



CLARENDON SUN

Fundraising walk honors investigator **A7**

District to conduct 'swap' again

Measure to benefit taxpayers will also generate about \$1.8M in revenue for fund balance

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Sumter School District will again perform a "millage rate swap" this year to the benefit of all taxpayers in the county and also its own general fund balance.

At its regular board meet-

ing last week, the district's board of trustees unanimously approved a resolution to allow for the swap, which — in tax law terms — will decrease the county's debt service millage rate by 10 mills this year and offset that by a 10-mill increase in general operating millage. A millage

rate is what's used to calculate property taxes.

The school board's bond attorney, Franie Heizer of McNair Law Firm in Columbia, emphasized the swap is a "wash" and will not result in any net tax changes for homeowners or businesses in the county this tax year.

Act 388 from about a decade ago eliminated four-percent, owner-occupied property taxes from having to pay for schools' operations, so homeowners are unaffected by the additional millage this year on the operations' side.

Businesses and rental property owners pay on both the

debt and operational sides, but it will be a wash for them with the addition of 10 mills on one side and the reduction of 10 mills on the other, Heizer said.

The district is allowed by state law to do the millage

SEE SWAP, PAGE A11

Downtown Rite Aid will close soon, official says

Pharmacy's last day is Monday; store to remain open a couple weeks

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

The Rite Aid store on Washington Street in downtown Sumter will be closing soon.

Mega-retailer Walgreens officially began purchasing about 2,000 Rite Aids across the U.S. last fall and it said at the time it would be closing some Rite Aids to ensure it had a more focused store network and to offer the greatest value to customers, according to company spokesman Phil Caruso, who spoke Thursday.

Rite Aid, at 225 N. Washington St., was acquired by Walgreens in January, along with Sumter's two other Rite Aid locations — 1077 Broad St. and 375 Pinewood Road — Caruso said.

Since then the three stores have officially been "Walgreens-owned Rite Aid locations," he said.

The stores' pharmacies have all changed over their names to "Walgreens Pharmacy," while the front of the stores are Walgreens-owned but maintained general Rite Aid merchandise.

The last day for the downtown store's pharmacy will be Monday, while the front of the store will remain open "about two more weeks" after that, Caruso said, until all the merchandise can be sold.

After Monday, he said, pharmacy prescriptions from the Washington Street location will be available at the

SEE RITE AID, PAGE A11



BRUCE MILLS / THE SUMTER ITEM

A woman and her daughter walk out of Rite Aid, at 225 N. Washington St., on Thursday. A sign announces the Walgreens Pharmacy inside the store will close Monday. The front of the store will remain open for a couple weeks after that, according to a Walgreens official.

Little landscapers help beautify library



Sumter County Library's Westmark Branch has a bit of a new look outside after local children, with the help of local Master Gardeners and customer service employees from Lowe's, planted flowers and laid down mulch and river rocks on Thursday morning. The children learned the proper way to put plants in the ground to promote good growth and received tomato plants from Lowe's to start their own gardens at home.



The gardening activity is one of many programs offered through the library's 2018 Summer Reading Program. For information about upcoming programs, go to www.sumtercountylibrary.org and select the "Calendar of Events" tab.

PHOTOS BY ADRIENNE SARVIS / THE SUMTER ITEM



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DEATHS, B6

Clyde Alexander Wilkes Jr.
Charles Moody Cobb
Michael Allen McLeod
Laurance H. Kannon
Deneen Carter White
Lily Pritchard Ward

Claudia Gathers
Dorothy Jordan Green
Pamela Ophelia Singleton-Millhouse
Elizabeth Player McAlister
Verlie Johnson

WEATHER, A12

HEAVY STORMS POSSIBLE
A stray afternoon storm possible today; heavy storms and rain tonight possible
HIGH 91, LOW 71

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\$100 offered for returned body camera

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Bishopville Police Department is asking for the public's help in returning a body camera that an officer lost during a struggle with a suspect about two weeks ago.

Capt. Michael McInville said the officer had a physical struggle with a suspect after responding to a call within the city limits.

The department is asking



PHOTO PROVIDED

A Bishopville police officer lost a body camera like this one while responding to a call within the city limits in June.

that the body camera be returned, no questions asked, at 112 E. Council St. in Bishopville for a reward of \$100.

New on-demand delivery app launches at Shaw, in Sumter

JoyRun provides peer-to-peer food, errands service

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

An app that lets the community help each other out with everyday errands and necessities has made its way to Sumter.

JoyRun is a peer-to-peer social app platform that allows people to pick up items and deliver them to others. Based in Silicon Valley, the app is used on campuses nationwide and launched in Sumter and at Shaw Air Force Base in February, according to Courtney Hammond, marketing manager for JoyRun Inc.

"It's not like Uber Eats. When you're at work, you can request staples. Someone says 'I'll give you \$3 for that.' There are no paid employees," Hammond said.

Unlike Uber Eats or other delivery services, JoyRun works at any restaurants or any store, as long as a runner wants to go there.

Runners pay \$0-\$5 out of their pocket, and the app refunds them for runs within 30 minutes. The community members who run the errands for you and deliver are required to log in through Facebook, making privacy and secrecy unable to lead to unidentified crime or robberies like Craigslist.

Hammond said she made \$2,500 in three months.

Fortune said JoyRun is "giving [flexible earning options] to anyone in the community," according to a review posted on the JoyRun website. A review posted on the site from Spoon University at Boise State says, "JoyRun is reinventing the way college students do food," and Inc. said "JoyRun has that rarest of things for an on-demand startup: a unique business model."

To deliver to Shaw, runners need base access, she said. People requesting a runner can deny and get a new person to make the run if they don't feel comfortable.

She said the majority of runners are women and veterans because they can take their kids to work with them.

The idea started in 2015 with a Silicon Valley CEO for college campuses, where students may think "I have a car and you don't. I'll go grab this for you," Hammond said. Now, a new push is to help people on military bases.

There have been more than 500 downloads locally, she said. Overall, JoyRun has paid more than \$2 million to runners. The app is free to download.

For more information, visit www.joyrun.com or contact Hammond at courtney.joyrun@gmail.com or (803) 468-2328.

S.C. starts a peach of a fight

COLUMBIA (AP) — It might be one of the sweetest battles on record, but the peach war is really starting to get juicy.

Georgia is officially known as the Peach State, boasting bountiful harvests of the succulent, fuzzy fruits. But earlier this week, the South Carolina Department of Agriculture took to

Twitter to point out that the Palmetto State actually produces three times as many peaches as the official Peach State.

That spawned a good-natured online back-and-forth between the neighboring states, with Georgia's Department of Agriculture tweeting that its fruits are "3 X SWEETER."

Don't miss Diamond Rio on Sunday



Grammy-award-winning Diamond Rio will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St. In addition to a Grammy, the vocalists have won Group of the Year four times from the Country Music Association and two Top Vocal Group awards from the Academy of Country Music. Their hits include "Meet In The Middle," "How Your Love Makes Me Feel" and "One More Day." Tickets are \$55 and \$50. Call the Sumter Opera House at (803) 436-2500.

PHOTO PROVIDED

State, federal officials to revisit coal tar in Congaree River

COLUMBIA (AP) — A private utility should reconsider its decision to leave century-old coal tar at the bottom of a South Carolina river because its statements about the cleanup were misleading, state and federal officials said.

In a letter last month to South Carolina Electric & Gas, the Army Corps of Engineers said it never concluded that the tar couldn't be scraped off the bottom of the Congaree River, according to a letter

also signed by the state Department of Health and Environmental Control.

SCE&G suggested covering the coal tar with a fabric held on the river bottom with stones instead after saying the Corps wouldn't issue a permit to allow the company to dam the river near downtown Columbia so the coal tar could be scraped off the bottom.

Environmental officials want to meet with SCE&G and the Corps to

discuss plans to deal with the tar again, according to documents obtained by *The State* newspaper and the Congaree Riverkeeper conservation group, which has threatened to sue if the fabric plan moves forward.

The coal tar was deposited in the river in the early 1900s by a plant that used coal to make gas for cooking.

SCE&G said in November that repeated testing of water quality

found the river safe for recreational use. The utility also said the capping process with the fabric had been used many times before and the site would be closely monitored. It also could cost around \$11 million less than removing the tar.

Congaree Riverkeeper Bill Stangler said his group will continue to push for the removal of the tar, which was discovered seeping out of sediment along the river bottom by a kayaker eight years ago.

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Fuel your activities

Many of us like to plan for the future, vacations or even just the weekdays. Creating a food plan to match your activity should be no different. However, creating a meal plan for a workout may not be a priority. But if you are putting effort in to exercise, you may find that your recovery and performance improves significantly with a proper meal plan.

There are three points to consider when preparing your meals for a workout: the length of your workout, the intensity of your workout and when you ate your last meal. Exercising on an empty stomach may seem beneficial, but it can lead to nausea, fatigue and muscle loss. The American College of Sports Medicine recommends that you eat one to three hours before activity depending on the above-mentioned factors.

Carbohydrates are the body's primary fuel source, supplying power to the muscles and brain during exercise. The body can store about 2,000 calories of glycogen, or stored carbohydrates, which can support 90 to 120 minutes of vigorous exercise. It is best to consume easily digestible carbohydrates such as whole grains, fruits and vegetables. For long-duration workouts, consume protein with your carbohydrates to slow the breakdown and digestion of these foods.

Any activity longer than 90 minutes may require additional fuel during exercise. For each additional hour of exercise experts suggest that you consume 30-60 grams of carbo-

hydrates. Of course, the exact amount and type of carbohydrate will be specific to each individual. What may work for one person may not work for another. Use this as an opportunity to experiment with which foods supply you the most energy without upsetting your stomach.

It is good to get in the habit of refueling after a workout. A short workout does not require a big meal, but more intense or longer workouts do. ACSM recommends eating a meal that contains protein and carbohydrates within 30 minutes after a workout. This replenishes the depleted glycogen stores in your muscles and liver. It is also important to mention that water and fluids are just as important before, during and after a workout.

While some of us may have trained ourselves to exercise on an empty stomach or not properly refuel after a workout, it doesn't mean that it is the best for your body or your performance. Try several different food options before and after a workout until you find what works best for you. If solid food isn't your pre- or post-workout choice, try a homemade smoothie with a blend of protein and carbohydrates.

Missy Corrigan is executive of community health for Sumter Family YMCA. She can be reached at mcorrigan@ymca-sumter.org or (803) 773-1404.



Missy Corrigan

How should businesses respond to bad reviews?

Ignoring online posts isn't always wise

NEW YORK (AP) — A bad review can easily damage the reputation of a small business. Failing to address negative social media and online posts could make it worse.

Yelp.com recently won a case in California where an aggrieved law firm tried to force it to remove negative posts. That, the state's supreme court ruled, would be a legal no-no. While it's a victory for freedom-of-speech advocates, many business owners say they are vulnerable to anyone who chooses to spread falsehoods because there are no consequences for doing so.

There are several measures a business can take to respond to negative reviews to mitigate any potential damage.

"This is something you simply can't ignore," said Columbia Business School professor Jeremy Kagan. "The best defense is a good offense."

Here are some key points for business owners:

ASK HAPPY CUSTOMERS TO POST REVIEWS OF THEIR EXPERIENCE

It's important to be

proactive and have staff ask customers to post their experience. The offensive part of this strategy involves having a base of good reviews from happy customers. It's even more important because people who are upset are usually more motivated, Kagan said.

That can leave a skewed picture of a business. A solid base of good reviews will help give a potential customer a broader view.

RESPOND IMMEDIATELY AND POLITELY

People want to know that the owner is professional and cares about fixing legitimate problems. Simple things, like saying "I'm very sorry you didn't enjoy" the meal or product can go a long way with potential new customers checking out

your reviews.

"You will often find that you're playing to the audience, which is sort of neutral," Kagan said.

PROVIDE A FACTUAL REBUTTAL

While owners should acknowledge a person's feelings, there are some issues where a factual rebuttal is necessary.

For a restaurant, this could include providing a link to a health department grade or report if somebody falsely accuses the restaurant of being unclean. For some companies, it could mean posting a statement on steps being taken to improve a product or service.

"You're not necessarily going to fix an upset person," Kagan said. "What you can do is limit the impact."

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Trapped in Thai cave, youngsters must grapple with stress

Coach was Buddhist monk; his meditation could calm them

BY TASSANEE VEJPONGSA AND GRANT PECK
Associated Press

MAE SAI, Thailand — At a gilded temple in Thailand's mountainous north, Ekapol Chanthawong honed a skill that will serve him well as he sits trapped underground in a dark cave: meditation.

Before the 25-year-old was a coach to the young boys on the Wild Boars soccer team — 12 of whom are trapped alongside him — he spent a decade as a saffron-robed Buddhist monk. He still stays at the temple from time to time and will meditate with the monks there each day.

"He could meditate up to an hour," said his aunt, Tham Chanthawong. "It has definitely helped him and probably helps the boys to stay calm."

More than 288 hours have passed since Ekapol and the boys got trapped in Tham Luang Nang Non cave by monsoon floodwaters on June 23

after they went exploring. The group was discovered July 2 after 10 days totally cut off from the outside world, and while they are for the most part physically healthy, experts say the ordeal has likely taken a mental toll that could worsen the longer the situation lasts.

"It's very likely that while the boys were in the cave but not yet discovered by rescuers that they experienced various degrees of anxiety, fear, confusion, vulnerability and dependency, and perhaps hopelessness," said Paul Auerbach, of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Stanford University's medical school.

Videos taken inside the cave show the boys, aged 11-16, and their coach interacting with Thai navy SEAL divers, who have been sent in to supply them, provide medical care and to keep them company. Though they are visibly skinny and weak, the boys and their coach appear to be in good spirits, smiling for the camera



Thai Buddhist monks pray for 12 boys and their soccer coach who are trapped in a cave in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand. The 25-year-old coach's practice of meditation will hopefully serve as a calming effect on the entire group.

as the SEALs crack jokes.

Still the group is unable to leave, and there is no timeline for their extraction. The only way out of the cave at this time would be for the boys to dive through the same complicated route of narrow passageways that their rescuers entered, something that is extremely dangerous even for expert divers let alone children with no such experience. Yet it is something being considered with storms on the way that could worsen the floods.

Cave rescue experts have said it could be safest to simply supply the boys where they are for now, and wait for the water to go down either naturally or by pumping. That could take months, however, given that Thailand's rainy season typically lasts through October.

"Being discovered was a moment of elation," Auerbach said, "but that is now followed by the reality that a difficult technical rescue might be necessary, which carries with it disappointment for the boys and a new set of fears."

Experts say the Wild Boars come into their situation with some advantages, including their youth, their group identity and, yes, their coach's experience with meditation.

"Adolescents are especially social creatures, and having friends with them as well as their coach would be a tremendous help," said David Spiegel, a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Stanford University's medical school.

The boys and their coach are known to be a tight-knit group who go on adventures, includ-

ing swimming in waterfalls, cycling trips through the mountains, river rafting and cave exploring.

Experts say Ekapol's meditation — a mainstay of the Buddhist faith — likely served the group well.

"I'd speculate it could be helpful — even if it functioned solely as a way for the children to feel like their coach was doing something to help them," said Michael Poulin, a professor of psychology at the State University of New York at Buffalo. "Feeling loved and cared for is paramount."

Spiegel agreed that meditation could help those trapped manage their mental state, "allowing their fearful and negative thoughts to flow through them like a storm passing, rather than fighting their fear."

Americans have long been fascinated by gunfighting preachers

BY STEVE PINKERTON
Case Western Reserve University
The Conversation

The mass shooting on June 28 in Annapolis, Maryland, has renewed familiar concerns about America's gun culture and gun policies.

Yet this was not the only June shooting to make national headlines.

Fox News and *The Washington Post* reported an earlier story involving the quick-thinking actions of a church leader who also happened to be a trained emergency responder. Spotting an armed carjacker exiting a Walmart Supercenter, in Oakville, Washington, the gun-owning pastor took pursuit — then shot and killed the man in the parking lot.

Compared to the Annapolis shooting, the Walmart incident offers a far more convenient narrative for gun-rights activists. At the same time, it highlights the intersection between America's gun culture and its religious cultures.

In this, the event is hardly unique. As I've found in my research for a study of "Outlaw Preachers and Profane Prophets," the image of the gun-toting preacher has recurred with remarkable persistence in U.S. history and culture.

'WITH A BIBLE AND A GUN'

The Walmart shooting joins a long tradition of stories about well-armed American preachers — both real and fictional — who seem to embody national attitudes toward guns and religion, violence and justice.

Just picture Jesse Custer, the protagonist of the popular AMC TV series "Preacher." One typical episode finds Jesse, in his preacher's collar, firing round after round from a semiautomatic rifle to protect his little Texas church from the malevolent forces that threaten it.

In rock band U2's 1993 song "The Wanderer," originally titled "The

Preacher," singer Johnny Cash summons another version of this resonant archetype — that of the preacher who journeys forth with God on his side, armed with the Book of Life in one hand and an instrument of death in the other:

"I went out walking with a Bible and a gun ..."

It's telling that the song's composer, Bono, should have written "The Wanderer" specifically for Johnny Cash. Growing up in Dublin, Ireland, Bono had experienced enough of "Bibles and guns" during the decadeslong clashes between (mostly Catholic) Irish nationalists and (mostly Protestant) British loyalists. And Bono ordinarily sings his own lyrics.

In this case, though, it's as if the Bible-and-a-gun theme required an American icon to sing it. But why should that be so?

A CHRISTIAN COUNTRY

One answer is suggested by two notable features of U.S. culture. First, this remains a remarkably Christian country. It has the largest Christian population in the world, with some 70 to 83 percent of Americans identifying as Christian.

Second, the U.S. has a uniquely robust gun culture, as well as the world's highest rates of gun ownership and extraordinary levels of gun violence.

Put these national characteristics together — the religion and the guns — and it's not hard to see the appeal of figures, both real and fictional, that combine the two.

Consider the real-life example of the "pistol-packing pastor" — a Pentecostal preacher, named James McAbee, from Beaumont, Texas. McAbee has earned a reputation for offering firearm training in his own church.

Other such examples are not hard to find in American history. Back in the early 1900s, there was the Rev. J. Frank

Norris, one of the country's most popular preachers, who was widely known as "the pistol-toting divine." He also once fatally shot an unarmed man during an argument, according to historian Barry Hankins.

Norris pleaded self-defense and was acquitted. Few would call his actions heroic, yet they seem only to have increased his appeal for his many fans.

These examples illustrate the extent to which, historically, many Americans have not only tolerated, but celebrated the conjunction of preachers and firearms. But this is hardly the full story.

My research into the cultural representations of gun-slinging ministers suggests that such figures appeal to Americans' interest in vigilante justice — in the capacity of a lone hero to save the rest of us when our institutions fail to.

RIGHTEOUSNESS AND RETRIBUTION

The attractions of such vigilante justice help to explain the popularity of Westerns, especially those — like the classic 1953 film "Shane" — in which a lone horseman rides into town, has a shootout or two and then rides off heroically into the sunset.

Country singer Willie Nelson combined that popular narrative with the figure of the preacher in his hugely successful 1975 music album "Red Headed Stranger." That album tells the story of a man, called only "the preacher," who ultimately shoots and kills his unfaithful wife and her lover.

We may not like that turn of events, but the album itself presents the preacher's actions as justified, even heroic: a fantasy of righteous retribution.

In the 1985 Western "Pale Rider," Clint Eastwood plays another character known only as "the Preacher." Like Nelson's album, this film marries a classic Western scenario to the weaponized preacher theme. In the mold of other Western heroes, Eastwood's char-

acter rides into a small town from parts unknown and rescues a rural community from the malevolent forces that threaten it.

Watching Eastwood's preacher at work, audiences can enjoy some of the same pleasures provided by Eastwood's other famous vigilante character, Dirty Harry: a ruthlessly effective police officer whose methods often run afoul of what's strictly legal. But with "Pale Rider," viewers enjoy the additional thrill of watching a "man of God" take down the bad guys — with the aid of his trusty six-shooter.

Where other vigilantes might appeal to their own, individual codes of justice, the preacher figure carries the authority to discharge God's justice. His vengeance carries always the suggestion that it's divinely inspired.

THE AVENGING PREACHER

The idea of the gun-toting preacher thus showcases the power of individual self-assertion, while also often emphasizing the importance of protecting and preserving a wider community.

It also resonates with specific features of American religious life today. These include public debates among pastors over the appropriateness of concealed carry in the pulpit and of "open-carry celebrations" at church — not to mention the NRA's contention that only "a good guy with a gun" can stop a bad guy with one.

With a Bible in one hand and a gun in the other, the avenging preacher confirms the view that true justice cannot be enforced by institutions alone — and that God is on the side of those who would take the law into their own hands when necessary.

The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.

CHURCH NEWS

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, 2571 Joseph Lemon-Dingle Road, Jordan community, Manning, announces:

* Monday-Wednesday, July 23-25 — Vacation Bible School "Team Spirit" will be held 6-7:30 nightly. All ages are welcome.

Canaan Missionary Baptist Church, 774 Douglas Ave., announces:

* Sunday, July 15 — The 23rd anniversary of the church will be celebrated at 4 p.m.

* Saturday, Aug. 4 — Back-to-school extravaganza 9 a.m.-2 p.m. featuring vendors on site, a bounce house, games and many other fun activities.

* Wednesday-Friday, Sept. 19-21 — Fall Revival at 7 nightly.

Community Church of Praise,

562 S. Pike Road, announces:

* Sunday — The sixth anniversary of the church will be celebrated at 4 p.m. Pastor Bennie Bradley will speak.

Edwin Boyle Santee Summer Ministry, 1098 Lemon Ave., Manning, (across from Camp Bob Cooper), announces:

* Sundays through Sept. 2 — Outdoor interdenominational worship service will be held at 9:30 a.m. for those who spend summer weekends at Lake Marion. Check us out on Facebook.

Faith Missionary Baptist Church No. 1, 115 Laurel St., announces:

* Sunday — The 10th anniversary of the church will be celebrated at 4 p.m. The Rev. Reggie Byrden, pastor of Grace Fellowship Church of

Columbia, will speak.

* Monday-Friday, July 16-20 — Vacation Bible School.

Goodwill Presbyterian Church USA, 295 N. Brick Church Road, Mayesville, announces:

* Saturday, Aug. 4 — Bazaar / yard sale 8 a.m.-noon featuring vendors, food, etc. To participate or be a vendor, call (803) 795-6419, (803) 481-3755 or (803) 495-8253 prior to event.

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

* Saturday, July 14 — "Summertime Revive Conference" from 10 a.m. until noon with Evangelist Nathan Johnson and Chuck and Trista Smith of Fort Mill. A love offering will be received. Visit knittingheartsministry.wordpress.com.

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist

Church, 325 Fulton St., announces:

* Sunday-Wednesday, July 22-25 — Revival at 5 p.m. on Sunday and 7 nightly Monday-Wednesday. Bishop Terry McCaskill Sr., pastor of Mount Sinai World Outreach of Pendleton, Greenville and Spartanburg, will speak.

* Sunday, July 29 — Youth worship at 10:45 a.m. The Rev. Rossi Ramsay will speak.

Providence Baptist Church, 2445 Old Manning Road, announces:

* Sunday — The Lord's Supper will be observed during 10:30 a.m. service and the conclusion of the "How to Be a Healthy Church" series.

* Sunday-Friday, July 22-27 — Vacation Bible School "Game On" 6-8:30 nightly. For details or registration, call (803) 481-9688.

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

* Sunday — Trustee program at 3 p.m. Brother Shiem Blackmon will speak.

* Monday-Wednesday, July 23-25 — "Lord Revive Us Again" Summer Revival at 7 nightly. Speakers: Monday, the Rev. Michael Sinclair, of House of God Ministries of Columbia; Tuesday, the Rev. Rachel Sinclair, of House of God Ministries of Columbia; and Wednesday, the Rev. Donnie McBride, of Mount Pleasant AMEC of Lynchburg.

Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 155 Wall St., announces:

* Friday-Saturday, July 13-14 — Sports clinic / football camp as follows: 6-8 p.m. Friday, "Pep Rally" featuring pep talks on manhood, discipline and sportsmanship; and 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, "Game Day" with experienced guests teaching football techniques and agility skills. Price is \$10 and includes clinic T-shirt.

