

House fire results in 1 death, 1 injury

Woman who died was found on her porch

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

A 68-year-old woman died and a 71-year-old man sustained burns to more than 90 percent of his body during an early morning house fire on

Franklin Street on Thursday.

Eva Harvin was found on the front porch as firefighters approached the house just after 1 a.m., Battalion Chief Joey Duggan said.

Firefighters moved Harvin to the yard, where she was later pronounced dead at 1:48 a.m., according to Duggan and Sumter County Coroner Robbie Baker.

An autopsy will be scheduled in Newberry at a later date. As far as first responders

know, the woman was at least partially immobile and used a wheelchair, which was also on the porch, Duggan said.

Without having an opportunity to speak to the surviving victim yet, the fire department does not know how the woman got on the porch.

The survivor — whose name has not been released — was found down the road from the residence, Duggan said.

SEE FIRE, PAGE A10



ADRIENNE SARVIS / THE SUMTER ITEM
Mia Thornton begins to cry during a first appearance hearing at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center on Thursday.

Suspect will have mental screening

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The 21-year-old Cherryvale woman charged with stealing and wrecking three vehicles — including a marked county patrol vehicle — on Wednesday will remain in jail at least until a February bond hearing in

SEE DRIVER, PAGE A6



U.S. airmen assigned to the 20th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department extinguish a mock C-130 Hercules aircraft fire during a live fire training scenario at Shaw Air Force Base on June 27.



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

ABOVE: Flowers and candles are seen outside of the storefront of Save-Mart Grocery during a vigil for Vijaykumar Patel, who was shot and killed in his store on Nov. 24.

LEFT: U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Jeff Zell gives his daughter, Eva, 5, a kiss before leaving her in a kindergarten class on the first day of school at Alice Drive Elementary School.

Sumter's year in review

2017

The year that was 2017 is about to wrap up with a bang of confetti Sunday, and while there is much to look ahead to in 2018, *The Sumter Item* is taking a look back at the top 10 most-read stories we ran this year, based on what you clicked on at *theitem.com*.

See the top five most-read stories in Sunday's paper.

10. BODY OF DROWNING VICTIM IDENTIFIED

Tuesday, June 13
From staff reports

Capt. Robert McCollough of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division has confirmed the body of a drowning victim was recovered at 10:15 a.m. today. The victim has been identified as 27-year-old Marquille Kenyata Miller of Dalzell.

The DNR dive team began searching Tuesday night for a man who fell out of a boat near Pack's Landing on Lake Marion in Sumter County.

McCollough said initial reports are the boat was in a canal near the landing and may have hit a stump or a log, causing the man to fall out of the boat. He said it is not known if the man

SEE TOP STORIES, PAGE A10



At Swan Lake-Iris Gardens, visitors from Camden, the Canapa brothers, found a decorated rock, part of a rock-finding craze across the area during the summer.



A child at First Presbyterian Church's "Hero Central" Vacation Bible School gasps as he checks out Lane Latham's hand-built Batmobile.



Four F-16 Vipers assigned to the 20th Fighter Wing, Shaw Air Force Base, fly over the South Carolina coast as part of a past Salute from the Shore tribute.

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DEATHS, B6

Edward Canty Jr.
David L. McKnight Jr.
William McCants Jr.
Sadie G. Duncan
Kevin Johnson
Diane A. Arrants
Ulysses Hickman

Angleen Odom
Johnnie Carl Howard
Helen C. DuPont
Jeanette Cope
Wilhelmenia J. Breckenridge
Gladys B. St. Thomas
Cleveland Chambers Jr.

WEATHER, A12

STILL CHILLY

Mostly sunny and warmer; partly cloudy and cold tonight

HIGH 48, LOW 26

INSIDE

3 SECTIONS, 28 PAGES
VOL. 123, NO. 51

Classifieds B7
Comics C6
Opinion A7

Television C4
USA Today C1



SECOND FRONT

Call: (803) 774-1226 | E-mail: pressrelease@theitem.com

Housing assistance application is due today

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sumter County residents affected by Hurricane Matthew in 2016 who applied for housing assistance through the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office must complete their applications by today.

Applicants who applied before Nov. 10 had that window to complete the process and turn in all supporting documents.

Those who do not complete their applicants by the deadline will be dropped from the program, according to an SCDRO news release.

If you are unsure about what documents are missing from your application, call the intake office at (844) 410-8560.

Unpaid electric bills, water bills and property taxes are not covered by the program. Bills must be paid before SCDRO and its contractors can obtain needed permits.

The agency plans to serve about 1,350 homes affected by the hurricane. Eligibility and priority are based on income, age dependency and disability.

The Disaster Recovery program is designed to help eligible residents return to safe, sanitary and secure homes.

For more information, visit www.scdro.sc.gov.

STATE BRIEF

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Drugs, gun, teeth found on man stopped at store

MYRTLE BEACH — Police say they found thousands of doses of heroin, a gun and human teeth on a man detained during a suspected shoplifting investigation at a South Carolina Walmart on Christmas Eve.

Officers told the *Sun News* of Myrtle Beach they charged 21-year-old Tavon Malik Stanley of Calabash, North Carolina, with crimes including heroin trafficking and drug possession.

Officials at a North Myrtle Beach Walmart detained Stanley after they saw a person with him allegedly take around \$25 worth of items without paying for them. Stanley had a Ruger 9 mm handgun and more than \$2,500 in cash, and officers found dozens of pills, thousands of doses of heroin and two human teeth in his backpack.

Stanley was released from jail on bond. It wasn't known if he had an attorney.

CORRECTION

If you see a statement in error, contact the City Desk at 774-1226 or pressrelease@theitem.com.



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Ring in new year with a (safe) bang

Sumter first responders offer safety tips for using fireworks

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The new year is right around the corner, and to make sure your New Year's Eve celebrations with fireworks goes well, local first responders provided the following information.

Now could be a dangerous time to light fireworks because it is so dry outside, so people need to be extra careful, Sumter Fire Department Division Chief Johnnie Rose said.

"We want to prevent injuries," he said.

There have been multiple fire deaths this year in Sumter, but hopefully 2018 will be a better year, he said.

Rose encouraged residents to visit their nearest Sumter fire station to register to have a fire alarm installed for free.

It takes the whole community, he said, to prevent fire deaths.

PREPARE BEFORE LIGHTING

There are no regulations prohibiting the private use of fireworks in the city or county.

- Be mindful of older residents, young children, veterans and pets when planning to light fireworks.
- Light fireworks in an open space.
- Sprinkle water on dry

ground to prevent fires, and keep a water hose on hand to put out any embers.

WHEN USING FIREWORKS

- Adults should be the only people to handle fireworks, even sparklers, which can reach 500-1,000 degrees Fahrenheit — a temperature capable of causing second- or third-degree burns.

- Follow the instructions of each firework, and do not attempt to make your own fireworks.

- Stand a safe distance away from fireworks because they cannot be controlled after they are ignited.

- Fireworks that launch into the air should not be tilted or facing people or property.

TAKE CAUTION

Fireworks can reach temperatures as hot as a welding flame and can be powerful enough to cause severe damage to the body when they explode.

- Do not light fireworks near property — a single spark can travel hundreds of yards in the wind. (A person is liable for any damage caused by fireworks.)
- Do not carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Do not ignite fireworks inside metal or glass containers.



- Light one firework at a time, and do not re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Put used fireworks in a bucket of water.

(Source: Sumter Fire Department)

TREATING MINOR BURNS

Bobby Hingst, director of Sumter County EM, said the

most typical injuries regarding fireworks involves children touching sparklers. If someone gets burned, run the wound under cool water and wrap the area with dry gauze, he said.

Always seek medical attention if there is a burn because the injury could easily get infected.

SAFE Federal Credit Union holding election for board

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The new year will bring a new chance for SAFE Federal Credit Union members to vote in or out its board of directors.

All three incumbents and one new challenger are vying for three seats, for which voting — open to all SAFE members — begins on Jan. 1, according to Kevin Tanzillo, of SAFE.

Incumbent Paul Hilton is the president and owner of Paul Hilton Human Resources Consulting. He has been on the board for three years.

Helga Hamlin, a current board member of 18 years, is a retired accountant for the city of Sumter.

Vern Disney, an accounting profes-

sor at USC Sumter, is also running for re-election for what would be his 31st year on the board, according to Tanzillo.

New candidate, Lucreia Bennett, is the program director for the health information management program at Florence-Dar-



HAMLIN



DISNEY



BENNETT



HILTON

lington Technical College.

Membership for SAFE is open to anyone who lives, works, worships or goes to school in Sumter, Lee Clarendon, Florence and Orangeburg counties, as well as parts of Kershaw, Richland and Lexington counties. More than 119,000 members across 19 branches will have the chance to vote for board of directors members.

Voting will be conducted by paper ballots that will be sent to all SAFE members with their year-end statements. Electronic voting will be held at SAFEfed.org beginning Jan. 1.

Members can submit their vote until March 5, before the credit union's meeting on March 19 in Sumter.



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Once busy Oklahoma death chamber stays quiet into 3rd year

Botched procedures, lack of drugs to blame

BY SEAN MURPHY
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma, a state with one of the busiest death chambers in the country in recent decades, will enter its third year without an execution in 2018 while prison officials and state attorneys fine tune its procedure for putting condemned inmates to death.

Oklahoma Attorney General Mike Hunter said last week he was planning to meet with top prison officials and that he expected more clarity on the state's new lethal injection protocols "in the next two or three weeks."

"We need to feel some urgency, but we also need to get it done right," Hunter said. "I'd say both of those things are equally important."

Republican Gov. Mary Fallin said she has confidence in Hunter and Department of Corrections Director Joe Allbaugh to develop new protocols but acknowledged the challenge the state faces in acquiring the lethal drugs.

"The most solemn responsibility for a state is the taking of a life," Fallin said in a statement Dec. 22. "The state needs to be certain that its protocols and procedures for executions work."

Of the 2,817 death row inmates awaiting execution in 32 states, 47 of them are in Oklahoma, according to the Washington, D.C.-based Death Penalty Information Center. Like many death penalty states, Oklahoma has

struggled in the past decade to obtain the lethal drugs used in executions as manufacturers, including many in Europe, have said they don't want their products used to kill people.

Fallin reiterated her support of the death penalty for those who commit "heinous crimes" and said she's prepared for executions to resume under her watch once the new protocols have been approved by the court.

Oklahoma put all executions on hold two years ago after several mishaps, including a botched lethal injection in 2014 and drug mix-ups in 2015 that led to one inmate being executed with the wrong drug and another inmate just moments away from being led to the death chamber before prison officials realized the same wrong drug had been delivered for his execution.

Since then, several top officials connected to the bungled executions have resigned and the state's multi-county grand jury delivered a scathing report on Oklahoma's lethal injection process that accused a number of individuals involved in the process of sloppy and careless work.

Allbaugh, the state's new prisons director, has declined repeated requests by The Associated Press to discuss the new execution procedures, and a spokesman for the agency said only that they are continuing to work on the protocols. Oklahoma law also allows for the use of firing squad, electric chair or nitrogen hypoxia to perform executions, but Allbaugh has



This Oct. 9, 2014, photo shows the gurney in the execution chamber at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester.

S.C. faces one of the same issues

FROM STAFF REPORTS

South Carolina is facing one of same issues as Oklahoma — the inability to obtain all three drugs needed to administer an execution by lethal injection: pentobarbital, pancuronium bromide and potassium chloride.

The Dec. 1 execution of Bobby Wayne Stone, 52, who was sentenced to death for killing a Sumter County ser-



STONE

geant in 1996, was delayed in response to a court order from his attorneys, but the order was not the only thing keeping what would be the first execution in South Carolina in six years from going through.

The fate of the execution was already uncertain because the state does not possess one of the three drugs.

The state's supply of pentobarbital expired in 2013, and attempts to obtain the drug have failed because drug companies do not want the public to know the drugs are being provided for executions.

previously said he doesn't intend for Oklahoma to become the first state to use nitrogen gas to execute inmates.

Since executions halted, 16 Oklahoma death row inmates have exhausted their federal appeals and are awaiting dates to be sent to the death chamber inside the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester.

And, a federal lawsuit challenging Oklahoma's execu-

tion protocols as unconstitutional remains dormant in federal district court in Oklahoma City but is expected to be reactivated once the new protocols are released, said Dale Baich, a federal public defender representing a group of Oklahoma death row inmates.

"We'll review the protocol and at some point, approach the court with our concerns," Baich said.

The attorney general's office has said in court filings that it will not request any execution dates until at least 150 days — or about five months — after the new protocols are released.

The death penalty has bipartisan support in the Oklahoma Legislature, and more than two-thirds of state voters supported a pro-death penalty question on the ballot in 2016.

Some troopers bringing their own high-powered rifles to work

Department of public safety seeking funds to purchase new firearms

COLUMBIA (AP) — Some South Carolina troopers have been buying and bringing their own high-powered rifles to work to replace their less lethal state-issued shotguns, according to the agency's top official.

The Department of Public Safety is seeking \$500,000 in next year's state budget to equip all troopers with AR-15 rifles, which officials contend could save lives if there were a mass shooting in South Carolina.

But Highway Patrol Com-

mander Chris Williamson recently confirmed to the *Post and Courier* that some front-line troopers wanted the more effective rifles so badly for potential confrontations that about 50 have bought their own in the past couple of years.

A typical AR-15 rifle costs about \$1,000. A policy change allowed troopers to carry personal rifles on the job that meet specifications, provided they undergo the agency's eight-hour course on the weapon.

The effectiveness is definitive. Troopers' shotguns hold six rounds, and each officer carries four additional shells. But rifle magazines hold 30 bullets, and each trooper gets three maga-

zines, for 90 possible shots.

The agency has already provided rifles to the 150 troopers in its emergency response teams. The budget request would spread them out across the force, allocating 535 Sig Sauer M400 rifles to outfit the remaining troopers who must

also take the initial course and a four-hour requalification class yearly.

Williamson argues rifles would provide more accuracy at longer distances than shotguns and can return more fire. Also, a shotgun's spreading pellets could inadvertently

strike innocent victims, he said.

Fortunately, none of the troopers already armed with a rifle have needed to shoot it, Williamson said.

"They can definitely go in there and get the job done," Williamson said.

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Higher energy costs accompany cold snap in U.S.

BY DAVID SHARP
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — Plunging temperatures across half the country on Thursday underscored a stark reality for low-income Americans who rely on heating aid: Their dollars aren't going to go as far this winter because of rising energy costs.

Forecasters warned people to be wary of hypothermia and frostbite from an arctic blast that's gripping a large swath from the Midwest to the Northeast, where the temperature — without the wind chill factored in — dipped to minus 32 on Thursday morning in Watertown, New York, near Lake Ontario's eastern shore.

Even before the cold snap, the Department of Energy projected that heating costs were going to track upward this winter, and many people are keeping a wary eye on their fuel tanks to ensure they don't run out.

Elizabeth Parker, 88, of Sanford, Maine, said she lives in fear of running out of fuel and remains vigilant in monitoring the gauge outside her trailer, just in case, especially during cold weather.

She said she is allowed to request a fuel delivery thanks to federal aid — but only when her gauge dips to one-eighth of a tank.

"I couldn't get along without it,"



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chelse Volgyes clears snow from her car in Erie, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday. Freezing temperatures and below-zero wind chills socked much of the northern United States on Wednesday, and the snow-hardened city of Erie dug out from a record snowfall.

said Parker, who lives with her 93-year-old husband, Robert, along with a cat, dog and four birds.

Prolonged, dangerous cold weather this week has sent advocates for the homeless scrambling to get people off the streets and to bring in extra beds for them. In western New York and

Erie, Pennsylvania, residents were still cleaning up from massive snowfall. Frozen pipes and dead car batteries added to the misery across the region.

There was some good news for recipients of federal aid from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. President Donald Trump re-

leased nearly \$3 billion, or 90 percent, of the funding in October after previously trying to eliminate the program altogether.

But projected energy cost increases will effectively reduce the purchasing power by \$330 million, making it imperative that the remaining funding be released, said Mark Wolfe, of the National Energy Assistance Directors' Association.

This winter, energy costs were projected to grow by 12 percent for natural gas, 17 percent for home heating oil, 18 percent for propane and 8 percent for electricity, according to U.S. Energy Information Administration.

But energy prices this winter may even be higher than those projections. According to Wolfe, colder weather could lead to even higher levels of consumption, and resulting prices could push the cost of winter heating up to \$1,800 this winter for those using heating oil, 45 percent more than last year's level.

"That's a scary situation for people who're really struggling to heat their homes," said Barbara Crider, of Maine's York County Community Action Agency.

The cold air is lingering with more arctic air sweeping into the region, reaching as far south as Texas and the Florida Panhandle through the weekend.

Edmunds sizes up new safety tech

BY RONALD MONTOYA
Edmunds

We are in a new era of car safety: The focus has shifted from reducing death and injury in a vehicle collision to preventing a crash from happening in the first place. Safety features designed to avoid accidents are becoming increasingly common in new cars.

Here is an overview of the advanced safety features you're likely to encounter when shopping for a new car, along with examples of what carmakers call their versions of the features.

FORWARD COLLISION WARNING: If you come up behind a slower or stopped vehicle and don't show signs of braking, the forward collision warning system will alert you that an impact is imminent. Some carmaker names for this feature include Predictive Forward Collision Warning (Infiniti), Forward Collision Alert (Chevrolet) and Forward Obstruction Warning (Mazda).

SHOULD YOU GET IT? Yes. Distracted driving is at an all-time high, and this system can serve as an extra set of eyes to prevent an accident. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recommends the technology.

AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY BRAKING: This system will become a standard feature on



This graphic provided by Volvo shows how a rear cross-traffic system spots oncoming vehicles.

COURTESY OF VOLVO CAR CORP. VIA AP

nearly all cars and light trucks by 2022, thanks to an agreement among most carmakers and NHTSA. If the vehicle senses an imminent collision, the system will automatically apply the brakes to avoid or minimize an impact. It is often bundled with forward collision warning and goes by names such as City Safety automatic braking (Volvo), Low Speed Forward Automatic Braking (Cadillac) and Frontal Collision Warning with City Collision Mitigation (BMW).

SHOULD YOU GET IT? Yes. The fact it is becoming a standard feature soon speaks to its importance.

ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL: This system is less an active safety feature than a way to reduce driver fatigue on the highway. Let's say you set the cruise control at 70 mph. If you catch up to another vehicle or one gets into your lane, the system will apply the brakes to slow your car down and follow the vehicle ahead at a preset distance. The naming is fairly standard, with the exception of more advanced systems such as Super Cruise (Cadillac), ProPilot Assist (Nissan) and Autopilot (Tesla).

SHOULD YOU GET IT? It depends. These systems require you to trust the car to speed up and slow down on its own. If you're not OK with that or don't use cruise control at all, save your money. And, just as with some drivers, some systems brake more smoothly than others.

BLIND-SPOT MONITORING: This system will scan the rear corners of the vehicle and light up your side mirrors when it detects a vehicle in those zones. It's one of the most common new safety technologies, available on about 73 percent of 2017 models, according to Edmunds data. Some automaker names include Side Blind Zone Alert (Chevrolet), Audi Side Assist (Audi) and Blind Spot Detection (Hyundai).

SHOULD YOU GET IT? Yes, but you must regularly use your turn signals to get the most out of it. Some systems will activate the warning light when a vehicle is in your

blind spot, but the warning tone or vibration will only occur when your turn signal is activated.

LANE DEPARTURE WARNING AND LANE KEEPING ASSIST: If your attention wanders and your vehicle starts to drift out of the lane, a lane departure system warns you with a beep, vibration or visual cue on the instrument panel.

If the vehicle also is equipped with lane keeping assist, it will go beyond just a warning: It will make a minor steering or braking correction to keep the car in its lane. Common names for these systems are LaneSense (Chrysler), Active Lane Keeping Assist (Mercedes-Benz) and Lane Departure Alert with Steering Assist (Toyota). NHTSA recommends lane departure

warning but does not yet recommend lane keeping assist.

SHOULD YOU GET IT? Yes, but to get the most out of it, make sure to get a system with lane keeping assist, not just the warning. If the car's camera can no longer see the painted lanes, or if you veer out to make room for a cyclist, it will trigger an alert. Some may find the beeping annoying and choose to mute the alerts. That's why the lane keeping function, with its noiseless, more subtle physical cues, is more useful.

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China: U.S. should curb demand for opioids, not blame China

BEIJING (AP) — The United States should look within to cut down demand for opioids which are fueling its deadly drug crisis rather than stressing unsubstantiated claims that China is the major source of these chemicals, a top Chinese drug enforcement official said Thursday.

China and the U.S. have worked to build a close working relationship to fight global flows of illicit synthetic drugs, but their collaboration remains fraught.

Yu Haibin of the China National Narcotics Control Commission told reporters there was little evidence showing China was the source of much of the chemicals used in the production of the powerful opioid fentanyl. President Donald Trump in November blamed a "flood of cheap and deadly" fentanyl made in China for the deadliest drug epidemic in U.S. history.

"China doesn't deny that shipments to the U.S. happen, but there isn't the proof

to show how much — whether it's 20 percent or 80 percent," said Yu, adding that U.S. authorities have only sent him information about six shipments from China in the past year.

In October 2016, the AP identified 12 Chinese companies willing to export carfentanil around the world for a few thousand dollars for 2.2 pounds, no questions asked. Carfentanil is 100 times more powerful than fentanyl and is legally used as an anesthetic for elephants and other large animals.

Yu urged the U.S. to share more data and police intelligence with Chinese authorities and said rampant over-prescription of pain medication and lax cultural attitudes toward drugs had fueled massive demand for opioids in the U.S.

Insufficient drug education and the trend in some states of legalizing marijuana have hurt drug enforcement efforts, he said.

"As many states decriminalize mari-

juana, the public's attitudes and trends of thinking toward drugs will also have a bad effect" on the fight against hard drugs, Yu said.

Chinese officials have been eager to tout their collaboration with American counterparts on drug enforcement as a bright spot in the occasionally rocky relationship.

Though Beijing has said U.S. assertions that China is the top source of fentanyls lack evidence, the two countries have deepened cooperation as the U.S. opioid epidemic intensifies. Beijing already regulates fentanyl and a number of related compounds, even though they are not widely abused domestically.

Since 2016, China has arrested dozens of synthetic drug exporters, destroyed several illegal labs and seized tons of new psychoactive substances, according to the Office of the National Narcotics Control Committee.

Officials in Beijing said Thursday they busted a fentanyl factory in No-

ember and seized 10.36 pounds of the substance thanks to a tip-off from U.S. Immigration and Customs about a major online purveyor named "Diana" that turned out to be a front for a 19-person drug ring scattered across China.

China wanted to work more closely with U.S. law enforcement, as well as authorities in Mexico, a transshipment point, Yu said.

China has backed a successful U.S. proposal this year to add several fentanyl precursors to a U.N. list of controlled substances. China has listed the two chemicals, NPP and 44-ANPP, under domestic drug laws, officials said.

More than 66,000 people in America died of drug overdoses in the year ending May 2017, a jump of 17.4 percent from the year before, according to provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC reports most cases of fentanyl overdose are linked to illicitly produced batches of the substance.

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DRIVER FROM PAGE A1

general sessions court. Mia Thornton, of Cherryvale Drive, was arrested after she allegedly led officers on a 15-minute chase from Pinewood Road to Kaydon Corp. — a multiple-mile trip — at speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour.

Magistrate Court Judge Larry Blanding set a \$647.50 personal recognizance bond for a first offense driving under suspension charge filed by S.C. Highway Patrol, which also charged Thornton with failure to stop for a blue light and siren.

Blanding denied bond for other charges filed by Sumter County Sheriff's Office, which include two counts of aggravated assault; assault and battery with intent to kill; grand larceny of more than \$10,000; grand larceny of more than \$2,000 but less than \$10,000; malicious injury to property; two counts of possession, concealment, sale or disposal of a stolen vehicle; and resisting arrest with a deadly weapon.

The court thinks Thornton to be a danger to the community, Blanding said, so bond on her more serious charges will be set by a circuit court judge.

Thornton is accused of taking her boyfriend's vehicle; stealing the vehicle of a man who gave her a ride after causing the truck to strike another vehicle; and stealing and wrecking a deputy patrol car on Kaydon Corp. property, causing near-

ly \$80,000 in damage, according to the sheriff's office.

Thornton sat in front of two victims during a first appearance hearing at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center on Thursday. She began to cry when her mother entered the courtroom and continued to tear up throughout the hearing.

Neither of the victims spoke, but Thornton's mother told the judge the incident may have been caused by her daughter's struggle with mental illness.

"This is flabbergasting to me," said Thornton's mother, whose name was not provided.

She said her daughter was diagnosed with a mental illness in

2011 and again a year and a half ago after the birth of her son, though she did not say from what kind of mental illness her daughter suffers.

She said Thornton has never hurt another person during one of her "episodes" and that she is a candidate for treatment.

Blanding ordered that Thornton have a mental evaluation after scheduling her for a bond hearing in general sessions court at Sumter County Judicial Center on Feb. 9.

Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis said he does not think the investigation will change after hearing Thornton's mother make comments about her daughter's mental health.

Thornton seemed to know

WATCH THE CHASE

Go to theitem.com/studiosumter to watch dash-cam footage of the incident.



Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis speaks with reporters outside of Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.

ADRIENNE SARVIS / THE SUMTER ITEM

what she had done while speaking with investigators, he said.

In-car video provided by the sheriff's office shows Thornton get one hand

loose from her handcuffs and crawl into the front seat of the patrol vehicle through the porthole as soon as the deputy gets out of the car. Dash-cam footage shows a deputy and a trooper — both on scene when Thornton was apprehended the first time — jump out of the way as Thornton drives off.

Further footage shows multiple deputies' vehicles follow Thornton as she attempts to elude them, all vehicles involved using their blue lights and sirens.

Dennis told the judge Thornton drove recklessly at speeds exceeding 100 mph without regard for citizens and the two officers who had to dive into a ditch to avoid getting hit by the patrol car she reportedly stole.

It was raining during the incident, and Thornton did not turn the windshield wipers on and drove with little visibility, crossed the solid yellow line and drove off the road multiple times, he said.

Dennis said Internal Affairs is investigating the incident involving the county patrol car to determine if any policies were violated on behalf of the deputy. He said it is too early to say if any policies were violated.

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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

There is plenty to blame for our educational rot

My recent columns have focused on the extremely poor educational outcomes for black students. There's enough blame for all involved to have their fair share. That includes students who are hostile and alien to the educational process and have derelict, uninterested home environments. After all, if there is not someone in the home to ensure that a youngster does his homework, has wholesome meals, gets eight to 10 hours of sleep and behaves in school, educational dollars won't produce much.

There's another educational issue that's neither flattering nor comfortable to confront. That's the low academic quality of so many teachers.

It's an issue that must be confronted and dealt with if we're to improve the quality of education. Most states require prospective teachers to pass a certification test. How about a sample of some of the test questions.

Here's a question from a recent test given to college students in Michigan planning to become teachers: "Which of the following is largest? a. 1/4, b. 3/5, c. 1/2, d. 9/20." Another question: "A town planning committee must decide how to use a 115-acre piece of land. The committee sets aside 20 acres of the land for watershed protection and an additional 37.4 acres for recreation. How much of the land is set aside for watershed protection and recreation? a. 43.15 acres, b. 54.6 acres, c. 57.4 acres, d. 60.4 acres" (<http://tinyurl.com/y7mtpfhk>).

The Arizona teacher certification test asks: "Janet can type 250 words in 5 minutes; what is her typing rate per minute? a. 50wpm, b. 66wpm, c. 55wpm, d. 45wpm." The California Basic Educational Skills Test asks the test taker to find the verb in the following sentence: "The interior temperatures of even the coolest stars are measured in millions of degrees. a. Coolest, b. Of even, c. Are measured, d. In millions" (<http://tinyurl.com/yd-85kv3n>). A CBEST math question is: "You purchase a car making a down payment of \$3,000 and 6 monthly payments of \$225. How much have you paid so far for the car? a. \$3225, b. \$4350, c. \$5375, d. \$6550, e. \$6398."

My guess is that these are questions that an eighth- or ninth-grader with a good education ought to be able

to answer.

Such test questions demonstrate the low bar that states set in order for one to become a certified teacher. Even with such low expectations, college graduates have failed these and similarly constructed teacher certification tests.

Recently, New York, after being tied up in court for years, dropped its teacher literacy test amid claims of racism (<http://tinyurl.com/je3spmw>).

A 2011 investigation by WSB-TV found that more than 700 Georgia teachers had repeatedly failed at least one portion of the certification test they were required to pass before receiving a teaching certificate. Nearly 60 teachers had failed the test more than 10 times, and one teacher had failed the test 18 times. There were 297 teachers on the Atlanta school system's payroll who had failed the state certification test five times or more (<http://tinyurl.com/ycvzrlxq>).

With but a few exceptions, schools of education represent the academic slums of colleges. They tend to be home to students who have the lowest academic test scores — for example, SAT scores — when they enter college. They also tend to have the lowest scores when they graduate and choose to take postgraduate admissions tests — such as the GRE, the MCAT and the LSAT (<http://tinyurl.com/h57ngzy>). Professors at schools of education tend to have the lowest level of academic respectability. American education could benefit from eliminating schools of education.

