Fort Dorchester 49, Socastee 15
Spring Valley 28, West Ashley 0
Summerville 29, Irmo 7
Sumter 35, White Knoll 7
West Florence 42, Ashley Ridge 35, 20T
Second Round
Friday
Upper State
Greenwood at T.L. Hanna
Mauldin at Rock Hill
Gaffney at Northwestern
Spartanburg at Hillcrest
Lower State
West Florence at Dutch Fork
Sumter at Summerville
Spring Valley at Conway
Carolina Forest at Fort Dorchester

4A First Round
Upper State
Belton-Honea Path 24, Union County 21
Eastside 45, Wren 23
Greenville 64, Blue Ridge 18
Greer 42, D.W. Daniel 7
South Aiken 47, Ridge View 28
South Pointe 67, Midland Valley 14
Westwood 23, North Augusta 13
York 55, Airport 14
Lower State
Berkeley 21, Marlboro County 7
Cane Bay 42, Wilson 25
Crestwood 28, Chapin 14
Hartsville 45, Orangeburg-Wilkinson 6
Lower Richland 38, Darlington 6
Lugoff-Elgin 38, Dreher 21
Myrtle Beach 48, Beaufort 7
North Myrtle Beach 59, Colleton County 36
Second Round
Friday
Upper State
York at Greenville
South Aiken at Greer
Belton-Honea path at South Pointe
Westwood at Eastside
Lower State
Myrtle Beach at Lower Richland
Cane Bay at Hartsville
Crestwood at North Myrtle Beach
Lugoff-Elgin at Berkeley

3A First Round
Upper State
Cheraw at Blacksburg
Chesterfield at Abbeville
Ninety Six at Saluda
Southside Christian at Lee Central
Lower State
Latta at Bamberg-Ehrhardt
Woodland at Carvers Bay
Batesburg-Leesville at Whale Branch
Andrews at Barnwell

Upper State
Broome 31, Walhalla 24
Chapman 57, Crescent 13
Chester 61, Powdersville 28
Emerald 48, Indian Land 23
Fairfield Central 29, Southside 22
Newberry 38, Pendleton 34
Palmetto 19, Camden 7
Seneca 18, Clinton 14
Lower State
Bishop England 32, Battery Creek 26
Bluffton 22, Hanahan 21
Brookland-Cayce 53, Loris 22
Dillon 35, Strom Thurmond 7
Georgetown 29, Swansea 0
Gilbert 57, Aynor 16
Timberland 12, May River 10
Wade Hampton (H) 23, Manning 18
Second Round
Friday
Upper State
Chester at Chapman
Palmetto at Seneca
Newberry at Fairfield Central
Broome at Emerald
Lower State
Bluffton at Gilbert
Bishop England at Dillon
Brookland-Cayce at Wade Hampton
Georgetown at Timberland

2A First Round
Upper State
Abbeville 42, St. Joseph 6
Blacksburg 24, Liberty 17
Cheraw 28, Gray Coll. Academy 18
Chesterfield 34, Fox Creek 23
Lee Central 42, W.J. Keenan 16
Ninety Six 56, Christ Church 36
Saluda 24, Central 21
Southside Christian 50, Chesnee 0
Lower State
Andrews 48, Garrett 0
Bamberg-Ehrhardt 51, Kingstree 13
Batesburg-Leesville 41, Mullins 18
Carvers Bay 48, Calhoun County 12
Latta 43, North Charleston 12
Whale Branch 30, Buford 27
Woodland 27, Silver Bluff 0
Second Round
Friday
Upper State
Cheraw at Blacksburg
Chesterfield at Abbeville
Ninety Six at Saluda
Southside Christian at Lee Central
Lower State
Latta at Bamberg-Ehrhardt
Woodland at Carvers Bay
Batesburg-Leesville at Whale Branch
Andrews at Barnwell

1A First Round
Upper State
Dixie 38, Blackville-Hilda 12
Hunter-Kinard-Tyler 50, Whitmire 10
Lewisville 31, Wagener-Salley 2
Timmonsville 72, Denmark-Olar 8
Lower State
Cross 26, East Clarendon 10
Green Sea Floyds 20, Scott's Branch 18
Hannah-Pamplico 57, Military Mag-

net Academy 22
St. John's 46, Bethune-Bowman 6
Second Round
Friday
Upper State
Lewisville at McCormick
Timmonsville at Ridge Spring
Monetta
Hunter-Kinard-Tyler at Lamar
Dixie at Williston-Elko
Lower State
Green Sea-Floyds at Baptist Hill
Cross at Lake View
Hannah-Pamplico at C.E. Murray
St. John's at Hemingway

SCISA
3A First Round
Laurence Manning, 20, Wilson Hall 14
Porter-Gaud 20, Pinewood Prep 7
Semifinals
Friday
Laurence Manning at Ben Lippen
Porter-Gaud at Hammond

2A First Round
First Baptist 52, Spartanburg Christian 0
Florence Christian 24, St. Andrew's, Ga. 22
Robert E. Lee 42, Hilton Head Christian 7
Trinity Byrnes 41, Northwood 10
Semifinals
Friday
Robert E. Lee at First Baptist
Florence Christian at Trinity-Byrnes

1A First Round
Carolina Academy 41, Dorchester 6
Dillon Christian 35, John Paul II 0
Pee Dee 49, Colleton Prep 20
Thomas Heyward 20, Christian Academy of Myrtle Beach 14

SEMIFINALS
Friday
Pee Dee at Thomas Heyward
Carolina at Dillon Christian
8-Man Division I
First Round
Wardlaw 80, Cathedral Academy 12
Northside Christian 60, Summerville Faith Christian 52
Beaufort Academy 40, Holly Hill Academy 6
St. John's Christian at Coastal Christian

KNIGHTS FROM PAGE B1

Nelson said of the key to his team's comeback win. "We were coming into a hostile environment against a good Chapin team that's scoring a lot of points, but I think our kids hung in there and they kept on fighting the whole game."

The Eagles end their campaign with a 7-4 record while Crestwood moves to 6-5. The 14 points by Chapin tied a season-low.

Wide receiver Joshua Simon was once again a key to Crestwood's success, hauling in six catches for 175 yards and a score. That score was a game changer as it came three plays after Chapin's second score, with quarterback Anthony Bradley hitting Simon in stride down the right sidelines for 75 yards.

The end of the first half created another momentum-shifting chain of events, with Crestwood blocking a field goal attempt and driving 80 yards in seven plays, with Bradley able to score with no time on the clock to pull Crestwood within one.

Gavyn Zimmerman's point-after kick was wide right, leaving Chapin with a 14-13 lead, but the Knights were riding a heavy wave of momentum heading into the locker room.

"We were down by 14 (early), but we got our feet underneath us, we settled down and there wasn't much correction or suggestions made at halftime," Nelson said. "I just challenged the guys to empty the bucket, give it all you've got for the next two quarters. We

challenged them to come out there and bust their tails, and that's exactly what they did."

Crestwood's third possession of the second half would prove to be fruitful as Bardley capped a 9-play, 80-yard drive with his second 1-yard scoring run of the game. Bradley then passed to White for the 2-point conversion and a 21-14 Knights lead with 1:19 to go in the third quarter.

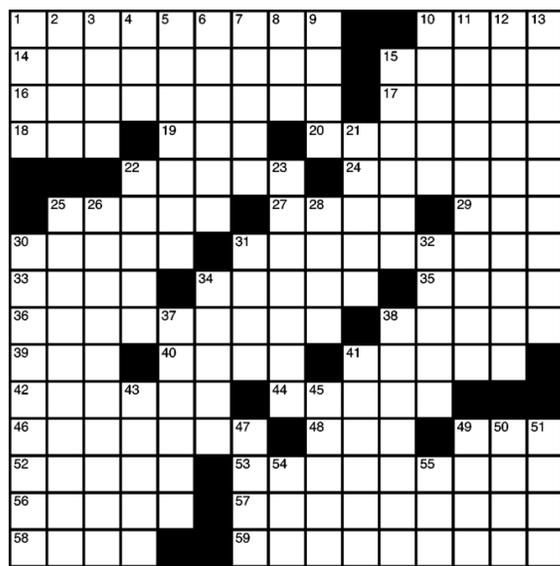
Crestwood's final score of the night came after a Chapin miscue on a Javarius Bradley punt. After a 3-and-out defensive stop at the Crestwood 30, Bradley launched a 47-yard punt that was touched and lost by Chapin in a moment of indecision, with the Knights recovering at the 17. Six plays later, Anthony Bradley found White in the corner of the end zone for a 3-yard score gave Crestwood an insurmountable 14-point lead with 6:22 left.

After making the playoffs for a second consecutive year, this win gives Nelson and the Knights a chance to play a week longer than last year, though North Myrtle Beach will provide a very stiff challenge. The Region VI champion Chiefs ran their record to 11-0 on Friday with a 59-36 win over Colleton County.

"It's big, it's big for the program," Nelson said of the significance of getting a playoff win. "These seniors who came in here with me have been through a lot and come a long way, and to get a playoff win in their senior year, that's outstanding. But we're not satisfied. We're just going to enjoy the moment tonight and get back to work on Sunday."

SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By C.C. Burnikel

11/4/17

- ACROSS**
- 1 It features remotely controlled utilities
 - 10 Blue Moon of '60s-'70s baseball
 - 14 One who fits perfectly
 - 15 Your, of yore
 - 16 Consequences of compliments
 - 17 Seashore birds
 - 18 Oscar Wilde, e.g.
 - 19 Bud
 - 20 Biscotti bits
 - 22 Lane of "Unfaithful"
 - 24 Sunny
 - 25 Without question
 - 27 Expo display
 - 29 Deli option
 - 30 Action film scene
 - 31 Works out
 - 33 Hair piece
 - 34 Lines at department stores
 - 35 Blanc, e.g.
 - 36 Online place for handmade goods
 - 38 Vexes
 - 39 Bustle
 - 40 Koi
 - 41 In a romantic fashion, lighting-wise
 - 42 "Grey's Anatomy" star Ellen
 - 44 Running legend
 - 46 Rabbit dangles
 - 48 2015 World Golf Award winner for Golf Course Designer of the Year
 - 49 Ended a standing ovation
 - 52 Light
 - 53 Crowdfunding website
 - 56 Focus quartet
 - 57 Disorderly places
 - 58 "Vous __ ici"
 - 59 Bar item
 - 10 Laura's classic cry on "The Dick Van Dyke Show"
 - 11 Restaurant freebie
 - 12 Sale limit
 - 13 Private dining rooms?
 - 15 Playing speeds
 - 21 Sweetener units
 - 22 Like late twilight
 - 23 Facebook co-founder
 - 25 "I've had enough!"
 - 26 Program that holds you up?
 - 28 Palindromic supermodel
 - 30 Easy-to-please companion
 - 31 Grunt
 - 32 Mosque leaders
 - 34 Condescend
 - 37 Sticks a fork in
 - 38 Root widely used in traditional Chinese medicine
 - 41 Remove from an exchange
 - 43 Barre bends
 - 45 United with
 - 47 Formal addressees
 - 49 Player who failed to lead the league in all three seasons in which he hit 60+ home runs
 - 50 CIA operatives
 - 51 Scrap
 - 54 Casual denial
 - 55 Holder of locks

DOWN

- 1 Eurasian duck
- 2 Star followers
- 3 Loads
- 4 Gray
- 5 Sprint competitor
- 6 "Woo-hoo!"
- 7 Can't stop eating, as snack food
- 8 Bumped into
- 9 Animated queen of Arendelle

Friday's Puzzle Solved



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

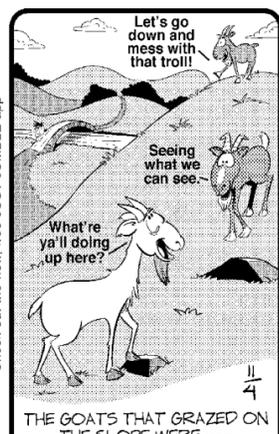
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RSIKE

LEOLH

GLINVI

BAGOLL



THE GOATS THAT GRAZED ON THE SLOPE WERE ____

“(Answers Monday)”

Yesterday's Jumbles: BOOTH WOUND FOSSIL VORTEX
Answer: The rescue team reached him in the forest, but he wasn't — OUT OF THE WOODS

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	5	8	1	7	9	3	4	6
4	7	6	3	5	2	9	1	8
9	1	3	6	8	4	2	5	7
5	3	1	4	6	8	7	2	9
7	2	4	9	3	5	6	8	1
6	8	9	7	2	1	4	3	5
3	6	5	2	1	7	8	9	4
8	4	7	5	9	3	1	6	2
1	9	2	8	4	6	5	7	3

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

9		3				4		
4			8	2				
8	7	9						
		5		6	9			7
		8	1			5		
9			4	2			6	
					7	4		6
			2	3				1
5					8			7

11/4 © 2017 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

THE ANSWERS TO THESE PUZZLES CAN BE FOUND ON TODAY'S DAILY PLANNER PAGE.



TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

Laurence Manning Academy wide receiver Taylor Lee makes a catch in the end zone just before halftime during the Swampcats' 20-14 overtime victory over Wilson Hall in the opening round of the SCISA 3A state football playoffs at Billy Chitwood Field in Manning on Friday.

LMA FROM PAGE B1

an amazing amount of credit," Briggs said. "They've got some of their better players out. I thought (Wilson Hall's Brandon) Carraway gave them a spark being back at fullback, and we're thankful for the win. Tall test next week."

Osteen led all offensive players with 90 yards and a touchdown on 19 carries and was 4-of-8 passing for 51 yards with one touchdown and one interception.

The Swampcat defense held Wilson Hall under 100 yards of total offense, limiting the Barons to 82 yards on 40 rushes and a 9-yard touchdown reception and an interception on three attempts.

Trailing 14-7 in the third quarter, the Barons held LMA to a 3-downs-and-out on the opening drive of the half and then marched 55 yards in six plays, including a 25-yard burst by Landon Van Patten to the LMA 15, before quarterback Jacob Cotton capped the drive with a 15-yard touchdown run and Herlong's kick tied the game at 14-14.

"We get a chance to go to overtime, and they just got us," said an emotional Wilson

Hall head coach Adam Jarecki after addressing his senior players one-by-one after the game.

"I'm proud of them and the way they played hard," Jarecki said. "I've got good kids and they play hard, and that's all I can ask for."

LMA scored on its opening drive, going 55 yards on nine plays, all of them runs, and taking a 6-0 lead on a 2-yard plunge by Osteen. Jackson Lee's point-after kick made it 7-0 midway through the first quarter.

Wilson Hall answered in the second stanza when a big quarterback sack and a short punt set the Barons up with a short field at the Swampcats' 26-yard line. Four plays later, Cotton found tight end Mitchell Matthews in the corner of the end zone, and Herlong's kick tied it at 7 apiece.

It appeared the teams would go into halftime tied, but a fumble set up LMA at the Wilson Hall 14-yard line with only 30 seconds left in the half, and Osteen found senior standout Taylor Lee for paydirt on first down, and Jackson Lee's kick gave LMA a 14-7 advantage at the break.

SHS FROM PAGE B1

"(Head) Coach (Mark Barnes) talked to us before the game about remembering what it felt like after last year," Henry said. "He told us we needed to be hungry when we went on the field tonight. I think we were hungry."

SHS received the opening kickoff and seven 55 yards in seven plays. Henry had 38 of the yards on four carries, but running back Da'jon Butts went the final nine yards for the touchdown. After a 5-yard penalty, the extra point attempt was missed, leaving the score at 6-0 with 9:57 left in the first quarter.

"We came out and took charge on both sides of the ball from the very beginning," said Barnes, who saw his team improve to 9-2 on the season. "We were the more physical team tonight, and that's what we needed to be. I thought when the game was in the balance we played very well."

Sumter had 302 yards of total offense in the opening half, 227 of it coming on the ground. Henry was responsible for 157 of it on 18 car-

ries.

Meanwhile, the defense gave up just 116 yards of total offense and only 25 of those came on in the ground. Fifty-nine of those yards came on one play – a touchdown pass from quarterback Aveon Smith to wide receiver Keon Clary early in the second quarter to pull the Timberwolves within 21-7 early in the second quarter.

"I thought we did a good job defensively, especially in the first half," Barnes said. "We were really getting after it. We've got to do a better job of taking down the quarterback when we get to him, but we played really well."

After going three downs and out on its second possessions, the Gamecocks were set up with a short field when linebacker Antonio Roach recovered a fumble at the WK 32-yard line. SHS was in the end zone in six plays with Henry doing the honors this time, going in from nine yards out. Butts ran for the 2-point conversion to make it 14-0 with 3:55 left in the first

quarter.

The next Sumter got the ball it went 64 yards in nine plays. Anthony Dinkins-McCall took a direct snap and went in for the touchdown. Roman Childers added the extra point to make it 21-0 with 10:46 left in the first half.

After the White Knoll touchdown, quickly regained any lost momentum when quarterback Ontra Harvin connected with Dinkins-McCall for a 54-yard TD pass.

Henry scored the final touchdown on a 14-yard run. He finished with 203 yards and two touchdowns on 27 carries. He also gathered in two flick passes from Harvin for 37 yards.

"I give all the credit to the play calling and the offensive line," said Henry, who was playing behind the starting offensive line for the first time in several weeks due to injuries. "I just tell my linemen that if they open me a hole I'll get through there."

"Jonathan is an example of someone who has grown up," Barnes said. "He just continues to work hard to improve himself as a player."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sumter High running back Jonathan Henry (16) carries the ball during the Gamecocks' 35-7 victory over White Knoll on Friday in the opening round of the 5A state playoffs at Memorial Stadium.

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Maxcy G. Cockerill
Air Force
Rank: Airman First Class

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Christmas comes but once but the joy of a lasts forever. y Christmas. Love Dad

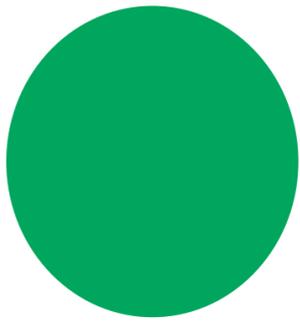
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USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE



THIS WEEK

- 76% don't know when Open Enrollment is (Nov. 1).
- 78% of respondents couldn't identify the essential health benefits their insurance is required to cover under the Affordable Care Act.
- 22% don't know that kids can stay on parents' plans until age 26.
- More than 18% didn't think the ACA was still the law of the land. Source: Policygenius.com

ON THE MOVE

Stock stories of the week

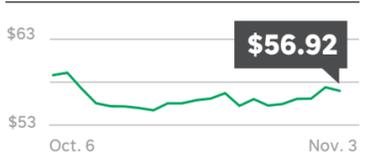
STRAYER EDUCATION

The online university agreed to acquire Capella Education on Monday and their network would have 80,000 students across the U.S. The deal valued Capella Education at \$80.26 a share and the price is 22% above Capella's last Friday closing.



BEST BUY

The electronics retailer stopped selling full priced iPhone X and iPhone 8/8 Plus models after consumers complained about the retailer charging a \$100 premium on the already expensive smartphones on Tuesday.



AMERICAN EXPRESS

The financial services company is set to release The Hilton Honors American Express Aspire Card in January. The new card offers 14 points per dollar spent at the hotel chain's properties, topping 7 points for flights, car rentals and etc.



AT&T

The conglomerate's acquisition of Time Warner hits a speed bump as The Department of Justice considers to file an antitrust lawsuit to block the deal. The company still expects to get approval and says everything is on track.



USA SNAPSHOTS®

42%

of adults are not willing to pay to use their debit card to get cash from an out-of-network ATM.