Police: 2nd UK nerve agent poisoning likely not deliberate

BY MATT DUNHAM AND GREGORY KATZ
Associated Press

AMESBURY, England — British officials investigating a second poisoning case with the nerve agent Novichok in southwest England said Thursday they suspect the victims were not directly targeted but sickened as a result of the March attack on a former Russian spy and his daughter.

Police say specialists have determined that a British couple in their 40s who visited the city of Salisbury were poisoned by the same lethal toxin — developed by the Soviet Union — that almost killed Sergei and Yulia Skripal in the same English city in March.

The new victims are now both critically ill in the same hospital that treated the Skripals. British Prime Minister Theresa May has blamed Russian state for the first poisoning attack — an assertion the Kremlin denies.

The unexplained poisoning of two British citizens with no immediately apparent link to Russia has raised public health concerns in Salisbury, where a massive decontamination effort took place after the Skripals were poisoned.

"The working assumption would be that these are victims of either the consequence of the previous attack, or

something else, but not that they were directly targeted," security minister Ben Wallace told the BBC. "That is part of the anger I feel about the Russian state (in the Skripal case) ... that they chose to use clearly a very, very toxic, highly dangerous weapon."

Britain's interior minister said the nerve agent was the same variety as that used against Skripal and his daughter, but it's not clear whether the two samples came from the same batch.

"What we are clear on ... is that this is the exact same nerve agent from the Novichok family," Home Secretary Sajid Javid said. "We cannot attribute this to the same batch at this point. Scientists will be looking into that. I am also told that may not even be possible."

Wallace said the Russian government could "put this wrong right" by providing details about the Skripal poisoning. He called on Moscow to provide information and "tell us what happened. What they did."

"I'm waiting for the phone call from the Russian state," he said. "The offer is there. They are the ones who could fill in all the clues to keep people safe."

The new case has surfaced days before a NATO summit is expected to address worsening relations between Russia and the West. It also comes as Russia hosts the World Cup — a monthlong global extravaganza in which both the English and Russian

soccer teams have advanced so far.

The Kremlin's spokesman says Russia is concerned but has had nothing to do with either poisoning case.

"Russia has categorically denied and continues to categorically deny the possibility of any kind of involvement to what was happening there," President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, told reporters Thursday.

Peskov noted Britain has rejected Russia's offer for a joint probe, adding that "the British side has not presented any evidence of Russia's involvement in this, besides unfounded accusations."

Police declared the case a "major incident" Wednesday, four days after a local couple — identified by friends as 44-year-old Dawn Sturgess and 45-year-old Charlie Rowley — were found collapsed at a residential building in Amesbury, eight miles from Salisbury.

Chemical weapons expert Hamish de Bretton-Gordon said they are likely collateral debris from the Skripal attack.

"The Novichok gel that was smeared on the handle of the Skripals' house was presumably transported in some device or syringe," he said. "I think the working assumption now is that device or that syringe is what has appeared, and the residue caused these two people to become ill."

Andrea Sella, professor of inorganic

chemistry at University College London, said Novichok nerve agents "are designed to be quite persistent — they hang around in the environment, neither evaporating or decomposing quickly."

"That means that if a container or a surface was contaminated with this material, it would remain a danger for a long time, and it will be vital to trace the movements of this couple to identify where they might have come into contact with the source," he said. "So while the public at large are at very low risk from this material, until the source is found there is a remote chance that someone else might come into contact with it."

Initially, the investigation was led by local police, but London's Metropolitan Police said counterterrorism detectives took charge after the substance was identified as Novichok. He said 100 officers had been assigned to the case.

Police said officers were called Saturday morning about a collapsed woman, then were summoned back in the evening after a man fell ill at the same property. Authorities at first thought the two had taken a contaminated batch of heroin or crack.

Police cordoned off a home in Amesbury, thought to be Rowley's, and other places the pair visited, including a church, a pharmacy and a park in Salisbury, near where the Skripals were found.

Church Directory

Adventist

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

African Methodist Episcopal

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist - Missionary

Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church
803 S Harvin St. * 775-4032
Marion H Newton, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 7:45 & 10:15 am
Sunday Youth Service: 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

Salem Missionary Baptist Church

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

Baptist - Southern

Grace Baptist Church
219 W Calhoun St * 778-6417
Dr. Stephen Williams
drsteve@ftc-1.net
S.S. 9:45 am; Worship 11:00 am
Evening Worship/Bible Study 6:30 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm
Wed. Bible Study: 6:30 pm

Hickory Road Baptist Church

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

Shaw Heights Baptist Church

2030 Peach Orchard Rd. • 499-4997
Rev. Robert White, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:45 am
Sunday Worship: 10:50 am
Bible School July 8th - 13th
6:00 - 8:30 PM
4 year old & up

Catholic - Roman

Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church
216 East Liberty St • 803-773-3524
www.sasjrcc.org
Fr. Giovanni Nunez, CRM
Parochial Vicar Rev. Noly Berjuega, CRM
Weekend Masses
Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sun. 8:00, 12:00 pm
Confession: Sat. 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church

611 W. Oakland Ave • 803-773-9244
www.sjrcatholic.org
Rev. Giovannie Nunez, CRM
Parochial Vicar Rev. Noly Berjuega, CRM
Weekend Masses
Saturday: 6:00 pm
Sun. 9:15 am, 12:00 pm, 5:00 pm (in Spanish)
Confession: Sat. 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Church of Christ

Plaza Church of Christ
1402 Camden Hwy. • 905-3163
Sunday School: 10 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 6 pm
Wed. Bible Class: 7 pm

Interdenominational

Spiritual Life Christian Center
4710 Broad Street * 968-5771
Randolph & Minerva Paige, Pastors
Sunday Worship: 11:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

Victory Full Gospel

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

Lutheran - ELCA

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

Methodist - United

Bethel United Methodist Church
5575 Lodebar Rd • 469-2452
Rev. Jeremy Howell
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School: 10 am
www.yourbethel.org
BMethodist@ftc-1.net

Trinity United Methodist Church

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

Non-Denominational

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

Christ Community Church (CCC)

320 Loring Mill Rd., Sumter
www.cccsumter.com
803-905-7850
Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:45 am

First Church of God

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

Greater St. Paul Church

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

The Rock Church of Sumter

365 N. Saint Paul Church Rd
803-494-7625 (ROCK)
Pastor Gwendolyn Credle
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 11:00 am
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sumter Bible Church

420 South Pike West, Sumter
803-773-8339 • Pastor Ron Davis
Sunday School 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am & 6:30 pm
Wed. Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 pm

Pentecostal

First United Pentecostal Church

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

Sumter First Pentecostal Holiness Church

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

Presbyterian - ARP

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

Presbyterian PCA

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

Presbyterian USA

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

SIGHTS UNSEEN



The world is full of beauty for us to see. What about the beauty that we don't always see? How many summers have we relaxed on a sparkling beach and enjoyed the beauty of the sea? Beneath the pounding surf, God has created another beautiful environment where sea creatures and flora thrive. Unfortunately, unless you are a deep-sea diver, this underwater paradise is seldom seen. God has also given us the splendor of His sanctuary. Certainly, we appreciate the majestic architecture of the many houses of worship that we encounter. Until we enter a house of worship we cannot conceive of the glory of the spiritual paradise our Heavenly Father has provided. Go inside this week.

Daily Devotional Reading

Isaiah 51:1-23	Isaiah 54:1-17	Isaiah 55:1-13	Isaiah 62:1-12	Isaiah 63:1-14	Isaiah 63:15-64:12	Isaiah 66:1-24
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Soul or slave?

An African-American family, the Walls, served the Gordon family, who were white, in rural Mississippi. They worked in the field from sun-up to sundown. They milked the cows and cleaned the Gordons' house. No money ever changed hands. The Walls ate whatever they could catch from the creek or kill in the woods, plus scraps from the Gordons' table. Forbidden to see a newspaper or to learn how to read and write, the Walls family had no idea what was going on in the outside world.

Though the Gordon family went to church, they failed to live by some of Jesus' most basic teachings: "Love one another as I have loved you." One day, Lela Walls, the mother, and her daughter, Mae, age five, were called up to the Gordon house to clean it. There two men raped them, though the woman of the house protested. Lela was told if she spoke of it to her husband, he would be killed.

Lela had already witnessed brutal beatings of her husband, beatings her children saw as well. They had seen the whip wrap around their father's body; they had seen the blood flow. Once, the beating had been so savage, they threw themselves on their father's body to take the blows themselves.

Maybe you are shaking your head, thinking, "This is an awful tale of the South from before the Civil War." This story, however, is from rural Mississippi, from about 1945 to 1962 (see *People*, March 26, 2007). The Wall family did not know they were free people. They were still living the lives of slaves.

God never intended people to be slaves. When he created us, he placed us in a garden where we could do life with him, meeting him in the cool of day. We destroyed God's intentions when we said "Yes" to the tempter, who dared us to believe that God was not loving but unfair and selfish. So our enslavement to sin began.

Enslavement to sin is concealed in a multitude of disguises. We can be enslaved by addictions, held by the power of alcohol, porn, drugs, food, anger and more. We can be enslaved by entanglement in a relationship,

dependent on another person for our identity, losing our knowledge of ourselves. We can be enslaved by our culture, which puts upon us stereotypes because of our race, our education and our politics. We can be enslaved by expectations to achieve and perform that push us to be unbalanced in our lives, neglecting family for work, neglecting health for money, neglecting friendships for status. Ever since the Garden of Eden, we are prone to slavery as a shadow is prone to light.

Out of his great mercy, God saw we sold ourselves to slavery. So, he sent Jesus, his one and only son, to set us free. When Jesus died on the cross, he paid sin's price. When Jesus rose from the dead on Easter, he broke sin's power. This is why Jesus said, "If the Son has set you free, you are free indeed (John 8:36)!"

This is the sad part: Jesus has come to set you free, but you must choose to be free. I see people who claim to be Jesus followers who still live as slaves. Sadly, some of these folks seem to have no desire to be well. Maybe they've lost the hunger to be free.

Mae Wall, the five-year-old girl, did not lose her hunger to be free. The Walls and the Gordons parted ways, and the Walls ended up in Kensington, Louisiana, serving another white family. Mae was 18. She was called to the white family's house and told to clean it. Something in her soul told her she was no longer a slave. She refused. The family threatened to kill her. She ran away, ran away from slavery to freedom. In time, she found out all white people were not mean. She learned to read and write, married, bought a house and adopted four children. Mae found God made her to be a soul, not a slave.

God made you to be a soul, not a slave. He made you to have relationships, freely chosen. He gave you a body to inhabit and oversee. He put in you a mind, with the ability to think and feel. And he put in you a heart, a will, so you could decide how to live your life.

The most important thing you can decide? Will you be a slave or a soul?

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



Clay Smith



Therese Okoumou, center, leans against the robes of the Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island, as a police officer stands on a ledge nearby to talk the climber into descending in New York on Wednesday.

Statue of Liberty climber charged with trespassing

BY TOM HAYS
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A woman was charged on Thursday with misdemeanor trespassing and disorderly conduct for climbing the base of the Statue of Liberty on a busy Fourth of July in what prosecutors called a "dangerous stunt."

Court papers also charged Therese Okoumou with resisting arrest by refusing to leave her perch by the bottom of the statue's robes, about 100 feet above ground. Police were forced to scale the statue to pull her down.

Okoumou allegedly "staged a dangerous stunt that alarmed the public and endangered her own life and the lives of the (New York Police Department) officers who responded to the scene," U.S. Attorney Geoffrey S. Berman said in a statement.

Okoumou, 44, of Staten Island, was expected to appear in federal court in Manhattan later Thursday. If convicted, she would face up to six months behind bars on each count.

The name of her lawyer wasn't immediately available.

The National Park Service decided to evacuate more than 4,000 visitors from Liberty Island on Wednesday "out of an abundance of caution," said spokesman Jerry Willis. Average attendance for the Fourth of July is 20,000 to 25,000 people, he added.

A federal official said the woman told police she was protesting the separation of immigrant children from parents who cross the U.S.-Mexico border illegally. The official wasn't authorized to discuss it and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The park service was reviewing security videotape to try to determine how the woman made the climb, Willis said. It also was taking a closer look at the statue to see if there was any damage, though that's unlikely, he said.

The copper-pounded skin is only the thickness of two pennies, but "it's strong," he said.

"That statue has been out in the middle of New York Harbor for 130 years — with hurricanes and lightning and everything that nature has thrown at her," he said. "She's survived quite well."



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THE CLARENDON SUN

Sheriff's office asks for help on 3 cases

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — Clarendon County Sheriff's Office is asking for assistance in helping to solve three incidents that occurred within the county during the past two months.

According to the sheriff's office, property was stolen from 1270 Epps Road in the Oakdale community in New Zion on July 2. The victim of the theft is offering a \$1,000 reward. The items stolen include a 2018 17-foot enclosed Pace trailer and three go-carts, one yellow, one black and one white. Anyone who has information on these stolen items is asked to call Clarendon County Sheriff's Office at (803) 435-4414 or call Investigator S. Welch at (803) 460-3762.

The sheriff's office is also asking for assistance in identifying the man in a surveillance video taken on June 16 at Hampton Inn by Hilton at 2822 Paxville Highway, near Interstate 95 at exit 119. According to the sheriff's office, a hotel tenant was at breakfast when someone broke into the tenant's hotel room and stole several credit cards from a purse. Investigators think the person who broke into the room may be local. Anyone who recognizes or knows the individual in the picture is asked to call Clarendon County Sheriff's Office at (803) 435-4414.

The sheriff's office is also asking for help in identifying a vehicle that was parked inside a fence at storage units near the intersection of S.C. 521 (Greeleyville Highway) and Bloomville Road on May 23. According to the investigators, the vehicle was parked there around the time a storage unit was broken into. Bolt cutters were left at the scene. Anyone with information on this vehicle is asked to call the office at (803) 435-4414.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Clarendon County Sheriff's Office is asking for help identifying the man in a surveillance video taken June 16 at Hampton Inn by Hilton at 2822 Paxville Highway, near Interstate 95 at exit 119.



Left, three go-carts were stolen on July 2 from 1270 Epps Road.

The sheriff's office is also asking for help in identifying a vehicle, below, that was parked inside a fence at storage units near the intersection of S.C. 521 (Greeleyville Highway) and Bloomville Road on May 23.



According to the sheriff's office, property was stolen from 1270 Epps Road in the Oakdale community in New Zion on July 2. The victim of the theft is offering a \$1,000 reward. The items stolen include a 2018 17-foot enclosed Pace trailer.



Tonia Mallett Smith, right, and Holly Garneau, Mallett Smith's co-worker at Clarendon School District 2, chat before Garneau takes the track at Ramsey Field.



Clarendon County Sheriff Tim Baxley and his wife, Helen, walk around the track at the event.



Tonia Mallett Smith's mother, Ruth Mallett, may not have toured the track on Saturday morning, but she was on the sidelines offering support and encouragement for those participating in the fundraiser honoring her late son-in-law, Holmes N. Smith Jr.



PHOTOS BY SHARRON HALEY / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Clarendon County Sheriff Office's Maj. Donnie Drose, his wife, Angel, and his daughter, Jordan, participated in "49 Minutes: Walking the line," a fundraiser for The Inv. Holmes N. Smith Foundation Inc. Drose and Holmes worked closely together in investigations at the office. They were affectionately known by their peers and close friends as "Crockett and Tubbs" from the famous "Miami Vice" TV show.

Fundraiser honors late sheriff's investigator

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — A bright sun and sweltering temperatures didn't stop fellow law enforcement officers, family, friends and supporters from walking for 49 minutes around the track at Manning High School's Ramsey Field in support of a law enforcement officer who was killed in Clarendon County in 2014.

Holmes N. Smith Jr., an investigator with Clarendon County Sheriff's Office and a 19-year veteran of law enforcement, died in the line of duty on Nov. 5, 2014, when he was on his way back to Manning after meeting with his counterparts in Sumter County.

At the spot where the accident occurred on S.C. 521 north of Alcolu, a cross was erected that bears the colors of his beloved NFL team, the Miami Dolphins.

Since her husband's death, Mallett Smith said she's had contact with numerous people that he helped anonymously.

"I received so many correspondences from so many people regarding all the acts of kindness that Holmes had

done," she said. "Acts no one knew about. Things he had done and people that he had helped just because it was the right thing to do. That was just who he was."

Mallett Smith said it was the "desire of the family to continue his legacy and honor him" by establishing a charitable foundation that bears his name, The Inv. Holmes N. Smith Jr. Foundation Inc.

On June 30, Mallett Smith along with a host of volunteers held the organization's inaugural fundraiser, "49 minutes: Walking the line," a reference to Smith's 49th birthday on June 15.

Walkers would walk, jog or run around the stadium's football field for 49 minutes collecting donations for each lap or a donation for the entire event.

"I don't even have the words to express how overjoyed I am," she said following the event. "On behalf of my family, we thank all of you for this awesome day."

Clarendon County Sheriff Tim Baxley and his wife, Helen, along with Clarendon County Sheriff's Maj. Donnie Drose and his wife, Angel, and daughter, Jordan, CCSO Deputy Gabri-

el Blackwell, Capt. Sonia Daniels with Manning Police Department, other law enforcement, fire and emergency personnel as well as family members and supporters from Clarendon School District 2, where Mallett Smith is employed, walked the track.

"I was so excited to see the number of friends who joined us and braved the heat and walked the mile for 49 minutes," Mallett Smith added. "I love you guys!"

Daniels said she attended the event in support of the Mallett and Smith families as well as in support of law enforcement officers everywhere.

"I did it to support our fallen officer," Daniels added. "He gave his life to law enforcement. Today we honor and remember him. Tomorrow it may be someone else."

Mallett Smith said that the net proceeds from Saturday's event would be used to provide scholarships and resources for the Clarendon County community.

If you'd like to make a donation or if you'd like additional information on the foundation, visit The Inv. Holmes N. Smith Jr. Foundation Inc.'s Facebook page.

Special needs adults visit Sumter for painting class

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

MANNING — Take brightly colored acrylic paints and a blank canvas and, in a couple of hours, have a finished, beautiful, one-of-a-kind masterpiece. That's what 14 people at Clarendon County Disabilities and Special Needs Board did on Tuesday.

"It was a lot of fun for our consumers," said Angela Salisbury, day services director at CCDSNB. "We do this to provide our consumers with meaningful activities. We want them involved in activities that non-disabled individuals are involved in." Fourteen consumers and four staff members headed to Sumter's Sip & Gogh, named after the master painter Vincent van Gogh, a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who created his masterpieces in the late 1850s.

along with the staff members returned to Manning a couple of hours later with masterpieces showcasing their own creativity with assistance from painting instructors at Sip & Gogh.

Salisbury said the CCD-SNB attempts to get its consumers out into their local communities so they can begin to become familiar with them.

According to Salisbury, "We will promote life in a community where all people are treated equally," is the vision of the CCDSNB.

"We strive to get them involved in as many activities as we can," Salisbury shared.

Throughout the year, the consumers are entertained with various events, including a gala where formal attire is provided for the consumers. In prior years, the consumers have enjoyed a Hawaiian luau, a disco night and other themed events.

The adult day services provided by the organization include: career preparation, employment services, community service and day activity services. Other services that are offered include case management, Clarendon

'We do this to provide our consumers with meaningful activities. We want them involved in activities that non-disabled individuals are involved in.'

ANGELA SALISBURY

Day services director, Clarendon County Disabilities and Special Needs Board



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Clarendon County Disabilities and Special Needs Board took 14 consumers on a trip to Sumter's Sip & Gogh for a painting class on Tuesday. Each participant painted a picture to take home and enjoy. This outing is one of many that the board offers in an effort to give them the same opportunities that non-disabled individuals enjoy.



Pets of the week



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Bella, left, is a 2-year-old white-and-brindle American bulldog mix. She loves cuddling and giving attention to her people. She is waiting to be spayed but will be ready to go after Saturday. Belly rubs are her favorite thing, other than people. She is a total love bug. She is looking for a special person to give her the life she deserves. You can get preapproved by submitting your adoption application at www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com. A Second Chance Animal Shelter, 5079 Alex Harvin Highway (U.S. 301), is open from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

"Chelsea," right, is about 2 years old and is a female tricolor beagle mix. She loves riding in the car and likes kids. She doesn't like cats or chickens; she likes to chase them. She would do best in a house with no other animals; she is pretty particular about the dogs she likes. She is a sweet girl who is looking for her forever home. Chelsea is up to date on all her vaccinations and has been spayed.

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- Nov. 4-16, 2018 PANAMA CANAL CRUISE-plus** Colombia, SA, Costa Rica, Honduras, \$2985 pp \$250 pp deposit to book. Passport Book Needed. SOLD OUT
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- *Sept. 9-12, 2019 COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA.** Deposit \$85 per person \$530 pp Plantation Tour, Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown Settlement. 6 meals
- Sept 17-24, 2019 NATIONAL PARKS/CANYONS TOUR** Early booking discounts \$2675 pp Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon & Zion National Park. Airfare to/from Charleston SC, 11 meals fully escorted tour, gratuities included. Last night stay in Las Vegas. Deposit: \$300 pp
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LEGAL NOTICES

Estate Notice Clarendon County NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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

Estate: Dollie Gwendolyn Teal Logan
#2018ES1400169
Personal Representative:
Sheila Helms
1551 Pinecrest Acres
Alcolu, SC 29001
07/6/18 - 07/20/18

Estate: Matthew Scott Austin
#2018ES1400175
Personal Representative:
Kimberly E.R. Austin
2652 Brown Rd.
Manning, SC 29102
07/6/18 - 07/20/18

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Estate: Phillis Gibson Gerald
#2018ES1400173
Personal Representative:
Darlene Gibson
129 Breedin Street
Manning, SC 29102
07/6/18 - 07/20/18

Estate: Curtis Lee Stevens
#2018ES1400170
Personal Representative:
Nathaniel Rhett Weimer
2361 Princess Pond Rd.
Summerton, SC 29148
07/6/18 - 07/20/18

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates are required to deliver or mail their claims to the indicated Personal Representatives, appointed to administer these estates, and to file their claims on Form #371PC with the Probate Court of Clarendon County, the address of which is PO Box 307 on or before the date that is eight months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors (unless barred by operation of Section 62-3-803), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements, indicating the name and the address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the amount claimed and the date when due, and a description of any security as to the claim.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by Clarendon County Council at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 13, 2018 in the Council Chambers of the Clarendon County Administration Building located at 411 Sunset Drive in Manning, SC regarding the following proposed amendments: (1) Amendment to the Unified Development Code, Ordinance #2018-05 amending UDC Article III Permitted Uses, Section 32.03, Table III-3 regarding Solar Farms. (2) Amendment to the Official Zoning Map, Ordinance #2018-06 changing the zoning district classification on property owned by Nadalyn Lighthill, Tax Map Parcel 219-00-01-050-00, 2643 Little Star Road in Alcolu from Single Family Residential (SFR) to Agriculture II (AGII). Documents related to Ordinances #2018-05 and #2018-06 are available for public inspection in the Clarendon County Planning Commission office located at 411 Sunset Drive in Manning, SC, or you may direct inquiries by telephone to 803-435-8672.

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COMMENTARY

The day of reckoning is coming soon



Hubert D. Osteen Jr.

The loons on the left and the persistent resistance just keeps rolling along, aided and abetted by its wholly owned subsidiary, the Democratic Party.

What a lineup they have assembled: Maxine Waters and her regular hissy fits as she and Nancy Pelosi and Elizabeth Warren continue as the face of the modern Democratic Party

in its crusade to slime, attack and destroy the duly elected president, Donald Trump.

Even Hillary Clinton, the worst presidential candidate in the history of her party, keeps popping up in her endless excuses tour explaining why she lost. Get a life, Hillary.

Taking a page from her play-book, Mark Sanford, following his loss to Katie Arrington,

joined the blame Trump chorus, whining that he lost his seat in Congress because he “wasn’t Trump enough.” Gee, maybe it was because his opponent got more votes than he did.

Maybe he just got worn out from all the time he spent on the Appalachian Trail. RINOS like Sanford just keep on losing when they overstay their wel-

comes and the voters give them the hook.

As the midterm elections come closer, the day of reckoning is coming due for lots of fed-up voters and lots of incumbents in both parties.

