

the Sumter ITEM

SPORTS COMMENTARY

Decision to delay 2nd round of Legion playoffs puzzling B1

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Play date: Chance to get outside

South Sumter Park hosts learning opportunities for children

BY CAITLAN WALZER
intern@theitem.com

Every Thursday evening while weather and schedules permit, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., children and adults participate in a community play date at South Sumter Park. At the events, children are welcomed with open arms by volunteers who offer valuable life lessons as well as tips on softball and tennis. Sumter City Councilman Calvin Hastie said the event has been taking place for three years and with each year the number of children doubles in size. "Every week during the summer," Hastie said, "we have these days for the children to come out

and learn from volunteers about how to keep their attitudes in check as well as how to play softball and now tennis." On Thursday the United States Tennis Association South Carolina (USTA SC) and the Sumter Tennis Association came out to the park to teach the game of tennis to the children. According to Hastie, this was the first time many of the children had the opportunity to learn the game. USTA SC Representative and Director of Community Development Sheryl McAlister said the objective for the tennis classes are "to create an active community using tennis as the vehicle." McAlister said she spoke to Hastie about getting involved with the

community play dates and once approved, she told Hastie that the association would provide the tennis equipment, put up small nets on the basketball court at the park and teach the children the ins and outs of tennis. At the event, Hastie said children of all ages are welcome. However, Hastie said that this past Thursday, teenagers and children, as young as 7, were participating with adult volunteers of all ages. The events last all summer and Hastie said, depending on the demand, they may continue into the school year where they will likely end with football season.



CAITLAN WALZER / THE SUMTER ITEM
Timisha Johnson, 9, hits a tennis ball over the net to United States Tennis Association's school tennis coordinator Pamela Banks on Thursday's play date.

SEE OPPORTUNITIES, PAGE A10

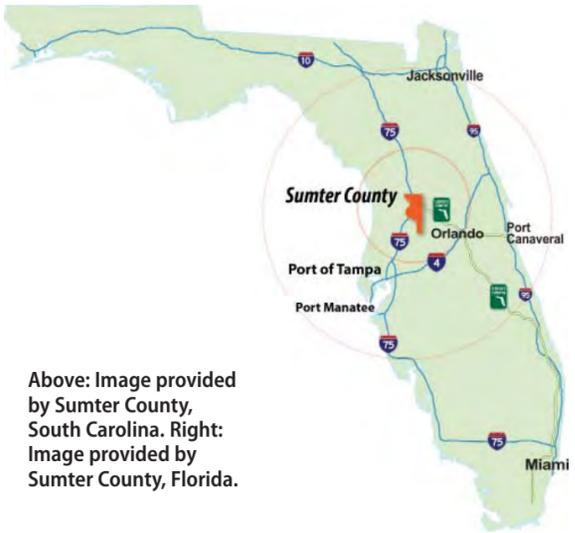
'Wrong Sumter'

2 counties 400 miles apart often confuse many

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Two Sumter counties are about 400 miles apart, but having the same name often confuses people. If you have spent any considerable time in Sumter and search the internet regularly, you have probably come across Sumter County, Florida, in a web search and at least initially scratched your head in confusion about something. A phone call to the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce in tiny Sumterville, Florida, and Administrator Jessica Kelly will tell you quickly she knows the confusion of the two Sumters all too well. "Yes, it happens a lot," Kelly said. "People will call here and start to ask me about some road or business or some highway or something that I have no clue what they are talking about. And, it's because they've called Florida instead of South Carolina."

Nicole Bailey, vice president of operations with the local Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce, says that's pretty funny. "We get the same thing," Bailey said. "We get emails, we get inquiries, we get phone calls, we get that all the time, too." Like Kelly in Florida, Bailey said people will frequently call and ask her about something and she has no idea what they are talking about. According to Bailey, they will say, "But, it's on your website." "Finally, they will reference something, and I'll say, 'Oh, oh, oh, wrong Sumter,'" Bailey said. "You have called the wrong Sumter." The two chambers' websites have very similar URL's and can be easily confused: www.sumterchamber.com for the local chamber, and www.sumterchamber.org for Sumter County, Florida. The two Sumters do have



Above: Image provided by Sumter County, South Carolina. Right: Image provided by Sumter County, Florida.

SEE WRONG, PAGE A8

High anxiety

Tropical depression raises hurricane concerns locally

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

With Hurricane Matthew still fresh in many people's memory, the appearance of a tropical depression far to the east of the lesser Antilles has many residents of the Palmetto State concerned. Battered by hurricanes and floods in the last two years, South Carolinians can't be blamed for grasping for their television remotes, desperately hoping to tune in to the Weather Channel for reassuring clips of inclement weather ravishing distant locations. However, meteorologist Whitney Smith, with the National Weather Service in Columbia, said Friday that Tropic Depression Four, shouldn't concern area residents just yet. "Right now, it is much too early to say if it will have any effect on South Carolina," she said. For those who must find something to worry about, Smith did say it is predicted to be an active hurricane season. "The outlook from the National Hurricane Center for 2017 in the Atlantic basically calls for an above normal seasonal probability of hurricanes," Smith said.



HILLEY

SEE ANXIETY, PAGE A10

Comparing our Sumter to Sumter County, Florida

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Ever wonder what are the similarities and differences in our Sumter County and Sumter County, Florida, which we are often confused with? The Sumter Item recently decided to look further into the matter and identify just what is Sumter County, Florida, known for, compared to Sumter County, South Carolina. So, we looked at the two Sumters. First, both are named after Gen. Thomas Sumter of the American Revolu-

tionary War. Our Sumter was established first: the year was 1800. Sumter County, Florida, was established in 1853. Like us, Sumter County, Florida, has its roots as a farming community, according to Carolyn Shaw, president of the Sumter County (Florida) Historical Society. Next, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, our Sumter County is a little larger in actual physical size: 682 square miles versus 580 square miles. Traditionally, our Sumter has had more residents as well, spending the

last few decades at or slightly above the 100,000 mark and historically one of the largest counties in our state, according to the census. But you could say "times are a changin'" in Sumter County, Florida, in the past 30 years, according to the census bureau and locals. In 1980, Sumter County, Florida, had a population of about 24,000, according to the census. But then, the retiree movement hit the Sunshine State. After talking with local officials

SEE SUMTER, PAGE A8

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DEATHS, A11
Rose Mary Mickens
Azalee S. Dingle
Carrie G. Harvin
Jim W. Nettles
Levi McDonald
Enoch Johnson Jr.
Margie M. Richardson

WEATHER, A12
STORMY SUNDAY
A heavy thunderstorm in the afternoon. Tonight, mostly cloudy with a thunderstorm late.
HIGH 90, LOW 72

INSIDE
4 SECTIONS, 28 PAGES
VOL. 121, NO. 190
Classifieds C8
Opinion A9
Outdoors C7
Stocks C6



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LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Lee County Council meets Tuesday

The Lee County Council will meet at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Main Court Room on the second floor of the Lee County Courthouse, 123 N. Main St., Bishopville.

The agenda includes the consideration of the second reading of an ordinance changing the zoning of the property owned by Lee County Landfill LLC from rural to heavy industrial.

Council will also receive an update of leases for the Woodrow Playground and the Woodrow Basketball Court.

Council will consider updating and revising the host agreement with the Lee County Landfill.

A resolution to approve a memorandum of agreement between Lee County and the Department of Juvenile Justice will be considered.

Council will hear committee reports and take public comment.

Council may enter executive session, if necessary.

For more information, call (803) 484-5341.

Clarendon County Council meets Monday

The Clarendon County Council will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the Clarendon County Administration Building, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, in the County Council Chambers.

On the agenda is a service award recognition for Linda Lemon and the appointment of Shanna Morgan to the Harvin Clarendon County Library Board.

Council will consider a request to purchase road repair material.

A public hearing will be held on the county's unified development code and the second reading of an ordinance to amend the code will be considered.

Council will receive reports from the chief financial officer, the county administrator and Chairman Dwight Stewart.

For more information, call (803) 435-0135.

Part of SC 52 in Florence County to be closed

The South Carolina Department of Transportation has announced that all lanes of the southern section of SC 51 in Florence County will be closed and traffic temporarily detoured, beginning Monday.

The section to be closed is a 5-mile stretch from Bass Road to U.S. Highway 378. The road closure is required to complete box culvert placement work, the announcement said. The road section is expected to reopen to traffic on Aug. 16, weather permitting.

During the closure, motorists are urged to use Big Swamp Road and U.S. 378 as alternatives.

Local traffic will have access during the detour.

Mental health campus under construction

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

Construction has begun on a new Santee Wateree Mental Health Center on North Pike Road West. The 35,000-square-foot building will house mental health programs now residing in three separate buildings in the Sumter area, according to material provided by the South Carolina Department of Mental Health.

Ken Roey, physical plant director for the SCDMH, said the entire project will cost about \$10.7 million, and the building should be ready for occupation in May 2018. The building contractor is Hogan Construction out of Charleston, he said.

"In addition to the base facility, it is going to have a conference and training center in large part funded by the Logan Foundation," Roey said.

He said the conference center, which will be used primarily by Santee Wateree Mental Health, will be available for use by the community when not in use by the center.

Architect Scott Bell of RS Bell Architects LLC said the new out-patient clinic building is 31,000 square feet and includes wings for adult services, elder services, child/adolescent services and emergency services.

The standalone conference and training center is 3,400 square feet, he said.

"The conference center will be named the Myrtis Logan Training Center, in honor of the late Myrtis Logan," Bell said. "The Logan Foundation supports the mission of the Santee Wateree Mental Health Center and has made a generous donation toward the construction of the wing."

The center will serve clients in Sumter, Clarendon, Kershaw and Lee counties.

Bell said the Santee Wateree Mental Health Center has been on Magnolia Street since the 1970s, and was one of the first outpatient community centers



The new Santee Wateree Mental Health Center is under construction on North Pike West.

constructed by the SCDMH.

"The Santee Wateree Mental Health Center has long outgrown their original offices and currently leases other spaces in Sumter for clinicians and administration," he said.

State Rep. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter, agreed that Santee Wateree Mental Health is badly in need of the new building.

"The current facility is the oldest facility in the state," he said. "We have to fracture treatment and service in a number of different buildings as a result of having outgrown the building and the foundational problems with the building. Now we are going to be able to deliver top-flight mental health care to citizens of this area."

Smith said the state began a program to update mental health facilities in South Carolina about five years ago.

"I am proud that our delegation was able to convince the mental health board that the Santee Wateree Mental Health was in dire need of a new facility," he said.

Roey said Santee Wateree Mental Health currently has about 80 employ-

ees and the new facility will allow for future growth.

"The center has projected growth in the future," Roey said. "How much, we can't be sure, but there has been growth in that area."

Another important aspect of the building, Roey said, is its LEED Silver certification.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification is given by the U.S. Green Building Council and is an internationally recognized standard for low energy, efficient and sustainable building practices.

Bell said the LEED standards have been adopted by South Carolina for all state buildings but he said he is not aware of any other building built to the standards in Sumter.

Smith said he is looking forward to the building's completion.

"It will be very rewarding to me and other members of the delegation to see this all come to fruition," he said. "This is one of those projects that you talk about in the abstract and debate the funding, and it is always nice to see the fruits of your labor and advocacy."

Sumter County Council to consider 4 third readings

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sumter County Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday in County Council Chambers, Sumter County Administration Building, 13 E. Canal St., to consider:

- Third reading of a request to rezone approximately .50 acres of a 7.12-acre parcel of land at 2935 Broad St. from general residential to general commercial;
- Third reading of a request to authorize the sale of .89 acres on South Guignard Parkway to a county resi-

dent. Sumter County Administrator Gary Mixon said the county does not have intentions to use the land. The prospective buyer presented an offer of \$5,530.30 for the land;

- Third reading of an ordinance to authorize a permanent easement to Black River Electric Cooperative Inc. to install utilities on land adjoining North Wise Drive where Sumter Easy Home LLC, a housewares manufacturing and distributing company, will be located;
- Third reading of an ordi-

nance to amend the county code of ordinances to include language stating that minorities and women are eligible to bid for contracts. The amendment will also include procedures on how to make complaints regarding bids. During a previous council meeting, Mixon said both of the amendment items are currently in practice but are not in writing; and

- First reading of a request to rezone 24.33 acres on SC 261, north of Meeting House Road, from agricultural con-

servation to residential-15 to expand the Ellerbe Estates subdivision.

Prior to council's regular meeting, Sumter County Public Safety Committee will meet at 5 p.m. in County Council Conference Room to receive information regarding the opioid use in Sumter County and the state.

Also, Sumter County Fiscal, Tax and Property Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. in County Council Conference Room to hold an executive session regarding a contractual matter.

Air quality mitigation performed at Sumter VA clinic

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

After a request from *The Sumter Item*, Bob Hall, a public affairs specialist with the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia, confirmed that air-quality issues have been raised concerning the Sumter outpatient clinic.

The Item contacted officials at the center after receiving a complaint from a man who said he was a patient at the

outpatient clinic in Sumter had witnessed a contractor performing mitigation activities at the center, even as patients were being treated.

Hall said in a press release that multiple air quality assessments have been conducted by a licensed industrial hygiene contractor that made recommendations for mitigation in a staff-only restroom at the outpatient clinic.

"At no time did the contractor note any concerns to either staff or patient safety, nor did they indicate that an un-

safe work environment exists," Hall said in the release.

The release said the room affected has been out of service and not accessible to staff or patients. A final air quality assessment is scheduled for Monday, Hall said, and results will be shared with staff.

"The safety and well-being of staff and patients is paramount to facility leadership, and all concerns are promptly addressed when identified," Hall said.



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36 W. LIBERTY ST., SUMTER, S.C. 29150
(803) 774-1200

Jack Osteen

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER / ADVERTISING

jack@theitem.com
(803) 774-1238

Rick Carpenter

MANAGING EDITOR

rick@theitem.com

(803) 774-1201

Michele Barr

BUSINESS MANAGER

michele@theitem.com

(803) 774-1249

Kathy Stafford

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Airman makes sparks fly



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTOPHER MALDONADO / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Patrick Peck, 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron (EMS) aircraft metals technology journeyman, welds a portable deployment trailer at Shaw Air Force Base on Friday. Airmen assigned to the 20th EMS metals technology lab ensure equipment entering the lab meets all safety and structure specifications before the parts are returned to the providing unit.

Family posts bond after drug-trafficking charges

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The family of three that was arrested this week for allegedly bringing almost 63 pounds of marijuana into Sumter County has posted bail and been released from Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.

During a bond hearing held at 8 a.m. Friday, Magistrate Judge Larry Blanding set a surety bond of \$20,000 for Michael A. Hendrix, 30, of 3660 Furman Field Road, Rembert, and set surety bonds of \$15,000 each for 61-year-old Marianne Hendrix and her husband, 59-year-old Robert W. Hendrix, both of 5465 Catchall Road, Dalzell.

The couple and their son are each charged with trafficking marijuana, more than 10 pounds and less than 100 pounds, and face a maximum of 10 years in prison if convicted, according to a news release from Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

According to an incident report from the sheriff's office, deputies received information that Robert and Marianne Hendrix would supposedly be bringing a large supply of marijuana into the county from the state of Washington

on Tuesday. Deputies were told that the drugs would either be transported in a white Toyota Rav4 or a silver Honda Accord.

Deputies arrived at the couple's residence about noon Wednesday and were given consent to search the residence and a silver Honda Accord.

No illegal items were found during the search, according to the release. A deputy later saw a white Toyota Rav4 parked at a neighboring house and discovered that the vehicle was registered to Marianne Hendrix.

The neighbor told the deputy that the Hendrix couple asked if the vehicle could be parked in the yard, states the release. Two suitcases and two duffel bags containing multiple vacuum-sealed bags of marijuana were removed from the Toyota after a sheriff's office

K-9 indicated that drugs were located inside the vehicle.

Robert and Marianne Hendrix were arrested Wednesday and Michael Hendrix turned himself in at the sheriff's office Thursday. The three were being held at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center until they posted bond Friday.

During a news conference at the sheriff's office Thursday, Sheriff Anthony Dennis said the agency has kept an eye on the suspects for a while because of their suspected involvement in drug trafficking. He said investigators think the drug-trafficking operation includes more individuals other than the Hendrix family, and more arrests and charges are possible.

According to earlier reports from Sumter Police Department, Michael Hendrix was arrested in May 2012 during an undercover drug operation conducted by the police department's narcotics unit. He was one of eight people arrested during the operation.

In 2015, Michael Hendrix was charged with four counts of distribution of cocaine after the arrest in 2012 and was sentenced to two years house arrest and five years probation after pleading guilty.



MICHAEL HENDRIX



MARIANNE HENDRIX



ROBERT HENDRIX

Dignitaries pay tribute to Ramon Schwartz Jr.

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT
The State

In the days since his father died, Milton Schwartz has heard condolences from a former chief justice and a top United Nations official, along with many others Ramon Schwartz touched in his long public career as a state lawmaker.

Schwartz served his native Sumter in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1968-86, in addition to practicing law for 68 years and belonging to various civic organizations. The Democratic representative spent his final six years in the House as the chamber's powerful speaker.

Schwartz passed away June 30 at 92.

Former S.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Ernest Finney, also a former legislator, called the late lawmaker's son to offer condolences. Schwartz helped appoint Finney to the state's highest court, where he became the first black chief justice since Reconstruction.

David Beasley, a former S.C. governor and legislator, also called. Beasley, who now directs the United Nations World Food Program, praised the "great South Carolinian" on Facebook.

"He was such a Southern gentleman, a scholar and tremendous leader," Beasley wrote. "He exemplified integrity and respect. I learned a lot from him as a young man."

"It's just been kind of neat to see in the last few days just how many people my dad had touched," Milton Schwartz said. "He was really respected by all of them."

Despite being held in wide regard, Ramon Schwartz did face some political opposition in the Legislature, former state senator and representative Larry Martin said, recalling a nickname for Schwartz's supporters.

"I was one of Ramon's boys," Martin, a Pickens Republican, said with a laugh. "If you were very supportive of him, they would call you one of Ramon's boys."

Martin remembers Schwartz for his ability to balance competing factions of the Democratic Party that dominated the House at the time. He also worked well

with Republicans, who were growing as a party, Martin said.

Camden's Bob Sheheen, another former House speaker, appreciated the latitude Schwartz gave chairmen to run their committees, saying he was "old-school" in the freedom he gave them.

"He was well-versed in any controversy," Sheheen added, "and always willing to discuss an issue with anyone."

That openness extended to younger members such as Martin, who recalled the first time Schwartz asked him to preside over the House in his absence, where Martin was expected to decide an argument on a major bill.

"Ramon turned to me and said, 'Well, Larry, I know you'll handle it well. I'll see you when I get back,'" Martin remembers. "He had confidence in me, even though I don't mind telling you I was scared to death."

Schwartz's grandson Michael Burchstead remembered taking an elementary-school field trip to the State House and watching his grandfather preside from the "big chair."

"But he never displayed any ego about it," Burchstead said. "He really taught us by example."

Burchstead followed that example into law school and then to his current job as general counsel to the S.C. Ethics Commission.

"Now, politics is often 'my way or the highway,' but for him, it didn't matter what party you belonged to," Burchstead said. "Sometimes it didn't even matter if you liked the person. You were there for the public good, and compromise was not a bad word."

Sumter attorney Gene Durrant, who was Schwartz's law partner up until his death this week, said Schwartz was dedicated to his practice up until shortly before his death. "He wasn't active in the law the last few years, and he still came in every day and he beat everybody else into the office," Durrant said.

Schwartz is survived by four children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bristow Marchant is a former Sumter Item reporter now writing for The State.



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- CRISIS RELIEF**, which assists people who have received eviction and utility disconnect notices, and helps provide food, furniture and appliances for domestic violence victims.
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When U.S. and Russian leaders meet, the world watches

BY JOSH LEDERMAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When U.S. and Russian presidents meet, the rest of the world stops to watch.

For decades, summits between leaders of the world powers have been heavily anticipated affairs in which every word, handshake and facial expression is scrutinized. President Trump's first face-to-face meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Hamburg, Germany, on Friday is no different.

Some encounters have yielded diplomatic breakthroughs, even during the worst of Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union. Others ended in unseemly displays of diplomatic discord.

The following is a look at some of the U.S.-Russian and U.S.-Soviet summits of the past:

1945 — YALTA CONFERENCE

With World War II winding down, the leaders of the U.S., the Soviet Union and Britain came together to plan for Europe's postwar future and try to hasten an end to the conflict in the Pacific. Soviet leader Josef Stalin agreed to enter the war to help defeat Imperial Japan. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill allowed for Soviet influence over lands Russia lost to Japan decades earlier.

Initially hailed as a major success, the conference later came to be viewed by many as the moment that the U.S. ceded too much influence to the Soviets. Decades later, the setting for the meeting — Crimea — would provide some irony. Russia, the Soviet Union's successor, annexed the region from Ukraine in 2014, deepening a modern-day diplomatic rift with the U.S.

1960 — PARIS

This Cold War meeting between President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev may have been doomed from the start. Two weeks before they were to gather in Paris, the Soviets shot down an American U-2 spy plane. The U.S. tried to cover it up by claiming it was a weather-monitoring plane, a lie the Soviets were able to expose.

Khrushchev ripped into Eisenhower at the meeting, infuriating the U.S. president. Eisenhower ended up canceling a trip to Moscow planned for the next month.

1961 — VIENNA SUMMIT

The two-day meeting was the first between Khrushchev and new President John F. Kennedy, almost two decades Khrushchev's junior. There was plenty of fanfare, including a high-profile interaction between first ladies Nina Khrushchev and Jacqueline Kennedy.

But U.S. government accounts of the summit suggest it was extremely tense. Kennedy was largely steamrolled by the Soviet leader, who demanded an immediate treaty to reunify Germany under terms unfavorable to the U.S. The collapse raised the specter of an actual war between the two nuclear-armed foes. Two months later, the Berlin Wall went up.

1972 — MOSCOW SUMMIT

President Richard Nixon flew to the Soviet capital, the first visit to Moscow by a sitting U.S. president, for a week of meetings with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. It was productive, to say the least.

Not only did the two leaders clinch a pair of major agreements limiting ballistic missiles and slowing the nuclear arms race, but they also struck smaller deals on education, science, maritime coordination and public health. The agreements were touted at a signing ceremony that would later be viewed as an inflection point in the Cold War.



Prime Minister Winston Churchill, left, smokes a cigar while meeting with President Franklin D. Roosevelt, center, and Soviet leader Josef Stalin on Feb. 12, 1945, at the Livadia Palace gardens in Yalta.

Medvedev that if re-elected, he would "have more flexibility" to work out missile defense issues with Moscow.

Medvedev famously replied by telling Obama he would "transmit this information to Vladimir" — referring to Putin, who was nearing the end of a four-year stint as Russia's prime minister. Obama's Republican opponent, Mitt Romney, quickly seized on the gaffe as evidence Obama was concealing a secret agenda for his second term.

2016 — G20 HANGZHOU SUMMIT

Obama's last formal sit-down with Putin was no farewell fete. He had kicked Russia out of the Group of 8 club of industrialized nations because of its actions in Ukraine, and his relationship with Putin never recovered. Their 90-minute session during a global summit in Hangzhou, China, was a chilly affair, captured in awkward photographs in which neither man broke a smile.

There was no breakthrough on Syria, where the U.S. and Russia were hoping for a deal to lower violence. And a growing American sense about Russian meddling in the U.S. presidential campaign cast a pall over their meeting. The next and last time Putin and Obama would meet, it would be for only four minutes on the sidelines of an economic conference in Peru.

1986 — REYKJAVIK SUMMIT

Another breakdown between leaders, this time in the Icelandic capital. Hastily arranged with low expectations, the summit grew in scope to the point it appeared a major arms reduction deal might be reached.

The summit produced iconic photos of President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev smiling together at Hofdi House in Reykjavik but not much else. The leaders failed to strike a deal or to

settle on a date for a follow-up summit in the U.S.

2001 — SLOVENIA SUMMIT

A decade after the fall of the Soviet Union, President George W. Bush famously looked into Russian President Vladimir Putin's eyes. "I was able to get a sense of his soul — a man deeply committed to his country and the best interests of his country," Bush said afterward.

The lavish praise came to be seen as a sign of naiveté about the Russian leader

and former KGB operative who would go on to flummox successive American presidents. Bush went as far as to invite Putin to visit his ranch in Crawford, Texas.

2012 — G20 SEOUL SUMMIT

It's easy to pinpoint the moment President Barack Obama learned the risks of an open microphone once and for all: March 2012, in Seoul, South Korea. That's where the first-term president was caught telling Russian President Dmitry

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PHOTOS PROVIDED

Singer-songwriter Patrick Davis, a Camden native, returns to the Sumter Opera House with his Midnight Choir for a concert on Oct. 21. He's toured the U.S. and Europe, written hundreds of songs for himself and other artists such as Darius Rucker, Jewel, Jimmy Buffet and others and has recorded several full-length CDs.

Main Stage Series continues growth

Double bill features well-known acts

BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

The Sumter Opera House Main Stage Series continues to add shows to its 2017-18 season. City of Sumter Cultural Manager Seth Reimer has announced a twin bill for an Oct. 13 concert and a return engagement for Camden native Patrick Davis.

Both bands on the twin bill, the Quebe Sisters and the Malpass Brothers, can trace their musical roots to traditional American genres, he said.

The Quebe Sisters — pronounced Kway-bee, according to their website — have been playing traditional Texas music — Western swing — from an early age; they started playing fiddles together as pre-teens, and they're still in their 20s.

The Quebes entered fiddling contests from an early age and won several local, state and national awards. They've also released three recordings: Texas Fiddler in 2003, Timeless in 2007 and Every Which-a-Way in 2014.

Additionally, they've appeared at the Grand Ole Opry, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Ryman Auditorium, on NPR's A Prairie Home Companion, on The Marty Stuart Show and other programs.

All three sisters, Hulda, Sophia and Grace, sing as well as playing fiddler and are known for their vocal harmonies. They will be backed on stage by their rhythm section of guitarist Simon Stipp and Daniel Parr on upright bass.

Reimer said the sisters also play vintage country, bluegrass, jazz and folk music.

"They're extremely talented," he said. "I've heard them play, and they're interactive with the audience. They played the Newberry Opera House last year, and they were a big hit."