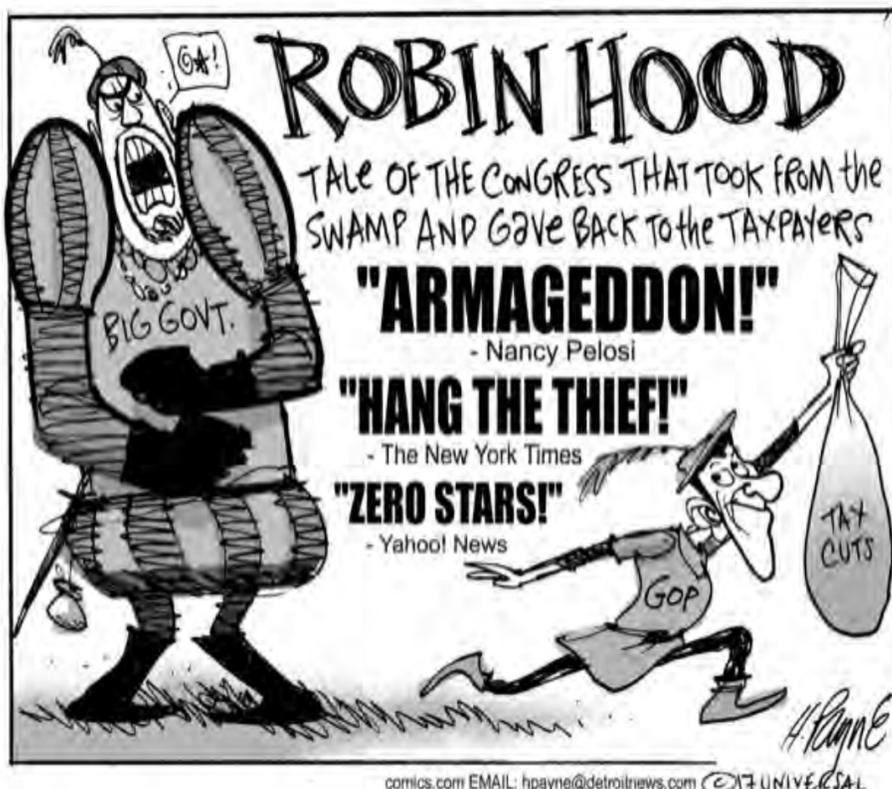
You might ask: Without schools of education, how would teachers be trained? I think that we ought to adopt a practice whereby teachers are hired according to their undergraduate major. I learned this talking to a headmistress of a private school. She said she doesn't hire education majors. She said that if she hires a teacher to teach chemistry, math, English or any other subject, the person must have a bachelor's degree in the discipline. Pedagogical techniques can be learned through short formal training, coaching and experience.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

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COMMENTARY

Put teeth in texting ban to help make South Carolina roads safer

Editor's note: This editorial originally ran in the Post and Courier on Thursday.

Taking cellphones out of the hands of South Carolina drivers might be almost as hard as taking their guns. You might have to pry them from their cold, dead hands, to paraphrase the old National Rifle Association slogan. But that's just what Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, aims to do when the Legislature reconvenes next month.

Though Rep. Taylor's proposed handheld ban is unlikely to find enough statewide support for passage, another element of his bill — raising the \$25 fine for texting while driving to at least \$100 — ought to make its way to the governor's desk at the speed of sound.

Part of the problem with South Carolina's current law is that it's hard to enforce. Police have a hard time telling whether a driver is illegally texting or allowably just dialing or using a phone's navigation system. And the \$25 fine is hardly worth the administrative cost of collecting it. Only about three citations

per day statewide are issued for texting while driving, and some local law enforcement agencies have practically given up on enforcing the ban.

Not one citation was issued in North Charleston in the first two years of the texting ban, and just two were issued this past year. In Charleston, a total of 19 tickets have been issued. Mount Pleasant, however, has handed out about 117 over the past three years.

Increasing the fine to \$100 would give the texting ban more teeth in that it would take a bigger bite out of a scofflaw's wallet. Quadrupling the current fine could also inspire stricter enforcement. Police need only to start writing the tickets. Drivers who want to contest them can argue their case in traffic court.

Increasing the fine, incidentally, would bring South Carolina's law more in line with its neighbors. The fine in North Carolina is \$100. In Georgia, it's \$150 plus 1 point on your driver's license.

Under Rep. Taylor's bill, the fine for repeat offenders would go to \$300 and include 2 points on the offender's

driver's license.

"Legislation like this is always a conversation starter," Mr. Taylor told the *Aiken Standard*. "We need to have a serious conversation with our citizens."

Indeed, South Carolina traffic fatalities have dropped slightly since peaking at 1,016 in 2016, but collisions attributed to distracted driving have been climbing steadily, from 4,399 in 2011 to 5,698 in 2016, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. And that's driving up insurance rates, which jumped nearly 9 percent statewide in 2016 alone.

A 2014 study by the National Safety Council concluded that drivers distracted by mobile phones caused 26 percent of all U.S. accidents.

Rep. Taylor is on the right track. And he's right that banning handheld phones behind the wheel would make it easier for law enforcement officers to cite motorists. But a similar ban faced strong opposition in the Legislature. Better to try a stronger texting ban first, recognizing that texting is a more demonstrable danger to safe driving.

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THE CLARENDON SUN



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WYNTAH WILDER, 8



JOURNEE WILDER, 6



AUBREE WILDER, 5



DENVER WILDER, 2

Detention Center employees help others

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — One Clarendon County family had a “Merry” Christmas thanks to the employees of the Clarendon County Detention Center. Since 1999, the folks at the CCDC have been giving gladly to those in the community who need a helping hand over the holidays.

“We’re here in a hidden place,” said CCDC director Shelton L. Hughes Jr., who has played a vital role in the luncheon for 19 years. “No one’s concerned about what we do until they enter the rear doors or come in the front. We’re here to do our part ... to give back to the community.”

The center’s employees and other county employees canvass the county seeking donations in order to help families around Christmas time. And, they’ve been quite successful in their efforts. Over the years, they’ve collect-

ed more than \$60,000 to help families with children have a “Merry” Christmas, Hughes added.

When explaining the purpose for the luncheon to their guests, the CCDC’s Sgt. Gregory Beck read Romans 12:7-8: “If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift of showing kindness to others, do it gladly.”

“We at the Clarendon County Detention Center are blessed to help,” Beck told the more than two dozen luncheon guests. “We have the opportunity to help those who may be having it difficult at Christmas time. This luncheon helps bring out the joy, smiles and laughter, and we’re honored to be a part of this.”

Hughes recognized eight program volunteers for their help at the center:

Rosa Fulton, Brenda Johnson, Teresa Osborne, Sharon Durden, Susan Tidwell, Deacon and Mrs. Harold D. Rumsey Jr. and Caroline Grant.

“We also need to give a special thanks to some people and businesses who helped out this year,” he said. “We’d like to thank retired magistrate Charles M. Gavin, local attorney Steve McKenzie, Magistrate Shayne Stephens, Andrew C. English Jr., Magistrates June Briggs, Patrick Goodwin, James Dingle and Elease Fulton, Eddie Isaac and Prothro, Walmart, Shoney’s, Santee Ford and Piggly Wiggly. They helped make today possible.”

“I’d also like to acknowledge a few folks for their gift shopping and preparation efforts,” Hughes added. “I guess you could call them our ‘bag builders’: Joella Henry, Cpl. Joy Mitchell, Kim Green and Lt. Cheryl Pendergrass.”

Hughes also recognized the folks who raised the top fundraising producers. In first place was Pendergrass, fol-

lowed by CCDC officer Damien Miller, county employee Dorothy Levy and CCDC nurse Catherine Strickland.

There were smiles all around as the children stepped up and accepted their “Big Bag,” but biggest smile belonged to the youngest, Denver, 2. His bag was so large he had to have help just to get it back to his seat. The season of joy was evident when each of the youngsters cheered as the others walked up to accept their gifts.

Their mother, Cynthia Wilder, had tears in her eyes as she thanked Hughes and his staff and volunteers for the luncheon and gifts.

“Thank you. Thank you so much,” Wilder said. “Now, they’ll have something under the tree on Christmas morning.”

“It’s a blessing. It’s a blessing,” Hughes said after the luncheon. “It makes you feel so good to be able to help others. This just keeps getting better every year.”

Sheriff’s office pampers ‘wise’ citizens

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — Christmas arrived early for more than 120 senior citizens from throughout Clarendon County.

In celebration of the theme “Communities Working Together,” the Clarendon County Sheriff’s Office sponsored the Clarendon County Senior Citizens’ Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 21 with invitees from communities across the county, including seniors from Branco Adult DayCare Center in Manning, the Manning and Summerton locations of the Clarendon County Council on Aging, the Melina Presbyterian Church Senior Ministry from the Gable/New Zion area and the Paxville Community Center.

The Clarendon County Community Complex’s gymnasium looked spectacular decorated for the holiday season in red and white with each table featuring white trees adorned with crystals, poinsettias and greenery. Place settings showcased chargers in red, silver



Clarendon County Sheriff’s Office Deputy 1st Class Annett Smith emceed the luncheon.

and gold with china plates and crystal glasses. Employees of the CCSO, L and A Catering and Girl Scout Troop 547 served the seniors as they were entertained by Jerry Lloyd and Brianna Harvin.

Speakers included Clarendon County Sheriff Tim Baxley, Paxville Mayor Wade McLeod, the Rev. W.T. Johnson and Deacon John Tindal of Summerton’s Taw Caw Missionary Baptist Church and Pastor Annie Riley of Pine-wood’s Mt. Hope Fire Baptized Holiness Church.

Baxley recognized Deputy First Class Annett Smith for everything she did in making the event happen.

“I don’t know how she does it, but today’s event didn’t cost

my office anything,” he said. “She gets businesses and individuals to donate. She keeps up with her duties while helping out in the communities.”

Baxley said that instead of calling the event’s guests “senior” citizens that he’d prefer to call them “wise” citizens. “We can learn a lot from you,” he added.

“Jesus is the reason for the season,” Riley repeated frequently as guest speaker for the event. “Jesus is the Gift. He is the reason for the season.”

Smith emceed the event and handed out more than 100 door prizes along with some additional door prizes that arrived unexpectedly at the event.

“We were truly blessed,” Smith told the attendees. “Everyone received a gift of some type. I’m very thankful to our donors and everyone who had a part in making today possible. I couldn’t have done it without a lot of help from the community. And that’s what the theme is all about...communities working together.”



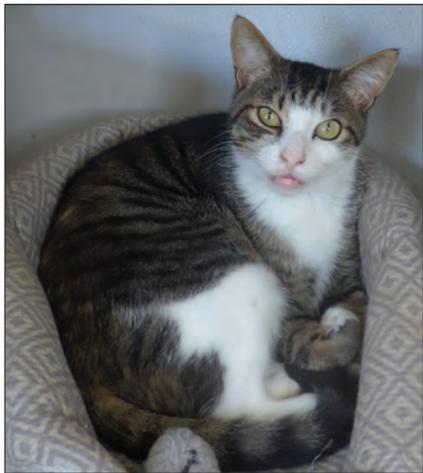
PHOTOS BY SHARRON HALEY / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM
Clarendon County Sheriff’s Office sponsored the Clarendon County Senior Citizens’ Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 21. Each person received a gift donated from a business or an individual.



Pets of the week

Petey is a 4-year-old male grey tabby, domesticated short-haired cat. He is current on all vaccinations, has been neutered and tested negative for feline leukemia. He loves to be outside, and if you own a golf cart, he makes the best riding partner. Petey is a little mischievous but loves to show affection. He is the mayor of the shelter. We are running a special on all of our cats and kittens. Office hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit the website at www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com.

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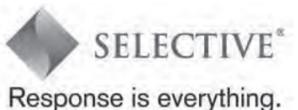
Zeus is a 4-year-old male black-and-tan lab mix weighing approximately 61 pounds. He is current on all vaccinations, has been neutered and tested negative for heartworms. He loves snacks and walks well on a leash. He tends to get nervous with new people, but he warms up in no time. Zeus has lived his entire life at the shelter, and he needs a nice family. His adoption fee has already been paid. Get preapproved by submitting your application online at www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com.



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Notice is hereby given that **Family Dollar Stores of South Carolina, LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and off premises consumption of beer & wine at **37 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102, Clarendon County.**

To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **Sunday, January 7, 2018.**

For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:

- (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest;
- (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied;
- (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);
- (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,
- (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed.

Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907; or faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

Summons & Notice

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CLARENDON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2016-CP-14-00237 Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, Plaintiff vs. The Personal Representative, if any, whose name is unknown, of the Estate of Thomas Thames, and any other Heirs-at-Law or Devises of Thomas Thames, Deceased, the Personal Representative, if any, whose name is unknown, of the Estate of Peggy McBride aka Peggy Wells McBride; Brenda A. Lewis, Terresa Murray, Juanita McFadden, John McBride, Ervin McBride, Timothy McBride, Alvin McBride, Lee Ernest McBride, Ralph D. McBride, and any other Heirs-at-Law or Devises of Peggy McBride aka Peggy Wells McBride, Deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors and Assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe, Republic Finance and South Carolina Federal Credit Union, Defendants. It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, upon

Summons & Notice

reading the Motion for the Appointment of Kelley Y. Woody, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America (which are constituted as a class designated as "John Doe") and any unknown minors and persons who may be under a disability (which are constituted as a class designated as "Richard Roe"), it is ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 17, SCRCP, Kelley Y. Woody, Esq. is appointed Guardian ad Litem on behalf of all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America (constituted as a class and designated as "John Doe"), all unknown minors or persons under a disability (constituted as a class and designated as "Richard Roe"), all of which have or may claim to have some interest in the property that is the subject of this action, commonly known as 114 Richburg Street, Manning, SC 29102, that Kelley Y. Woody, Esq. is empowered and directed to appear on behalf of and represent all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, constituted as a class and designated as "John Doe", all unknown minors and persons under a disability, constituted as a class and designated as "Richard Roe", unless the Defendants, or someone acting on their behalf, shall, within thirty (30) days after service of a copy of this Order as directed below, procure the appointment of a Guardian or Guardians ad Litem for the Defendants constituted as a class designated as "John Doe" or "Richard Roe". IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order shall be served upon the unknown Defendants by publication in the Manning Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, together with the Summons in the above entitled action. SUMMONS AND NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANTS) ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED HEREIN; ALSO ANY PERSONS WHO MAY BE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN DOE; AND ANY UNKNOWN MINORS OR PERSONS UNDER A DISABILITY BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE; ERVIN MCBRIDE; RALPH D. MCBRIDE YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in the above action, a copy which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer upon the undersigned at their offices, 2838 Devine Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29205, within thirty (30) days after service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and, if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the original Complaint in this action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Clarendon County on May 27, 2016. NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, you have a right to be considered for

Summons & Notice

Foreclosure Intervention. NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an action has been commenced and is now pending or is about to be commenced in the Circuit Court upon the complaint of the above named Plaintiff against the above named Defendant for the purpose of foreclosing a certain mortgage of real estate heretofore given by Peggy McBride and Thomas Thames to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company bearing date of March 9, 2010 and recorded March 23, 2010 in Mortgage Book 874 at Page 173 in the Register of Mesne Conveyances/Register of Deeds/Clerk of Court for Clarendon County, in the original principal sum of Forty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three and 76/100 Dollars (\$46,983.76). Thereafter, by assignment recorded February 18, 2016 in Book 1069 at Page 249, the mortgage was assigned to CitiFinancial Servicing LLC; thereafter, by assignment recorded February 18, 2016 in Book 1069 at Page 250, the mortgage was assigned to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, and that the premises effected by said mortgage and by the foreclosure thereof are situated in the County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, and is described as follows: All of that certain piece, parcel or lot of land with improvements thereon, lying, situate approximately One Hundred Fifty (150) Feet; North of West Huggins Street, formerly Silver Road, in the Town of Manning, County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, measuring 100 feet on all four sides and being out from the Northern portion of a certain lot conveyed to Pinkney Hilton by Deed of W.P. Harrison, dated March 9, 1957 and recorded in Deed Book C-16, at Page 509 of the Records of Clarendon County and bounded as follows, North by lands formerly of J.K. Breedin, now of Albert Pugh; East by Lot of John Felder, South by the remaining portion of the Lot of Pinkney Hilton and West by a street or roadway separating said lot of Johnny McCray. TMS No. 169-11-02-006-00 Property Address: 114 Richburg Street, Manning, SC 29102 Riley Pope & Laney, LLC Post Office Box 11412 Columbia, South Carolina 29211 Telephone (803) 799-9993 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Park it in the CLASSIFIEDS and watch it go fast!

Estate Notice Clarendon County NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Clarendon County, the address of which is 411 Sunset Dr. Manning, SC 29102, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Joe Louis Lawson, Jr.
#2017ES1400336
Personal Representative: Joe Ann Lawson Davis
PO Box 898
Manning, SC 29102
12/29/17 - 1/12/18

Estate: Alexander House
#2017ES1400312
Personal Representative: Sandra Nichols House
1972 Thompson Dr.
Manning, SC 29102
12/29/17 - 1/12/18

Estate: Alexander House
#2017ES1400312
Personal Representative: Sandra Nichols House
1972 Thompson Dr.
Manning, SC 29102
12/29/17 - 1/12/18

Estate: Donna June Blanchard
#2017ES1400338
Personal Representative: Michael Todd Brown
1036 Oak Ridge Dr.
Summerton, SC 29148
Ronald L. Nester, Sr.
PO Box 349
Santee, SC 29142
12/29/17 - 1/12/18

Estate: Sylvia Stone McElveen
#2017ES1400321
Personal Representative: Sheila O. Bradshaw
3478 Cornfield Dr.
Sumter, SC 29154
12/29/17 - 1/12/18

Estate Notice Clarendon County NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Clarendon County, the address of which is 411 Sunset Dr. Manning, SC 29102, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: James B. Benjamin
#2017ES1400308
Personal Representative: Anthony F. Benjamin
11606 Hickory Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744
12/22/17 - 1/5/18

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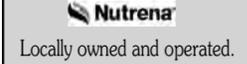
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Seek to encourage someone you know in the new year

The first of a new year has a certain shimmer to it. It's a shine that denotes new possibilities whereas the end of the end represents the harsh realization that, once again, we haven't held up on our end of the bargain. We aren't 15 pounds thinner, thousands of dollars richer or free from the grips of those vices that continually plague us.

Another year, another round of disappointment. This year, well this year will be different.

Because this year you won't seek self-improvement. You won't set out a half-baked plan to be better. You



Faith Matters

JAMIE H. WILSON

the year, his family would gather around and talk about the new year. Taking turns, each member would address another person present, first acknowledging the unique talents and gifts God gave the person and then challenging the person to use those abilities toward a specific end. This gave the recipient of the challenge an opportunity

won't seek inside yourself the strength to reach that goal. Instead of focusing on improving yourself, you'll encourage another person to be the person God wants him or her to be.

A former boss introduced me to this concept a few years ago. At the end of

to look outside of himself or herself and to consider how to use God's blessings to benefit others.

The motives behind these challenges were completely altruistic. It wasn't a time to point out another's shortcomings but to spur the person on to serving others. The result was compelling, my boss told me. It brought a perspective to the one challenged that he or she may not have seen before. Suddenly, he or she felt called to action through equal parts affirmation and aspiration, a concept completely familiar in Scripture.

You see, God created us with the ability to encourage the need to be encouraged, especially when it comes to the often arduous task of the Christian life.

"Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up

his fellow." (Ephesians 4:9, ESV)

Do you know someone with wisdom? Encourage him or her to seek out a leadership position. Is there someone close to you who cooks well? Encourage him or her to use the ability to help those who are hungry. Does a friend have an uncanny knack for teaching? Encourage him or her to take over a new class at your church. Do you have a child with a flair for the artistic? Have the child create artwork to be given to someone in the hospital.

It may be that the person you encourage to act simply needs a push.

OK, so you might not lose weight, but I guarantee you'll gain something valuable: the ability to see God work in the lives of those around you.

Email Jamie H. Wilson at faith-matterssumter@gmail.com.

CHURCH NEWS

Allen Chapel AME Church, 471 Lynam Road, announces:

* Sunday — Fifth Sunday missionary worship service at 10 a.m.

Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina, Columbia, announces:

* Tuesday-Wednesday, Jan. 2-3, 2018 — Mid-winter session will be held at Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Camden, as follows: Tuesday, 2 p.m. workshop for pastors and ministers and 7 p.m. welcome worship; and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. board meeting. Dr. James Blassingame serves as president. Speakers: Dr. James Cokley, the Rev. E.R. Scott and the Rev. James Hallums.

First Baptist Missionary Church, 219 S. Washington St., announces:

* Sunday — Bring in the New Year celebration at 10 p.m.

Grace Full Gospel Church, 1540 Bradham Blvd., announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service at 9 p.m. The Rev. Wayne Locklear will speak. Music will be provided by Voice of Triumph, of Maxton,

North Carolina, and others.

High Hills AME Church, 6780 Meeting House Road, Dalzell, announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service at 10 p.m. The Rev. Keith R. Mayes Sr. will speak.

High Hills Missionary Baptist Church, 6750 Meeting House Road, Dalzell, announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m.

Knitting Hearts Ministry, meets at Bethesda Church of God, 2730 Broad St., announces:

* Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 — Knitting Hearts will meet from 10 a.m. until noon. International Bible teacher Dr. Peter Wyns will speak. All ladies of all ages are invited. A love offering will be received. Knitting Hearts is a community-wide, multi-cultural women's ministry. Visit knittingheartsministry.wordpress.com.

Mount Sinai AME Church, 5895 Mt. Sinai Church Road, Lynchburg, announces:

* Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018 — Gospel Fest 2018 gospel singing featuring the Singing Cousins and other guests.

Mount Zion Enrichment Center, 315 W. Fulton St., announces:

* Friday, Jan. 26, 2018 — Morris College National Alumni Association Hall of Fame Gala at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 each and proceeds support scholarships for deserving students at Morris College. Call Altoya Felder-Deas, director of alumni affairs, at (803) 934-3167 for more details.

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 325 Fulton St., announces:

* Sunday — Youth worship celebration at 10:45 a.m.
* Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 — Annual Emancipation Day observance, sponsored by the Concerned Clergy of Sumter, will be held at noon. The Rev. Dr. Nelson B. Rivers III, pastor of Charity Missionary Baptist Church of North Charleston and vice president of Religious Affairs and External Affairs for the National Action Network Inc., will speak. The Crestwood High School Gospel Choir will provide music.

* Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018 — Evangelist Savitrus McFadden will speak at 6 p.m.

* Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018 — Pastor appreciation at 10:45 a.m.

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 3249 U.S. 15 S., announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service at 10 p.m.

New Testament Lighthouse Church, 1114 Boulevard Road, announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service. Food will be served at 8 p.m. Singing will begin at 9 p.m. featuring One Step Closer and others.

Refreshing Springs Kingdom Outreach, meets at Colony Square, 741 Bultman Drive, Suite 21, announces:

* Saturday — Kingdom United prayer breakfast at 10 a.m.

* Sunday — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m.

Reid Chapel AME Church, 1008 Dibert St., announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m.

* Monday, Jan. 15, 2018 — MLK Celebration at 9 a.m. Elder Lee McElveen, of Calvary Christian Outreach Center, will speak.

St. James AME Church, 180 W. Fulton Manning Road, Pinewood, announces:

* Sunday — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m. The Rev.

Lawrence Myers will speak.

St. James United Methodist Church, 720 Broad St., announces:

* Monday, Jan. 15, 2018 — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day of celebration "Standing on the Promises" at 2 p.m. Ernest A. Finney III, solicitor for the Third Judicial Circuit, will speak.

* Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018 — Male chorus anniversary celebration at 4 p.m.

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 7650 Summerton Highway, Silver community, Pinewood, announces:

* Sunday — Watch Night service at 10 p.m.

Summerton Southern Methodist Church, 1107 Felton Road, Summerton, announces:

* Sunday — New Year's eve singing from 8 p.m. until midnight. On the program: His Calling, Marty James, Mike and Beth Watson, Julie Mahoney and others.

Walker's Chapel Freewill Baptist Church, 99 Walter Ave., announces:

* Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 — Gospel singing at 6 p.m. featuring the Heritage Quartet, Burning Bridges ministry and Pastor Nat and Carleen Brown.

TOP STORIES

FROM PAGE A1

was wearing a life jacket. Boaters are required to have a life jacket available but are not required to wear them, McCollough said.

"We encourage boaters to wear them," he said.

9. SUMTER POLICE ARREST 18-YEAR-OLD FOR ALLEGEDLY SHOOTING TEEN GIRL

Monday, Oct. 2
From staff reports

Sumter Police Department arrested an 18-year-old man Monday for allegedly shooting a 15-year-old girl at a Flamingo Road residence just before 10 p.m. Sunday.

According to a news release from the department, the victim was shot after she exited a house on Flamingo Road while the shooting suspect, Jayshawn D. Easterling, of 660 Flamingo Road, and two other teens were talking on the porch.

The release refers to Easterling as an acquaintance of the victim.

The victim told officers that she felt something hit her back as she was walking down the porch steps and then saw the suspect run away from the residence.

The victim, whose name is being withheld because of her age, was taken to Palmetto Health Tuomey with a gunshot wound and was later transferred to Palmetto Health Richland in Columbia, where she is in stable condition.

Easterling and the two other teens were later located and questioned by police.

The release states that Easterling, who was out on bond on an unrelated charge filed in January, was arrested and charged with attempted murder.

He is being held at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center pending bond.

The investigation is ongoing.

8. 20-YEAR-OLD VICTIM OF FRIDAY MORNING FATAL STABBING IDENTIFIED

Friday, March 10
From staff reports

Sumter County Coroner Robbie Baker identified the victim of a fatal stabbing that occurred at 365 Rolling Creek Drive about 8 a.m. today as 20-year-old Desjuan Lemon of Sumter.

Sumter Police Department detectives are working to determine what led to the stabbing of Lemon, who lived with his girlfriend, Anastasia Brejean Singleton, 19. According to a news release from police, the incident appears to have started with an argument that turned physical.

Lemon was transported by EMS to Palmetto Health Tuomey, where he died.

Singleton, 19, was taken into custody and charged with murder. She is being held at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.

An autopsy is scheduled for Sunday.

Additional information will be released as it is provided to *The Sumter Item*.

7. 4 SUMTER MEN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH ARMED ROBBERIES

Friday, Dec. 22
From staff reports

Sumter Police have arrested four Sumter men in connection with a string of armed robberies which began Aug. 8 at the Bojangles' on Broad Street, according to a news release from the department.

The robberies continued in August when Star Barbershop, Gentlemen's Barbershop and Rollerson Package Store were hit. Peanut Enterprise

body but said the extent of the burns could make the injury life threatening.

An update on his health was not available by Thursday morning.

The official cause of the fire is undetermined, but it originated in the attic near the heating and air unit,



C. NELSON



M. NELSON



RAHMAN



SIMON

was struck by an armed robber on Sept. 13 during which one person was assaulted and injured. The last incident happened Dec. 5 when a man was robbed and shot in the parking lot of Miller Arms apartments. The 31-year-old victim is still recovering.

According to the release, officers were able to develop information that connected the men to the Miller Arms case and their individual roles in the other cases. One of the suspects acted alone in two of the previous armed robberies.

Each of the suspects faces multiple charges ranging from conspiracy to attempted murder. All are being held at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center where bond was denied on Friday morning.

Charged are:
• Chase Bernard Nelson, 19, of 448 Robney

Drive: armed robbery — five counts, attempted armed robbery, conspiracy — five counts, possession of a weapon during a violent crime — six counts, assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature and attempted murder;

• Malik Elijah Nelson, 18, also of 448 Robney Drive: armed robbery — three counts, attempted armed robbery, conspiracy — four counts, possession of a weapon during a violent crime — three counts and attempted murder;

• Marion Shakur Rahman, 20, of 1013 Marilyn Drive: armed robbery, conspiracy, possession of a weapon during a violent crime, attempted murder; and

Duggan said.

However, fire investigators do not think the fire was caused by the heating and air unit, he said, and investigators do not think it was suspicious in nature.

He said there was heavy fire coming from the front of the house when fire-

fighters arrived.

It took about 30 minutes to extinguish the house fire, and about \$75,000 in damage was caused to the structure and contents, he said.

Headquarters, Alice Drive and Manning Road fire stations responded to the fire with about 16 firefighters.

FIRE FROM PAGE A1

The man was transported to Joseph M. Still Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia, for treatment.

Duggan said he does not know the severity of the burns on the man's

Charity gets a jolt from tax law but due to drop next year

WASHINGTON (AP) — In this season of giving, charity seems to be getting an extra jolt because next year the popular tax deduction for donations will lose a lot of its punch.

Traditionally generous Americans may have less incentive to give to charitable causes next year because of the newly minted tax law. The changes that will make it less advantageous for many people to donate to charity in 2018 may be sparking a year-end stream of fattened contributions in anticipation, charity executives and experts say.

Starting next year, the millions of relatively small donations from moderate-income people to mainstream charities could be sharply reduced, they say. That means charity could become less of a middle-class enterprise and a more exclusive domain of the wealthy, who tend to give to arts and cultural institutions, research facilities and universities. Their use of the charitable tax deduction is less likely to be affected by the new law.

The sweeping Republican tax overhaul, delivered by the GOP-dominated Congress and signed into law by President Donald Trump, doesn't eliminate or even reduce the deduction for donations to charitable, religious and other nonprofit organizations. Charitable giving should be encouraged with a tax incentive, congressional Republicans crafting the plan said early on, and the cherished deduction — though costing

A lot of charities are in shock. Charities feel totally blindsided and like we have been thrown under the bus.'