The sooner, the better. Stay tuned.

Reach Hubert D. Osteen Jr. at hubert@theitem.com.

COMMENTARY

The Democrats’ contempt is going to reelect Trump

WASHINGTON — Democrats have a new theory for how they can win back Congress and the White House. Just like “soccer moms” helped put Bill Clinton in the Oval Office in 1996 and “NASCAR dads” helped George W. Bush win in 2004, Donald Trump, the theory goes, was elected because of “#NeverHillary” voters who didn’t particularly like him but despised her. Axios reports that Democrats are targeting the “20 percent of Trump’s voters [who] told exit pollsters they didn’t like him,” hoping these reluctant Trump voters will help power a “blue wave” in the 2018 midterms and defeat President Trump in 2020.

One problem with that theory: The left’s non-stop, over-the-top attacks on Trump are not peeling those voters away from him; they are pushing them further into the president’s camp.

In recent weeks, Trump derangement syndrome on the left has reached critical mass. First, there was Robert De Niro’s “f -- Trump” tirade at the Tony awards, followed by Samantha Bee’s calling Ivanka Trump a “feckless c --” on her TV show. Then the owners of the Red Hen restaurant threw out White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders because she works for the president, while chanting protesters heckled Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen at a Mexican restaurant. Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., added fuel to the fire by openly calling on mobs of left-wing activists to “absolutely harass” Trump officials. Then, there were the countless Trump opponents in the media, Congress and on Twitter who compared family separations at the southern border with Nazi Germany and the Time magazine cover depicting Trump staring down heartlessly at a crying migrant girl and implying she was separated from her mother (until it emerged that she had not in fact been separated from her mother). And now come the threats to block Trump’s Supreme Court nominee before he has even nominated one.

How do liberals think that 20 percent of reluctant Trump voters respond to these displays of unbridled contempt? They are outraged not at Trump but at his critics. The unhinged hatred for the president makes these voters almost reflexively defend him.

Don’t take my word for it. *The New York Times* recently interviewed dozens of tepid Trump voters who explained how the incessant attacks are causing them to rally around the president. “Gina Anders knows the

feeling well by now,” the *Times* reports. “President Trump says or does something that triggers a spasm of outrage. She doesn’t necessarily agree with how he handled the situation. She gets why people are upset.”

But Anders, who the *Times* says has “not a stitch of ‘Make America Great Again’ gear in her wardrobe, is moved to defend him anyway.” When she hears the “overblown” attacks on Trump, she says, “It makes me angry at them, which causes me to want to defend him to them more.” Another reluctant Trump voter, Tony Schrantz, agrees. “He’s not a perfect guy; he does some stupid stuff,” he tells the *Times*. “But when they’re hounding him all the time it just gets old.”

These are exactly the voters Democrats are hoping to win back. Instead, they are doing the opposite. Polls bear this out.

Two weeks ago, Trump’s Gallup approval rating hit 45 percent — the highest it has been since his inauguration. (It slipped slightly to 41 percent last week).

Trump’s approval among Republicans is at a near-record 87 percent, comparable to the levels of support for George W. Bush in the immediate aftermath of 9/11. Think about that: The left’s attacks on Trump have had the same rallying effect for GOP voters as the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

So, if appeals to civility, decency and conscience won’t work, then perhaps an appeal to base political pragmatism will. Democrats are deluding themselves if they think they lost because of “#NeverHillary” voters who will come home when she is not on the ballot. They lost because they have become a party of coastal liberal elites who have lost touch with millions of ordinary citizens in Middle America — working-class voters who are struggling with factories closing, jobs leaving and an opioid epidemic that is destroying their families. These voters concluded in 2016 that Democrats no longer care about their problems and that Trump does.

Spasms of anti-Trump outrage are not going to win them back. If anything, they are confirming these voters’ conclusions that Democrats still don’t get it — and don’t get them. The left’s miasma of contempt may feel cathartic, but it is the best thing that ever happened to Trump. Indeed, it may very well get him reelected.

Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SUMTER RESIDENTS ARE FORTUNATE TO LIVE HERE

Aren’t we fortunate to live in such a good, caring town? The articles in *The Sumter Item* recently remind me of this.

Sheriff Dennis and his team working with the summer Boys & Girls

Club to help them become better citizens is such a good thing! Our United Ministries under the direction of Mark Champagne are beginning a housing program for the homeless. Meeting such a need! And, last but not least, the outstanding new Jewish History Cen-

ter (under the direction of Roger Ackerman and Annie Rivers from the Sumter Museum) has just become a reality for all to see!

All these programs make me proud to live here!

COLLEEN YATES
Sumter

COMMENTARY

S.C. needs a road map toward a better future

It’s no secret. South Carolina is bursting with promise. Our breathtaking natural beauty, low cost of living, friendly culture and hard-working people have led to rapid growth in recent years.

But even as we celebrate all that’s good about our state, we must also acknowledge that we face daunting barriers to opportunity that hold our people back from reaching their full potential.

Opportunity is squandered every day as our state government, mired in inertia, incompetence (and sometimes outright corruption) staggers from one crisis to the next. Sadly, the diffuse accountability of our legislatively dominated system is a barrier to creating a coherent vision for the future.

For example, what is the plan to improve education? Lower taxes? Fix roads? There is none.

Our outdated education system leaves far too many children without the skills they need to succeed in life. Our uncompetitive tax code “necessitates” huge giveaways to attract out-of-state companies and sticks home-grown businesses with the bill. Despite a massive gas tax hike, our crumbling infrastructure still has no transparent, prioritized strategic plan.

And then there’s the \$9 billion V.C. Summer nuclear boondoggle, a vivid example of Columbia’s gaping public policy vacuum. In the absence of credible, independent analysis, part-time legislators with few staff are left to rely on information from cronies and insiders who write legislation that benefits their bottom line ... and leave the

rest of us picking up the tab.

But as a proud South Carolinian, “While I breathe, I hope.” In each of these challenges, I see tremendous opportunity for us to unite to overcome our challenges and lead a national opportunity revolution.

It starts with bold, proven ideas. We can’t just elect good people and send them into battle armed with nothing but good intentions. We need powerful “idea engines” to map out real solutions, crunch data, learn from other states, convene the right allies and craft the right messages to move reform forward.

Enter Palmetto Promise Institute’s Freedom Agenda, a roadmap to fairness and opportunity for every citizen in our state:

- Education Freedom means parent-controlled innovations like Education Scholarship Accounts that enable students to completely customize a K-12 education experience that meets their unique needs. It also means fixing South Carolina’s broken funding formula to get dollars out of programs and bureaucracies and down into classrooms to support teachers and students.

- Tax Freedom entails fundamentally reforming our unfair, unstable and uncompetitive tax code by following the tried-and-true pro-growth principles of a broad base and lower rates. Our neighbors in North Carolina have already done just that and are reaping the benefits. With the highest marginal individual income tax rate in the Southeast, South Carolina simply can’t afford to get left behind.

- Energy Freedom starts with cleaning up the V.C. Summer mess by putting South Carolina on a path to get out of the failed, state-owned energy business and allowing for more energy choice like our neighbors in

Georgia enjoy.

- Healthcare Freedom protects growing innovations like Direct Primary Care that provide transparency in pricing and put doctors and patients — not insurance companies — back in charge of health care decisions. It also means continuing to push Washington away from one-size-fits-all regulation of our insurance market. With Medicaid growth unchecked and crowding out other budget priorities, we must seek new ways to reform this broken program to both rein in costs and better serve the truly vulnerable.

Each of these ideas draws from the practical experience of states across the country, while harnessing independent, data-driven research to customize them to the unique needs of South Carolina. Each of these solutions is grounded in the principles of freedom and opportunity which have been the lifeblood of American greatness. And each of these reforms stand up for the little guy or gal being crushed under the weight of our broken state government.

During my time in Washington, I quickly learned that old ways of doing business die hard. But as we proved in the successful fight to eliminate earmarks, change is possible. Even in this age of negativity and division, I believe strong, principled leaders can unite people to move a bold, positive Freedom Agenda forward.

Our battle cry: Give us a Palmetto State that is free and fair, where every individual has an opportunity to reach his or her full, God-given potential. That’s the only path to happier, healthier, more prosperous South Carolina.

Jim DeMint is a former U.S. Senator from South Carolina and the founding chairman of Palmetto Promise Institute.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? Send your letter to letters@theitem.com, drop it off at *The Sumter Item* office, 36 W. Liberty St., or mail it to *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, SC 29151, along with the writer’s full name, address and telephone number (for verification purposes only). Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at www.theitem.com/opinion/letters_to_editor.

RITE AID FROM PAGE A1

Walgreens at 201 N. Lafayette Drive — about a half mile away and also in the downtown area.

Inside the store on Thursday, several aisles were bare or only partially stocked. Several items had sale prices listed, and Caruso said sales would continue as the store closes.

Walgreens expects to have jobs at other locations for the majority of the affected store employees, he said.

“Closing stores is never an easy decision,” Caruso said, “but our goal is to ensure we have the right number of stores in the right locations to help us deliver the greatest value for our customers.”

Regarding the other two Sumter Rite Aids, Caruso said he didn’t know whether they would be affected by the ongoing consolidation process.

Walgreens is the second-largest pharmacy store chain in the U.S. behind CVS Health.



BRUCE MILLS / THE SUMTER ITEM

Rite Aid, at 225 N. Washington St., in the downtown area will close later this month.

SWAP FROM PAGE A1

rate swap because of its \$4.3 million deficit from fiscal 2016. According to Heizer, doing the swap in 2017 and borrowing less in bonds allowed the school district to add 10 mills on the operations side and generate about \$1.8 million to go toward its fund balance. The swap is estimated to reduce the deficit by about another \$1.8 million this year, she said.

DISTRICT ENTERS ROUTINE LOAN PROGRAM

Also, at its last meeting, the trustees unanimously approved a motion to issue a tax anticipation note — or loan mechanism — within a state government pool program with about 15 other school districts. The district’s TAN is to be for about \$10,150,000.

Districts routinely issue TANs for “cash-flow issues,” Heizer said.

Given that property tax revenues are unevenly distributed to districts

throughout the year, but expenses are generally similar each month, a TAN helps a district pay its bills until its revenues are received later and can be used to pay back the loan, she said.

By issuing the TAN via the government pool program, a lower interest rate is levied. Sumter School District has issued a TAN every year since the consolidated district was formed in 2011.

In other meeting announcements:
• Interim Superintendent Debbie Hamm shared a letter from the state

Department of Education that it has approved a district financial recovery plan. Additionally, in the letter, the state department noted the progress the district has made in building up its general fund balance. The district projects to end fiscal 2017-18 with a fund balance of about \$6 million.

• New district Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Miller will begin working with the district on July 16. That’s the date the district office reopens after its annual two-week summer break.

Scandal-plagued EPA Administrator Pruitt resigns

WASHINGTON (AP) — Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt resigned Thursday amid ethics investigations of outsized security spending, first-class flights and a sweetheart condo lease.



PRUITT

With Pruitt’s departure, President Donald Trump loses an administrator many conservatives regarded as one of the more effective members of his Cabinet. But Pruitt had also been dogged for months by a seemingly unending string of ethics scandals that spawned more than a dozen federal and congressional investigations.

Pruitt had appeared Wednesday at a White House picnic for Independence Day, wearing a red-checked shirt and loafers with gold trim. Trump gave him and other officials a brief shout-out, offering no sign of any change in his job.

Trump said in a tweet Thursday that Deputy Administrator Andrew Wheeler, a former coal industry executive, will assume the acting administrator position Monday.

A former Oklahoma attorney general close to the oil and gas industry, Pruitt had filed more than a dozen lawsuits

against the agency he was picked to lead. Arriving in Washington, he worked relentlessly to dismantle Obama-era environmental regulations that aimed to reduce toxic pollution and planet-warming carbon emissions.

During his one-year tenure, Pruitt crisscrossed the country at taxpayer expense to speak with industry groups and hobnob with GOP donors, but he showed little interest in listening to advocates he derided as “the environmental left.” Those groups applauded his departure.

“Despite his brief tenure, Pruitt was the worst EPA chief in history,” said Kieran Suckling, executive director of the Center for Biological Diversity. “His corruption was his downfall, but his pro-polluter policies will have our kids breathing dirtier air long after his

many scandals are forgotten.”

Like Trump, Pruitt voiced skepticism about mainstream climate science and was a fierce critic of the Paris climate agreement. The president cheered his EPA chief’s moves to boost fossil fuel production and roll back regulations opposed by corporate interests.

But despite boasts of slashing red tape and promoting job creation, Pruitt had a mixed

record of producing real-world results. Many of the EPA regulations Pruitt scrapped or delayed had not yet taken effect, and the tens of thousands of lost coal mining jobs the president pledged to bring back never materialized.

Pruitt was forced out following a series of revelations involving pricey trips with first-class airline seats and unusual security spending, including a \$43,000 soundproof booth for

making private phone calls. He also demanded 24-hour-a-day protection from armed officers, resulting in a swollen 20-member security detail that blew through overtime budgets and racked up expenses of more than \$3 million.

Pruitt also had ordered his EPA staff to do personal chores for him, picking up dry cleaning and trying to obtain a used Trump hotel mattress for his apartment.

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AROUND TOWN

Lincoln High School Class of 1968 will meet at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 8, at 22 Council St. Plans will be made for the 50th class reunion to be held Aug. 3-5. Call James at (803) 968-4173.

Diamond Rio will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 8, at the Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St. Tickets are \$50 and \$55. Contact the Sumter Opera House for ticket purchasing information.

The Sumter Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10, at Shiloh-Randolph Manor, 125 W. Bartlette St. Contact Debra Canty, chapter president, at (803) 775-5792 or debra.canty@frontier.com.

The Lincoln High School Preservation Alumni Association will meet at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 15, at 22 Council St. Call James at (803) 968-4173.

A Red, White and Blue Ball, presented by American

Legion Post 202 Women's Auxiliary, will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturday, July 28, at 310 Palmetto St. Event will feature DJ Smoothie as well as free food. Tickets are \$20 each. Semi formal attire. Call Janetta at (803) 406-8038.

The Fourth Annual Unity Prayer Breakfast, hosted by One Sumter Community, will be held at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4, at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Enrichment Center, 315 W. Fulton St. Tickets are \$10 each. Call Joshua Dupree at (803) 795-3600 or Calvin Hastie at (803) 774-7776 for tickets.

The 12th Annual Art in the Park will be held 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 22, at Memorial Park. Art and craft, community corner and children's craft center vendor applications can be downloaded at HSNASumtersc.com.

FYI

The Bishopville / Manning / Shaw Air Force Base Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. meets at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Corinth Missionary Baptist Church, 25 Community St.

The Christian Golfers' Association (CGA) meets at 8 a.m. each Tuesday at the CGA office at Dillon Park for Bible study. Refreshments provided and golf after Bible study. Call (803) 773-2171.

The Ballard-Palmer-Bates American Legion Post 202 meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Post, 310 Palmetto St. All veterans are welcome to attend. Call (803) 773-4811.

The Civil Air Patrol Sumter Composite Squadron meets from 7 to 9 p.m. each Monday at the Sumter Airport. Contact Jared Buniel at (803) 481-7915 or JaredLotR@juno.com. Visit the Web site at www.scwg.cap.gov/sumter/.

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Socialize, network and explore new

possibilities, but don't drain your budget. If you live within your means, you will ease stress and impress someone you love.

Personal improvements will be gratifying, and romance should be on your agenda.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your desire for something new and exciting will lead to temptation. Don't give in to someone asking for too much or trying to convince you to get involved in something that isn't good for you. Restraint and patience will be required.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look for answers, ask questions and stay focused on getting ahead personally and professionally. A change is in your best interest but must be reasonable and within your budget. Make physical improvements that will result in greater confidence. Romance is highlighted.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Mull over your options and let your imagination wander. The ideas you come up with will help you bring about change that will improve your life and help you project a positive attitude that will convince others to join your cause.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put your plans into motion and aim to achieve what you set out to do. Being organized and prepared for whatever unexpected circumstances arise will counter loss or failure. Underestimating what you can handle should be avoided.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Travel, educational pursuits and new experiences will all lead to personal growth and a greater understanding of what's possible. Encourage change, but if you don't

implement discipline to ensure you don't take on the impossible, an unusual partnership will develop.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look at the cost involved in something before you decide to take part. Emotions must not be allowed to sway you in a direction that could end up limiting your chance to advance. Personal expenditures need to be monitored carefully.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't act on impulse. Consider the pros and cons and formulate a plan that is realistic. A unique idea will capture your attention, but verify the cost and time involved before you sign up for something that could be taxing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more time and effort into personal improvements. Whether it's your surroundings, relationships or a physical update that makes you feel confident and good about the way you project your image, move forward. You'll get positive results. Romance is highlighted.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't leave anything to chance. An emotional matter will disrupt your plans if you aren't prepared to compensate for whatever transpires. Don't let anger take over when what's required are strength and courage.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Express your feelings and work hard to improve a personal relationship. Letting little things come between you and someone you love will lead to regret. Be willing to work with someone in order to resolve problems.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A display of confidence and ownership by someone you are competitive with must not be allowed to bring you down. Look for a unique way to counter any put-down you encounter; you will recapture the attention you crave.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
A stray afternoon thunderstorm	Heavy t-storms, flood risk	A shower and t-storm around	An afternoon t-storm in spots	Nice with partial sunshine	Mostly sunny with a t-storm
91°	71°	81° / 66°	84° / 66°	87° / 65°	92° / 70°
Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 65%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 55%
SW 3-6 mph	N 4-8 mph	NE 8-16 mph	NE 8-16 mph	NE 6-12 mph	SSW 3-6 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

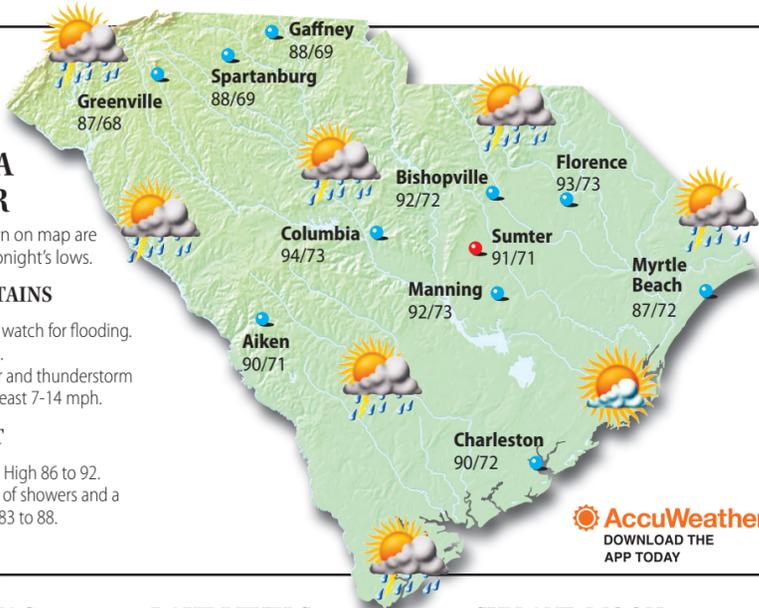
Today: Downpours, watch for flooding. Winds west 4-8 mph.

Saturday: A shower and thunderstorm around. Winds northeast 7-14 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Partly sunny. High 86 to 92.

Saturday: A couple of showers and a thunderstorm. High 83 to 88.



AccuWeather
DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
88°	88°	73°	90°	69°	101° in 2016	62° in 2007

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
0.40"	0.40"	0.77"	18.01"	21.88"	23.56"	

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.76	-0.03
Marion	76.8	75.66	+0.05
Moultrie	75.5	75.42	+0.05
Wateree	100	97.69	-0.01

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	6.80	-0.37
Congaree River	19	3.52	none
Lynches River	14	2.44	-0.15
Saluda River	14	3.44	-0.03
Up. Santee River	80	77.03	-0.21
Wateree River	24	6.59	-3.87

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:17 a.m.	Sunset	8:36 p.m.
Moonrise	1:19 a.m.	Moonsset	1:50 p.m.

Last	New	First	Full
July 6	July 12	July 19	July 27

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	3:03 a.m.	2.8	10:07 a.m.	0.2
	3:39 p.m.	2.8	10:35 p.m.	0.7
Sat.	3:57 a.m.	2.7	11:00 a.m.	0.0
	4:35 p.m.	3.0	11:40 p.m.	0.6

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	87/71/t	82/69/t
Chicago	79/60/s	82/62/s
Dallas	95/76/pc	95/76/t
Detroit	79/58/s	80/62/s
Houston	91/72/t	91/74/t
Los Angeles	104/81/s	103/73/pc
New Orleans	88/75/t	88/75/t
New York	83/65/t	78/64/s
Orlando	88/70/t	87/72/t
Philadelphia	84/64/t	80/61/s
Phoenix	112/93/s	111/94/pc
San Francisco	75/60/pc	76/59/pc
Wash., DC	88/67/t	80/65/s

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Asheville	82/65/t	77/60/t	Florence	93/73/t	81/67/t
Athens	87/68/t	80/66/t	Gainesville	89/73/t	88/73/t
Augusta	92/71/pc	85/67/t	Gastonia	89/70/t	79/64/t
Beaufort	92/74/t	88/71/t	Goldsboro	93/71/t	79/66/t
Cape Hatteras	90/74/pc	85/74/t	Goose Creek	89/72/t	86/70/t
Charleston	90/72/pc	86/69/t	Greensboro	88/65/t	78/60/t
Charlotte	90/69/t	79/64/t	Greenville	87/68/t	78/65/t
Clemson	88/71/t	80/67/t	Hickory	84/64/t	78/60/t
Columbia	94/73/t	81/67/t	Hilton Head	88/75/pc	87/73/t
Darlington	92/73/t	80/66/t	Jacksonville, FL	87/71/pc	89/73/t
Elizabeth City	91/74/t	79/70/t	La Grange	90/72/pc	85/71/t
Elizabethtown	91/72/t	78/67/t	Macon	91/71/pc	85/68/t
Fayetteville	94/69/t	78/66/t	Marietta	86/70/t	82/68/t
			Marion	84/67/t	76/62/t
			Mt. Pleasant	88/74/pc	86/72/t
			Myrtle Beach	87/72/pc	83/69/t
			Orangeburg	91/72/t	83/69/t
			Port Royal	89/74/pc	87/73/t
			Raleigh	90/67/t	78/62/t
			Rock Hill	89/70/t	79/65/t
			Rockingham	91/71/t	77/65/t
			Savannah	90/72/t	88/71/t
			Spartanburg	88/69/t	77/65/t
			Summerville	89/72/t	85/69/t
			Wilmington	89/71/pc	83/68/t
			Winston-Salem	87/64/t	79/60/t

We have a NOSE for NEWS

Call us at (803) 774-1200 or visit us at 36 W. Liberty St.

the Sumter ITEM



ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

J	O	S	H	A	R	T	S	Y	S	H	A	G	
O	T	T	O	B	E	R	N	E	T	E	L	L	
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G	E	T	S	E	T	E	R	S	E	R			
E	X	I	T	L	A	U	D	I	S	H	O	T	
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P	I	G	S	O	U	T	I	K	E	A			
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SUDOKU

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

JUMBLE

GRAPH WHARF DEPUTY BABOON
Her detailed explanation of how the toll money would be used was a — "THOROUGH-FARE"

SUMTER SPCA PETS OF THE WEEK



FAR LEFT: Foxy is a housebroken and spayed 1-year-old American short hair. She is super with other cats and children. Foxy loves belly rubs and scratches and lives for attention. She would make an exceptional new family buddy and couch potato.

LEFT: Henry is a 6-month-old boxer / bulldog mix. He is a friendly and affectionate boy who loves to play with other dogs. Henry prefers a home with older children and without cats. He's a sweet guy who loves to cuddle and get lots of attention.