SOURCE National Foundation for Credit Counseling 2017 Financial Literacy Survey of 1,649 adults
Jae Yang; Paul Trap/USA TODAY



GETTY IMAGES

Just what the doctor ordered

Lacie Glover NerdWallet

People eligible for health savings accounts fall into three categories: good candidates, great candidates and those who'd be better off staying away. • Money in an HSA isn't taxed when you deposit, invest or withdraw it for approved, IRS-designated medical expenses. Once you're 65, you can withdraw the cash for any reason, medical or not. Some financial experts call an HSA a better savings vehicle than a 401(k). • There's one giant string attached: You must have a high-deductible health plan to open or contribute to an HSA.

A great HSA candidate

The best candidates won't need to spend HSA funds on short-term health care.

- Great HSA candidates:
- Can contribute the annual limit
 - Typically have low medical expenses and don't often reach their annual health plan deductible
 - Are young and can accumulate more money over a lifetime

A good HSA candidate

Few people are young, healthy and well-off enough to drop thousands into a special account each year: 55% of HSA owners exhaust their balance yearly, according to a 2016 Merrill Lynch report.

However, you're still a good candidate for an HSA if your medical costs are reasonably low and you can contribute enough money to cover them. In this case, the HSA's tax benefits can still come in handy.

Who should stay away

In this category, the HSA isn't the issue. It's the high-deductible health plan you must have that will cover few expenses until you've paid at least \$1,350 (individual) or \$2,700 (family). After that, you could pay 10% to 40% out of pocket for each covered service, up to \$6,650 for an individual or \$13,300 for a family in 2018.

So go for a higher-coverage plan. NerdWallet is a USA TODAY content partner.

TAMING YOUR BUDGET-BUSTING BILLS

Start cutting costs now, save for your future

David Carrig
USA TODAY

Do you have a hard time paying your bills? Would you like to cut your costs and free up your money for better uses? We can help.

USA TODAY is launching a weekly series on how to lower your monthly bills and cut your costs so you can put your money to work for you. Each week, we will look at one of your monthly bills and offer tips on how to cut that bill and save you money. But first you need to start by creating a budget and seeing where your money goes.

It is often said that death and taxes are the only two things that are certain

in this world.

But for many of us, having to pay your bills each month might be a close third.

Whether you have them automatically withdrawn from your bank account or you still sit down, write out checks and mail them, paying your bills keeps a roof over your head, lights on in your house and food on the table.

For many Americans, the monthly bill-paying ritual prompts the question: Where did all my money go? Or even worse: Finding out you don't have enough money to pay for everything.

"About a quarter of Americans have no emergency savings," says Bankrate.com chief financial analyst Greg McBride, a situation that leaves them financially vulnerable. A recent survey

found that 78% of full-time workers say they live paycheck-to-paycheck.

So what can you do to make sure you have enough money each month to not only pay your bills but also be able to save for your future and achieve your financial goals? Start by creating a budget. It will help you take control of your money, see where it's going and point to areas where you might be able to cut costs and save money.

"A budget helps you get organized with your spending so you can meet your financial goals," says NerdWallet's personal finance writer Kimberly Palmer. "A budget is like a map with a suggested route for your money — it gives you gentle reminders and redirections when necessary."

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow Jones industrial average ▲0.4% week ▲3.9% month ▲6.5% 3 months	S&P 500 ▲0.3% week ▲2.0% month ▲4.5% 3 months	Nasdaq composite index ▲0.9% week ▲3.5% month ▲6.5% 3 months	Wilshire 5000 ▲0.2% week ▲1.7% month ▲4.5% 3 months	Gold Ounce, Comex ▼0.2% week ▼0.6% month ▲0.7% 3 months	Oil Light sweet crude ▲3.2% week ▲11.3% month ▲12.2% 3 months	Euro Dollars per euro ▲0.0009 week ▼0.0156 month ▼0.0161 3 months	Yen Yen per dollar ▲0.35 week ▲1.41 month ▲3.49 3 months
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PERSONAL FINANCE

Good or bad:

Make a final wish for the greater good in lieu of inheritance



ISTOCK PHOTOS

Choosing not to bequeath an inheritance to your adult children isn't evil



Pete the Planner

Peter Dunn
Special for USA TODAY

I don't know why, but everywhere I go, people feel the need to spill their financial guts to me. On planes, at conferences, and even in restaurant bathrooms, people tend to divulge their deepest darkest dollar disclosures.

When it comes to financial confessions, I like to think of myself as clergy. I'm not judging you for your financial sins, but I do want to help you move-on from matters of money malfeasance.

At a hotel bar in Providence, R.I., and last week, a man was revealing his deepest darkest secret — at his passing, he didn't want to leave any money to his adult children. The kids were doing fine, had great jobs, and based on his observations, seemed as though they could handle a large influx of money. Yet, he planned to make a children's hospital the primary beneficiary of his estate.

"I love my children very much, and I have nothing against them, but I don't want to leave them money. I want to provide for other members of my community. The money will have a much bigger impact if I don't leave it to my children. Does that make me a bad parent? I feel like a bad parent," he opined.

There's no sin here.

In fact, my current plan isn't too different from the vodka tonic confessor.

Squirm if you must, but you are under no obligation, moral or otherwise, to leave money to your adult children. If you want to, great. If you don't want to, that's great too. But don't feel bad about your decision either way.

If you hope to better understand the dynamics here, look no further than the bread to your sandwich — your parents and your children. Your parents

can do whatever they want with their money. They owe you nothing. If upon their passing they decide to bequeath their bucks to a ferret rehab organization, then so be it.

Do you believe your parents have an obligation to leave you their money? If like me, you don't believe your parents owe you anything financially, then you can get to a place in which you don't believe you owe your adult children anything financially. Believe what you like, but I have a hard time believing a person can be OK with feeling entitled to an inheritance while at the same time denying their children's entitlement to an inheritance.

Once my children are grown, I don't feel obligated to account for them financially when I die. Maybe this will change as I grow older, which I'll have to in order for them to be adults. But at this point in my life, I simply feel that whatever money is leftover would have more of an impact somewhere else in my community.

Don't mistake this for me not trusting my children with money. At 8 and 5 years old respectively, my kids would likely blow money on gummy worms and Kidz Bop albums, but I'm sure that will change as they mature.

Just as I don't want my financial life intertwined with my parents, I don't want my financial life intertwined with my (future) adult children. This isn't to suggest that I or the guy in the Rhode Island bar wouldn't help our kids if they needed something. It's simply a case of not wanting to overcomplicate my finances or my relationships.

If you feel strongly about this idea, no matter what side you're on, talk to your family about it. I'm not much for leaving important matters like these unaddressed. Talk about it with everyone.

No matter what you decide, make sure your final wishes are granted with the use of proper insurance and estate planning vehicles. If you're wanting to create a giant financial legacy for your family or your community, then undoubtedly leveraging life insurance to do will be part of your plans. When you don't leave final documents behind, such as will and trust documentation, then you lose all say in what happens to your money.

Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host. Have a question about money for Pete the Planner? Email him at Ask-Pete@petetheplanner.com

CUTTING THE CORD

Cable companies may spike broadband prices

Adam Levy
The Motley Fool

It seems like every quarter, more cable customers are cutting the cord. AT&T recently reported that it lost 390,000 linear video subscribers in the third quarter. Last month, Comcast warned that it expects to lose between 100,000 and 150,000 subscribers, partly due to competition and partly due to the hurricanes that hit the southern United States. UBS analyst John Hodulik estimates the pay-TV industry lost over 1 million subscribers in the third quarter, compared with just 325,000 in the same quarter last year.

Even as more consumers cut the cord, they're still reliant on AT&T, Comcast, or their local provider for broadband internet. How else are they going to stream all that video content to replace their cable subscription? But Jefferies analyst Mike McCormack estimates the average customer moving from a triple-play bundle to broadband-only costs each service operator \$32 in EBITDA.

Aggressive bundling

Before cable companies go about raising their prices, it seems they'd rather get subscribers to bundle video service with one of their other services. They're offering big discounts to subscribers to add a television package of some sort.

AT&T has been the most aggressive. It's offering \$25 off any of its television services (DirecTV, U-Verse, DirecTV Now) for subscribers to its high-end unlimited wireless data plan. Lower-end unlimited subscribers can still get \$25 off DirecTV Now, and any unlimited plan qualifies for free HBO. AT&T's position in wireless allows it to be more aggressive with its bundling, as it benefits from a lower churn rate for its wireless subscribers.

Comcast and Charter have been aggressive as well. Both are offering some broadband-only subscribers a low-

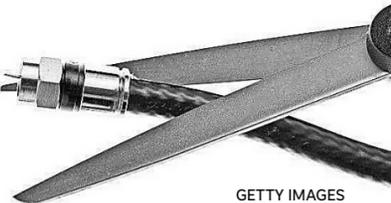
priced streaming video option to compete with skinny bundles and other over-the-top streaming services like AT&T's DIRECTV Now.

Increasing prices

Aggressive bundling could put a damper on profit margins at big service providers, but could still result in greater earnings due to higher revenue and greater customer retention.

Combining aggressive bundles with increased broadband-only prices, though, offers the best of both worlds (for cable companies, not consumers).

Price elasticity for broadband internet is relatively low. Most markets don't have very many competitors, so substitutes for the service are hard to find.



GETTY IMAGES

So, if cable providers increase their pricing, consumers will probably pay it, especially if they're reliant on streaming video for entertainment.

Operators can justify higher prices to consumers by providing faster connection speeds and phasing out lower-speed options.

Increasing broadband-only prices should offset the margin pressure from aggressive bundling.

It should also help offset the lost revenue from cord-cutting. While consumers might not be happy about it, investors can benefit if they see their monthly internet bill increase.

Levy has no position in any of the stocks mentioned. The Motley Fool has no position in any of the stocks mentioned. The Motley Fool has a disclosure policy.

The Motley Fool is a USA TODAY content partner.

THE WEEK AHEAD



The low unemployment rate means companies are making extraordinary attempts to find and retain talent. KEITH SRAKOCIC/AP

Survey could show strong jobs picture despite hurricanes

Paul Davidson
USA TODAY

A light week of economic news features a survey that could provide a clearer picture of the labor market that filters out the distorting effects of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Also on tap: reports on bank lending and consumer credit.