The Malpass Brothers, Christopher and Taylor, on the other hand, will present a concert of traditional country music — think Hank Williams, senior not junior; Johnny Cash; Merle Haggard; George Jones and others of that era. Inspired as kids by their East Carolina grandfather's old phonograph records, the brothers have been widely praised for their authentic sensibility and sound.

Reimer said, "The first time you meet the Malpass Brothers it doesn't take long before you realize they are as close to real traditional country music

artists as you can get these days."

He said the brothers are genuine country singers.

"They're just as they appear," Reimer said. "The way they look and dress, it's not an act, something they put on for a show. They're among the few genuine classic country artists under 50 — and they're under 30. They're truly who they are; it's not a charade."

While the Malpass Brothers admire Merle Haggard and play a lot of his music — Haggard's family gave them the rights to perform it — they also play their own original music, Reimer said.

"They toured with him," he said.

"They don't come with a play list; what they play will be driven by what the audience wants."

"October 13 will be a night that's not to be missed," Reimer said.

University of South Carolina alumnus Patrick Davis, a Camden native, will return to the Sumter Opera House with his Midnight Choir on Saturday, Oct. 21. He's described as "a singer, songwriter, artist and storyteller" and has lived and performed in Nashville for the past 16 years.

The Midnight Choir is Davis' 11-piece band comprising instrumentalists and back-up singers. The name of the group comes from the Leonard Cohen song, "Bird on the Wire": "Like a bird on the wire, Like a drunk in a midnight choir, I have tried in my way to be free ..."

Davis has released four CDs and has toured extensively in the U.S. and Europe. More than 50 of his songs have been recorded by such artists as Darius Rucker, Lady Antebellum, Jimmy Buffet and others.

While tickets for the Main Stage Series go on sale to the public on Aug. 14, the Sumter Opera House is now offering a membership program that will offer access to ticket purchases three weeks in advance of public sales. Reimer said the program offers four levels of membership to individuals and



Christopher and Taylor Malpass, the Malpass Brothers, who hail from eastern North Carolina, will appear on a double bill with the Quebe Sisters at the Sumter Opera House on Oct. 13. Sumter Cultural Manager Seth Reimer continues to add nationally known acts to the Opera House's 2017-18 Main Stage Series.

businesses, each with special benefits, including ticket discounts, special event invitations, listing in playbills and more.

He also said memberships can be customized, "tailored for whatever package members want."

The costs of bringing nationally known talents to the Opera House are not totally covered by ticket sales, Reimer said, adding that memberships will enable him to book these acts that would usually play in much larger venues.

"Because of the relationships I've

built (with other venue managers), I've had the opportunity to book acts like John Anderson, who sold out," Reimer said. Also because of the Opera House's size and location, he said, "There's no reason for us to have a 'season.' Instead, we can have shows year-round."

Read more about the Main Stage Series at www.SumterOperaHouse.com, where there is a link to become a member. See the chart on this page for details of the different levels of membership. Call (803) 436-2616 for more information.



The Quebe Sisters, who all sing and play fiddle, bring their traditional Texas roots music to the Sumter Opera House on Oct. 13.

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Lifelong rivalry escalates into silence



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — Our daughters aren't speaking. One says she really doesn't "like" the other. These are mature women who have had their differences

counseling or mediation, they will not reconcile. For your younger daughter to resort to emotional blackmail ("if she's there, I won't be") is despicable. Please do not give in to it. Tell her that if she decides to change her mind, she's always welcome, and then proceed without her. You may be desperate for a reconciliation, but until your daughters are, it won't happen, and you will have to accept it.

size of the guest list, I strongly suspect it would offend anyone who didn't "win" the lottery.

DEAR ABBY — I sometimes have social anxiety. I would like to go out with friends and acquaintances, but I worry I won't have enough to talk about or won't know what to say, and it makes me nervous. Do you have any advice?

Loner in Illinois

DEAR ABBY — Recently I was listening to a couple talking about who and who not to invite to a wedding because seating was limited.

I'm wondering whether there would be anything wrong with sending out a letter stating that although they would like to invite everyone, seating is limited. Explain that, of course, immediate family (parents, siblings and their spouses) would be invited without exception. However, the remaining seating would be on a "lottery" basis. If people accept the invitation, they would be in the lottery and then notified of the results.

Is this acceptable? I think it would solve a lot of problems. Just wondering.

Just a thought in Ohio

DEAR LONER — Almost everyone has social anxiety to some extent. If your only worry is that you won't have enough to talk about, don't let it stop you. Most people like to talk about themselves and will appreciate a good listener.

If you would like to bring up topics, listen to the news or read your newspaper and jot down a few topics. If your level of anxiety is so high that you cannot interact with others, then it's time to discuss it with your physician and ask for a referral to someone who can give you medical and psychological help.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

throughout their lives. But they have tolerated each other, one more than the other.

The older one claims her sister posted not-so-nice things about her. The younger one threatens not to attend any gatherings if her sister is there. This needs to be resolved before years go by and our family is torn apart.

They stopped speaking a month ago — on their dad's birthday yet. It was one of the worst days of our lives. We're in our 80s, and I may never again see them together. The older one says she's willing to go to counseling, but the younger refuses.

We're desperate for a reconciliation. They don't have to be best friends, just be civil and tolerate a holiday together for our sake. Please advise.

Helpless and sad in Dallas

DEAR HELPLESS AND SAD — Unless both of your daughters are willing to accept

Jay Leno's steam-powered car makes it up Mount Washington

(AP) — Jay Leno's car now qualifies for the popular bumper sticker, "This Car Climbed Mt. Washington."

But this was no ordinary car.

A TV crew filmed Leno's Stanley steam-powered car driving the auto road to the summit of New Hampshire's Mount Washington this week. He told the *Portland Press Herald* that the idea was to recreate the first time a Stanley drove up the mountain in 1899.

From there, the 67-year-old former host of NBC's "The Tonight Show" traveled to Maine, where he visited Portland's waterfront and a Waterboro company that made vehicles for the Oscar-nominated film, "Mad Max: Fury Road."

Leno loves cars and owns more than 150 of them.

His show, "Jay Leno's Garage," follows the comedian as he travels across the country to find unique cars.



Jay Leno participates in the "Jay Leno's Garage" panel in 2015 in Beverly Hills, California. A TV crew filmed Leno's Stanley steam-powered car driving the auto road to the summit of New Hampshire's Mount Washington this week.

AP FILE PHOTO

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WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Bakers celebrate 50 years

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby G. Baker of Sumter celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 9, 2017, with a vow renewal ceremony at the Salvation Army Church.

A reception was given in their honor by their three children and their spouses: Jan Baker of Blythewood; Tim and Jennifer Baker Rexroth of Boone, North Carolina; and John and Jaime Baker of Sumter.

The couple has two grandchildren.

Mrs. Baker is the former Mary Sue Geddings of Sumter.



MR., MRS. BOBBY G. BAKER

ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, BIRTH AND ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Engagement, wedding, birth and wedding anniversary (25th, 50th and above) announcements of local interest are published on Sundays free of charge. The deadline is noon on the preceding Monday. Deadlines vary during holiday weeks. The deadline for the July 9 edition has passed.

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

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

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

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

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



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Sandy Wilson

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Finder of potential Earhart picture tells story

BY RANDY HERSCHAFT and MARK KENNEDY
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The retired federal agent who discovered what he thinks is the first photographic evidence of Amelia Earhart alive and well after crash landing in the Pacific Ocean during her attempted round-the-world flight says he didn't initially capture the significance of the image until years later.

The black-and-white photo is of a group of people standing on a dock on Jaluit Atoll in the Marshall Islands, including one who seems to be a slim woman with her back to the camera. A new documentary airing Sunday on the History channel claims the figure is the famed aviator who disappeared 80 years ago this month.

Retired U.S. Treasury Agent Les Kinney said in an interview Wednesday with The Associated Press that he was looking for clues surrounding Earhart's disappearance in the National Archives in College Park, Maryland, when he found the photograph in 2012 in a box filled mostly with text documents from the Office of Naval Intelligence but "didn't really look at it carefully" because he was looking over thousands of documents and images.

In 2015, he took another pass at the photo. "I looked at it, and I went, 'I can't believe this!'" He asked his wife to come over and pointed to the seated person, asking if it seemed to her to be a man or a woman. "She said, 'It's a woman!'"



OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE / U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES VIA AP

This undated photo discovered in the U.S. National Archives by Les Kinney shows people on a dock in Jaluit Atoll, Marshall Islands. A new documentary film proposes that this image shows aviator Amelia Earhart, seated third from right, gazing at what may be her crippled aircraft loaded on a barge. The documentary "Amelia Earhart: The Lost Evidence," which airs Sunday on the History channel, argues that Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, crash landed in the Japanese-held Marshall Islands, were picked up by Japanese military and that Earhart was taken prisoner.

His search led him to identify the ship seen at the right apparently pulling Earhart's plane wreckage on a barge.

The image is at the heart of the two-hour "Amelia Earhart: The Lost Evidence," which argues that Earhart, along with her navigator Fred Noonan, crash landed in the Japanese-held Marshall Islands, where they were picked up by the Japanese military and held prisoner.

In the documentary, that photo is subjected to facial-recognition and other forensic testing, such as torso measurements. Experts on the show claim the subjects are likely Earhart and Noonan.

Others aren't convinced, including Dorothy Cochrane, a curator at the National Air and Space Museum and an expert on women in aviation.

She said Thursday the blurry image isn't conclusive. "I cannot say definitively that this is Amelia Earhart. That doesn't mean that it might not be, somehow. But you can't say that just through the image the way it is."

The disappearance of Earhart and Noonan on July 2, 1937, in the Western Pacific Ocean has been the subject of continuing searches, research and debate.

The longstanding official theory is that the famed pilot ran out of gas and crashed into deep ocean waters northwest of Howland Island, a tiny speck in the South Pacific that she and Noonan missed.

Other theories have claimed Earhart made an emergency landing on a flat stretch of coral reef off what was then known as Gardner Island,

southwest of Howland, although bone fragments found on the island were inconclusive. An Australian researcher once proposed that wreckage spotted by members of his country's military years ago on a Papua New Guinea island could be hers.

Kinney, who started his career as a naval intelligence agent, said the photograph he found was in a batch of documents collected by U.S. sources in anticipation of the 1944 invasion of the Marshall Islands.

"This was a mistake. This was never meant to be there," he said. The National Archives verified Thursday that the image is from its holdings and was in a file "unrelated to Earhart."

While the photo is undated, Kinney strongly thinks it was

taken in July 1937, and he is convinced it shows Earhart and Noonan, based on other evidence including physical landmarks and islanders' recollections.

Kinney said the presence of two Caucasians on Jaluit Atoll before World War II was very unusual. The man's distinctive widow's peak seems to match Noonan's. As for the figure with her back to the camera: "You have one that has a striking resemblance to Amelia Earhart from the back, including the short hair."

Kinney suspects the pair may have been picked up by a fishing boat and handed over to Japanese authorities, who initially may have had no intention of keeping them. That may explain why there are no handcuffs or restraints in the photo.

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BIG LOTS! FRIENDS & FAMILY

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SUMTER FROM PAGE A1

down there and looking at various official statistics, you could now call Sumter County, Florida, "Retirement Haven, USA." Thanks to The Villages, a major retirement community that spans parts of three counties, but mostly in the northeastern corner of Sumter County, the county has grown by leaps and bounds, according to Jessica Kelly, administrator with the Sumter County (Florida) Chamber of Commerce.

Located in the north central portion of the state, with Interstate 75 running through it, Sumter County grew to 31,000 people by the 1990 decennial census. In 2000, its population reached 53,345, almost solely due to retirees moving into The Villages, according to Kelly and other officials. In the 2010 census, fueled by the retiree migration, Sumter County's population was 93,420, making it one of the fastest-growing counties in the entire U.S. In the most-recent census bureau population estimates' series for year 2016, the county's population stood at 123,996. Our Sumter County's population estimate for 2016 from the bureau was 107,396.

Kelly describes The Villages as "like its own little world over there." Her chamber office is in tiny unincorporated Sumterville, Florida.

The Villages are building their fourth town square now, Kelly said. Each square has restaurants and shopping districts with small villages and resident communities around it,

SUMTER CO., SC / SUMTER CO., FL

Named after: Both named after Gen. Thomas Sumter from the American Revolutionary War
Most famous athlete: Bobby Richardson (New York Yankees 1955-66 - World Series MVP, 1960) / Keanu Neal (Atlanta Falcons 2016-present - Pro Football Writers Association All-Rookie Team, 2016)
Population (2016): 107,396 / 123,996
Square miles: 682 (665 land, 17 water) / 580 (547 land, 33 water)
Median age: 35.8 years old / 65.3 years old
Established: 1800 / 1853
County seat: City of Sumter (population: 40,723) / City of Bushnell (population: 3,067)
Interstate highways: I-95 / I-75

she said.

According to Sumter County (Florida) Administrator Bradley Arnold, The Villages previously encompassed 36 square miles in the northern corner of the county, but with recent land acquisitions that total is now 50 square miles to handle more construction and the population influx.

Kelly said there is a big separation in the county between the predominantly rural areas and The Villages.

"Our county is kind of The Villages, or 'The (Non) Villages,'" Kelly said. "It's very different. Outside The Villages, we are a very rural county. We have a lot of parks, wildlife and forests, and then we've got The Villages."

It makes sense then that Sumter County, Florida, has the highest median age of all the counties in entire U.S. at 65.3 years old, according to the census. It's the only county in the U.S.



PHOTO PROVIDED

People mingle recently in Brownwood Paddock Square in The Villages in Sumter County, Florida. The Villages is the county's largest tourist attraction, according to officials.

where more than half of the residents are 65 and older. Sumter County, South Carolina's median age is 35.8 years old, according to the census.

Our Sumter has a major military installation in Shaw Air Force Base. Sumter County, Florida, does not have an installation.

Being a historically industrial town, our Sumter County has a relatively large manufacturing sector and more manufacturing jobs than Sumter County, Florida. Being a retirement community, Sumter County, Florida's, biggest industry sector is retail trade, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Our county seat is obviously the city of Sumter, and it's our largest community with a population of 40,723 in 2016, according to the census. The city of Bushnell is the county seat for Sumter County, Florida, but given the rise of The Villages, it's not the county's largest community. Bushnell's population was 3,067 in 2016.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. GREGORY BROOK / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

A formation of F-16 Fighting Falcons fly over Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter last month as part of a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 55th Fighter Squadron's activation. The formation consisted of the wing flagship aircraft from the 55th, 77th, and 79th fighter squadrons, which are all stationed at Shaw.

WRONG FROM PAGE A1

some similarities: both are in the Southeast, named after American Revolutionary War hero Gen. Thomas Sumter, currently about the same size and were traditionally rural farming communities.

If you look on the U.S. Census Bureau's website, there are actually four Sumter counties in the U.S. including one each in Georgia and Alabama. But, those other two are relatively small in size compared to their namesakes here and in Florida.

Sumter County, Florida, County Administrator Bradley Arnold said he gets emails all the time for Sumter County, South Carolina, because senders didn't realize there is a Sumter County, Florida.

He said the county has to spend more time on its website and in published documents detailing clearly "Sumter County, Florida," and include a Florida map with its county shown for distinction.

Arnold said he believes the most confusion is created when information is disseminated on social media and people don't understand there are other Sumter counties.

He cited common storm events, such as tropical storms or hurricanes, that affect either Sumter County, Florida; Sumter County, South Carolina; or Sumter County, Georgia.

In a recent major storm, he said one of the other Sumter counties declared their schools would be closed on social media, and there was a lot of angst from parents in his county.

"People here got confused whether it was our school system," Arnold said. "So, they were contacting the school district with lots of phone calls because they were con-

fused on which one was which."

To prevent confusion on social media, Joe Perry — our local communications coordinator for Sumter County — says he always attaches "SC" to "Sumter" when posting in-

formation on social media.

"On my end, whether its Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, I try to keep it short and sweet and put 'Sumtercountysc,' and I'm trying to use hashtags of 'sumtersc' or 'sumtercountysc' and I hope that type of stuff is associated with Sumter County, South Carolina," Perry said.

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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Community mourns passing of 2 special people

The Sumter Item family had a sad week in the wake of the death of Gail Mathis, who was just 58 years old.

Gail was our ambassador in Clarendon County, where she worked for more than 30 years as a sales representative, writer and customer service manager, doing whatever was needed to serve our Manning, Clarendon County and Lake Marion readers and advertisers.

We all loved her and enjoyed her funny and vibrant personality, and her passing is something none of us will soon get over.

We offer our condolences to her family — husband, Jimmy, and sons Jamie and Chris and their families. She will be missed by everyone and will be remembered as a generous, thoughtful, professional person who always had other people's best inter-

ests in mind.

...

The Sumter community also mourned the passing of a local legend, Ramon Schwartz, who died this week at the age of 92.

The services at Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter were well attended and included two former South Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justices — Ernest Finney and Jean Toal — as well as the newest member of the Supreme Court, Sumter's Buck James, who, like many of us in attendance, grew up playing in the Schwartz home. It was an interesting multi-generational gathering.

There were many dignitaries given Mr. Schwartz's long life of public service, and it was noted that most in attendance likely had a "Ramon story" that may or may not be appropriate for a

public setting.

I was recently talking to his son Milton about a story from our childhood.

It was about 1973 or 1974, and Milton, the late Clarke Bynum and I were in the same cabin at the YMCA's Camp Sea Gull in North Carolina.

We knew Mr. Schwartz was coming to visit one Sunday and that he would be riding with the legendary Sumter lawman Leon "Wheel" Dollard, who drove Ramon and his best friend Kirk McLeod everywhere.

Stories about Leon Dollard in *The Sumter Item* go back to the 1930s and can be found by searching our archives. There are some especially entertaining episodes captured in the "Yesteryear" columns put together by my father, Hubert.

Leon Dollard was an intimidating presence who looked like the Hollywood version of "The Muscle" or "The Wheel Man" who accompanies someone of great importance, which then-S.C. House Rep. Schwartz was. He would be-



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Sumter's legendary lawman Leon Dollard drove Ramon Schwartz and his friend Kirk McLeod everywhere. Schwartz died this week at age 92.

come House Speaker a few years later.

So, like any normal, mischievous 12- or 13-year-old boy would do, we told our Camp Sea Gull cabin mates that Milton's father was in the Mafia, and we could prove it when he got there.

You can imagine the excitement when a long, black Lincoln or Cadillac or whatever they were driving came rolling up in this quiet, pristine

summer camp on a Sunday afternoon.

"Wheel" Dollard was, of course, at the wheel, and Mr. Schwartz was in the back. They had on dark suits, and "Wheel" had on some sort of Panama gangster-style hat. It was classic.

Everyone crowds around to see what's going on, and "Wheel" backs the car up to the cabin in order to unload. Sure enough, when he pops the trunk, there are a couple of shotguns mounted on the underside, plain as day. And they didn't look like bird guns.

Milton gained instant notoriety, and we did nothing to tamp down the excited speculation of our friends, adopting a "no-big-deal" attitude for the rest of the summer.

Ramon would like that story.

Graham Osteen is Editor-At-Large of The Sumter Item. He can be reached at graham@theitem.com. Follow him on Twitter @GrahamOsteen, or visit www.grahamosteen.com.

COMMENTARY

Here's an idea, Trump

Sometime in 2011, I got a call from Donald Trump. He said he was thinking of running for president and wanted to know what I thought of the idea. I'm guessing he also called a million other journalists, but I had reported a story on his golf course in Scotland (for HBO's Real Sports) and after it aired he told someone, "Bernie didn't do me any favors, but he was fair." Maybe that's why he called. Who knows?

Anyway, I told him that because I'm a journalist I don't give advice to people thinking of running for president (or any other office). We chatted for a few more moments, and that was the end of it.

If he asked my advice now — he won't! — I'd relent and tell him that since that conversation he has become the most disruptive president at least in our modern era and probably in all of our American history.

I'd tell him his war with the press is especially troubling. He says his critics in the media peddle "fake news." Not really. A lot of them, though, do peddle "biased news." But I'd tell him that there's a better way to deal with the press than waging non-stop war against journalists.

First, no more tweets about Mika "bleeding badly from a face-lift" she says she never had. And no more videos of businessman Donald Trump body slamming a guy with the CNN logo imposed on his face.

Let's acknowledge that many of the president's most loyal fans love it when he attacks the press, when he fights fire with fire, to use the term his press person used at a recent briefing. But appealing to the base isn't getting him anywhere.

Mr. Trump won the election with 46 percent of the vote. Now his approval numbers are in the 30s, which means that even a lot of people who voted for him — the ones who weren't crazy about him but who couldn't bring themselves to vote for Hillary — even those people are abandoning ship.

The 25 or 30 percent who think he's a messiah are not the kind of friends he needs right now. Yes, they give him the adulation he craves. But they'll be there for him no matter what. And if they're all he's got, he can forget about turning his vision of making America great again into a political reality. If the pols in Washington aren't afraid of him — and

they won't be if his numbers stay in the 30s — they won't put their necks on the line to support his agenda.

So here's an idea for the president, an idea for a national TV address that his loyal fans might not embrace — who cares? — but just

might win over moderates who aren't in the Never Trump crowd. Imagine if he said something like this:

"My fellow Americans, my focus tonight is on one of the most important institutions in our great country: the news media.

"We all know we can't have a free country without a free press. But neither can we have a free country without a fair press.

"Let me be clear: Journalists not only have the right, but they have an obligation to hold me accountable for my actions. With that, I have no problem.

"But let's not pretend that journalists don't have an agenda, one that goes beyond simply telling the truth. And just as I've been charged with trying to delegitimize the media, too many in the media have been trying from Day One to delegitimize my presidency.

"Joe Scarborough has called me a 'schmuck' on national television. He has said I remind him of his mother who has dementia. Mika Brzezinski has said I don't love my country. Others have called me a thug, a pig, Hitler and a whole bunch of other less-than-flattering names.

"Tonight I acknowledge that my tweets in response too often have been needlessly vindictive — and counterproductive. But journalists 'haven't merely defended their reporting, they've doubled down on attacking' me, as a writer in *National Review* put it.

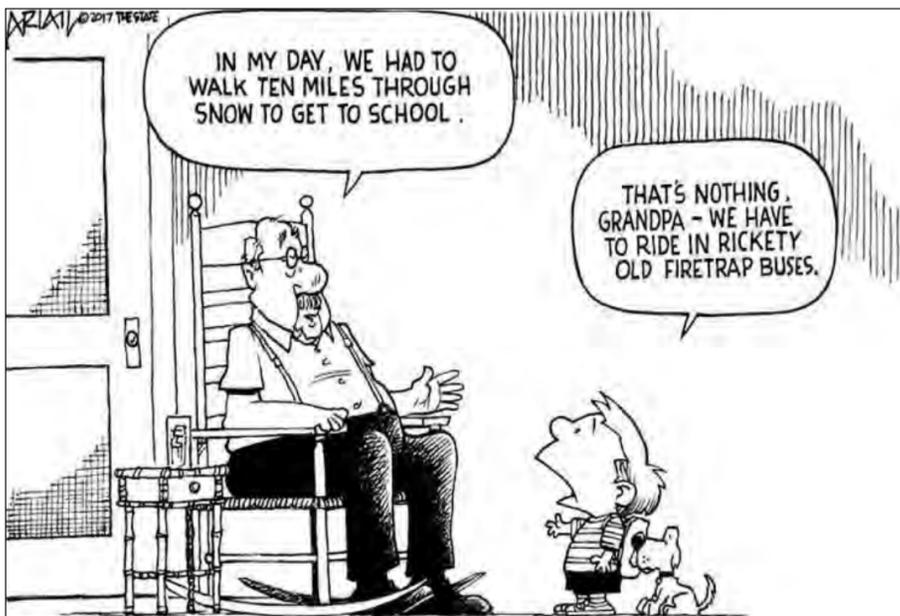
"So, as Monty Hall used to say, Let's make a deal: I will continue to point out what I believe is false news about my administration and me. But I will stop the personal attacks on members of the press.

"But it wouldn't hurt if journalists showed some contrition, too. It wouldn't be so terrible if reporters acknowledged that because they think I'm 'unfit to be president,' they also think it's okay to inject bias and malice into their stories without fear of consequence.

"Someone has to put an end to this. Someone has to say 'Enough.' I'm saying it right here, right now."



Bernard Goldberg



Risky offshore oil drilling rules

BY BOB GRAHAM and WILLIAM K. REILLY

Seven years ago, a BP oil well blew out off Louisiana, causing the Deepwater Horizon drill rig to explode, killing 11 workers and releasing several million barrels of toxic crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico.

As co-chairmen of the bipartisan National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, we investigated the causes of the disaster and examined the offshore drilling industry to identify ways to reduce the risks it poses to workers, the public and the environment. Although Congress has refused to enact any of the commission's safety recommendations, the Department of the Interior adopted many of them after extensive input from industry, government and the public.

President Trump's April 28 executive order on offshore energy threatens to abolish these safety improvements and, as he put it, start "the process of opening offshore areas" to energy exploration. He took a further step last week to expand oil and gas extraction in the environmentally sensitive outer continental shelf. The commission members are unanimous in their view that the actions proposed in the president's executive order are unwise.

As Americans flock to

the nation's beaches this summer, it is important to understand what Mr. Trump's recent moves portend. Specifically, his executive order calls for the reconsideration of a critical safeguard that is the most important action the government has taken to reduce offshore drilling hazards. This safeguard, the well control rule, tightened controls on blowout preventers designed to stop explosions in undersea oil and gas wells. The rule was based in part on lessons the commission learned about the root cause of the BP disaster.

Had this common-sense rule been in place on April 20, 2010, that calamity might well have been averted. Weakening or rescinding this rule would increase the risks of offshore operations, put workers in harm's way and imperil marine waters and coastlines.

Mr. Trump's order also directed the Interior Department to review current rules on offshore drilling. Opening more areas to exploration, as the Trump administration moved to do last week, could threaten the fragile Arctic Ocean off Alaska as well as environmentally sensitive reaches of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. A spill in any of those waters could threaten multibillion-dollar regional economies that depend on clean oceans and coastlines.

Nothing has changed to justify these moves since the current five-year offshore leasing plan, which runs through 2022, was finalized after years of public and industry input. Broad public opposition to expanding drilling into frontier areas has not diminished. Nor are the identified potential harms to economies and ecologies any less significant.