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

The SPCA relies heavily on community support and donations. Currently, the biggest needs are for dry puppy and kitten food, wet cat food, cat litter and cleaning supplies. The following are also appreciated:

Newspapers, stuffed animals, heavy duty trash bags (30 gallon or larger), dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, bleach, paper towels, sheets and comforters, baby blankets, canned dog and cat food, dry dog food, treats, leashes and collars, disinfectant spray, all-purpose cleaner, air freshener, no scratch scrubbers, two-sided sponges for dishes, litter freshener and, of course, monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

YOUTH SOFTBALL



PHOTO PROVIDED BY NATALIE DUCOM

Sumter's Anna Marie Beard, left, and the rest of her 15-and-under Dixie Belles teammates will be playing in the state tournament in Bluffton beginning on Saturday. Sumter will face Moncks Corner in the opening game

Sumter 15-and-under softball team has high hopes entering state tourney in Bluffton

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter 15-and-under Dixie Belles all-star softball team will begin play in the state tournament on Saturday in Bluffton. Sumter will be taking on Moncks Corner on Saturday at 2 p.m. in its first game in the double-elimination tournament.

And head coach John Reed believes the key to his team's ultimate success in the tournament will depend on its

base running ability.

"We've got a group of girls who are very smart base runners," said Reed, whose squad swept through the district tournament last month at Patriot Park SportPlex. "If we can get people on base, we can really make things happen. If we get people on and start stealing bases, it can really have an affect on the other team. I think being able to steal bases and make things happen can get into the head of the other teams."

Reed likes the balance of his team

though in all facets of the game.

"We've got some really strong girls on this team," he said. "As long as we play together, we're going to be a really tough team to beat. We have to get ourselves right and be getting ourselves ready to play."

Obviously, to be able to make things happen on the bases, one has to get on base. Reed thinks Sumter has a strong offensive squad.

SEE BELLES, PAGE B3

WIMBLEDON

2017 champ Muguruza, finalist Cilic upset

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Garbine Muguruza insisted she wasn't thinking about attempting to collect a second consecutive Wimbledon championship. She was adamant that she was not focusing on defending her title.

"It doesn't really matter," she would say, "what happened in 2017."

Well, it seems safe to say she'll really want to forget what happened at the All England Club in 2018. Muguruza was stunned in the second round 5-7, 6-2, 6-1 by 47th-ranked Alison Van Uytvanck of Belgium on Thursday, the latest upset in a series of them at the grass-court major tournament.

"It's a little bit sad," Muguruza said. "But today didn't go my way."

That's become a familiar refrain for prominent women at this topsy-turvy Wimbledon.

Only two of the top eight seeded women are still in the



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rafael Nadal falls after returning a shot against Mikhail Kukushkin during their second-round singles match in the Wimbledon Championships on Thursday in London.

field after four days of action. No. 3-seeded Muguruza joined No. 2 Caroline Wozniacki, No. 4 Sloane Stephens,

No. 5 Elina Svitolina, No. 6 Caroline Garcia and No. 8 Petra Kvitova on the way out so far, along with five-time

major champion Maria Sharapova.

SEE TENNIS, PAGE B3

AUTO RACING

Dillon feels optimistic in return to Daytona

BY JORDAN BIANCHI
NASCAR Wire Service

Looking into his rearview mirror and seeing the field behind him as he sped across the finish line to win the season-opening Daytona 500 is something Austin Dillon won't ever forget.

The memory of winning is ever-present, especially so

this weekend as the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series returns to Daytona International Speedway for the Coke Zero Sugar 400 on Saturday. It marks the first time Dillon has raced at Daytona since his win in February.

"It's a good feeling coming to the checkered flag and the entire field is behind you," Dillon said. "Anytime you can relive those moments, you try to. It's kind of like a dream. You come to the checkered flag and all you see is people behind you and nothing in front of you."

Dillon's win in NASCAR's biggest race kicked off a national media blitz that included assorted appearances on television shows, a visit to the New York Stock Exchange where he rang the closing bell, and meeting NBA Hall of Famer Shaquille O'Neal, whose hands are so big Dillon said they wrapped around his twice when they shook.

But since that Daytona triumph, Dillon hasn't had much to celebrate. His best result is a 10th at Auto Club Speedway in March, while six times he's finished outside the top 20. This inconsistency explains why the Richard Childress Racing driver currently sits 19th in points heading into NASCAR's annual summer visit to Daytona.

Dillon attributes some of his struggles to the growing pains of adjusting to the new Camaro body style over the off-season, as Dillon's Daytona 500 victory is the manufacturer's lone win.

"A lot of people were pumped-up about the Chevy Camaro and we haven't delivered the wins that we thought our camp would this year as far as that goes," Dillon said. "We're working, though, as a group to get closer."

The hope for RCR and Chevrolet is that both will continue to make gradual performance gains through the summer and by the time the playoffs begin in September giving their drivers a chance to contend for the championship. Offering RCR encouragement that it is improving is Dillon recording finishes of 12th (Pocono) and 14th (Michigan) in recent weeks.

A return trip to Daytona also brings renewed optimism, presenting a prime opportunity for Dillon to recapture the success he enjoyed at the beginning of the season. With restrictor plates and the draft leveling the playing field and migrating advantages some teams may hold over others, Dillon feels he can contend Saturday night better than we would at other tracks where RCR lags behind.

"I always enjoy coming down here and have the opportunity to have a chance to win a race," Dillon said. "You feel better when you get to the speedway because the plan feels level."

YOUTH BASEBALL

Sumter American opens state against Hartsville National

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter American 7-8 year-old coaches pitch all-star baseball team went undefeated in four games in the District 9 tournament in St. George, outscoring its foes 52-14.

"I think we're a well-balanced team," said Sumter American manager Chad Wilsey. "We're a solid defensive team, and we're pretty steady on offense. We're able to put some runs on the board."

The district win earned Sumter American in the 16-team, double-elimination state tournament that begins on Saturday at Greenwood Park in Florence. Sumter American opens against District 5 champion Hartsville National at noon on Field 2.

"That's going to be a very good test for us," Wilsey said.

With eight district champions and the eight runners-up in the tournament, the Sumter-Hartsville match-up is the only one pitting district champions against each other in the

first round.

If Sumter American wins its opening game, it will take on the winner between Greenwood and Walhalla at 4 p.m. on Saturday. If Sumter loses, it will play on Sunday at 2 p.m. against the loser of the Greenwood-Walhalla contest.

Wilsey felt good about his squad going into the district tournament and thought it had a chance to reach the state tournament.

SEE STATE, PAGE B3

WORLD CUP SOCCER

Mbappe, Henry would have another link if France wins cup

BY JEROME PUGMIRE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia — Kylian Mbappe and Thierry Henry both attended France's Clairefontaine academy before playing as left wingers at Monaco, and they both won French league titles as teenagers.

Mbappe wants to replicate another one of Henry's accomplishments — a World Cup title for France in his first tournament.

Henry, 40, is France's leading scorer with 51 goals, the 19-year-old Mbappe is Les Bleus' new sensation, with three, matching Henry's total from 1998 and 2006.



AP FILE PHOTO

France's Kylian Mbappe celebrates after scoring in France's 1-0 victory over Argentina in the World Cup in Kazan, Russia.

If Mbappe scores again, France plays Uruguay in Friday's quarterfinal, he would

become the first Frenchman since 1958 to score four at a World Cup since Just Fon-

taine's record 13 over six games in 1958.

Henry and Mbappe both share the electric pace Fontaine had, but with a far more rounded game than their illustrious predecessor.

"I don't really like to compare players from different generations, but they have a similar profile, with their speed and ability to beat players," said France coach Didier Deschamps, captain of the 1998 champions. "I can only wish Kylian the same career as Thierry."

Deschamps said that after Mbappe's debut in a qualifier at Luxembourg in March 2017. He already was hailing Mbappe's maturity.

"His biggest strength is his composure when he's through on the goalkeeper," Deschamps said. "That's very rare at his age, and it's why he's so efficient."

Mbappe showed that in a 4-3 win against Argentina last Saturday, scoring two clinical second-half goals after earning a first-half penalty kick with an astonishing run from deep inside his own half. Mbappe stole the spotlight from five-time FIFA Player of the Year Lionel Messi, and he emerged as a candidate to join Neymar in the conversation for who is the world's best player after Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo move on.

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

5:30 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Irish Open Second Round from Donegal, Ireland (GOLF).
7 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Men's and Women's Third-Round Matches from London (ESPN).
8:55 a.m. — Formula One Racing: British Grand Prix Practice from Silverstone, England (ESPN2).
9:30 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Irish Open Second Round from Donegal, Ireland (GOLF).
10 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Quarterfinal Match from Novgorod, Russia — Uruguay vs. France (FOX SPORTS 1).
10:30 a.m. — NASCAR Racing: XFINITY Series Coca-Cola Firecracker 250 Practice from Daytona Beach, Fla. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
11:30 a.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series Coke Zero Sugar 400 Practice from Daytona Beach, Fla. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
1:30 p.m. — Professional Golf: Web.com Tour LECOM Health Challenge Second Round from Clymer, N.Y. (GOLF).
Noon — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Men's and Women's Third-Round Matches from London (ESPN).
2 p.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Quarterfinal Match from Kazan, Russia — Brazil vs. Belgium (FOX SPORTS 1).
2 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs (MLB NETWORK).
2 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: XFINITY Series Coca-Cola Firecracker 250 Pole Qualifying from Daytona Beach, Fla. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
3 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Houston vs. Indiana (NBA TV).
3:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Toronto vs. New Orleans (ESPN).
3:30 p.m. — PGA Golf: A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier Second Round from White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. (GOLF).
4 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series Coke Zero Sugar 400 Pole Qualifying from Daytona Beach, Fla. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
4:30 p.m. — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Day 5 Highlights from London (TENNIS).
5 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Brooklyn vs. Orlando (NBA TV).
5:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Oklahoma City vs. Charlotte (ESPN).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — LPGA Golf: Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic Second Round from Oneida, Wis. (GOLF).
6:30 p.m. — American Legion Baseball: Florence at Sumter (WWHM-FM 92.3, WWHM-FM 93.3, WWHM-AM 1290).
7 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Seattle at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Philadelphia at Pittsburgh or Oakland at Cleveland (MLB NETWORK).
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Milwaukee vs. Toronto (NBA TV).
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Boston vs. Philadelphia (ESPN).
7:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: XFINITY Series Coca-Cola Firecracker 250 from Daytona Beach, Fla. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK, WEGX-FM 92.9).
8 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Atlanta at Milwaukee (FOX SPORTSOUTH, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
9 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Cleveland vs. Washington (NBA TV).
9:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Dallas vs. Phoenix (ESPN).
11 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Denver vs. Minnesota (NBA TV).
11:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Los Angeles Clippers vs. Golden State (ESPN).

SATURDAY
5 a.m. — International Cycling: Tour de France Stage 1 from Fontenay-le-Comte, France (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
5:55 a.m. — Formula One Racing: British Grand Prix Practice from Silverstone, England (ESPN2).
7:30 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Irish Open Third Round from Donegal, Ireland (GOLF).
8 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Men's and Women's Third-Round Matches from London (ESPN).
10 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Quarterfinal Match from Samara, Russia — Sweden vs. England (WACH 57).
Noon — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Men's and Women's Third-Round Matches from London (ESPN).
1 p.m. — PGA Golf: A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier Third Round from White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. (GOLF).
2 p.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Quarterfinal Match from Sochi, Russia — Russia vs. Croatia (WACH 57).
2 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs or Baltimore at Minnesota (MLB NETWORK).
3 p.m. — PGA Golf: A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier Third Round from White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. (WLTX 19).
3 p.m. — Professional Golf: Web.com Tour LECOM Health Challenge Third Round from Clymer, N.Y. (GOLF).
3 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Portland vs. Utah (NBA TV).
3:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — San Antonio vs. Indiana (ESPN2).
3:30 p.m. — IRL Racing: IndyCar Series Pole Qualifying from Newton, Iowa (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
4 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Atlanta at Milwaukee (FOX SPORTS 1, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
4:30 p.m. — Horse Racing: Breeders' Cup Challenge Series from Elmont, N.Y. — Belmont Derby Invitational, Belmont Oaks Invitational and Suburban Handicap (WIS 10).
4:30 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Orlando at Los Angeles (WACH 57).
5 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Miami vs. New Orleans (NBA TV).
5 p.m. — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Day 6 Highlights from London (TENNIS).
5:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — New York vs. Atlanta (ESPN).
5:30 p.m. — LPGA Golf: Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic Third Round from Oneida, Wis. (GOLF).
6 p.m. — Arena Football: Philadelphia at Albany (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
6 p.m. — Horse Racing: Belmont Sprint and Dwyer from Elmont, N.Y. (FOX SPORTS 2).
7 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series Coke Zero Sugar 400 from Daytona Beach, Fla. (WIS 10, WEGX-FM 92.9).
7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Miami at Washington (WACH 57).
7 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Atlanta at Philadelphia (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Oklahoma City vs. Brooklyn (NBA TV).
7 p.m. — Professional Swimming: TYR Pro Swim Series Day 3 from Columbus, Ohio (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Phoenix vs. Sacramento (ESPN).
7:30 p.m. — NWSL Soccer: Washington at Orlando (ESPNNEWS).
9 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Detroit vs. Memphis (NBA TV).
9:30 p.m. — Professional Boxing: Jose Carlos Ramirez vs. Danny O'Connor in a Super Lightweight Bout from Fresno, Calif. (ESPN).

9:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Chicago vs. Cleveland (ESPN2).
10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: San Diego at Arizona (MLB NETWORK).
11 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Boston vs. Denver (NBA TV).
11:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Philadelphia vs. Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN).

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	59	29	.670	—
New York	56	28	.667	1
Tampa Bay	43	43	.500	15
Toronto	40	46	.465	18
Baltimore	24	61	.282	33½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	48	37	.565	—
Detroit	38	50	.432	1½
Minnesota	35	48	.422	12
Chicago	30	56	.349	18½
Kansas City	25	61	.291	23½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	57	31	.648	—
Seattle	55	32	.632	1½
Oakland	48	39	.552	8½
Los Angeles	44	43	.506	12½
Texas	38	49	.437	18½

WEDNESDAY

Boston 3, Washington 0
N.Y. Yankees 6, Atlanta 2
Miami 3, Tampa Bay 0
Chicago Cubs 5, Detroit 2
Oakland 4, San Diego 2
Philadelphia 4, Baltimore 1
L.A. Angels 7, Seattle 4
Milwaukee 3, Minnesota 2
Houston 5, Texas 4, 10 innings
N.Y. Mets 6, Toronto 3
Cincinnati 7, Chicago White Sox 4
Cleveland 3, Kansas City 2

THURSDAY

Texas at Detroit, 7:10 p.m.
Baltimore at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY

N.Y. Yankees (Gray 5-6) at Toronto (Gaviglio 2-2), 7:07 p.m.
Oakland (Blackburn 2-2) at Cleveland (Carrasco 8-5), 7:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (TBD) at N.Y. Mets (deGrom 5-4), 7:10 p.m.
Texas (Colon 5-5) at Detroit (Zimmermann 3-0), 7:10 p.m.
Baltimore (Bundy 6-7) at Minnesota (Lynn 5-7), 8:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Lopez 4-5) at Houston (McCullers 9-3), 8:10 p.m.
Boston (Sale 8-4) at Kansas City (Hammel 2-10), 8:15 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 5-5) at L.A. Angels (Barria 5-4), 10:07 p.m.
Colorado (Marquez 6-8) at Seattle (Hernandez 8-6), 10:10 p.m.

SATURDAY

Baltimore at Minnesota, 2:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 4:07 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Houston, 4:10 p.m.
Colorado at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.
Oakland at Cleveland, 4:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 p.m.
Texas at Detroit, 4:10 p.m.
Boston at Kansas City, 7:15 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at L.A. Angels, 7:15 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	49	36	.576	—
Philadelphia	47	37	.560	1½
Washington	42	43	.494	7
New York	34	49	.410	14
Miami	36	52	.409	14½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	51	35	.593	—
Chicago	49	35	.583	1
St. Louis	44	41	.518	6½
Pittsburgh	40	46	.465	11
Cincinnati	38	49	.437	13½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	48	39	.552	—
Los Angeles	47	39	.547	½
San Francisco	45	43	.511	3½
Colorado	44	43	.506	4
San Diego	37	51	.420	11½

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Boston 3, Washington 0
N.Y. Yankees 6, Atlanta 2
Miami 3, Tampa Bay 0
Chicago Cubs 5, Detroit 2
Oakland 4, San Diego 2
Philadelphia 4, Baltimore 1
Milwaukee 3, Minnesota 2
N.Y. Mets 6, Toronto 3
Cincinnati 7, Chicago White Sox 4
Colorado 1, San Francisco 0
L.A. Dodgers 6, Pittsburgh 4
St. Louis 8, Arizona 4

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Miami at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
San Diego at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
St. Louis at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Cincinnati (Mahle 6-6) at Chicago Cubs (Montgomery 3-2), 2:20 p.m.
Miami (Straily 3-4) at Washington (Gonzalez 6-5), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Pivetta 5-7) at Pittsburgh (Williams 6-6), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (TBD) at N.Y. Mets (deGrom 5-4), 7:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Foltynewicz 6-4) at Milwaukee (Peralta 3-1), 8:10 p.m.
San Diego (Lucchesi 4-3) at Arizona (Godley 9-6), 9:40 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 5-5) at L.A. Angels (Barria 5-4), 10:07 p.m.
Colorado (Marquez 6-8) at Seattle (Hernandez 8-6), 10:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Gant 2-3) at San Francisco (Rodriguez 3-1), 10:15 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Milwaukee, 4:10 p.m.

Colorado at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at L.A. Angels, 7:15 p.m.
Miami at Washington, 7:15 p.m.
San Diego at Arizona, 10:10 p.m.

MLB LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTING Betts, Boston, .338; Altuve, Houston, .332; Segura, Seattle, .330; Martinez, Boston, .327; Simmons, Los Angeles, .316; Duffy, Tampa Bay, .314; Trout, Los Angeles, .310; Castellanos, Detroit, .309; Rosario, Minnesota, .308; Machado, Baltimore, .308.
RUNS Lindor, Cleveland, 75; Trout, Los Angeles, 67; Betts, Boston, 66; Judge, New York, 61; Martinez, Boston, 60; Segura, Seattle, 60; Springer, Houston, 60; Benintendi, Boston, 58; Ramirez, Cleveland, 58; Rosario, Minnesota, 57.
RBI Martinez, Boston, 71; Haniger, Seattle, 62; Lowrie, Oakland, 59; Machado, Baltimore, 59; Encarnacion, Cleveland, 58; K Davis, Oakland, 57; Gattis, Houston, 57; Judge, New York, 57; Ramirez, Cleveland, 56; 2 tied at 55.
HITS Altuve, Houston, 115; Segura, Seattle, 110; Castellanos, Detroit, 106; Martinez, Boston, 104; Lindor, Cleveland, 103; Rosario, Minnesota, 101; Machado, Baltimore, 100; Lowrie, Oakland, 97; AJones, Baltimore, 96; Ramirez, Cleveland, 94.
DOUBLES Escobar, Minnesota, 34; Abreu, Chicago, 27; Bregman, Houston, 27; Lindor, Cleveland, 27; Castellanos, Detroit, 26; Lowrie, Oakland, 25; Pillar, Toronto, 25; 4 tied at 24.
TRIPLES Sanchez, Chicago, 9; Hernandez, Toronto, 6; Benintendi, Boston, 5; Jones, Detroit, 4; Moncada, Chicago, 4; Moreland, Boston, 4; Profar, Texas, 4; Smith, Tampa Bay, 4; 10 tied at 3.
HOME RUNS Martinez, Boston, 26; Judge, New York, 24; Ramirez, Cleveland, 24; Trout, Los Angeles, 24; Lindor, Cleveland, 23; Cruz, Seattle, 22; Betts, Boston, 21; Machado, Baltimore, 21; Stanton, New York, 21; 3 tied at 20.
STOLEN BASES Gordon, Seattle, 22; Anderson, Chicago, 19; Ramirez, Cleveland, 17; Benintendi, Boston, 16; R Davis, Cleveland, 16; DeShields, Texas, 16; Merrifield, Kansas City, 16; Betts, Boston, 15; Smith, Tampa Bay, 15; Segura, Seattle, 14.
PITCHING Severino, New York, 13-2; Kluber, Cleveland, 12-4; Snell, Tampa Bay, 11-4; Happ, Toronto, 10-4; Morton, Houston, 10-2; Porcello, Boston, 10-3; Rodriguez, Boston, 10-3; 4 tied at 9.
ERA Severino, New York, 1.98; Verlander, Houston, 2.12; Snell, Tampa Bay, 2.24; Sale, Boston, 2.40; Bauer, Cleveland, 2.45; Morton, Houston, 2.55; Kluber, Cleveland, 2.64; Skaggs, Los Angeles, 2.64; Cole, Houston, 2.70; Sabathia, New York, 3.02.
STRIKEOUTS Sale, Boston, 164; Cole, Houston, 158; Bauer, Cleveland, 156; Paxton, Seattle, 145; Verlander, Houston, 144; Severino, New York, 138; Morton, Houston, 133; Snell, Tampa Bay, 123; Kluber, Cleveland, 120; Berrios, Minnesota, 114.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING Gennett, Cincinnati, .331; Almora, Chicago, .329; Markakis, Atlanta, .322; Kemp, Los Angeles, .318; Arenado, Colorado, .312; Crawford, San Francisco, .310; Suarez, Cincinnati, .308; Freeman, Atlanta, .308; Dickerson, Pittsburgh, .303; Belt, San Francisco, .297.
RUNS Albies, Atlanta, 66; Blackmon, Colorado, 63; Goldschmidt, Arizona, 58; Hernandez, Philadelphia, 58; Arenado, Colorado, 57; Pham, St. Louis, 57; Bellinger, Los Angeles, 54; Baez, Chicago, 54; Freeman, Atlanta, 54; 3 tied at 52.
RBI Arenado, Colorado, 63; Suarez, Cincinnati, 63; Baez, Chicago, 61; Story, Colorado, 60; Markakis, Atlanta, 58; Rizzo, Chicago, 58; Gennett, Cincinnati, 57; Freeman, Atlanta, 56; Aguilar, Milwaukee, 55; Kemp, Los Angeles, 55.
HITS Markakis, Atlanta, 108; Gennett, Cincinnati, 105; Albies, Atlanta, 102; Freeman, Atlanta, 101; Castro, Miami, 100; Arenado, Colorado, 96; Anderson, Miami, 95; Turner, Washington, 94; Story, Colorado, 93; 2 tied at 91.
DOUBLES Albies, Atlanta, 27; Markakis, Atlanta, 27; Carpenter, St. Louis, 26; Rendon, Washington, 24; Story, Colorado, 23; McCutchen, San Francisco, 22; 5 tied at 21.
TRIPLES K Marte, Arizona, 8; T Taylor, Los Angeles, 8; Baez, Chicago, 6; Nimmo, New York, 6; Contreras, Chicago, 5; Story, Colorado, 5; 9 tied at 4.
HOME RUNS Arenado, Colorado, 22; Harper, Washington, 21; Muncy, Los Angeles, 20; Aguilar, Milwaukee, 19; Goldschmidt, Arizona, 19; Albies, Atlanta, 18; 5 tied at 17.
STOLEN BASES Inciarte, Atlanta, 23; M Taylor, Washington, 23; Turner, Washington, 22; SMarte, Pittsburgh, 18; Cain, Milwaukee, 16; Dyson, Arizona, 16; Hamilton, Cincinnati, 16; Baez, Chicago, 15; Peraza, Cincinnati, 14; 2 tied at 13.
PITCHING Lester, Chicago, 11-2; Nola, Philadelphia, 11-2; Scherzer, Washington, 10-5; Godley, Arizona, 9-6; Greinke, Arizona, 9-5; Mikolas, St. Louis, 9-3; 5 tied at 8.
ERA deGrom, New York, 1.85; Foltynewicz, Atlanta, 2.02; Scherzer, Washington, 2.16; Lester, Chicago, 2.25; Nola, Philadelphia, 2.40; Mikolas, St. Louis, 2.63; Guerra, Milwaukee, 2.88; Corbin, Arizona, 3.05; Newcomb, Atlanta, 3.11; Freeland, Colorado, 3.25.
STRIKEOUTS Scherzer, Washington, 174; Corbin, Arizona, 140; deGrom, New York, 134; Gray, Colorado, 119; Nola, Philadelphia, 116; Greinke, Arizona, 112; Foltynewicz, Atlanta, 107; Velasquez, Philadelphia, 107; Pivetta, Philadelphia, 104; Stripling, Los Angeles, 96.