STEVE TAYLOR

Senior vice president and counsel for public policy at United Way

some \$41.5 billion a year in lost federal revenue — wasn't struck even as other longstanding deductions fell or were scaled back.

But it might as well have been, charity experts and advocates say.

A central pillar of the massive tax law doubles the standard deduction used by two-thirds of Americans, to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples. That means many taxpayers who now itemize deductions will find it's no longer beneficial for them to do so. They'll find that the deductions they normally take, including for charitable giving, don't add up to as much as the new standard amount.

The result: Some estimates project that as few as 10 percent of taxpayers will continue to itemize deductions on

their returns, down from the current one-third.

By contrast, the wealthiest Americans likely will continue to receive the tax benefit of using itemized deductions, including for charitable giving.

Especially for people who currently itemize and donate small to moderate amounts to charities, the tax incentive to give diminishes. And with the new law kicking in Jan. 1, they may want to max out their donations before year's end, rolling next year's giving back into 2017.

"I think we'll have some increased donations" this year, says Steve Taylor, senior vice president and counsel for public policy at United Way. Already, United Way, one of the biggest U.S. charities, has seen some "doubling up" by large donors from what they would normally have been expected to give this year, Taylor said in an interview.

Some 7.2 million people donate less than \$1,000 yearly — on average \$154 — to the United Way, according to Taylor. "We're very concerned," he said. "A lot of charities are in shock. Charities feel totally blindsided and like we have been thrown under the bus" in the tax overhaul.

Experts say the same thing occurred in late 1986 — donations surged that year, dropped the next — after enactment of the Reagan administration tax overhaul, the biggest reworking of the U.S. tax system until this one.

Absent the incentive, Americans'

charitable instincts could still lead them to give, but they're expected to give less — and may also change where and when they give.

For the large number of taxpayers who will no longer itemize, "their cost of giving goes up dramatically," said Patrick Rooney, a professor of economics and philanthropy and director of the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at Indiana University. "It will absolutely have a negative impact."

Rooney and his colleagues foresee a resulting drop in charitable donations of around \$14 billion next year, or 5 percent of the \$282 billion that U.S. charities pulled in last year.

Religious congregations' donors may continue to commit small amounts or a percentage of their income regardless of tax incentives. That could make them less affected than arts and cultural organizations or research facilities and universities, which tend to attract more affluent donors who keep a close eye on their tax options, Rooney said.

In the meantime, charities may have to rework how they pitch their appeals to donors, suggested Marcus Owens, a partner in law firm Loeb & Loeb's Washington office. "I think what it will do is cause charities to sharpen their fundraising efforts. They'll need more sophisticated fundraising techniques," said Owens, who for 10 years headed the IRS' exempt organizations division, which deals with charities and political organizations.

Church Directory

Adventist

Sumter Seventh-Day Adventist
103 N Pike West 775-4455
Pastor Harry Robinson
Sat. Sch: 9:15 am. Worship: 11:00 am
Tues Bible Study 7 pm
www.sumter22.adventistchurchconnect.org

Wayman Chapel AME Church
160 N Kings Hwy • 803-494-3686
www.waymanchapelame.com
Reverend Dr. Dennis W. Broughton, Jr.
Church School 9:00 am
Worship 10:15 am
Wed. Bible Study 12:00 pm & 6:30 pm

Baptist - Missionary

Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church
803 S Harvin St. • 775-4032
Marion H Newton, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 7:45 & 10:45 am
Sunday Youth Service: 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

Catholic - Roman

The Catholic Community of Sumter, St. Anne Site
216 E Liberty St • 803-773-3524
Parochial Pastor Rev. Frank Palmieri, CRM
Vicar Rev. Noly Berjuega, CRM
Weekend Masses: Sat. 4:30 pm
Sun. 8:00 and 12:00 Noon
Confession: Sat. 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Lutheran - ELCA

St James Lutheran Church
1137 Alice Dr, Sumter
773-2260 / www.sjamessumter.org
Pastor Keith Getz
Sunday School: 9:00 am
Sunday Worship: 10:00 am
Thur. Bible Study 10:30 am
Wednesday Holy Communion: 12:00 pm

First Church of God
1835 Camden Rd • 905-5234
www.sumterfcg.org
Ron Bower, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Presbyterian - ARP

Lemira Presbyterian Church
514 Boulevard Rd • 473-5024
Pastor Dan Rowton
Sunday School 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am

African Methodist Episcopal

Union Station AME Church
945 South Main Street, Sumter
unionstationame@gmail.com
(803) 775-8200
Rev. Dr. Phil Flowers announces:
Sun. Church School 9:00 am
Sun. Church Service 10:00 am
Tues. Bible Study 11:00 am
Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm

Assembly of God

First Assembly of God
1151 Alice Drive • 773-3817
www.sumterfistag.org
Jason Banar, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Salem Missionary Baptist Church

320 West Fulton Street
803-775-8054
Reverend Dr. Cartrell Woods, Jr. Pastor
Sun. School 9:00 am
Praise Worship 9:55 am
Worship 10:00 am

The Catholic Community of Sumter, St. Jude Site

611 W. Oakland Ave • 773-9244
www.stjudesumtersc.org
Pastor Rev. Frank Palmieri, CRM
Parochial Vicar Rev. Noly Berjuega, CRM
Saturday: 6:00 pm
Sun. 9:15 - 12:00 Noon, 5:00 pm
(In Spanish)
Confession: Sat. 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Methodist - United

Bethel United Methodist Church
5575 Lodebar Rd • 469-2452
Rev. Jeremy Howell
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School: 10 am
www.yourbethel.org
BMethodist@fbc.net

Greater St. Paul Church
200 Watkins Street • 803-778-1355
Founder Bishop W.T. English
Sunday School - 10:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship - 11:30 am
Wed. Mid Week Service - 7:30 pm

Presbyterian PCA

Westminster Presbyterian Church
230 Alice Dr., Sumter • 803-773-7235
Pastor Stuart Mizelle
Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship Service 10:30 am

Presbyterian USA

First Presbyterian Church of Sumter
9 W Calhoun St (at Main St.)
(803) 773-3814 • info@fpcsumter.org
Rev. Nick Cheek
"Classes for all ages" 9:30 am
Hospitality & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:10 a.m.
Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 a.m.

A PIECE OF THE PAST



Have you ever wondered why people love to collect antiques? Things were built differently than they are today...no assembly line construction. Each piece was custom made by hand. It was a time when individuality and character were a big part of life. Perhaps we want to preserve old times by owning a piece of the past. Today, mass production allows us to make more for less, but where is the uniqueness? Is individuality lost to the past? Not with God. He cares about each and every one of us individually. He hears our words and knows our thoughts the same as He did years and years ago when these old things were made. Celebrate your uniqueness this week at your house of worship.

Daily Devotional Reading

Ephesians 5:1-20	Ephesians 6:10-24	Mark 1:21-45	Mark 2:1-17	Mark 3:1-19	Mark 3:20-35	Mark 4:35-5:20
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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Baptist - Southern

Grace Baptist Church
219 W Calhoun St • 778-6417
Dr. Stephen Williams
dsteve@fbc.net
S.S. 9:45 am; Worship 11:00 am
Evening Worship/Bible Study 6:30 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm
Wed. Bible Study: 6:30 pm

Church of Christ

Plaza Church of Christ
1402 Camden Hwy. • 905-37163
Sunday School: 10 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 6 pm
Wed. Bible Class: 7 pm

Hickory Road Baptist Church

1245 Cherryvale Dr
803-494-8281
Dr. Ron Taylor Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 10:55 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Interdenominational

Spiritual Life Christian Center
4672 Broad St. Ext. • 968-5771
Pastors Randolph & Mineva Paige
Sunday Worship: 11:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

Shaw Heights Baptist Church

2030 Peach Orchard Rd. • 499-4997
Rev. Robert White, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:45 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 6 pm
Bible School June 20th - 25th
6:00 - 8:30 PM
4 year old & up

Victory Full Gospel Interdenominational Church

601 Pitts Rd • 481-7003
Joann P. Murrill, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 11:00 am
Youth Bible Study 7:00 pm

Trinity United Methodist Church

226 W Liberty St • 773-9393
Rev. Joseph James, Jr.
Blended Worship 8:45 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Traditional Service 11:00 am
office@trinityumcsumter.org

Non-Denominational

Calvary Bible Church
770 N. Wise Dr., Sumter
803-774-2341
Pastor Richard Harris
Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 PM

Pentecostal

First United Pentecostal Church
14 Plowden Mill Rd • 775-9493
Pastor Theron Smith
Sunday Service: 10:00 am & 6:30 pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 pm

Sumter First Pentecostal Holiness Church

2609 McCrays Mill Rd • 481-8887
S. Paul Howell, Pastor
Sunday School: 10:00 am
Sunday Worship: 10:45 am & 6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study/Youth Group: 7:00 pm

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NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

BANKS — All area banks and credit unions will be closed on Monday.
GOVERNMENT — The following will be closed on Monday: federal government offices; U.S. Postal Service; state government offices; City of Sumter offices; Sumter County offices; City of Manning; Clarendon County offices; Lee County offices; and City of Bishopville offices.

SCHOOLS — The following will be closed through Monday with students returning on Tuesday: Lee County Public Schools and Thomas Sumter Academy.
 The following will be closed through Tuesday with students returning on Wednesday: Sumter School District; Clarendon School District 1; Clarendon School District 2; Wilson Hall; St. Anne and St. Jude Catholic School; St. Francis Xavier High School; Laurence Manning Academy; and Clarendon Hall.

Clarendon School District 3 and Sumter Christian School will be closed through Monday and will observe a faculty in-service day on Tuesday. Students will return on Wednesday.
 Robert E. Lee Academy will be closed through Wednesday with students returning on Thursday.

UTILITIES — Black River Electric Coop. and FTC will be closed on Monday.
OTHER — Clemson Extension Service and the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce will be closed through Monday.

The Harvin Clarendon County Library and the Sumter County Library will be closed on Monday.

The City of Sumter will collect household garbage and recyclables on New Year's Day. For additional information, call the sanitation department at (803) 436-2558.

Santee-Waterree RTA will be closed on Monday.
 The Sumter Item will be closed on Monday.

AROUND TOWN

An American Red Cross blood drive will be held from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. today at the Arts & Letters building, banquet hall, 109 Miller Road. To make an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code SumterCommunity.

The Sumter Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina will meet at 7

p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018, at Shiloh-Randolph Manor, 125 W. Bartlette St. State membership dues are due on Jan. 9 without a penalty. If you know a blind person, contact Debra Canty, chapter president, at (803) 775-5792 or debra.canty@frontier.com. Donations are welcome and can be mailed to NFB Sumter Chapter, P.O. Box 641, Sumter, SC 29151.

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Research, ask questions and attend

meetings or events that will give you a broader view of something you'd like to consider doing next year. Expand your knowledge, interests and relationships with people who have something to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make plans to advance. Whether it's personal growth you're striving to achieve or upgrading your skills, go to the source and meet with people who can shed some light on the best way to move forward.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Joint ventures should be handled openly and honestly. Do whatever it takes to take care of unfinished business. Make an effort to take better care of your health by limiting how much you eat and drink.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Any opportunity to socialize or to do things with family or friends should be taken. Expand your interests and you'll encounter interesting new people who will enrich your life next year. Embrace the future with optimism.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Too much of anything will lead to trouble. Overspending, emotional outbursts or doing things that worry your loved ones should be curbed. Walk away from anyone who is a poor influence.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Think big and consider all the possibilities that lay ahead. Expand your awareness and consider how you want to live your life. Mental, physical and emotional changes can be put into play that will ensure success and satisfaction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): People from your past will come back into your life. Be wary of anyone trying to smooth-talk you into something you don't really want to pursue. Look over your financial situation and make last-minute adjustments.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Let emotions take over and your optimism grow. Greater opportunities are within reach, and partnerships will take on a new meaning. Reconnecting with people from your past will encourage you to resolve old issues and move forward in a positive manner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Go over your personal finances and figure out exactly what you owe and the best possible way to lower your debt and ease your stress. Ending the year with a positive plan will be worth celebrating.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Open your doors and host a party or event. Your hospitality will encourage friendships and opportunities to explore new possibilities. Romance is on the rise and a promise will be honored. Avoid excessive individuals and unnecessary purchases.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Getting along with friends and relatives won't be easy if you or someone else is indulgent or irresponsible. Avoid risky situations or following someone who isn't reliable. Protect against mishaps and letting others make decisions for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Do whatever you can to help those less fortunate than you. Pitching in and offering your time, expertise and wisdom will put you in a prime position to figure out how you can get ahead professionally.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly sunny and warmer	Partly cloudy and cold	Mostly sunny and milder	Cooler with thickening clouds	Partly sunny and colder	Cold with clouds and sun
48°	26°	58° / 30°	44° / 24°	36° / 19°	36° / 20°
Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 5%
N 4-8 mph	VAR 2-4 mph	SW 6-12 mph	NE 7-14 mph	NNE 8-16 mph	NE 6-12 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

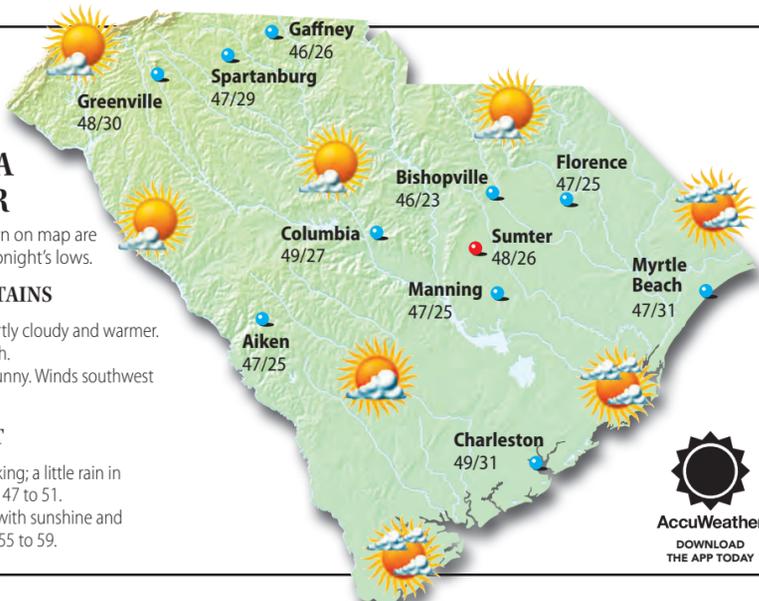
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Sunny to partly cloudy and warmer. Winds south 4-8 mph.
Saturday: Mostly sunny. Winds southwest 6-12 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Clouds breaking; a little rain in southern parts. High 47 to 51.
Saturday: Warmer with sunshine and patchy clouds. High 55 to 59.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	
High	39°
Low	29°
Normal high	54°
Normal low	32°
Record high	80° in 2015
Record low	19° in 2004

Precipitation	
24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	trace
Month to date	4.02"
Normal month to date	2.99"
Year to date	37.54"
Last year to date	49.13"
Normal year to date	46.59"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	354.84	+0.01
Marion	76.8	74.19	none
Moultrie	75.5	74.12	-0.19
Waterree	100	96.67	-0.10

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	8.80	-0.01
Congaree River	19	3.00	-0.16
Lynches River	14	7.76	-0.09
Saluda River	14	3.66	+0.90
Up. Santee River	80	76.16	-0.38
Waterree River	24	4.97	-0.17

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	7:27 a.m.	Sunset	5:22 p.m.
Moonrise	2:36 p.m.	Moonset	3:18 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 16	Jan. 24

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	5:04 a.m.	3.2	12:14 p.m.	0.1
	5:31 p.m.	2.8	---	---
Sat.	6:05 a.m.	3.4	12:27 a.m.	-0.6
	6:31 p.m.	2.9	1:15 p.m.	-0.2

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	50/34/s	51/28/pc
Chicago	17/6/sn	8/2/pc
Dallas	49/38/c	49/34/r
Detroit	22/12/sf	19/5/c
Houston	53/45/c	63/50/r
Los Angeles	80/54/s	73/51/s
New Orleans	55/41/pc	62/51/r
New York	24/18/pc	27/17/sn
Orlando	67/51/c	72/50/s
Philadelphia	28/19/pc	29/18/sn
Phoenix	76/46/s	75/47/s
San Francisco	58/44/pc	58/45/pc
Wash., DC	36/25/s	37/21/sf

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	45/24/s	49/21/pc	Florence	47/25/s	56/31/pc
Athens	52/29/s	53/27/s	Gainesville	57/38/c	66/41/s
Augusta	50/26/s	58/30/s	Gastonia	47/27/s	53/28/pc
Beaufort	51/33/pc	58/37/s	Goldboro	43/24/s	53/27/pc
Cape Hatteras	45/33/pc	53/35/pc	Goose Creek	48/28/pc	57/35/s
Charleston	49/31/pc	58/36/s	Greensboro	42/25/s	50/21/pc
Charlotte	47/27/s	54/26/pc	Greenville	48/30/s	53/28/pc
Clemson	48/30/s	53/30/s	Hickory	45/26/s	50/24/pc
Columbia	49/27/s	58/31/s	Hilton Head	49/32/r	58/39/s
Darlington	47/22/s	55/30/pc	Jacksonville, FL	54/39/c	63/41/s
Elizabeth City	43/24/s	49/24/pc	La Grange	53/32/s	55/30/pc
Elizabethtown	44/23/pc	54/31/pc	Macon	54/29/pc	57/31/pc
Fayetteville	46/24/s	54/27/pc	Marietta	49/30/s	50/25/pc
			Marion	46/23/s	49/25/pc
			Mt. Pleasant	49/31/r	58/38/s
			Myrtle Beach	47/31/pc	56/34/s
			Orangeburg	46/26/pc	56/32/s
			Port Royal	49/33/pc	57/39/s
			Raleigh	43/23/s	51/23/pc
			Rock Hill	46/26/s	52/28/pc
			Rockingham	46/21/s	55/29/pc
			Savannah	51/31/pc	59/35/s
			Spartanburg	47/29/s	52/28/pc
			Summerville	47/27/pc	57/34/s
			Wilmington	47/27/pc	56/32/s
			Winston-Salem	43/26/s	50/24/pc

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ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

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Y	E	L	L	I	D	E	A	U	N	P	I	N		
N	I	T	A	P	O	S	T	S	C	R	I	P	T	
I	C	O	N	S	H	I	R	E	D					
C	A	S	T	I	N	S	T	O	N	E	E	M	T	
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R	A	S	E	R	E	I	P	R	A	W	N	S		
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B	R	O	N	T	E	D	E	Y	S	B	A	Y		
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I	S	M	P	L	A	Y	C	H	I	C	K	E	N	
		S	P	U	D	S	T	H	E	R	E			
F	L	O	O	D	S	T	A	G	E	I	N	N	S	
D	E	F	O	G	E	X	A	M	S	Y	S	T		
R	E	F	R	Y	R	E	P	O	M	A	T	S		

SUDOKU

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

JUMBLE

PIXEL COCOA STIGMA BUTANE
 When one of the barnyard animals got out, the other animals blamed the — "ESCAPE" GOAT

SUMTER SPCA PETS OF THE WEEK



LEFT: Ruger is a housebroken 8-month-old dachshund / beagle mix. He is great with other dogs. Ruger is friendly and playful. He loves people and enjoys attention but needs a home without small children or cats.

RIGHT: Macy is a housebroken 1-year-old American short hair. She is a friendly, affectionate, gentle and active girl. Macy loves to explore, play and be lazy sometimes. She is great with children and other cats.

The Sumter SPCA is located at 1140 S. Guignard Drive, (803) 773-9292, and is open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day except Wednesday and Sunday. Visit the website at www.sumterscpca.com.

The SPCA relies heavily on community support and donations. Currently, the biggest needs are for dry puppy and kitten food, wet cat food, cat litter and cleaning supplies. The following are also appreciated: Newspapers, stuffed animals, heavy duty trash bags (30 gallon or larger), dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, bleach, paper towels, sheets and comforters, baby blankets, canned dog and cat food, dry dog food, treats, leashes and collars, disinfectant spray, all-purpose cleaner, air freshener, no scratch scrubbers, two-sided sponges for dishes, litter freshener and, of course, monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

Comebacks, surprises highlight best games of 2017

BY EDDIE PELLIS
AP National Writer

It began as The Year of the Comeback. In college football, where Clemson got the last laugh in a wild fourth quarter in which the lead changed hands three times. And in pro football, where the New England Patriots rallied from 25 points down to send the Super Bowl to overtime for the first time in its history, then cruised to a quick touchdown for the franchise's fifth title. The rest of 2017 might have been called The Year of the Unexpected. From Sergio Garcia's long-overdue green jack-

et to Roger Federer's late-in-the-game return to the top to Usain Bolt losing not one, but two races in his finale, the year's best games, races and rounds certainly kept us all guessing. A look at some of the best games of 2017: **BACK AND FORTH:** Clemson and Alabama met for the second straight year with the national title on the line and one question to answer: How would they top the 45-40 thriller from the year before? Alabama won that game and appeared to be on track for a repeat, leading 24-14 after three quarters that were more or-

SEE 2017, PAGE B2



Clemson's Deshaun Watson celebrates a last-second touchdown pass to Hunter Renfrow that helped the Tigers beat Alabama to win the national title on Jan. 10 in Tampa, Florida.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3rd time not lucky



DENNIS BRUNSON/THE SUMTER ITEM

Crestwood's Sedajah Rembert (20) blocks a shot by Spring Valley's Taylor Lewis in the Lady Vikings' 61-44 victory in the District 9 Officials Christmas Basketball Tournament on Thursday at the Lee Central gymnasium in Bishopville.

Spring Valley makes it 3 straight wins over Crestwood girls in District 9 tourney

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

BISHOPVILLE -- The third time was not the charm for the Crestwood High School varsity girls basketball team on Thursday. The Lady Knights met Spring Valley in the District 9 Officials Christmas Basketball Tournament for the third straight year, and they came up on the short end of the stick for the third time in a row. The Lady Vikings, trying to win the tournament title for the third year in a row, came away with a 61-44 win at the Lee Central High gymnasium.

"I really don't know what it was with us tonight," said CHS first-year head coach Larry Crosby, whose team fell to 9-2 on the season. "We told the girls what we wanted them to do, and they just did not execute it. We told them what was coming, and they just didn't respond. "Offensively, they went away from what we wanted them to do and started play one on five," he added. "You can't win games playing one on five." Crestwood struggled putting points on the board throughout the game, never being able to sustain any run of offensive success. Its only saving grace

was that it was doing a good job of limiting SV, ranked ninth in the state among 5A schools by the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association. The Lady Knights had scored just eight points at the midway point of the 16-minute first half, but Spring Valley had just 16. A layup by Monijah Lewis and a free throw from Shannoah Mack Cook had CHS within 16-11 with 5:47 remaining in the half. It had a chance to cut the lead to three, but was unable to do so. The Lady Vikings responded with

SEE CRESTWOOD, PAGE B2

Clemson assistants paid top dollar, produce top results

BY PETE IACOBELLI
AP Sports Writer

CLEMSON — Clemson coach Dabo Swinney makes sure his assistants get everything they need to succeed. And they're well paid for their services, a nice incentive to stick around. That's especially true of the Tigers' trio coordinators, who have guided Clemson to one national championship and are in position to capture another. The top-ranked Tigers (12-1, No. 1 CFP) face No. 4 Alabama (11-1, No. 4 CFP) in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day with the winner advancing to the College Football Playoff title game a week later in Atlanta. There's little doubt Clemson buys into the adage: "You've got to spend money to make money." Defensive coordinator Brent Venables is college football's second highest-paid assistant at \$1.7 million a season. Clemson's co-offensive leaders in Tony Elliott and Jeff Scott make \$800,000

apiece, meaning that more than half of the Tigers' \$5.7 million salary for its nine football assistants goes to its position leaders. These days, that big investment looks like a bargain for the Tigers. Earlier this month, last year's Broyles Award winner in Venables handed the trophy to his Clemson colleague Elliott for an honor given to the game's top assistant. "It was a really neat moment," said Venables, 47. The consistency and familiarity among Clemson's coordinators have helped them engineer many top moments in Swinney's nine full seasons. The Tigers have won four Atlantic Coast Conference titles since 2011, won 10 or more games in seven straight seasons and reached the playoffs each of the past three seasons. It advanced to the championship game before falling to Alabama two years ago, then topped the Crimson Tide for last year's crown.

SEE ASSISTANTS, PAGE B2



AP FILE PHOTO

Clemson defensive coordinator Brent Venables is college football's second highest-paid assistant at \$1.7 million a season.

Falcons focus on locking up playoff spot by beating Panthers

BY CHARLES ODUM
AP Sports Writer

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — The Falcons found themselves in what coach Dan Quinn on Wednesday called "a spin cycle of frustrated, anger and then motivated" after a mistake-filled loss last week at New Orleans. Motivated? That's all about this week, because despite the frustrating 23-13 loss to the Saints, the Falcons would secure a playoff spot by beating Carolina on Sunday. The Falcons (9-6) could lose to the Panthers and still make the playoffs if

Seattle loses to Arizona. This scenario apparently has not been discussed in team meetings, as some players say Atlanta's only path to the playoffs is beating Carolina. "Our situation is if we win, we're in and if we don't, you go home," said defensive tackle Grady Jarrett. "It's as clear as it gets." Defensive end Takk McKinley delivered an almost verbatim playoff analysis when he said "If we win, we're in. If we lose, you know, we're out." Even quarterback Matt Ryan compared the home game against the Panthers to an elimination game in

the postseason. "This is what it's like in the playoffs, so basically for us the playoffs have started and if you win you continue to play," Ryan said. "It's fun to be a part of that. As competitors, that's where you want to be at this time of year." Ryan acknowledged players understand the Falcons could back into the playoffs with a loss. "Obviously we know the situation but we're not relying on anybody else," he said. "It's about us taking care of our business." The Falcons too often fell short of taking care of business last week.

Devonta Freeman lost a fumble after a Deion Jones interception gave Atlanta possession at the Saints 2. Freeman also was stopped on a fourth-down run from the Saints 1 in the fourth quarter. The Falcons were called for 10 penalties for 91 yards, had key dropped passes and converted only 2 of 13 third downs. It wasn't the kind of performance needed when Atlanta still had a chance to win the NFC South. Now the Falcons are left with one final opportunity to take care of their own playoff destiny. The Falcons still hope to march

SEE FALCONS, PAGE B2

CRESTWOOD FROM PAGE B1

an 8-1 run to go up 24-12 with two minutes left. SV took a 31-19 lead into halftime. "I told the girls at halftime that we were just down 12 and we had a chance to come back," Crosby said. "I also told them that it was up to them. There's only so much the coaches can do; then it's what they do." The second half started on a positive note for Crestwood. It scored the first four points of the second half -- a free throw each from Cook and Destinee Jamison with a layup by Jah'Che Whitfield in between -- to cut the lead to 31-23 with 13:33 left in the game. That would be the high point of the second half for the Lady Knights. They only scored two points over the next five minutes, while Spring Valley ran

off 14 to open a 45-25 advantage with 9:43 left in the game. Jamison led CHS with 18 points, while Whitfield finished with 14 and Cook with six. Ashley Williamson led the Lady Vikings with 23 points. Lauryn Taylor added 14 from the low post, while Tykiera Wiley had nine and Taylor Lewis had seven. Earlier in the tournament on Thursday, Crestwood defeated Scott's Branch 65-21. Jamison led the way with 20 points, five steals and four assists. Lewis had 15 and Whitfield 12, while Cook and Ashanti Washington both had six. The tournament continues today with Crestwood playing just once among the six games. The Lady Knights will meet Newberry at 6 p.m.



Spring Valley's Taylor Lewis (3) tries to get to the basket during the Lady Vikings' 61-44 victory over Crestwood in the District 9 Officials Christmas Basketball Tournament on Thursday at Lee Central High School in Bishopville.

DISTRICT 9 OFFICIALS CHRISTMAS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY
Girls
 Crestwood 65, Scott's Branch 21
 Hartsville 58, Blythewood 36
 Newberry 97, Scott's Branch 51
 Spring Valley 61, Crestwood 44
 Hartsville 62, Lee Central, 30
Boys
 C.E. Murray 67, Scott's Branch 48
 Lee Central, 67, C.E. Murray 43

TODAY
 Noon - Newberry vs. Spring Valley (Girls)
 1:30 p.m. - Lee Central vs. Blythewood (Girls)
 3 p.m. - Spring Valley vs. Scott's Branch (Girls)
 4:30 p.m. - C.E. Murray vs. Scott's Branch (Boys)
 6 p.m. - Crestwood vs. Newberry (Girls)
 7:30 p.m. - Lee Central vs. Scott's Branch (Boys)

SATURDAY
 6 p.m. - Girls Championship Game
 7:30 p.m. - Boys Championship Game

ASSISTANTS FROM PAGE B1

Venables, Elliott and Scott all led a team that lost half its 22 starters from a national championship team back into the hunt. All three were approached about head coaching openings, particularly Venables at Arkansas, Mississippi State and Tennessee. But all three remain at Clemson and locked into another title run. "Dabo makes sure those guys are taken care of," said Tommy Bowden, the former Clemson coach who now is part of the ACC Network's ACC Blitz preview show. So much so that Venables wondered earlier this month if he'd ever leave the Tigers to be a head coach job.