In short, drilling in the outer continental shelf remains risky business. Safety and oversight in offshore drilling continues to need improvement, not roll-backs.

President Trump's executive order disregards these facts. It fails to account for the vulnerabilities of the ocean's frontier regions, a lack of adequate federal investment in safety measures for Arctic conditions, or the danger to coastal economies. It will put workers' lives as well as ecologically rich and economically important waters and coastlines at needlessly additional risk.

Bob Graham, a former Florida governor and United States senator, and William K. Reilly, a former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, were the co-chairmen of the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. This column was first published by The New York Times.



CAITLAN WALZER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Thursday evening, at the South Sumter Park, 12-year-old Tyrell Clea played a game of softball with other children and volunteers during the weekly Thursday community play date.

OPPORTUNITIES FROM PAGE A1

Hastie said the events are free and all of the equipment for the games are provided. The only requirement is that the children come wearing tennis shoes and arrive on time with a willing-to-learn attitude.

These play dates are important for the children of the community because it gives them a chance to learn the games that they likewise would possibly not have been able to, Hastie said.

"Some of these children come out here and don't even know how to put a glove on properly," Hastie said. "Other children have

never seen or picked up a tennis racket before. This is more than just a time for fun, this is an unforgettable opportunity to learn and for the volunteers to enjoy the company of the community children."

Hastie and McAlister both said they hope this initiative will be a motivating experience to get the children outdoors and get them active.

To become a leader in the lives of children and volunteer with the community play date, Hastie urges adults to contact him at (803) 774-7776.

Medicaid cut in GOP health bill is major cause of concern with nursing home set

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Amy Bernard and her brother kept their mother out of a nursing home as long as they could, until Parkinson's and dementia took their toll and she was seriously injured in a fall.

Bernard is happy with her mother's nursing home care, but it comes at a steep price: \$7,000 per month, an amount that would be way beyond the older woman's means if not for Medicaid, which picks up \$3,000 of the tab.

Which is why Bernard and many other Americans like her are watching the health care debate in Capitol Hill with trepidation.

The Senate Republicans' plan to repeal and replace President Obama's Affordable Care Act would cut projected Medicaid spending over the next decade by 25 percent.

Supporters of the bill say nursing home subsidies would not suffer significant cuts, but opponents say they are inevitable. The uncertainty is frustrating to those who rely on them.

In the case of Bernard's 83-year-old mother, retired teacher Francess Golditch, the \$4,000 that she receives each month from her pension and Social Security goes almost entirely to the nursing home.

"Without Medicaid supplementing, I don't know what would happen," said Bernard, a self-employed graphic artist in Boynton Beach, Florida. She added: "I have a house and I support myself. I honestly have no answer."

While the federal-state Medicaid program is most often associated with poor children and single mothers, almost two-thirds of its spending goes to the elderly and the disabled, even though they make up just 1 in 4 recipients.

The reason: Well over half the nation's 1.3 million senior citizens in nursing homes receive Medicaid. The burden is expected to balloon as the 74 million surviving baby boomers — those born between 1946 and 1964 — get older. They are 52 to 71 now.

In part because of the Medicaid cuts, the GOP bill lacks the votes to pass in the Senate, which is expected to take up the measure again



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chuck Schwarz, left, holds hand with his wife, Cathy, on Friday in South Elgin, Illinois. Medicaid Americans 65 and older and the disabled make up about a quarter of Medicaid recipients but account for two-thirds of its expenditures.

after Congress' weeklong July Fourth recess.

The bill would cut Medicaid's projected budget over the next 10 years by a combined \$772 billion, according to the Congressional Budget Office. That would decrease the amount projected to be spent federally on Medicaid during that time to about \$4.2 trillion.

Even with those cuts, nursing home patients would continue to receive significant assistance because federal Medicaid spending would grow by 20 percent over the next decade from its current level, said Zach Hunter, a spokesman for the GOP-led House Committee on Energy and Commerce, which helped write the House version of the bill.

Meanwhile, he said, federal regulations would be eased, giving states more flexibility to tailor their programs.

The proposed changes are "an important step towards strengthening the Medicaid program and ensuring vital funds go to the most vulnerable," Hunter said. He said the bill makes provisions, for example, for possible medical advances such as drugs for Alzheimer's or other diseases of the aged.

Joe Baker, president of the Medicare Rights Center, an advocacy group that opposes the bill, said substantial cuts eventually would hurt those who rely on nursing home assistance.

Medicare, the federal health insurance program that primarily covers people 65 and

older, does not cover long-term nursing home care.

To qualify for Medicaid nursing-home coverage, unmarried senior citizens in most states must have incomes of less than \$2,205 per month, including Social Security and pensions. Some states have a lower limit. The threshold is higher for married couples. Single people also must have drained their assets below \$2,000, though there is an exemption for home equity.

People with higher incomes can become eligible if their medical and nursing home expenses are too heavy. That is why Golditch is covered.

In 45 states and the District of Columbia, Medicaid also covers some senior citizens who are in assisted living centers or need home health aides.

Chuck Schwarz, who suffered a stroke in 2014, said Illinois' Medicaid program allows him and his wife of 60 years, Cathy, to stay at an assisted living complex in South Elgin, about 40 miles from Chicago. She has Alzheimer's, and Schwarz said being able to visit her daily has kept them both alive. Medicaid pays about 85 percent of their \$9,785 monthly bill.

"I don't know if I will be affected by the cuts or not. I may not be. If they do, I don't know what I would do," said Schwarz, an 82-year-old retired salesman and former Navy commandeer. "We have pretty much exhausted our savings. We didn't expect to live this

ANXIETY FROM PAGE A1

She said the predictions call for 11 to 17 named storms, with five to nine of those named storms becoming hurricanes and two to four of those named storms becoming major hurricanes.

Tropical storms Arlene, Bret and Cindy have already come and gone, with the next named storm destined to be known as Don. If Don doesn't get us, we must still keep our

eyes open for Emily, Franklin, Girt, Harvey and Jose.

Lurking down the list of possible weather catastrophes are Katia, Marie, Lee, Nate, Ophelia, Phillipe, Rina, Sean, Tammy and Vince.

Last, but not least, is Whitney.

Let's hope we don't have to find out what they do when they run out of names.

Maybe that's why they don't name tornadoes.



AP FILE PHOTO

Sarah Jones is seen on location for the television series, "The Vampire Diaries." Jones was killed during a film shoot on a train trestle in Georgia in February 2014, and her death has prompted broad safety discussions within the film and television industry and led her parents to advocate for better safety practices during productions.

Trial set to decide if railroad shares blame in movie crew death

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP) — A movie director served jail time for trespassing onto a Georgia railroad bridge and putting his film crew in the path of a freight train that slammed into the group and killed a young camera assistant. Now the dead woman's parents are going to court saying the railroad should share the blame, even though it denied the filmmakers permission to work on its tracks.

Sarah Jones, 27, died on a trestle spanning the Altamaha River in rural Wayne County on Feb. 20, 2014. The train collision also injured six fellow crew members as filming began on "Midnight Rider," a movie based on the life story of Allman Brothers Band singer Gregg Allman. The ill-fated production ended with the tragedy.

More than three years later, a Savannah judge has scheduled a civil trial to begin Monday in a wrongful death lawsuit by Jones' parents against CSX Transportation. Barring a last-minute settlement, a jury will decide if the railroad, which operated the train and owned the bridge, should have taken precautions to avert the deadly crash.

Richard and Elizabeth Jones are seeking monetary damages in the lawsuit, but have not specified an amount.

Attorneys for Jacksonville, Florida-based CSX insist the collision wasn't the company's fault. Investigators found CSX had twice denied the "Midnight Rider" filmmakers' requests for permission to shoot on its railroad trestle — each time in writing.

Both the Wayne County sheriff and the National Transportation Safety Board determined the movie crew, which had placed a hospital bed across the tracks for a planned scene, was trespassing when the CSX train came upon the group at 58 mph with its horn and whistle blaring. The train hit Jones and ran over her. Flying debris from the bed injured six others.

Attorneys for Jones' parents argue Jones and other crew members weren't aware production managers had failed to get permission to shoot on the trestle. They also say the railroad should have known the filmmakers would be in the area. Two trains crossed the same railroad bridge in the hour before the fatal crash. The Jones family's lawyers say video from one train shows crew members on both sides of the tracks, in "close proximity."

"Despite the fact that multiple CSX trains passed the

"Midnight Rider" cast and crew on February 20, with those individuals in view of the trains' operators, no warning was given to the subsequent train that ultimately caused Sarah's death," the lawsuit says.

The suit also says operators of the train that killed Jones failed to apply any brakes before the collision.

Court filings by CSX attorneys say operators of the two trains that passed the crew before the crash had no legal obligation to alert anyone else. The video shows filmmakers weren't on the tracks or the bridge, but stood on property that doesn't belong to the railroad. CSX says its operators had no duty to assume the crew would put itself in danger.

As the train involved in the collision approached the bridge, engineer Michael Ryan saw "what he thought were buzzards up ahead," according to a CSX court filing. He sounded the engine's horn and whistle 33 seconds before the crash.

"When Ryan realized that people were on the trestle, he did not apply the train's emergency brake because he thought the people were off the trestle or in the clear, the brakes would not slow the train down before it reached the trestle, and he was concerned about causing a derailment," CSX attorneys wrote in one court filing.

Jones family attorney Jeffrey Harris declined to comment prior to the trial. CSX attorneys did not immediately return phone and email messages. A CSX spokeswoman, Laura Phelps, said the company had no comment.

Chatham County State Court Judge Gregory Sapp rejected a motion to decide the case in CSX's favor before a trial. Sapp ruled a jury will need to decide "whether the trespassers were anticipated or discovered" immediately before the crash. A court document says the case could take two weeks or longer.

Sheriff's investigators and the NTSB found no fault with CSX. The movie's director, Randall Miller, served a year in jail after pleading guilty to involuntary manslaughter and criminal trespassing. Two of his assistants were sentenced to probation.

An NTSB report on the crash said the probable cause was "the film crew's unauthorized entry onto the CSX Transportation right-of-way ... despite CSX Transportation's repeated denial of permission to access the railroad property."

The Soul Reality of Parents and Teens ...

I was asked: "How do I parent my teenagers so they turn out to be good people?"

My first thought, unspoken: "You are too late."

Teenagers are not good people. Even though we have taught this generation they all deserve a trophy, teenagers are just like their parents: imperfect. How do imperfect parents produce perfect kids? They don't.

We put onto our children hopes and dreams. By the time they hit middle school, it becomes obvious they will not be star athletes; nor are they the smartest kid in the room; nor are they going to be Miss South Carolina. At this point, some parents keep pushing. The parents want the children to fill their dreams. The kids rebel. Tension rises. Parents get rigid. The battle is joined.

Sometimes the story goes like this: Mom and Dad divorce. One of the children is expected to fill the role of confidant. The child becomes the replacement spouse, the holder of family anger, the keeper of family secrets. At about 15, the child gets tired of this role. They rebel. They drink. They become sexually active. They are defiant. Then Mom or Dad ask the pastor, "How do I parent my teenagers so they turn out to be good people?"

To be a good parent, you must deal in soul reality. Soul reality is the truth about a person's entire being. This is the truth about all of us, parent and teenager: We make bad decisions; we don't think straight; we have mixed up emotions; our bodies keep changing and we don't know how to manage the change; and relationships are hard. This is the reality of our souls.

If you start with soul realities, you understand: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). The precious baby of 15 years ago was born into failure. Every parent was born into failure too.

Once you accept the basic soul reality

of sin, you know you need help. This is God's great offer to sinners: He wants to help you. He wants to forgive you. He wants to give you a new path to follow. He offers you a different soul reality.

So how does this work when you parent teenagers?

You start by confessing your own sins to God. You are appropriately upfront with your sins with kids. That means when you lose your temper, you tell your kids you blew it and you are sorry. You admit the reality of your own soul so you can help your kids accept the reality of their souls.

You ask God for wisdom. That means you spend time with Him. You let your kids know you are praying for them and asking God to help you be a better parent. You ask God to guide you to a new soul reality.

You ask God for strength. Even though you are imperfect, God called you to parent this child. That's right: Parenting is a calling. Your call is not to be a best friend or to have your children approve of you. Your calling is to love, forgive, to set boundaries, to let there be consequences, to give grace. You adjust the your soul values to God's new reality.

To be a good parent, you need a perfect role model. That's why parents should get as close to God as they possibly can. He's the perfect parent. He loves his children. He gives them grace. He guides them. He lets his children make wrong choices and suffer consequences so they learn. His hope for his children is not for them to succeed, but for his children to be with him. God will reshape your soul into a new reality.

So how do you parent your teenager so they become good people? You don't. You parent your teenager the same way your Heavenly Father parents you: you deal with soul realities. Our souls are a mess; God, our Father, offers you a new soul reality. In that new reality, you give your teenager the same things your Heavenly Father offers you: grace, love, guidance, and strength. A new soul reality is born.

Clay Smith is the lead pastor of Alice Drive Baptist Church, Sumter.



Clay Smith



AP FILE PHOTO

State election officials from across the U.S. are gathering this weekend in Indianapolis amid an uproar over a White House commission investigating allegations of voter fraud and heightened concern about Russian attempts to interfere with last fall's election.

State election officials gather amid uproar over voter data

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — State election officials are gathering this weekend amid an uproar over a White House commission investigating allegations of voter fraud and heightened concern about Russian attempts to interfere in U.S. elections said a lack of information from federal intelligence officials about attempts to breach voting systems across the country is a major concern.

Both Republicans and Democrats gathered in Indianapolis for a meeting of the National Association of Secretaries of State said they are frustrated because they have been largely kept in the dark by federal officials.

"The chief election official in each state should be told if there are potential breaches of that state's data or potential intrusions," said Republican Colorado Secretary of State Wayne Williams.

The Department of Homeland Security last fall said hackers, thought to be Russian agents, targeted voter registration systems in more than 20 states. And a leaked National Security Agency document from May said Russian military intelligence had attempted to hack into voter registration soft-

ware used in eight states.

That backdrop has drawn an unusual spotlight to the conference, which kicked off Friday and is being attended by officials from 37 states. The FBI and Homeland Security were attempting to allay fears by holding a series of closed-door meetings Saturday on voting security with elections officials.

"We need to make sure we're doing everything and anything possible in 2018. We need better cooperation from federal agencies," said California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, a Democrat.

There is no indication so far that voting or ballot counting was affected in the November election, but officials are concerned that the Russians may have gained knowledge that could help them disrupt future elections.

The conference also lands one week after the commission investigating President Trump's allegations of election fraud requested voter information from all 50 states, drawing bipartisan blowback. The request seeks dates of birth, partial Social Security numbers, addresses, voting histories, military service and other information about every voter in the country.

OBITUARIES

ROSE MARY MICKENS

BISHOPVILLE — Funeral service for Rose Mary Mickens, who died on June 28,

2017, was held at on Saturday at Joshua Church.

Visitation was held on Friday at the Bishopville Center.

Ms. Mickens leaves to cherish her memories: her mother, Ella Mae Mickens; sons, Jontrell Mickens, Brandon Mickens and Marquis Mickens; daughter, Britany Mixon; brothers, Terry Mickens, Curtis Hart, Terry (Denise) Mickens and Kelton (Cornelia) Washington; sisters, Renee Lucas, Coretta Washington and Sylestine Dixon; four grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends who will miss her dearly.

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AZALEE S. DINGLE

MANNING — Azalee Stukes Dingle, 89, widow of Emanuel Dingle, died on Thursday, July 6, 2017, at her residence.

She was born on Oct. 18, 1927, in the Jordan community of Clarendon County, a daughter of the late Rufus Stukes Sr. and Mary Billups Stukes.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 2301 Joseph Lemon & Dingle Road, Manning.

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

CARRIE G. HARVIN

Carrie G. Harvin of Sumter passed on July 6, 2017.

Plans will be announced by JP Holley Funeral Home, Columbia Chapel.

JIM W. NETTLES

Jim Wesley Nettles, 79, died on Friday, July 7, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on March 22, 1938, in Walterboro, he was a son of the late Henry Miles Nettles and Martha O'Quin Nettles.

Surviving are his wife, Agnes Coker Nettles; stepchild-

ren, Steve Coker, JoAnne Brown, Linda Locklear and Janet Barwick; and his beloved dog, Kandy.

Private graveside services will be held at Sumter Cemetery at a later date.

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

LEVI MCDONALD

MANNING — Levi McDonald, 54, died on Thursday, July 6, 2017, at his residence.

He was born on Feb. 1, 1963, in Summerton, a son of the late Willie and Lillie Mae Oliver McDonald.

The family is receiving friends at his residence, 1100 K W Hodge Road, Manning.

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

ENOCH JOHNSON JR.

Enoch Johnson Jr., 91, died on Friday, June 30, 2017, at his home in Brooklyn, New York.

Born on Nov. 7, 1925, in Sumter, he was a son of the late Enoch Sr. and Abbie Pearson Johnson.

Mr. Johnson will be placed in the church at 10 a.m. on Tuesday for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday at Salem Chapel and Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter. Interment will follow at Hillside Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Henry and Sue Johnson, 2262 Kings Mountain Drive, Dazell.

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.

MARGIE M. RICHARDSON

Margie Marshall Richardson, 83, wife of Robert Lee Richardson, departed this life on Thursday, July 6, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

She was born on May 18, 1934, in Mayesville, a daugh-

ter of the late Ellie Wilson Jr. and Louise Marshall Palmer.

The family will receive friends at the home, 3965 4th St., Mayesville.

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

WADE L. HICKSON

Wade L. Hickson, 95, widower of Louise Knox Hickson and son of the late Watson and Ida Graham, was born on Sept. 20, 1921, in Scranton. He departed this life on Friday, July 7, 2017, at CM Tucker Nursing Center, Columbia.

Family will receive friends at the home of his stepdaughter, Elouise Greene, 4785 Cotton Acres Road, Sumter, between the hours of noon to 8 p.m. daily.

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

FRANKLIN POTTS

Franklin "Toby" Potts, 81, died Friday, July 7, 2017, in Camden. Born Sept. 30, 1935, in Sumter County, he was the son of Willie and Isadora Gallishaw Potts.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 614 Brown St., Sumter.

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

KATRIN ROSS

Katrin Ross, 55, daughter of Elizabeth Nathaniel Selby and the late Hilbert Selby was born on June 27, 1962, in Sumter County. She departed this life on Friday, July 7, 2017, at Sumter Health & Rehab, Sumter.

Family will be receiving friends at the home of her mother, 4240 Wedgefield Road, Sumter.

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

HAROLD YATES

BISHOPVILLE — Mr. Harold Yates, 59, passed at his residence on Thursday, July 6, 2017.

Born in Patterson, New Jersey, he was a son of Eugene and Pauline Yates Franklin.

Public viewing will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. today at the Square Deal Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Cypress United Apostolic Church, 1153 Sandy Grove Church Road, Lamar, with Bishop Otis Holloman, pastor/eulogist. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 625 N. Main St., Bishopville. Condolences can be sent to

the family at esquaredealfun@sc.rr.com.

These services have been entrusted to Square Deal Funeral Home, 106 McIntosh St., Bishopville, SC 29010.

ARTHUR J. FOLMAR

LADY LAKE, Fla. — Arthur Jacob Folmar, age 101, beloved husband of the late Rebecca Smethers Folmar, died on Friday, July 7, 2017 at Atria Lady Lake.

Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.



JAMES MCKINLEY

Mr. James McKinley, 62, was born March 18, 1955, in Sumter County to the late Beatrice Jennings and the late Plank Franklin.

He departed this life on Friday, July 7, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

The family will receive friends at the home of his daughter, 130 Corbett St., Mayesville, from 5 to 9 p.m. daily.

Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced later by Whites Mortuary LLC.

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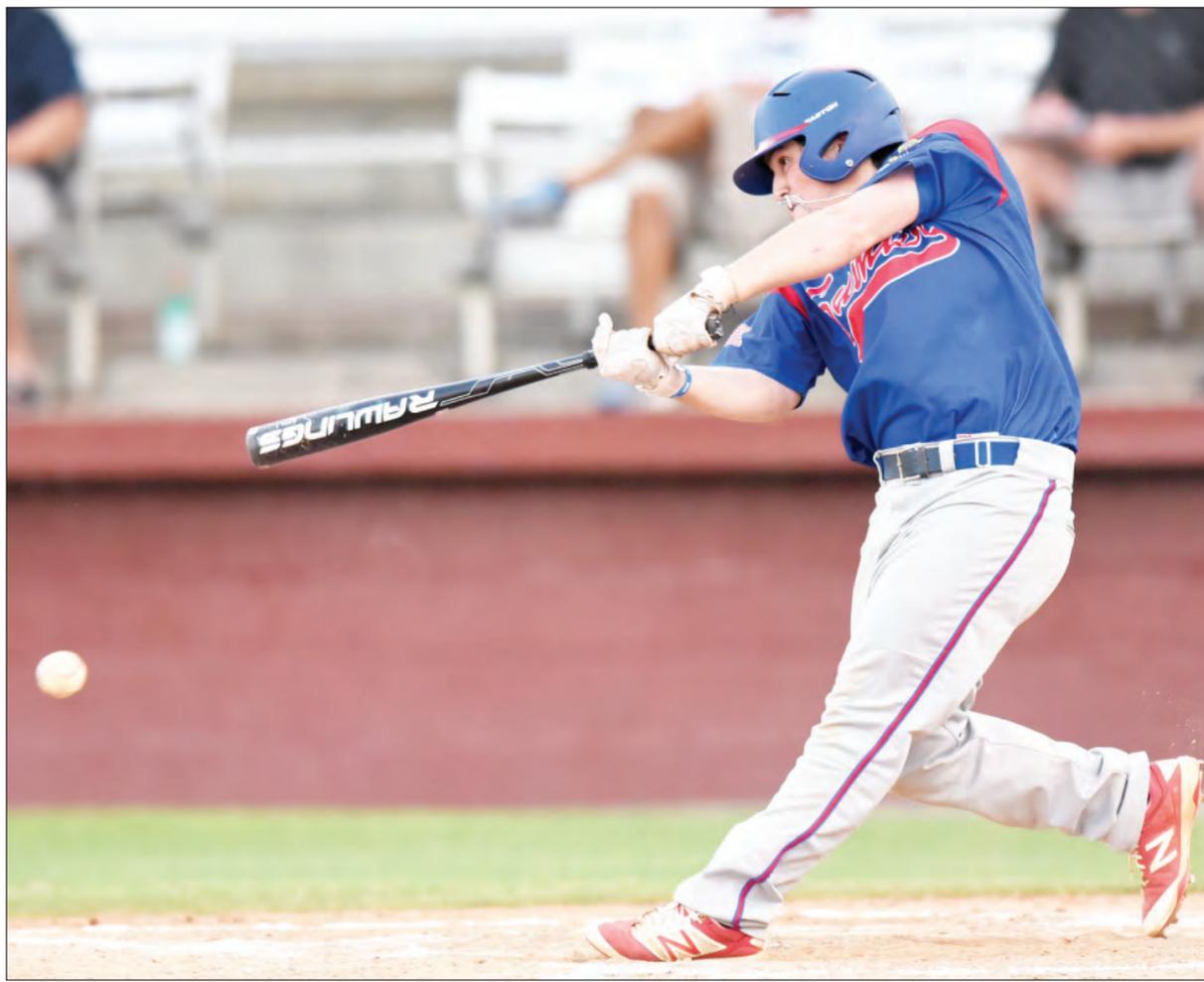
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CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE SC WORKS SANTEE-LYNCHES

LEGION BASEBALL COMMENTARY

Scheduling conflict



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Joey Pereira and the rest of the P-15's swept their first-round American Legion state playoff series against Murrells Inlet. They'll have to wait until Wednesday, however, to face Lexington. The 5-day layoff begs the question of why?

Decision for P-15's, rest of state playoff teams not to start 2nd round until Wednesday begs one question: Why, why, why?

I've been covering American legion baseball for over 30 years, and from the beginning there has seemingly been something done by the state baseball committee each year that has left me perplexed, dumbfounded, irritated or worse. A couple of years ago the decision was made to not let Legion baseball affect me. Go with the flow, let it roll off my back, whatever endearing phrase fits there, all I was going to worry about was covering the games and the players. Well, that all went out the



Dennis Brunson

Manning swept by Horry; Sumter to face Lexington

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Manning-Santee Post 68 saw its season come to an end on Friday, while the Sumter P-15's found out they will face Lexington in the second round of the American Legion baseball state playoffs.

M-S lost to Horry Post 111 4-1 at the Conway High School field as Horry swept the best-of-5 first-round series 3-0. Justin Evans took the loss for Manning despite a strong performance. The right-hander worked 7 1/3 innings, giving up three runs. He allowed eight hits and walked four. Jake Jordan, Taylor Lee and Connor Floyd each had two hits for Post 68, which finished the year with a 5-10 record. Lexington completed a

series 3-0.

Justin Evans took the loss for Manning despite a strong performance. The right-hander worked 7 1/3 innings, giving up three runs. He allowed eight hits and walked four.

Jake Jordan, Taylor Lee and Connor Floyd each had two hits for Post 68, which finished the year with a 5-10 record.

Lexington completed a

Sumter finished its first-round best-of-5 series sweep of Murrells Inlet on Thursday and Lexington concluded its series sweep of Hampton on Friday night; they won't

sweep of Hampton, winning by forfeit when Friday's game in Lexington was stopped due to lightning in the third inning and Hampton decided to not continue. Lexington was leading 23-0 at the time of the delay.

Lexington will meet Sumter in a best-of-5 second-round series. The series won't start until Wednesday when the P-15's play Lexington at Riley Park.

meet for another five days.

Which leads to an emphatic question: Why, why, why are they not starting on

SEE SCHEDULING, PAGE B2

AUTO RACING

Junior gets love, gifts prior to final Cup race at Kentucky

BY GARY B. GRAVES

The Associated Press

SPARTA, Ky. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. barely had time to bond with Kentucky Speedway, and now he's saying farewell to the track and the sport.

Fortunately for NASCAR's most popular driver, he's leaving with a lovely parting gift along with lots of love from Bluegrass racing fans.

As Earnhardt prepared to start Saturday night's 400-mile Cup race

from 13th, track management gave him a deluxe jukebox on Friday as a token of its appreciation. Adorned with Junior's No. 88 and his signature, the large jukebox will be donated in his name to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, an organization he supports.