WORLD CUP SOCCER

SECOND ROUND

Saturday, June 30

Game 50

At Kazan, Russia

France 4, Argentina 3

Game 49

At Sochi, Russia

Uruguay 2, Portugal 1

Sunday, July 1

Game 51

At Moscow

Russia 1, Spain 1, Russia wins 4-3 on penalty kicks

Game 52

At Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

Croatia 1, Denmark 1, Croatia wins 3-2 on penalty kicks

Monday, July 2

Game 53

At Samara, Russia

Brazil 2, Mexico 0

Game 54

At Rostov-on-Don, Russia

Belgium 3, Japan 2

Tuesday, July 3

Game 55

At St. Petersburg, Russia

Sweden 1, Switzerland 0

Game 56

At Moscow

England 1, Colombia 1, England wins 4-3 on penalty kicks

QUARTERFINAL

Friday, July 6

Game 57

At Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

Uruguay vs. France, 10 a.m.

Game 58

At Kazan, Russia

Brazil vs. Belgium, 2 p.m.

Saturday, July 7

Game 60

At Samara, Russia

Sweden vs. England, 10 a.m.

Game 59

At Sochi, Russia

Russia vs. Croatia, 2 p.m.

SEMIFINAL

Tuesday, July 10

Game 61

At St. Petersburg, Russia

Game 57 winner vs. Game 58 winner, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, July 11

Game 62

At Moscow

Game 59 winner vs. Game 60 winner, 2 p.m.

THIRD PLACE

Saturday, July 14

Game 63

At St. Petersburg, Russia

BELLES FROM PAGE B1

"Our hitting, to me, from top to bottom is all the same," Reed said. "Each of the girls has the ability to put the ball in play and get on base. We've got four or five girls who are really fast, and we want to be able to use their ability to bunt the ball to put pressure on the other teams."

Handling the overwhelming majority of the pitching chores for Sumter will be Morgan Berry, Emily Jordan and Hayley Carter. That is something of a concern.

"They each get 15 innings in the tournament, and when we

get deep in the tournament that could create some problems," Reed said. "We've got to try our best to use their innings wisely."

Reed said his squad is sound on defense, pointing out it is particularly strong in the outfield.

Reed also pointed out that the presence of Brooke Ward has been a positive influence for the squad. Ward is a former Laurence Manning Academy standout who started at shortstop for the University of South Carolina Sumter as a freshman.



Sumter's Brooke Reed slides around the tag of an opposing catcher in the Dixie Belles district tournament recently played in Sumter. The 15-and-under all-star team will begin play in the state tournament in Bluffton on Saturday against Moncks Corner.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY NATALIE DUCOM



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Sumter American 7-8-year-old all-star baseball team won the District 9 tournament as Cody Schultz hit a walk-off RBI double in a 9-8 victory over Lake Marion on Thursday in St. George. Sumter will play in the state tournament beginning on July 7 at Greenwood Park in Florence. Members of the team are, first row, left to right: Maverick Reid, Cody Schultz, Josh Pendergrass, Cameron Wilsey, Easton Donlon and Ryland McLeod. Second row: Eli Sandifer, Wilson Mims, Mason Moates, Jacob Cartrett, Wyatt Welch and Koy Wright. Third row: Coaches Benji Sandifer, Kenny Steen, Chad Wilsey, Kenneth Mims and Justin McLeod.

STATE FROM PAGE B1

"I mean, anyone, on a good day, can beat anyone," Van Uytvanck said. "That's what I think. I still think the top players, their average level is higher than, let's say, sub-top players. But anyone on a good day can beat anyone, for sure."

Sure seems that way, particularly this week.

Among the men, too.

Resumes and past performances do not matter. At all.

Marin Cilic, for example, entered his second-round match with all sorts of advantages in experience and success over his opponent, including a runner-up finish at the All England Club a year ago and a U.S. Open title in 2014.

So when Cilic took a two-sets-to-none lead against a guy who began the week with records of 0-2 at Wimbledon and 6-15 at all majors, it appeared the No. 3 seed was on his way to a straightforward victory and a step closer to a potential semifinal rematch against defending champion Roger Federer.

Hold that thought. The outcome that seemed obvious vanished, and Cilic is gone from the field, giving away a big edge in a 3-6, 1-6, 6-4, 7-6 (3), 7-5 loss to 82nd-ranked Guido Pella of Argentina in a match completed Thursday after being suspended midway through the third set because of rain the evening before.

Cilic called it a "big disappointment." "Just didn't feel so good. I was not as accurate as yesterday," he said. "I was just missing some balls, giving him chance to keep playing."

AREA SCOREBOARD

Pop Warner Sumter Spartans Football & Cheer meeting set for Saturday

The YAS Pop Warner Sumter Spartans Football & Cheer tackle program will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Alice Drive Middle School field.

The teams are open to children ages 5-14. The program is also looking for football and cheer coaches.

Also, the YAS NFL Flag Football program will be playing their final regular-season games of the year.

For more information, contact Ivan Sanders at (803) 468-7429.

CHURCHES CHALLENGE REGISTRATION

Registration is being taken for the 19th annual Churches Challenge Golf Tournament and Praise Rally on Aug. 24-25.

The praise rally will be held at Alice Drive Baptist Church, while the tournament will be held at Sunset Country Club.

On Friday, Aug. 24, the players, their families and event sponsors will gather for fellowship, devotion, praise music and food at 5:30 p.m. at Alice Drive Baptist Church located at 1305 Loring Mill

Road. A barbecue dinner with all the trimmings will be catered by Shoney's.

On Saturday, Aug. 25, at Sunset, there will be a morning flight and an afternoon flight for the golfers. Sign in for the for the morning flight is 7 a.m. with play set to begin at approximately 8 a.m. The afternoon flight will begin sign in at 11 a.m. and is scheduled for a 1 p.m. tee time.

The cost is \$45 per golfer and includes the praise dinner on Friday as well as lunch and beverages on Saturday.

The tournament is known for its prizes with none greater than the \$51,000 prize if someone sinks a hole-in-one on the 18th hole. Should someone ace the hole, his or her church will receive a check for \$50,000 and the player will receive \$1,000.

The Sumter CGA Chapter has returned more than \$100,000 to the community through awards to the churches, charities and expense purchases from local businesses. Some of the different charities to have benefited are

United Ministries, The Salvation Army, Fireside Fund and different children's homes and youth programs.

The CGA encourages female golfers and young golfers to participate in the event as well.

Registration forms can be mailed to CGA, 1285 Clara Louise Kellogg Drive, Sumter,

SC 29153 or can be brought to the office at Dillon Park, next to Crystal Lakes Golf Course.

For more information, call (803) 773-2171.

SUMTER JUNIOR GOLF FOUNDATION CAMPS

The Sumter Junior Golf Foundation will be holding two more summer camps at

Crystal Lakes Golf Course.

The next camp is scheduled July 9-13. It will run Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon each day.

The final camp will be held July 23-27.

For more information, call (803) 775-1902 or (803) 773-2171.

From staff reports

TENNIS FROM PAGE B1

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PRO BASEBALL

Royals have gone from peak to cellar in 3 swift seasons

BY DAVE SKRETTA
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Drop into just about any bank or supermarket or sports bar in the Kansas City metro area these days and there's a good chance you'll see one of several photographs from just a few years ago hanging on a wall.

It might be Yordano Ventura unleashing a fastball. Or Eric Hosmer sliding into home at Citi Field in New York. Or Wade Davis with his arms thrust high into the air, his blazing fastball having just closed out Game 5 of the World Series and making the Kansas City Royals the world champions.

More than likely, you'll find the now-iconic photograph of Union Station, where an estimated 400,000 people turned out to celebrate the club's first title in three decades.

Those photos are reminders of better times. And how quickly things can change.

The Royals, who were indeed baseball royalty in 2015, are now neck and neck with the Orioles for the worst record in baseball. They've traded off their star closer, their best players are struggling and the prospects that might one day raise them from the abyss are years away from joining the club.

"The record is what it is. The hitting is what it is. The pitching is what it is," said Royals manager Ned Yost, who presided over the rebuild that led to back-to-back World Series appearances. "I have to continue to lead. We have to make sure this year has not been a waste."

How did things fall apart so quickly? To start, the Royals doled out big contracts to players that have not produced. Left fielder Alex Gordon consumes 14 percent of the payroll in the third year of a \$72 million, four-year deal, but he's hitting just .247 with five



AP FILE PHOTO

Kansas City manager Ned Yost watches the Royals play during a game earlier this season. Yost, the former Sumter Braves manager, led Kansas City to a World Series title three years ago. Now the Royals have one of the worst records in baseball.

homers and 15 RBIs. Right-hander Ian Kennedy consumes 11 percent of the payroll in the third year of a \$70 million, five-year deal, and he's 1-8 with a 5.11 ERA.

The few stars that remain on the roster have likewise struggled to produce.

Salvador Perez likely will see his streak of five straight All-Star games end. The catcher, in the third year of a \$52 million, six-year deal, is hitting .255 with 11 homers and 33 RBIs.

Good luck winning many games that way.

The Royals were 25-61 heading into their off day Thursday and had lost 24 of their last 28 games. They needed to go 38-38 the rest of the way just to avoid the ignominy of 100 losses.

Making things worse: The Royals are losing that many games with a

payroll of about \$144 million.

Another reason for the precipitous slide was year after year of poor drafts. Only one of their 13 first-round picks since 2010 is currently on the 25-man roster; Hunter Dozier is hitting .223 in 44 games as he struggles to lock down an everyday job.

"As a young guy you know you're going to fail, and in some ways we want you to fail because that's how you're going to get better," said Yost, who is going through the same slow learning process with infielder and erstwhile top prospect Adalberto Mondesi.

The son of longtime big leaguer Raul Mondesi, he is hitting .214 in 42 at-bats this season.

"We also don't want to heap too much on their shoulders," Yost said, "so it's balancing act."

Maybe that's why the Royals have been slow to gut their roster in favor of a complete rebuild, even if that appears to be coming. They've already traded utility outfielder Jon Jay to the Diamondbacks and star closer Kelvin Herrera to the Nationals, getting five prospects in return that the Royals hope will help restock a farm system that remains one of the worst in baseball.

More moves could be coming, too. The Royals are hopeful of trading third baseman Mike Moustakas, who signed a one-year deal when no long-term offers materialized last offseason. Versatile infielder Whit Merrifield could land a few solid prospects, and left-hander Danny Duffy and even Perez could be made available, though both have torpedoed their value with poor seasons.

The combination of an old and bad team has been made even worse by the fact that the Royals are, well, pretty boring. They don't hit an abundance of homers. Their starting rotation includes the first two pitchers to hit 10 losses in the majors. There are no young stars yet worth watching.

As a result, the Royals are drawing an average of 20,283 fans to Kauffman Stadium. That's a drop of more than 7,000 from last season and more than 13,000 from their championship season.

Still, for all the gloom, the typically irascible Yost has taken a decidedly optimistic approach to this season. He's been through these long and painful rebuilds and come out the other side.

It takes patience. It takes smart moves. It takes more patience.

"There's a lot of things to look at that you're happy with, even though the record is what it is," he said.

"There is progress that you're going to see on the back end, in the light, just as we did in 2013 and 2014, when we turned the corner the last time."

SPORTS ITEMS



AP FILE PHOTO

Georgia quarterback Jake Fromm has a broken bone in his left hand but isn't expected to miss any summer workouts. School athletics spokesman Leland Barrow said Thursday that Fromm has a "small fracture" in his non-throwing hand, though he is already throwing.

Georgia QB Jake Fromm has broken non-throwing hand

ATHENS, Ga. — Georgia quarterback Jake Fromm has a broken bone in his left hand but isn't expected to miss any summer workouts.

School athletics spokesman Leland Barrow said Thursday that Fromm has a "small fracture" in his non-throwing hand, though he is already throwing the football.

Barrow didn't have details on how Fromm was injured, while coach Kirby Smart told ESPN on Wednesday that the injury happened earlier this week.

Fromm won the starting job as a freshman last season and led the Bulldogs to the Southeastern Conference championship before losing in overtime to Alabama for the national championship.

Fromm will face competition this year from touted freshman Justin Fields.

BRAZIL'S DANILLO OUT OF WORLD CUP WITH INJURY

Brazil right back Danilo is out of the World Cup after injuring his ankle in training.

The Brazilian soccer federation says Danilo suffered a ligament injury in his left ankle during the team's training session in Kazan on Thursday, a day before Brazil plays Belgium in the quarterfinals.

The federation said tests confirmed the player will not be able to recover in time to play again during the tournament in Russia.

The Manchester City player will remain with the squad.

CELTICS SIGN 1ST-ROUND PICK ROBERT WILLIAMS

BOSTON — The Boston Celtics have signed first-round draft pick Robert Williams. The team announced the signing Thursday. Terms were not disclosed. Williams, a forward-center out of Texas A&M, was selected 27th overall last month with the Celtics' lone draft pick.

Williams' signing comes days after he received a lecture from the team about accountability following a pair of off-the-court incidents. The 20-year-old slept through a scheduled conference call with reporters the day after the draft and then failed to catch a flight from his native Louisiana to Boston in time for a summer league practice.

Williams will wear jersey No. 44.

Boston signed free agent guard Brad Wanamaker earlier this week.

From wire reports

CYCLING

Van Garderen embraces No. 2 role for team at Tour de France

BY JOSEPH WILSON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA ROCHE-SUR-YON, France — For years, Tejay van Garderen has been the United States' best hope of winning the Tour de France.

But for this edition of the world's biggest cycling race, Van Garderen is tasked with doing all he can for teammate Richie Porte to fight for the title.

"It's different. It's certainly less pressure, and when you have a leader like Richie it's a role that is easy to jump into," Van Garderen said on Thursday, two days before the race starts in western France.

Van Garderen's first job will be to do his part on the team time trial on Stage 3. A good result by BMC would boost Porte's chances of ending Chris Froome's dominance at the Tour.

His next challenge as his team's No. 2 will be to protect Porte on the climbs in the Alps and Pyrenees where only the hardest riders can keep up.

Van Garderen, who finished the Tour of California second in May, showed he can protect Porte in the mountains when he helped



AP FILE PHOTO

Tejay van Garderen, rear, has been the United States' best hope of winning the Tour de France in the past few years, but when the tour begins on Saturday his task will be to help teammate Richie Porte fight for the title.

the Australian win the Tour de Suisse last month by reeling in rivals when they attacked.

"He already performed well in that role, especially in the Tour de Suisse, when (Mikel) Landa and (Nairo) Quintana launched attacks," BMC sports director Fabio Baldato told The Associated Press. "It's a new role but he's well established within the team."

When acting as BMC's leader, Van Garderen finished the Tour in fifth place

in 2012 and 2014.

In 2015, he was riding in third place and aiming for a spot on the podium in Paris when he fell ill and was forced to withdraw.

Those ascending results generated expectations that Van Garderen could one day become the first American to cleanly win the Tour since Greg LeMond in 1989 and 1990. Lance Armstrong and Floyd Landis were later stripped of their Tour titles for having doped.

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PRO GOLF



Andrew Landry is trying to put himself in a position to get invited to the British Open, which will begin on July 19.

Tour should consider making HSBC victories retroactive

BY DOUG FERGUSON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POTOMAC, Md. — Francesco Molinari went from a share of the 54-hole lead to an eight-shot runaway in the Quicken Loans National, a performance that would not have surprised anyone who saw his victory in Shanghai in 2010.

Molinari never flinched in a duel with Lee Westwood that came down to the last hole in the HSBC Champions. He won by one shot, but far more notable was that no one else was within 10 shots of the Italian. It was his only World Golf Championship, and the biggest win of his career.

At least on the European Tour.

The PGA Tour finally put a WGC outside America, but then it did not recognize the HSBC Champions as an official victory until 2012. Molinari still received 68 world ranking points and \$1.2 million. He even got into Kapalua a few months later for the Tournament of Champions.

But he remains slightly bothered that it didn't count as a PGA Tour victory. Westwood was No. 1 in the world. Molinari beat Rory McIlroy by 11 shots, Tiger Woods by 12, Phil Mickelson by 20.

"When everyone was saying I never won on the PGA Tour, I felt like saying, 'Well, technically, it was pretty much a PGA Tour tournament,'" Molinari said Sunday. "But yeah, it's just a formality, and I think it's different anyway to win on U.S. soil. ... So this win feels special."

The tour logic when the HSBC Champions began — "WGC Lite" was the nickname — was that only 29 players in the 78-man field were PGA Tour members. It found it unrealistic to count such a big purse against the money list, even though it would not have affected anyone at Disney the following week as it relates to the top 125.

A year after Molinari won, the PGA Tour said that it would count as official provided a PGA Tour member won. Martin Kaymer of Germany won, so it didn't count. The tour undoubtedly was answering to Americans who felt international players had a quick avenue to a PGA Tour card — never mind that they beat some of the strongest fields.

Ian Poulter won in 2012 and it counted as a PGA Tour victory. He was followed by Dustin Johnson, Bubba Watson, Russell Knox, Hideki Matsuyama and Justin Rose. All were PGA Tour members.

Five of the nine winners are major champions.

It wasn't until 2002 that the PGA Tour finally recognized the British Open as an official victory, setting the all-time victory record of Sam Snead at 82. It's worth revisiting the HSBC and making those victories retroactive. It matters more in principle than in history, with one exception.

Mickelson won the first

HSBC Champions, playing with Woods in the final group. Mickelson's goal is to get to 50 career victories.

Mickelson is at 43. He should be at 44.

CARNOUSTIE CALLING

The British Open is starting to take shape, and part of it has to do with timing.

Andrew Landry had a 12-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole at the Quicken Loans National to earn one of four spots available. While he missed, Landry at least helped himself with a tie for eighth, moving up six spots to No. 76 in the world ranking.

The R&A determines reserves by their place in the world ranking when there is a withdrawal or open spots.

A week ago, the Open took the leading five players (not already eligible) from the top 20 in the FedEx Cup and the Race to Dubai. Only three players from each tour qualified, leaving four spots available. Along with Paul Lawrie not playing because of injury, the five spots on last week's world ranking went to Chez Reavie, Byeong Hun An, Charles Howell III, Kevin Na and Beau Hossler.

Landry moved ahead of Ryan Moore and Aaron Wise if a spot were to become available this week, or in R&A language, "at the time that intimation of withdrawal is received or further places are made available."

Otherwise, the world ranking after this week will serve as the alternate list until the opening tee shot on July 19 at Carnoustie.

Meanwhile, three spots from the leading 10 at the Irish Open and four spots from the leading 12 at the Greenbrier are available this week.

DAHMEN AND KANG

The PGA Tour can now manufacture the groups for the opening two rounds, mainly to establish its feature pairings that are shown on PGA Tour Live. Odds are the tour will do what it can to avoid Joel Dahmen and Sung Kang from being in the same group.

Sunday night after the Quicken Loans National, Dahmen was asked why the group behind was able to play through on the par-5 10th hole. Dahmen replied with shocking bluntness: "Kang cheated. He took a bad drop from a hazard. I argued until I was blue. I lost."

That set off a firestorm. Player disputes on rulings are rare, and it's even more rare for a player to publicly accuse another of cheating.

At issue was whether Kang's second shot crossed the other side of a hazard near the green. He says it did. Dahmen said it didn't. The Twitter thread that followed was filled with commentary from someone who said he had a good view to a ShotLink worker who said there was no way Kang should have dropped near the green.

Without concrete evidence, such as video, the PGA Tour rules official sided with Kang. He finished third and earned a spot in the British Open (he still would have qualified even if he had made double bogey instead of par).

The tour said its officials interviewed all parties and had to side with the player. Kang's management group issued a statement saying that he stood by the PGA Tour ruling. Dahmen said he signed the card because it would have "delayed the inevitable." Firm in what he saw, Dahmen has decided not to comment further.

INTERNATIONAL CROWN

The teams already were set for one of the best team events in golf at the UL International Crown. The final piece was the four-player teams, and South Korea only affirmed that it will have a powerhouse squad for the October event on home soil.

Women's British Open champion I.K. Kim tied for eighth at the Women's PGA Championship, giving her the fourth spot on a team that already has seven-time major champion Inbee Park and double major winners Sung Hyun Park and So Yeon Ryu.

The Americans are the defending champions and No. 2 seed. They will have Lexi Thompson, Jessica Korda, Cristie Kerr and Michelle Wie.

The other teams are Japan, England, Australia, Thailand (led by Ariya and Moriya Jutanugarn), Sweden (with two major champions in Anna Nordqvist and Pernilla Lindberg), and Taiwan, a team that no longer includes the slumping Yani Tseng.

DIVOTS

The PGA Tour made it official Tuesday by announcing that the RBC Canadian Open will move next year from the week after the British Open to the week before the U.S. Open. The prize money will increase to \$7.6 million, up from \$6.2 million this year. It will be held next year at Hamilton Golf and Country Club about 45 minutes west of Toronto. ... Nasa Hataoka of Japan already has earned \$932,952, with \$590,806 of that coming in the last two weeks after a victory in Arkansas and a playoff loss in the Women's PGA. ... The Utah Championship on the Web.com Tour is joining up with the Tony Finau Foundation to support aspiring golfers from Utah.

STAT OF THE WEEK

Tiger Woods tied with Francesco Molinari for most birdies (21) at the Quicken Loans National. Woods finished 10 shots behind.

FINAL WORD

"I guess it's a good thing that Italy is not in the World Cup, so they'll have more time to focus on other sports." — Francesco Molinari, on how his PGA Tour victory will be received at home.

ON GOLF

Tiger roars don't mean what they once did

BY DOUG FERGUSON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POTOMAC, Md. — The roars are as deafening as ever. They used to mean a lot more.

Tiger Woods made his move at various points over the final three rounds on the TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm, each time making enough birdies to bring the Quicken Loans National to life with cheers and hope.

Every golfer on the course knew where he was because they could hear.

No one got rattled, perhaps because Woods never made enough birdies or enough of a move.

One of the more telling moments came Saturday, when he finished the front nine with seven consecutive one-putt greens, including four straight birdies, and then a 25-foot birdie on No. 9 to head to the back nine just two shots off the lead.

"He made his fourth birdie in a row, and I couldn't stop smiling," said Joel Dahmen, who played with Woods for the first time and experienced everything he saw for so many years watching on TV as a kid. "It was the coolest thing ever on a golf course."

One group ahead of them was Abraham Ancer, a 27-year-old Mexican making his 23rd start on the PGA Tour. Just being in the mix late Saturday afternoon was a new experience for Ancer, who had never finished 54 holes inside the top 10.

On this day, he was in the lead. He could hear all the noise behind him, and there was no mistake who was causing all that commotion.

"The crowds were absolutely amazing. Every hole was packed," Ancer said.

He knew this because there were only so much space on the hills for thousands of fans, and many of them went a hole ahead to stake out a position.

"I just drew on that," Ancer said. "I heard all the roars. He was making a lot of putts on the front nine. The roars were crazy. I just wanted to be one step ahead of him. So it worked out. I still played my game and it was a good time."

Ancer wound up with a share of the lead. Woods was six shots behind.

There was a time when Tiger roars were equally obvious and had a greater effect on the outcome. For so many years, the louder the cheers, the more something would go wrong with the players Woods was chasing. It felt even more hopeless for those trying to catch him.

He's not there yet. Something is going wrong, but it's with Woods.

It can be as big as a driver that sails out-of-bounds and into someone's backyard, as was the case at Bay Hill when he was one shot behind on the back nine Sunday. It can be as small as missing a pair of 10-foot putts that would

have given him a share of the lead on Saturday at the TPC Potomac.

The mystique remains a work in progress.

Woods made 21 birdies in the final edition of the Quicken Loans National on a course that was tougher than he realized, just the way he likes it.

He had his work cut out for him Sunday, trailing by six shots going into the final round and making up only two shots on Francesco Molinari at the turn. He was in position to get closer until he missed a 6-foot birdie putt on No. 10, overcooked a simple chip at No. 11 that ran off the green onto the fringe, missed the fairway at No. 13 with an iron and then hit a 3-wood just over the green on the par-4 14th, chipping to 3 feet and missing the putt.

It probably wouldn't have mattered, anyway.

Molinari had a stretch of golf that Woods could only salute. He figured a 30 on the back nine — or maybe a 29 — might be enough for him to win. That was before Molinari went 6 under on a five-hole stretch to start the back nine, building his lead to nine shots at one point.