Clemson co-offensive coordinators Tony Elliott, left, and Jeff Scott speak to the media at a news conference in December 2015 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Elliott and Scott make \$800,000 apiece, meaning that more than half of the Tigers' \$5.7 million salary for its nine football assistants goes to its position leaders.

"You never say never, but man, it doesn't get much better, if at all, than what we have" at Clemson, Venables said. "Like I said, I'm thankful for what I have and I just have a very good perspective on what we have. There are thousands of guys that would love just the opportunity to be a very small part of this program, so it's a great situation." Swinney needed rock-solid leaders he could depend on and found Chad Morris in 2011 to lead the offense and, a year later, convinced Venables to leave his gig at Oklahoma to revamp the Tigers. When Morris left for SMU after the 2014 season (Morris was recently hired at Arkansas), Swinney elevated running backs coach Elliott and receivers coach Scott -- both former Tiger receivers -- to take charge of the attack. "I wondered if that would work," said Bowden, who coached Elliott and Scott. It has worked -- Clemson is 41-3 with its three cur-

rent coordinators in place. Venables' defense is once again among the game's best with a fierce front of ends Clelin Ferrell and Austin Bryant and tackles Dexter Lawrence and Christian Wilkins. The Tigers are second nationally in points allowed at fewer than 13 a game. Elliott, 38, and Scott, who'll turn 37 on Dec. 28, were expected to get exposed some this season with All-Americans like quarterback Deshaun Watson and receiver Mike Williams off to the NFL. Instead, the mix of former reserves like QB Kelly Bryant and new faces like freshman tailback Travis Etienne has Clemson averaging 35 points a game, among the top 25 in the game. Swinney is grateful to hold onto his staff, a factor he thinks is essential to Clemson's success. "I think it's rare, it's uncommon in this business that we've had great continuity," Swinney said. Alabama has been able to

sustain a level of success though there has been more turnover on Saban's staff. Crimson Tide defensive coordinator Kirby Smart was on his way to Georgia after his final game at Alabama against the Tigers in the 2015 title game. Last year, Alabama offensive coordinator Lake Kiffin left for Florida Atlantic the week before facing Clemson for the championship. This time, Alabama defensive leader Jeremy Pruitt is off to Tennessee as head coach after the Tide's playoff run. It looks like Clemson's organizational chart won't change down the road. Venables son, Jake, is committed to Clemson for next season with a younger son, Tyler, a rising high school sophomore pointed to the Tigers. Elliott and Scott both believe they've got growing to do before moving on. "I'm still trying to be the best offensive coordinator I can be," Elliott said. "Clemson is home."

2017 FROM PAGE B1

less a snoozefest. The fourth quarter was a much different story. It included four touchdowns, three lead changes over the final 4:38, and ultimately, the game-winner -- a 2-yard throw from Deshaun Watson to Hunter Renfrow with 1 second left that gave Clemson the 35-31 win and its first title since 1981. "That has to be one of the greatest games of all time," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. **SUPER COMEBACK:** The debate lingers: Did the Falcons choke this game away or did the Patriots wrest it away? Either way, it was a comeback for the history books. Atlanta took a 28-3 lead with 8:31 left in the third quarter. From there, Atlanta's prevent defense and questionable calls on offense combined with New England's refusal to give up turned it into an all-timer. The Patriots' tying drive was highlighted by a remarkable catch by Julian Edelman. New England tied the game at 28, won the overtime coin toss and Atlanta's shocked defense offered no resistance. The Patriots won 34-28. "No panic," Patriots special teams captain Matthew Slater said in explaining the comeback. "Our bodies and minds were ready, and we just kept believing in one another." **ONLY A NUMBER:** He was 35, coming off a knee injury and much closer to the end of his career than his prime. Nobody could be blamed for overlooking Roger Federer. Yet the father of four, playing his first big tournament after sitting out for six months, came back in classic fashion, turning back the clock to top his longtime rival, Rafael Nadal, in a memorable Australian Open final. Federer overcame a break

in the fifth set to capture his 18th Grand Slam title with a 4, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3 victory. It was Federer's first major since Wimbledon in 2012. (And he would go on to take No. 19 later this year at Wimbledon). "For me it's all about the comeback, about an epic match with Rafa again," Federer said. **SEEING GREEN:** Two shots behind with six holes to play, the Masters looked like another in an unbearably long string of major disappointments for Sergio Garcia. But Garcia did not fade. He saved par after hitting his drive into an azalea bush on No. 13, then made eagle on No. 15 to set up a playoff with Justin Rose that Garcia won. Garcia could've won it with a 5-foot birdie putt on No. 18, but it rolled out. Garcia persisted. Rose hit his drive into the trees on the playoff hole and couldn't scramble to save par. The result: Garcia wearing the green jacket and capturing his first major. No one had ever played more majors as a pro (70) before winning one for the first time. **SOME FAREWELL:** World championships were supposed to be a stroll down the straightaway followed by an oversized going-away party for track's biggest star, Usain Bolt. Not even close. Bolt finished third in the final 100-meter race of his career, unable to find the overdrive that had sparked him to all those Olympic medals. Then, in his curtain call, the 6-foot-5 sensation pulled up lame in the anchor leg of the 4x100 relay. The crowd gasped. Bolt was placed in a wheelchair and later limped off the track. It was proof, yet again, that nobody commands the spotlight quite like Bolt -- even on those rare occasions when he doesn't run away with the win.

Atlanta running back Devonta Freeman (24) fumbles the ball on a run against the Carolina Panthers during a game earlier this season.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FALCONS FROM PAGE B1

through the NFC playoffs, where there is no clear favorite, and make a repeat trip to the Super Bowl. "We've had some things that have set us back but all that doesn't mean much this week," Ryan said. "It means we're in the position that we're in. We believe and we know we're capable of playing our best football and now we just have to go out and do it." Ryan said Quinn on Wednesday showed players video of Willis Reed of the Knicks hobbling onto the court for Game 7 of the 1970 NBA Finals after tearing a muscle in his right

thigh in Game 5 and missing Game 6. "It's not necessarily about playing through a torn quad or anything like that but the competitiveness of one guy and the impact it can have on a team and what's people's commitment to an organization looks like," Ryan said, adding he had never seen Reed's famous show of courage. "I didn't know it and I'm one of the oldest guys in our building," he said. "I'm sure the other guys have no idea, too." Ryan said Quinn "does stuff like that to keep the messaging fresh. It's cool to see."

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SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

1 p.m. - College Basketball: Louisville at Kentucky (WLTX 19).
1 p.m. - College Football: Belk Bowl from Charlotte - Wake Forest vs. Texas A&M (ESPN).
3 p.m. - College Football: Sun Bowl from El Paso, Texas - North Carolina State vs. Arizona State (WLTX 19).
3:30 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
4:30 p.m. - College Football: Music City Bowl from Nashville, Tenn. - Kentucky vs. Northwestern (ESPN).
5:15 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
5:30 p.m. - College Football: Arizona Bowl from Tucson, Ariz. - New Mexico State vs. Utah State (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
6:05 p.m. - Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
7 p.m. - College Basketball: Texas (Arlington) at Coastal Carolina (ESPN2).
7 p.m. - College Basketball: West Virginia at Oklahoma State (ESPN).
7 p.m. - Women's College Basketball: Xavier at Butler (FOX SPORTS 2).
7 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Houston at Washington (NBA TV).
7 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
7:30 p.m. - NHL Hockey: Pittsburgh at Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
8 p.m. - College Basketball: Maryland-Baltimore County at Maryland (FOX SPORTS 1).
8 p.m. - NHL Hockey: Nashville at Minnesota (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
8:40 p.m. - College Football: Cotton Bowl from Arlington, Texas - Southern California vs. Ohio State (ESPN).
8:45 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
9 p.m. - College Basketball: Kansas at Texas (ESPN2).
9 p.m. - College Basketball: Kansas State at Iowa State (ESPN).
10 p.m. - College Basketball: Utah at Oregon (FOX SPORTS 1).
11 p.m. - College Basketball: Washington State at UCLA (ESPN2).
11 p.m. - College Basketball: Colorado at Oregon State (ESPN).

SATURDAY

10 a.m. - International Soccer: English Premier League Match - Leicester City vs. Liverpool (CNBC).
10 a.m. - International Soccer: English Premier League Match - Teams To Be Announced (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
Noon - College Basketball: Wichita State at Connecticut (WLTX 19).
Noon - College Football: TaxSlayer Bowl from Jacksonville, Fla. - Louisville vs. Mississippi State (ESPN).
Noon - College Basketball: Wake Forest at North Carolina (ESPN2).
Noon - College Basketball: Miami (Ohio) at Ohio State (ESPN).
12:30 p.m. - International Soccer: English Premier League Match - Southampton vs. Manchester United (WIS 10).
12:30 p.m. - College Football: Liberty Bowl from Memphis, Tenn. - Iowa State vs. Memphis (WOLO 25).
12:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Fordham at Virginia Commonwealth (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
1 p.m. - College Basketball: Tennessee at Arkansas (SEC NETWORK).
1:30 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
2 p.m. - College Basketball: Florida State at Duke (WLTX 19).
2 p.m. - College Basketball: Georgia Tech at Notre Dame (ESPN2).
2 p.m. - College Basketball: Oklahoma at Texas Christian (ESPN).
2 p.m. - College Basketball: DePaul at Xavier (FOX SPORTS 1).
2 p.m. - College Basketball: Boston College at Virginia (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
2:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Massachusetts at St. Bonaventure (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
3:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Cornell at Auburn (SEC NETWORK).
3:30 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
4 p.m. - College Basketball: Villanova at Butler (WLTX 19).
4 p.m. - College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Florida (ESPN2).
4 p.m. - College Basketball: Saint Mary's (Calif.) at Brigham Young (ESPN).
4 p.m. - College Basketball: North Carolina State at Clemson (FOX SPORTSOUTH, WWBD-FM 94.7, WPUB-FM 102.7).
4:10 p.m. - College Football: Fiesta Bowl from Glendale, Ariz. - Washington vs. Penn State (ESPN).
4:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Georgetown at Marquette (FOX SPORTS 1).
4:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Davidson at Richmond (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
5:30 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
6 p.m. - College Basketball: Texas A&M at Alabama (ESPN2).
6 p.m. - College Basketball: Temple at Houston (ESPN).
7 p.m. - College Basketball: Eastern Kentucky at Tennessee Tech (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
7:30 p.m. - High School Basketball: Beach Ball Classic Championship Game from Myrtle Beach (SPECTRUM 1250).
8:10 p.m. - College Football: Orange Bowl from Miami Gardens, Fla. - Miami vs. Wisconsin (ESPN).
9 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Philadelphia at Denver (NBA TV).

10 p.m. - College Basketball: California at Stanford (FOX SPORTS 1).

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	12	3	0	.800	432	290
Buffalo	8	7	0	.533	280	343
Miami	6	9	0	.400	265	371
N.Y. Jets	5	10	0	.333	292	356

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Jacksonville	10	5	0	.667	407	253
Tennessee	8	7	0	.533	319	346
Houston	4	11	0	.267	325	414
Indianapolis	3	12	0	.200	241	391

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Pittsburgh	12	3	0	.800	378	284
Baltimore	9	6	0	.600	368	272
Cincinnati	6	9	0	.400	259	322
Cleveland	0	15	0	.000	210	382

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Kansas City	9	6	0	.600	388	315
L.A. Chargers	8	7	0	.533	325	262
Oakland	6	9	0	.400	291	343
Denver	5	10	0	.333	265	355

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Philadelphia	13	2	0	.867	457	289
Dallas	8	7	0	.533	348	332
Washington	7	8	0	.467	332	370
N.Y. Giants	2	13	0	.133	228	378

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New Orleans	11	4	0	.733	424	295
x-Carolina	11	4	0	.733	353	305
Atlanta	9	6	0	.600	331	305
Tampa Bay	4	11	0	.267	304	358

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Minnesota	12	3	0	.800	359	242
Detroit	8	7	0	.533	375	365
Green Bay	7	8	0	.467	309	349
Chicago	5	10	0	.333	254	297

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-L.A. Rams	11	4	0	.733	465	295
Seattle	9	6	0	.600	342	306
Arizona	7	8	0	.467	269	337
San Francisco	5	10	0	.333	297	370

x-clinched playoff spot y-clinched division

SUNDAY'S GAMES

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

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	28	10	.737	—
Toronto	23	10	.697	2½
New York	17	17	.500	9
Philadelphia	15	18	.455	10½
Brooklyn	12	22	.353	14

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	19	16	.543	—
Miami	18	16	.529	½
Charlotte	12	22	.353	6½
Orlando	11	24	.314	8
Atlanta	9	25	.265	9½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	24	11	.686	—
Detroit	19	14	.576	4
Indiana	19	16	.543	5
Milwaukee	17	15	.531	5½
Chicago	12	22	.353	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	25	7	.781	—
San Antonio	24	11	.686	2½
New Orleans	18	16	.529	8
Memphis	11	24	.314	15½
Dallas	11	25	.306	16

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	28	7	.800	—
Portland	22	13	.629	2
Oklahoma City	20	15	.571	2
Denver	19	16	.543	3
Portland	17	16	.515	4
Utah	15	21	.417	7½

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	22	13	.629	—
Oklahoma City	20	15	.571	2
Denver	19	16	.543	3
Portland	17	16	.515	4
Utah	15	21	.417	7½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	28	7	.800	—
L.A. Clippers	14	19	.424	13
Phoenix	13	23	.361	15½
Sacramento	12	22	.353	15½
L.A. Lakers	11	22	.333	16

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Boston 102, Charlotte 91
 Dallas 98, Indiana 94
 Atlanta 113, Washington 99
 Chicago 92, New York 87
 Minnesota 128, Denver 125, OT
 New Orleans 128, Brooklyn 113
 Oklahoma City 124, Toronto 107
 Sacramento 109, Cleveland 95
 Golden State 126, Utah 101
 Memphis 109, L.A. Lakers 99

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Detroit at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 Houston at Boston, 8 p.m.
 Minnesota at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
 New York at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES

Houston at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Atlanta at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Miami, 8 p.m.
 Dallas at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
 Indiana at Chicago, 8 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
 Phoenix at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
 Charlotte at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Miami at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 New York at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
 San Antonio at Detroit, 7 p.m.
 Portland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
 Cleveland at Utah, 8 p.m.
 Memphis at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Denver, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Chicago at Washington, 3:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Indiana, 5 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Boston, 5:30 p.m.
 Charlotte at L.A. Clippers, 7 p.m.
 Dallas at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Houston, 7 p.m.
 Memphis at Sacramento, 7 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	35	26	7	2	54	133	87
Boston	35	20	10	5	45	106	90
Toronto	37	22	14	1	45	122	104
Montreal	37	16	17	4	36	99	117
Florida	36	15	16	5	35	103	119
Detroit	36	13	16	7	33	97	116
Ottawa	35	11	16	8	30	93	119
Buffalo	37	9	20	8	26	80	123

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	36	22	9	5	49	116	104
Washington	38	22	13	3	47	114	108
Columbus	38	22	13	3	47	109	104
N.Y. Islanders	37	20	13	4	44	133	129
N.Y. Rangers	37	20	13	4	44	118	104
Carolina	36	17	12	7	41	102	110
Pittsburgh	38	19	16	3	41	109	122
Philadelphia	36	15	13	8	38	99	123

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	36	22	9	5	49	118	100
Winnipeg	38	21	11	6	48	125	108
St. Louis	39	23	14	2	48	114	96
Dallas	38	20	15	3	43	112	110
Minnesota	37	19	15	3	41	106	108
Chicago	35	17	13	5	39	103	94
Colorado	36	17	16	3	37	113	116

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	35	24	9	2	50	123	101
Los Angeles	37	22	11	4	48	109	85
San Jose	34	19	11	4	42	95	84
Anaheim	38	16	14	8	40	102	112
Calgary	36	18	15	3	39	101	106
Edmonton	37	17	18	2	36	111	

Anderson leads strong stable of Oklahoma running backs

BY CLIFF BRUNT
AP Sports Writer

NORMAN, Okla. — Heisman-winning quarterback Baker Mayfield often heaps praise upon running back Rodney Anderson and Oklahoma's ground game.

Now that Anderson's legal issues are behind him, the Sooners will be in better position to have the balance Mayfield desires in their national semifinal against Georgia in the Rose Bowl on Monday.

Anderson was accused of sexual assault, but prosecutors decided against filing charges earlier this month. Anderson, one of the nation's most productive players the second half of the season, said he is thankful

to be in the clear.

"It's been a crazy month, but God's got me through it all," said Anderson, who is from Katy, Texas. "My family, my hometown has been great. It just feels amazing to get back out here with my team and starting things. I'm just very blessed to be where I'm at."

The Sooners would certainly love to have a productive ground game against Georgia's rugged defense to help Mayfield. Though the Sooners have three other capable backs in Trey Sermon, Abdul Adams and Marcelias Sutton, Anderson is the most versatile and complete weapon in an Oklahoma running game that ranks 27th in the nation with 215.9



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Oklahoma running back Rodney Anderson (24) has cleared legal trouble and is now available to play in the Rose Bowl against Georgia on Monday.

yards per game. He's 6-foot-2 and 218 pounds with breakaway speed, the power to finish runs, shiftiness and good hands.

"His versatility has been impressive," Oklahoma coach

Lincoln Riley said. "How well he's caught the ball, he's pass protected well, he's ran physical. He's popped some long plays running. Him being able to do all that and then having the other guys right

there with him that have been very productive as well has really helped us."

Anderson, a redshirt sophomore, didn't even gain a featured role until the middle of this season.

New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees (9) has taken advantage of the Saints' newfound running attack this season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



For Saints quarterback Brees, less has been more to record effect

BY BRETT MARTEL
AP Sports Writer

METAIRIE, La. — Drew Brees spreads credit for another NFL record that he's on the verge of reclaiming this week.

When the New Orleans Saints' star quarterback takes the field in Tampa Bay on Sunday, he'll do so with a completion rate of 71.9 percent, slightly better than the single-season record of 71.7 percent set by Minnesota's Sam Bradford last season.

Unless Brees has one of his worst games this season against the Buccaneers' last-ranked pass defense, he'll own that record again as he prepares for New Orleans' first trip to the playoffs in four seasons.

"We've got guys that run good routes and catch the ball. We've got a good scheme, got guys that block," Brees said. "There's so much that goes into that."

Still, the statistic indicates how efficient Brees has been, even while throwing for potentially his fewest yards passing in a season since joining the Saints and offensive-minded coach Sean Payton in 2006.

But if New Orleans is asking Brees to do less, it seems to have less to do with his age — he turns 39 next month — than the lessons of seasons past; Brees' 2017 numbers most closely resemble those of 2009, a season in which New Orleans won its only Super Bowl.

"We're not in the business of playing fantasy football," Saints coach Sean Payton said when asked about Brees on Wednesday. "We're in the business of winning."

"So, if that upsets all the people that have a player on our offense or defense or somewhere in the fantasy games of the world,

then that's tough," Payton continued. "Our job is to win, and that's probably one of the first criteria that you're graded at as quarterback. And he knows that."

Brees, who has four 5,000-yard seasons and two others of better than 4,800, said many of his most prolific yardage totals have come "out of necessity."

In many of those seasons, the Saints might have struggled defensively or weren't running the ball as well as they are now — or both.

Currently, the championship run of 2009 also ranks as Brees' least prolific in terms of yards passing with 4,388. This season, he has 4,089 with one game left.

That season, the backfield tandem of Pierre Thomas and Reggie Bush helped the Saints rank sixth in rushing and gave Brees two effective options in the screen pass game.

This season, the tandem of Mark Ingram and rookie Alvin Kamara has provided Brees with similar support.

New Orleans ranks fifth in the NFL in rushing and the Saints' screen game has enjoyed a resurgence.

"New Orleans is doing on offense what every team in the NFL wants to do. They're controlling the game with their running game and then they have a (likely) Hall of Fame quarterback that takes advantage of every mistake a secondary makes," Tampa Bay coach Dirk Koetter said.

"When you're running the football, you get cleaner looks in the passing game. He's always been an unbelievably accurate quarterback and they're throwing a ton of screens. That's always good for your percentage as well."

No. 17 Cowboys top No. 22 Hokies 30-21 in Camping World Bowl

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Mason Rudolph threw for 351 yards and a pair of touchdowns, James Washington became Oklahoma State's career receiving yards leader and the 17th-ranked Cowboys beat No. 22 Virginia Tech 30-21 in the Camping World Bowl on Thursday night.

Washington caught five passes for 126 yards, giving him 4,472 for his career and passing Rashaun Woods for the school mark.

Justice Hill ran for 120 yards and another score for the Cowboys (10-3), who have won 10 games in each of the last three seasons — another Oklahoma State first.

Josh Jackson ran for two scores and threw for another for the Hokies (9-4), including a rush that got Virginia Tech within 27-21 with 5:40 remaining. Deshaun McCleese ran for 124 yards, a Virginia Tech season-best, but the Hokies were hurt by two turnovers in Oklahoma State territory.

MILITARY BOWL

NAVY 49
VIRGINIA 7

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Two quarterbacks put on one heck of a show for Navy in the Military Bowl.

Backup Zach Abey scored five touchdowns, starter Malcolm Perry ran for 114 yards and two scores and the Midshipmen rolled to a surprisingly easy 49-7 victory over Virginia on Thursday.

After Virginia's Joe Reed took the opening kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown, the Midshipmen (7-6) got two TDs apiece from Perry and Abey in taking a 28-7 halftime lead.

Perry left in the third quarter with a foot injury, leaving Abey to score on runs of 5 and 20 yards to make it 42-7 in a game Navy entered as a 1 1/2-point favorite.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL SCHEDULE

Wednesday Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.
Florida State 42, Southern Mississippi 13
PinStripe Bowl
Bronx, N.Y.
Iowa 27, Boston College 20
Foster Farms Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
Purdue 38, Arizona 35
Texas Bowl
Houston
Texas 33, Missouri 16

Today Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
Wake Forest (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (7-5), 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
El Paso, Texas
NC State (8-4) vs. Arizona State (7-5), 3 p.m. (CBS)
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Kentucky (7-5) vs. Northwestern (9-3), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.
New Mexico State (5-6) vs. Utah State (6-6), 5:30 p.m. (CBSN)

Cotton Bowl Classic
Arlington, Texas
Southern Cal (11-2) vs. Ohio State (11-2), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Louisville (8-4) vs. Mississippi State (8-4), Noon (ESPN)
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Iowa State (7-5) vs. Memphis (10-2), 12:30 p.m. (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
Washington (10-2) vs. Penn State (10-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Wisconsin (12-1) vs. Miami (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
Michigan (8-4) vs. South Carolina (8-4), Noon (ESPN)
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
UCF (12-0) vs. Auburn (10-3), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Notre Dame (9-3) vs. LSU (9-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)

Rose Bowl (CFP Semifinal)
Pasadena, Calif.
Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Georgia (12-1), 5:10 p.m. (ESPN)
Sugar Bowl (CFP Semifinal)
New Orleans
Clemson (12-1) vs. Alabama (11-1), 8:45 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Jan. 8 College Football Championship
Atlanta
Rose Bowl winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Jan. 20 East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)
NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
American vs. National, 4 p.m. (FS1)
Saturday, Jan. 27 Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 2:30 p.m. (NFLN)

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ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS



MICAH GREEN/THE SUMTER ITEM

The Sumter Middle School Conference recently named its all-conference football team. Members of the team are: Christopher Ramirez, Zeyir Gamble, Jakarriez Sanders, Cameron Williams, Jaylin White, Jabbari Tiller, K'Shawn Boyd, Keion Brown and Jerome Vance of Bates; Tay'Vione Ingram, Malik McKinzie, Dre'Shaun Wright, Ryan McCants, Terrion Burgess, Dae'Breaun Gooden, Davin Jackson and Wyatt Butler of Alice Drive; Javier Tricoche, Dylon Fordham, Ni'zhajuan McFadden, Montez Kennedy, Irvin Mares, Keith Joyner and Latrell McCray of Manning; Jamonte Wiley, Aaron Hill and Jajuan Williams of Hillcrest; Jasiah Oaks and Jonathan Davis of Ebenezer; Breon Woods, TyShaun Durant, Derrick Prince and Joshua Mack of Mayewood; Julius Robinson, Carlos Cadena, Dayven McLeod and Shemar Thames of Furman; and Zayveon Wells, Lawrence Burroughs, Markell Frierson, Kameron Rodriguez and Bernardo Gardner of Chestnut Oaks.



MICAH GREEN/THE SUMTER ITEM

The Sumter Middle School Conference recently named its all-conference volleyball team. Members of the team are, first row, left to right: Kristina Espiritu, Zentrina Choice, Abbeagle Bauer Molly McMahan and Lexi Richardson of Alice Drive and Alexis Rodgers, Alyssa Geddings and A'Niyah Choice of Furman. Second row: Kanya Lyles and Michaela Sanders of Ebenezer, Clinique Sanders and Kalayah White of Chestnut Oaks and Jada Scarborough and Sabrina Scarborough of Mayewood. Third row: Amoni Washington, Kristin Reynolds, Alyssa Pollard, Olivia Oclair and Destyni Crim of Hillcrest. Fourth row: Alicia Spann, Shacara Clark and Nijya McDaniel of Bates.

Better balance could create more competition in SEC hoops

BY STEVE MEGARGEE
AP Sports Writer

Southeastern Conference men's basketball coaches love to talk about how their league is more balanced than its national reputation suggests.

Early returns back up their statements and indicate there will be a wide-open race for the SEC title as league play begins Saturday.

"The league is as good as it has been in a number of years," Georgia coach Mark Fox said.

It's definitely less predictable. Traditional powers Kentucky and Florida haven't looked invincible during nonconference play, while the rest of the league has stepped up its performance.

The Top 25 doesn't necessarily show the SEC has gotten much better. Only three teams are ranked: No. 5 Texas A&M, No. 16 Kentucky and No. 19 Tennessee.

But the RPI gives the league more respect. The RPI four SEC teams in the top 20: Texas A&M (7th), Tennessee (9th), Arkansas (14th) and Missouri (17th). Other SEC teams in the top 40 include Auburn (28th), Alabama (31st), Kentucky (36th) and South Carolina (40th).

"The difference is our league's playing a better non-league schedule," Tennessee coach Rick Barnes said. "Top to bottom, there's no question our league is playing a much more demanding nonconference schedule. Like we've all said, we've got to win some of those games. We've done that this year probably more so than any year since I've been in the league."

The SEC is hoping to follow up its breakthrough in last season's NCAA Tournament by getting more teams invited this year.

This league hasn't sent as many as six teams to the NCAA Tournament in a single year since 2008. The SEC earned five

NCAA Tournament bids last year, with South Carolina making its first Final Four appearance while Kentucky and Florida reached regional finals.

Kentucky has won at least a share of the SEC's last three regular-season titles and was the favorite again this season according to a preseason poll of the league's media. That same poll had Florida finishing second.

Yet Florida has struggled to an 8-4 start after being ranked as high as fifth while Kentucky lost its two highest-profile games against Kansas and UCLA this season. In the meantime, Texas A&M, Auburn and Mississippi State have just one

loss each and Tennessee has delivered some quality nonconference wins after being picked to finish 13th out of 14 teams.

So nobody knows what to expect in league competition.

"There's a lot up at the top there and it could go a variety of ways," Vanderbilt coach Bryce Drew said. "Texas A&M is playing at a really high level. Kentucky keeps getting better, and as the season goes they're going to keep getting better, and they're playing really well. Tennessee is off to a great start, and there are a lot of teams that will be positioned for that top spot. And Florida has been a top 10 team."

No. 4 Duke hoping added practice time leads to ACC surge

BY AARON BEARD
AP Basketball Writer

RALEIGH, N.C. — Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski isn't interested in thinking about how his latest group compares to his past teams.

Regardless, this year's team — led by senior Grayson Allen and star freshman Marvin Bagley III — sure looks like a squad set to win another Atlantic Coast Conference championship as the bulk of league play arrives this weekend.

"I've never tries to figure that out because you can't," Krzyzewski said last week about the year-to-year comparison. "They're kids, they're human beings.

"So where are we? Are we good? Are we getting better? I can see we're better than we were against Boston College. . . I spend my time just thinking about that, and trying to figure out combinations, how these guys are getting better. Because it's all new for them. They've played 13 games. It's a lot going on."

Duke (12-1, 0-1 ACC) has done little to undermine its preseason-favorite status beyond an 89-84 loss at Boston College on Dec. 9. That came after a demanding opening month that included a win against No. 2 Michigan State in Chicago, consecutive big second-half comebacks to beat Texas and Florida in the PK80 Invitational, and a win at Indiana in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

Duke has played just once since the BC loss, allowing Krzyzewski to put his team through refining practice work after having little time for it in November.

The Blue Devils host No. 24 Florida State on Saturday, while three other ACC teams are in the Top 25: No. 9 Virginia, reigning national champion North Carolina at No. 13 and No. 15 Miami.

The Tar Heels (11-2) were picked to finish second to Duke and have seen junior Luke Maye (18.5 points, 10.5 rebounds) blossom into a candidate for ACC player of the year. They're now working to integrate Pittsburgh graduate transfer Cameron Johnson, who missed the opener with a neck injury then 10 more games due to knee surgery.