On **Monday**, the Federal Reserve releases its third-quarter survey of bank senior loan officers. The survey could begin to draw more attention as banks grow a bit more cautious in light of the aging economic recovery, which began in 2009. For example, in the second quarter, banks tightened lending standards on commercial real estate loans while demand weakened, notes Nomura economist Lewis Alexander. And while mortgage criteria eased, standards on new and used auto loans got stricter. Alexander figures the Fed's latest report will show standards for all of those loans remained more stringent in the July-September period.

The Labor Department on Friday said the economy added 261,000 jobs in October, rebounding after hurricanes in Texas and Florida limited pay-

roll advances to 18,000 the previous month. But it's difficult to tease out any hurricane effects from the overall hiring picture across the U.S. On **Tuesday**, Labor releases its Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, which digs beneath the net job growth total to track the number of openings, hires and quits at U.S. workplaces. It should be largely unaffected by the storms because of the when the survey is conducted, Alexander says. In August, the 6.1 million job openings hovered near an all-time record and the 5.4 million hires were also healthy. If the totals stayed high in September, it could signify a sturdy labor market that wasn't blown off course by the hurricanes.

Consumer credit has been increased steadily as households chilled by the 2008 financial crisis and recession have grown more comfortable using their credit cards. It's also a result of steady job and income growth. Consumer spending, Alexander notes, expanded solidly in the third quarter despite the hurricanes. And so economists estimate the Fed will announce that outstanding consumer credit swelled by \$17.5 billion in September, up from \$13.1 billion the previous month.

REFLECTIONS

Sponsored by VFW Post 3034

Haynie Wilson: 'Duty, honor, country'



Haynie Mciver Wilson, USMRC, was killed in action on Iwo Jima on March 11, 1945, according to a message to his wife, the former Miss Connie Stevens of Hartsville, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Wilson. He had been overseas since November of 1944, having entered the service on June 29, 1944.

As Veterans Day approaches, Reflections remembers the sacrifices of those who served in our country's military. This edition focuses on a young man whose life epitomized the youth of his era and their willingness to serve, protect and defend the ideals on which this nation was founded. Haynie M. Wilson was everyone's All-American in high school.

Wilson graduated from Sumter High School with the class of 1937. While attending school, he participated in the school's military program, serving as a major of his battalion. He was also president of his home-room and the Block S Club. He was selected to serve as athletic editor of the Hi-Ways year-book and was chosen as captain of the football team



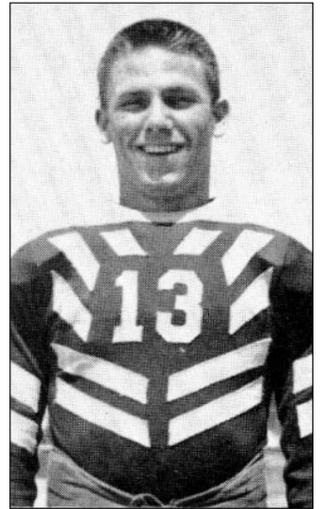
Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS

by his teammates. He was voted the most valuable player on the team and selected to the first team of South Carolina's All-State football team. He also served on a number of other clubs and committees while in high school.

After graduation, he attended what was then Clemson College. He married the former Miss Connie Stevens from Hartsville and later worked as an engineer for the Atlantic Coast Railroad before entering military service on June 29, 1944. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and was sent to Parris Island to complete his basic training before being sent to Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton before he was sent overseas in November of 1944.

Wilson was reported killed in action on March 11, 1945, while participating in the conflict on Iwo Jima, one of the largest and most costly battles undertaken by the Marine Corps. The conflict involved about 110,000 Marines, Army, Navy corpsmen and Army Air Corps who suffered 6,821 killed and 19,217 wounded during the five-week battle (Feb. 19, 1945 — March 26, 1945). The "five-week battle, comprised some of the fiercest fighting of the Pacific War Theater during World War II."

Wilson's remains were returned to Sumter, and services were held at Shelley-Brunson Funeral home on April 18, 1948. Interment followed in Sumter Cemetery with full



Wilson, who was captain of the football team at Sumter High during his senior year, is seen in his 1937 yearbook photo.



Wilson was buried at Sumter Cemetery with military honors.

military honors. His commitment to service and bravery in action has brought honor to his community and nation.

The photos and articles used to create this article were taken from The Sumter Item archives and the 1937 Sumter High year-book.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at waysammy@yahoo.com or (803) 774-1294.

Marine Corps Hymn

2nd stanza

*Our flag's unfurled to every breeze
From dawn to setting sun
We have fought in ev'ry clime and place
Where we could take a gun
In the snow of far-off Northern lands
And in sunny tropic scenes
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Here's health to you and to our Corps
Which we are proud to serve
In many a strife we've fought for life
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By United States Marines*



Wilson was killed March 11, 1945, in the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II.



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YESTERYEAR

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New library given official approval by its board of trustees

75 YEARS AGO — 1943

May 29 — June 4

First Lt. Benjamin F. Fizzano, 23, and Pilot Officer George Lammie of the Royal Air Force, 20, both of whom were stationed at Shaw Field, were among eight men killed in the crash of a B-24 bomber at Smyrna, Tennessee, the Shaw Field public relations office announced. Two other occupants of the plane were seriously injured, it was reported.



Yesteryear in Sumter

SAMMY WAY

• A large group of boys and their parents attended the annual Parents Night program at the YMCA. The Rev. W.H. Stender

opened the program by asking the invocation. Awards were presented to the boys by the following members of the Y board of directors: George Bultman, W.C. Eldridge, Logan L. Phillips, George Hurst Jr., the Rev. W.H. Stender, C.R. Penny and W.E. Bynum.

• Austin M. Francis, general secretary of the Sumter YMCA since 1930, leaves for New York City to take a special course of study for the next three weeks at Columbia University before assuming duties as executive director of the USO-YMCA service program at Warner Robins Air Base, Warner Robins, Georgia. ... In his new field, Mr. Francis will direct the social, recreational and athletic activities in a newly developed town of war workers and their families.

• The Pilot Club held its regular meeting at the Coca-Cola Community Room with the new president, Ruth Lawrence presiding. The attendance was unusually good. Louise Earle presented Maude Bateman, district governor of District No. 5, and Lucile McKiever, district secretary. Ruth Jennings, program chairman presented Priscilla Shaw, executive director of the Citizens Service Corps, who made a most instructive talk about the work for national defense being done in Sumter County.

• A highly interesting talk on the topic "Radio, and its Future" was given to members of the Sumter Kiwanis Club at the regular meeting by Douglas Youngblood, vice president of radio station WFIG. A visitor present at the meeting was Lt. John Bailly Littlejohn, son of Dr. and Mrs. T.R. Littlejohn. The speaker traced the early part radio played in the war and then told of the many new inventions planned by radio experts for the world tomorrow.

• Farmers of Sumter County seem to have found what county agent J.M. Eleazer calls "the missing link in our livestock grazing program" in a combination of small grains and legumes for winter grazing pastures. "One of our farmers, J.F. Bland, has such an outstanding piece of winter grazing that we have induced most of our livestock farmers to see it and all of them are greatly impressed with it," says Mr. Eleazer.

• Robert J. Bauman, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Bauman



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

1992 — Bates Middle School's quarterback Fred White runs away from a pair of Alice Drive defenders during the Bantams' 44-22 win at Memorial Stadium. It was the last game of the season for both teams.

won his Navy "Wings of Gold" and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve following completion of the prescribed flight training course at the Naval Air Training Center, Pensacola, Florida. Prior to entering the Naval service, Bauman attended Belmont Abbey for two years and Clemson College for one year where he was a member of the varsity football, baseball and tracks teams.

• The Lincoln Public Library will open for the first time, Superintendent William Henry Shaw of Sumter City Schools announced today. The library will occupy a building on the Lincoln High School grounds, which has been completely renovated and fitted for library purposes. Established under the auspices of the Carnegie Public Library and the city schools, it was given a special appropriation of \$500 from the city of Sumter for the purchase of books. Sally Barnow, a graduate of Lincoln High School last year and a first-year honor student at the State College for Negroes in Orangeburg where she did library work, has been appointed librarian. She will be on duty from 10 until 12 in the morning and from 5 until 9 in the afternoon.

50 YEARS AGO — 1968

Jan. 28 — Feb. 3

Lee Quinn, a sea adventurer, addressed the Executive Club on Feb. 29. Quinn, a fellow of just 40 years of age has been sailing the seven seas and making newspaper headlines while doing it, spoke to the club at the Legion Home. He insisted that he is not an adventurer by profession. "Things just happened," he said. "I don't plan them — they just come about naturally."

• The Sumter basketball team sputtered for three quarters before erupting for 20 points in the final period to turn back a youthful Hartsville team, 56-37, in a non-conference basketball contest at

the Edmunds gym. The Gamecocks won their ninth game of the year against four setbacks, worked their offensive patterns beautifully during three-fourths of the game, breaking loose for easy lay-ups most of the night. Spearheading the Sumter attack was Jimmy Trembley, who tallied 26 points, followed by Sidney Brown with 16. They were the only Gamecocks to finish in double figures.

• A \$139,591 project covering construction of curb and gutters, sidewalks, street paving and drainage on Atlantic Avenue and Maney, Meehan and Fulton streets will begin soon, according to W.M. Hodge, chairman of the Sumter County Board of Commissioners.

• An award of a \$963,837 contract for construction of an additional road to provide a four-lane divided highway on U. S. 76 through the Wateree River Swamp in Richland and Sumter counties was announced by the State Highway Department. The contact was awarded to L-J, Incorporated and Eastern Contractors, Inc. of Columbia, according to Chief Highway Commissioner Silas N. Pearman. Six bids were entered ranging as high as \$1,686, 240 and the Columbia firms was the lowest. The project, 3.93 miles long, extends from the end of the four-lane section west of the Wateree River to the beginning of four lanes east of the river. This is the only section of the Route 76 between Columbia and Sumter which does not now have four lanes.