"That's awesome because I know the kids are going to love it," said Earnhardt, who visited with kids there earlier this week. "We got them a little stereo, but this is going to take the cake. ... It will make a lot of kids smile when they are around this jukebox and enjoying it together. I appreciate that."

Other gifts are sure to follow as Earnhardt finishes his final circuit of full-time Cup duty. The ongoing farewell tour has made him reflect on his experiences, even at a track in which he'll start for just the seventh time.

Kentucky is somewhat notable for Earnhardt's final 2016 start before complications from concussion symptoms ended his season. Healthy now, he's hoping the 1.5-mile oval can yield a victory and start a climb from 22nd in points into the playoffs.

"A win is going to be great any week, but this is a hero-one-week, zero-the-next sport," said Earnhardt, who has earned two top-fives and the 2013 pole in six Kentucky starts.

"Even if we have a great run or a win, which would be awesome, there is another hill to climb and another one after that each week. This sport is so competitive and for us as a

SEE JUNIOR, PAGE B4

PRO BASEBALL

Yankees' Montgomery gets no decision in Friday's loss

BY MIKE FITZPATRICK

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jordan Montgomery got a no decision in his start for the New York Yankees in their 9-4 loss to the Milwaukee Brewers on Friday.

Montgomery, the 6-foot-6-inch left-handed pitcher from Sumter, worked 4 1/3 innings. He gave up seven hits and two runs while striking out four and walking none.

Montgomery gave up a 2-run home run to Milwaukee's Jesus Aguilar in the fourth inning, putting the Brewers up 2-1.

The Yankees regained the lead in the bottom of the inning, going up 3-2. However, there was a 51-minute rain delay during the inning.

Montgomery returned to the mound in the fifth. He retired the first batter he faced, but after giving up consecutive singles New York manager Joe Gi-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York Yankees starting pitcher and Sumter native Jordan Montgomery winds up to deliver a pitch during the Yankees' 9-4 loss to Milwaukee on Friday in New York.

rardi decided to make a change. On a night when Aaron Judge broke a New York Yankees record held by Joe DiMaggio for eight decades, it was Aguilar

who put on the most impressive rookie power show. Aguilar homered twice and

SEE MONTGOMERY, PAGE B3

WIMBLEDON

Djokovic snaps at chair umpire, reaches Week 2

BY HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

LONDON — All it took was a couple of questionable calls for



DJOKOVIC

Novak Djokovic to snap at the chair umpire in the second game of his third-round match at Wimbledon.

"That's two points in a row at the beginning of the match," Djokovic said, before telling official Jake Garner: "Focus, please!"

That would have been good advice for Djokovic himself. Maybe he was a bit on edge because this was the stage at which, as a two-time defending champion, he lost at the All England Club a year ago. On Saturday,

Djokovic briefly fell behind by an early break before zipping past Ernests Gulbis of Latvia 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (2) to earn his 10th berth in the tournament's second week.

Right after his, er, conversation with Garner, Djokovic lost a service game to trail 2-1. He later fell behind 4-2 in the opening set. But from there, Djokovic used a nine-game run to seize control and wasn't broken again.

"As soon as you give a guy like Novak the tools to step on the gas, he will step on the gas," said Gulbis, who has been a top-10 player and a French Open semifinalist but missed chunks of time because of injuries, dropping his ranking outside the top 500. "And he just goes, and

SEE DJOKOVIC, PAGE B4

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
7 a.m. - International Cycling: Tour de France Stage Nine from Chambéry, France (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
7:30 a.m. - Formula One Racing: Austrian Grand Prix from Spielberg, Austria (CNBC).
7:30 a.m. - Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Irish Open Final Round from Londonberry, Northern Ireland (GOLF).
1 p.m. - Track and Field: IAAF Diamond League Meet from London - Miller Anniversary Games (WIS 10).
1 p.m. - International Softball: World Cup of Softball XII Championship Game from Oklahoma City (ESPN).
1 p.m. - PGA Golf: The Greenbrier Classic Final Round from White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. (GOLF).
1 p.m. - Major League Baseball: Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs (TBS).
1:30 p.m. - Major League Baseball: Atlanta at Washington (FOX SPORTSOUTH, WFFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
3 p.m. - International Cycling: Tour de France Stage Nine from Chambéry, France (WIS 10).
3 p.m. - PGA Golf: The Greenbrier Classic Final Round from White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. (WLTX 19).
3 p.m. - Professional Tennis Wimbledon Week One Highlights from London (WOLO 25).
3 p.m. - WNBA Basketball: Dallas at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
3 p.m. - Professional Golf: Web.com Tour LECOM Health Challenge Final Round from Findley Lake, N.Y. (GOLF).
4 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Phoenix vs. Dallas (ESPN).
4 p.m. - Minor League Baseball: All-Star Futures Game from Miami (MLB NETWORK).
4 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Atlanta vs. New Orleans (NBA TV).
4 p.m. - IRL Racing: Indy Lights Series Mazda Iowa 100 from Newton, Iowa (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
5:30 p.m. - PGA Golf: Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic Final Round from Oneida, Wis. (GOLF).
5:30 p.m. - IRL Racing: IndyCar Series Iowa Corn 300 from Newton, Iowa (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
6 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Milwaukee vs. Brooklyn (NBA TV).
6:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Minnesota vs. Denver (ESPN2).
7 p.m. - International Soccer: CONCACAF Gold Cup Group C Match from San Diego - Curacao vs. Jamaica (FOX SPORTS 1, UNIVISION).
8 p.m. - Major League Baseball: Detroit at Cleveland (ESPN).
8 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Utah vs. Los Angeles Clippers (NBA TV).
8:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Portland vs. Boston (ESPN2).
9:30 p.m. - International Soccer: CONCACAF Gold Cup Group C Match from San Diego - Mexico vs. El Salvador (FOX SPORTS 1, UNIVISION).
10 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Memphis vs. Sacramento (NBA TV).
10:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Philadelphia vs. San Antonio (ESPN2).

MONDAY
7 a.m. - Professional Tennis: Wimbledon No. 1 Court and Outer Courts Round-of-16 Matches from London (ESPN2).
8 a.m. - Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Centre Court Round-of-16 Matches from London (ESPN).
Noon - Professional Tennis: Wimbledon No. 1 Court and Outer Courts Round-of-16 Matches from London (ESPN2).
4 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Atlanta vs. Chicago (ESPN).
4 p.m. - Women's Professional Golf: Senior LPGA Championship First Round from French Lick, Ind. (GOLF).
4:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Miami vs. Washington (NBA TV).
6 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Atlanta vs. Chicago (ESPN).
6:05 p.m. - Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Houston vs. Phoenix (NBA TV).
8 p.m. - Major League Baseball: Home Run Derby from Miami (ESPN, ESPN2).
8 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Denver vs. Toronto (ESPN).
8:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Golden State vs. Cleveland (NBA TV).
10 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Los Angeles Clippers vs. Milwaukee (ESPN2).
10:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Los Angeles Lakers vs. Golden State vs. Cleveland (NBA TV).
1 a.m. - Women's Professional Golf: Ladies European Tour Thailand Championship Third Round from Pattaya, Thailand (GOLF).

GOLF

The Associated Press

GREENBRIER CLASSIC SCORES
Saturday
At The Old White TPC
White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.
Purse: \$7.1 million
Yardage: 7,286; Par 70
Third Round

Sebastian Munoz	61-67-68	-196	-14
Robert Streb	65-68-65	-198	-12
Xander Schauffele	64-69-66	-199	-11
Jamie Lovemark	69-64-66	-199	-11
Kelly Kraft	67-66-67	-200	-10
Russell Henley	68-64-68	-200	-10
Davis Love III	63-69-68	-200	-10
Tony Finau	69-66-67	-202	-8
Nick Taylor	64-69-69	-202	-8
Danny Lee	64-68-70	-202	-8
J.B. Holmes	68-69-66	-203	-7
Hudson Swafford	65-66-72	-203	-7
Chad Campbell	70-69-65	-204	-6
James Hahn	71-64-69	-204	-6

MLB STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	50	38	.568	—
New York	45	40	.529	3½
Tampa Bay	46	43	.517	4½
Toronto	41	46	.471	8½
Baltimore	41	46	.471	8½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	46	39	.541	—
Kansas City	44	41	.518	2
Minnesota	45	42	.517	2
Detroit	38	47	.447	8
Chicago	37	48	.435	9

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	59	29	.670	—
Los Angeles	44	46	.489	16
Texas	42	44	.488	16
Seattle	42	46	.477	17
Oakland	38	49	.437	20½

FRIDAY'S GAMES
 Milwaukee 9, N.Y. Yankees 4
 Houston 12, Toronto 2
 Boston 8, Tampa Bay 3
 Cleveland 11, Detroit 2
 Texas 10, L.A. Angels 0
 Minnesota 9, Baltimore 6
 Colorado 12, Chicago White Sox 4
 L.A. Dodgers 4, Kansas City 1
 Seattle 7, Oakland 2

SATURDAY'S GAMES
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Milwaukee 3
 Toronto 7, Houston 2
 Baltimore 5, Minnesota 1
 Tampa Bay 1, Boston 0
 Detroit at Cleveland, 7:15 p.m.
 Kansas City at L.A. Dodgers, 7:15 p.m.
 L.A. Angels at Texas, 9:05 p.m.
 Chicago White Sox at Colorado, 9:10 p.m.
 Oakland at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES
 Milwaukee (Nelson 7-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 7-7), 1:05 p.m.
 Houston (Peacock 6-1) at Toronto (Happ 3-5), 1:07 p.m.
 Boston (Price 4-2) at Tampa Bay (Archer 7-5), 1:10 p.m.
 Baltimore (Jimenez 3-4) at Minnesota (Gibson 5-6), 2:10 p.m.
 L.A. Angels (Ramirez 7-7) at Texas (Darvish 6-7), 3:05 p.m.
 Chicago White Sox (Rodon 1-1) at Colorado (Freeland 8-7), 3:10 p.m.
 Kansas City (Duffy 5-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 13-2), 4:10 p.m.
 Oakland (Gossett 1-3) at Seattle (Hernandez 3-3), 4:10 p.m.
 Detroit (Fulmer 8-6) at Cleveland (Kluber 7-3), 8:05 p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAME
 All-Star Game: AL at NL, 8:00 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	51	36	.586	—
Atlanta	42	44	.488	8½
New York	39	46	.459	11
Miami	39	46	.459	11
Philadelphia	28	58	.326	22½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	49	41	.544	—
Chicago	43	43	.500	4
St. Louis	42	45	.483	5½
Pittsburgh	40	47	.460	7½
Cincinnati	37	49	.430	10

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	59	29	.670	—
Arizona	53	34	.609	5½
Colorado	51	38	.573	8½
San Diego	38	49	.437	20½
San Francisco	34	54	.386	25

FRIDAY'S GAMES
 Chicago Cubs 6, Pittsburgh 1
 San Diego 4, Philadelphia 3
 Milwaukee 9, N.Y. Yankees 4
 Washington 5, Atlanta 4, 10 innings
 N.Y. Mets 6, St. Louis 5
 Colorado 12, Chicago White Sox 4
 Arizona 6, Cincinnati 3
 L.A. Dodgers 4, Kansas City 1
 Miami 6, San Francisco 1

SATURDAY'S GAMES
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Milwaukee 3
 San Diego 2, Philadelphia 1
 Atlanta 13, Washington 0
 St. Louis 4, N.Y. Mets 1
 Kansas City at L.A. Dodgers, 7:15 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs, 7:15 p.m.
 Chicago White Sox at Colorado, 9:10 p.m.
 Miami at San Francisco, 10:05 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Arizona, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES
 Milwaukee (Nelson 7-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 7-7), 1:05 p.m.
 Pittsburgh (Taillon 5-2) at Chicago Cubs (Lester 5-5), 1:10 p.m.
 Atlanta (Newcomb 1-3) at Washington (Ross 5-3), 1:35 p.m.
 San Diego (Cahill 3-2) at Philadelphia (Eickhoff 0-7), 1:35 p.m.
 N.Y. Mets (Matz 2-1) at St. Louis (Lynn 6-6), 2:15 p.m.
 Chicago White Sox (Rodon 1-1) at Colorado (Freeland 8-7), 3:10 p.m.
 Miami (Urena 7-3) at San Francisco (Cain 3-8), 4:05 p.m.
 Cincinnati (Bailey 1-2) at Arizona (Corbin 6-8), 4:10 p.m.
 Kansas City (Duffy 5-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 13-2), 4:10 p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAME
 All-Star Game: AL at NL, 8:00 p.m.

WNBA STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	10	7	.588	—
Connecticut	9	7	.563	½
New York	8	7	.533	1
Atlanta	7	8	.467	2
Indiana	7	9	.438	2½
Chicago	3	12	.200	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	13	1	.929	—
Los Angeles	12	4	.750	2
Phoenix	9	6	.600	4½
Dallas	9	9	.500	6
Seattle	7	9	.438	7
San Antonio	1	16	.059	13½

FRIDAY'S GAMES
 Atlanta 89, Indiana 68
 Phoenix 92, San Antonio 77

SATURDAY'S GAMES
 Washington at Connecticut, 7 p.m.
 Minnesota at Chicago, 8 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Seattle, 9 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES
 Dallas at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
 New York at Phoenix, 6 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
 No games scheduled

SPORTS ITEMS

Sumter American splits pair of games at state tournament

LEXINGTON — The Sumter American 7-8 year-old coaches pitch all-star baseball team split its two games on Saturday on the opening day of the AA state tournament at Ball Park Road Recreation Complex.



Sumter American defeated Greer 15-5 in its opening game before falling to Lexington American 12-2 in its second game.

Sumter American will play Johnsonville today at 5 p.m. in an elimination game.

In the win over Greer, Morgan Love, Zylon Dennis, Scoop Dennis and Larry Johnson each went 3-for-3 with three runs batted in, while J.E. Rowe and Tyler Woodward both had two hits.

In the loss to Lexington, Rowe was 2-for-2 with an RBI. Jack Gordon and Johnson both had one hit and scored a run.

SUMTER 6

MCBEE 1

The Sumter Junior P-15's defeated McBee 6-1 on Friday at Riley Park to win their American Legion baseball first-round series 2-1.

Sumter advances to a best-of-3 second-round series against Cheraw. The first game is set for Monday at Riley Park 7 p.m.

The Junior P-15's won the opener over McBee 2-0 before McBee took a 5-0 win in the second game.

ROCKETS SIGN HARDEN TO \$228 MILLION DEAL, NBA'S RICHEST

LAS VEGAS — The Houston Rockets have signed star guard James Harden to a four-year, \$228 million contract extension, the richest contract in NBA history.

The Rockets said Saturday the extension will run through 2022-23 season but will not kick in until 2019. That means it will not affect their salary cap this season, so the Rockets are free to continue their roster upgrade. They added Chris Paul earlier

this summer.

Rockets owner Leslie Alexander says Harden's "incredible work ethic, desire to win, and passion to be the best" make him "the perfect leader in our pursuit of another championship." Harden says "Houston is home for me."

He averaged 29.1 points and led the NBA with 11.2 assists last season.

ESPN first reported the terms of the deal.

MUNOZ HAS 68 TO MAINTAIN GREENBRIER CLASSIC LEAD

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W.Va. — Sebastian Munoz shot a 2-under 68 on Saturday to maintain a two-stroke lead over Robert Streb after the third round of The Greenbrier Classic, keeping the PGA Tour rookie in position to become the tournament's first wire-to-wire winner.

The 24-year-old Colombian was at 14-under 196 on the Old White TPC, the course that was renovated after severe flooding forced the event last year to be canceled. Streb shot a 65.

Rookie Xander Schauffele and Jamie Lovemark were tied at 11 under.

Davis Love III was at 10 under after a 68. At 53, he's trying to become the oldest winner on the PGA Tour.

Kelly Kraft (67) and Russell Henley (68) also were 10 under.

KYLE BUSCH REPEATS AS XFINITY WINNER AT KENTUCKY

SPARTA, Ky. — Kyle Busch took the lead during a late caution and held on to win the rain-rescheduled 300-mile NASCAR Xfinity Series at Kentucky Speedway on Saturday.

Busch, the Cup series regular starting the first of two races on the pole, led 70 laps to win his second straight series victory at Kentucky. He also won from the pole a year ago.

Pitting earlier for tires and fuel paid off for Busch as he stayed on the track during the final yellow flag. There was no catching his No. 18 Toyota after the restart, though Ryan Blaney tried his best on the final lap after passing Erik Jones' Toyota for second.

From staff, wire reports

SCHEDULING

FROM PAGE B1

Monday? Who thought that was the right thing to do?

I understand why the first-round series didn't start until Wednesday. The Fourth of July was on Tuesday, and with the long holiday weekend there was no need to start the play-offs before Wednesday. Many Legion teams have issues getting enough players together as evidenced by the forfeits over the last few years.

However, there is no need to wait until the next Wednesday to start the second-round series.

In all honesty, when I saw the Wednesday start for the first round, my assumption was the committee expected most of the series to be sweeps and the second round could start on Monday. And even if a series went four or five games, the teams could take a day off after the conclusion of the first-round series before starting the second round, as has been the practice in American Legion baseball for as long as I've been covering it.

For the record, each of the four lower state second-round series are set and one of the three in the upper state are set. One of the other two could possibly be set, but a couple of first-round series were delayed by weather.

Which brings up another reason as to why the second-round series should start on Monday. Summer-

time in South Carolina usually means that there is a good chance of thunderstorms starting in the afternoon and running through the evening, and not everyone has a facility where the water drains like it does at Riley Park.

The second-round series are normally much more competitive and can easily go four or five games. So if you have a 5-game series with a couple of rainouts thrown in — and the threat of storms are in the extended forecast — you've got a series finishing just a few days before the start of the state tournament at Riley Park on Saturday, July 22.

That would not be good for the state tournament. Not only would you have things up in the air leading up to the tournament, but you could have some teams playing in the state with their pitching not set up the way they would like it to be.

While none will say otherwise, the head coaches would rather have a rested pitching staff — and a rested team for that matter — entering the state tournament. And that's what the committee should want, and I know they do, but having teams playing up until a few days before the state of the tournament does not help that occur.

So if anyone on the state committee reads this, it's not too late to make a last-minute decision and start the series that are set on Monday, Tuesday at the latest. It wouldn't be the first time a last-minute decision has been made.

AMERICAN LEGION STATE PLAYOFFS

LOWER STATE First-Round Series
Sumter (League III 1) vs. Murrells Inlet (League II 4)
Wednesday
 Sumter 11, Murrells Inlet 1
Thursday
 Sumter 22, Murrells Inlet 6 (7)
 Murrells Inlet forfeits Game 3, Sumter wins series 3-0

Lexington (League VIII 2) vs. Hampton (League I 3)
Wednesday
 Lexington 13, Hampton 6, Lexington
Thursday
 Lexington 15, Hampton 1
Friday
 Lexington wins by forfeit over Hampton, Lexington wins series 3-0

Chapin/Newberry (League VIII 1) vs. Goose Creek (League I 4)
Wednesday
 Chapin/Newberry 10, Goose Creek 3
Thursday
 Chapin/Newberry 9, Goose Creek 3
Friday
 Chapin/Newberry 14, Goose Creek 4, Chapin/Newberry wins series 3-0

Camden (League III 2) vs. Georgetown (League II 3)
Wednesday
 Camden 10, Georgetown 5
Thursday

Camden 18, Georgetown 0 (7),
Friday
 Camden 16, Georgetown 1, Camden wins series 3-0

Florence (League II 1) vs. Hartsville (League III 4)
Wednesday
 Florence 9, Hartsville 2
Thursday
 Florence 5, Hartsville 0
Friday
 Florence 4, Hartsville 3, Florence wins series 3-0

Orangeburg (League I 2) vs. Aiken (League VIII 3)
Wednesday
 Aiken 17, Orangeburg 3
Thursday
 Orangeburg 10, Aiken 1
Friday
 Aiken 4, Orangeburg 3, Aiken leads series 2-1
Saturday
 Orangeburg at Aiken
Today
 Aiken at Orangeburg (if necessary)
Beaufort (League I 1) vs. Lower Lexington (League VIII 4)
Wednesday
 Lower Lexington forfeits series to Beaufort, Beaufort wins series 3-0

Horry (League II 2) vs. Manning-Santee (League III 3)
Wednesday
 Horry 20, Manning-Santee 15
Thursday

Horry 16, Manning-Santee 5 (7),
Friday
 Horry 4, Manning-Santee 1, Horry wins series 3-0

Second-Round Series
July 12-16
 Sumter vs. Lexington
 Chapin/Newberry vs. Camden
 Florence vs. Orangeburg
 Beaufort vs. Horry

UPPER STATE First-Round Series
Rock Hill (League V 1) vs. Union (Ind) (League VI 4)
Thursday
 Rock Hill 7, Union 6
 Rock Hill 10, Union 5
Friday
 Rock Hill 6, Union 2, Rock Hill wins series 3-0

Williamston (League VI 1) vs. Spartanburg (League VI 3)
Wednesday
 Spartanburg 15, Williamston 1
Thursday
 Spartanburg at Williamston, postponed

Friday
 Williamston 4, Spartanburg 2, series tied 1-1

Saturday
 Spartanburg at Williamston
Today
 Williamston at Spartanburg
Monday
 Spartanburg at Williamston (if necessary)
Gaffney (League VI 1)

vs. Easley (League VII 4)
Wednesday
 Easley at Gaffney, postponed

Thursday
 Gaffney 3, Easley 2
 Gaffney 3, Easley 2
Friday
 Gaffney 13, Easley 3, Gaffney wins series 3-0

Fort Mill (League V 2) vs. Greenwood (League VII 3)
Wednesday
 Fort Mill 12, Greenwood 2
Thursday
 Fort Mill 12, Greenwood 1
Friday
 Fort Mill 14, Greenwood 9, Fort Mill wins series 3-0

Inman (League VI 2) vs. York (League V 3)
Thursday
 Inman 7, York 4

Friday
 Inman 9, York 6, Inman leads series 2-0

Saturday
 York at Inman

Today
 Inman at York (if necessary)

Monday
 York at Inman (if necessary)

Second-Round Series
July 12-16
 Rock Hill vs. Williamston or Spartanburg
 Gaffney vs. Fort Mill
 Inman or York vs. Greenville

MLB ROUNDUP



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atlanta starting pitcher Julio Teheran collects a 2-run single during the third inning of the Braves' 13-0 victory over Washington on Saturday in Washington.

Teheran, Braves rout Nats 13-0

WASHINGTON — Julio Teheran pitched seven strong innings to keep up his road dominance and added a career-high three RBI, Nick Markakis and Johnnan Camargo each had three hits, and the Atlanta Braves beat the Washington Nationals 13-0 Saturday.

Teheran (7-6) gave up four hits while walking two and striking out five to improve to 6-0 in nine road starts this season. He singled twice against Stephen Strasburg to improve to 4-for-7 in his career against him.

Strasburg (9-3) was hit on his hip by a line drive from Markakis in the third and left after the inning. He gave up seven hits and six runs, including three earned, in his shortest outing of the season.

Markakis hit his fourth home run of the season for Atlanta while Matt Adams added his 14th.

The Braves have taken two out of three to pull 8 1/2 games behind Washington in the NL East.

RAYS 1

RED SOX 0

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Alex Cobb pitched 2-hit ball into the eighth inning and the Tampa Bay Rays beat Rick Porcello and the Boston Red Sox 1-0 with some help from a replay reversal.

Cobb (7-6) retired 11 straight over one stretch. Alex Colome got the final four outs to finish Tampa Bay's 3-hitter.

YANKEES 5

BREWERS 3

NEW YORK — Clint Frazier hit a 3-run homer off Corey Knebel with one out in the ninth, lifting the New York Yankees over the Milwaukee Brewers 5-3.

Frazier turned on a 1-0 pitch from Knebel (0-2) for his second career homer and first game-ending shot.

CARDINALS 4

METS 1

ST. LOUIS — Paul DeJong homered as part of a 4-hit game and Adam Wainwright won his third straight start

as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the New York Mets 4-1.

BLUE JAYS 7

ASTROS 2

TORONTO — Josh Donaldson and Troy Tulowitzki homered, helping Marcus Stroman and the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Houston Astros 7-2.

ORIOLES 5

TWINS 1

MINNEAPOLIS — Jonathan Schoop and Mark Trumbo each homered for Baltimore, Wade Miley produced his best start in more than five weeks and the Orioles beat the Minnesota Twins 5-1 to stop a 5-game skid.

PADRES 2

PHILLIES 1

PHILADELPHIA — Austin Hedges drove in the winning run for the second straight game and Jhoulys Chacin pitched 6 1/3 strong innings to lead the San Diego Padres to a 2-1 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies.

From wire reports

MONTGOMERY FROM PAGE B1

matched a Brewers mark with seven runs batted in, including a tie-breaking grand slam in the seventh inning that sent Milwaukee to its fifth straight victory.

"He's a rookie doing this. But it feels like an experienced at-bat," Brewers manager Craig Counsell said. "He's a very mature hitter."

The surprising NL Central leaders overcame a season-high five errors, all in the first four innings, to win at Yankee Stadium for the first time in exactly 21 years. Back then, the Brewers were still in the American League — they switched to the NL in 1998 and had dropped 14 of their last 15 in the Bronx, including a 10-game losing streak they snapped in this interleague series opener.

Ryan Braun is the lone player remaining from Milwaukee's previous visit in June 2011, but the young Brewers (49-40) hardly looked intimidated while winning for the eighth time in nine games. They've won five in a row for the first time since completing a 6-game run in September 2015, and are nine games over .500 for the first time since Sept. 1, 2014.

Rookie left-hander Josh Hader (1-0) struck out seven over three innings of effective relief for his first major league win. Hader replaced dinged-up starter Junior Guerra following the 51-minute rain delay in the fourth.

"Josh did a heck of a job. We've been saving Josh for the right spot and today we really got in the right spot with him," Counsell said.

Milwaukee finished with 14 hits to four for the Yankees, who have dropped three straight. They are 6-17 since pushing their record to 38-23 on June 12.

The highlight for New York was Judge's major league-

leading 30th home run, which topped DiMaggio's mark for most by a Yankees rookie set in 1936.