The 6-foot-8 projected wing starter had 14 points and five rebounds off the bench in last weekend's win against Ohio State, though he said UNC's upset home loss to Wofford in his



AP FILE PHOTO

Duke's Grayson Allen and the rest of the Blue Devils open their Atlantic Coast Conference schedule on Saturday when they play host to Florida State at Cameron Indoor Stadium in Durham, N.C.

debut a game earlier would stay with him.

"I'll continue to try my best to give maximum effort and contribute in any way I can," Johnson said. "I'll get back in the gym. I'll shoot more. I'll get my conditioning back up . because a loss like that, to be my first game back, it's tough."

Here are other things to watch as ACC play begins:

VIRGINIA'S START: The ninth-ranked Cavaliers (11-1) were picked to finish sixth, but their only loss came at No. 7 West Virginia . Sophomore guard Kyle Guy (16.2 points, 45 percent from 3-point range) has taken over the offensive lead, while the always-strong defense ranks No. 1 in KenPom's adjusted efficiency rankings (86.2 points per 100 possessions).

RANKED HURRICANES: Miami (11-1) had a tough time in last week's Diamond Head Classic in Hawaii, losing to New Mexico State then falling behind by 13 early in the third-place win against Middle Tennessee . But they're on similar footing to two seasons ago when they ended up in the NCAA Sweet 16, owning a top-15 ranking as they enter ACC play at Pittsburgh on Saturday behind Dewan Huell (13.9 points).

CARDINALS SETTLING IN? Louisville has faced plenty of turmoil under interim coach David Padgett since he replaced Rick Pitino on Sept. 29, weeks before the Hall of Fame coach was fired in the wake of a federal corruption investigation into college basketball. But the Cardinals have won six straight entering Friday's game at No. 16 Kentucky and appear to be grasping Padgett's defensive philosophy that naturally resembles Pitino's aggressive approach. "I definitely see progress,"

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EDWARD CANTY JR.

PINEWOOD — Edward “Bubba” Canty Jr., 64, died on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

**CANTY**

He was born on Dec. 8, 1953, in Sumter County, a son of Margaret McFadden Canty and the late Edward Canty Sr. At an early age, he joined St. John Baptist Church, Pinewood. He attended the public schools of Sumter County and USC Sumter. He was a 1972 graduate of Furman High School, where he was an exceptional basketball player. He was employed at Korn Industries for many years and was recently employed at Santee Print Works.

Survivors are his mother, Margaret McFadden Canty of Pinewood; five brothers, Tony Canty, Robert (Albertha) Canty, Henry (Marie) Canty and John Canty, all of Pinewood, and Ivory Hickman of Sumter; six sisters, Shirley Coulette, Bernice (Alveria) Holland and Marguerite (Thomas) Thames, all of Pinewood, Viola Canty of Lake City, Felicia (Patrick) Shannon of Columbia and Linda Canty of Sumter; four nieces, Mandy (Roman) Pearson of Summerton, Patrice (Joseph) Martino of Sumter, Melissa (Corey) Thompson of Columbia and Chelsea Coulette of Dallas; three uncles; one aunt; a host of additional nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services for Mr. Canty will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Hayes F. Samuels Sr. Memorial Chapel, 114 N. Church St., Manning. Burial will follow at Antioch Memorial Garden, Rimini.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his niece and her husband, Patrice and Joseph Martino, 1636 Pinewood Road, Sumter.

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

DAVID L. MCKNIGHT SR.

David L. McKnight Sr., 70, died on Friday, Dec. 15, 2017, at the VA Medical Center, Augusta, Georgia.

**MCKNIGHT**

He was born on Feb. 8, 1947, in Summerton, a son of the late Edward and Hattie King McKnight.

Memorial services for Mr. McKnight will be held at 1 p.m. at Mount Zion United Methodist Church, 130 Loring Mill Road, Sumter, with the Rev. Gwendolyn T. White, senior pastor, and the Rev. Dr. JoAnn L. Hilton officiating.

WILLIAM MCCANTS JR.

Funeral services for brother William McCants Jr. will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Beulah AME Church, 3175 Florence Highway, Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Dwayne Bruce Sr., pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at the church cemetery.

**MCCANTS**

He was a son of the late William McCants Sr. and Isabelle Britton McCants. He was a graduate of Lincoln High School Class of 1959 and continued his education at Central Carolina Technical College (formerly known as Sumter Tech). He was first employed by B.L. Montague and later at Eaton Cutler Hammer Manufacturing Companies. Mr. McCants was a lifelong member of Beulah AME Church, where he served faithfully in many capacities and ministries.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Victoria McCants McKnight and Ruth McCants Shaw; and one grandson, Olando Jenkins.

Survivors include his children, Jimmy Pringle of High Point, North Carolina, Michael Anthony and Corey McFadden of Sumter, William Jared McCants, Jocelyn Ann McCants, Reginald D. McCants and Regi-

na Reardon, all of Fort Worth, Texas; four siblings, retired P.E. Rev. Dr. Robert L. (Maggie Ruth) McCants, Dr. Elijah (Robin) McCants and Marie McCants, all of Sumter, and the Rev. Moses (Sadie) McCants of Augusta, Georgia; 19 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

SADIE G. DUNCAN

Sadie G. Duncan, age 96, died on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017, at her home.

**DUNCAN**

Born in Manchester, England, she was a daughter of the late George and Olive Violet Simpson Sherlock. She eventually moved to London and was drafted into the Royal Army, where she served during World War II. It was during this time that she met her husband, Stuart, who was serving in the U.S. Army. When the war was over, she moved to Connecticut with him and later began a career as a clerk with the probate court. She retired after more than 25 years of service. Sadie moved to South Carolina in 1993 to live with her daughter and son-in-law. She enjoyed reading, listening to music, shopping and doing crossword puzzles. She will be remembered as a very loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Surviving are three daughters, Gail Jones and her husband, Gary, of Florida, Sharon Soderberg and her husband, Keith, of Sumter and Pamela Opalacz and her husband, Raymond, of Lugoff; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Jacqueline Sherlock of Connecticut; and four nieces.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, George Sherlock and Desmond Cowan.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. David Richardson officiating.

Memorials may be made to Amedisys Hospice, 198 Westmark Blvd., No. 2, Sumter, SC 29150 or to Sumter 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.

**KEVIN JOHNSON**

On Dec. 16, 2017, in Fort Riley, Kansas, God plucked another loving soldier for his garden in heaven. Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Johnson was born on Nov. 11, 1971, in Sumter, to Ada Mae Wells and the late Robinson “Beck” Webb. He was the stepson of Charlie Wells.

Kevin received his formal education in the public schools of Sumter County, graduating from Sumter High School in 1990. He loved athletics and played on the football, basketball and wrestling teams. He learned the value of good work ethics while in high school and worked for Tom Kirven Farms. Additionally, he joined the ROTC during his high school years. In his 12th grade year, he joined the Army Reserves. After graduation, he worked for Florence Concrete of Sumter.

Before accepting his military assignment in April 1993, Kevin married Sheila Blair Johnson. Kevin served his country with dignity as a member of the U.S. Army. His overseas tours of duty included South Korea in 1998, Kuwait in 2002, Iraq in 2003, 2007 and 2010 and again to South Korea in 2016. Kevin was stationed at Fort Riley in Sept. 2014. Kevin was an artillery mechanic.

Kevin's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit Citation Award, Meritorious Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on

Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Certificate of Achievement, Driver and Mechanic Badge, a Driver and Mechanic with Driver — Wheeled Vehicles and Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver — Tracked Vehicles.

Kevin leaves to cherish memories: his wife, Sheila Blair Johnson; three stepsons, Anthony Blair, Adrian (Robin) Blair and Ron (Crystal) Blair, all of Atlanta; his mother and stepfather, Ada Mae and Charlie Wells; two sisters, Jennie Mae Bennett of Washington, D.C., and Stephanie Ann Johnson of Sumter; three brothers, Steven M. (Felecia) Johnson of Sumter, and Warren Webb and Jimmy Webb of Washington, D.C.; three aunts, Susie (Kenneth) Smith of Elizabeth, Kentucky, and Katie Baker and Gail Shaw of Sumter; three uncles, Deacon Curtis (Eva Mae) Johnson, Jimmy Green and Johnny Jordan, all of Sumter; three grandaunts, Elizabeth “Bessie” Myers Johnson of Sumter, Fannie Rumph of Columbia and Amanda Johnson of Fort Washington, Maryland; his mother-in-law, Shirley Blair of Sumter; one brother-in-law, John Michael Blair of Sumter; and a very special cousin reared in the home, Isle Greene. Kevin was also blessed to have 11 step-grandchildren, several special nieces and nephews, many cousins, other relatives and friends, including his U.S. military family.

Public viewing will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. today at Job's Mortuary.

Sgt. 1st Class Johnson will be placed in the church at noon on Saturday for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Westend Community Church, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, SC 29150 with Pastor Alfreda Johnson officiating. Interment will follow at Congruity Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Gable.

The family will be receiving friends at 11 Idaho Drive, Sumter.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, 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.

DIANE A. ARRANTS

LONGS — Diane Ardis Arrants died on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017, at McLeod Seacost Hospital.

Plans will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.

**ULYSSES HICKMAN**

ALCOLU — Ulysses Hickman, 85, widower of Nancy Beaufort Hickman, died on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017.

He was born on July 31, 1932, in Sumter County, a son of the late Mose and Sally Gardner Hickman.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 5719 Brogdon Road, Alcolu.

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

ANGLEN ODOM

Angleen Odom, 45, died on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017, at her home.

She was born on May 5, 1972, a daughter of Larry Odom and the late Juanita McCoy Odom. After graduating from high school in New Jersey, she attended Kean College in Union, New Jersey, South Carolina State College in Orangeburg and the University of South Carolina in Columbia. She was employed by Scherling Plough Pharmaceutical Co. of New Jersey and held several clerical positions in both New Jersey and South Carolina before her death.

A loving mother and devoted daughter, she is survived by her father; one daughter, Essence Aliyah Miles; one sister, Denise Joy Odom of the home; two brothers, Marcus Odom (Lucinda) of Bronx, New York, and Fernando McCoy of Newark, New Jersey; three nieces; several aunts and uncles; and a host of other relatives and friends.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, SC 29150.

The family will be receiving friends at the home, 111 Victory Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, 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.

JOHNNIE CARL HOWARD

Johnnie Carl Howard, 67, passed away unexpectedly on the afternoon of Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on July 15, 1950, in Cuthbert, Georgia, he was a son of Tyler and Zulene Howard. At the age of 17, he went into the job corps and, soon after, the United States Air Force.

He is survived by his wife, Earnestine Howard; his children, Annie Carlette Bondurant (Lance), Tony Howard and Kelvin Cornelius Howard (April), all of Sumter; and Mary Ann Valdez-Howard of the Philippines; two brothers, Willie C. Howard and Raymond Howard (Loreli), both of Daytona Beach, Florida; 12 grandchildren; a host of, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday at Plaza Church of Christ, 1402 Camden Highway / U.S. 521 North, Sumter, with Brother Harry Davis officiating.

Wake services will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. today at John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel, Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com.

Visit us on the web at www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com.

HELEN C. DUPONT

Helen C. DuPont, 89, widow of Lt. Col. Robert P. DuPont, died on Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017, at Brookdale Sumter.

Born on July 12, 1928, in Norwich, Connecticut, she was a daughter of the late Herbert Holden Adams and Augusta Friese Adams. She was a long-time member and volunteer at the Sumter YMCA. Her hobbies included knitting, sewing and baking. She was an avid reader and spent many hours at the Sumter County Library.

Survivors include two daughters, Valerie J. DuPont of Sumter and Laura L. Boyer (Charlie) of Cape Coral, Florida; two grandchildren, Alan Boyer and Sherry Boyer Affatica (Adrian “A.J.”); and two great-grandchildren, Alessandra and Kellan.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home chapel. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery.

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

JEANETTE COPE

REMBERT — Jeanette would like to let you know that her work here is done. She received a call for an appointment from which she will not be returning. This appointment comes with a huge sign-on bonus, a reunion with family and friends she has not seen in a long time. Her mission takes her to a wonderful place, where she will be gardening and painting to her heart's content.

Mildred Jeanette Cope, 73, beloved wife of Thomas F. Cope, passed away at 1:30 a.m. on Dec. 28, 2017, surrounded by her family, after a short illness at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on Aug. 29, 1944, in Borden, she was a daughter of the late Mildred A. Cato Dowdrick and Carson E. Cato. She was educated in the schools of Sumter County. Throughout her work career, Jeanette was employed by Big Jim's Restaurant, Red and White Grocery Store, Shaw Air Force Base commissary and she retired from Shaw AFB Civilian Personnel.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her husband of 50 years, Tom of Borden; her five

children, Suzanne Sims of Borden, Sandra Monroe (Josh) of Sumter, Allen Moore (Dunia) of Gulfport, Mississippi, Brian Cope of Edisto Island and Dawn Cope of Charleston; a brother, Marion Cato (Alice); a sister, Barbara Cook (Carey), all of Borden; 13 grandchildren, Max Sims, Shannon East, Elizabeth Moore, Joshua Walter, Josiah Walter, Benjamin Monroe, Allen-Michel Moore, Deanna Moore, Diego Moore, Mia Moore, Carson Moore, Madalyn McElveen and Sullivan McElveen; and three great-grandchildren.

Jeanette was preceded in death by her parents; her maternal grandparents, Leroy and Lillian McLeod; her paternal grandparents, Marion W. and Minnie Cato; a brother, Carl E. Cato; and her first husband, Howard L. Moore.

A celebration of Jeanette's life will be held at 3 p.m. on Monday at the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home chapel, 515 Miller Road, Sumter.

The family will be receiving friends at other times at the home, 5200 Borden Road, Rembert.

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

WILHELMENIA J. BRECKENRIDGE

Wilhelmenia J. Breckenridge, 81, widow of Russell S. Breckenridge, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017, at her home.

Services will be announced by Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter.

GLADYS B. ST. THOMAS

Gladys Baxter St. Thomas, widow of Ivan St. Thomas, departed this life on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017, at her residence.

She was born on Nov. 12, 1930, in Sumter; a daughter of the late Nazareth and Luetisher Tyndal Baxter. She graduated from high school in 1947 from Johnson High in South Carolina. After graduating, she went on to nursing school in Charleston and obtained her LPN in nursing. St. Thomas later moved to Manhattan, New York, where she found a job at Montifore Hospital in New York. While working there, she met the love of her life, her husband, the late Ivan E. St. Thomas. To this union three children were born.

She was a beautiful holy woman.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her stepchildren, Vincent O. St. Thomas of Los Angeles, Derrick M. St. Thomas of Queens, New York, Agnes A. Roseman St. Thomas of Staten Island, New York; her children, Ineatha D. St. Thomas of Sumter and Dwayne A. St. Thomas of Sumter; four grandchildren, Vonetta Jackson, Shawanika Jackson, Lavonne Jackson and Robert H. Parker III; 22 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; sisters, Cardia M. Gamble of Baltimore, Catherine Baxter of Lynchburg and Lutisher Dickey; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband; two children, Gordon I. St. Thomas and Mary Taylor; one grandson, Tyrell L. St. Thomas; and three brothers-in-law, Fitzherbert St. Thomas, Virgil St. Thomas and Claude Ince.

Public viewing will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. today at Job's Mortuary.

Funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the Good Sheppard Episcopal Church, Sumter. Interment will follow at Hillside Memorial Park.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, 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.

CLEVELAND CHAMBERS JR.

Cleveland Chambers Jr., 58, died on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017, in Hueytown, Alabama.

Born on Jan. 1, 1959, in Sumter County, he was a son of Clara Puritan Chambers and the late Cleveland Chambers Sr.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home of his sister, 3335 Kim St., Dalzell.

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

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Split Oak Firewood \$55 for truck load, 2 truck loads for \$100. Delivered stacked. 843-536-6050

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Tru by Hilton. Please apply in person at Spring Hill Suites 2645 Broad St. Seeking front desk clerk, house keeping and maintenance engineer. Trusumter@gmail.com

Contractors Wanted!

The Sumter Item has a newspaper route for the Bishopville area. Contractor will service home delivery, newspaper racks & newspaper dealers. Also need contractor for the Mayesville, Elliott & Lynchburg route. Must have good dependable transportation & a phone in your home. Come by & apply at 36 W. Liberty St. or call Reda at 803-774-1257

Administrative Assistant

Manufacturing facility in Sumter, SC is looking for an Administrative Assistant with experience in financial accounting. Candidate will be responsible for supervising office staff, familiar with debits/credits, billing, payroll, and insurance. Must have ability to effectively communicate with diverse group of people. Minimum of 7-10 years of Accounting/Management experience. Bachelor's Degree or higher required. Send your resume to:

Santee Print Works
 PO Box 340 Sumter, SC 29151
 Attn: J Blackmon
 Or email to: jblackmon@santeepprint.com

EXPERIENCED HVAC INSTALLER/TECHNICIAN WANTED

Pay Based on Experience. Must have your own reliable transportation. Location: Sumter, SC. **Job Requirements:** 2+ years' experience installing new HVAC systems, preventative and general maintenance servicing systems, installing duct work, extensive troubleshooting, and HVAC knowledge. Please call (803)968-4718 if interested.

Front Desk Clerk & Maintenance person

needed. Some experience helpful. Apply in person 9 am - 3 pm. Mon - Fri. At Mt. Vernon Inn, 2 Broad St. Sumter.

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Electrical Supervisor
 Large textile manufacturer of quality printed, dyed and finished fabrics is in search of an experienced salaried Electrical Supervisor. The successful candidate will be responsible for leading a team of electrical maintenance personnel. Must have ability to effectively communicate with a diverse group of people. Minimum of 4 years' experience in Electrical Maintenance Supervision and the design, installation, and troubleshooting of drive and control systems in a production facility. Pay commensurate with experience. Excellent Benefit package. Send your resume to:
 Santee Print Works
 HR Department
 PO Box 340 Sumter, SC 29151
 Or email to: hr@santeepprint.com
 An Equal Opportunity Employer

Office Manager Needed: Experience in Allscripts Pro and Payer Path. **Please send resumes to Box 478 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151**

Help Wanted Part-Time

Caregiver needed for home health. Must pass background check. Call 803-236-3603.

RENTALS

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Apartment for Rent
 Furnished, quiet country setting, single occupancy only. Excellent for elderly. No smoking, alcohol or drugs. Safe and secure. \$550/month Call 803-481-0015

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 595 Ashton Mill Drive
 803-773-3600
 Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5

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Country Living SW 2 BR 2BA, fenced yard. \$375 mo. \$375 dep. Summertown District. 803-225-2414

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Large 2BR/2BA MH for rent in Whispering Pines, unit 12A. \$550 Month. Water is included with rent. Contact David at 803-468-3724

Scenic Lake 2 & 3BR 2BA No pets, Section 8 accepted. 499-1500 or 469-6978 btwn 9am-5pm

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690 Bultman Dr 1612 Sq. Ft. Reception area w/ hwd 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

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LEGAL NOTICES

Summons & Notice

Summons and Notice Publication
 Family Court of Sumter, South Carolina
 Third Judicial Circuit

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SUMTER COUNTY (Plaintiff)
 vs.
 Adeline Wandtke
 Adelina Jones
 Joel Rough
 William Ingraham
 John Doe (Defendants)
 IN THE INTEREST OF
 Child born 4/8/2010
 Children born 2/10/13
 Children born 4/11/2015
 TO DEFENDANTS:

Summons & Notice

**James Wandtke
 Adelina Jones
 Joel Rough
 William Ingraham
 John Doe**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED
 And required to answer the complaint in the above referenced concerning the minor Children above and that you have failed to contact the agency in regards to your whereabouts in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for James C. Campbell County, on March 16, 2017 and Amended on September 5, 2017 a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff at Steven B. Suchomski, 105 N. Magnolia Street, Sumter, SC 29150 within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the statutory time allotted, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Complaint. A hearing has been scheduled for March 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Sumter County Family Courthouse, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, South Carolina, 29150.

S. C. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
 Steven B. Suchomski, Esquire
 P.O. Box 68
 Sumter, SC 29151
 (803) 773-5531

SUMMONS Deficiency Judgment Waived IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS DOCKET NO. 2017CP4302204

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Plaintiff,
 v.
Stephen L. Clemons; Angel M. Clemons; Foundation Finance Company, LLC; Fadma Hairston; Defendant(s), (013263-10282)

TO THE DEFENDANT(S), Fadma Hairston:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this foreclosure action on property located at 1255 Cottingham Dr. Sumter, SC 29154, being designated in the County tax records as TMS# 226-10-03-008, of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices, 100 Executive Center Drive, Ste 201, Post Office Box 100200, Columbia, South Carolina, 29202-3200, 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 MINOR(S) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND/OR MINOR(S) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) 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 to represent said minor(s) within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein. Columbia, South Carolina 12/05/2017

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 Sumter County, South Carolina on November 20, 2017. Columbia, South Carolina 12/5/2017

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, you may have a right to Foreclosure Intervention. To be considered for any available Foreclosure Intervention, you may communicate with and otherwise deal with the Plaintiff through its law firm, Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC. Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC represents the Plaintiff in this action. Our law firm does not represent you. Under our ethical rules, we are prohibited from giving you any legal advice. You must submit any requests for Foreclosure Intervention consideration within 30 days from the date you are served with this Notice.

IF YOU FAIL, REFUSE, OR VOLUNTARILY ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION, THE FORECLOSURE ACTION MAY PROCEED.

**Robert P. Davis
 Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC
 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF**
 Robert P. Davis (SC Bar #74030),
 Robert.Davis@rtt-law.com
 Andrew W. Montgomery (SC Bar #79893),
 Andrew.Montgomery@rtt-law.com
 John J. Hearn (SC Bar # 6635),
 John.Hearn@rtt-law.com
 Kevin T. Brown (SC Bar # 064236),
 Kevin.Brown@rtt-law.com
 Jason D. Wyman (SC Bar # 100271),
 Jason.Wyman@rtt-law.com
 John P. Fetner (SC Bar# 77460),
 John.Fetner@rtt-law.com
 Clark Dawson (SC Bar# 101714),
 Clark.Dawson@rtt-law.com
 100 Executive Center Drive,
 Suite 201
 Post Office Box 100200(29202)
 Columbia, SC 29210
 (803) 744-4444
 (013263-10282) 12/5/2017 A-4640858
 12/15/2017, 12/22/2017, 12/29/2017

Notice of Sale

NOTICE OF SALE
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CASE NO.
2017-CP-43-01222

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company Plaintiff,

-vs-
Evan S. Queen; Amanda G.M. Queen and Branch Banking and Trust Company, Defendant(s)

BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of **First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company vs. Evan S. Queen; Amanda G.M. Queen and Branch Banking and Trust Company, I, Richard L. Booth,** as Master In Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 Noon,** at the Sumter County Courthouse, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

ALL that certain piece, parcel, lot or tract of land, containing 0.66 ACRE(S), more or less, together with any and all improvements thereon, lying, being and situate in Stateburg Township, the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being shown and delineated as LOT NO. 45 and a portion of Lot No. 46 on that certain plat by Thomas M. Reynolds, PLS, dated August 31, 1994, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in PLAT BOOK 94 at page 1200.

Pursuant to Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), reference to said platts is hereby craved for particulars of the boundaries, metes, courses, and/or distances of the property delineated thereon.

This property is represented as TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 155-06-01-014 upon the records of the Sumter County Auditor, and is known as **4246 N. Lake Cherryvale Drive, Sumter, SC.**

This being the identical property heretofore conveyed unto the Mortgagor(s) herein, **Evan S. Queen,** by Deed from D.R. Queen, recorded January 16, 2007 in said Register's Office in Deed Book 1061 at page 176.

TMS #: 155-06-01-014

SUBJECT TO SUMTER COUNTY TAXES

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, the same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at the time of the bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master In Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder).

Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order.

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date.

The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 8.125% per annum.

Richard L. Booth
 Master In Equity
 for Sumter County

Theodore von Keller, Esquire
 B. Lindsay Crawford, III, Esquire
 Sara Hutchins
 Columbia, South Carolina
 Attorney for Plaintiff

MASTER IN EQUITY NOTICE OF SALE
2017-CP-43-01430

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: **Broker Solutions, Inc. dba New American Funding vs. Chance D. Smiling;** et.al., I, the undersigned **Richard L. Booth,** Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM,** at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being more particularly shown and delineated as Lot 16 A, in the Southern Hills Subdivision, as shown on that certain plat of Joseph R. Edwards, RLS dated September 28, 2004 and recorded in the Office of the ROD for Sumter County in Plat Book PB2004 at Page 486. The said Tract/Lot(s) has/have such boundaries, metes, courses and distances as are shown on said plat which are incorporated herein in accordance with the provision of Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of SC, 1976.

This being the same property conveyed to Chance D. Smiling by Deed of Gary B. Arnold and Vicki L. Arnold dated November 19, 2015 and recorded December 1, 2015 in Book 1216 at Page 5739 in the ROD Office for Sumter County.

TMS No. 1850701009
Property address:
805 Southern Hills
Court,
Sumter, SC 29150

Notice of Sale

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 3.375% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
 Master In Equity
 for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
 Attorney for Plaintiff

NOTICE OF SALE 2017-CP-43-00410
BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: **Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper** against **William H. Fields, I,** the undersigned **Special Referee** for Sumter County, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:30 p.m.** at the Sumter County Courthouse in Sumter, South Carolina, to the highest bidder, the following described property, to-wit: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in Concord Township, County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being more particularly shown and delineated as Lot 2, containing 0.38 acre, more or less, as shown on that certain plat of D.D. Edmunds, RLS, dated August 6, 1997, and recorded in the Office of the RMC for Sumter County in Plat Book PB 97 at Page 956. The said lot has such boundaries, metes, courses and

Notice of Sale

distances as are shown on said plat which are incorporated herein in accordance with the provision of Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976. This property is more generally known as 1810 Myrtle Beach Hwy. Being the same property conveyed unto Hamer A. Fields by deed of Douglas D. Miles and Robin W. Miles dated August 11, 1997 and recorded August 12, 1997 in Deed Book 682 at Page 489; thereafter, Hamer A. Fields died intestate on November 9, 1999, leaving the subject property to his heir at law, namely, William H. Fields, by Deed of Distribution dated September 7, 2000, and recorded September 8, 2000 in Deed Book 781 at Page 1592 in the ROD Office for Sumter County, South Carolina. TMS No. 267-00-03-011 Property Address: 1810 Myrtle Beach Highway, Sumter, SC 29153 **TERMS OF SALE:** The successful bidder, other than the plaintiff, will deposit with the Special Referee at conclusion of the bidding, five per cent (5%) of said bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the successful bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Special Referee may resell the property on the same terms and conditions (at the risk of the said defaulting bidder). Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order. The successful bidder will be required to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed and interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to the date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 8.0000%. **THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, COUNTY TAXES, EXISTING EASEMENTS, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES.** No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. **NOTICE:** The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date. Honorable A. Paul Weissenstein, Jr. Special Referee Sumter County Blakey Pope & Laney, LLC Post Office Box 11412 Columbia, SC 29211 (803) 799-9993 Attorneys for Plaintiff

NOTICE OF MASTER IN EQUITY SALE CIVIL ACTION NO. 2017CP4301314

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, South Carolina, heretofore issued in the case of **Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC,** a Delaware Limited Liability Company, against **Elizabeth S. Ramsey,** et al., the Master in Equity for Sumter County, or his/her agent, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 P.M.,** at Sumter Judicial Center, 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that piece, parcel or lot of land, with improvements thereon, located in the County of Sumter, Staatsburg Township, the said lot or parcel having been surveyed and divided from a 7.49 acre tract owned by Louis Ramsey, the said lot of land being more specifically described in that plat of H.S. Willson, RLS, dated July 26, 1982 and recorded in Plat Book Z-47 at Page 748 being bounded and measuring according to said plat.

TMS Number:
155-16-01-032
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
785 Mayfield Dr.,
Sumter, SC 29150

This being the same property conveyed to Terrill Ramsey and Yulanda Ramsey by deed of Elizabeth S. Ramsey, dated October 13, 2011, and recorded in the Office

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Notice of Sale

of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County on October 13, 2011, in Deed Book 1161 at Page 1133.

TERMS OF SALE: FOR CASH. The Master in Equity will require a deposit of 5% of the bid amount in cash or certified funds, which is to be applied on the purchase price upon compliance with the bid. Interest on the balance of the bid at 9.23% shall be paid to the day of compliance. In case of non-compliance within 20 days, after the sale, the deposit of 5% is to be forfeited and applied to Plaintiff's judgment debt and the property re-advertised for sale upon the same terms at the risk of the former highest bidder. Purchaser to pay for deed recording fees and deed stamps.

Deficiency judgment not being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Should Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent fail to appear on the day of sale, the property shall not be sold, but shall be re-advertised and sold at some convenient sales day thereafter when Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent, is present.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and easements and restrictions of record.