• James W. Weeks Jr., of Pinewood completed his initial training at Delta Air Lines training school at the Atlanta Airport and was assigned to the airline's Atlanta pilot base as a second officer. Weeks graduated from the Darlington School at Rome, Georgia, and attended Clemson University. Prior to joining Delta, he was a pilot in the U. S. Navy for 11 1/2 years, retiring as a lieutenant (senior grade).

• Announcement was made

today by Fulton B. Creech that he would erect an addition to the Edward's store on North Main street that would add 10,000 square feet of floor space to the present building. With the new addition, Edwards would have approximately 25,000 square feet of floor space on the ground, plus warehouse space on the second floor and mezzanine. The buildings that would be razed for the addition were the store recently vacated by the Perfection Bakery and the former home of the National Bank of South Carolina and in recent years radio station WFIG.

• Hugh Toland Stoddard Jr. of Sumter represented Furman University as a member of the General Electric College Bowl team on the nationally televised G.E. College Bowl on NBC on Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. Furman will play the University of Pittsburg, which will be going for its third "win," having defeated the Universities of Kansas and Missouri. Stoddard is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Stoddard and is a senior at Furman majoring in French and chemistry. A Furman Scholar, he was accorded special recognition on Scholarship Day in 1965, 1966 and 1967.

• After taking a 40-34 half-time lead, Sumter's Gamecocks fell apart in the last two quarters as Lancaster rolled to an 84-63 victory at Sumter by outscoring the Gamecocks, 27-6 in the third quarter to take a 61-46 advantage and coast the rest of the way. The Blue Hurricane placed four men in double figures with Rick Kerr and Lynn Rushing leading the way with 23 and 21 points respectively.

• Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Sumter Little Theater have been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 3, according to Marvin Trapp, president of the local theater group, which has been out of a permanent home since 1965. The site of the theater, the construction of which is scheduled to begin Feb. 5, by Trotter Construction Co., is located west of Clemson University at Sumter and east of the water tower behind Alice Drive Junior High School. The site may be reached via a dirt road between Alice Drive Junior High and Alice Drive Baptist Church off Miller Road.

• Sumter County's gleaming new library was given official approval by its board of trustees but is not expected to be open to the public until Feb. 14. The \$317,679 structure, the first building in Sumter's Civic Center, has a capacity of 120,000 books and is designed for the next 20 years of growth. It contains over 15,000 square feet of floor space. Librarian Chapman J. Milling Jr. said he plans to close the old library on West Library Street (Carnegie) on Feb. 7. He anticipates a week will be needed to move the estimated 50,000 volumes into their new home.

25 YEARS AGO — 1992

Oct. 30 — Nov. 5

Bates Middle School coach Coley White was almost too kind for his own good at Memorial Stadium. Leading 38-0 in the third quarter of the annual rival clash with Alice Drive Middle School, White elected to sit his regu-

lars down, only to see the Hawks rally for 22 third-quarter points before Bates' starters returned to nail down a 44-22 win.

• Although Republican support for Sumter businessman Bill Horne is growing in South Carolina's 5th Congressional District, few expect him to unseat five-term incumbent Rep. John Spratt in the general election. Spratt, a Democrat, is favored to win re-election.

• Sumter residents found out earlier this year that one day can make a difference in improving the community. Many residents spent Feb. 29 — Leap Day — helping others and doing special things in the community. While Leap Day has passed, Jo Anne Morris, director of Volunteer Sumter, wants residents to volunteer their services again. Morris said residents are invited to spend Saturday, Nov. 14, the same way hundreds of volunteers spent Leap Day — cleaning up the community. Due to the overwhelming success of February's project, "Make a Difference Day" has been established as an annual project.

• The Sumter School District 2 Board of Trustees will hold a ceremony to dedicate the district's administrative office building in honor of the late Joseph D. Lefft, a former superintendent of the district. Lefft was killed in a car accident while on his way to work just four months after taking over as superintendent.

• Oblivious to dozens of blue and yellow balloons drifting overhead, a tiny girl with ribbons in her hair scowled with concentration as she hefted a shovel twice her size and turned over a blade full of dusty earth. She was one of many children and adults who came to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new high school to be built in Clarendon School District 1. The school will be located on U.S. 301 across from the Federal-Mogul plant.

• Sumter High football coach Tom Lewis had a bad feeling going into the game against Richland Northeast. The Gamecocks were coming off an emotional win over then-unbeaten Irmo and Lewis expected a mental let-down against the 1-8 Cavaliers. He must have been into the predicting business before coaching because the Gamecocks had to overcome a first-quarter struggle before beating Richland Northeast 28-18 at Harry Parone Stadium.

• George Washington Murray described himself to Congress as the sole voice that blacks had in Washington, D.C. And he meant it. Murray, a Sumter County native, was the only black serving in Congress when he told lawmakers in 1893 that he could hear the "common people," implying that the senators and representatives could not. Now, as area residents prepare to vote in the new black-majority 6th Congressional District, which includes part of Sumter County, he is chiefly remembered as South Carolina's last black congressman.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at waysammy@yahoo.com or (803) 774-1294.

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Wonders of the world

Every fall my wife, Ginger, and I will try to get away for a day or two to make a trip to the mountains. We hope to experience the stunning beauty of the fall foliage, which some people call “leaf peeping.”

This past weekend was supposed to be the peak, but warm weather has probably delayed the season. There was plenty of color in the higher elevations, but the lower elevations are still pretty green. We like to drive sections of the Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Highway (SC 11). Sometimes we go on into North Carolina or Tennessee.

This year I wanted to visit Sassafras Mountain. It is the highest elevation in South Carolina. Over the years I've seen news releases or short articles about the mountain and the surrounding Jocassee Gorges Wilderness. I was curious.

We left home Sunday morning under a heavy, dark, cloudy sky. The weather forecast was for clearing and cooler weather. We went through Columbia and took Interstate 26 west through Spartanburg, then took exit 5, where the Cherokee Trail crosses the interstate. To the east is the Cowpens Battlefield where the British were handed a devastating defeat in the American Revolution. We went west toward Campobello.

It was lunch time when we neared Table Rock State Park, so we pulled in for a break. We sat in the car and ate our packed lunch of sandwiches and chips. The clouds had cleared, and it was windy and crispy cool.

We walked down to the Visitors Center, and Ginger bought a Christmas ornament for our tree. I studied the large maps on the wall to locate Sassafras Mountain.

Just down the road we turned right onto Highway 178 that makes its way up through the mountains and into North Carolina. There are some steep grades and a few hairpin turns. Guardrails are present at many turns. This is where the good leaf color started. I saw a WMA sign and wondered how anyone could hunt such steep terrain. We entered Jocassee Gorges, and at Rocky Bottom we turned right onto the highway leading to the mountain.

This highway was tighter, steeper, and there were no guardrails. The views were simply breathtaking. Yellow, red and orange flooded the senses. The dappled sunlight shimmered and shined through the woods. Soon we were at the top, or I should say, a small gravel parking lot near the top.

A thin screen of hardwoods stood between the parking area and an overlook on the side of the mountain. A deep blue panorama that stretched to a distant horizon could be seen through the trees. A half dozen people stood out on the overlook, talking in hushed tones and taking pictures. We walked out onto the overlook and stood amazed. The view was beyond anything I had imagined. It was magnificent! Mountains stretched off to the west and north. Lakes could be seen to the southwest. There were no signs of human existence. No roads, buildings or cellphone towers visible. Just the mountains and a kaleidoscope of fall colors. It was one of the most beautiful sights that I have ever seen.



Dan Geddings



DAN GEDDINGS / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Ginger Geddings stands on the overlook on Sassafras Mountain.

I've stood on the south rim of the Grand Canyon and marveled at one of the greatest natural wonders of the world. I've gazed out over the endless prairie from the top of Pikes Peak. I've stood and watched the sun set over the Painted Desert and Petrified Forest of Arizona. I've climbed the giant sand dunes along the Outer Banks and looked out over the ocean and the vast Pamlico Sound. Stood in the Grand Strand surf and felt the warm sun from a South Carolina dawn. Driven a twisting, turning section of the Blue Ridge Parkway in Tennessee. Looked out over the turquoise waters of the Pa-

cific Ocean from the jagged coastline of Big Sur. Hiked among the redwoods of northern California. I've descended through the clouds in a jetliner among the snow-covered mountains to land in a sleet storm at Anchorage. Looked out the window of an airplane at the black-coned, snow-capped top of Mount Fuji, pushing up through the clouds below. Walked among the giant world-record trees of Congaree National Park. I stood in my own front yard and witnessed a full eclipse of the sun. This sight before me was one of these.

We lingered, unable to pull away from the sheer majesty

before us, but the top of the mountain beckoned. A small, narrow path led up through the trees and a hillside covered in maroon-colored briars. It was only about a hundred yards, but our legs burned, and our lungs gulped in the frigid air. The summit was open and wind swept. The panoramic view seemed endless. Nearby mountain peaks in fall colors, a brilliant blue sky, and rolls of white clouds gave way to more distant peaks that faded into lighter and lighter shades of blue. It was difficult to determine where the land ended and the sky began. It was truly one of the wonders of the world.

She got a 6-pointer this fall

Courtney Barr is seen with her 6-point buck recently.

PHOTO PROVIDED



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OUTDOORS BRIEFS

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS

Report: U.S. fishermen catch up in value

American fisheries grew by a little more than 2 percent in value last year, even with fishermen bringing slightly less fish to shore, the federal government reported on Wednesday.

U.S. commercial fishermen brought 9.6 billion pounds of seafood to land last year, which was a decrease of 1.5 percent from 2015, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in the annual Fisheries of the United States report. But the catch was valued at \$5.3 billion, which was 2.1

percent more than in 2015, the report said.

One possible explanation for the dip in catch could be the increase in seafood imports, which rose 1 percent to 5.8 billion pounds, the report said.

Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, who oversees NOAA, said the growth in imports should be a motivator to grow the aquaculture sector in the U.S. For example, shrimp and salmon are among the most imported species, and they are extensively farmed.