"Evidently, I would have to shoot 24 on the back nine," Woods said when he finished with a 66. "What Francesco is doing back there is just awesome. But I thought I had a legit chance starting that back nine if I posted a good number, but Francesco is just running away with it."

Woods was still smiling at the trophy presentation for Molinari, jokingly asking the Italian just what he ate for dinner the night before.

"I told him it was the pasta," Molinari said.

"Pasta is the secret."

There's more to that, and through 11 tournaments this year, Woods hasn't quite figured it out.

"I'm not that far away from putting it together where I can win," Woods said on Friday.

It sure looks that way. Even when he was effectively out of the hunt going into the final round in four of his previous five tournaments, his shots were impressive. He just couldn't buy a putt, and the change to a mallet-style putter — at least for one week — made a difference. Woods was making putts from the 15- to 30-foot range. His misses were good.

But he's not getting the results.

Woods moved up 15 spots to No. 67 in the world, meaning he might need at least a top-10 finish at the British Open to crack the top 50 and be eligible for the Bridgestone Invitational, which is being held for the final time at Firestone, a course where Woods has won eight times.

He is No. 47 in the FedEx Cup, which would appear to get him at least three playoff events.

There's still time. There are plenty of roars.

There is still not much movement.



Tiger Woods is still drawing roars from the crowds that follow him, but not for the same reasons when he was the world's top player.

CLYDE A. WILKES JR.

MANNING — Clyde Alexander Wilkes Jr., 97, widower of Jannie Lee Duke Wilkes, died on Wednesday, July 4, 2018, at his residence.



WILKES

Born on Jan. 7, 1921, in Savannah, Georgia, he was a son of the late Clyde Alexander Wilkes Sr. and Pearl Victoria Sanders Wilkes. He was a member of Manning First Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and Sunday school director for many years. He retired from the S.C. Department of Transportation after having worked 45 years, many of those years as a supervisor. He was a veteran of the Army Air Corps, having served during World War II, and was awarded the WWII Victory Medal, the American Theater Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, his brothers and sisters, and a daughter, Rhonda Jayne Wilkes.

He is survived by a son, Clyde Alexander "Butch" Wilkes III of Manning.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. today at Manning First Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. Phillip Reynolds officiating.

Honorary pallbearers will be the deacons of First Baptist Church.

Active pallbearers will be Larry Williamson, Frank Jones, Dr. C.E. Coker, Mike Moody, Buddy Lester and David Baker.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the funeral service from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Heritage Room of First Baptist Church and at other times at the home, 5514 Raccoon Road, Manning.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Manning First Baptist Church, 49 W. Boyce St., Manning, SC 29102.

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

CHARLES M. COBB

Charles Moody Cobb, 94, died on Thursday, July 5, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey, after a brief illness.



COBB

Mr. Cobb, widower of Margaret Pauline Lowder Cobb, was born on Feb. 28, 1924, in Franklin County, Georgia, to the late Robert Marshall Cobb and Essie Pierce Cobb.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Sumter with the Revs. Wes Conner, Allen Vaught and John McLeod officiating.

The family will receive visitors immediately after the service in the church fellowship hall and other times at the home of his brother-in-law, Ronny Lowder, Sumter.

A private burial will be held prior to the service.

Mr. Cobb is survived by brothers and sisters-in-law, Ronny and Harriet Lowder of Sumter and John and Betty Jho Adams of Santee; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Cobb was preceded in death by Pauline, his loving wife of 46 years; brothers, James, John, Tom, Furman, Hubert, R.M. and Winfred; and sisters, Sue Cobb Smith and Faye Cobb Crowe, all of Hartwell, Georgia; brother-in-law, Bobby Lowder, and sister-in-law, Betty Lowder, of Sumter.

Mr. Cobb served in the U.S. Army. He was a faithful and active member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church since 1955. After moving from Hartwell to Sumter in 1953, he worked at The Capitol Department Store / Brody's on Main for more than 40 years, until his retirement. He was an avid golfer up until his death and actually made his second hole-in-one at the age of 89. He also enjoyed quail hunting and fishing throughout his life.

Honorary pallbearers will be members of Mr. Cobb's golf group (Ed Arnell, Dave Claeys, Jack Chazen, Ed Pudzinski, Jim Glass), Jim Price, Roy Weathersbee, L.E. Martin

and members of the Euzelean Class of St. Mark's.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the General Fund of St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 27 Broad St., Sumter, SC 29150.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-9386.

**MICHAEL A. MCLEOD**

Michael "Mike" Allen McLeod, age 60, beloved husband of Judy Doran McLeod, died on Wednesday, July 4, 2018, at his residence.



MCLEOD

Born in Sumter, he was a son of Miriam Mathis McLeod and the late Richard Coleman McLeod. Mike loved life, family, cars and animals. He was a selfless man who was always there to help and lend a helping hand. He was an employee with Barnette's Auto Parts for many years.

Surviving in addition to his spouse and mother are two children, Michael Allen McLeod II and Ashlyn Renee McLeod (Walker), all of Sumter; one sister, Marilyn Russell (Jimmy) of Sumter; and three nieces, Phylis Bishop, Renee Ward and Hailee Shirah.

A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service from 2 to 3 p.m. on Saturday at Bullock Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the Sumter SPCA, 1140 S. Guignard Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

You may go to www.bullockfuneralhome.com and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**LAURANCE H. KANNON**

Laurance H. "Larry" Kannon, 97, husband of Emily Dinkins Kannon, died on

Thursday, July 5, 2018, at his home.

Born on April 5, 1921, he survived the Depression as a farm boy in Texas, including

five years in a Presbyterian orphanage. There he was taught gardening and animal husbandry. After attending Louisiana State University, Larry served in World War II as a radio operator on a B-24, bombing Nazi munitions. Etched in his memory was the sight of thousands of white crosses dotting the war-torn countryside, as he was en route to the liberation of Paris. He witnessed the jubilation of people freed from oppression.

Later on, Larry was to cherish more the sight of people freed from sin by receiving Jesus Christ. While teaching school in New Orleans, he earned a master's in religious education from the New Orleans Baptist Seminary. He worked with ministries reaching French Quarter hippies, housing project families, prison inmates, Hispanic immigrants, and seamen on incoming ships. At age 50, Larry married Emily Dinkins, a Sumterite, and for the next 16 years his stated goal was to raise "Godly children." He continued teaching and she volunteered with Child Evangelism Fellowship. Four sons could make up a quartet with a daughter as pianist.

In 1989, the family moved from Louisiana to Sumter and tried farming. The children

all attended Sumter Christian School and later Bob Jones University in Greenville.

Larry insisted on Christian education, regardless of the sacrifice. Is it any surprise then that all five children married Christian mates and are serving the Lord? Larry was also instrumental in founding Westside Christian Academy. He never bragged about his accomplishments, knowing that the Lord will honor those who honor Him.

Larry is survived by his wife and five children, Dayton (Erin) of Bangkok, Thailand, Will (Laura) of Rembert, Laurance (Kimberly) of Sumter, Emily Gray (Jeff) of Marietta and Charles (Sarah) of Greer. He is also survived by a sister, Neva Durbin of Baker, Louisiana; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. As for grandchildren, there are 19 and counting.

The family appreciates the prayers and help of relatives, friends, caregivers and medical personnel too numerous to name.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home Chapel. A private burial service will be held at Dinkins Family Cemetery in Rembert.

The family will receive friends from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please help support Christian education.

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

DENEEN C. WHITE

Deneen Carter White entered eternal rest on July 4, 2018, at a local hospital in Dover, Delaware.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her brother, Michael Carter, 309 Lee St., Bishopville.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville.

LILY P. WARD

Lily Pritchard Ward, 83, widow of Joseph Phillip "J.P." Ward Sr., died on Thursday, July 4, 2018, at her home.

Born on March 22, 1935, in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Joseph "Joe" Thomas Pritchard and Lena Betts Pritchard. Mrs. Ward was a member of Crosswell Baptist Church. She retired from Korn Industries with 47 years of service.

Surviving are one son, Ronnie Ward of Sumter; one daughter, Linda Ward Ridge-way (Ray) of Sumter; five grandchildren, Kenneth Allen Avin Jr. (Rachel) of Ridgeway, Kevin Keith Avin (Tiffany), Barry Lynn Ward (Mellessa) and Danny Phillip Davis (Stephanie), all of Sumter; four great-grandchildren; and one stepdaughter, Phyllis Barrett of York.

She was preceded in death by a son, Joseph Phillip "Phil" Ward Jr.; a grandson, Brian Kirby Ward; and four brothers, Herman, Gerald, Claude and Pete Pritchard.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Crosswell Baptist Church with the Rev. Charles Owens officiating. Burial will be at Sumter Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home and other times at the home of her daughter, 110 Mere Court.

Memorials may be made to Crosswell Baptist Church, 604 Mathis St., Sumter, SC 29150.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-9386.

**CLAUDIA GATHERS**

Claudia Gathers, 54, departed this earthly life on Sunday, July 1, 2018, at his residence.

Born on Nov. 4, 1963, in Sumter County, he was a son

of the late Carolina and Pearl Thompson Gathers. He received his education in the public schools of Sumter County and was a 1981 graduate of Hillcrest High School. Claudia worked several jobs during his life, notably mobile home construction and, most recently, Carpet Wholesales for 15 years. Claudia was a hard worker and a jack-of-all-trades.

Claudia was a lifetime member of Wayman Chapel AME Church, where he was a faithful member of the Sons of Allen, male chorus and senior usher board.

His memories will be cherished by his wife, Deloris Stavis Gathers; one son, Krayphonz Walcott of the home; one brother, Willie Charles (Diane) Gathers of Sumter; two aunts, Eleanora Gathers of Wedgefield and Janie Gayle of Hampton, Virginia; one stepson, Reggie Stavis of Wedgefield; a special niece, Heaven Stavis of Sumter; five brothers-in-law; two sisters-in-law; a host of other nieces, nephews, special cousins, relatives and friends.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 43 James Haskell Road, Wedgefield.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Wayman Chapel AME Church, 160 N. Kings Highway, Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Broughton Jr., pastor, eulogist.

The remains will be placed in the church at 10 a.m.

The funeral procession will leave at 10:30 a.m. from the home.

Burial will be at the Wayman Chapel AME Churchyard Cemetery.

These services have been entrusted to the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

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

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

DOROTHY J. GREEN

Funeral services for Dorothy Jordan Green, 95, who entered in rest on Wednesday, July 4, 2018, will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday in the chapel of Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home. The Rev. Jim M. Ridenhour will officiate with burial to follow at Bethlehem United Methodist Church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends immediately following the service at the S.C. Cotton Museum, 121 W. Cedar Lane, Bishopville.

Mrs. Green, widow of Lesley Wilson Green, was born in Nashville, Tennessee, a daughter of the late Don L. and Mildred Meeks Jordan.

She is survived by her son, William McDonald "Don" (Kay) Green of Camden; daughter, Madeline Green (Ronnie) Williams of Bishopville; sister, Deannie J. (Carl) Davids of Nashville; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Lesley Wilson "Buddy" Green; brother, Don Jordan; and daughter, Marjorie Green McCutchen Strickland.

PAMELA SINGLETON-MILLHOUSE

Pamela Ophelia Singleton-Millhouse, 53, was called home to rest in the arms of her loving Savior on Saturday, June 30, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on Feb. 17, 1965, in Sumter County, she was a daughter of the late Josh Frazier Jr. and Lula Bell Singleton. Pamela accepted Christ at an early age. She was baptized and became a member of and attended Rafting Creek Baptist Church. Her most recent affiliation was with Emancipation Baptist Church, St. Matthews. Pamela attended the public schools of Sumter County and was a graduate of Sumter High School, Chris Logan Career College and Central Carolina Technical College. She was employed at Bendix / Allied Signal for many years and with Covenant Place at the time of her passing.

She leaves to cherish her memories: Elijah Millhouse, husband; a loving family that includes two daughters, Sha-

nitra (Jabari) Deas of Columbia and Margot Singleton of the home; two sons, Pharis (Tiffany) Singleton of Orangeburg and Teyan Singleton of Sumter; six grandchildren; three sisters, Margaret Carson of Goldsboro, North Carolina, Renee (Allen) Jenkins and Wanda (Cliff) Kershaw; two brothers, Deacon John (Steral) Singleton of Rembert and Josh D. Frazier of Sumter; one sister-in-law, Patricia Singleton of Rembert; a host of other relatives and friends.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 5 Brand St., Sumter.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Rafting Creek Baptist Church, 3860 S.C. 261 North, Rembert, with the Rev. Melvin Mack, pastor, the Rev. Burdell Hill, pastor of Emancipation Baptist Church, St. Matthews, eulogist.

The remains will be placed in the church at 1 p.m.

The funeral procession will leave at 1:20 p.m. from the home.

Burial will be at Rafting Creek Baptist Churchyard Cemetery.

These services have been entrusted to the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com. Visit us on the web at www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com.

ELIZABETH P. MCALISTER

Funeral services for Burgess Elizabeth Player McAlister, 83, of Williston, will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Folk Funeral Home Chapel, Williston.

The family will receive friends immediately after the service in the chapel on Sunday. She will be buried at Williston Cemetery.

Mrs. Lib passed away on Thursday, July 5, 2018.

Visit our online registry at www.folkfuneralhome.com.

VERLIE JOHNSON

Verlie "MaeBell" Johnson, 96, entered peacefully into her eternal rest on Tuesday, July 3, 2018, at her residence.

Born on April 22, 1922, in Lee County, she was a daughter of the late Paul and Mary Johnson Jenkins. She attended the public schools of Lee County. At an early age, she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and became a faithful member of Mt. Olive AME Church, where she served diligently as a member of the senior usher board, gospel choir, senior unity choir, Burrows Missionary Society, stewardess board three and a dedicated scholar of Sunday school class number one. She was also a member of the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

She leaves to cherish her memories: two daughters, Rosa (Bobby) Brisbon of the home and Mamie (Lutrell) Basnight of Plymouth, North Carolina; one son, Albert Jenkins of Waldorf, Maryland; 12 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren. She was blessed to have been a mother figure to her sibling's children who loved, respected and accepted her as their mother, James Jenkins, David and Mary Green, Elease Diggs and Elizabeth Monroe, all of whom live in various locations. She also leaves a host of other relatives and friends who will miss her dearly.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at her home, 5225 Cotton Acres Road, Sumter.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Saturday at Mt. Olive AME Church, 2738 Woodrow Road, U.S. 441, Woodrow, with the Rev. Dr. Friendly J. Gadson, pastor, eulogist.

The remains will be placed in the church at 11 a.m.

The procession will leave at 11:30 a.m. from her home.

Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Garden, Pear Street, Sumter.

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

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com. Visit us on the web at www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com.

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Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

Estate Yard Sale: Sat. June 30th-July 7th 10-6 at 1940 Dr Mary Mcleod Bethune Rd. & Hwy 154 803-453-5014

Yard Sale: Sat. July 7th 8-11

at 41 Lorrington Mill Rd. Lots of misc.

Truck Load sale M&M Bargains

725 Broad St. in Sycamore Sq. Thurs. - Sun. July 5-8. 9 am - 6 pm. New merchandise, clothing, hsehold items, small appliances & much more at bargain prices.

Multi family Yard Sale 1170 Warwick Dr. Sat. 7am-12pm. Furn., kids clothes & much more.

3201 Mayflower Ln. (Garden Gate) Sat. 7-12. Vintage items, clothing, hsehold, furniture, and misc.

Inside Estate Sale 930 S Wise Dr. Sat. only! Rain or Shine! 7AM-1PM. To much to list.

Yard Sale! Sat. 7-12 at 2713 Powhatan Dr. Household items, clothing and some furniture.

3435 Kel Sam Dr. Dalzell, Fri. 8-2 & Sat. 8-7. Household items, clothing, jewelry, shoes, live plants & more.

Multi-Family Yard Sale, **505 Baldwin Dr.** Sat. 7-11. Household appl., furn. & much more!

Family Yard Sale! Sat. July 7th (no early birds) 7:30-11:30. 16 Ellen Dr. (off Alice & Liberty/ Edgewater) Household items, name brand clothes, electronics, & misc items. All priced to sell!

Indoor Multi-Family Yard Sale: Sat. July 7th 7-11 at 995 N. Pike (old reality center) next to Black River Electric. Toys, furniture, appliances, clothes and many many more.

Sat. July 7th 6:30-10:30 at 2601 Hilldale Rd. 230 Bolt Air compressor, antique coffee table, airless paint sprayer.

For Sale or Trade

3 Plots at Evergreen Memorial in Sumter, Iris Garden section. \$2400 each. Call Pat 803-491-7338 Leave mess.



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SUMMONS & NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION (NON-JURY MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE) C/A NO: 2018-CP-43-00843 DEFICIENCY WAIVED

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Ditech Financial LLC, PLAINTIFF,

vs.
James I. Dalton and if James I. Dalton be deceased then any children and heirs at law to the Estate of James I. Dalton, distributees and devisees at law to the Estate of James I. Dalton and if any of the same be dead any and all persons entitled to claim under or through them also all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, interest or lien upon the real estate described in the complaint herein; Any unknown adults, any unknown infants or persons under a disability being a class designated as John Doe, and any persons in the military service of the United States of America being a class designated as Richard Roe; Michelle D. Corsi; Brent A. Dalton; Midland Funding LLC DEFENDANT(S)

TO THE DEFENDANTS, ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint herein, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, or otherwise appear and defend, and to serve a copy of your Answer to said Complaint upon the subscriber at his office, Hutchens Law Firm P.O. Box 8237, Columbia, SC 29202, within thirty (30) days after service hereof, except as to the United States of America, which shall have sixty (60) days, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, or otherwise appear and defend, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein, and judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that should you fail to Answer the foregoing Summons, the Plaintiff

SUMMONS & NOTICE

will move for an Order of Reference of this case to the Master in Equity for Sumter County, which Order shall, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, specifically provide that the said Master in Equity is authorized and empowered to enter a final judgment in this case with appeal only to the South Carolina Court of Appeals pursuant to Rule 203(d)(1) of the SCAR, effective June 1, 1999.

TO MINOR(S) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND/OR TO MINOR(S) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) RESIDES, AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY:

YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff immediately and separately and such application will be deemed absolute and total in the absence of your application for such an appointment within thirty (30) days after the service of the Summons and Complaint upon you.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that should you fail to Answer the foregoing Summons, the Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference of this case to the Master in Equity in for this County, which Order shall, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, specifically provide that the said Master in Equity is authorized and empowered to enter a final judgment in this case with appeal only to the South Carolina Court of Appeals pursuant to Rule 203(d)(1) of the SCAR, effective June 1, 1999.

NOTICE OF FILING OF SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the foregoing Summons, along with the Complaint, was filed with the Clerk of Court for Sumter County, South Carolina, on May 10, 2018.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, (hereinafter "Order"), you may have a right to Foreclosure Intervention.

To be considered for any available Foreclosure Intervention, you may communicate with and otherwise deal with the Plaintiff through its law firm, Hutchens Law Firm, P.O. Box 8237, Columbia, SC 29202 or call 803-726-2700. Hutchens Law Firm, represents the Plaintiff in this action and does not represent you. Under our ethical rules, we are prohibited from giving you any legal advice.

You must submit any requests for Foreclosure Intervention consideration within 30 days from the date of this Notice.

IF YOU FAIL, REFUSE, OR VOLUNTARILY ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION, YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY/AGENT MAY PROCEED WITH A

SUMMONS & NOTICE

FORECLOSURE ACTION.

If you have already pursued loss mitigation with the Plaintiff, this Notice does not guarantee the availability of loss mitigation options or further review of your qualifications.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, except as stated below in the instance of bankruptcy protection.

IF YOU ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT OR HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED AS A RESULT OF A BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING, THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU PURSUANT TO STATUTORY REQUIREMENT AND FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES AND IS NOT INTENDED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT OR AS AN ACT TO COLLECT, ASSESS, OR RECOVER ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY.

NOTICE TO APPOINT ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT(S) IN MILITARY SERVICE TO UNKNOWN OR KNOWN DEFENDANTS THAT MAY BE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ALL BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE:

YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED that Plaintiff's attorney has applied for the appointment of an attorney to represent you. If you fail to apply for the appointment of an attorney to represent you within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you Plaintiff's appointment will be made absolute with no further action from Plaintiff.

SUMMONS AND NOTICES

IN THE PROBATE COURT CASE NUMBER: 2017-ES-43-076 2018-ES-43-060 2018-ES-43-061

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Deborah P. Newman, Petitioner,

IN RE: Estate of John Denham Prince Estate of Loly Ann Prince Todd Estate of Richard A. Todd.

Please take notice that Deborah P. Newman has applied to the Sumter County Probate Court by Summons and Petitions seeking:

A. Determination of Heirs of John Denham Prince, Loly Ann Prince Todd, and Richard A. Todd, each deceased.
B. James Stoddard has been appointed Guardian ad Litem for unknown heirs or persons under disability.

Pleadings for each of these actions are on file in the Office of the Probate Court for Sumter County. A Notice of Hearing advising the date, time and place of the hearing will be filed in the Office of Probate Court for Sumter County.

A. Paul Weissenstein, Jr. Attorney for Petitioner P.O. Box 2446 Sumter, SC 29151



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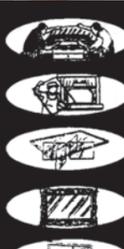
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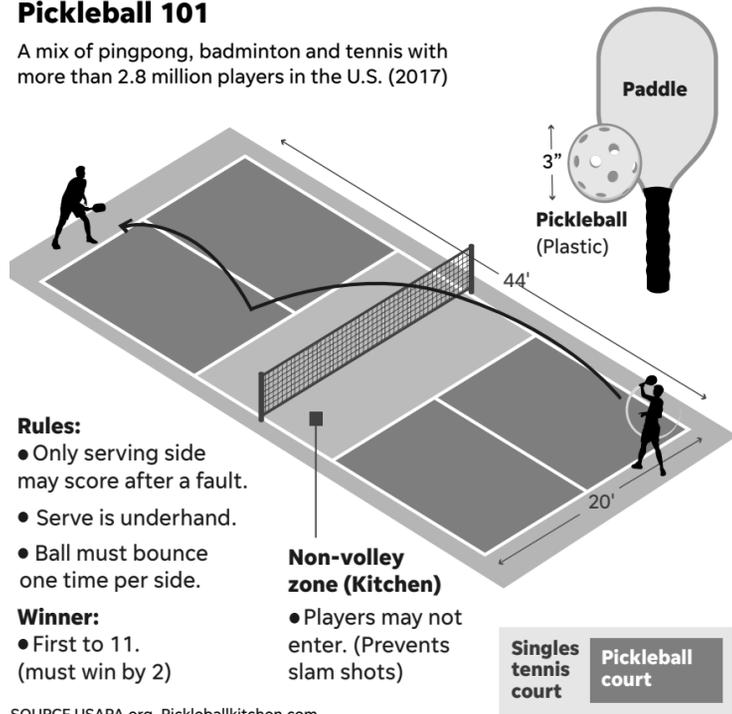


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- Players may not enter. (Prevents slam shots)

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SOURCE USAPA.org, Pickleballkitchen.com

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Pickleball

continued from Page C1

BelAir brought when he pitched pickleball to the Cook County Jail. A financial expert, author, public speaker and pickleball guru from Seattle, he donated equipment to the facility and helped get the sport up and running.

"When I first came here, to teach the rules, you could tell by their body language how reserved they were," says BelAir, who took to the sport seven years ago. "But after they got on the court for about 15 minutes, they were like a bunch of 5-year-olds on Christmas. I think escapism is beneficial for all of us. These guys are all awaiting their trial date, so it's a way to forget their problems for at least an hour. When you're on the court, you can't think of anything else other than hitting the ball over the net."

Sheriff Tom Dart, the chief executive of Cook County Jail, says that when he was pitched pickleball by BelAir in a letter, he thought it was a joke — until his 8-year-old daughter told him all about playing it.

"We really try to be cognizant of what we bring into the jail," Dart says, "and

that we're not giving (inmates) something that will make things worse. Guys are so highly charged and competitive, we look for (activities) that relieve anxiety more than increase it. There's a calming element to pickleball you don't have in other sports, and the rules are easy to pick up."