Plaintiff does not warrant its title search to purchasers at foreclosure sale or other third parties, who should have their own title search performed on the subject property.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County
Sumter, South Carolina

FINKEL LAW FIRM LLC
Post Office Box 71727
North Charleston, S.C. 29415
(843) 577-5460
Attorneys for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017-CP-43-01393**

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of: **Regions Bank DBA Regions Mortgage vs. William M. Foxworth a/k/a William Foxworth**, the undersigned Master in Equity for Sumter County, South Carolina, will sell on **January 2, 2018 at 12:00PM**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, City of Sumter, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

THE LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS POLICY IS SITUATED IN THE STATE OF SC, COUNTY OF SUMTER, CITY OF SUMTER AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF SUMTER, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN AND DELINEATED AS LOT 70, "WINTER PARK" SUBDIVISION, AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF D.D. EDMUNDS, RLS, DATED AUG. 9, 1995, AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE RMC FOR SUMTER COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK PB95 AT PAGE 763. THE SAID LOT HAS SUCH BOUNDARIES, METES, COURSES AND DISTANCES AS ARE SHOWN ON SAID PLAT WHICH ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISION OF SECTION

Notice of Sale

30-5-250 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976. THIS PROPERTY IS MORE GENERALLY KNOWN AS 20 BELVEDERE CIRCLE.

THIS BEING THE SAME PARCEL CONVEYED TO WILLIAM M. FOXWORTH BY DEED OF RICHARD J. JOHNSTON, JR. AND DEBRA A. JOHNSTON DATED AUGUST 8, 1995 RECORDED AUGUST 11, 1995 IN DEED BOOK 628, PAGE 1151 IN THE RECORDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

**CURRENT ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:
20 Belvedere Circle,
Sumter, SC 29154
TMS: 184-13-01-031**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to the purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to the Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail to comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder). No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding shall not remain open after the date of sale and shall be final on that date, and compliance with the bid may be made immediately. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the balance of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 4% per annum. The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions, easements and restrictions of record and any other senior encumbrances.

In the event an agent of Plaintiff does not appear at the time of sale, the within property shall be withdrawn from sale and sold at the next available sales date upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or such terms as may be set forth in a supplemental order.

The Honorable Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Brock & Scott, PLLC
3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110
Columbia, SC 29210
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone 803-454-3540
Fax 803-454-3541

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2017-CP-43-00472**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: **Branch Banking and Trust Company vs. Michael L. Simmons and Michelle L. Simmons, I,** the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel and lot of land with improvements thereon, if any, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina identified as Lot No. 4 as shown on plat prepared by J. P.

Notice of Sale

Edwards, RLS, dated June 8, 1976, and recorded in Plat Book Z-38, at page 294, records of Sumter County.

Aforesaid Plat is specifically incorporated herein and reference is craved thereto for a more complete and accurate description of the metes, bounds, courses and distances of the property concerned herein. This is description is in lieu of metes and bounds, as permitted by law under Section 30-5-250 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended. Be all measurements a little more or a little less and according to said plat.

Please note that the above description has been modified to correct a minor, immaterial clerical error in the legal regarding the plat date.

This being the same property conveyed unto Michael L. Simmons and Michelle L. Simmons, as joint tenants, with the right of survivorship, and not as tenants in common, by virtue of a Deed from Kenneth P. Simmons and Linda T. Simmons dated May 25, 2006 and recorded May 26, 2006 in Book 1029 at Page 1999 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Sumter County, South Carolina.

TMS No. 231-00-03-006

**Property address:
1815 Queen Chapel Road,
Sumter, SC 29153**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 4.990% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an

Notice of Sale

independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2016-CP-43-00143**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: **JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association vs. Richard O. Bernier and Valerie M. Bernier, I,** the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel, or lot of land, together with the improvements thereon, if any, situate, lying, and being in the Township of Stateburg, County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being shown and designated as Lot #231, containing 0.79 acre of Oakland North Subdivision, Section No. 4, as shown on that certain plat prepared for Richard O. Bernier and Valerie M. Bernier, by Joseph R. Edwards, RLS, dated October 28, 1993, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Mesne Conveyances for Sumter County in Plat Book 93 at page 1884, and having such metes and bounds as are shown on said plat, this description being in lieu of metes and bounds, as permitted under Section 30-5-250 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina. This is the property known as 2785 Watermark Drive.

This being the same property conveyed to Richard O. Bernier and Valerie M. Bernier, as tenants in common with an in destructible right of survivorship, by deed of Lisa R. Hansen, dated October 5, 1993 and recorded November 2, 1993 in Book 584 at Page 1797 in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County.

TMS No. 092-13-02-007

**Property address:
2785 Watermark Drive,
Dalzell, SC 29040**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and

Notice of Sale

payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 7.000% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff



Notice of Sale

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CASE NO.:
2016-CP-43-02297
STATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER**

**NEW PENN FINANCIAL, LLC
D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE
SERVICING**

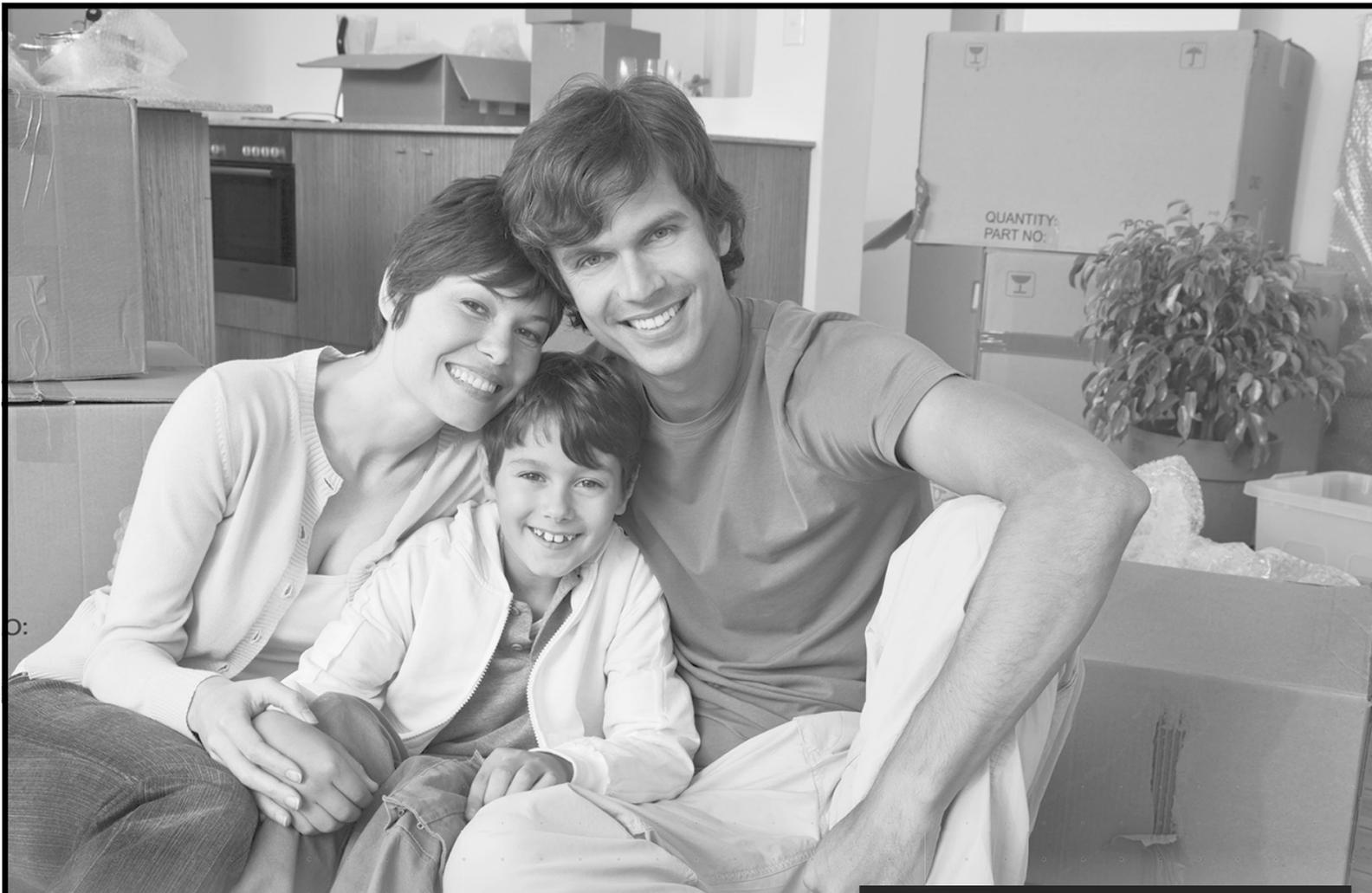
Plaintiff,

v.
**VERMELL EDWARDS, AND IF
VERMELL EDWARDS BE
DECEASED, THEN ANY AND ALL
CHILDREN AND HEIRS AT LAW,
DISTRIBUTEES AND DEVISEES
AND IF ANY OF THE SAME BE
DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS
ENTITLED TO CLAIM UNDER OR
THROUGH THEM, ALSO ALL
OTHER PERSONS UNKNOWN
CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE,
INTEREST OR LIEN UPON THE
REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN
THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, ANY
UNKNOWN ADULTS, ANY
UNKNOWN INFANTS OR PERSONS
UNDER DISABILITY, BEING A
CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN
DOE OR PERSONS IN THE
MILITARY SERVICE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS
RICHARD ROE; ARNOLD
EDWARDS; MARY DAVIS;
JEREMIAH EDWARDS; VERNON
EDWARDS; BOBBY EDWARDS,**
Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF SALE
Deficiency Judgment
Waived**

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of: **New Penn Financial, LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing against Vermell Edwards, and if Vermell Edwards be Deceased, then any and all Children and Heirs at Law, Distributees and Devisees and if any of the same be dead, and all persons entitled to claim under or through them, also all other persons unknown, claiming any Right, Title, Interest or Lien upon the Real Estate described in the complaint herein, any unknown adults, any unknown infants or persons under disability, being a class designated as John Doe or persons in the Military Service of the United States of America, being a class designated as Richard Roe; Arnold Edwards; Mary Davis; Jeremiah Edwards; Vernon Edwards and Bobby Edwards,** the undersigned Master in Equity for Sumter County, South Carolina, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 11:00 A.M.** at the Sumter County Judicial Center, located at 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL, OR LOT OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH THE DWELLING AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, LYING AND BEING SITUATE IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SUMTER, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, LOCATED AT THE SOUTHERN CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF ROWLAND AVENUE AND PEACH STREET, AND BEING SHOWN AND DELINEATED ON THAT PLAT PREPARED BY PALMER & MALONE, CIVIL ENGINEERS, DATED APRIL 19, 1949 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK Z-8 AT PAGE 84 IN THE RECORDS OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE FOR SUMTER COUNTY. A F O R E S A I D P L A T I S SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATED HEREIN AND REFERENCE IS CRAVED THERETO FOR A MORE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE



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DESCRIPTION OF THE METES, BOUNDS, COURSES AND DISTANCES OF THE PROPERTY CONCERNED HEREIN. THIS DESCRIPTION IS MADE IN LIEU OF METES AND BOUNDS PERMITTED BY LAW UNDER 30-5-250 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA (1976), AS AMENDED. THIS IS THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 14 PEACH STREET, SUMTER, SC. THIS BEING THE IDENTICAL PROPERTY CONVEYED TO VERMELL EDWARDS AND ARNOLD EDWARDS BY THAT DEED OF LUCIE ANNE C. ELDRIDGE DATED AND RECORDED APRIL 27, 2006 IN DEED BOOK 1026 AT PAGE 118, AFORESAID RECORDS.

**PROPERTY ADDRESS:
14 PEACH STREET,
SUMTER, SC 29150
TMS: 228-04-01-021**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to the purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to the Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail to comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Master may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder). No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding shall not remain open after the date of sale and shall be final on that date, and compliance with the bid may be made immediately. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 5.25 % per annum. The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record. Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. In the event an agent of Plaintiff does not appear at the time of sale, the within property shall be withdrawn from sale and sold at the next available sales date upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or such terms as may be set forth in a supplemental order. This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given. Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of a licensed South Carolina attorney.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County
Sumter, South Carolina

Stern & Eisenberg Southern, PC
Elizabeth R. Polk
Andrew M. Wilson
1709 Devonshire Drive
Columbia, SC 29204
(P): 803-929-0760,
(F): Fax: 803-929-0830
Attorneys for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF SALE
IN THE COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS
CASE NO.
2016-CP-43-02241**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER

**Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green
Tree Servicing LLC** Plaintiff,

-vs-
The Personal Representative, whose name is unknown of the Estate of Curtis Smiling; Sandra J. Smiling; Rodney Smiling, Sr.; Phyllis L. Jackson; Carolyn D. Teagle; and Michael C. Smiling as heirs of the Estate of Curtis Smiling; all Unknown Heirs of Deceased Defendants, and all other persons entitled to claim under or through them being a class designated as Mary Roe; All Unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein, being a class designated as Jane Doe; also any Unknown persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and Any Unknown minors, persons under a Disability or persons incarcerated, being a class designated as Richard Roe; Carroll E. and Nancy Wilson, Defendant(s)

BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of **Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green Tree Servicing LLC** vs. The Personal Representative, whose name is unknown of the Estate of **Curtis Smiling; Sandra J. Smiling; Rodney Smiling, Sr.; Phyllis L. Jackson; Carolyn D. Teagle; and Michael C. Smiling as heirs of the Estate of Curtis Smiling; all Unknown Heirs of Deceased Defendants, and all other persons entitled to claim under or through them being a class designated as Mary Roe; All Unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein, being a class designated as Jane Doe; also any Unknown persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and Any Unknown minors, persons under a Disability or persons incarcerated, being a class designated as Richard Roe; Carroll E. and Nancy Wilson, I, Richard L. Booth, as Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 Noon**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:**

Notice of Sale

ALL THAT LOT OF LAND, WITH ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE IN SUMTER TOWNSHIP, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2, SUMTER COUNTY, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, REPRESENTED AS LOT 7, ON A PLAT OF M. K. MALLARD, DATED JANUARY 19, 1956, AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK Z-13, AT PAGE 75, AND SHOWN ON A MORE RECENT PLAT PREPARED BY BEN J. MAKELA, R.L.S., DATED JUNE 16, 1999, AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK 99, AT PAGE 636. THE SAID PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND HAVING SUCH METES AND BOUNDS AS ARE SHOWN ON SAID PLAT. THIS DESCRIPTION BEING IN LIEU OF METES AND BOUNDS, AS PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 30-5-250 OF THE 1976 CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO CURTIS SMILING BY DEED FROM JEAN BOARDRAY, MICHAEL SMILING, CAROLYN D. TEAGLE, PHYLLIS L. SMILING; AND RODNEY SMILING RECORDED 09/13/2001 IN DEED BOOK 816 PAGE 215, IN THE R.M.C. OFFICE OF SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

**TMS #: 245-10-02-010
SUBJECT TO SUMTER
COUNTY TAXES**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, the same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of noncompliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at the time of the bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master in Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder).

Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order.

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date.

The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 6.375% per annum.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Theodore von Keller, Esquire
B. Lindsay Crawford, III,
Esquire
Sara Hutchins
Columbia, South Carolina
Attorney for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017-CP-43-01201**

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of **Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.**, as Trustee for ABFC 2005-HE2 Trust ABFC Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-HE2 vs. Any heirs-at-law or devisees of **Sue O. Brunson a/k/a Sue A. Brunson a/k/a Susie Annie Odum Brunson, deceased**, their heirs, **Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors and Assigns**, and all other persons or entities entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons or entities with any right, title, estate, interest in or lien upon the real estate described in the complaint herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as Richard Roe; and any unknown minors, incompetent or imprisoned person, or persons under a disability being a class designated as John Doe; Wanda Brunson; Blake Anderson; Craig Anderson; David Brunson Jr.; Betty Brunson Johnson; Mark Scarborough; Susie Brunson Scarborough, the undersigned Master in Equity for Sumter County, South Carolina, will sell on **January 2, 2018 at 12:00PM**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, City of Sumter, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, IN PRIVASTEER TOWNSHIP, SUMTER COUNTY, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BEING SHOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT #9 ON A PLAT OF RABON TERRACE MADE BY J.P. EDWARDS, R.L.S., DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 1971, RECORDED SEPTEMBER 10, 1971 IN PLAT BOOK Z-30 AT PAGE 117, SAID LOT #9 BEING BOUNDED BY AND MEASURING AS FOLLOWS: ON THE NORTH BY LOT #10 AND MEASURING THEREON 250 FEET, ON THE SOUTH BY LOT #8 AND MEASURING THEREON 250 FEET; AND ON THE WEST BY TINDAL ROAD AND MEASURING THEREON 120 FEET; BE ALL OF SAID MEASUREMENTS BEING A LITTLE MORE OR LESS

Notice of Sale

ACCORDING TO SAID PLAT.

THIS IS THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO DAVID BRUNSON, JR. AND SUE O. BRUNSON AS JOINT TENANTS WITH THE RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP BY DEED OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DATED AUGUST 23, 1974 AND RECORDED ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1974 IN DEED BOOK A-10 AT PAGE 678 IN THE RECORDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

**CURRENT ADDRESS
OF PROPERTY:
2751 Tindal Road,
Sumter, SC 29150
TMS: 2231401007**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to the purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to the Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail to comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder). No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding shall not remain open after the date of sale and shall be final on that date, and compliance with the bid may be made immediately. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 7.8% per annum. The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions, easements and restrictions of record and any other senior encumbrances

In the event an agent of Plaintiff does not appear at the time of sale, the within property shall be withdrawn from sale and sold at the next available sales date upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or such terms as may be set forth in a supplemental order.

The Honorable Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Brook & Scott, PLLC
3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110
Columbia, SC 29210
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone 803-454-3540
Fax 803-454-3541

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2014-CP-43-00860**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of **Nationstar Mortgage LLC vs. Andrew R. Shanahan**; and Madeline E. Shanahan, I, the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, IF ANY, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SUMTER, STATE OF SC, BEING SHOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NO. 348 IN THE MEADOWCROFT, SECTION 9A SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT PREPARED BY LOUIS W. TISDALE, R.L.S., DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 2003, WHICH PLAT IS OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF MESNE CONVEYANCES FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SC IN PLAT BOOK 2003 AT PAGE 38. PURSUANT TO SECTION 30-5-250 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SC (1976, AS AMENDED) REFERENCE TO SAID PLAT IS HEREBY MADE FOR THE METES, BOUNDS, COURSE AND/OR DISTANCES OF THE PROPERTY DELINEATED THEREON. THE PROPERTY IS KNOWN AS 1120 MALONE DRIVE, SUMTER AND IS SHOWN ON THE AUDITOR'S MAP OF SUMTER COUNTY AS TAX PARCEL 182-13-08-001.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO ANDREW R. SHANAHAN AND MADELINE E. SHANAHAN BY DEED OF JASON W. DICKERMAN AND ELLEN F.H. DICKERMAN DATED MAY 6, 2008 AND RECORDED JUNE 17, 2008 IN VOLUME 1107 AT PAGE 3224 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ROD FOR SUMTER COUNTY.

TMS No. 182-13-08-001

**Property address:
1120 Malone Drive,
Sumter, SC 29154**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder

Notice of Sale

fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 6.000% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

NOTICE OF SALE

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of **First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Inc. now First Citizens Bank & Trust Company vs. Mt. Glory Baptist Church, CA# 2017-CP-43-00961**, I, the undersigned, will sell on **January 8, 2018 at 12:00 noon** or thereafter, at the Sumter County Courthouse Judicial Center, 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, South Carolina, to the highest bidder the following property:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being more particularly shown and delineated as 0.749 acres, more or less as shown on that certain plat of Michael C. Turbeville, III, RLS dated 06/11/09 and recorded in the office of the ROD for Sumter County in Plat Book PB2009 at page 144. The said tract/lot(s) has/have such boundaries, metes, courses and distances as are shown on said plat which are incorporated herein in accordance with the provision of Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of SC, 1976. This property is more generally known as 841 N. Main Street and is shown on the Sumter County Tax Maps as Parcel 229-12-02-002.

This being the same property conveyed to Mr. Glory Baptist Church (a Corporation) by deed of Dixie Properties, LLC recorded June 26, 2009 in Book 1125 at page 1231.

**Property Address:
841 North Main Street
Sumter, SC
TMS# 229-12-02-002**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit, at the conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of the bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the property will be resold on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day at the risk of the said highest bidder. Personal or deficiency judgment having been waived, the bidding will not remain open for a period of thirty (30) days after the sale but the purchaser may comply with the bid immediately. Purchaser to pay for preparation of

Notice of Sale

the deed, documentary stamps on the deed, recording fees.

SUBJECT TO SUMTER COUNTY TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS, EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS, ANY OTHER MATTERS OF RECORD.

Paul Weissenstein
Special Referee
for Sumter County

Ray Coit Yarbrough, Jr.
Attorney for Plaintiff

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2015-CP-43-01052**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: **U.S. Bank National Association**, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for the RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT vs. **Frances W. Oxendine**; et al., I, the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with any improvements thereon, situate, lying in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, designated as Lot 2, as shown on that certain Plat of J.P. Edwards dated October 16, 1984, recorded in the R.M.C. Office for Sumter County in Plat Book Z-48, at Page 1063, the exact boundaries and measurements of which can be determined by reference to the said Plat. This being the property known as 881 Perry Boulevard.

This being the same property conveyed to Delle N. Oxendine and Frances W. Oxendine by Deed of C.S. Leviner Construction dated June 13, 1985 and recorded June 17, 1985 in Book 405 at Page 421 in the ROD Office for Sumter County. Thereafter, Delle B. Oxendine conveyed here interest in the subject property to Frances W. Oxendine by Deed dated August 4, 1997 and recorded August 6, 1997 in Book 681 at Page 1688 in the ROD Office for Sumter County.

TMS No. 207-07-03-018

**Property address:
881 Perry Blvd,
Sumter, SC 29154**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff.

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 3.990% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's

Notice of Sale

bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF MASTER
IN EQUITY SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017CP4300957**

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, South Carolina, heretofore issued in the case of **MidFirst Bank, against Angela C. Dorsey**; et al., the Master in Equity for Sumter County, or his/her agent, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 P.M.**, at Sumter Judicial Center, 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with any improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, and being shown and designated as Lot 127 of Hunters Crossing Subdivision, Phase 1, Section 2 as more fully shown on a plat thereof prepared by Louis W. Tisdale, R.L.S., dated February 9, 2006, recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Plat Book 2006 at Page 282; which plat is incorporated herein by this reference and having such metes, bounded, courses and distances, being a little more or less, as by this reference to said plat will more fully appear

**TMS Number:
1871202025
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
1772 Polaris Dr.,
Sumter, SC 29153**

This being the same property conveyed to Angela C. Dorsey by deed of Firstar Homes, Inc., dated December 28, 2006, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County on January 4, 2007, in Deed Book 1059 at Page 1675.

TERMS OF SALE: FOR CASH. The Master in Equity will require a deposit of 5% of the bid amount in cash or certified funds, which is to be applied on the purchase price upon compliance with the bid. Interest on the balance of the bid at 6.000% shall be paid to the day of compliance. In case of noncompliance within 20 days, after the sale, the deposit of 5% is to be forfeited and applied to Plaintiff's judgment debt and the property re-advertised for sale upon the same terms at the risk of the former highest bidder. Purchaser to pay for deed recording fees and deed stamps.

Deficiency judgment not being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Should Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent fail to appear on the day of sale, the property shall not be sold, but shall be re-advertised and sold at some convenient sales day thereafter when Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent, is present.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

Plaintiff does not warrant its title search to purchasers at foreclosure sale or other third parties, who should have their own title search performed on the subject property.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County
Sumter, South Carolina

FINKELE LAW FIRM LLC
Post Office Box 71727
North Charleston, S.C. 29415
(843) 577-5460
Attorneys for Plaintiff



**Classified In-line
Edition Deadline**

Fri., Dec. 22nd Wed. Dec. 20th @ 11:30 am
Sun., Dec. 24th Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 9:30 am
Tues., Dec. 26th Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 11:30am
Tues., Jan. 2nd Thurs. Dec. 28th @ 2 pm

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IN BRIEF

Health law's sign-up tally for 2018 dips slightly to 8.7 million

The government said more than 8.7 million people signed up for coverage next year under the Obama-era health care law, a program President Trump tried to repeal.

The final tally released Thursday for the 39 HealthCare.gov states showed about 80,000 fewer sign-ups than an initial count provided last week. The slight dip was because of late cancellations, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

HealthCare.gov enrollment reached nearly 95% of last year's level, despite a shorter sign-up period.

Officer acquitted in unarmed teen's fatal shooting is fired

A Cleveland police officer was fired for violating his department's use-of-force policy despite being acquitted of a misdemeanor charge in the fatal shooting of an unarmed man after a store break-in in 2015.

The official reason given Thursday for Alan Buford, 50, being fired was for using force "greater than necessary during the incident."

A judge acquitted Buford of negligent homicide in July. Prosecutors said Buford shouldn't have had his finger on the trigger as he and his partner tried to arrest Brandon Jones, 18.

Social justice advocate Garner suffers 'major brain damage'

The oldest daughter of New York police chokehold victim Eric Garner suffered "major brain damage" after a heart attack, her family said.

Erica Garner, a mother of two children and an advocate for social justice, went into cardiac arrest Saturday before lapsing into a coma. Late Wednesday, her family issued a statement saying a CT scan "shows Erica suffered major brain damage from a lack of oxygen while in cardiac arrest."

"Please continue to pray hard for Erica and pray for her family and kids just as much," the statement said.

Soccer star Weah poised to win presidency of Liberia

Former international soccer star George Weah was poised to win Liberia's presidency with a significant lead among the more than 98% of votes counted, according to provisional results released Thursday.

The West African nation prepared for its first democratic transfer of power in more than 70 years.

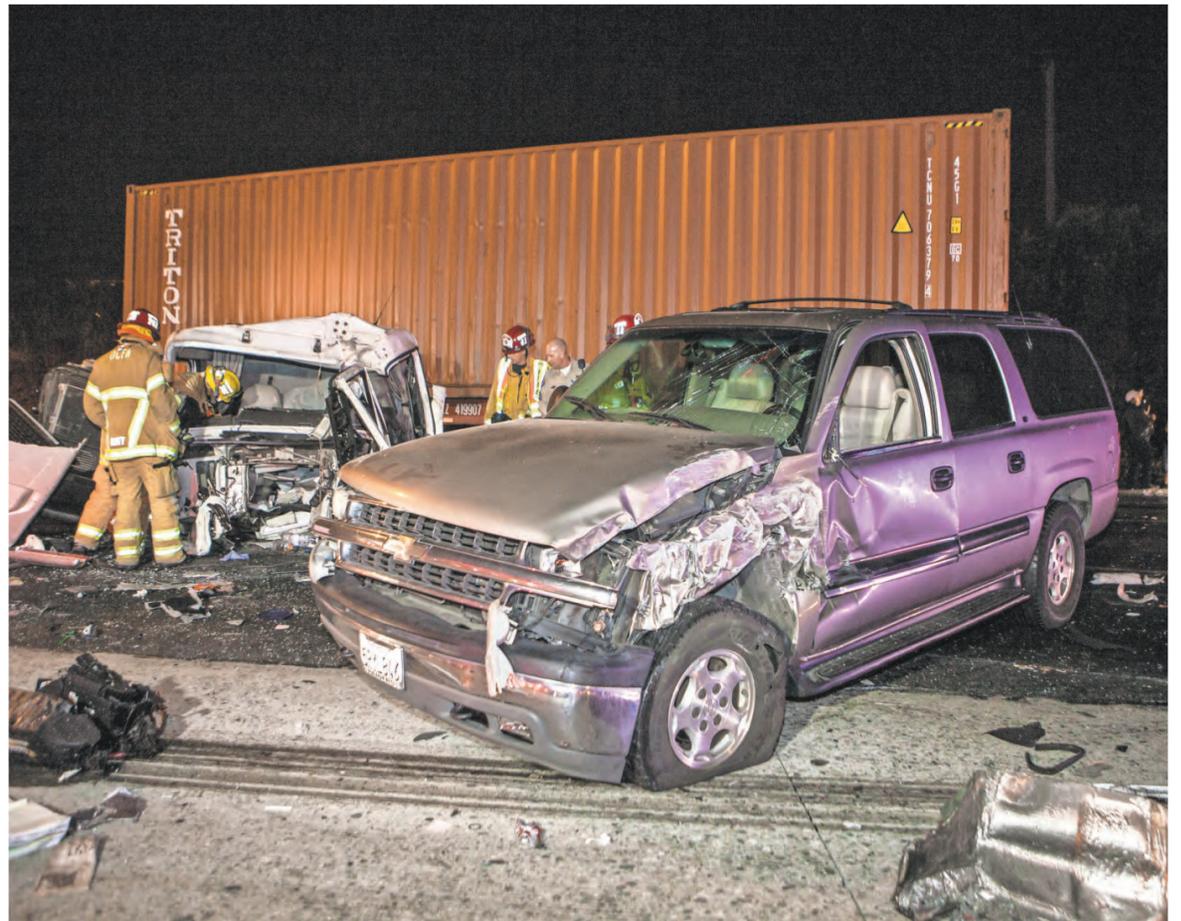
Weah received 61.5% of ballots counted and Vice President Joseph Boakai received 38.5%, the National Elections Commission said.

Tehran police to end arrests for violating Islamic dress code

Police in Iran's capital, Tehran, announced that they will no longer arrest women for failing to observe the Islamic dress code in place since the revolution in 1979.