Fears squashed: Zucchini mistaken for bomb

BERLIN — A worried resident in Germany alerted police to what he thought was a World War II bomb in his garden. Officers rushed over — and found a particularly large zucchini.

Police were summoned to the scene in Bretten, near the southwestern city of Karlsruhe, on Thursday morning by an 81-year-old man.

They said in a statement Friday that officers determined “the object, which

really did look very like a bomb,” was actually a nearly 16-inch zucchini.

The offending vegetable, which was very dark, weighed about 11 pounds. Police think someone threw it over a hedge into the garden.

Unexploded wartime bombs are unearthed frequently during construction work in Germany, often forcing authorities to evacuate tens of thousands of residents while they are defused.

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3BR 2BA C/H/A, no pets
\$600 + Dep 803-506-2177

99 Bellcrest DW 28x70 3BDR 2 BTH, recently renovated, new roof, comes with all appliances, security and camera system, AC unit, 16x20 deck, Buyer pays for all moving costs, \$33,000 call for more info 803-938-3155.

Mobile Home Rentals

SW off 15 S, 20 Antrim Ct. 3Br 2Ba 1 acre, \$450 Mo + \$300Dep. Call 803-795-9970

3BR/2BA DW, private lot, between Sumter and Manning. Clarendon Co. \$650mo+\$650dep
Call 803-473-7577

3BR/2BA DW mobile home, \$600 a month. 803-495-2005

2 & 3BR 2BA No pets, Section 8 accepted. 499-1500 or 469-6978 btwn 9am-5pm

Mobile Home Lot Rentals

Private lot for rent at 34 Robinson St., Sumter. \$200 mo. New electric pole will be installed after lease agreement. Call 404-895-3972.

Vacation Rentals

ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE to more than 2.1 million S.C. newspaper readers. Your 25-word classified ad will appear in 101 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Call Alanna Ritchie at the South Carolina Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

Office Rentals

50 Wesmark Ct. 1,177 sq ft. \$1000/mo. + \$100 CAM. Reception area, 3 office space, breakroom, 1/2 ba, file/storage room. 773-1477

690 Bultman Dr 1612 Sq. Ft. Reception area w/ hwdw floors, 4 Private offices, Conference rm, Secretarial work area, Copier/Equip. Rm, Shower rm, 2 1/2 baths, file storage rm, \$2050 mo+\$57.76 CAM Call 803 773-1477

Commercial Rentals

You can rent Bettina's with a little touch of class for your private parties. 1940 Dr Mary Mcleod Bethune Rd. 803-453-5014

REAL ESTATE

Homes for Sale

The Willows 1029 Cutleaf Dr
2BR 2BA 803-469-9381 or 803-406-3914

TRANSPORTATION

Miscellaneous

AIRLINE MECHANIC TRAINING - Get FAA certification. No HS Diploma or GED - We can help. Approved for military benefits. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-367-2513

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SUMTER CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

The Sumter City - County Planning Commission will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on **Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at 3:00 P.M.** in the City Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Sumter Opera House (21 North Main Street, Sumter, South Carolina). This is a public meeting.

If there are any questions, please call George McGregor or Donna McCullum at (803) 774-1660.

Summons & Notice

SUMMONS AND NOTICES

(Non-Jury) **FORCLOSURE OF MORTGAGE**

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2017-CP-43-01420

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER

Summons & Notice

Bank of America, N.A., Plaintiff,
v.
Betty G. Horton, Defendant(s).

17-009110 TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices at 1201 Main Street, Suite 1450, Columbia, SC 29201, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; except that the United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

TO MINORS OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND/OR TO MINORS UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR RESIDES, AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY:

YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment may be made by Attorney for Plaintiff.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference or the Court may issue a general Order of Reference of this action to a Master In Equity / Special Referee, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

YOU WILL FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 29-3-100, effective June 16, 1993, any collateral assignment of rents contained in the referenced Mortgage is perfected and Attorney for Plaintiff hereby gives notice that all rents shall be payable directly to it by delivery to its undersigned attorneys from the date of default. In the alternative, Plaintiff will move before a judge of this Circuit on the 10th day after service hereof, or as soon thereafter counsel may be heard, for an Order enforcing the assignment of rents, if any, and compelling payment of all rents covered by such assignment directly to the Plaintiff, which motion is to be based upon the original Note and Mortgage and the Complaint attached hereto.

NOTICE

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Summons and Complaint, of which the foregoing is a copy of the Summons, were filed with the Clerk of Court for Orangeburg County, South Carolina on July 21, 2017.

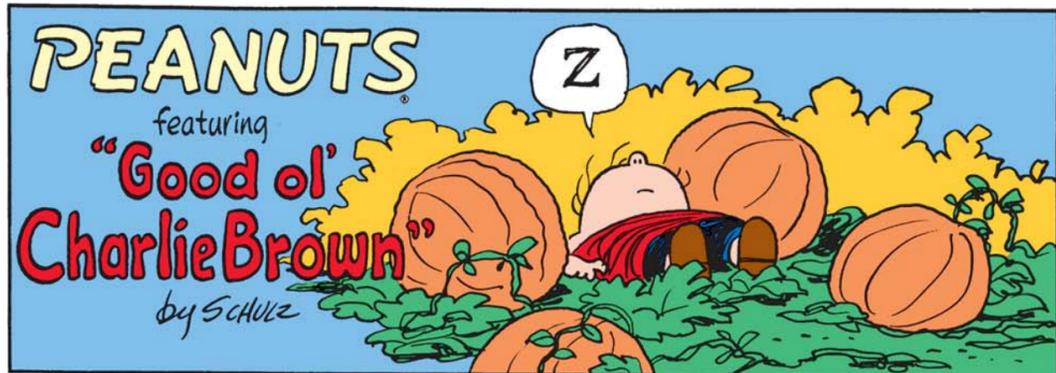
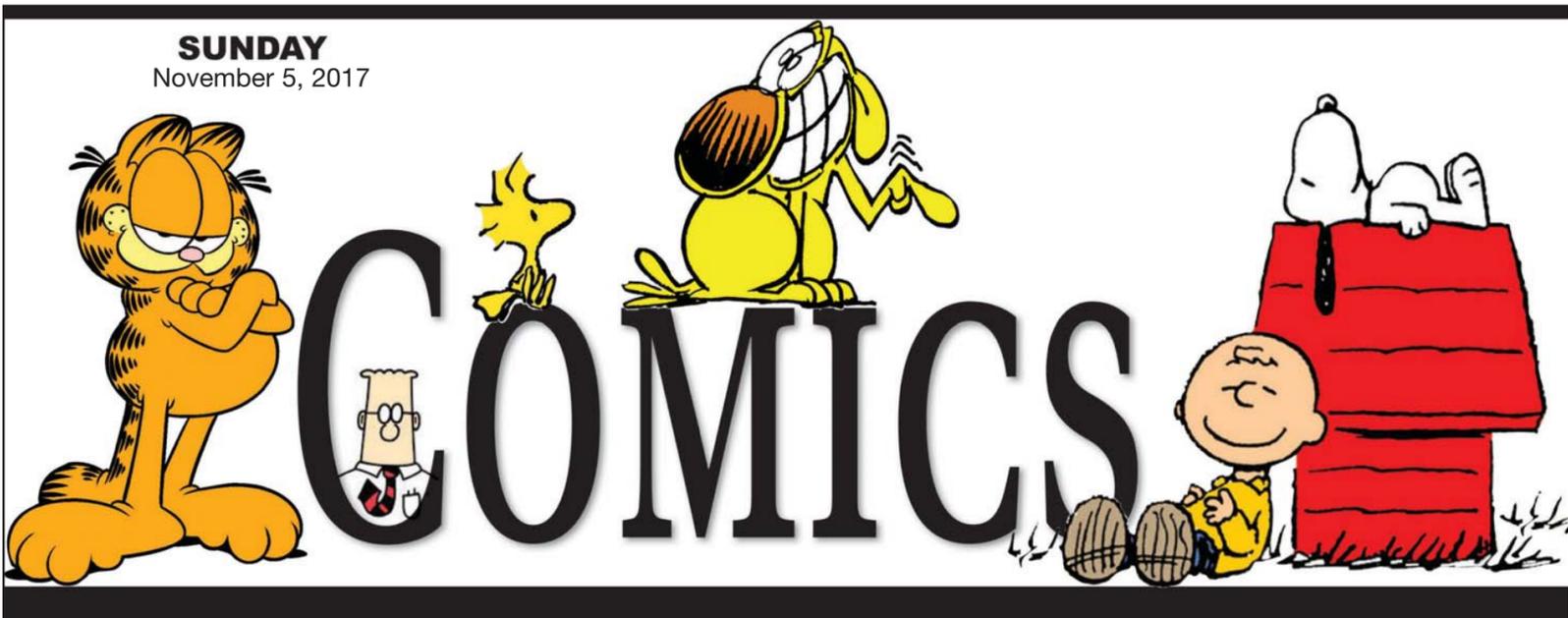
William S. Koehler
Attorney, SC Bar No.: 74935
Albertell Law
1201 Main St, Suite 1450
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: (803) 828-0680
Fax: (803) 828-0881



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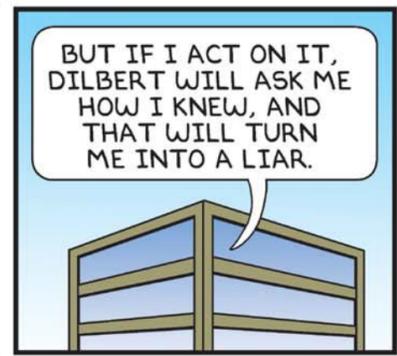
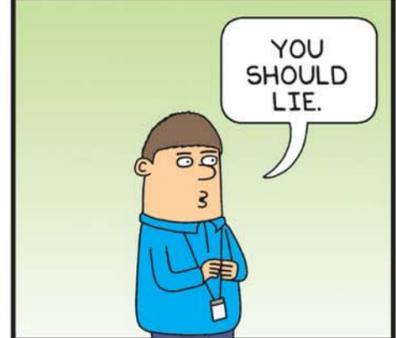
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