Pickleball is played with a plastic ball with holes in it and a racket that is about 8 inches wide and 16 inches long. The court is 20 feet wide by 44 feet long.

Only the server can score, and the ball must bounce once on the serve before a player is allowed to hit in the air, and players must avoid hitting the ball from inside the non-volley "kitchen" zone (7 feet from the net).

Dart says that because Cook County Jail holds prisoners for a longer period than most county jails — almost 20 percent of the jail's more than 6,000 inmates stay for a year or more — it's important to help with inmates' mental health while awaiting trial. Most U.S. jails, as opposed to prisons, have limited sports and recreation activities other than basketball and chess.

"Jails have never been thought of to need athletic programming because it's supposed to be in and out," Dart says. "But we're one of the worst in the country with that. I have three (inmates) who have been waiting 10 years for their trial. When you're in a confined area for so long, with (a pending trial) hanging over your head, there are going to be mental health issues."

Jakhair Carrell, 18, charged with armed robbery, says the sport helped him cope with his ADHD.

"Pickleball fills a void for us — like we're not in jail, just for a little while," Carrell says. "Everyone's got a smile on their face and in a more joking (mood), even when someone's trying to cheat."

"With pickleball, you don't see as many fights as other sports because it's not as physical. But it's not a sissy sport. It's a little bit more about reflex, skill and speed."

BelAir, 71, says, "It's very common to see a 60-year-old and a 20-year-old on the same court."

"Outside the jail, a lot of us are enemies on the streets," says Clarence Dunner, 38, charged with attempted murder. "Here, through this sport, you can see us playing and laughing together in unison — in harmony with one another."

EPA

continued from Page C1

Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., tweeted at Trump. "Still a very long way to go to fully #DrainTheSwamp."

Rep. Frank Pallone, D-N.J., the ranking member on the House Energy Commerce Committee, said Pruitt's resignation was "long overdue."

"He repeatedly violated the law, abused his position to enrich himself and wasted taxpayer money," Pallone said. "Pruitt created a culture of corruption at EPA that has never been seen before in a federal agency, and for months, President Trump idly stood by and allowed him to do further harm."

Pruitt and his allies, including Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, claimed he was the target of a left-wing conspiracy because of his efforts to dismantle Obama-era rules. By shedding Pruitt, the president lost his most ardent and effective deregulator.

In a follow-up tweet after Pruitt resigned, Trump said his new environmental administrator, Wheeler, "will continue on with our great and lasting EPA agenda."

Later, while traveling to Montana, Trump said there was "no final straw" for Pruitt, and the resignation was "very much up to him."

"I think Scott felt that he was a distraction," Trump said.

The president's endorsement didn't stop some Republicans in Congress from joining the Pruitt-must-go chorus of about 170 Democrats. He faces more than a dozen federal investigations examining his conduct and ethics.

Pruitt's departure sets up a potentially bruising confirmation battle in the Senate for his successor.

Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, who is unhappy with Pruitt's moves to reduce ethanol consumption that is economically important to Midwestern states, said the EPA administrator was "as swampy as you can get."

Among the criticisms: A top assistant to Pruitt conducted personal errands for her boss last year, including booking personal flights, hunting for homes and inquiring about the availability of a used mattress from Trump International Hotel.

Focus tightens to trio of Supreme Court picks

President is likely to announce choice Monday

David Jackson
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is zeroing in on his final list of potential candidates for the Supreme Court and is focusing on three appeals court judges: Brett Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett and Raymond Kethledge, people familiar with the process said Thursday.

Trump finished formal interviews and will consider his decision during his stay this weekend at his golf resort in Bedminster, New Jersey, according to people familiar with the search who requested anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly on the selection process.

To announce the pick to replace retiring Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, the White House plans a prime-time announcement by Trump on Monday. The event is likely to be similar to the one the White House staged last year for Trump's selection of Justice Neil Gorsuch.

Though the formal interviews are completed, one source said it's possible Trump could talk by phone with one or more of the candidates over the weekend if he feels he needs more information.

The possibility of a wild card candidacy could not be discounted, the source said. That group includes appeals court Judge Amul Thapar, who has the backing of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

Kavanaugh and Kethledge are the favorites based on the fact that Trump is asking more questions about them, sources said.

Supporters of the contenders lobbied heavily, making phone calls to White House officials and writing newspaper opinion pieces.

Kavanaugh enjoys the backing of conservative legal and political activists who have fought many confirmation battles in the Senate, though some



Brett Kavanaugh GETTY IMAGES



Amy Coney Barrett AP



Raymond Kethledge USA TODAY NETWORK

Trump supporters oppose him because he worked in the George W. Bush administration.

Religious conservatives, a big part of Trump's political base, back Barrett's bid, citing her performance in a confirmation last year in which her deep Catholic faith became an issue. Others said she lacks the necessary experience for a Supreme Court job.

Kethledge impressed Trump during an interview, officials said, but is not as well-known as the other two.

US says 3,000 children need to be reunited with parents

HHS chief vows agency will meet judge's deadline

Alan Gomez
USA TODAY

The Trump administration official in charge of caring for undocumented minors separated from their parents at the border said Thursday that his agency must reunite nearly 3,000 children with their parents, a sharp increase from the roughly 2,000 his agency contemplated last week.

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said the work has been complicated by the nation's "disjointed" immigration laws, the broad scope of the judge's "unprecedented" order, requests from members of Congress to tour HHS facilities, delays verifying familial relationships, and "unreliable" information provided by minors who are held in detention.

Azar insisted that his agency will fully comply with a ruling from District Judge Dana Sabraw to reunite all children separated from their parents under President Donald Trump's "zero tolerance" policy by the end of this month. The judge ordered the department to reunite children under age 5 by Tuesday and all minors by July 26.

"We will use every minute of time we have to confirm the parentage of those individuals ... and to confirm that those parents are actually suitable for reunification, and then we will comply with the court's order and reunify them," Azar said. "We will comply with the artificial deadlines established by the courts."

Lee Gelernt, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney who led the lawsuit that prompted the nationwide injunction, said the government needs to start focusing on the families.

"The Trump administration's attempt to shift the blame to the court is incomprehensible, given how much time the court gave the government to fix its own mess," Gelernt said. "When the government wants to marshal its resources to separate families, it has

shown that it can do it quickly and efficiently, but when told to reunite families, it somehow finds it too difficult and cumbersome to accomplish."

The number of children in question has changed significantly.

In early June, U.S. Customs and Border Protection estimated that 2,342 children had been separated from their parents under the zero tolerance policy carried out by the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security. On June 20, Azar testified before Congress that they had reunited several hundred children with their parents, leaving 2,053 children in custody. On June 26, he said the number had fallen to 2,047.

"The Trump administration's attempt to shift the blame to the court is incomprehensible, given how much time the court gave the government to fix its own mess."

Lee Gelernt
American Civil Liberties Union attorney

Thursday, Azar said his department was forced to examine the cases of all 11,800 minors in its custody because the judge ordered all children to be reunited with their parents, even those separated before the zero tolerance policy went into full effect in May.

Most of the cases, he said, were minors who crossed on their own, but almost 3,000 may have been separated.

He said some minors are labeled as separated from their parents, but when their cases are inspected more closely, they reveal the parents separated from the children before crossing the border, meaning the U.S. government has no responsibility to reunite them.

Azar said his officials do DNA checks of all relationships. A private contractor does a cheek swab of each person, then compares the DNA to verify the relationship. Jonathan White, assistant secretary for preparedness and response at HHS, said those tests are necessary to ensure that human traffickers posing as parents don't get children.

NEWS

Dozens of wildfires burn in West

Spring Creek blaze is Colorado's 3rd-worst ever

Doyle Rice
USA TODAY

Huge wildfires roared across the bone-dry western USA on Thursday, including Colorado's Spring Creek Fire, the state's third-largest on record.

That fire has destroyed 100 homes and forced the evacuations of 2,000 other homes. The blaze is near Fort Garland, roughly 205 miles southwest of Denver.

Nearly 1,000 firefighters worked to gain control of the fire in unpredictable winds, but it's been only slightly contained since it ignited June 27. As of Thursday morning, the fire was 161 square miles, roughly seven times the size of Manhattan.

Jesper Jorgensen, 52, was arrested on criminal charges of arson related to starting the fire. According to an arrest affidavit, he was cooking meat for several hours in a fire pit the night before the blaze started.

Another Colorado blaze, the Lake Christine Fire, forced evacuations early Thursday morning about 20 miles northwest of Aspen. The fire jumped from less than 1 square mile to about 4 square miles Wednesday, the Denver Post reported.

The fire may have been started by tracer rounds fired at a shooting range.

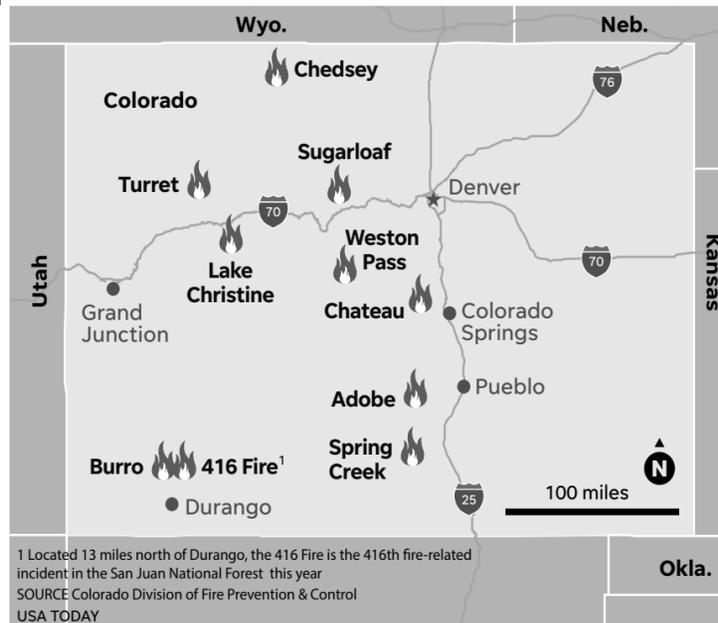
In Northern California, the County Fire burned about 134 square miles and was 27 percent contained in Napa and Yolo Counties. The blaze threatened 1,500 structures.

Roughly 2,500 people have been forced from their homes since the blaze started Saturday. This week in the Bay Area, about 75 miles south of the fires, falling ash was reported, and the San Francisco sky turned orange from the smoke, weather.com reported.

Rain is unlikely in the West on Thursday or Friday. Some monsoon-type thunderstorms could arrive over the



Wildfires currently burning in Colorado, as of July 5:



Firefighters are battling more than 60 blazes in the western U.S., including this one near Clearlake Oaks, Calif. NOAH BERGER/AP

weekend in the Southwest, according to AccuWeather.

"We're looking at hot weather to continue with potential for some scattered afternoon and early nighttime thunderstorms that could bring some spotty rain but could also cause lightning-induced fires," AccuWeather meteorologist Ken Clark said.

Overall, more than 60 blazes are burning across the western continental USA and in Alaska, the National Interagency Fire Center said. In 2018, wildfires have charred 4,272 square miles in the USA, about 555 square miles above average.

Contributing: The Associated Press; KUSA-TV, Denver



Thai soldiers carry drainpipe Wednesday toward the cave where a youth soccer team and a coach are trapped by water. RUNGROJ YONGRIT/EPA-EFE

Error delays rescue effort at Thai cave

Kim Hjelmgard and John Bacon
USA TODAY

Rescue workers suffered a setback Thursday in their race to drain water from a flooded Thailand cave and extract a young soccer team when volunteers inadvertently pumped water back into the cave.

Operation commander Narongsak Osatanakorn said overzealous volunteers working on their own arrived on site and began pumping water into the ground, forcing it back into the partially flooded Tham Luang Nang Non cave in northern Thailand.

"They may have some belief that their techniques are effective for groundwater drainage, but anything that is not in the plan must be discussed with us first," Narongsak told Thai media.

The volunteers were corrected, and Poonsak Woongsatngiem, an official from Thailand's interior ministry, told the Guardian that the water had been reduced by 40 percent in the past few days, clearing a 1-mile stretch of cave the boys would need to cross. The boys are about 2.5 miles from the cave entrance.

Narongsak said the boys and their coach were in weak but otherwise stable condition and good health when found late Monday. "What we worry about most is the weather," Narongsak told reporters. "We can't risk having the flood back into the cave."

Ideally, the water level would be lowered to no higher than the boys' waists, so they could walk out wearing life vests without needing to don scuba gear for what would be an extremely dangerous trip.

The boys are 11 to 16 years old and their coach is 25. However, not all of them can swim, and some areas of the cave network where they disappeared while exploring June 23 are still flooded all the way to the ceiling.

Heavy rain is expected to start by Saturday, which will almost certainly raise water levels in the cave, making passage in some areas more difficult if not impossible.

Authorities are exploring other options, including scouring the mountainside for other ways into the cave and finding faster ways to pump out the water.

Contributing: Jane Onyanga-Omara; The Associated Press

Moscow denies being involved in new UK nerve agent poisoning

Jane Onyanga-Omara
USA TODAY

LONDON – Russia denied any involvement Thursday in the poisoning of a couple in Britain with a Soviet-developed nerve agent, four months after a Russian ex-spy and his daughter were found poisoned with the same toxin in a nearby city.

Charlie Rowley, 45, and Dawn Sturges, 44, were found unconscious in Amesbury in Wiltshire, southern England, on Saturday. They remained in critical condition Thursday at Salisbury District Hospital.

Police said they were exposed to nerve agent Novichok. The couple were found by emergency services about 10 miles from Salisbury, where Russian former spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia were poisoned with the same nerve agent on March 4. Britain blames Russia for the Skripals' poisoning. Russia denies any involvement.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Thursday that Russia had nothing to do with either incident.

"Russia has categorically denied and continues to categorically deny the possibility of any kind of involvement to what was happening there," Peskov told reporters.

He said "the British side has not presented any evidence of Russia's involvement in this, besides unfounded accusations."

Authorities think Rowley and Sturges, British nationals with no known links to Russia, were not deliberately targeted.

"The working assumption would be that these are victims of either the consequence of the previous attack, or something else, but not that they were directly targeted," Security Minister Ben Wallace told the BBC.

"I think what we said at the time was that this was a brazen and reckless attack in the heart of a very peaceful part of the United Kingdom, and



A police cordon was used in Salisbury after two people were exposed to nerve agent. JACK TAYLOR/GETTY IMAGES

that is part of the anger I feel about the Russian state ... that they chose to use clearly a very, very toxic, highly dangerous weapon."

British media said the couple could have somehow come into contact with Novichok residue from the attack on the Skripals, who were taken to an undisclosed location after they were discharged from Salisbury District Hospital in April and May.

Sergei Skripal was jailed in Russia in 2006 for passing state secrets to Britain. He was released as part of a spy swap in 2010 and moved to Salisbury.

Public health officials said the risk to the public is low, but advised people who had visited five locations in Amesbury and Salisbury between Friday night and Saturday evening, including a park, a drugstore and a church, to wash the clothing they were wearing and wipe personal items such as phones with cleansing or baby wipes.

Sam Hobson, a friend of Sturges, said she was taken away on a stretcher after falling ill Saturday, the BBC reported. Hobson said she appeared to have a fit and was "foaming at the mouth" and that Rowley started "rocking against the wall" soon afterward, according to the BBC.

"His eyes were wide open, glazed and pinpricked, and he was sweating, dribbling and making weird noises," Hobson added.

FRIDAY EVENING JULY 6

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	
LOCAL CHANNELS													
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight Amy Adams ("Sharp Objects")	American Ninja Warrior "Miami City Qualifiers" Competitors face six obstacles.			Dateline NBC (N)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Jada Pinkett Smith; Bryce Dallas Howard.		
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Undercover Boss: Celebrity Edition	Hawaii Five-0 "O Ka Mea Ua Hala, Ua Hala Ia." A man threatens to commit suicide.	Blue Bloods "School of Hard Knocks" A student is shot by a gang member. (DVS)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Anne Hathaway; David Sedaris.			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "California Coast"	Jeopardy! (N)	Quantico "Fear Feargach" A reunion leads to deadly consequences. (N) (DVS)	(:01) What Would You Do? (N)		(:01) 20/20 (N)		ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live "Nick Kroll; Evangeline Lilly; Ne-Yo" Nick Kroll; Evangeline Lilly; Ne-Yo.	
WRJA	27	11	14	Samantha Brown's Places to Love	Museum Access	Washington Week (Season Premiere) (N)	Breaking Big Country singer Jason Aldean. (N)	The Great British Baking Show "Desserts" The bakers make decadently rich tarts. (N)	Food Flirts Sweets and treats on Cape Cod. (N)	Food Flirts Thai rolled ice cream. (N)	Amanpour on PBS (N)	BBC World News	Washington Week
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory "The Love Spell Potential"	BIG3 Basketball Week 3 - Oakland, Ball Hogs vs. Ghost Ballers; Power vs. Tri-State; Killer 3s vs. 3 Headed Monsters; Trilogy vs. 3's Company. (N) (Live)			Sports Zone	DailyMailTV	FIFA World Cup Tonight (N) (Live)		
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Mandy tries to get good grades.	Last Man Standing "Renaming Boyd's School"	Masters of Illusion (N)	Masters of Illusion "Of Mice, Men and a Kidd"	Penn & Teller: Fool Us "The Rematch" Vinny Grosso; Paul Gertner; Eric Jones.	American Ninja Warrior "Los Angeles Qualifier" The qualifying round of the competition. (DVS)	American Ninja Warrior "Indianapolis Qualifier" Competitors take on six obstacles. (Part 1 of 2)	The Game Kelly plans an evening out on the town.		
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 06.30.18" Riding along with law enforcement.	Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 125" (N)	Live PD "Live PD -- 03.24.18" Riding along with law enforcement.	Live PD "Live PD -- 03.24.18" Riding along with law enforcement.			Live PD "Live PD -- 03.24.18"	Live PD "Live PD -- 03.24.18"			
AMC	48	180	(5:00) *** "Lethal Weapon 4" (1998, Action) Mel Gibson, Danny Glover.	*** "GoodFellas" (1990, Crime Drama) Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta, Joe Pesci. An Irish-Italian hood joins the 1950s New York Mafia.	*** "GoodFellas" (1990, Crime Drama) Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta, Joe Pesci. An Irish-Italian hood joins the 1950s New York Mafia.	*** "A Bronx Tale" (1993, Drama) Robert De Niro. A youth favors a flashy mobster over his hard-working dad.			*** "A Bronx Tale" (1993, Drama) Robert De Niro. A youth favors a flashy mobster over his hard-working dad.	*** "A Bronx Tale" (1993, Drama) Robert De Niro. A youth favors a flashy mobster over his hard-working dad.			
ANPL	41	100	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End (N)	Treehouse	Treehouse	Treehouse	Treehouse	(:01) Insane Pools: Off the Deep End Treehouse			
BET	61	162	(4:40) *** "House Party"	*** "The Wood" (1999, Drama) Omar Epps, Taye Diggs, Richard T. Jones. A missing groom sends friends on a trip down memory lane.	*** "Daddy's Little Girls" (2007, Romance) Gabrielle Union, Idris Elba, Louis Gossett Jr. A poor mechanic and an attorney share an unexpected romance.	*** "Daddy's Little Girls" (2007, Romance) Gabrielle Union, Idris Elba, Louis Gossett Jr. A poor mechanic and an attorney share an unexpected romance.			*** "Daddy's Little Girls" (2007, Romance) Gabrielle Union, Idris Elba, Louis Gossett Jr. A poor mechanic and an attorney share an unexpected romance.				
BRAVO	47	181	(6:16) Million Dollar Listing New York	(:18) Million Dollar Listing New York Ryan attempts to get to Shanghai.	(:20) *** "Bridesmaids" (2011, Comedy) Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, Rose Byrne. A maid of honor's life unravels as the big day approaches.	(10:55) *** "Bridesmaids" (2011) Kristen Wiig. A maid of honor's life unravels as the big day approaches.			(10:55) *** "Bridesmaids" (2011) Kristen Wiig. A maid of honor's life unravels as the big day approaches.				
CNBC	35	84	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	The Eighties "Raised on Television" VCRs; remote controls; family sitcoms.	The Eighties "Raised on Television" VCRs; remote controls; family sitcoms.			The Eighties "Raised on Television" VCRs; remote controls; family sitcoms.				
COM	57	136	(:15) The Office	(:45) The Office	(:15) The Office "Drug Testing"	(:45) *** "Bruce Almighty" (2003, Comedy) Jim Carrey, Morgan Freeman, Jennifer Aniston. A frustrated reporter receives divine powers from God.	The Comedy Central Roast "Charlie Sheen" Actor Charlie Sheen.			The Comedy Central Roast "Charlie Sheen" Actor Charlie Sheen.			
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Andi Mack	Raven's Home	Big City Greens	Bizaardvark	Raven's Home	Andi Mack	Bunk'd	DuckTales	
DSC	42	103	BattleBots	BattleBots "Ice, Ice, Baby" (N)	Cooper's Treasure (N)	Street Outlaws "Road Rallies" (N)	Cooper's Treasure	Street Outlaws	Cooper's Treasure	Street Outlaws	Cooper's Treasure	Street Outlaws	
ESPN	26	35	NBA: The Jump (N)	NBA Summer League Basketball Boston Celtics vs Philadelphia 76ers. (N)	NBA Summer League Basketball Dallas Mavericks vs Phoenix Suns. (N)	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball	
ESPN2	27	39	NFL Live	2018 World Series of Poker Main Event. From Las Vegas. (N) (Live)	Street Outlaws "Road Rallies" (N)	Cooper's Treasure	Street Outlaws	Cooper's Treasure	Street Outlaws	Cooper's Treasure	Street Outlaws	SportsCenter (N)	
FOOD	40	109	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Tucker Carlson	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Tucker Carlson	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Tucker Carlson	
FREE	20	131	(6:40) *** "A Bug's Life" (1998, Children's) Animated. Insects help an ant fend off grasshoppers.	(8:50) *** "Brave" (2012, Children's) Animated. A Scottish princess must undo a beastly curse.	(8:50) *** "Brave" (2012, Children's) Animated. A Scottish princess must undo a beastly curse.	The 700 Club A stray bullet hits a young athlete.			*** "Casper" (1995)				
FSS	21	47	WNBA Basketball Seattle Storm at Atlanta Dream. (N) (Live)	Power of Sports	Power of Sports	3 Wide Life (N)	Raceline (N)	Future Phenoms	ACC All-Access	WNBA Basketball	Future Phenoms	ACC All-Access	
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Falling for Vermont" (2017) Julie Gonzalo, Benjamin Ayres.	"Campfire Kiss" (2017, Romance-Comedy) Danica McKellar, Paul Greene, Dylan Kingwell. A single mother meets a single father while camping.	The Middle "Hecks on a Plane"	The Middle "The Math Class"	The Golden Girls "Rites of Spring"	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	
HGTV	39	112	House Hunters	House Hunters	Dream Home	Dream Home	My Aloha	Dream Home	House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	House Hunters	Hunters Int'l	
HIST	45	110	Ancient Aliens (DVS)	Ancient Aliens: Declassified (N)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Dog fighting may relate to murder.	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation "Bull" Two murders at a rodeo in Las Vegas.	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Witness-comes to untimely ends.	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	
ION	13	18	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Hodges stages hypothetical murders.	The Closer "About Face" Puzzling murder.	The Closer "The Big Picture" The murder of a Russian call-girl.	The Closer "Show Yourself" Brenda investigates murders.	(:03) The Closer "Flashpoint" Murder of a psychiatrist.	(:03) The Closer "Fantasy Date" Congresswoman's daughter.	(:03) The Closer "Fantasy Date" Congresswoman's daughter.	(:03) The Closer "Fantasy Date" Congresswoman's daughter.	(:03) The Closer "Fantasy Date" Congresswoman's daughter.	(:03) The Closer "Fantasy Date" Congresswoman's daughter.	
LIFE	50	145	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	Double Dare (N)	Double Dare	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
NICK	16	210	The Loud House	Friends	Friends	*** "Men in Black II" (2002, Action) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	
PARMT	64	153	Friends	Friends	Friends	*** "Men in Black II" (2002, Action) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	*** "I, Robot" (2004) Will Smith.	
SYFY	58	152	(6:30) *** "Predators" (2010, Science Fiction) Adrien Brody, Topher Grace, Alice Braga. Fearsome aliens hunt a band of human fighters.	*** "That Brennan Girl" (1946, Drama) James Dunn. A mother is judged unfit and has her child taken from her.	(:45) *** "The Inside Story" (1948, Comedy) Marsha Hunt, William Lundigan. Out-of-town cash goes round a Vermont town during the Depression.	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	(:34) Futurama "I Dated a Robot"	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	(:34) Futurama "I Dated a Robot"	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	(:34) Futurama "I Dated a Robot"	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	
TBS	24	156	*** "Bad Teacher" (2011) Cameron Diaz. Two teachers vie for the affections of a rich substitute. (DVS)	*** "That Brennan Girl" (1946, Drama) James Dunn. A mother is judged unfit and has her child taken from her.	(:45) *** "The Inside Story" (1948, Comedy) Marsha Hunt, William Lundigan. Out-of-town cash goes round a Vermont town during the Depression.	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	(:34) Futurama "I Dated a Robot"	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	(:34) Futurama "I Dated a Robot"	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	(:34) Futurama "I Dated a Robot"	(:05) Futurama "Dated a Robot"	
TCM	49	186	(6:00) *** "2010" (1984) Roy Scheider, John Lithgow, Helen Mirren.	90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After? Jorge's past comes back to haunt Anisa.	90 Day Fiancé	(:28) Counting On	90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After?	90 Day Fiancé	(:28) Counting On	90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After?	90 Day Fiancé	(:28) Counting On	
TLC	43	157	90 Weddings "... And Halted Vows"	*** "Ant-Man" (2015, Action) Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas, Evangeline Lilly. Ant-Man uses his shrinking skills to battle Yellowjacket. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	
TNT	23	158	NCIS: New Orleans "Breaking Brig" Four prisoners escape.	*** "Ant-Man" (2015, Action) Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas, Evangeline Lilly. Ant-Man uses his shrinking skills to battle Yellowjacket. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	*** "Green Lantern" (2011, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard. A test pilot joins a band of intergalactic warriors. (DVS)	
TRUTV	38	129	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	
USA	25	132	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A woman's body is found in a park.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A young Jewish boy is brutally attacked.	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot (N)	Bridezillas (Season Finale) (N)	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	
WE	68	166	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot (N)	Bridezillas (Season Finale) (N)	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	Mama June: From Not to Hot	
WGNA	8	172	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Rules/Engagement	

Family friendly 'Anne with an E' returns to Netflix

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

"Anne with an E" returns for a second season, streaming on Netflix. A remarkable, family-friendly Canadian series known as "Anne" north of the border, it stars young Amybeth McNulty as the character made famous by the "Anne of Green Gables" novels written by Lucy Maud Montgomery more than a century ago.