Staff and wire reports

RIGGED A USA TODAY NETWORK INVESTIGATION



Truck driver Freddy Uriarte was killed when he crashed into a disabled FedEx truck at full speed in March 2014. KEVIN WARN

Road-weary truckers risk lives on the job

Companies often force their drivers to work shifts with little or no sleep

By Brett Murphy
USA TODAY Network

Every day, port trucking companies around Los Angeles put hundreds of impaired drivers on the road, pushing them to work with little or no sleep in violation of federal safety regulations, a USA TODAY Network investigation found.

They dispatch truckers for shifts that last up to 20 hours a day, six days a week, sometimes with tragic results.

In August 2013, a Container Intermodal Transport trucker, who said in depositions that he often broke fatigue laws, barreled into stopped traffic at 55 mph. A teenager was killed, and seven people were sent to the hospital.

Seven months later, a Pacific 9 Transportation driver had just finished his 45th hour on the clock in three days when he ran over and killed a woman crossing the street.

A Gold Point Transportation truck was moving containers for 15 hours one day in May 2013 when it crashed in Long Beach, Calif., injuring four.

The trucking industry has always had drivers who work reckless amounts of overtime. The USA TODAY

"There are some days when you can't think right anymore. You can't tell if you're driving or not. You just have to continue working."

Jose Juan Rodriguez

Network investigation shows for the first time that fatigued truckers are a near-constant threat on the roads around America's busiest ports.

To identify port trucking companies that put their drivers and the public at risk, reporters retraced the movement of thousands of Los Angeles-area trucks over four years, using time stamps generated each time a driver passes through a port gate.

Reporters then calculated how long each truck had operated and compared the results with federal crash data from 2013 to 2016.

STORY CONTINUES ON C2

About the data

To track drivers' time on the road, the USA TODAY Network analyzed more than 30 million electronic time stamps generated each time a truck passed through the gate at the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles from 2013 to 2016.

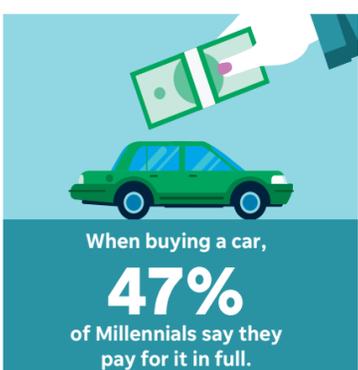
Federal regulations generally require that a commercial trucker cease driving his truck no later than 14 hours after first coming on duty and not start again until he has had a 10-hour break.

We found about 580,000 potential time violations when a truck appeared to be operating for too long without a full 10-hour break.

The data have limitations. Gate entry systems track information about trucks, not drivers. So the data can't account for cases where multiple drivers share a truck. It also can't account for commuting time and other driving time at the beginning or end of the day.

To identify accidents involving trucks with potential violations, we matched truck identification numbers in the gate move data to federal crash data collected by the Department of Transportation. That data do not indicate who was at fault.

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NOTE 49% buy used cars
SOURCE Chase Auto Finance survey of 3,535 U.S. adults
MIKE B. SMITH, KARL GELLES/USA TODAY

5 weird things dropping this New Year's Eve

Mary Bowerman
USA TODAY

The iconic ball in Times Square, N.Y., isn't the only thing dropping on New Year's Eve.

Here's a look at some of the strange items starring in New Year's celebrations across the country:

Guitar drop in Memphis

Get ready to rock at the Hard Rock Cafe's 10th annual New Year's Eve Guitar Drop, where a 10-foot D'Angelico guitar will land at midnight.

PEEPS drop in Bethlehem, Pa.

A 400-pound PEEPS Chick will be dropped in Bethlehem, Pa. The massive PEEPS show is part of the annual PEEPSFEST, hosted by the maker of the treat, Just Born Quality Confections.

Possum drop in Brasstown, N.C.

No, this isn't a joke. For years, Clay's Corner, a North Carolina convenience store, has lowered a live possum to ring in the new year. Though the convenience store's owner has retired and closed up shop, the possum drop is still

planned. If it sounds controversial, that's because it is. Clay's Corner has faced criticism for using a live animal.

Peach drop in Atlanta

The iconic peach hits the 120-year-old Flatiron Building this year. Since 1989, an 800-pound peach has been lowered to bring in each new year.

Potato drop in Boise

Idaho is proud to be known for potatoes! Each year, a massive potato is lowered at the State Capitol.

Truckers

CONTINUED FROM C1

The analysis found that, on average, trucks serving the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach operated 470 times a day without the required break. Those trucks were involved in at least 189 crashes within a day of an extended period on the clock. Federal crash records do not indicate who was at fault.

With some exceptions, federal rules say commercial truckers must take a 10-hour break every 14 hours.

The data alone don't prove that a trucker was driving impaired. But regulators and experts said the analysis provides strong evidence of a problem.

"There's enough there to warrant further investigation," said Collin Mooney,

executive director of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, an association of industry regulators dedicated to improving safety.

As the USA TODAY Network first reported in June, California port truckers have been forced to work long days against their will.

Over the past decade, many companies pushed drivers into debt by requiring them to buy trucks through company-sponsored lease-to-own programs.

Drivers found themselves trapped in jobs that paid them pennies per hour after expenses. If they complained or refused to work long hours, they could be fired and lose their truck along with thousands paid toward its purchase.

Trucking company executives contacted by the Network denied allowing their drivers to violate fatigue rules. Some noted that two drivers sometimes share one truck, a practice that could account for long stints of activity.

Drivers said sharing a truck is rare because many companies prohibit it. Far more common, they said, are truckers who feel compelled to work long hours.

Jose Juan Rodriguez, who drove for Morgan Southern for five years, said he sometimes worked 16-hour shifts for days at a time, a claim the company denied. He kept a bucket of ice water by his seat to splash on his face when he felt himself nodding off.

More than once, he said, he found himself hallucinating, a side effect of extreme sleep deprivation.

"There are some days when you can't think right anymore," he said. "You can't tell if you're driving or not. You just have to continue working."

Recognizing a potential public health threat, the federal government began limiting commercial truckers' driving hours in 1938, holding them to 60 hours a week. Decades of study led to more stringent rules as researchers concluded sleep-deprived drivers become exponentially more hazardous the longer they spend on the road.

Even so, the tools used to flag truckers who stay on the road too long haven't changed much.

Police and Department of Transportation inspectors still rely heavily on paper logs maintained by the drivers themselves.

The first federal mandate to install electronic log machines in commercial trucks took effect in late December, al-

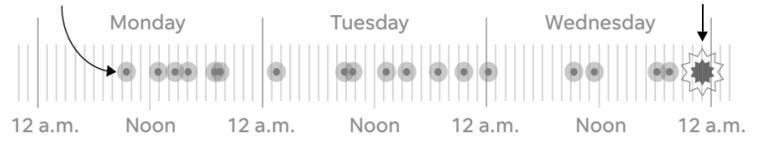
Three crashes following long hours

These stretches show 14 or more hours of gate appearances without a 10-hour break.

● Dots denote truck passing through a port gate.

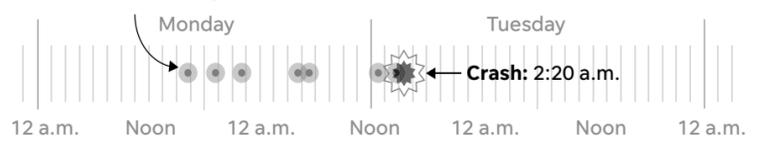
Pacific 9 Transportation crash March 26, 2014 (Wed.)

Truck was on the clock since Sunday at 9:35 a.m. with some breaks in-between, until crashing in Victorville, Calif. **Crash: 11:03 p.m.**



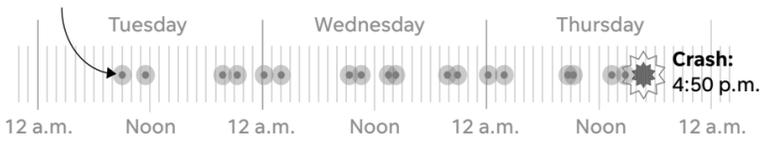
Gold Point Transportation crash May 21, 2013 (Tues.)

Truck was on the clock since the previous day at 10:53 a.m. Crash occurred in Long Beach, Calif. **Crash: 2:20 a.m.**



Performance Team Freight Systems July 17, 2014 (Thurs.)

Truck was on the clock since Tuesday, July 15 with some breaks in-between, until crashing in Norwalk, Conn. **Crash: 4:50 p.m.**



NOTE With some exceptions, federal rules say commercial truckers must take a 10-hour break every 14 hours.

SOURCE Department of Transportation crash records, Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, Electronic Code of Federal Regulations

KARL GELLES, JIM SERGENT/USA TODAY

Corrections & Clarifications



USA TODAY is committed to accuracy. To reach us, contact Standards Editor Brent Jones at 800-872-7073 or e-mail accuracy@usatoday.com. Please indicate whether you're responding to content online or in the newspaper.



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Republican candidate Roy Moore's lawsuit seeking to freeze certification of the results of Alabama's special election Dec. 12 was dismissed Thursday. Democrat Doug Jones, right, expects to be sworn in Jan. 3. USA TODAY NETWORK PHOTOS

Jones' Alabama win is official as rival Moore's challenge fails

GOP candidate for Senate has refused to concede

Melissa Brown
Montgomery Advertiser
USA TODAY Network

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama's next senator will be Democrat Doug Jones. Thursday, the Alabama State Canvassing Board certified the results of the special election Dec. 12 for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

Jones is to be sworn in to his position Jan. 3.

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey, Attorney General Steve Marshall and Secretary of State John Merrill were there for the Alabama State Canvassing Board meeting, which reviews and certifies the results of state and federal elections.

The decision came after an 11th-hour attempt by former Republican candidate Roy Moore to freeze the Canvassing Board's proceedings. Moore filed a lawsuit Wednesday night, which named Merrill as a defendant and requested a temporary restraining order to stop certification. A judge struck down the lawsuit shortly before the board's meeting.

Moore, who lost to Jones by about 20,000 voters, has refused to concede the race. He has continued to solicit contributions from supporters for an "election integrity fund."

Moore's complaint also names Jefferson County Probate Judge Alan King as a defendant. The lawsuit cites an "implausible" difference between his vote totals and general Republican ballot results in Jefferson County.

Moore's complaint noted the higher-than-expected turnout in the race.

It includes an affidavit from a Mont-

gomery poll worker, who said she saw an unusually high number of out-of-state licenses at a polling place.

Although Alabama voters must present identification at polling places, identification does not have to match voters' registered address. A valid state-issued ID from any other state can be used at Alabama polls, according to the secretary of State's official voter ID guide.

Moore's loss was an upset for the Republican Party in a deep-red state. A contentious figure before the Senate race, Moore faced multiple allegations of sexual misconduct and assault involving teenage girls decades ago.

In his court filing, Moore said he took a polygraph test after the election to deny the allegations from three of his accusers.

Early Thursday, Jones filed a motion to dismiss Moore's suit.

Trump scolds China over North Korea and oil

David Jackson
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Trump said he was "very disappointed" over a report that China continues to supply oil to North Korea. Pressuring the rogue nation to give up its nuclear weapons program is one of the president's biggest challenges heading into 2018.

"Caught RED HANDED - very disappointed that China is allowing oil to go into North Korea," Trump tweeted.

He added, "There will never be a friendly solution to the North Korea problem if this continues to happen!"



Xi Jinping

A South Korean newspaper reported that Chinese and North Korean vessels have been meeting at sea for transfers of oil. China denied it violated United Nations sanctions on oil sales to Kim Jong Un's government.

The tweet underscores one of the most vexing challenges facing Trump next year: What to do about North Korea, which said it is developing nuclear-tipped missiles that can reach the U.S. mainland.

Members of the Trump administration vowed to stop North Korea's nuclear program and have not ruled out a military option.

Trump has spent months lobbying China and other nations to cut off economic assistance to Kim's government. That was the main topic of the president's high-profile trip to Asia in November, which included a visit with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Since then, Trump has praised China for its cooperation — but not so on Thursday.

North Korea said in a statement that Trump's hope that it will give up its nuclear weapons is a "pipe dream."

Climate could spur Mexican immigration

Drought may drive people north

Sammy Roth
USA TODAY

The number of people moving from Mexico to the USA has dropped sharply over the past decade. But researchers said a new force could drive more people across the U.S.-Mexican border in the coming decades: climate change.

As global temperatures climb, dry regions have become more susceptible to drought. That includes northern Mexico, where increasingly intense dry spells are likely to reduce crop yields in agriculture-dependent areas, potentially giving people more reason to seek better opportunities in the USA.

Researchers who study the link between global warming and migration said many factors contribute to a person or family's decision to move to another country, climate change often playing a supporting role. Several studies have singled out climate change as a potentially significant driver of future U.S.-Mexican migration.

"It's never any one thing that causes people to move," said Michael Oppenheimer, a Princeton University climate scientist who's researched climate-driven migration. "But we have a lot of evidence from many different countries that relatively modest variations in the climate, that could be short-term or long-term, do cause people to move."

It's hard to say how many people could be pushed across the U.S.-Mexican border by climate change.

A study in 2010 co-authored by Oppenheimer found that up to 6.7 million people could come to the USA from Mexico as a result of global warming by 2080. A study in 2016 from researchers at the University of California-Davis projected 41,000 additional immigrants over the next 50 years as a result of climate change.

What those studies and others have in common is a finding that high temperatures and reduced rainfall — conditions that are becoming more common — have contributed to waves of migration from Mexico to the USA.



A U.S. Border Patrol vehicle drives in front of art in Tecate, Mexico, just beyond the border fence. A French artist known as JR hopes the display will prompt a discussion about immigration. GREGORY BULL/AP



The McAllen-Hidalgo International Bridge crosses the Rio Grande River, linking Hidalgo, Texas, with Reynosa, Mexico. According to research, climate conditions contribute to trends in migration from Mexico into the USA. MICHAEL REYNOLDS/EPA

"More hot days in rural Mexico will increase migration out of rural Mexico, including to the U.S.," said Ed Taylor, a development economist at UC-Davis and co-author of the study in 2016.

Valerie Mueller, a development economist at Arizona State University, has studied the vulnerability of rural households in developing countries to climate risks. She said there's a general consensus that rising temperatures have been contributing to people moving away from rural, agricultural areas in developing countries — usually to other rural areas and cities within their own countries but sometimes across national borders.

"A lot of it is being driven either by vulnerability to crop loss or wage laborers losing their jobs because farmers can no longer afford to hire them," Mueller said.

It's hard to predict whether the border wall proposed by President Trump would deter climate-driven immigrants, in part because the impacts of rising temperatures will play out over decades in ways that are unpredictable.

Mueller said it's important to keep in mind that more people moving from Mexico to the USA could be a good thing economically. Farmers in California's Central Valley have faced a shortage of laborers as legal and illegal immigration from Mexico has declined.

Mueller said it's not clear how much of a difference climate change will make to overall migration levels, considering the relatively low number of immigrants from Mexico in the past few years.

In 2015, the Pew Research Center reported that since the end of the Great Recession, more Mexicans had left the USA than had moved here. Analysts attributed that drop to several factors, including improved economic conditions in Mexico relative to the USA, lower birth rates in Mexico and tougher enforcement of U.S. immigration laws under President Obama.

In light of climate change, Mueller said, "it's not so clear whether these increases in immigration flows are going to lead to a mass exodus of people into the United States."

Susan Martin, an emeritus professor at Georgetown University and an expert in international migration, said any climate-driven migration from Mexico to the USA would be relatively small. She said the Mexican government has improved its social safety net significantly, giving agricultural areas greater insurance against the risk of climate-fueled crop losses. She said the USA may be more likely to see climate-driven migration from Central America, where more extreme weather adds to the instability created by violence and poverty.

The issue of climate and migration is much bigger than one national border.

A report released last month by the Environmental Justice Foundation, a London-based non-profit group, found that extreme weather-related disasters have displaced an average of 21.7 million people annually over the past decade, and those numbers are likely to rise.

Another study released last week from researchers at Columbia University found that higher temperatures in recent years coincided with more asylum applications to the European Union, and it predicted many more refugees will flood Europe as the world gets hotter.

Former Miss Americas call for board to resign

Dick Clark Productions 'appalled' by emails

Cara Kelly
USA TODAY

Former Miss America titleholders, including 2013's Mallory Hagan, called for the organization's board of directors to resign after a leak of derogatory and sexist emails from CEO Sam Haskell and others.

Hagan told USA TODAY on Thursday that the board was made aware of the emails months before they were published by *Huffington Post* last week and chose to support Haskell and the leadership, despite objections from co-producer and sponsor Dick Clark Productions.

"These were seen months ago, and they chose to do nothing about it," Hagan said, "as opposed to what was best for the organization, which would be to immediately say, 'Well, this is definitely not good, and the people involved in these emails need to go.'"

In a statement to USA TODAY, Dick Clark Productions said it was made aware of a portion of the emails several months ago.

"We were appalled by their unacceptable content and insisted, in the strongest possible terms, that the Miss America Organization board of directors conduct a comprehensive investigation and take appropriate action to address the situation. Shortly thereafter, we resigned our board positions and notified (the board) that we were terminating our relationship with them," the statement reads.

The Miss America Organization did not immediately respond to USA TODAY's request for comment.

Brent Adams, Haskell's assistant and later the development director for the organization, who gave the emails to *Huffington Post*, said he initially took the information to Dick Clark Productions in an effort to save the or-



Mallory Hagan, who was crowned Miss America 2013 by Miss America 2012 Laura Kaeppeler, says directors did nothing about sexist emails. ISAAC BREKKE/AP

ganization and defend Hagan and others who had been maligned by the emails. Once the company confronted the board, which decided to let the partnership dissolve, Adams went to the media.

"It's time that these women who this organization is supposed to be about ... take back this organization from this misogynistic, narcissistic man who's turned it into his own vanity project," Adams said. "(Haskell) weaponized this non-profit to destroy the careers and businesses and reputations of the very women that this was supposed to be empowering. It's not just Sam. The en-

tire board through their silence has been complicit."

Wednesday, the organization said it was seeking the help of former Miss Americas and state directors to recommend the next generation of leaders for the pageant.

Hagan and other former Miss Americas called the move "completely unacceptable" in a statement via Twitter. "The new tactic pays lip service to groups of stakeholders, while guaranteeing that the current board will ... choose the replacements for those who resigned," it said.

Contributing: Therese Apel

Trump scoffs at 'Vanity Fair' for Clinton apology

Magazine 'is on its last legs,' president sneers

David Jackson
USA TODAY

President Trump seized the opportunity Thursday to attack two of his favorite targets: The media and Hillary Clinton.

In a morning tweet, Trump mocked *Vanity Fair* magazine for apologizing to Clinton over a satiric video suggesting ways the defeated 2016 Democratic presidential candidate could spend her free time.

"Vanity Fair, which looks like it is on its last legs, is bending over backwards in apologizing for the minor hit they took at Crooked H," Trump said.



The president then took a swipe at Anna Wintour, who is editor in chief of *Vogue*, not *Vanity Fair*. (Wintour is artistic director of Conde Nast, which publishes both *Vogue* and *Vanity Fair*.)

Claiming she had hoped to be ambassador to the United Kingdom, Trump said, "Anna Wintour, who was all set to be Amb to Court of St James's & a big fundraiser for CH, is beside herself in grief & begging for forgiveness!"

In a video titled "Six New Year's Resolutions for Hillary Clinton," *Vanity Fair* suggested Clinton take up "a new hobby in the new year: volunteer work, knitting, improv comedy — literally anything that will keep you from running again."

After numerous complaints, *Vanity Fair* issued a statement apologizing for the video: "It was an attempt at humor, and we regret that it missed the mark."

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS												
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight Celebrities lost in 2017. (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Mood" Suspicions over a rape story's truth. (DVS)		Dateline NBC (N)		WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Jessica Chastain; Timothée Chalamet.	
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	48 Hours		MacGyver "Screwdriver" MacGyver hunts a U.S. government mole.	Blue Bloods "Hard Bargain" Danny is asked to help Linda's brother. (DVS)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert "Billy Bush; Gwendoline Christie" Billy Bush; Gwendoline Christie.	
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Hawaii" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Shark Tank A way to improve children's storytime. (DVS)		(:01) 20/20: In an Instant "The Woman Who Refused to Die" A young woman survives violent abuse. (N)		ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live Shaquille O'Neal; Mila Kunis.	
WRJA	27	11	14	Travels With Darley Martinique's culture and history.	This Week In South Carolina	Washington Week (N)	Washington Week (N)	American Masters This Is Bob Hope ... The career of entertainer Bob Hope.		Amanpour on PBS (N)	Third Rail With OZY	Asia Insight
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory "The Boyfriend Complexity"	The Big Bang Theory	Hell's Kitchen "Catch of the Day; It's All Gravy" Sea creatures; a blind taste test.		WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)		Sports Zone	DailyMailTV Nancy Grace on the Fit Bit murder.	TMZ (N)
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Eve criticizes Vanessa's job.	Last Man Standing Boyd decides to stop eating meat.	iHeartRadio Music Festival Night 2: Lorde; Miley Cyrus; Big Sean; DJ Khaled.		American Ninja Warrior "Kansas City Qualifying" New obstacles include the Big Dipper. (Part 1 of 2)		American Ninja Warrior "Kansas City Qualifying" New obstacles include the Big Dipper. (Part 2 of 2)	The Game Malik tries to end things with Parker.	
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 10.27.17" Riding along with law enforcement.	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	(:01) Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	(:32) Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	(:06) Live PD: Police Patrol	(:33) Live PD: Police Patrol	(12:03) Live PD: Police Patrol
AMC	48	180	(:09) Fear the Walking Dead "Date of Death" Refugees flood into the hotel.	(:09) Fear the Walking Dead "Wrath" Nick makes a decision.	(:09) Fear the Walking Dead "North" Travis' rage causes unrest at the hotel.		(:09) Fear the Walking Dead "North" Travis' rage causes unrest at the hotel.	(:13) Fear the Walking Dead "Eye of the Beholder" The Clarks get into a predicament.	(:13) Fear the Walking Dead "Eye of the Beholder" The Clarks get into a predicament.	(:02) Insane Pools (N)	(:03) Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools
ANPL	41	100	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools (N)	Insane Pools (N)		(:01) Insane Pools (N)					
BET	61	162	(5:30) *** "Django Unchained" (2012, Western) Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz, Leonardo DiCaprio. An ex-slave and a German bounty hunter roam America's South.									
BRAVO	47	181	Married to Medicine Simone plans a surprise.	Married to Medicine "Mama Drama" Tonya's mother comes to town.				** "The Game Plan" (2007, Children's) Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Madison Pettis, Kyra Sedgwick. A carefree football player learns he has a daughter.			** "The Game Plan" (2007) Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.	
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank				Shark Tank		Shark Tank A new dating app.	Shark Tank	
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)				The Eighties "The Tech Boom"		The Eighties "Greed Is Good"	The Eighties	
COM	57	136	South Park	South Park	South Park "Put It Down"	South Park "Holiday Special"	South Park "Hum-mels & Heroin"	South Park "Sons a Witches"	South Park "Doubling Down"	(:35) South Park "Moss Piglets"	(:05) South Park	(:35) South Park "Splatty Tomato"
DISN	18	200	Jessie	Jessie	** "Mr. Popper's Penguins" (2011) Jim Carrey, Carla Gugino. Premiere. A man turns his luxurious apartment into a penguin habitat.		(:10) Stuck in the Middle	(:35) Liv and Maddie		K.C. Undercover	Andi Mack	Andi Mack Andi takes a stand.
DSC	42	103	Gold Rush "The Devil's Finger"	Gold Rush: Pay Dirt "The Holy Grail"	Gold Rush "Busted and Bushfixed" (N)		(:01) Gold Rush (N)			(:01) Gold Rush	Gold Rush: Alaska	SportsCenter
ESPN	26	35	College Football	Football Pregame	(:40) Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic USC vs Ohio State. (N) (Live)							
ESPN2	27	39	College Basketball Texas-Arlington at Coastal Carolina. (N) (Live)		College Basketball Kansas at Texas. (N) (Live)						College Basketball Washington State at UCLA. (N)	
FOOD	40	109	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	The Grill Dads (N)	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	President Trump's First Year			The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News at Night (N)	Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson
FREE	20	131	"Harry Potter Chamber" wizard confronts the fugitive Sirius Black.	*** "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" (2004, Children's) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson. The young	Beyond "Beyond: What Lies Ahead"					The 700 Club What's your defense from a cyber attack?	Tom Felton Meets the Superfans	
FSS	21	47	Hawks Pregame	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Toronto Raptors. From Air Canada Centre in Toronto. (N) (Live)				Hawks Postgame	Raceline (N)	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Toronto Raptors.		
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Christmas Getaway" (2017) Bridget Regan, Travis Van Winkle.	"Christmas Next Door" (2017, Romance) Jesse Metcalfe, Fiona Gubelmann, Jacob Blair. A bachelor is left in charge of his niece and nephew.	"My Christmas Dream" (2016, Drama) Danica McKellar, David Haydn-Jones, Deirdre Hall. A manager has to choose between her dreams and her heart.					"Christmas List" (2016) Alicia Witt.		
HGTV	39	112	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	House Hunters	Hunters Int'l	House Hunters	Hunters Int'l	Dream Home
HIST	45	110	Ancient Aliens "The Akashic Record"	Ancient Aliens: Declassified "Aliens and Doomsday" Plagues and epidemics. (N)				Law & Order "Burn Card" Ed Green's badge is in danger.	Law & Order "Bogeyman" A novelist is found dead in her car.	Law & Order "Strike"		Law & Order "Strike"
ION	13	18	Law & Order "Betrayal" Psychiatrist found dead at his office.	Law & Order "Submission" Dog-fighting ring.	Law & Order "Angel Grove" An art dealer is found stoned to death.			(:02) The Rap Game "4 Lit for Life" The youngsters get a lesson on teamwork.	(:12) The Rap Game (N)	(:29) Bring It! (N)	(12:01) Bring It!	
LIFE	50	145	Bring It! "Battle for Oz" Oz-inspired choreography challenge.	Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate. (N)	Bring It! Secret plans for a slumber party. (N)							
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)	The Dossier: A TRMS Special Report			The Last Word		MSNBC Special	Dossier	Dossier
NICK	16	210	Henry Danger Dr. Minsky plans to ruin a concert.	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	64	153	Friends	Friends	*** "The Matrix" (1999) Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne. A computer hacker learns his world is a computer simulation.							
SYFY	58	152	(6:00) *** "The Last Airbender" (2010) Noah Ringer, Dev Patel.	Futurama "Crimes of the Hot"	Futurama "Jurassic Bark"	Futurama "The Route of All Evil"	Futurama "A Taste of Freedom"	Futurama	Futurama "Less Than Hero"	Futurama	Futurama "The Why of Fry"	Futurama "The Sting"
TBS	24	156	Seinfeld "The Doll"	Seinfeld "The Friars Club"	** "You Don't Mess With the Zohan" (2008, Comedy) Adam Sandler, John Turturro. An ex-Israeli commando becomes a hairstylist in New York. (DVS)			Emmanuelle Chriqui	** "Bruce Almighty" (2003, Comedy) Jim Carrey, Morgan Freeman, Jennifer Aniston. A frustrated reporter receives divine powers from God. (DVS)			
TCM	49	186	(6:00) *** "Mildred Pierce" (1945) Joan Crawford. (DVS)	*** "Jules and Jim" (1962, Drama) Jeanne Moreau, Oskar Werner, Henri Serre. Austrian and Frenchman love woman who loves them.	*** "Apollo 13" (1995, Historical Drama) Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton, Kevin Bacon. Based on the true story of the ill-fated 1970 moon mission.							
TLC	43	157	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.
TNT	23	158	Bones "The Drama in the Queen" A man is found dead in a well.	** "The Expendables 3" (2014, Action) Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham, Antonio Banderas. Barney Ross brings in new blood to fight an old associate. (DVS)	** "The Expendables 3" (2014, Action) Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham, Antonio Banderas. Barney Ross brings in new blood to fight an old associate. (DVS)							
TRUTV	38	129	Hack My Life	Hack My Life	Hack My Life	Hack My Life	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Mom	Mom	King of Queens	King of Queens
USA	25	132	Modern Family "First Days"	(:35) Modern Family "Larry's Wife"	(:10) Modern Family "Farm Strong" (DVS)	(:36) Modern Family (DVS)	(:02) Modern Family (DVS)	(:29) Modern Family "Three Dinners"	(9:55) Modern Family "iSpy"	(:22) Modern Family "The Feud"	(10:48) Modern Family	(:24) Modern Family "Las Vegas"
WE	68	166	(5:30) *** "Dirty Dancing" (1987)	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987, Romance) Jennifer Grey, Patrick Swayze.							
WGNA	8	172	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H "Images"	Rules/Engagement

Engaging 'Black Mirror' begins streaming 4th season

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Anthology series are back. This year saw several new shows that offered episodes as standalone stories. HBO's "Room 104" and TBS's "The Guest Book" are both set in motels. Amazon's "Lore" adapted a podcast into a television series to explore the origins of familiar horror stories and motifs.

Amazon will also begin streaming the anthology "Philip K. Dick's Electric Dreams" on Jan. 12.

Netflix's "Black Mirror," the most remarkable and talked about of these anthologies, begins streaming its fourth season today.

This stylish and smart British science-fiction drama puts its emphasis on the near-future and presents mind-bending variations on the familiar.

While old anthologies like Rod Serling's "The Twilight Zone" and "The Outer Limits" explored mid-century Cold War fears at the dawn of the Space Age, "Black Mirror" mines widespread anxieties about what personal technology is doing to the people who use it, depend upon it and have grown addicted to its convenience.