"It's quite an honor. It's been a fun first half so far," said Judge, determined to stay modest. "I've got it in my notes: I look at it every day — .179, what I hit last year. So it's just a reminder that this game will humble you quick."

Struggling reliever Tyler Clippard (1-5) served up Aguiar's first career slam on a full-count fastball. That gave Milwaukee an 8-4 advantage,

and Clippard was booed off the mound by a crowd of 43,472 that had thinned dramatically by the time the 3-hour, 57-minute game ended 2 minutes before midnight.

"I feel very good about where I am at on the mound right now," Clippard said. "I feel like my stuff is there. It's just frustrating."

Milwaukee tied it 4-all in the sixth as Clippard allowed two inherited runners to score, including one on a wild pitch with an 0-2 count.

New first baseman Ji-Man Choi had a 2-run homer, connecting for the second time in two games with the Yankees.

Rachel & Stuart Pressley

Photo by Megan Manus Photography

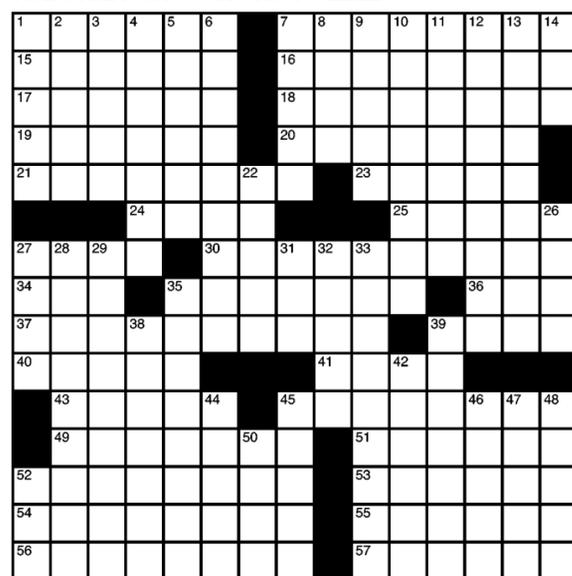
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SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By Samuel A. Donaldson

7/8/17

ACROSS

- 1 Gone for the summer, perhaps
- 7 Elegant pool entrance
- 15 Jet Ski competitor
- 16 NFLer from 1982-'94
- 17 Trick
- 18 Last of Sophocles' Theban plays
- 19 Off-base
- 20 Post-sunburn phase
- 21 Midway game
- 23 Number of hills di Roma
- 24 "30 for 30" documentary series ailer
- 25 Touch with gauze
- 27 They may be fake
- 30 Riding in the far-left lane, perhaps
- 34 NYSE debut
- 35 "Ciao Italia" chef Esposito
- 36 Cable co. acquired by AT&T
- 37 Producer who developed "The Jeffersons"
- 39 Ocean hazard
- 40 Unalaska native
- 41 Blocking action
- 43 Performs surgery on, in a way
- 45 Braised chicken dish
- 49 Runner with big eggs
- 51 Final syllable
- 52 Lobster sensors
- 53 Otis of elevators
- 54 Men's department fixtures
- 55 Forwarded
- 56 Decorative herbs
- 57 Training aids
- 9 Crafts in Cancún
- 10 Attached by pounding
- 11 Technology catchall
- 12 "No need to be scared of me"
- 13 Retaliation
- 14 Word of relative time
- 22 Jam
- 26 "What a long week!"
- 27 Turner of music
- 28 Michael Corleone's first wife
- 29 Big storm
- 31 Reuben setting
- 32 Finnish distance runner Nurmi
- 33 For the asking
- 35 _ instinct
- 38 Summons (up)
- 39 Dancer's program
- 42 Like one looking down on his neighbor?
- 44 On account of
- 45 Musical whose plot involves a two-person tournament
- 46 Windows 7 precursor
- 47 Cry from one on a streak
- 48 Asian breads
- 50 Like dried mud
- 52 Novak Djokovic's org.

Friday's Puzzle Solved



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DOWN

- 1 Michaelmas daisy
- 2 Country singer
- 3 Memorial rocks
- 4 Much magazine content
- 5 Goes up
- 6 Coke holder
- 7 High-fives, e.g.
- 8 Ebb

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.

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

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PAAHL

GIBEE

HUSTIA

HNURCB

(Answers Monday)



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: TRACT SORRY EXCITE SALMON
Answer: With GPS maps on their new phones, even tourists can be — STREET SMART

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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

RECRUITING

USC picks up pair of commitments on Fourth of July

A big Fourth of July for head coach Will Muschamp and his University of South Carolina program was capped off on Tuesday afternoon by a commitment from running back Lavonte Valentine (6 feet, 188 pounds) of Melbourne, Florida, for the 2018 recruiting class.

His was the second commitment of the day for USC. In the morning defensive lineman Jabari Ellis of Georgia Military College committed to USC.

Valentine, who picked USC over Louisiana State and Louisville, is the 12th commitment for that class.

Valentine also is a track and field talent and is one of the fastest RBs in the country. USC recruiter Bobby Bentley impressed upon him early in the process USC's need for his speed and the opportunity he'll have at USC to run track as well.

Valentine also has much of his family in South Carolina and that too was a major attraction for him. However, it was the persistence of Muschamp and Bentley that won him over.

"Coach Bentley, I'm in contact with him, and Coach Muschamp like almost every single day since they've been recruiting me," Valentine said. "He did tell me it's going to be a great improvement for their program. I guess because they haven't had a speedy back or a back as fast as me. They like to run the ball, but they just don't have the back as fast as me. He said I'll fit in well; they'll put me on special teams and there's a variety of ways I can help the team."

USC offered Valentine earlier this year and he visited for the spring game. Muschamp made it clear to him he was a priority, but he never pressured him to commit, and in the end, that's a big reason why he got him.

"He hasn't ever told me I need you to commit now or your spot is going to be gone," Valentine said. "He never did anything like that. He never pressured me. And I have a strong connection with him. I talked to him every single day. He said whenever you're ready, you just commit. He told me I'm holding this spot for you and I could see he liked me a lot. Every time I talked to him it was like heartfelt conversations. I know he's not BS-ing me or anything like that."

Valentine rushed for 890 yards and 10 touchdowns last season. He said he can get the tough yards and run through contact, but he prefers those open spaces his speed creates.

"When I score touchdowns, it's like 50-, 60-, 70-, 80-yard runs," he said.

Valentine is the second RB commitment for the class and

USC has filled its quota at the position for this class.

Valentine plans to attend the USC prospect gathering on July 22.

Ellis, who is from Vance, announced his commitment to USC on Tuesday in Orangeburg. Ellis (6 feet, 5 inches, 285) chose USC over North Carolina State, a decision he firmed up in his mind last week.

"It came down to who I felt most comfortable with," Ellis said. "I felt like I could have accomplished my goals at both schools, so it really came down to who I felt comfortable with and it was the Gamecocks. They offered me back in February, the first school to offer me. I knew from the start they wanted me, they needed me. Coach Muschamp and (assistant) Coach (Lance) Thompson were putting it in me every day, 'We need you, we need you, we need you.' That played a big part, too."

Ellis played a lot of defensive end in high school, and he made the Shrine Bowl team in '15. At GMC though, he was moved inside and made 14 tackles with four tackles for loss last season. He said USC also like him as an interior DL.

"Now I'm more of a technician," Ellis said. "At Lake Marion (High School in Santee), I was sort of a bully, but playing college you've got to focus on technique."

Ellis is the second junior college DT for the class. He has been impressed by what he's heard and seen from Muschamp over the past few months.

"I'm bought in the system," he said. "I believe in everything he's saying. He's turned their program around. Actually, I wanted to commit to Carolina before I went to (visit) N.C. State. But after the N.C. State visit, I was pretty much undecided. Great program. But Carolina, there's just something special there."

Miami was the big offer for Ellis out of high school and became his dream school, but he needed more academic work and ended up at GMC. He said Miami contacted him a couple of weeks ago and wanted him to visit and possibly get an offer, but his mind was already set on USC.

Ellis said USC wants to put another 10-15 pounds on him once he arrives and have him playing at around 300 pounds.

"They showed me a depth chart and told me they need more people at that position," he said. "They want me as a run stopper. I'm ready to bring that to the defense."

Ellis comes from an area of the state that's been strong with Clemson recent years. Most notably, former Tigers wide receiver Mike Williams, now with the Los Angeles Chargers, came from Lake Marion and is close friends



Phil Kornblut
RECRUITING
CORNER

Just like I said before, I'm bought in the system."

Linebacker Channing Tindall of Spring Valley High in Columbia is at The Opening in Oregon, and he told media there his top schools are USC, Georgia, Auburn, Florida and Notre Dame. He wants to visit UF, FSU and UGA in July and make his decision this month as well.

USC would like to sign another quarterback for the class and is continuing to sort through possibilities. Two are Cordel Littlejohn of Roswell, Ga., and Carter Bradley of Jacksonville, Fla. Neither has a USC offer, but Muschamp and offensive coordinator Kurt Roper plan further evaluations in July to determine if one, or both, should be offered.

Littlejohn attended USC's junior day in January and was back for a camp earlier this month. "Coach Roper, he really likes me," Littlejohn said. "He tells me that he's going to keep recruiting me, but wants to see me play a little bit of senior ball. When I went to the junior day, Coach Muschamp told me they really liked me, they just wanted to see me throw it live, and they were going to really recruit me hard."

Littlejohn also has been to UGA and Alabama this summer, and he's going to Louisville this month. He said USC and Louisville are the two schools showing the most interest in him at this point.

Bradley is the son of former Jacksonville Jaguars head coach Gus Bradley. He camped recently at LSU and Tiger head coach Ed Orgeron likes him a lot.

Muschamp wants to see him in a USC camp before doing more with him, and he's considering attending one on July 21. UGA also is strongly interested with head coach Kirby Smart leading the effort. He wants Bradley to visit next month for Dawg Night.

Bradley has dropped Mississippi from his list and replaced it with Auburn, which also has him high on the board.

Defensive back Jermaine McMillian of Miami recently named his top six as USC, Temple, Baylor, NCSU, Ole Miss and Mississippi State. He's not yet been to USC, but he plans to visit for the prospect social event on July 22.

"I'm going to be an early enrollee and I'm liking the early playing time," McMillian said.

with Ellis.

"I was joking with Mike that Carolina is going to beat Clemson," Ellis said. "I feel like they are making a 360 (degrees) turn and are really on the up-rise."

"I will be able to go in and play early. All I have to do is go in and work and I'll be able to play early. And I'd love to play in the SEC (Southeastern Conference)."

McMillian has not taken any visits thus far, but he plans to visit all the schools on his short list this month. He does not have any favorites at this point and he'd like to make his decision in mid-August, prior to his season.

WR Tyquan Johnson of Sylvania, Georgia, said USC now stands alone at the top of his list, and by a wide margin.

"They are just telling me they would use me as a big target, just throwing and slinging it," Johnson said. "And also opening the offense up for the running game, too."

Johnson said he will return to USC on July 22 for the prospect social gathering.

"South Carolina is my No. 1 choice right now," Johnson said, with Mississippi State second and West Virginia third. "It was neck and neck but it has grown bigger and bigger because South Carolina is recruiting me real, real, real hard, like heavy."

Despite a strong lean to USC, Johnson said he won't make a commitment until December. He does not have any current plans to visit Mississippi State or WVU.

Conway High DE Raiqwon O'Neal picked up his 30th offer last month from NCSU. USC also is one of his offers and he remains in regular contact with DL coach Thompson.

O'Neal will make a return visit to USC on July 22 and will visit Maryland, Rutgers, Penn State, WVU, Virginia and Michigan by the end of July. O'Neal doesn't have a favorite, but he said Maryland has the best program in his major, which will be graphic design. He plans to trim his list after he takes his July visits.

Offensive lineman Joavahn Gwyn of Charlotte has a short list of USC, Duke and NCSU. Gwyn was at a USC camp last month and since then he's been in touch with Muschamp along with OL coach Eric Wolford and recruiter Bentley. They continue to impress upon him their need for OLs.

"There's a good chance because a lot of them (OLs) are seniors or juniors who will become seniors, so there's a good chance that if I come and work for a spot I can start," Gwyn said. He feels NCSU is recruiting him the hardest at this point.

DE Dorian Gerald, a Florence native who attends College of the Canyons JC in California, announced his top five list as USC, Tennessee, Louisville, UF and UGA. He visited USC and Tennessee unofficially last month and

has an official visit to Louisville set for Sept. 16.

USC DL target Antwan Jackson is headed to Blinn JC in Texas after transferring from Auburn, according to JC Shurburt of TheBigSpur. He was blocked by Auburn from transferring straight to any other SEC school, Clemson, Ohio State, Georgia State and Mercer.

Latrell Jean, a '19 DE from Lakeland, Florida, plans to visit USC at the end of July.

CLEMSON

After missing on RB Zamir White of Laurinburg, N.C., when he committed to UGA, Clemson responded by offering two other RB prospects it passed on earlier. On Saturday, the Tigers offered Lyn-J Dixon of Butler, Ga., a Tennessee commitment. The Tigers were one of the teams on his short list when he committed to the Volunteers late last month.

And Clemson offered Master Teague III of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, last Friday. He is an Ohio State commitment and said he is sticking with that commitment.

"I think the Clemson offer is definitely a great offer and opportunity," Teague said. "It makes me continue to think about God blessing me. It makes me know that hard work and patience are good. Clemson has a great program and great coaches. I think about that stuff. I haven't thought about changing my decision. I am still excited about that."

DB Quindarius Monday of Atlanta named his top seven as Clemson, FSU, Auburn, UGA, Tennessee, UF and Georgia Tech.

DE KJ Henry of Clemmons, N.C., is at The Opening and told Rivals he hopes to get to Clemson's All-In Cookout this month, but may not be able to due to a 7-on-7 tournament in Canton, Ohio, July 20-22. He instead might visit Ohio State with his teammates while in Ohio. He also said USC, Alabama, UGA, Ohio State and Virginia Tech are the other main teams with him at this point.

DB Tyson Campbell of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, told 247Sports two of his official visits this fall will be to Clemson and Ohio State.

Oklahoma RB commitment TJ Pledger of IMG Academy told 247Sports at The Opening he will take officials to Clemson, Oklahoma and Nebraska. He said his commitment is still solid.

Dominick Blaylock, a '19 WR from Marietta, Georgia, is down to Clemson, UGA and Auburn with his decision coming in August.

New Clemson offers went to '19 WR Arjei Henderson of Richmond, Texas, and '19 DB Jammie Robinson of Cordele, Ga.

DJOKOVIC

FROM PAGE B1

he doesn't look back."

Three of Djokovic's 12 major championships have come at Wimbledon, and after a real dip in results over the past 12 months, he has not dropped a set so far this fortnight.

"That only can boost my confidence level," the No. 2-seeded Djokovic said, "for whatever is coming up next."

After the grass-court Grand Slam tournament's traditional middle Sunday off, he will face 51st-ranked Adrian Mannarino of France for a place in the quarterfinals.

All 16 fourth-round singles matches are scheduled for Monday — Wimbledon is the only major that does it that way — including these in the bottom half of the men's draw: No. 3 Roger Federer vs. No. 13 Grigor Dimitrov, a guy nicknamed "Baby Fed" because of his similarities to the 7-time Wimbledon champion; Milos Raonic vs. No. 10 Alexander Zverev; and 2010 runner-up Tomas Berdych vs. No. 8 Dominic Thiem.

Federer, like Djokovic, has won every set he's played this week, including Saturday's 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-4 win against No. 27



Novak Djokovic, right, gestures to umpire Jake Garner as he disputes a call during his 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (2) men's singles win over Ernests Gulbis in the third round of Wimbledon on Saturday in London.

Mischa Zverev, Alexander's older brother.

The matchups on the top half of the men's draw are defending champion Andy Murray vs. Benoit Paire, 2-time Wimbledon winner Rafael Nadal vs. No. 16 Gilles Muller, No. 7 Marin Cilic vs. No. 18 Roberto Bautista Agut, and No. 24 Sam Querrey vs. Kevin Anderson.

Women's fourth-rounders: 5-time champion Venus Wil-

liams vs. No. 27 Ana Konjuh, No. 1 Angelique Kerber vs. No. 14 Garbine Muguza, No. 2 Simona Halep vs. Victoria Azarenka, French Open champ Jelena Ostapenko vs. No. 4 Elina Svitolina, No. 6 Johanna Konta vs. No. 21 Caroline Garcia, No. 7 Svetlana Kuznetsova vs. Agnieszka Radwanska, No. 5 Caroline Wozniacki vs. No. 24 CoCo Vandeweghe, and Magdalena Rybarikova vs. Petra Martic.

JUNIOR

FROM PAGE B1

team it's been a real challenge this year to sort of find our footing."

While Earnhardt tries to find the right formula, speculation continues as to his possible successor in the Hendrick Motorsports Chevy.

Two-time Daytona 500 winner and 2003 Cup champion Matt Kenseth could be an option along with rising drivers William Byron and Alex Bowman. Kenseth, 45, said Friday that he has no ride lined up for 2018 and is likely done at Joe Gibbs Racing.

Asked if he might put in a good word for Kenseth with owner Rick Hendrick, Earnhardt smiled and said the former champion won't be hurting for opportunities.

"Matt is going to have a job," he said. "I don't think he's got to worry about that. I think that it's smart for

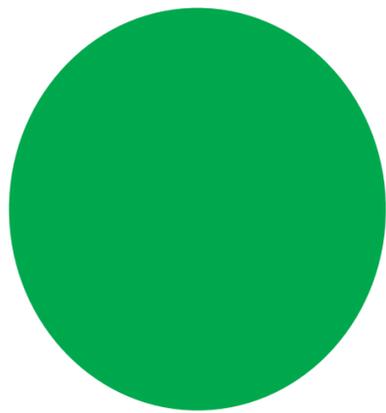
him to let everybody know early what his plans are or the lack thereof. He is a talented guy who is just a couple of races removed from being a winner and could show up any week and get to victory lane."

Right now, Earnhardt's objective is ending a 54-race drought dating back to November 2015 at Phoenix. He also aims to bounce back after wrecking and finishing 32nd at Daytona.

A victory or competitive run at Kentucky would provide a fine ending and please his loyal fan base. The track that Earnhardt once lamented for its bumpiness has been repaved twice, and he seeks a similarly smooth run.

No matter how it ends, he's enjoying the ride.

"You can make some choices to do something different in the corner to give you a chance to get around a guy," Earnhardt said, "and that is a lot of fun."



USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE

THIS WEEK

What would you do if you won a check equivalent to a year's rent?

SpareRoom.com's Live Rent Free competition, which will pay a year's rent to one lucky roommate, aimed to answer this by asking more than 7,400 people what they would spend this money on. Among Millennial responders:

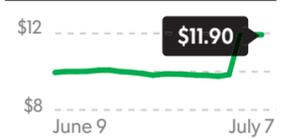
- ▶ **17%** would pay off expenses.
- ▶ **9.5%** would travel.
- ▶ **15%** would pay off their parents' debts.
- ▶ **33%** would pay the rent.
- ▶ **0.2%** would save for a deposit on a house.

ON THE MOVE STOCK STORIES OF THE WEEK

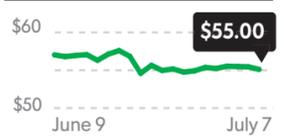
EQT
The oil and natural gas company wanted to buy Rice Energy at \$6.7 billion, and a fund manager revealed its 5.8% stake and sought to halt the deal. The fund manager thinks the deal is overpriced and wants to split divisions instead.



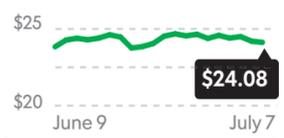
MONOGRAM RESIDENTIAL TRUST
The apartment real estate investment trust (REIT) saw its stock price jump more than 20% as the market opened to a record high since it was listed in November 2014. It agreed to be acquired by a Greystar Real Estate Partners-led group for \$2 billion in cash.



DUNKIN' BRANDS GROUP
The restaurant holding company's Baskin-Robbins chain says it can deliver ice cream in the heat of summer. Through on-demand restaurant delivery service DoorDash, more than 600 stores are delivering milkshakes, sundaes and other frozen treats.



LIBERTY INTERACTIVE
The media conglomerate agreed to buy 62% of the Home Shopping Network it doesn't already own. The deal is valued at \$2.6 billion, or \$40.36 per share. Shares reached their highest price since August before re-treating.



USA SNAPSHOTS®

Business nightmares

24% of small-business owners have had a nightmare about their business failing.

SOURCE: Spring 2017 Bank of America Small Business Owner Report
JAE YANG AND PAUL TRAP, USA TODAY

THINK TWICE BEFORE GIVING UP FINANCIAL CONTROL AT THE ALTAR



Couples need to have good-sense measures in place to keep money matters in check

Elizabeth Renter
@ElizabethRenter
NerdWallet

Marriage means sharing your life and, usually, your finances. But some people relinquish all financial control to their new spouse — a move that could prove harmful if it means losing awareness of household money matters.

No one likes the thought of losing a partner. But if your spouse has managed all the money, the stress of divorce or death is compounded if you also have to piece together your finances.

Income and expenses, details of where the savings, investments and debt are held and the amount of each item — these are all crucial bits of information spouses are better off sharing.

“Taking an extreme position around money management in a relationship — such as taking all of the responsibility or none of it — is a recipe for relational and financial disaster,” says psychologist and financial planner Brad Klontz, of Lihue, Hawaii.

Instead, compromise and communication are key, as with most things in marriage.

FIND THE RIGHT BALANCE

What works for one couple may not for another. Talk with your spouse both before and early in the marriage about financial priorities and sharing responsibilities.

Some people are attracted to partners with opposite money management styles, according to Klontz. Someone who doesn't like dealing with finances, for example, may be attracted to the “perceived stability and prudence” of a partner who does, he says. Then it's easy to fall into a situation where one person acts as the sole chief financial officer.

In other marriages, one person may handle the day-to-day budgeting and the other long-term savings and investments.

COMMUNICATE REGULARLY

Still, problems can arise when couples aren't transparent. Spouses need to regularly share their perspective of the household's financial status.

One way to do that is by having a regular money date night, suggests Avani Ramnani, a certified divorce financial analyst at Francis Financial in New York City. Over dinner or a glass of wine, update each other on monthly spending, savings, investments and areas that are going well or could use improvement.

Money often is a source of marital discord, so discussing it openly and regularly can stave off arguments down the road.

Renter is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website and USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.

Employers use ‘summer Fridays’ to keep workers cool

Latest perk puts that slow end-of-the-week day in employees' hands to use as they wish

Emily Bohatch
@emilybohatch
USA TODAY

That's up considerably from 2015, when about 22% of companies offered the perk, the survey found.

For most employers, offering flex time is cheaper than doling out raises or bonuses. And giving workers some time to themselves can help avoid burnout, said Courtney Clark, a motivational speaker who works with businesses on employee retention.

Clark, an author and owner of Accelerated Strategies, said letting employees out early on a Friday to do something as simple as running errands can really boost that person's self-esteem and better prepare them for success.

“It allows employees space to include actions that are more meaningful to them,” she said. When employees include more meaningful activities in their lives, such as spending time with family or volunteering, it reduces

Some workplaces not only have embraced the summer doldrums, they've turned those agonizingly slow Friday afternoons into a cheap perk dubbed the “summer Friday.”

A number of employers, acutely aware of the fact workers are daydreaming of being anywhere but at the office, let them take the day off or leave early on Friday afternoons in an effort to boost morale and productivity.

In a survey of more than 200 employers, about 42% of them were offering summer Fridays this year, according to a study from Gartner, a business and technology research company.



“Letting employees modify their schedules, leave early ... are easy ways to keep them loyal and engaged.”

Brandi Britton, a district president for OfficeTeam

the likelihood of burnout and increases employee retention.

Cara Silletto, president and chief retention officer at Crescendo Strategies, said many workers are overloaded. A flexible schedule, in some cases, can help.

“They're having to sacrifice at

home or in other areas in their life if they have to work so hard,” she said.

“Letting employees modify their schedules, leave early on Fridays or dress more casually when it's hot out are easy ways to keep them loyal and engaged,” Brandi Britton, a district president for OfficeTeam, said.

Consultant Glenn Nishimura said offering the perk is no Band-Aid. “If there's problems with productivity, if there's problems with employee engagement, there needs to be a larger overhaul,” he cautioned. “If they're not happy in their work, they're not going to be productive regardless of what season it is.”

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow Jones	S&P 500	Nasdaq	Wilshire 5000	Gold	Oil	Euro	Yen
industrial average		composite index		Ounce, Comex	Light sweet crude	Dollars per euro (week)	Yen per dollar
▲0.3% week	▲0.1% week	▲0.2% week	unch. week	▼2.4% week	▼3.9% week	▼0.0018	▲1.45 week
▲1.1% month	▼0.3% month	▼2.3% month	▼0.2% month	▼6.1% month	▼3.3% month	▲0.0152 month	▲4.16 month
▲3.7% 3 months	▲3.0% 3 months	▲4.7% 3 months	▲2.8% 3 months	▼3.4% 3 months	▼15.3% 3 months	▲0.0816 3 months	▲2.84 3 months

USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE

PETE THE PLANNER

Q I'm about to have an interview for a gig at a different company than which I am currently employed. The new employer essentially has a probation period, with benefits not being active for 90 days. What are my least financially-burdensome options if I do switch to the new job? During the phone interview the employer said they might be able to help with COBRA payments. I'm married and have two young kids. Anything else I should consider? — RYAN

Peter Dunn
Special for USA TODAY



Any time a person has a job change, I worry about two very specific financial consequences — benefits and cash flow. If you're able to navigate the transition with your benefits and cash flow in mind, you will find yourself in a much better position when all is said and done.

There are four missing benefits I'd mainly be concerned with over the next 90 days.

The first one you've already identified — health insurance. It's the 2017 version of "don't leave home without it." Sorry, American Express. The coverage you'll secure through COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985) likely will be much more expensive than what you're used to. That's because not only do you have to pay the monthly premium you're used to paying, but you also have to pay what your employer has been paying on a monthly basis, plus a 2% administrative fee. If you typically pay \$300 per month for coverage and your employer is paying \$400 per month to help subsidize your coverage, then your COBRA premium payment will be approximately \$714 per month.

You definitely want the new firm to subsidize this payment, either completely or in part. If

you're not able to get them to chip in, you'll probably need your entire net income increase to pay COBRA premiums.