An orphan adopted by an unmarried brother and sister, Marilla (Geraldine James) and Matthew Cuthbert (R.H. Thomson), Anne's more than a handful. An irrepressible romantic with a head full of poetry, she gushes about every butterfly and sunset, uttering the kinds of things young girls usually confine to their diaries or novelists muse about in dense purple passages.

This mingling of interior monologue and actual dialogue makes for jarring moments and comical situations between Anne and her classmates and the farmhands helping Marilla and Matthew with the harvest. For viewers, Anne continually dances on that fine line between enchanting and disturbed, precocious and annoying, romantic and absurd. A young actress playing a solitary reader and hopeless dreamer, McNulty often has to perform completely by herself, expressing wonder and awe. It's a difficult job that she performs admirably.

In addition to its almost impossibly earnest heroine, "Anne" is radically PG-rated, but unafraid to dwell on the darker aspects of Anne's past or society's capacity for cruelty, particularly toward romantic souls.

New Yorkers Phil Rosenthal and Jerry Seinfeld both hail from just outside of Manhattan. And both used their ability to channel middle-class neurosis into the hit sitcoms "Everybody Loves Raymond" and "Seinfeld," respectively.

So what do you do for an encore after your shows have made you famous and rich beyond measure? How do you



NETFLIX

Amybeth McNulty stars as the precocious title character in "Anne with an E," now streaming its second season on Netflix.

relate to regular viewers fully aware of your status? How do you remain "normal" to them?

Both appear in Netflix series entering new seasons tonight. "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee" has Seinfeld interviewing fellow funny men and women in classic cars and going to diners, restaurants and locations central to each guest's life and reputation.

Nine seasons of "Comedians" streamed on Crackle. In this 10th season, the series' first on Netflix, Seinfeld chats with caffeinated celebrities including "Saturday Night Live" stars Dana Carvey, Kate McKinnon and Tracy Morgan, as well as Dave Chappelle and the late Jerry Lewis.

Since "Raymond," Rosenthal has been hit by the travel bug, appearing in the documentary "Exporting Raymond," about the pitfalls of translating the Ray Romano sitcom for

a Russian audience. He also starred in the PBS food-travel series "I'll Have What Phil's Having," now slightly reworked for Netflix as "Somebody Feed Phil," whose second season premieres today.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Former NBA stars play **Big3 Basketball** (8 p.m., Fox), live from Oakland, California.
- An old acquaintance spells trouble on **"Quantico"** (8 p.m., ABC, TV-14).
- A single mom takes her son camping, only to find sparks flying with the dad in the cabin next door, in the 2017 romantic comedy **"Campfire Kiss"** (8 p.m., Hallmark, TV-G).
- John Quinones hosts **"What Would You Do?"** (9 p.m., ABC).
- The discovery of a shipwreck raises suspicions of hostile locals on **"Cooper's Treasures"** (9 p.m., Discovery, TV-PG).

• Gang violence invades a school courtyard on **"Blue Bloods"** (10 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

CULT CHOICE

A slightly disheveled musician (Jason Segal) pines for his ex (Kristen Bell) in the 2008 comedy **"Forgetting Sarah Marshall"** (8 p.m., E!), produced by Judd Apatow, who also produced "Freaks and Geeks," the cult 1999 NBC comedy that also starred Segal as a lovable romantic slob and musician.

SERIES NOTES

Jewel appears on **"Undercover Boss: Celebrity Edition"** (8 p.m., CBS, r) * Miami qualifiers of **"American Ninja Warrior"** (8 p.m., NBC, r, TV-PG) * On two episodes of **"Masters of Illusion"** (CW, TV-14), Xavier Mortimer (8 p.m.), Naathan Phan (8:30 p.m., r) * A suspect's anguish strikes a chord with Grover on **"Hawaii Five-0"** (9 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * Aspiring illusionists appear on **"Penn & Teller: Fool Us"** (9 p.m., CW, r, TV-PG) * **"Dateline"** (10 p.m., NBC) * **"20/20"** (10 p.m., ABC).

LATE NIGHT

Anne Hathaway, David Sedaris and Ahmed Bharoocha are booked on **"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"** (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Jada Pinkett Smith, Bryce Dallas Howard and Nikki Glaser on **"The Tonight Show"** (11:35 p.m., NBC, r) * Nick Kroll, Evangeline Lilly and Ne-Yo appear on **"Jimmy Kimmel Live"** (11:35 p.m., ABC, r) * Mike Myers, Alison Brie and Kacey Musgraves visit **"Late Night With Seth Meyers"** (12:35 a.m., NBC, r) * Mark Ruffalo, Chelsea Clinton and Mackenzie Davis appear on **"The Late Late Show With James Corden"** (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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SATURDAY EVENING JULY 7

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM		
LOCAL CHANNELS														
WIS	10	3	10	NASCAR Racing Monster Energy Cup Series: Coke Zero Sugar 400. From Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla. (N) (Live)						WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:29) Saturday Night Live "Sterling K. Brown; James Bay" Sterling K. Brown; James Bay performs.			
WLTX	19	9	9	Inside Edition Weekend (N)	Paid Program Paid programming.	Me, Myself & I Young Alex vies for Nori's attention. (N)	Me, Myself & I "Home Alone" (N)	Living Biblically "Never Let Loyalty Leave You" (N)	Living Biblically Chip suggests that Leslie quit her job.	48 Hours			News 19 at 11pm (N)	Blue Bloods "Mob Rules" A mob attacks Gormley outside his home. (DVS)
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Summer Vacation"	Jeopardy!	America's Funniest Home Videos A music montage featuring dinosaurs. (DVS)			Truth and Lies: Waco: Seige on the Branch Davidian compound.			ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	American Ninja Warrior "Dallas Qualifying" Competitors tackle obstacles in Dallas. (Part 2 of 2)	
WRJA	27	11	14	Hillary "Standing Tall" The early life of young Edmund Hillary.	Father Brown "The Tree of Truth" Miscarriage of justice.	The Doctor Blake Mysteries "The Call of the Wild" Bill Hobart is suspected of murder.			Shetland Tosh arrives in Norway.			Austin City Limits "Father John Misty; The Black Angels" Singer-songwriter Father John Misty.	Bluegrass Underdog World "Conor Oberst"	
WACH	57	6	6	MLB Baseball Miami Marlins at Washington Nationals. From Nationals Park in Washington, D.C. (N) (Live)						WACH FOX News at 10	The Big Bang Theory "The Hook-Up Reverberation"	Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back "The Old Caffeop Restaurant" A failing Cajun restaurant.	FIFA World Cup Tonight (N) (Live)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Kyle fears meeting the new minister.	Last Man Standing Ed plans a surprise dinner for Mike.	Rookie Blue "Fresh Paint" Andy faces a volatile gunman.	Saving Hope "I Watch Death" Caught in a shooting. (DVS)			Leverage "The Three Strikes Job" A corrupt mayor.			Impractical Jokers The guys freak out at the focus group.	Impractical Jokers The guys set sail on the high seas.
CABLE CHANNELS														
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 06.29.18" Riding along with law enforcement.			Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 126" (N)			Live PD "Live PD -- 03.09.18" Riding along with law enforcement.			Live PD "Live PD -- 03.09.18"		
AMC	48	180	**** "The Godfather" (1972, Drama) Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, James Caan. A mafia patriarch tries to hold his empire together.						(:05) **** "The Godfather" (1972) Marlon Brando. A mafia patriarch tries to hold his empire together.					
ANPL	41	100	Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet			Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet (N)			(:01) Dodo Heroes (N)			(:03) Vet Gone Wild: Even Wilder (N)		
BET	61	162	** "Tyler Perry's Good Deeds"			** "Madea's Family Reunion" (2006, Comedy) Tyler Perry, Blair Underwood, Lynn Whitfield. A patriarch must keep the peace through family strife.			(:25) ** "Diary of a Mad Black Woman" (2005, Comedy-Drama) Kimberly Elise, Steve Harris. A woman starts over after her husband leaves her.			(:06) Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet		
BRAVO	47	181	(5:38) * "Obsessed" (2009) Idris Elba, Beyoncé Knowles, Ali Larter.			(:10) ** "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" (2005, Action) Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Vince Vaughn. A husband and wife are assassins for rival organizations.			(10:50) ** "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" (2005) Brad Pitt. A husband and wife are assassins for rival organizations.					
CNBC	35	84	Undercover Boss "Roto-Rooter"			Undercover Boss "Hamburger Mary's"			Undercover Boss			Undercover Boss "Utah Jazz"		
CNN	3	80	CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera (N)			CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera (N)			The Nineties "The One About TV" A wide range of television shows.			Undercover Boss "EmpireCLS"		
COM	57	136	(6:50) * "Mr. Deeds" (2002, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Winona Ryder, Peter Gallagher. A pizza maker inherits a fortune from a distant relative.			* "Grown Ups" (2010, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Chris Rock. Premiere. Five friends learn that age and maturity do not, necessarily, coincide.			* "Mr. Deeds" (2002, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Winona Ryder.			Undercover Boss		
DISN	18	200	(6:20) * "How to Build a Better Boy" (2014)			(:45) Raven's Home			(:35) Bunk'd			Bunk'd		
DSC	42	103	Expedition Unknown			Expedition Unknown			Expedition Unknown			Expedition Unknown (N)		
ESPN	26	35	NBA Basketball			NBA Summer League Basketball Phoenix Suns vs Sacramento Kings. (N)			Boxing Jose Ramirez vs. Danny O'Connor. (N) (Live)			NBA Summer League Basketball		
ESPN2	27	39	(6:00) 2018 World Series of Poker Main Event. From Las Vegas. (N) (Live)						NBA Summer League Basketball Chicago Bulls vs Cleveland Cavaliers. (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)		
FOOD	40	109	Diners, Drive, Dinners, Drive			Diners, Drive, Dinners, Drive			Diners, Drive, Dinners, Drive			Diners, Drive, Dinners, Drive		
FOXN	37	90	Fox Report with Jon Scott (N)			Watters' World (N)			Justice With Judge Jeanine (N)			The Greg Gutfeld Show (N)		
FREE	20	131	(6:20) **** "Finding Nemo" (2003, Children's) Voices of Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres. Animated. A clown fish searches for his missing son.			(8:50) **** "The Parent Trap" (1998, Children's) Lindsay Lohan, Dennis Quaid, Natasha Richardson. Reunited twin girls try to get their parents back together.			Postgame "Nossa Chape" (2018) The Chapecoense football club rebuilds after an accident.			Atlanta Pregame		
FSS	21	47	MLS Soccer Atlanta United FC at Philadelphia Union. (N) (Live)						The Golden Girls			The Golden Girls		
HALL	52	183	"Yes, I Do" (2018, Romance) Jen Lilley, Marcus Rosner, Jessica Lowndes. A chocolate maker needs to prove that she is ready for marriage.			"Love on the Sidelines" (2016, Romance) Emily Kinney, John Reardon, Hayley Sales. Sparks fly between an injured quarterback and his assistant.			The Golden Girls			The Golden Girls "The Engagement"		
HGTV	39	112	Fixer Upper			House Hunters			Love It or List It "Need for Efficiency"			Beachfront Bargain Hunt: Renovation		
HIST	45	110	Cars-America: Enhanced			The Cars That Made America: Enhanced (Part 2 of 3)			The Cars That Made America: Enhanced (Part 3 of 3)			Restored "1923 Mediterranean Revival"		
ION	13	18	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A detective says she was raped.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A teen is assaulted after a party.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A teenage girl makes a rape accusation.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit The cops protect a video game developer.		
LIFE	50	145	(6:00) "Stalked by My Doctor: Patient's Revenge" (2018) Eric Roberts.			"Room for Murder" (2018, Suspense) Adam Huber, Jenna Kanell, James Maslow. Premiere. A young woman's mother invites a stranger into their home.			(:03) "Killer Single Dad" (2018, Suspense) Kaitlyn Black, Cameron Jebb. An expectant mother meets a man who has plans for her baby.			(12:01) "Room for Murder" (2018)		
MSNBC	36	92	The Rachel Maddow Show			The Last Word			The 11th Hour With Brian Williams			Deadline: White House		
NICK	16	210	Henry Danger			Double Dare			Full House			Full House		
PARMT	64	153	Expendables 3			** "Red" (2010) Bruce Willis. The CIA targets a team of former agents for assassination.			** "Red 2" (2013) Bruce Willis. Retired operatives return to retrieve a lethal device.			Friends		
SYFY	58	152	(5:35) **** "Tomorrowland" (2015) George Clooney. A scientist and a young woman explore a mysterious city.			** "Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time" (2010, Adventure) Jake Gyllenhaal, Gemma Arterton, Ben Kingsley. A prince and princess join forces to safeguard a supernatural dagger. (DVS)			Futurama "A Pharaoh to Remember"			Futurama "God-fellas"		
TBS	24	156	Seinfeld "The Rye"			The Big Bang Theory			The Big Bang Theory			Full Frontal With Samantha Bee		
TCM	49	186	(6:15) **** "12 Angry Men" (1957, Drama) Henry Fonda, Lee J. Cobb.			*** "The Lives of a Bengal Lancer" (1935, Adventure) Gary Cooper, Franchot Tone. A frontier veteran takes two new officers under his wing.			*** "The Drum" (1938, Adventure) Sabu, Raymond Massey, Roger Livesey. An English garrison fights off fanatics in colonial India.			** "Party Girl" (1958)		
TLC	43	157	Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta			Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta (N)			(:02) I Want THAT Wedding (N)			(:04) I Want THAT Wedding		
TNT	23	158	(5:00) *** "Avengers: Age of Ultron" (2015, Action) Robert Downey Jr.			*** "Captain America: Civil War" (2016, Action) Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson. Captain America clashes with Iron Man. (DVS)			*** "The Jungle Book" (2016) Neel Sethi. Premiere. Young Mowgli meets an array of animals in the jungle.					
TRUTV	38	129	Carbonaro Eff.			Impractical Jokers			Impractical Jokers			Impractical Jokers		
TV LAND	55	161	The Golden Girls			Love-Raymond			Love-Raymond			Two and Half Men		
USA	25	132	NCIS "Grounded" An elevated terrorist threat. (DVS)			NCIS "The Enemy Within" A rescue mission in Syria. (DVS)			NCIS "No Good Deed" NCIS and ATF partner up on a case. (DVS)			Queen of the South "Reina de Oros" Teresa tries to rescue trafficked girls.		
WE	68	166	Criminal Minds "Corazon"			Criminal Minds "The Thirteenth Step"			Criminal Minds "Sense Memory"			Criminal Minds "Today I Do"		
WGNA	8	172	Last Man Standing			Last Man Standing			Last Man Standing			Last Man Standing		

Psychological thriller 'Sharp Objects' debuts on HBO

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

A good bet to be the most talked-about show of the summer, "Sharp Objects" (9 p.m. Sunday, HBO, TV-MA) is a triumph for Amy Adams and continues the migration of stellar talent from the big screen to television.

A missing persons case sends St. Louis reporter Camille Preaker (Adams) to her hometown of Wind Gap, Missouri. Her editor, Frank Curry (Miguel Sandoval), thinks she's the right reporter for the job and that the assignment might do her some good. From the start, we're told that Camille is slightly damaged, that there are buried demons in her past. Curry and his wife have more than just a professional concern for her.

"Sharp Objects" sends Camille back to the bosom of her peculiar family, most notably her brittle and snooty mother, Adora Crellin (Patricia Clarkson). Adora clearly loves living in the mansion on the hill and owning the slaughterhouse that employs most of the common folk in Wind Gap.

Camille's stepfather, Alan (Henry Czerny), is mostly silent. He always drapes a little sweater over his shoulders, taking refuge in his expensive stereo equipment and playing easy listening classics at peak volume. At first, Camille's little sister, Amma (Eliza Scanlen), appears to be a goody-two-shoes, spending time with Mom building a dollhouse-replica of their mansion. But looks can be deceiving.

Much of "Sharp Objects" takes place in dreamlike flashbacks and reveries that seem to slip back and forth in time. The drama accelerates in chronology that were both the challenge and highlight of such limited series as "True Detective." These narrative loops can be hard to follow. But hold on. It gets weirder and better as the hunt for the missing girls parallels the story's exploration of Camille's difficult history. Before long, it gets hard to tell which mystery is more terrifying. Highly recommended, but difficult viewing. Of course, the same could be said of "The



Amy Adams, left, stars as St. Louis reporter Camille Preaker and Patricia Clarkson as Adora Crellin in "Sharp Objects," premiering at 9 p.m. Sunday on HBO.

Handmaid's Tale." The CNN decade-at-a-time history franchise has already caught up with "The 2000s" (9 p.m. Sunday). Rich in clips, the seven-part series surveys the decade that began with the strange hanging-chad election and was defined by 9/11 and its aftermath.

Similar to "The Sixties," this history begins with a glance at the television of the decade. In doing so, "The 2000s" demonstrates the problems of depending on corporations and celebrities for history lessons.

The first half-hour is an unabashed love letter to HBO, which, like CNN, is owned by Time Warner (at least for now). We see Tom Hanks, a producer of this series, praising the HBO miniseries "Band of Brothers" and "John Adams," which he also produced for the premium network. Someone of his stature should be above such shameless self-promotion.

As usual, the one-darned-show-after-another survey is fun to watch, but somewhat lacking in cohesive analysis. Yes, the decade's television was defined by the "difficult men" genre of shows that featured antiheroes like Tony Soprano ("The Sopranos"), Walter White ("Breaking Bad") and Don Draper ("Mad Men").

But I contend that TV in the 2000s began to be defined by how people "consumed" television as much as it was about what they watched. It's interesting to note that the

second episode of "The Sopranos" features a subplot about a stolen batch of DVD players, a cutting-edge technology in 1999.

The ability to take in whole seasons on DVD box sets began to change the way viewers watched — and even studied — complicated series like "The Wire" and "Lost" or densely layered comedies like "Arrested Development," "The Office" and "30 Rock." The advent of YouTube in the middle of the decade allowed viewers to sample clips on demand, changing attention spans and expectations. TV went from good to great in the 2000s, but consistent with the decade, technology was the real star.

A tradition on Saturday nights in the summertime, CBS gives viewers chances to catch original episodes of canceled comedies. In case you forgot, "Me, Myself & I" (8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., TV-PG) portrayed a man during three phases of life: youth (John Dylan Grazer), middle age (Bobby Moynihan) and retirement (John Larroquette).

This ambitious, high-concept comedy was canceled after six episodes.

And on two unaired episodes of "Living Biblically" (CBS, TV-PG): denominational envy (9 p.m.), Leslie won't submit (9:30 p.m.).

SATURDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- The Monster Energy Cup Series continues with the **Coke Zero Sugar 400** (7 p.m., NBC), live from Daytona Beach, Florida.
- Regional coverage of **Major League Baseball** (7 p.m., Fox).
- A student arrives home from college to find that Mom has taken in a creepy tenant in the 2018 shocker **"Room for Murder"** (8 p.m., Lifetime, TV-14).
- "Truth and Lies"** (9 p.m., ABC, r) recalls the 1993 Waco standoff and tragedy.
- A fixture of topical humor performs from the Brady Theater in Tulsa on **"Bill Maher: Live From Oklahoma"** (10 p.m., HBO, TV-MA). Maher's "Real Time" returns on Aug. 3.

SUNDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Scheduled on **"60 Minutes"** (7 p.m., CBS): from jailhouse lawyer to Georgetown Law professor; 40 years of Voyager missions; soccer star Christian Pulisic.
- Showman Travis Pastrana re-creates some of Evel Knievel's most daring jumps on **"Evel Live"** (8 p.m., History, TV-14).
- American forces approach Japan one island at a time on **"War in the Pacific in Color"** (8 p.m., Smithsonian).
- A new missing persons case seems linked to an old mystery on **"Endeavour"** on **"Masterpiece"** (9 p.m., PBS, TV-14, check local listings).
- Pray Tell organizes an AIDS benefit on **"Pose"** (9 p.m.,

- FX, TV-MA).
- "Unsung"** (9 p.m., TV One) profiles singer Will Downing.
- The AUSA team regroup on **"Power"** (9 p.m., Starz, TV-MA).
- Alison confronts her fears on **"The Affair"** (9 p.m., Showtime, TV-MA).
- Harlee targets the intelligence unit on **"Shades of Blue"** (10 p.m., NBC, TV-14).

CULT CHOICE

Cary Elwes and Robin Wright star in the 1987 romance **"The Princess Bride"** (9 p.m. Saturday, HBO2), a generational touchstone.

SATURDAY SERIES

Dinosaurs set to music on **"America's Funniest Home Videos"** (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) **** "48 Hours"** (10 p.m., CBS).

SUNDAY SERIES

Julie Chen hosts **"Big Brother"** (8 p.m., CBS) * Auditions continue on **"America's Got Talent"** (8 p.m., NBC, r, TV-PG) * Fearing the worst, Burns plays God on **"The Simpsons"** (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-PG) * Steve Harvey hosts **"Celebrity Family Feud"** (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Misadventures in baby-sitting on **"Bob's Burgers"** (8:30 p.m., Fox, r, TV-PG) * On two episodes of **"NCIS: Los Angeles"** (CBS, r, TV-14), napalm evidence (9 p.m.), bomb-making (10 p.m.) * Meg starts drinking on **"Family Guy"** (9 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * Celebrities play **"The \$100,000 Pyramid"** (9 p.m., ABC, TV-14) * The mothership arrives on **"Ghosted"** (9:30 p.m., Fox, TV-PG) * Celebs are asked **"To Tell the Truth"** (10 p.m., ABC, TV-14).

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