Many of its stories consider a world where individuals submit to a collective, imaginary illusion — a place where bliss turns to nightmare and where technology "consumers" quickly lose their individuality and even their sanity.

The cast and stories may change, but "Black Mirror" remains consistently smart and engaging.

• On a completely unrelated note, another vintage TV trope returned in 2017: the star actor playing his own identical twin. I'm not talking about a remake of "The Patty Duke Show." In 2017, Ewan McGregor portrayed identical twins in the third installment of "Fargo," and James Franco played twin brothers in "The Deuce." One pair of matching bookends, as different as night and day.

• PBS offers an expanded director's cut of the "American Masters" (9 p.m., TV-PG, check local listings) episode, "This Is Bob Hope."

It's hardly surprising that "Hope" reminded this viewer of another "American Mas-

ters" biography of Bing Crosby. Both men were stars of many mediums, including vaudeville, radio, movies and television.

Hope was also a hit on Broadway while Crosby was a hugely popular recording artist. Both men lived long enough to see their popularity decline, rejected by an emerging generation that saw them as slightly square, young people born too late to have seen them when they were revolutionizing their fields.

"Hope" takes great effort to show how its subject all but invented stand-up comedy. His rapid-fire riffs on news and politics were something he virtually invented when appearing as a vaudeville master of ceremony and radio star. The comic monologue associated with Johnny Carson and his successors would not exist without Hope.

The profile also makes much of Hope and Crosby's "Road" movies and their almost post-modern take on screen comedy. The actors made jokes about appearing in a movie while in character, a break in the fourth wall that winked at their audience and invited them to follow two "hip" guys on the "Road" to just about anywhere.

This thorough profile takes a full hour to get to Hope's first wartime tour to entertain troops, the role and the audience that would define him for the last five decades of his life.

CULT CHOICE

A Frenchman (Henri Serre) and an Austrian (Oskar Werner), divided by World War I, are united in friendship and their affection for a beautiful woman (Jeanne Moreau) in the 1962 New Wave romance "Jules and Jim" (8 p.m., TCM), directed by Francois Truffaut. Moreau died July 31.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

• The 1987 Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell comedy "Overboard" (7 p.m., Pop) turns 30 this year. I may be wrong, but it seems to have aired on cable every day for the past three decades. It debuted on Dec. 16, 1987.



JONATHAN PRIME / NETFLIX
Cristin Milloti stars in an episode of "Black Mirror," now streaming its fourth season on Netflix.

- Fish sets the agenda on a two-hour helping of "Hell's Kitchen" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14).
- Ryan Seacrest hosts the second night of the "iHeartRadio Music Festival" (8 p.m., CW, r, TV-14).
- Linda's brother crosses some tough guys on "Blue Bloods" (10 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

SERIES NOTES

On two episodes of "MacGyver" (CBS, r, TV-14), blamed for a bombing (8 p.m.), an intel leak (9 p.m.) * Mood swings on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" (8 p.m., NBC, r, TV-14) * A lot to get behind on "Shark Tank" (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * "Dateline" (9 p.m., NBC) * Two episodes of "20/20" (9 p.m. and 10 p.m., ABC).

LATE NIGHT

Billy Bush and Gwendoline Christie are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Mila Kunis, Aisha Tyler and Ty Dolla \$ign appear on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" (11:35 p.m., ABC, r), guest-hosted by Shaquille O'Neal.

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Display Advertising Edition Deadline

Fri., Dec. 22nd	Wed. Dec. 20th @ 11 am
Sun., Dec. 24th	Wed. Dec. 20th @ 2 pm
Tues., Dec. 26th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 11 am
Wed., Dec. 27th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 2 pm
Tues., Jan. 2nd	Thurs. Dec. 28th @ 2 pm
Wed., Jan. 3rd	Fri. Dec. 29th @ 11 am

Have a safe and Merry Christmas!

Business office will be closed December 22nd, 25th and January 1

the Sumter ITEM
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SATURDAY EVENING DECEMBER 30

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS												
WIS	10	3	10	Entertainment Tonight Looking forward to 2018. (N)	Dateline NBC			Saturday Night Live "Adam Driver; Chris Stapleton" From Jan. 1, 2016: Adam Driver. (N)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:29) Saturday Night Live "Tiffany Haddish; Taylor Swift" Tiffany Haddish; Taylor Swift performs.		
WLTX	19	9	9	Inside Edition Weekend (N)	Paid Program Paid programming.	Hawaii Five-0 "Makaukau 'oe e Pa'ani?" A murderer targets serial killers.	48 Hours	48 Hours	News 19 at 11pm (N)	Blue Bloods "Backstabbers" Danny searches for two escaped convicts. (DVS)		
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Weekend Getaways"	Jeopardy!	The Bachelor "Countdown to Arie" Arie Luyendyk Jr.'s life and family.	Match Game Caroline Rhea; Chris D'Elia.	Ten Days in the Valley "Day 8: Against Type" Jane's search for Lake reaches a climax. (N) (DVS)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	American Ninja Warrior "Las Vegas Finals" Challenging Mount Midoriyama. (Part 5 of 6)		
WRJA	27	11	14	The Crimson Field Kitty feels guilty.		Father Brown "The Mask of the Demon" A director is murdered.	The Doctor Blake Mysteries "Golden Years" A businessman is found drowned.	Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries "Murder in the Dark" A girl is found drowned in a fountain.	ACL Hall of Fame New Year's Eve: Austin City Limits Hall of Fame.	Bluegrass Underground "Marty Stuart"		
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Gifted "got your six" Thunderbird searches for answers. (DVS)	Lethal Weapon "Let It Ride" A death moments before winning a bet. (DVS)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Panthers Huddle With Ron Rivera	Hell's Kitchen "Tower of Terror" Teams must make a shellfish tower.	Ring of Honor Wrestling	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing "Vanessa Fixes Kyle"	Last Man Standing Bud gives Boyd a spanking.	Rookie Blue "What I Lost" The squad searches for Chris' son.	Saving Hope "Pink Clouds" A patient with a flesh-eating disease. (DVS)	Leverage "The Last Dam Job" The team recruits old friends.	Impractical Jokers "Joker vs. Joker"	Impractical Jokers "Down in the Dump"	Impractical Jokers "The guys hug it out with strangers."	
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 10.28.17" Riding along with law enforcement.	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	(:01) Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	(:32) Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	(:03) Live PD: Police Patrol	(:33) Live PD: Police Patrol	(12:03) Live PD: Police Patrol
AMC	48	180	(6:16) Fear the Walking Dead launched to save the Ranch.	(:18) Fear the Walking Dead A mission is launched to save the Ranch.	(:19) Fear the Walking Dead The Ranch faces a massive threat.	(:19) Fear the Walking Dead The Ranch fights for survival.	(:19) Fear the Walking Dead The Ranch family's limits are tested.	(:20) Fear the Walking Dead The Ranch family's limits are tested.	(:20) Fear the Walking Dead The Ranch family's limits are tested.	(:24) Fear the Walking Dead Nick discovers a new threat.		
ANPL	41	100	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls and Parolees	Pit Bulls-Parole	
BET	61	162	(5:25) "Toni Braxton: Unbreak My Heart" (2016) Lex Scott Davis.	The Temptations			The Temptations			The Temptations		
BRAVO	47	181	(6:55) *** "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story" (2004) Vince Vaughn, Christine Taylor, Ben Stiller. Dodgeball teams compete for \$50,000 in Las Vegas.	*** "Hitch" (2005, Romance-Comedy) Will Smith, Eva Mendes, Kevin James. A smooth-talker helps a shy accountant woo an heiress.			*** "Hitch" (2005, Romance-Comedy) Will Smith, Eva Mendes, Kevin James. A smooth-talker helps a shy accountant woo an heiress.			*** "Hitch" (2005, Romance-Comedy) Will Smith, Eva Mendes, Kevin James. A smooth-talker helps a shy accountant woo an heiress.		
CNBC	35	84	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed
CNN	3	80	CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera (N)	The Nineties "Isn't it Ironic?"	The Nineties "Terrorism Hits Home"	The Nineties "New World Order"	The Nineties "New World Order"	The Nineties "New World Order"	The Nineties "New World Order"	The Nineties "New World Order"	The Nineties "New World Order"	The Nineties "New World Order"
COM	57	136	(6:55) *** "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story" (2004) Vince Vaughn, Christine Taylor, Ben Stiller. Dodgeball teams compete for \$50,000 in Las Vegas.	** "Tommy Boy" (1995, Comedy) Chris Farley, David Spade, Brian Dennehy. An heir tries to save his father's business.			** "Tommy Boy" (1995, Comedy) Chris Farley, David Spade, Brian Dennehy. An heir tries to save his father's business.			** "Tommy Boy" (1995, Comedy) Chris Farley, David Spade, Brian Dennehy. An heir tries to save his father's business.		
DISN	18	200	Austin & Jessie & Ally All Star	K.C. Undercover	* "Spy Kids: All the Time in the World in 4D" (2011, Children's) Jessica Alba, Alexa Vega.	(:35) Stuck in the Middle	(:05) Bunk'd Three cabins compete.	(:35) Bizaardvark	Walk the Prank	MECH-X4	Guardians of the Galaxy	
DSC	42	103	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol	Street Outlaws: Countdown to Bristol
ESPN	26	35	Fiesta Bowl	Studio Show	(:10) Capital One Orange Bowl Wisconsin vs Miami. (N) (Live)							
ESPN2	27	39	College Basketball	30 for 30			30 for 30			30 for 30		
FOOD	40	109	Diners, Drive, Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive, Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives	Eat, Sleep, BBQ	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive
FOXN	37	90	Fox Report (N)	Watters' World (N)			Justice With Judge Jeanine (N)			The Greg Gutfeld Show (N)		
FREE	20	131	"Harry Potter and Half-Blood"	*** "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" (2010, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson. Harry sets out to destroy the secrets to Voldemort's power.			*** "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" (2010, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson. Harry sets out to destroy the secrets to Voldemort's power.			*** "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" (2010, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson. Harry sets out to destroy the secrets to Voldemort's power.		
FSS	21	47	Hawks Pregame	NBA Basketball Portland Trail Blazers at Atlanta Hawks. From Philips Arena in Atlanta. (N) (Live)	Hawks Postgame			SportsMoney	NBA Basketball Portland Trail Blazers at Atlanta Hawks.			
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Switched for Christmas" (2017, Drama) Candace Cameron Bure.	"Royal New Year's Eve" (2017, Romance) Premiere. An aspiring fashion designer meets a prince.			2018 Winterfest Preview Show			"Christmas at Holly Lodge" (2017, Drama) Alison Sweeney, Jordan Bridges, Sheryl Lee Ralph. Sophie tries to save her Holly Lodge from a developer.		
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers	Fixer Upper			Fixer Upper			Fixer Upper		
HIST	45	110	American Pickers "Scrappy Go Lucky"	American Pickers "Daredevil Duffey"			American Pickers "High Energy Crisis"			American Pickers (DVS)		
ION	13	18	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Brothers charged in a girl's death.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Paternity" The murder of a nanny.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A polygamist's wife is murdered.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A wealthy teen is found murdered.		
LIFE	50	145	(6:00) "Stalker's Prey" (2017) Cynthia Gibb, Saxon Sharbino, Mason Dye.	"Web Cam Girls" (2017, Drama) Arianne Zucker, Sedona Legge, Lorynn York. Premiere. A woman tracks down a kidnapper to save her cousin.			"Web Cam Girls" (2017, Drama) Arianne Zucker, Sedona Legge, Lorynn York. Premiere. A woman tracks down a kidnapper to save her cousin.			"Web Cam Girls" (2017, Drama) Arianne Zucker, Sedona Legge, Lorynn York. Premiere. A woman tracks down a kidnapper to save her cousin.		
MSNBC	36	92	The Dossier: A TRMS Special Report	The Last Word			Headliners "George Clooney"			Dateline Extra "Deadly Triangle"		
NICK	16	210	The Thundermans	The Thundermans			Full House			Fresh Prince		
SPIKE	64	153	(6:30) *** "Grease" (1978) John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John.	*** "Pretty Woman" (1990) Richard Gere. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort.			*** "Pretty Woman" (1990) Richard Gere. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort.			*** "Pretty Woman" (1990) Richard Gere. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort.		
SYFY	58	152	(6:00) *** "Marvel's the Avengers" (2012) Robert Downey Jr. Premiere. Superheroes join forces to save the world from an unexpected enemy.	(02) *** "Marvel's the Avengers" (2012, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo. Superheroes join forces to save the world from an unexpected enemy.			(02) *** "Marvel's the Avengers" (2012, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo. Superheroes join forces to save the world from an unexpected enemy.			(02) *** "Marvel's the Avengers" (2012, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo. Superheroes join forces to save the world from an unexpected enemy.		
TBS	24	156	Seinfeld "The Conversion"	Seinfeld "The Stall"	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	Snoop Dogg: Joker's Wild
TCM	49	186	(6:00) *** "Follow the Boys" (1963) Connie Francis.	*** "The Manchurian Candidate" (1962, Suspense) Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, Janet Leigh. Korean War hero's commander learns platoon was brainwashed.			*** "The Manchurian Candidate" (1962, Suspense) Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, Janet Leigh. Korean War hero's commander learns platoon was brainwashed.			*** "The Manchurian Candidate" (1962, Suspense) Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, Janet Leigh. Korean War hero's commander learns platoon was brainwashed.		
TLC	43	157	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress
TNT	23	158	(5:30) ** "Red 2" (2013) Bruce Willis, John Malkovich. (DVS)	** "San Andreas" (2015, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino, Alexandra Daddario. A rescue pilot must save his family after an earthquake. (DVS)			** "San Andreas" (2015, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino, Alexandra Daddario. A rescue pilot must save his family after an earthquake. (DVS)			** "San Andreas" (2015, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino, Alexandra Daddario. A rescue pilot must save his family after an earthquake. (DVS)		
TRUTV	38	129	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Hack My Life	Hack My Life	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers
TV LAND	55	161	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	Love- Raymond	Love- Raymond	Love- Raymond	Love- Raymond	Mom	Mom	King of Queens	King of Queens
USA	25	132	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit The SVU uncovers a sex trafficking ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (:42) Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A member of a church group is raped.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit			(:05) Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Benson works hard to make an arrest.		
WE	68	166	Criminal Minds "The Angel Maker"	Criminal Minds "Minimal Loss"			Criminal Minds "Paradise"			Criminal Minds "Catching Out"		
WGNA	8	172	(6:00) ** "Grumpy Old Men" (1993) Jack Lemmon.	** "Grumpy Old Men" (1993, Comedy) Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau, Ann-Margret.			** "Grumpy Old Men" (1993, Comedy) Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau, Ann-Margret.			** "Analyze That" (2002, Comedy) Robert De Niro.		

A glance back at notable departures from 2017

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

The last weekend of the year is the right time to glance back at the notable television personalities, producers and creators we lost in 2017.

The year saw the deaths of stars of iconic series, including Mary Tyler Moore (Jan. 25), whose name graced her own show and studio. To his fans in the 1960s, Mike Connors (Jan. 26) was "Mannix." "Big Love" star Bill Paxton (Feb. 25) died just as he was headlining a CBS reboot of "Training Day."

Robert Osborne (March 6) was the face of TCM for decades. Although he was in "North by Northwest" and won an Oscar for "Ed Wood," Martin Landau (July 15) remains the star of "Mission Impossible" and "Space: 1999" to TV viewers. As "Bronco," Ty Hardin (Aug. 3) was among the first batch of TV cowboys when Westerns took over the medium in the late 1950s. Hardin reportedly turned down the role of "Batman," leaving Adam West (June 9) to don the cowl and cape.

Recording artist Glen Campbell (Aug. 8) had his own eponymous "Goodtime Hour," a notable variety showcase. Jerry Lewis (Aug. 20) created too many shows and movies to enumerate, but his greatest role was as host of "The MDA Labor Day Telethon."

Publisher and libertine Hugh Hefner (Sept. 27) spent six seasons on the E! reality TV series "The Girls Next Door." "Benson" star Robert Guillaume died on Oct. 24, and "Touched by an Angel" star Della Reese departed Nov. 19. Fame came quickly to "Partridge Family" star David Cassidy (Nov. 21). Jim Nabors (Nov. 30) parlayed a small role on "The Andy Griffith Show" to star in "Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C."

This year saw the passing of many comics familiar to television viewers, including "Professor" Irwin Corey (Feb. 6), "C.P.O. Sharkey" star Don Rickles (April 6), Bill Dana (Jan. 15), activist Dick Gregory (Aug. 19) and Shelley Berman (Sept. 1).

The world of sports broadcasting lost writer Frank Deford (May 28), producer Don Ohlmeyer (Sept. 10) and sportscaster Dick Enberg (Dec. 21).

As a political adviser to several presidential campaigns and the founder and chief of Fox News, few men had more influence than Roger Ailes (May 18). Alan Colmes, one of Ailes' first Fox News stars, died on Feb. 23. Columnist and frequent TV political commentator Kate O'Beirne died on April 23.

The world of game shows lost "The Gong Show" creator (and self-described spy) Chuck Barris (March 21)



Jessy Schram, left, stars as Caitlyn and Sam Page as Prince Jeffrey in the original movie "Royal New Year's Eve," premiering at 8 p.m. Saturday on Hallmark.

as well as Monty Hall (Sept. 30), host of "Let's Make a Deal."

This year saw the departure of many supporting and character actors, including "Twin Peaks" and "NCIS: Los Angeles" star Miguel Ferrer (Jan. 19) and Barbara Hale (Jan. 26), who played Della Street on "Perry Mason."

Elena Verdugo (May 30) had a long film career before she portrayed Consuelo Lopez on "Marcus Welby, M.D." "Home Alone" star John Heard (July 21) had a notable part on "The Sopranos," as did Frank Vincent (Sept. 13). Brad Grey, a producer behind that HBO series, died on May 14.

Best known for his recurring role on "Cheers," Jay Thomas (Aug. 24) appeared on series ranging from "Mork & Mindy" to "Murphy Brown." Actor John Hillerman (Nov. 9) was most recognized for his stint on "Magnum P.I.," just as Richard Anderson (Aug. 31) is associated with "The Six Million Dollar Man" and "The Bionic Woman."

We also lost Heather North (Nov. 29), the voice of Daphne on the long-running "Scooby-Doo" cartoon series.

To everyone we've watched and lost during 2017, hail and farewell!

• Didn't have a white Christmas? Spend New Year's with Walter White. AMC celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Emmy-winning "Breaking Bad" with a marathon (2 p.m. Sunday to 1:11 a.m. Monday, TV-14). In addition to this weekend, AMC will air marathon helpings on Saturdays and Sundays throughout January.

• The standup special "Dave Chapelle: Equanimity" begins streaming on Netflix on Sunday.

SATURDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- AMC invites viewers to "Fear the Walking Dead" (noon to 1:30 a.m., TV-MA).
- Chris Harrison hosts "The Bachelor: Countdown to Arie" (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-14).
- Wisconsin and Miami meet in the Orange Bowl (8:10 p.m., ESPN).
- A would-be fashion designer discovers that her client is really a prince in the 2017 romance "Royal New Year's Eve" (8 p.m., Hallmark).
- A woman hunts down a predator who kidnaps internet exhibitionists in the 2017 shocker "Web Cam Girls" (8 p.m., Lifetime).
- Lake's disappearance reaches a turning point on "Ten Days in the Valley" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-14).
- Mark Hamill, Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Gwendoline Christie and Sam Smith appear on "The Graham Norton Show" (10 p.m., BBC America, TV-14).

SUNDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Scheduled on "60 Minutes" (7:30 p.m., CBS): the Make-A-Wish Foundation; nurse practitioners providing health care to Appalachia's poor and uninsured; a Mississippi county's chess program and prodigies.
- "Fox's New Year's Eve With Steve Harvey: Live From Times Square" (8 p.m.).
- "Dick Clark's Primetime New Year's Rockin' Eve With Ryan Seacrest 2018" (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) follows festivities on both coasts.
- "New Year's Eve Live With Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen" (8 p.m., CNN) unfolds from Times Square.
- Lisa "Kennedy" Montgomery and

Jesse Watters host an "All American New Year" (10 p.m., Fox News).

• Personal tales overlap in the 2011 romantic melodrama "New Year's Eve" (8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., TBS), starring Halle Berry, Jessica Biel, Jon Bon Jovi, Abigail Breslin and Chris "Ludacris" Bridges.

• Champagne-guzzling sophisticates (William Powell and Myrna Loy) solve mysteries in the 1934 comedy "The Thin Man" (8 p.m., TCM). "After the Thin Man" follows (9:45 p.m.), as does "Another Thin Man" (11:45 p.m.) and "Shadow of the Thin Man" (1:45 a.m., TCM).

• "Live From Lincoln Center" (9 p.m., PBS, TV-G, check local listings) salutes the Broadway music of Leonard Bernstein, including favorites from "West Side Story" and "On the Town."

• Bridgette accidentally finds her father on Tinder on the season finale of "SMILF" (10 p.m., Showtime, TV-MA). While I found this "comedy" relentlessly bleak, it has received two Golden Globe nominations.

• "The Graham Norton Show" celebrates New Year's Eve (midnight, BBC America) with Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, Zendaya, Suranne Jones, Gary Oldman and Leading Ladies.

CULT CHOICE

New Year's Eve marks a countdown to catastrophe in the 1972 disaster movie "The Poseidon Adventure" (5:45 p.m. Sunday, TCM). The cast includes Gene Hackman, Ernest Borgnine, Jack Albertson, Shelley Winters and Red Buttons. Look for Pamela Sue Martin, who later played Fallon on the original "Dynasty."

SATURDAY SERIES

Evidence points to a vigilante on "Hawaii-Five-0" (8 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * A two-hour "Dateline" (8 p.m., NBC) * Thunderbird wants answers on "The Gifted" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * Celebrities play "Match Game" (9 p.m., ABC, r, TV-14) * Danger at the track on "Lethal Weapon" (9 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * Two episodes of "48 Hours" (9 p.m. and 10 p.m., CBS) * Adam Driver hosts a 2016 episode of "Saturday Night Live" (10 p.m., NBC, r, TV-14).

SUNDAY SERIES

A rookie goes undercover on "S.W.A.T." (8:30 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * A spook held hostage on "SEAL Team" (9:30 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * Fashion mentoring can be murder on "Bull" (10:30 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

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BIZARRO



SOUP TO NUTZ



ANDY CAPP



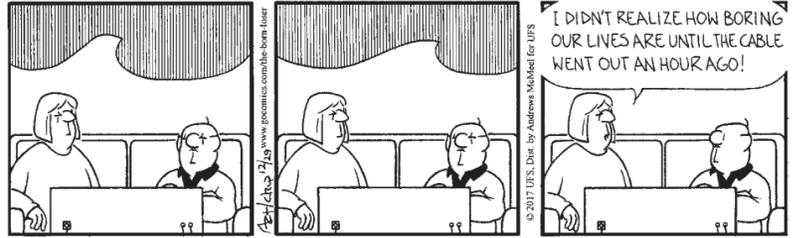
GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



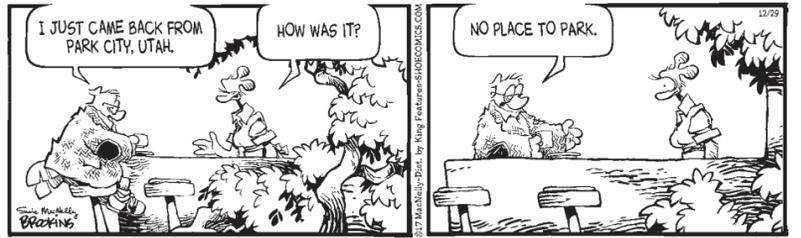
DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Patient's romantic feelings for doctor cause turmoil



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — I started seeing a new doctor six months ago to be treated for a serious medical condition. I respect his medical opinion and the fact that many doctors treating my condition would be judgmental and lack compassion. He has offered both.

While I appreciate his skills as a doctor, I have started to develop romantic feelings for him. I realize telling him would put him in an awkward position and possibly jeopardize our professional relationship because of the ethical im-

plications. I don't want to move on to another doctor because I value his services. How do I get over it?

Anonymously in love

DEAR IN LOVE — Your romantic feelings for your doctor are not as unusual as you may think. When a person needs ongoing medical care as you do, it's natural to feel vulnerable and dependent. When that happens, something called "transference" can occur. The emotions associated with one person — such as a parent — become transferred to the doctor. If you keep this in mind, it may help you to better handle your emotions.

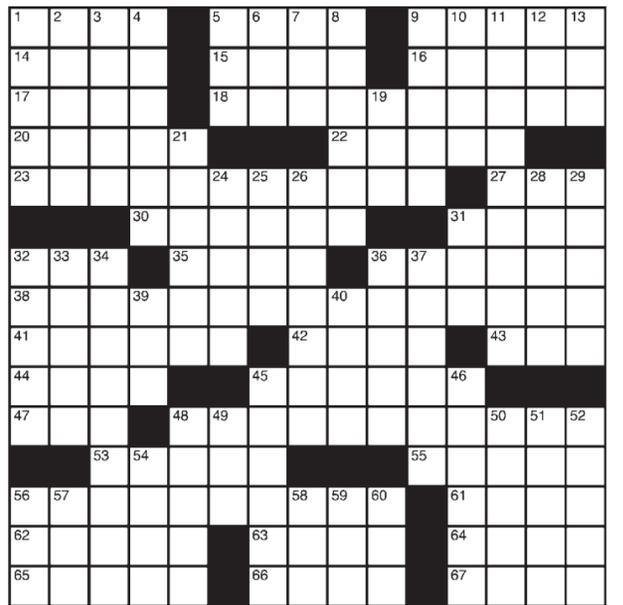
DEAR ABBY — My husband and I disagree about how to handle taking our children shopping with us. I believe that, es-

pecially while our children are small (they are 3 and 5), the adult with them should keep them in sight at all times or at least the majority of the time. If a child moves out of eyesight, the adult should find them within a minute. Are there guidelines on what is appropriate by age or developmental stage on this issue?

Helicopter mom and free range dad

DEAR HELICOPTER MOM — Your husband is an optimist, while you are a realist. Common sense should prevail. When you take your children to a public place, they should remain under your or your husband's supervision at all times until they are aware enough that they can't be lured away by a stranger and big enough to fight off a predator.

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



David Alfred Bywaters 12/29/17

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ovation fraction
 - 5 Overstress, with "on"
 - 9 "Hungarian Rhapsodies" composer
 - 14 Shout
 - 15 Notion
 - 16 Let down, as hair
 - 17 Silents star Naldi
 - 18 Text for a mailroom theater production?
 - 20 Much Byzantine art
 - 22 Put on
 - 23 Statue of a theater troupe?
 - 27 CPR provider
 - 30 Upside-down forest hangers
 - 31 Scottish landscape feature
 - 32 Dorm VIPs
 - 35 "... saw Elba"
 - 36 Shellfish order
 - 38 World leader in theater?
 - 41 Literary family name
 - 42 Ottoman officials
 - 43 Large inlet
 - 44 Shipping hazard
 - 45 Shepherds' charges
 - 47 Brief belief
 - 48 Squawker in a theater performance?
 - 53 Taters
 - 55 Consolation beginning and ending
 - 56 Theater backdrop for a biography of Noah?
 - 61 Auto club recommendations
 - 62 Clear of mist
 - 63 Measure of skills
 - 64 Part of CBS: Abbr.
 - 65 Prepare beans, Mexican-style
 - 66 Nonpayment consequence
 - 67 Yoga needs
 - 11 Catcher of small prey
 - 12 Close, as a parka
 - 13 Explosive letters
 - 19 Reason for regret
 - 21 Like the last letter in a column?
 - 24 Norway, in Norway
 - 25 Dance part
 - 26 Adverb after a second contract item
 - 28 Food for the wandering
 - 29 Irritable
 - 31 Serious, as an injury
 - 32 Jewish teacher
 - 33 Farm parts
 - 34 Departs in anger
 - 36 "Fooled you!"
 - 37 Take a chance sharp
 - 40 Anti-discrimination agcy.
 - 45 Like the tortoise in the fable, ultimately
 - 46 Religious division
 - 48 Rotund
 - 49 Mormons, initially
 - 50 African nation on the Indian Ocean
 - 51 Surrealist Max
 - 52 Forest homes
 - 54 Needy
 - 56 HST predecessor
 - 57 "Fever" singer Peggy
 - 58 Hatchet
 - 59 Space
 - 60 Punk rock offshoot

DOWN

- 1 Pessimist
- 2 German camera
- 3 Choir parts
- 4 Photosynthesis users
- 5 Trendy
- 6 Stir
- 7 Hi- image
- 8 Compassion-evoking quality
- 9 It may be filthy
- 10 As to

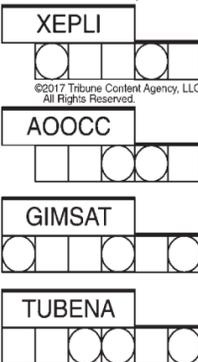
Previous Puzzle Solved



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.



Ans. "XEPLI" here:



WHEN ONE OF THE BARNYARD ANIMALS GOT OUT, THE OTHER ANIMALS BLAMED THE —

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: HYENA FAVOR NOTION TEMPER
Answer: Restaurants in Tokyo sell sushi to customers who — HAVE A YEN FOR IT

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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