Also, you likely lost life insurance and disability insurance coverage. If you haven't already, secure life insurance outside of your group coverage.

As far as disability coverage is concerned, consider securing coverage through your insurance agent during this period. The application and underwriting process might stretch a month or so, but you'll be covered as long as you make the initial premium payment with the application. Disability insurance isn't terribly expensive, yet it's often overlooked when trying to eliminate risks. If you need to drop the coverage once the new disability coverage kicks in, fine, but you should consider keeping this additional coverage long term.

The fourth temporarily lost benefit, which you should already know concerns me, is your retirement benefits. Unless you take action, you won't be making retirement account contributions, nor will your employer via the employer match. Depending on your income, this is a pretty easy fix. Just open a Roth IRA and fund it for three months.

I'm going to make an assumption — your new gig will pay you more than your old gig. While this is a good thing, your cash flow is going to be really weird for the next 120 days.

Because you aren't eligible for benefits for three months, your take-home pay is going to be significantly higher than you're used to. If you're not careful, the increase could completely backfire

on you when you become benefits eligible.

Have you ever paid off a car after years of making the monthly payment? What happened next? If you're like most people I've come across, 60 days after you paid off the car, you couldn't find the former monthly payment within your budget to save your life. It's because you unknowingly adjusted your spending to match your increased cash flow. Water always finds its level, and so does your spending if positive cash flow increases without a plan.

For instance, let's say your take-home pay is \$1,200 per paycheck. The gross pay is much higher, but after taxes and your benefits are taken out, it's \$1,200. Now, let's assume your take-home pay of the new job would be \$1,800 per pay period for the first 90 days. What can't happen is you create lifestyle dependency on \$1,800 per pay over the next 90 days. If you do, you're not only in trouble once the probationary period is over, but you've wasted an amazing opportunity to move your financial life forward for three months.

Determine how important these four temporary deficiencies are, and then assign your money to fixing them. If I were you, my order would be health insurance, life insurance, retirement and then disability insurance, although a good case can be made for flipping retirement and disability insurance. Best of luck. I hope you get the new gig.

Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host, and he has a free podcast: *Million Dollar Plan*. Have a question about money for Pete the Planner? Email him at AskPete@petetheplanner.com.



GETTY IMAGES/
ISTOCKPHOTO

DIGITAL DOLLARS

Cellphones can throw body clock out of sync

Jennifer Jolly
Special for USA TODAY

Ever find yourself mindlessly flipping through apps on your phone when you really should be sleeping? It's not just a bad habit — research has shown that the blue light wavelength emitted by various gadgets, including your smartphone and tablet, actually suppresses melatonin, which is the hormone that keeps you in a normal sleep cycle. That bright shining screen is actually messing with your body's built-in clock, keeping your brain alert when it should be resting and recovering.

To fix it, your best bet is to put your phone down entirely, but if you just can't ditch your iPhone or Android device when the sun sets, you should at least be using these built-in features to keep your sleep cycle in check.

IOS — NIGHT SHIFT

Night Shift is a feature built right into iOS on iPhone and iPad that automatically shifts the hue of your screen to warmer colors at night. By minimizing the blue light from the screen, Night Shift can dramatically preserve your sleep cycle by allowing your brain to tell you when it's time to hit the hay. Here's how to turn it on.

Go to your Settings menu and select "Display & Brightness" and then "Night Shift." Here you can schedule the times when Night Shift will turn on, or just enable it by making sure the "Scheduled" tab is switched on, and allow your phone's own built-in sunrise and sunset data to control when Night Shift starts and stops.

If you ever need to pause Night Shift for any reason, you can swipe up from the bottom of the touchscreen and then tap the Night Shift button.

ANDROID — TWILIGHT

The latest version of Android —

There are ways to keep them from disrupting your sweet slumber

7.0, or "Nougat" — has disabled the operating system's Night Mode for some reason. There's a long, complicated trick to turning it back on, but if you want the features of iOS' Night Shift on your Android phone without the hassle, you can install a free app called Twilight.

Twilight works the same way as Night Shift by muting the blue light emitted by your smartphone screen based on the time of day. It uses your GPS and time data to sync the screen brightness and color shift with the sunrise and sunset, and it's totally free. Just download and install it on your Android device, open the app and approve the permissions. It will automatically be set to a reasonable color and dimming setting, but you can tweak those options with handy sliders on the app's settings screen, too.



GETTY IMAGES

If you can't put your phone to sleep when you sleep, there are helpful built-in features.

USE NIGHT MODE

Many apps, including Twitter, WhatsApp and even Google Maps have their own "night mode" that you can enable in their individual app settings menus. These modes replace the bright white colors with darker grays and blacks, making your screen much easier on the eyes in a dark environment. Not every app has a night mode, but be sure to check the settings menu of your favorite ones to see, because it can be a real eye saver.

THE WEEK AHEAD



SUSAN WALSH, AP

Yellen could give clues on rates, balance sheet

Paul Davidson
@Pdavidsonusat
USA TODAY

Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen's semiannual report to Congress highlights this week's economic news and should clarify whether the central bank remains on track to gradually remove its recession-era stimulus measures. Most economists expect Yellen to affirm the Fed is hewing to that roadmap despite a pullback in inflation that most Fed officials consider temporary.

Friday's upbeat employment report — 222,000 jobs were added in June — eased concerns fueled by May's disappointing showing. On Tuesday, the Labor Department reveals a more granular snapshot of employer demand and worker movements. The Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey lags by a month so this week's release will focus on May. In April, employers posted 6 million job openings, the highest on record dating to 2000. The milestone appeared to underscore that any slowdown in job growth this year is due to businesses' struggles to find workers in a tight market, not slack demand. But Nomura economist Lewis Alexander says much of the April rise in openings was at hotels and restaurants, "prompting speculation about whether decreases in immigration have contributed to the uptick in vacancies in an industry that relies more than others on immigrant labor."

Friday's upbeat employment report eased concerns fueled by May's disappointing showing.

On Wednesday, Yellen testifies before the House Financial Services Committee. At a news conference after the Fed raised interest rates in mid-June, Yellen downplayed inflation weakness as transitory and said she expects the sub-5% unemployment rate to eventually trigger sharper increases in earnings and prices. RBC Capital Markets expects her to "strike the same tone" before the House panel Wednesday and the Senate banking committee Thursday. She also could confirm many economists' belief that the Fed will start to shrink its \$4.5 trillion balance sheet in September, a move likely to push up long-term rates, and lift short-term rates again in December.

The retreat in inflation magnifies attention on the Labor Department's consumer price index for June, due Friday. Annual price increases fell to 1.9% in May from 2.4% in March. Core price gains — which exclude volatile food and energy items — slipped to 1.7% from 2%. Yet declining gasoline prices have pushed down the overall index. And core prices have been restrained by new unlimited wireless plans and other trends, Alexander says, adding inflation should pick up gradually as these factors fade. Economists estimate overall inflation fell to 1.7% from 1.9% last month while the core measure held steady at 1.7%.

Retail sales decreased 0.3% in April, the most in 16 months, but the drop in gas prices was a big contributor. Yet even a core measure that excludes volatile items such as gasoline and cars was flat.

USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE

11 WAYS TO MANAGE THE RISK OF INCOME SHOCKS

No one thinks an income shock – something that disrupts their earnings – will happen to them. But research from The New School for Social Research finds that almost no one is safe from periods of lost income due to a health crisis, job loss or other life transitions in their working years. What’s more, lower-income Americans are especially vulnerable, according to research funded by the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE). In fact, the research suggests it is not a matter of if something will disrupt earnings, but when and how severe the effects of such shocks will be. “Income shocks, unfortunately, are common for the majority of American workers,” says Ted Beck, president and CEO of NEFE. So, what can you do to mitigate/manage the risk of having your earnings disrupted?



Jamie Hopkins, an associate professor at American College of Financial Services

“For savers, time is your best friend. This means start saving as early as possible.”

Jamie Hopkins



Robert Powell
Special to USA TODAY

1 BE PREPARED. “People saving for retirement should know the biggest risks for retirement saving are spells of non-employment and not being able to work as long as you expected,” says Teresa Ghilarducci, a professor at The New School and author of the report, “Untangling the Determinants of Retirement Savings Balances.”

Given that, Ghilarducci recommends being financial prepared for what she calls “expected surprises” such as college, health care expenses and household expenses.

In addition, Jamie Hopkins, an associate professor at American College of Financial Services says a death in the family can also upend your plans.

2 PRACTICE INCOME DISRUPTIONS. “Practice what it will be like to have an income disruption,” Beck says. “Have a normal budget and also a bare-bones budget. That way if you lose your job you already have an idea on where you have flexibility to make cuts. Realize this is difficult for those with more than one job and living paycheck to paycheck. It’s not an ‘all class’ issue.”

3 WHAT ARE YOU GOOD AT? Assess what skills you have because, Beck says, you may need to look to supplement work if an income disruption occurs. “Are there new skills that you can develop?” he asks. “Don’t sit around and wait to become a vic-

tim of income disruptions.”

4 CREATE A RAINY-DAY FUND. Financial-planning experts suggest setting aside at least six to nine months of living expenses in a money market account, one that offers liquidity and safety of principal. “An emergency savings should be established so that you don’t have to consider tapping your retirement savings,” Beck says. “Tapping your 401(k) account should be the last option that you exercise.”

5 DON'T BE UNDER-INSURED. While insurance might seem expensive, it can help protect you in the long run from unexpected shocks to your plan, Hopkins says.

“This means having the right health insurance, disability coverage, life insurance and property and casualty insurance for your home and car,” he says. “Study after study shows that well-insured Americans accumulate more money of their life than those who forgo valuable insurance coverage.”

6 SAVE EARLY, SAVE OFTEN. “For savers, time is your best friend,” Hopkins says. “This means start saving as early as possible. Also, save smart. This means take advantage of your company retirement plan but also don’t forget about IRAs. If you don’t have a work-provided retirement plan you need to do more to save like using an IRA.”

Consider, too, the adverse effects an earnings disruption could have on your retirement. “Depending on the severity or duration of the income disruption you can find yourself significantly hindered in retirement,” Beck says.



Ted Beck, president and CEO of the National Endowment for Financial Education

“An emergency savings should be established so that you don’t have to consider tapping your retirement savings.”

Ted Beck

BY THE NUMBERS

96% OF AMERICAN MEN by age 70 have had their annual earnings drop more than 10% at least four times in their working life.

61% OF MALE AMERICAN WORKERS between the ages of 25 and 70 report at least one episode in which they lost work earnings for an entire year.

1 IN 4 MALE WORKERS by age 70 reports having four or more episodes of no work earnings for at least a year.

NO GOOD DEED GOES UNPUNISHED (BUT YOU CAN GET TAX RELIEF)

Tina Orem | NerdWallet

Many of us try to do the right thing – especially with our finances – but even the most well-intentioned deeds can backfire. Fortunately, a few tax maneuvers can soothe some of the burn when a thoughtful money move ends up biting you in the wallet.

GOOD DEED
You used your bonus to make a few extra mortgage payments.

THE PUNISHMENT: Your lender hit you with a prepayment penalty.

HOW TO SOOTHE THE BURN: You may not be able to get out of the penalty, but at least you can deduct it on your tax return, says Noel Dalmacio, a certified public accountant and certified financial planner in Irvine, Calif.

“It’s going to be part of the mortgage interest,” he says. The prepayment penalty you paid should show up on your Form 1098, an interest statement your mortgage lender sends each year.

GOOD DEED
You offered to put up the Christmas lights on your elderly neighbor’s house.

THE PUNISHMENT: You fell off the roof and knocked out half your teeth.

HOW TO SOOTHE THE BURN: Unreimbursed medical and dental expenses are deductible, though only the amount in excess of 10% of your adjusted gross income, Dalmacio says. If your AGI is \$50,000, for example, then anything beyond 10% of that (so, \$5,000) may score you a deduction. In that case, if those broken teeth chew up \$15,000 in unreimbursed dental bills, \$10,000 of it could be deductible.

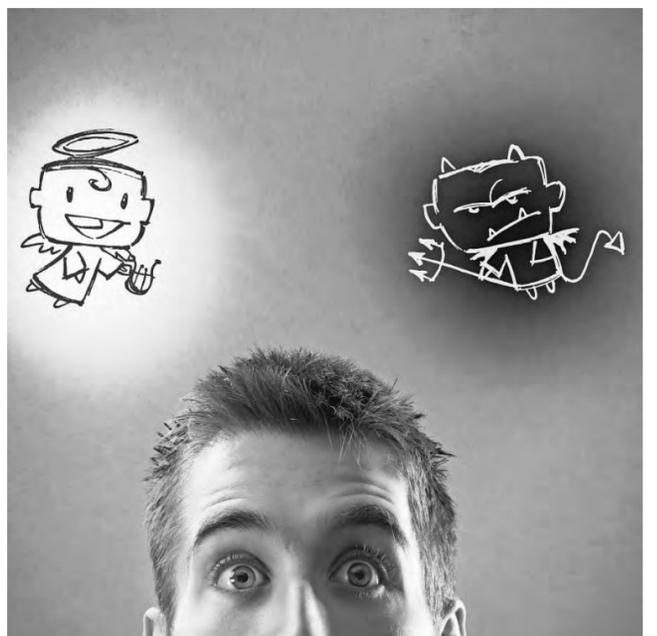
It could also be a good time to have other medical procedures you’ve put off, he adds. “See if you can bunch it in one year so that you can take advantage of (the deduction) because it’s a high hurdle to pass,” Dalmacio says.

GOOD DEED
You went back to school to get ahead in your current job.

THE PUNISHMENT: Your initiative went unrecognized.

HOW TO SOOTHE THE BURN: You may be able to deduct the expense, even if you weren’t rewarded at work. (And you might want to polish up that résumé, too.) Things such as the Lifetime Learning Credit could knock up to \$2,000 off your tax bill, for example. But you might be able to deduct way more than that, says David Barral, a certified public accountant and certified financial planner at MBAF in New York City.

So long as the degree you’re going for does not qualify you for a new career and it maintains or improves your current job skills, the tuition and related costs could count as an employee business expense. “That could be a humongous deduction,” Barral says.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

GOOD DEED
You lent money to a friend in need.

THE PUNISHMENT: Your friend stiffed you on the loan.

HOW TO SOOTHE THE BURN: Make the bad-debt deduction your new friend, says Bob Wheeler, a certified public accountant in Santa Monica, Calif. When you file your tax return, you’ll need to provide your friend’s name, as well as information about the loan and efforts you made to collect the debt, he said. You take the deduction in the year the debt becomes worthless – when there’s no longer a reasonable expectation of payment. And you don’t have to go to court if

you can show the IRS that your friend wouldn’t be able to pay even if there were a judgment.

If you’re worried your good deed will turn into a bad headache, don’t be afraid to run the situation by a qualified tax professional, Wheeler says.

“I have clients doing things where they’re like, ‘Oh, this’ll be such a great thing. I’m not going to bother to check with anybody.’ And then it just explodes,” he says.

Orem is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website and USA TODAY content partner providing news, commentary and coverage from around the Web. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY. Email: torem@nerdwallet.com.



REFLECTIONS

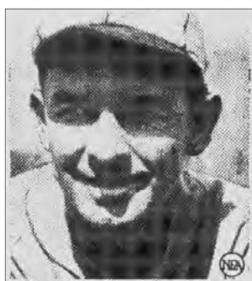
Sponsored by The Sumter Item

PART II

Sumter's sports success continues

Today concludes the look back in time to Sumter's outstanding sports programs of the first quarter of the 20th century.

• In February of 1917, the Sumter Tennis Association met at the YMCA and organized for the upcoming season. The club elected S.L. Roddey president, L.C. Bryan, secretary and treasurer, W.M. Levi, C.A. Levi, C.A. Isaacs and W. Green as executive committeemen.



Pat Crawford

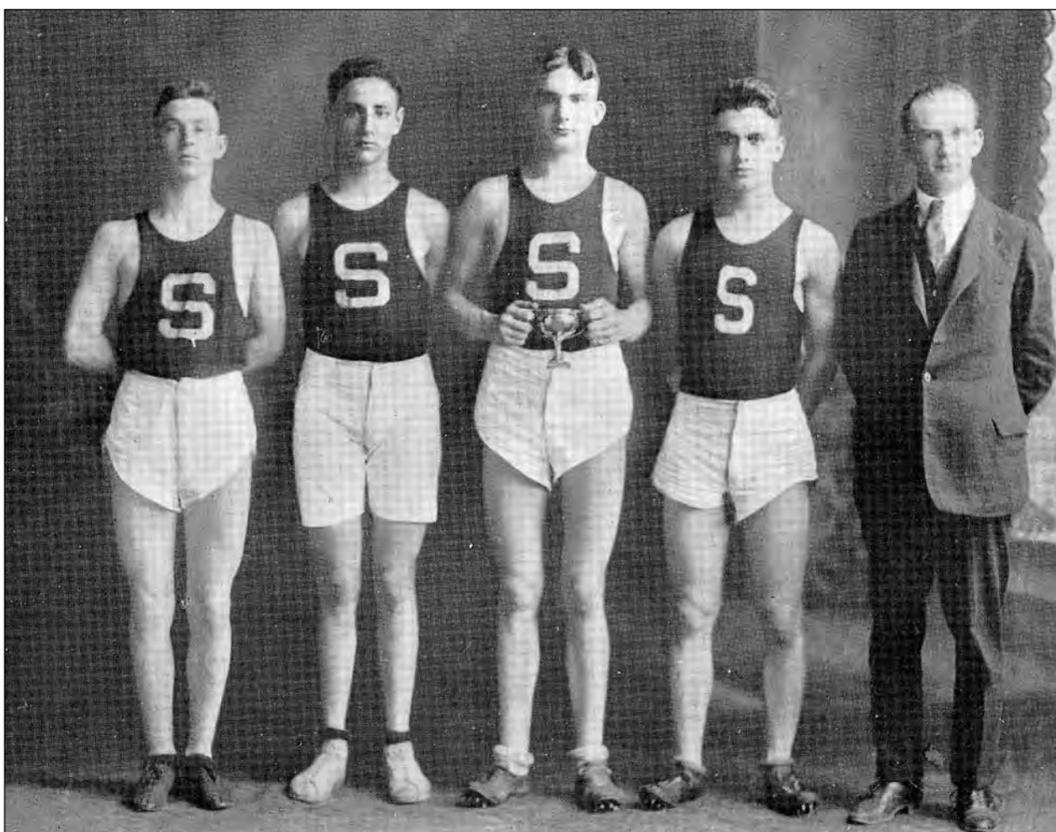
of 21 points followed by Greenville with 18 points.

• On May 29, 1920, the young men of Sumter were making plans to have a first-rate baseball team this summer. The candidates elected Joe Chandler and Jack Forbes managers with Buck Burns selected as captain of the team.

“The prospects for a good team were bright as there were several college stars in town, among them were Crawford (Pat), Spann and Burns. Several of the best college players and the local talent in the state have been contacted, and with four or five out-of-town players in the state, Sumter will have a team this summer of which she may well be proud. The season is expected to open about the first of June.”

• The 1920 football season is expected to be a good one with talent like Capt. Buck Burns, Jack Wright, George Wray, Clinton Wheeler, Frank Sholar, “Jumbo” Hatfield and Coit Kirven, all of whom are first string men back from last season. The squad is working hard in practice and will be in good shape to meet Camden in the opening tilt. Coach Dargan has returned to resume his duties.

• Nov. 30, 1920, was the date that saw Sumter's Gamecocks lose to Charleston High School by a 6-0 score, thus failing to advance to the State Title game. It was recorded that Sumter played the hardest game of the season, allowing Charleston to score in the first minute of play in the fourth quarter. Teddie Weeks of Charles-



The 1920 Sumter High School basketball team comprised, from left, J.M. Fraser; Harry Ryttenberg; Harold DeLorme, captain; Jack Chandler; and William Winn, coach.



Sammy Way

filled with errors, Sumter defeated Cheraw in the second game of the series and won the championship of the state in amateur baseball.

• In April of 1920, Sumter competed for the state basketball championship. In the final four contests, game one saw Sumter defeat Hastoc, and in the second contest, Columbia defeated Spartanburg. The following evening saw Hastoc defeat Spartanburg to claim third place, and Sumter fell to Columbia in a closely played contest and finished in second place in the state contest.

• Sumter High School won the 1920 State Title in Track and Field at the University of South Carolina Track. Two records were broken with William Thomas Poole of Greenville bettering the state record in the pole vault with a jump of 10 feet 9 inches to establish a new mark. DeLorme of Sumter bettered his own time of last year in the half-mile run with a time of two minutes and 13 3/5 seconds. Sumter won the contest with a total



Jack Wright



The 1920 Sumter High School girls tennis team.

ton smashed across Sumter's goal for the lone touchdown but failed to kick the extra point (goal). During the entire game, both Sumter and Charleston fought hard for every inch of ground gained. There was not a minute of the game when both sides were not playing as if their lives depended on it.

• In May of 1922, an article appeared in *The*

Sumter Daily Item announcing that “Pat” Crawford of Sumter had been unanimously elected captain of the Davidson College Wildcats 1923 baseball squad. Crawford earned his baseball letter as a freshman playing in the outfield. In his sophomore year, he was moved to fill a vacancy at first base, which position he has held for the past two years. He led his team,

accumulating 23 hits for a .374 average. Crawford captained his basketball squad during the last season, leading them through one of the most successful seasons experienced by the college. He also served as the president elect of the campus YMCA.

• Quarterback Jack Wright will lead the 1924 football 11 of University of South Carolina.

Wright, a Sumter boy, is a brainy fellow who was “discovered” in the last days of last season by the Carolina coaches. As a star performer, he has rapidly risen to brilliancy and stands an exceptionally excellent chance of holding down the position all season.

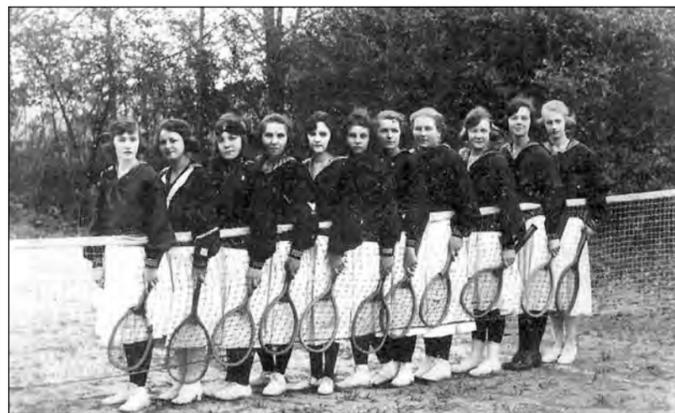
• On June 6, 1925, the Sumter “Y” volleyball team retained the State Volleyball Championship for another year, the locals having gone to Columbia on Friday and in a series of contests won decisively from the Columbia players. Charleston, one of the originators of the tournament, Spartanburg and Greenville failed to send teams, as they had promised to do, so Columbia and Sumter players had it all to themselves. Sumter has been state volleyball champion since 1914, winning from all other teams which contested the championship.

Source: *Sumter Item Archives*

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at way-sammy@yahoo.com or (803) 774-1294.



Visitors play volleyball on the Poinsett playground.



The Sumter High School girls tennis team.



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Longtime court crier dies; Gamecock JV's unbeaten

75 YEARS AGO – 1943
Jan. 30 - Feb. 5

Hitting peak form, Sumter High's five crushed a scrappy 914th squadron five from Shaw Field on their home court, 42 to 13 in the night cap of a double-header. In the first tilt, the YMCA Juniors lost to the Commandos, 26 to 21, in a closely played contest. The Gamecocks, with Charlie Penney leading the team with 15 points, jumped into a big lead at the outset, piling up a 16 to 0 quarter score and a 25 to 2 halftime lead. The Birds, with the reserves participating in most of the second half play, still dominated the action.

• Air Force First Lt. R.R. McLeod Jr. of Hartsville, who was killed in action in Africa Dec. 6 was a nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Burgess of Sumter. He also had numerous other relatives here. Memorial services were held for him Jan. 17 at the Wesley Methodist Church in Hartsville, at which an honor guard from Shaw Field was present.

• "The extension of rural electrification for South Carolina has perhaps been more rapid than in any other state in recent years," says Director D.W. Watkins of the Clemson Extension Service. "That was possible partly because we had so far to go, but more particularly because legislation and local leadership showed the way. From no mileage in 1935, the state now has 17,348 miles of rural electric lines serving 76,848 customers. Now 39.9 per cent of our farms have electricity as compared with a national average of 31.3 per cent," according to Watkins.

• Many Sumter citizens are responding liberally to the call for books and cash for the Shaw Field library, it was announced today. So far, more than 600 books have been collected, and it is hoped to reach the goal of a thousand books soon. Cash donations will be used to purchase new books. The library at the field is inadequate for the number of men there, and citizens are urged to aid in this worthwhile undertaking. Books or cash may be left with S.K. Rowland at the City Hall or call Harold Moise or Logan Phillips and someone will come for the books.

• Sales for the fifth week of the stamp drive at Edmunds High School netted \$149.35, it has been announced. This brings the grand total for the drive to \$1,117.50. Mrs. Mallard's sophomore homeroom won the trophy for the week with \$24.90. Lawrence Auld, a

member of that homeroom, was the individual winner with \$18.75.

• An application for a building permit from the federal government, necessary before work can begin on a proposed bus station at the Claremont Hotel, is in Washington. The matter is being taken up in the nation's capital by some of South Carolina's representatives in Congress. It may be necessary, Warren T. King, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce said, for a representative of the local chamber to go to Washington or New York to explain the necessity for obtaining a new bus station there.

• Fred Wilson, whose deep voice has been heard in Sumter for approximately 40 years, passed away early this morning after an illness of about a week. No definite record of when he became court crier could be obtained from the court house, but it was thought that he had held that position since at least the early 1900's, and Clerk of Court Raymond Blanding said he was thought to be the oldest court crier in term of service in the state. His age was set at somewhere in the seventies. Miss Maude Bateman in the county treasurer's office said that he had been selected as crier by the late Clerk of Court Scarborough.

• L.H. Harvin, head of the local office of the Carolina Power and Light Company, was named president of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce to succeed Ed W. Hartin, who resigned because of the pressure of business duties. He was not willing to do a halfway job as president, which was all he would have time for under present circumstances. His resignation was accepted with regret. Mr. Hartin had been named to head the chamber at the annual meeting in the fall.