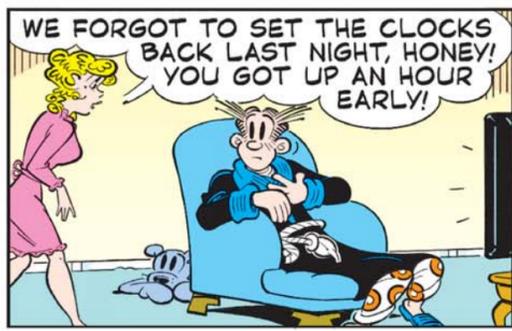
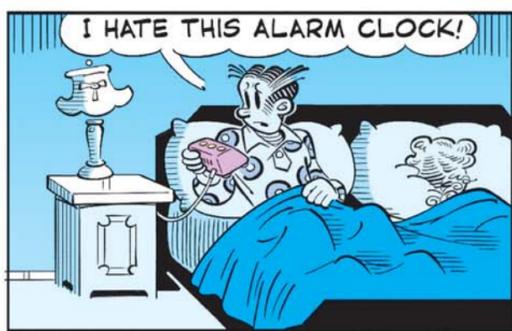
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



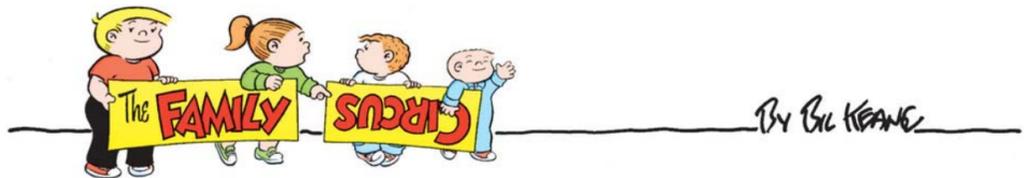
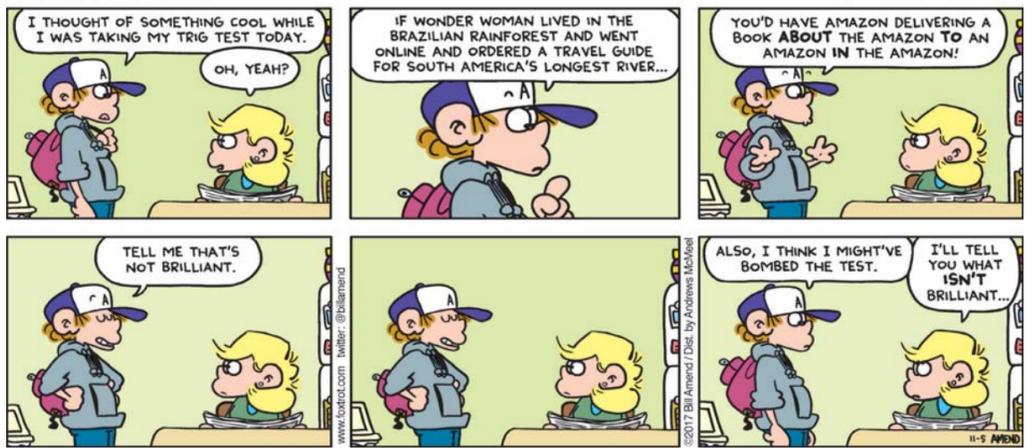
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN MCPHERSON



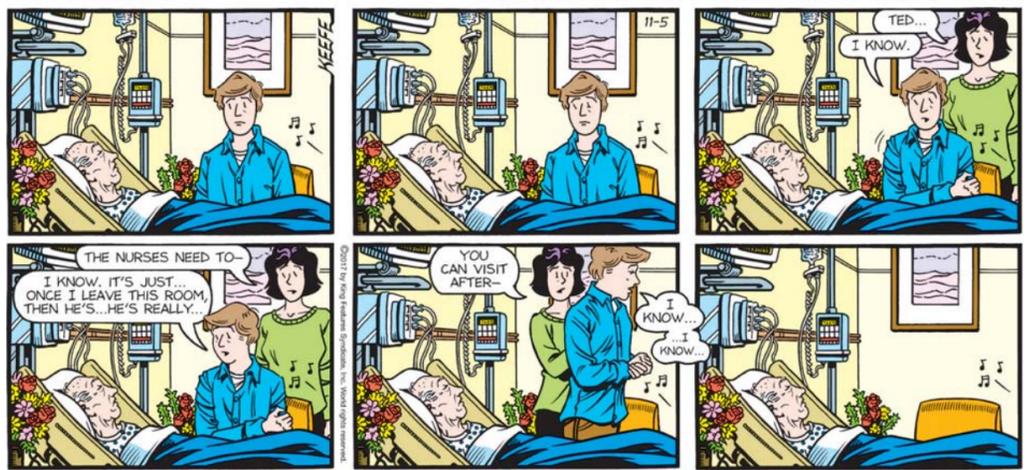
FoxTrot

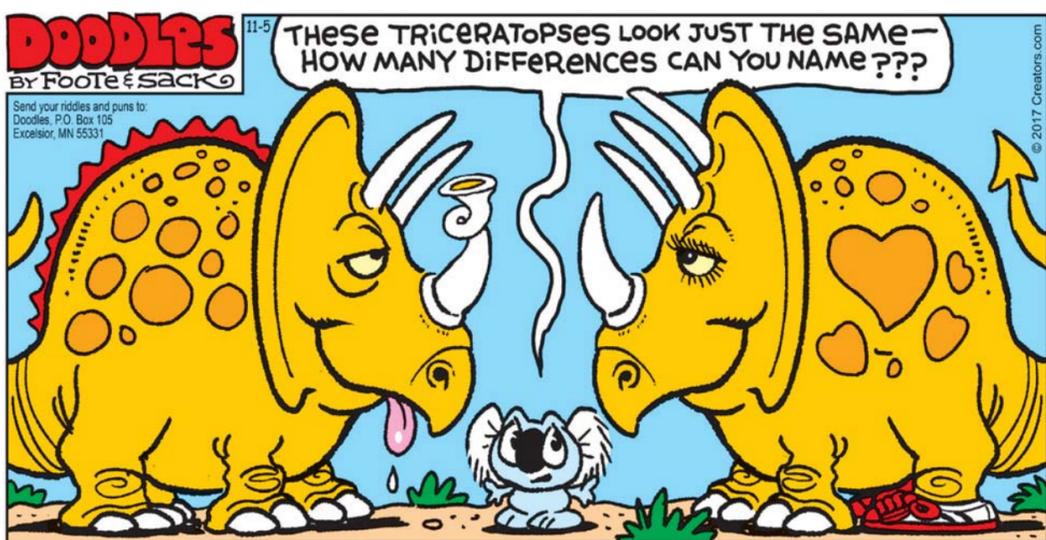
by Bill Amend



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE





DOODLE ZOO

THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN STUDIED HARD BECAUSE HE WANTED TO GET A HEAD IN LIFE.

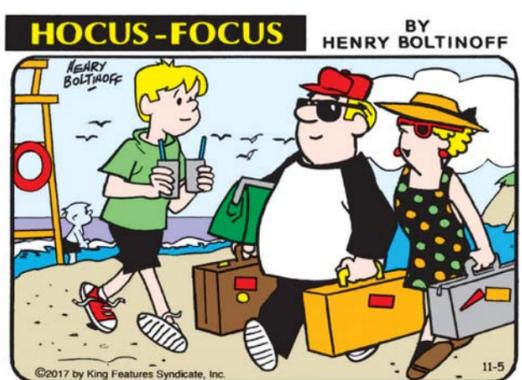
DRAW!!

DRAW A DINOSAUR!

RIDDLES!!!

Q. HOW CAN YOU TELL IF A VAMPIRE HAS BEEN IN A BAKERY?
A. THE JELLY HAS BEEN SUCKED OUT OF THE DOUGHNUTS.
Dan Brewer, Richfield, MN

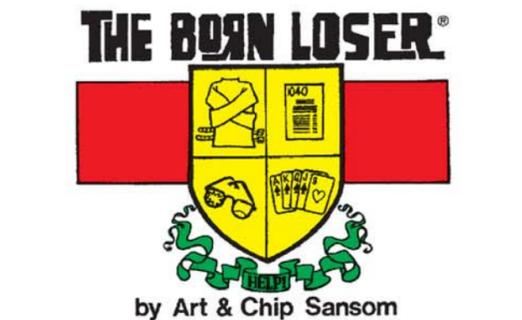
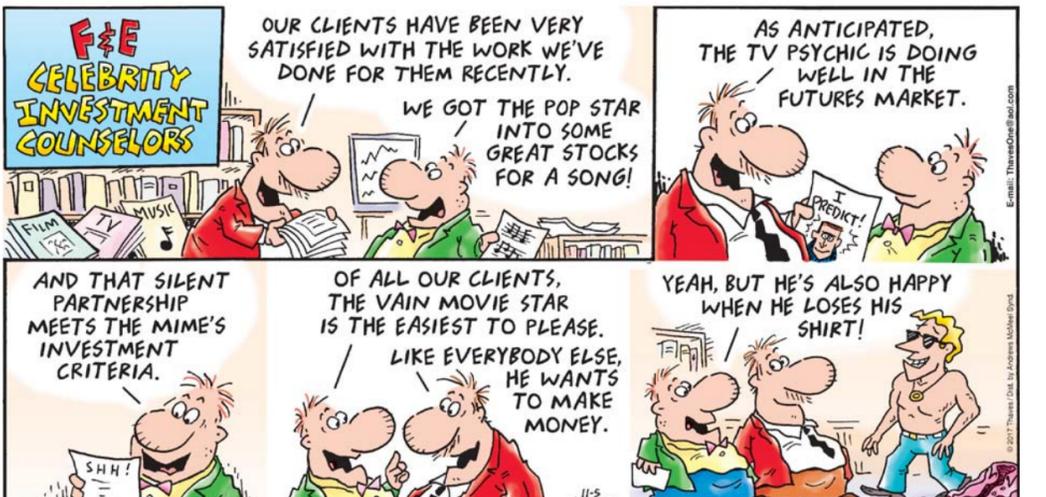
Q. WHAT IS IN A GHOST'S NOSE?
A. BOOO-GERS.
Christy Powers, Boulder, CO