• Complaints about dogs, stray ones, which nose into trash cans and oftentimes turn them over, and vicious ones allowed to run free, have been pouring into his office, City Police Chief W.C. Kirven said. The officers of his force have been instructed to keep an eye out for loose dogs. The owners of those discovered to be annoying will be summoned to court and action will be taken against them.

50 YEARS AGO – 1967
Oct. 1 - 7

Robert A. Moses, vice president of Henry P. Moses Co., was elected president of the South Carolina Association of Real Estate Boards during its 24th Annual Con-

vention in the Ocean Forest Hotel at Myrtle Beach. W. Burke Watson of Brown-Watson, Inc., was elected secretary-treasurer.

• The Edmunds High School band will compete in the ninth annual South Carolina state marching band contest, scheduled for Oct. 28 in Camden. Director Robert Simmons said competition would begin at 8:30 a.m., with each band performing a concert march and certain maneuvers for a period of from six to 10 minutes. The three top competitors in each class, based on size of the school, will vie during evening judging for the grand championship.

• Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Mt. Pisgah Apartments, a 60-unit, \$620,000 housing project, were held at the site on College Street at Lafayette Boulevard under the scrutiny of such political dignitaries as U.S. Sen. Ernest Hollings and Fifth District Congressman Tom Gettys. A large crowd, infiltrated by representatives of the news media, was present to witness the shovel-wielding dignitaries break the sod on what Congressman Gettys termed "the first rent supplement project in South Carolina ... which will provide decent housing for people less fortunate than ourselves."

• Sumter's Central Elementary School is harboring one of New York's finest concert vocalists — an attractive young soprano who has chosen a second career as teacher of children with visual impairments, a plight she understands. Miss Rosina Diaz was studying for her doctorate in special education at Teachers' College, Columbia University, when one of her professors, Dr. Robert Bowers, received a request for a teacher of the visually handicapped from Central Principal Robert S. Jones. The coloratura soprano accepted the position, replacing Mrs. Beulah Flynn, who is teaching in Columbia, as an opportunity for practical experience in her new-found field.

• Robert E. Muldrow, supervising sanitarian for the Sumter-Kershaw District Health Department, is resigning effective Oct. 21 to accept a promotion to the staff of the Sanitary Engineering Division of the State Board of Health. Muldrow worked with the local health department for 10 years. He came to Sumter in 1957 as chief sanitarian and in 1963, when the merger with Kershaw County was made, he became the supervising sanitarian of the district with five



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

1967 — This is one of 25 signs directing the public to the tomb of Gen. Thomas Sumter that have been erected in Sumter County. Among those who provided leadership for the project are, from left, State Sen. Henry B. Richardson; McBride Dabbs, chairman of the Sumter County Historical Commission; Mrs. M. Vance Dawkins, last year's regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Mrs. S. Oliver Plowden, both on the tomb committee of the Sumter County Historical Commission; and Mrs. Myrtis G. Osteen, secretary-treasurer of the Sumter County Historical Commission.

other sanitarians working under him.

• While Sumter's varsity Gamecocks have been taking their lumps on the gridiron this season the Bird Junior Varsity has been rolling along impressively to four straight victories without a defeat. Wins have come over A.C. Flora, 14-6, Dreher, 27-0, Orangeburg 27-7, and Camden, 19-13. The latter was unbeaten until they ran into the strong Sumter outfit. The young Gamecocks, coached by Bill Lesesne and Bob Cherry, appear to be loaded with talent for future varsity teams.

• Members of the small student council, armed with paint brushes, paint, window cleaner, rags and other cleaning material, attacked the student council room and defeated it in one quick stroke of the brush. The purple Student Council room was beginning to look just a bit shabby, as were the windows, curtains, and cabinets. So, the industrious students, accompanied by the singing of Bubba McCoy, peeled off the old paint, and dashed on the new. The result is a wonderful new Student Council room with the school colors, purple and white.

• The Sumter Housing Authority obtained options to purchase nine properties in the Civic Center area, according to a progress report given to members. Ed Gussio, director, said that negotiations are proceeding well, and it appears that five more property owners are ready to sign agreements to sell. He added that federal funds are to be made available soon enabling the authority to actually buy the land and buildings.

• Leona Felder will reign as queen at the Homecoming festivities of Lincoln High School at Memorial Stadium.

Barbara Wilson will share the honors as Miss Lincoln. The Lincoln Bulldogs meet the C.A. Brown Panthers of Charleston on the gridiron.

25 YEARS AGO – 1992
July 3 - 9

Doug Griffin was recently elected president of the South Carolina Jaycees at the annual meeting held in Greenville. As the 58th state president, Doug is the third Sumter native to serve in this position. Previous state presidents from Sumter were Richard Moses and Ramon Schwartz.

• Linda Disher just proved she is one of the best young layout artists and small printing press operators in the nation. Disher, 18, and a former Sumter County Career Center student, won first place in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America's 28th annual National Skills Olympics in Louisville, Kentucky.

• Hillcrest's Ray Allen started the 1991-92 high school basketball season as a well-known player in the state of South Carolina, but not too many people knew of him outside the state boundaries. His fame has grown considerably since. Players who average over 25 points a game as a junior tend to attract attention from college coaches. Allen is receiving several letters and telephone calls each day from college recruiters.

• "Be all you can be," is the slogan for the United States Armed Forces. ... So it was for Morris College President Luns C. Richardson as he took part in the Army's "Camp All American," a five-day training camp for ROTC cadets held in Fort Bragg, N.C. Richardson's itinerary provided him the opportunity to observe Morris College's ROTC cadets in training as well as provided a de-

tailed overview of "Camp All American" and participated in the training activities.

• If University of South Carolina Sumter alumnus Dr. Crys Armbrust spent years carving out a niche for himself in the halls of academe, it wasn't because he had to, but because he wanted to do so. Armbrust, who received his Ph.D. in 19th century British literature from USC Columbia, has not forgotten that his quest for higher education began at USC Sumter 17 years ago. ... Armbrust acknowledges the encouragement he received from faculty during his student years at USC Sumter, attributing many of his graduate achievements to "the fine initial instruction" he received from them.

• A Columbia construction company paid \$10,200 in fines today for violating county building codes at the GSX hazardous-waste landfill in Sumter County. Construction Engineers Inc., a subsidiary of GMK Associates of Columbia, was charged with 65 counts of constructing a building without a building permit and 37 counts of operating a business without a business license. Construction Engineers officials pleaded guilty to the charges in court and paid the fine.

• About 175 children came to Sumter's Opera House to see a play. But they didn't just sit and watch. They were encouraged to take part. Two actors with Charleston's Chopstick Theater performed "The Revenge of Antonineus - or What Ghost Stories Can Do For You" and selected children from the audience to participate in the fun and educational experience.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at way-sammy@yahoo.com or (803) 774-1294.

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NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the New York Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Last, Chg, and Wk Chg. It lists various stocks such as AAPL, AMZN, GOOGL, and others.

How To Read The Market in Review

Advertisement for 'How To Read The Market in Review' featuring a pair of glasses. The text reads: 'Not sure why BUSINESS IS SLOW? Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers. the Sumter ITEM 36 W.Liberty Street • Sumter, SC 803.774.1200 www.thetitem.com'.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (continued)

Continuation of the New York Stock Exchange stock market data table, listing additional stocks and their performance metrics.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of stock market data for the NASDAQ National Market, including columns for Name, Last, Chg, and Wk Chg. It lists various tech and growth stocks.

STOCK FOOTNOTES

Table of stock market data for the Stock Footnotes section, providing information on specific stocks and their market activity.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (continued)

Continuation of the New York Stock Exchange stock market data table, listing additional stocks and their performance metrics.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund data, including columns for Name, NAV, and Wk Chg. It lists various investment funds and their performance.

MUTUAL FUNDS (continued)

Continuation of the mutual fund data table, listing additional funds and their performance metrics.

MUTUAL FUNDS (continued)

Continuation of the mutual fund data table, listing additional funds and their performance metrics.

Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

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

Incidental management of American wildlife

Wildlife has benefited tremendously from intentional conservation practices and management techniques that have been developed through the years.

Wildlife departments, land managers and hunt clubs make good management choices every day, with the ultimate goal to make things better for wildlife. We plant food plots, follow the game laws and set aside sanctuaries.

Dan Geddings

Those are the things that we can control. But there are many factors that we have no control over. Some may offer incidental results.

Wildlife management has really been a huge American success story. We've been able to bring some species back, practically from the brink of extinction, partly by con-

sciously implementing practices and techniques that proved to be favorable for their expansion, and partly by accident, or what I like to call "incidental management."

Look at the white-tailed deer, for instance. At the turn of the century, deer were scarce in this part of the state. The existence of small farms, extensive logging and sustenance hunting had changed the landscape, and deer had retreated to the vast river swamps of the Lowcountry. There were no game laws and no incentives to practice conservation.

Then social and governmental actions brought on the Great Depression, and it changed everything. Sharecroppers and small farmers gave up and moved to town. The landscape started to change. Abandoned farm fields reverted to woodlands. Fewer people lived out in the country. It was an "accidental" change, and it helped to bring the deer and other wildlife back.

Conservation of natural resources gained momentum be-

cause we started to realize that we were losing our wildlife. Game laws were passed, and lands were set aside for wildlife. It didn't happen overnight, but the landscape changed enough for the white-tailed deer to come back to this part of the state. The old fields gave deer new habitat, and new game laws gave them some protection.

Timber production has been another factor in wildlife management and the expansion of the deer population. Governmental policies from the soil bank era gave farmers the financial incentive to retire poorly producing farm land and plant trees. Thousands of acres were planted in fast-growing loblolly pines. The pine plantations provided almost instant habitat for deer, and it is a form of accidental management. Now, don't get me wrong here. The pine plantations were managed for timber production, but the benefits to wildlife have been incidental.

Market conditions have fa-

vored short-rotation pine production. Deer are a species most likely to use younger-aged pine habitats. Timber companies have expanded their holdings, especially here in the South. They have also tended to keep their lands in timber production and seldom convert their land to other uses, which produces a long-term benefit to wildlife.

Governmental regulation of wetlands has also been another huge benefit to wildlife and the white-tailed deer. Wetlands have been recognized for their value in flood control, navigation and groundwater recharge. Protecting wetlands from development has given these vital habitats a type of incidental management in that they may not be fundamentally changed or altered. Wetland drainages also tend to offer travel corridors that connect wildlife habitats.

I guess the commodities market could also be another type of accidental management for wildlife. Farmers don't plant soybeans, corn and

wheat just for fun. They plant those crops for the market. It's just incidental that wildlife benefit from those crops, especially the deer. I guess it's also accidental that our climate and soils are favorable to those crops too, at least sometimes.

Coyotes are a relatively new factor in our area. They did not exist here in the past, but the fact is that they are here now. It doesn't matter now if they were brought here or came on their own. Their existence here and their impact is certainly accidental and incidental. Wildlife managers did not introduce them. Studies have shown that coyotes can have a significant impact on deer herds. Doe harvest should be watched carefully until the coyote's impact is better understood. We do not know how they impact turkeys and other wildlife populations.

There are certainly many other incidental factors that have affected wildlife and the land. I've touched on just a few.

Santee bass fisherman catches 2



PHOTO PROVIDED

Daniel Landon Burr shows the bass he caught at Santee Cooper lakes recently. The weight of the catch was undetermined.

Rare white deer herd open to public view beginning this fall

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A rare herd of ghostly white deer that have been kept mostly from public view for decades are no longer off-limits.

The herd at a former World War II Army weapons depot in upstate New York will be available for public viewing through bus tours slated to begin in the fall.

The dozens of white deer roaming the 7,000-acre Seneca Army Depot in the Finger Lakes have been tough to see for years, save for glimpses through the surrounding chain-link fence. But the

nonprofit Seneca White Deer will offer bus tours starting in October under an agreement with the depot's new owner, Earl Martin.

Dennis Money, president of Seneca White Deer, said Monday the tours will also tell the history of the depot, built in 1941 and closed in 2000.

The sprawling site 40 miles southwest of Syracuse housed munitions in more than 500 igloo-like concrete bunkers, now overgrown with trees and wildflowers, and drew thousands of anti-nuclear protesters in 1983 for

a summer-long Women's Peace Encampment.

The white deer aren't albinos but are a genetic variant of native white-tailed deer. They're rare in the wild because their color makes them easy targets for predators and hunters, but a herd of as many as 200 developed through the years within the safety of the Army's 24-mile-long perimeter fence.

In recent years, the herd had dwindled to about 75, Money said, but new white fawns as well as natural brown ones have been sighted this spring.

Drip your garden to productivity, health

BY LEE REICH
The Associated Press

The gardener who can do a thorough job of watering with hose in hand is rare indeed.

Assuming that the hose spews out about 3 gallons per minute in a circle about 4 feet in diameter, I roughly calculate that said gardener would have to stand immobile for more than two minutes before moving on to the next 4-foot-in-diameter circle of plants.

A sprinkler is one obvious solution. Even better is "drip irrigation," a method of applying water to plants slowly and over an extended period of time. Drip irrigation has many benefits, not the least of which is cutting down water use by about 60 percent. That water savings comes from less evaporation and less waste; water isn't wasted watering in paths or between widely spaced plants. So there's also less weed growth. Garden plants grow better because they're never thirsty, and dry leaves means less disease.

TRUE DRIP

A drip irrigation system has water emitters engineered to offer a consistent, specified output over wide changes in elevation and pressure. They're also made to be resistant to clogging or root penetration. You can buy tubing with emitters installed, say, 6, 12 or 18 inches apart; such tubing is good for watering whole beds. Or you can buy solid plastic tubing and punch in emitters wherever you want — ideal for widely spaced plants.

Emitters, those that you plug in or those pre-installed, typically put out water at a specified, leisurely rate of 1/4 to 4 gallons per hour.

For a flower bed or closely spaced plants such as carrots, tubing with emitters already installed wets the whole bed. Capillary attraction into small pores in the soil draws water sideways even as gravity is pulling water downward, so

wetted areas within the soil overlap.

WATER SPREADS SIDEWAYS IN THE SOIL

Water's lateral spread depends on soil type, from about a foot in sandy soils to about 3 feet in clays. So in a bed, these dripper lines could be laid out a couple of feet or 6 feet apart, depending on whether the soil is, respectively, a sand or a clay. Soils are rarely pure sand or pure clay, so actual spacing lies somewhere in between.

And organic matter (humus) in a soil helps sponge up water to increase lateral spread of the wetting front.

For individual plants such as widely spaced small shrubs and trees, figure on using solid tubing with one or more emitters next to each plant. Emitters that attach to the ends of thin flexible tubes are useful for watering plants in pots.

With emitters, tubes and a connecting hose in place, we are now back at the spigot. Before a connection is made to the spigot, a pressure reducer and filter are needed. The pressure reducer drops the pressure to about 10 psi, which is all a drip system needs, and dispenses with the need for high-pressure fittings. And a 200-micron filter further reduces chances of any clogging.

TURN IT ON, AUTOMATICALLY

Right at the hose spigot is the best part of a drip irrigation system: the battery-operated timer. This timer automatically turns the water on and off and at about the rate garden plants are using water.

Of course, water use depends on the weather and the size and kind of plants, but a half hour of dripping per day is usually about right. That may seem like a lot of water, but remember, the water is just dripping. If a timer can turn the water on and off three times a day, set it for three 10-minute waterings; if six times a day, set it for six 5-minute waterings; etc.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A drip irrigation system is seen at a home in New Paltz, New York.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements

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Property Management Co. accepting resumes for the position of "Maintenance Tech" for their Sumter apartment community. Qualified individuals should have at least 2 years of experience in handy man maintenance role. Qualified candidates must have a valid drivers license and a clean background. Skill in painting and HVAC certifications and experience a plus. **Resumes can be faxed or emailed to Human Resource Director, 910-435-8934 or resumes@unitedmgii.com**

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Call 773-7789

Near Shaw AFB 2BR 1BA Duplex \$500 Mo. + 1 Mo. Dep 3BR 1BA \$600 Mo. + 1 Mo. Dep Call 803-458-8333

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

2BR/1BA mobile home in Whispering Pines Mobile Home Park. \$500 a month. 803-460-5460

Vacation rental. Santee area, 3BR W/200ft sandy beach, fishing pier, good local golf, and bird watching. Sleeps 6. Call 803-492-3074

ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE to more than 2.1 million S.C. newspaper readers. Your 25-word classified ad will appear in 101 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Call Alanna Ritchie at the South Carolina Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

Office Space for Lease
50 Wesmark Ct
Reception area & 3 Offices
1177 Sq Ft \$1100 per mo.
Call Century 21 Hawkins & Kolb 803-773-1477

500 Pinewood Rd. Suite 4: Open retail space, 1/2 ba, drive through window, 1200 Sq Ft, \$1300 per mo. Call Century 21 Hawkins & Kolb 803-773-1477

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

A charming home, 3BR/2BA, hard-wood fl, lg. famrm, dnrn, lg kit, added sunrm, nw htpm, nwr, 2 cargar, and frn yard. \$105,000 reduced \$99,000 803-840-5201

Manufactured Housing

M & M Mobile Homes, Inc. Now selling New Wind Zone II Champion and Clayton Homes. Lots of floor plans available to custom design your home. Nice used refurbished homes still available also. Bank and Owner financing with ALL CREDIT SCORES accepted. Call 1-843-389-4215 Like us on Facebook M & M Mobile Homes.

TRANSPORTATION

AIRLINE MECHANIC TRAINING - Get FAA certification. No HS Diploma or GED - We can help. Approved for military benefits. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-367-2513

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Santee Wateree Regional Transportation Authority (SWRTA) is offering a new Mid-day Route to Columbia

The Santee Wateree Regional Transportation Authority (SWRTA) in partnership with the City of Sumter and Sumter County Veterans Administration is offering a new Mid-day route to Columbia, SC operating on Tuesdays and Wednesdays only beginning on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. This Mid-day Route is open to the general public and Veterans possessing a valid SWRTA Veterans ID ride for free. The designated stops along the route are listed below. For questions regarding this route, please contact SWRTA at 803-775-9347.

Scheduled Hours of Service
11:00 A.M. to 2:20 P.M.

Sumter Bus Stops
11:00 AM Leave JECITC | 129 S. Harvin St.
11:10 AM Fred's Store | Broad St.
11:20 AM Super WalMart | Broad St.
11:35 AM Tracey's | Hwy 378/441

Bus Travels to Columbia w/ the Below Columbia Stops
12:10 PM McDonald's | Atlas & Garners Ferry
12:16 PM Welly Fargo | Garners Ferry Road
12:30 PM Assembly and Hampton Streets
12:35 PM Laurel St.—Transfer Pt to CMRTA

Passengers returning to Sumter may also catch the Daily SmartRide Bus that begins its later PM Route with the same stops from Columbia to Sumter at 4:30 PM.
12:40 PM Harden St | Palmetto Richland Hosp.
1:05 PM VA Hospital
1:10 PM McDonald's | Atlas & Garners Ferry
Bus travels to Sumter w/ the Below Sumter Stops
1:50 PM Tracey's | Hwy 378/441
2:00 PM Super Walmart | Broad Street
2:10 PM Fred's Store | Broad Street
2:20 PM Arrives at JECITC | 129 S. Harvin St
Passengers should arrive at the locations 5-7 minutes ahead of the scheduled time listed.

LEGAL NOTICE
The State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee is beginning its screening process for Seats 2, 4, and 6 of the South Carolina Public Service Commission. The State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee will be accepting applications for Seats 2, 4, and 6 beginning Monday, July 24, 2017, until 12:00 p.m., Friday, August 11, 2017. The Public Service Commission has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to investor-owned electric and gas utilities, water and wastewater companies, telecommunications companies, carriers of household goods and hazardous waste for disposal, taxicabs, and other motor vehicle passenger carriers. A commissioner must have at least a baccalaureate degree. It is preferred that a commissioner have a background of substantial duration in one of the following areas: (a) energy; (b) telecommunications; (c) consumer protection and advocacy; (d) water and wastewater; (e) finance, economics, and statistics; (f) accounting; (g) engineering; or (h) law.

The Commission is composed of seven commissioners, one from each of the seven Congressional districts. The Commissioner for the Second Public Service Commission District represents Aiken, Barnwell, and Lexington counties, as well as parts of Orangeburg and Richland counties. The Commissioner for the Fourth Public Service Commission District represents parts of Greenville and Spartanburg counties. The Commissioner for the Sixth Public Service Commission District represents Allendale, Bamberg, Calhoun, Clarendon, Hampton, Jasper, and Williamsburg counties, as well as parts of Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Florence, Orangeburg, Richland, and Sumter counties. The salary for these positions is approximately \$107,822 annually.

Each candidate is required to submit a completed application form no later than the August 11th deadline. Applications will not be accepted after noon on Friday, August 11, 2017. Following the August 11th filing deadline, the Review Committee will begin its background investigation of candidates. The first public hearing to review each candidate's qualifications is tentatively scheduled to begin the week of November 6, 2017. Candidates and potential candidates are subject to certain restrictions with respect to contacting members of the General Assembly.

REBEL AUCTION CO., INC.

FARM LIQUIDATION AUCTION

Saturday, July 22, 2017 10:00 AM

6733 Hwy. 403 N. • Timmonsville, SC

JACK STEWART ESTATE & OTHERS

Sale includes Farm Tractors, Combines, Row Crop Equip, Hay Equipment, Trucks and Trailers.

For more info call Aaron Easters at 843-858-0677 or visit www.rebelauction.net

for complete listings and pictures

P.O. Box 549 • Hazlehurst, GA 31539
912-375-3491 • 1-800-533-0673
Fax 912-375-7384
Email: auction@rebelauction.net NCAL 9922

Legal Notice

Application forms may be obtained from the State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee, 102 Gressette Building, Post Office Box 142, Columbia, South Carolina 29202, by contacting Heather Anderson, (803) 212-6208 or heatheranderson@scenate.gov, or by contacting Sharon Scholl, (803) 212-6627 or sharonscholl@scenate.gov. For further information, contact Ms. Anderson or Ms. Scholl, or visit the Public Utilities Review Committee's website at: www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/PublicUtilitiesReviewComm2018PublicServiceCommissionScreeningInfo.php.

Summons & Notice

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF Sumter

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2017-CP-43-00558

Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green Tree Financial LLC,

Plaintiff

vs.

Christopher Chavey, Individually and as Heir to the Estate of Catherine R. Chavey and The Personal Representative, whose name is unknown, and other Heirs-at-Law or Devises of Catherine R. Chavey, 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,

Defendants.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, upon reading the Motion for the Appointment of Kelley Y. Woody 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, SCRPC, Kelley Y. Woody 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 2751 Burning Tree Road, Sumter, that Kelley Y. Woody 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 The Item, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Anderson, 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 DEFENDANT(S) 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;

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, PO Box 4216, Columbia, South Carolina 29240, within thirty (30) days after service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and, if you fail to answer the

Summons & Notice

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 to Christopher Chavey and Catherine R. Chavey bearing date of November 27, 2000 and recorded November 28, 2000 in Mortgage Book in Book 788 at Page 698 in the Register of Mesne Conveyances/ Register of Deeds/Clerk of Court for Sumter County, in the original principal sum of \$80000.00 that, and that the premises affected by said mortgage and by the foreclosure thereof are situated in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, and is described as follows:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the original Complaint in this action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on 03/27/2017, thereafter amended on January 19, 2016.

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 to Christopher Chavey and Catherine R. Chavey bearing date of November 27, 2000 and recorded November 28, 2000 in Mortgage Book in Book 788 at Page 698 in the Register of Mesne Conveyances/ Register of Deeds/Clerk of Court for Sumter County, in the original principal sum of \$80000.00 that, and that the premises affected by said mortgage and by the foreclosure thereof are situated in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, and is described as follows:

All that parcel of land, with the improvements thereon, as is fully shown and represented as Lot 75 on plat of Twin Lake Subdivision (Section 2) prepared by H.S. Willson, R.L.S., dated February 12, 1975, of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Plat Book Z-38, at Page 115, the boundaries and measurements of which have been re-established by plat of J. P. Edwards, R.L.S., dated November 21, 1977, of record in said Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Plat Book Z-40, at Page 258, according to which plat said Lot 75 is bounded and measures as follows: On the North by Lot 76, whereon it measures 100.58 feet; on the East by Lots 78 and 79, whereon it measures an aggregate of 205 feet; on the South by Burning Tree Road, whereon it fronts and measures 100 feet; on the West by Lot 70, whereon it measures 194.2 feet. Be all of said measurements according to said plat a little more or less. This being the property known as 2751 Burning Tree Road and is shown on the Auditor's Map for Sumter County Tax Parcel 207-08-03-006.

This being the same property conveyed to Christopher Chavey and Catherine Chavey be deed of Joel D. Simpson and Valerie R. Simpson dated November 27, 2000 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Volume 788 at Page 695.

TMS # 207-08-03-006

Physical Address: 2751 Burning Tree Road, Sumter

Crawford & von Keller, LLC
PO Box 4216
1640 St. Julian Place (29204)
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: 803-790-2626
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Public Hearing

NOTICE OF COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

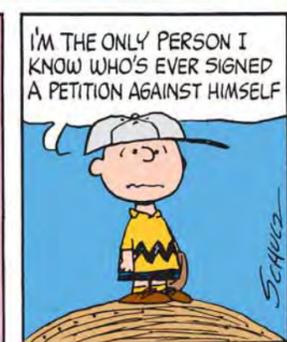
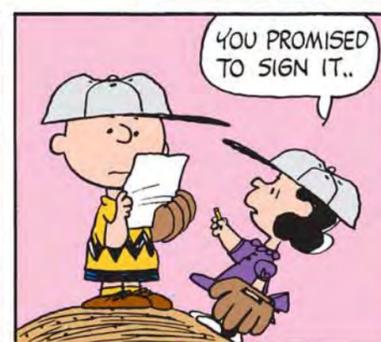
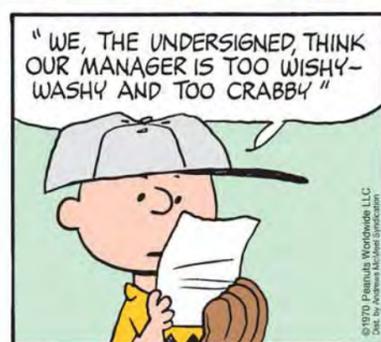
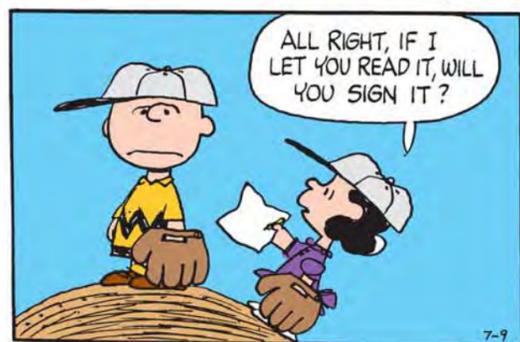
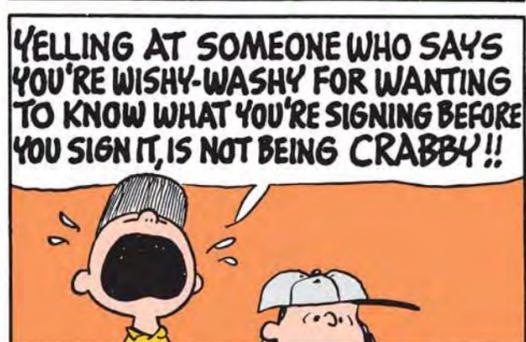
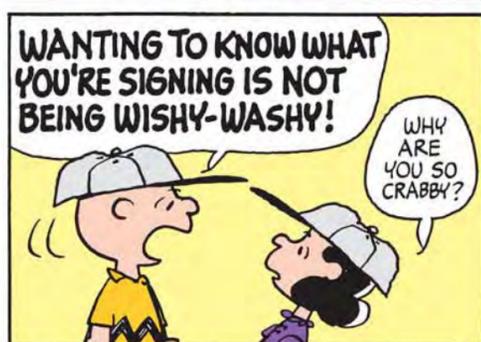
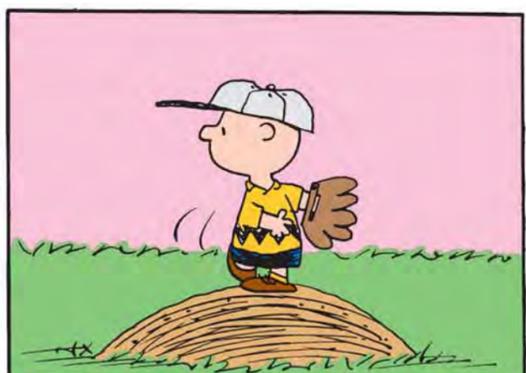
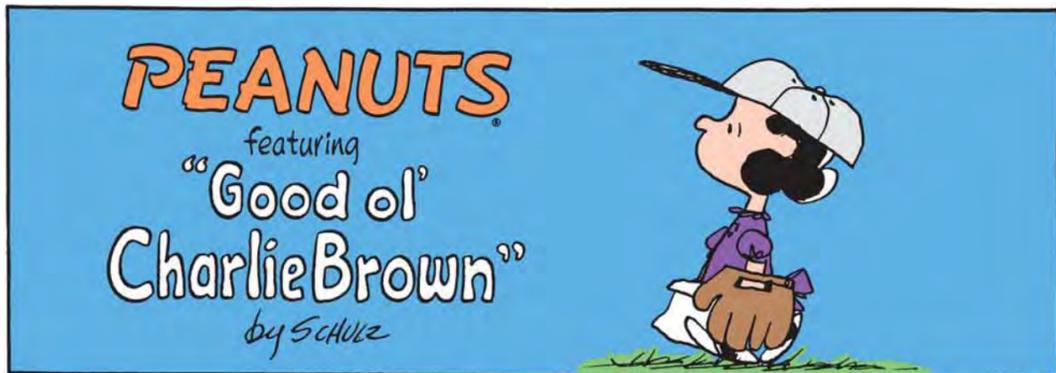
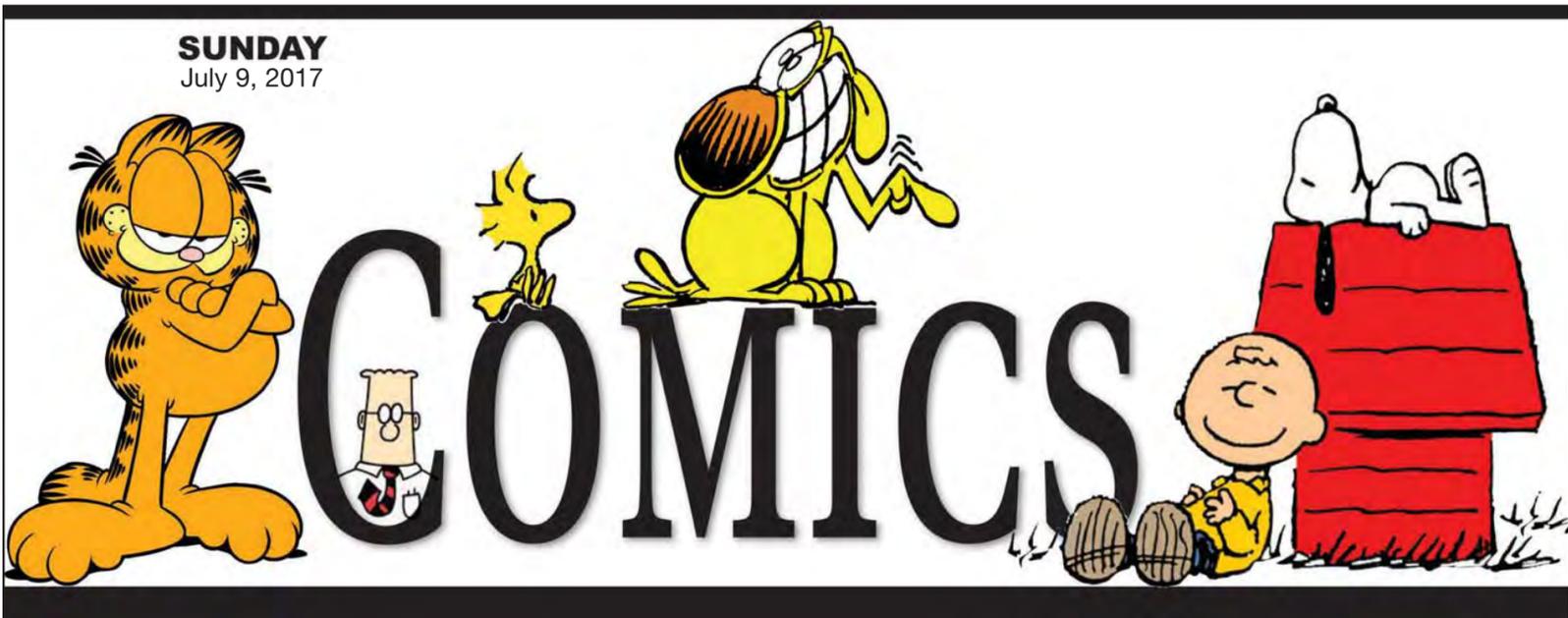
The Sumter County Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Sumter Zoning Ordinance and Map on **Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.** in the County Council Chambers located on the Third Floor of the Sumter County Administration Building (13 East Canal Street, Sumter, South Carolina). The following request is scheduled for consideration:

RZ-17-04, Ellerhe Estates, Hwy. 261 (County)

Request to rezone +/-24.33 acres from Agricultural/Residential (AC) to Residential-15 (R-15). The property is located on the east side of Hwy. 261 north, south of Meeting House Rd. and represented by Tax Map # 094-00-01-007 & 031.

Documents pertaining to the proposed request(s) are on file in the Office of the Sumter City-County Planning Department and are available to be inspected and studied by interested citizens.

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL
James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman
Mary Blanding, Clerk



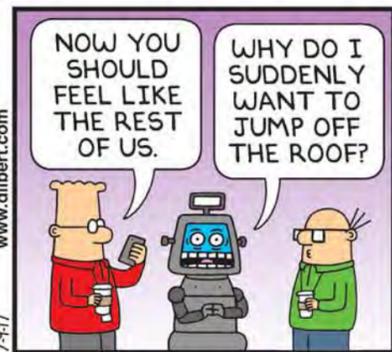
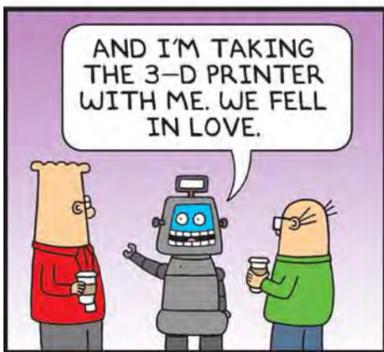
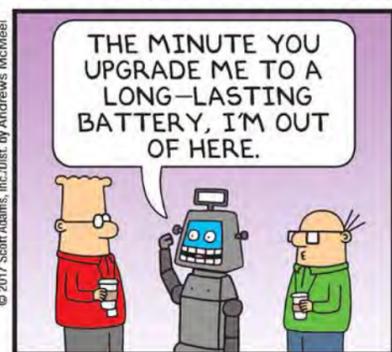
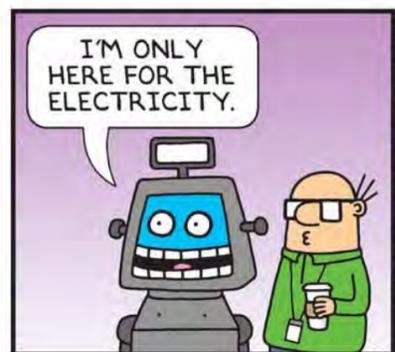
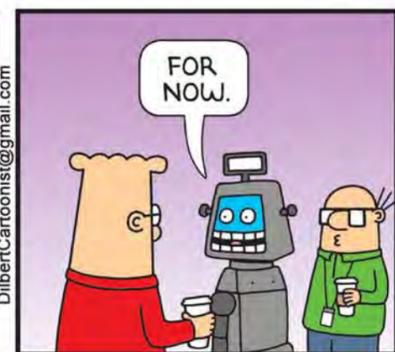
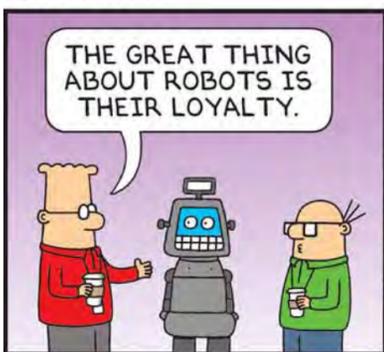
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



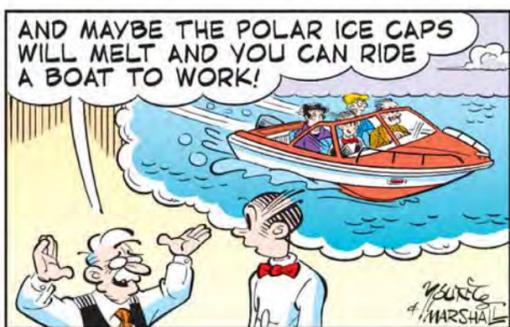
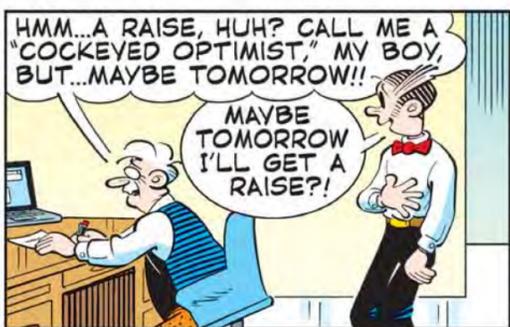
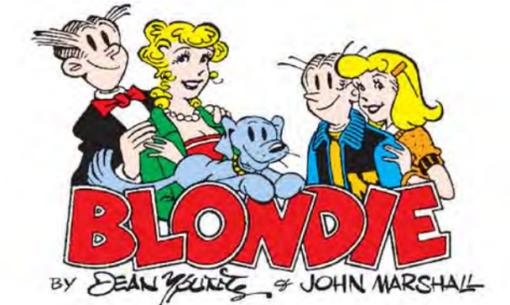
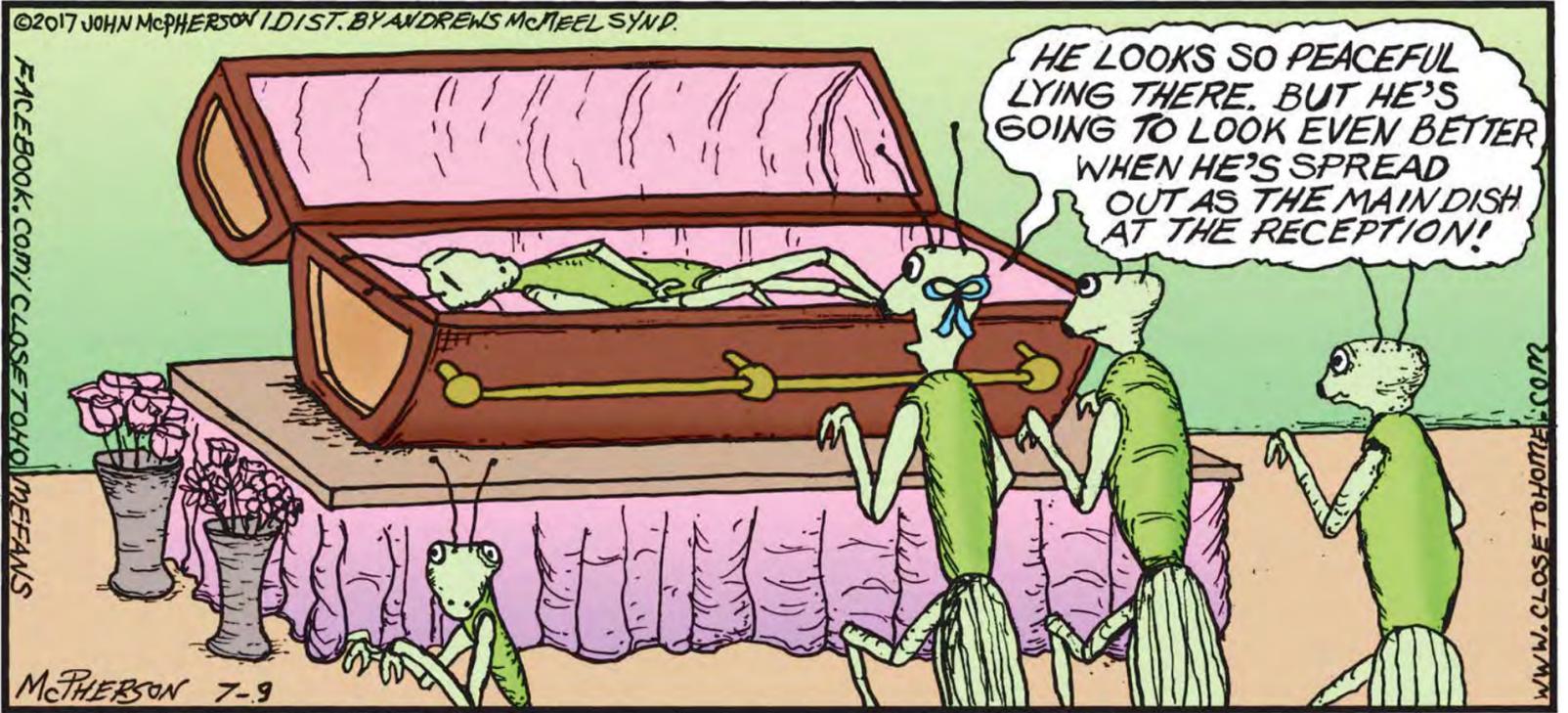
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



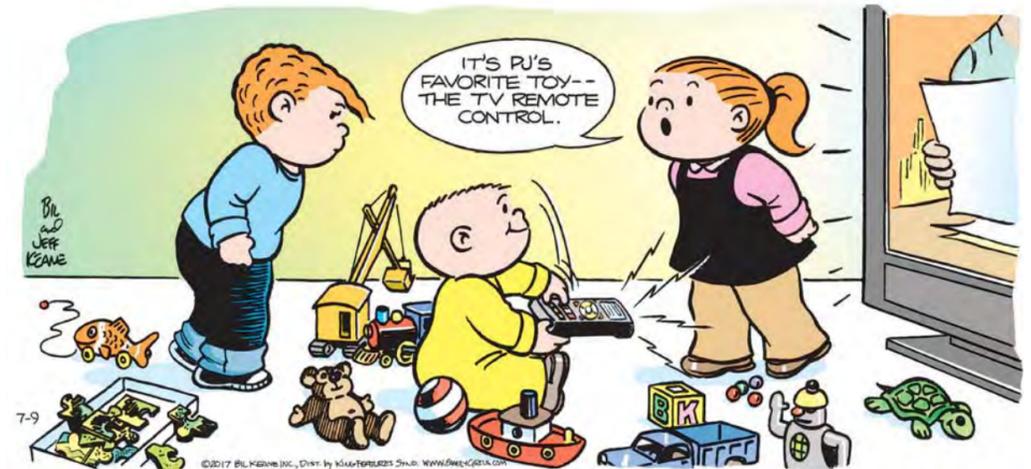
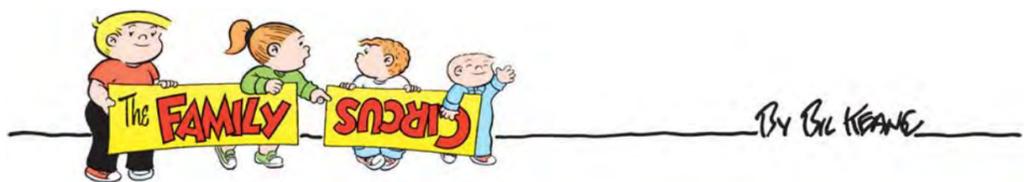
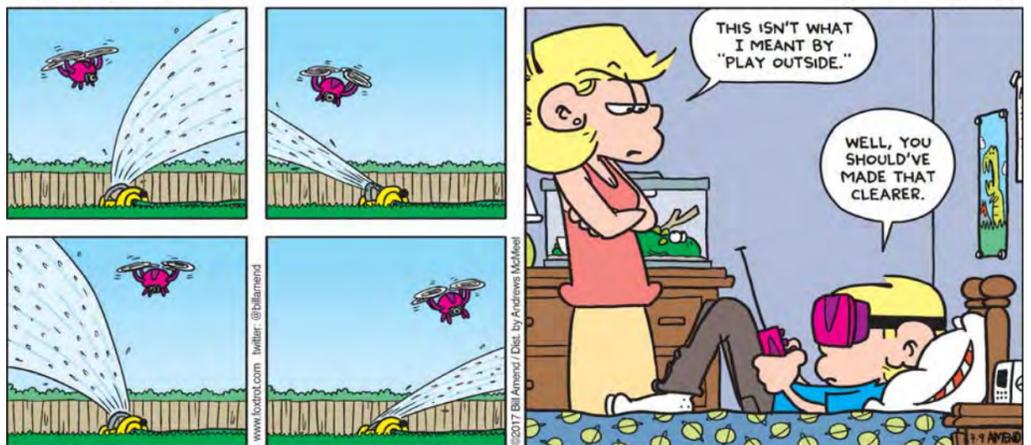
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



SALLY FORTH BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



DOODLES

By Foote & Sacko

NICE PAD... SOFTEST LANDING I EVER HAD!

7-9

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU FIND THAT A PILOT MIGHT USE? EIGHT OR MORE?

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

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Send your riddles and puns to: Doodles, P.O. Box 105, Excelsior, MN 55331

DOODLE ZOO

FLYING IS THE ART OF THROWING YOURSELF AT THE GROUND AND MISSING.

DRAW!!

DRAW AN AIRPLANE!

RIDDLES!!!

Q. WHAT DO YOU CALL A FLYING MONKEY?
A. A HOT AIR BABOON.
Dan Murro, Rochester, MN

Q. DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE EXPLOSION AT THE CHEESE FACTORY?
A. DE BRIE WAS EVERYWHERE.
Kylie Pressfield, Baltimore, MD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

7-9

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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Purse is smaller. 2. Menu is smaller. 3. Collar is different. 4. Leaf of plant is missing. 5. Coat is shorter. 6. Hand is showing.

FRANK AND ERNEST

LOOK! UP IN THE SKY! IT'S ABSURD! IT'S INANE! IT'S MALAPROP MAN!

MALAPROP MAN! I HEAR YOU'RE AN I.T. PROFESSIONAL NOW!

YEP, I JUST GOT HIRED BY A TREK COMPANY IN SILLY CLONE VALLEY!

WE'RE EXPORTS IN DATAFACE INSECURITY---LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST ONLINE HOOKERS.

WHAT'S YOUR JOB?

AN IMPOSITION IN MUDDLE MANAGEMENT...

...IN THE CLOD COMPUTING DIVISION!

THAT'S A PERFECT FIT FOR YOU, M-MAN!

© 2017 Tribune. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Synd.

THE BORN LOSER



I'M GONNA EAT MY DAILY APPLE, GOOD FOR YOU!

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR APPLE YET? I DON'T INTEND TO EAT ONE TODAY.

BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE EVERY DAY! WHO SAYS?

MOM SAYS AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY!

OH, THAT'S JUST AN OLD WIVES' TALE!

ARE YOU CALLING MOM OLD?

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MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS

HEARTBREAK OF PSORIASIS?
EARWAX BUILDUP?
TOE FUNGUS
BONE LOSS
ASTHMA
FLAKY SKIN
VIAGRA
DIABETES

CLICK CLICK

BLADDER CONTROL
SHINGLES
NOSE HAIRS
OBESITA
CIAUS
COLON
ARTHRTIS

CLICK CLICK

...AND YOU WONDER WHY PEOPLE UNDER 30 DON'T WATCH CABLE

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WIZARD OF ID

by parker and hart

TINGE OF YAK'S BLOOD-- PINCH OF HOG ROOT...
WHAT ARE YOU MAKING?

AN OCTOPUS PERENNIAL

YEEEEEIIIIII!

AAAAHHHHHHHHH...

SHREEEK!

WHEW! THANKS, HON!

SUSHI TONIGHT?

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GET FUZZY

BY DARBY CONLEY

WANNA TAKE A SURVEY?
OH MY HEAD. WHERE'D YOU GET THAT?

FOUND IT. OK, IF YOU WERE A TREE, WHAT KIND OF TREE WOULD YOU BE?

FOR REAL?
YEAH! IT'S FUN!

OH, JUST PLAY ALONG. WHAT KIND OF TREE ARE YOU?

NUMBER ONE ANSWER IS DOGWOOD.

SHOULD I JUST PUT DOGWOOD?

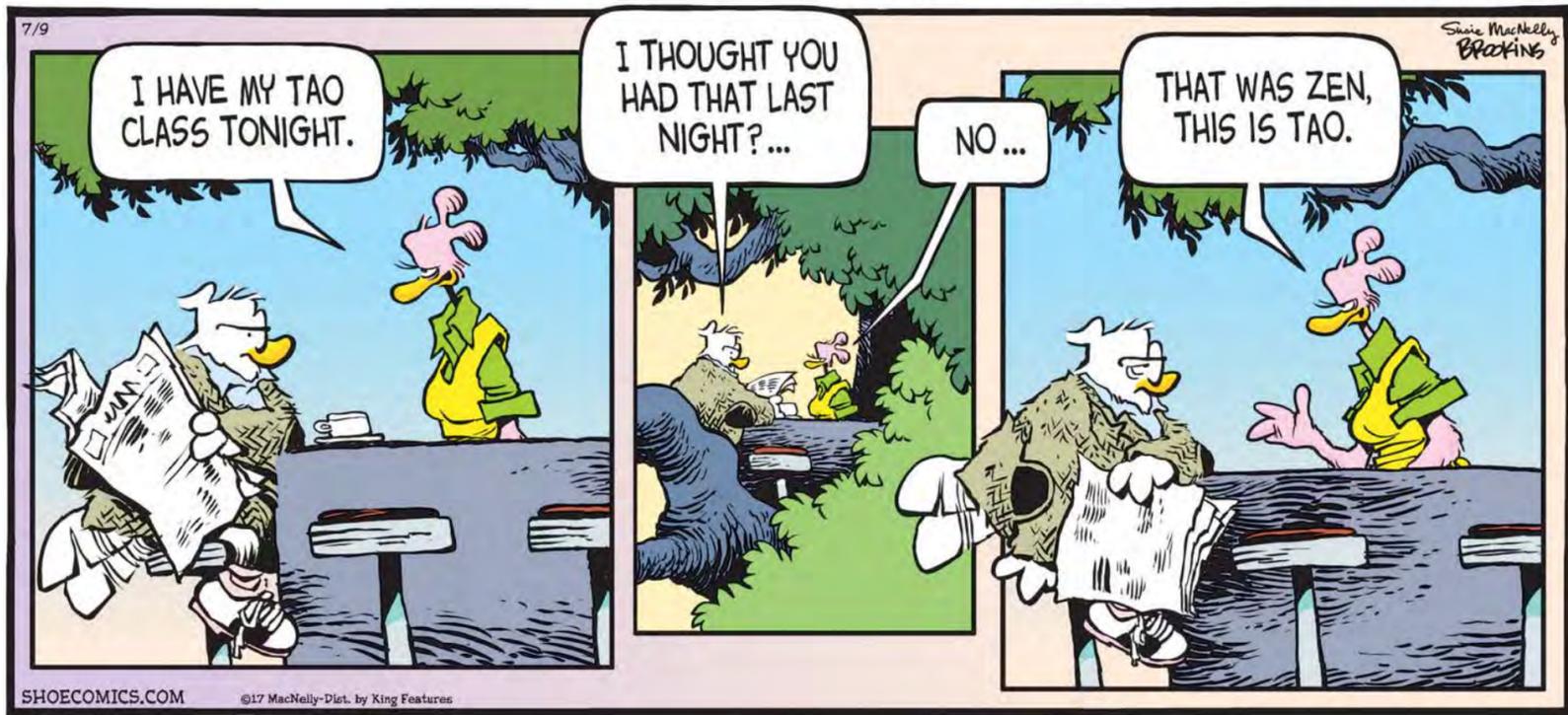
A SMACKNOLIA. IN FULL BLOOM.

...BOOGER MAPLE.

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SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