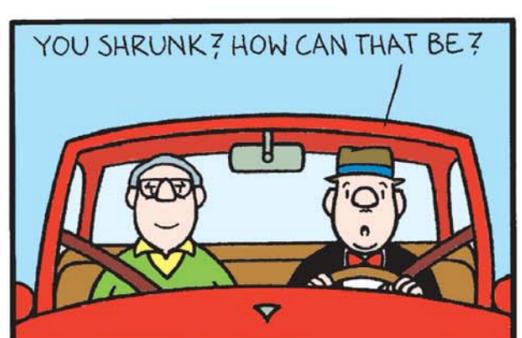
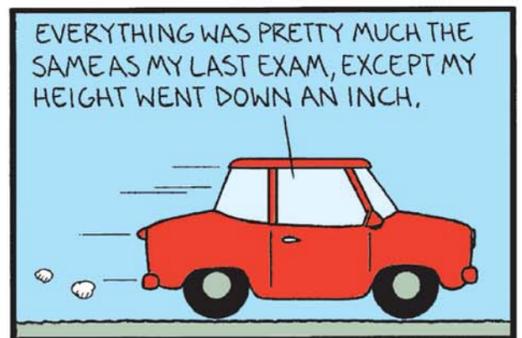
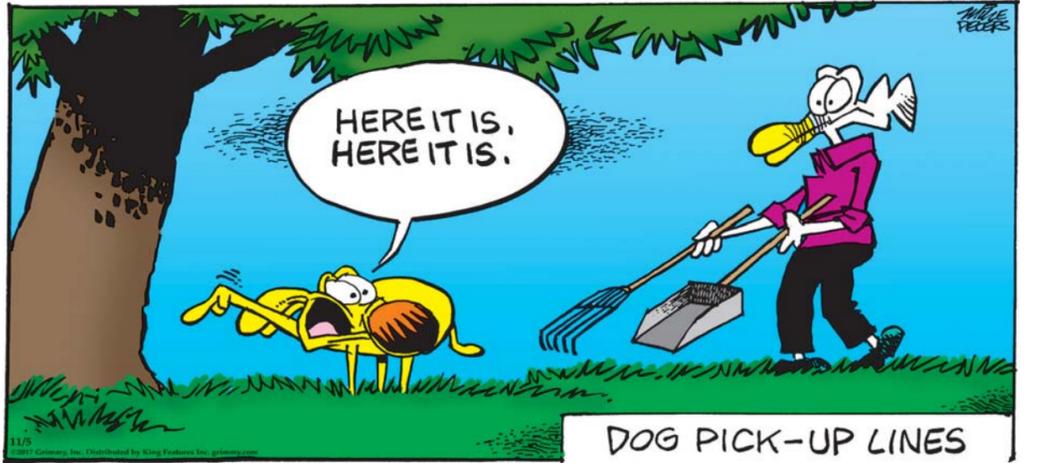
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



FRANK & ERNEST



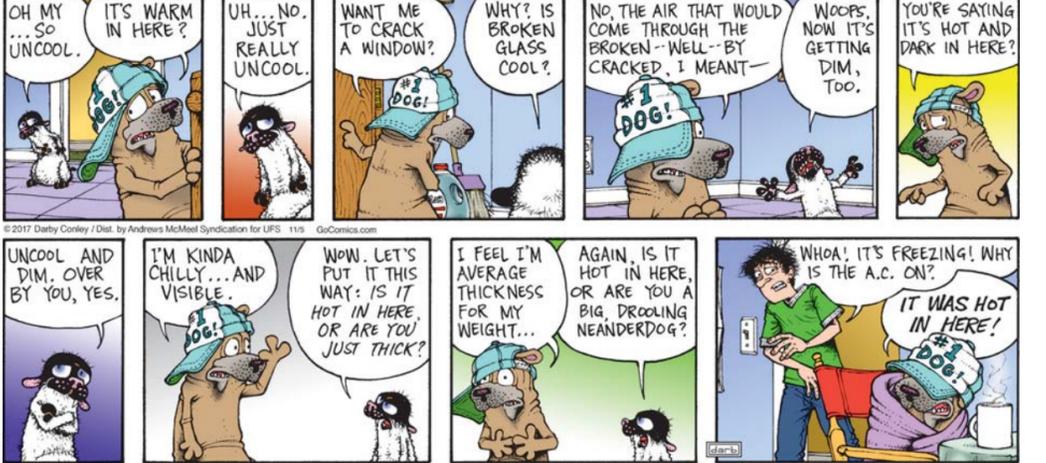
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS



WIZARD OF ID by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

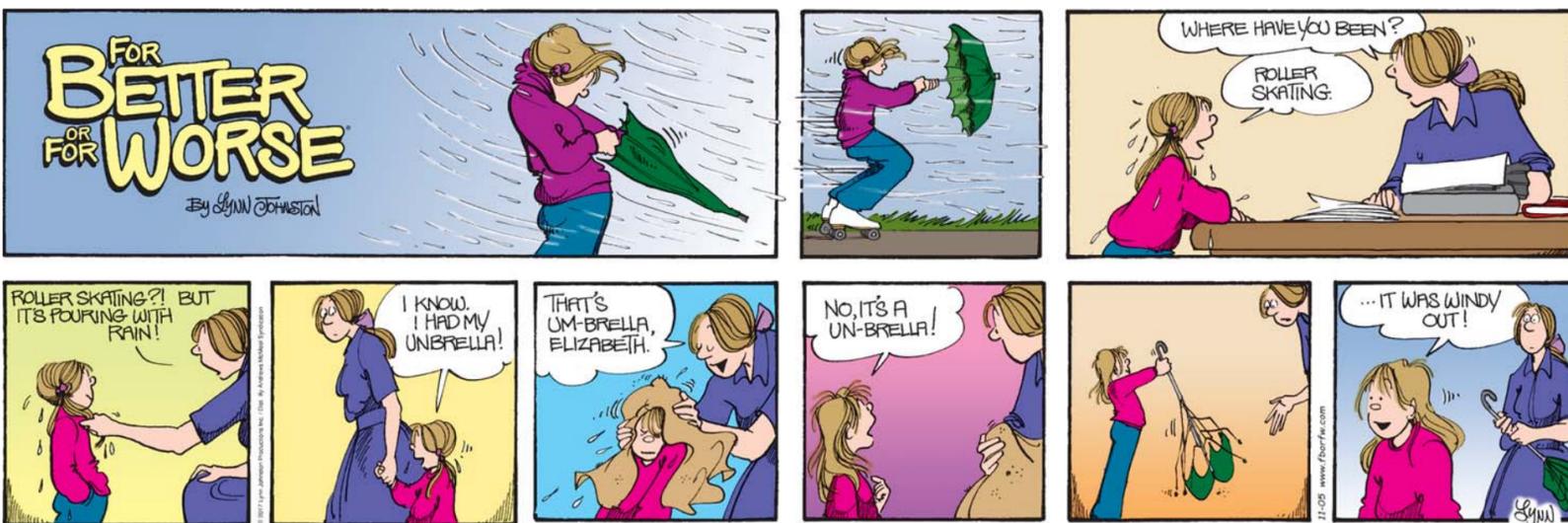
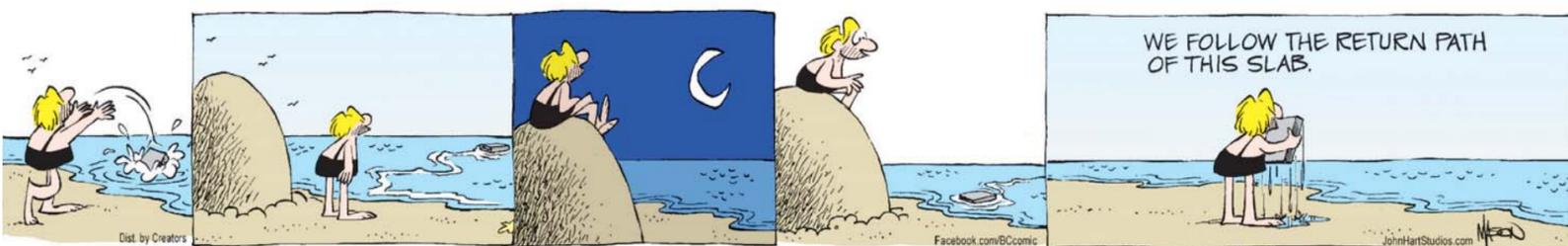
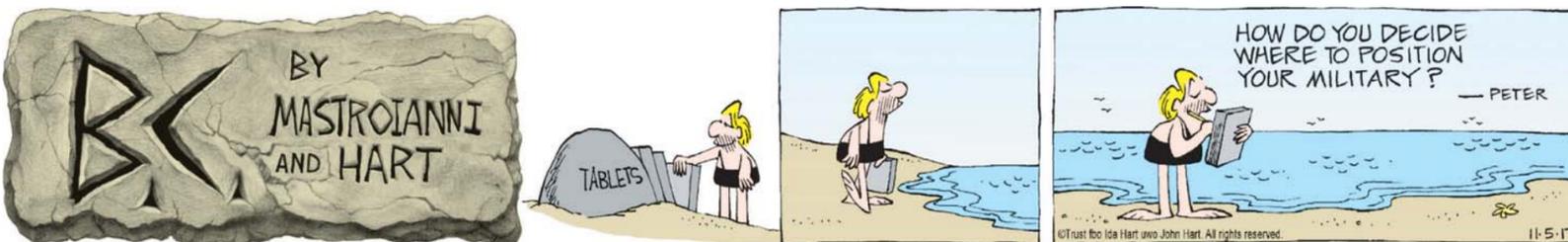


GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

