



FOOD

Backyard barbecue lovers, try flank steak

You can't go wrong with this cut C4

ARCENT warrant officers corps celebrates 100 years

BY SGT. MATT KUZARA
USARCENT Public Affairs

A lot can happen in 100 years. A century ago, the United States was embroiled in the throes of the Great War, and it was during this conflict the Army created the rank of warrant officer. U.S. Army

Central's small band of warrant officers from throughout the organization came together on Monday to honor the 100th birthday of the warrant officer corps.

USARCENT is headquartered at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter and has been resident in the Levant, Middle East and Central Asia for

more than 25 years. A Forward Command Post is at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Its presence in Kuwait, Qatar and Afghanistan preserves regional stability and prosperity and provides strategic land power that prevents conflict, shapes the environment and, when

SEE CENTENNIAL, PAGE A7



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SGT. MATT KUZARA / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Warrant officers from U.S. Army Central cut the cake for the 100th birthday celebration of the warrant officer corps. In the 100 years since its creation, the corps has grown to include personnel in 17 branches and 67 specialties.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Nominee making his case to senators

Trump picks Kavanaugh for nation's highest court

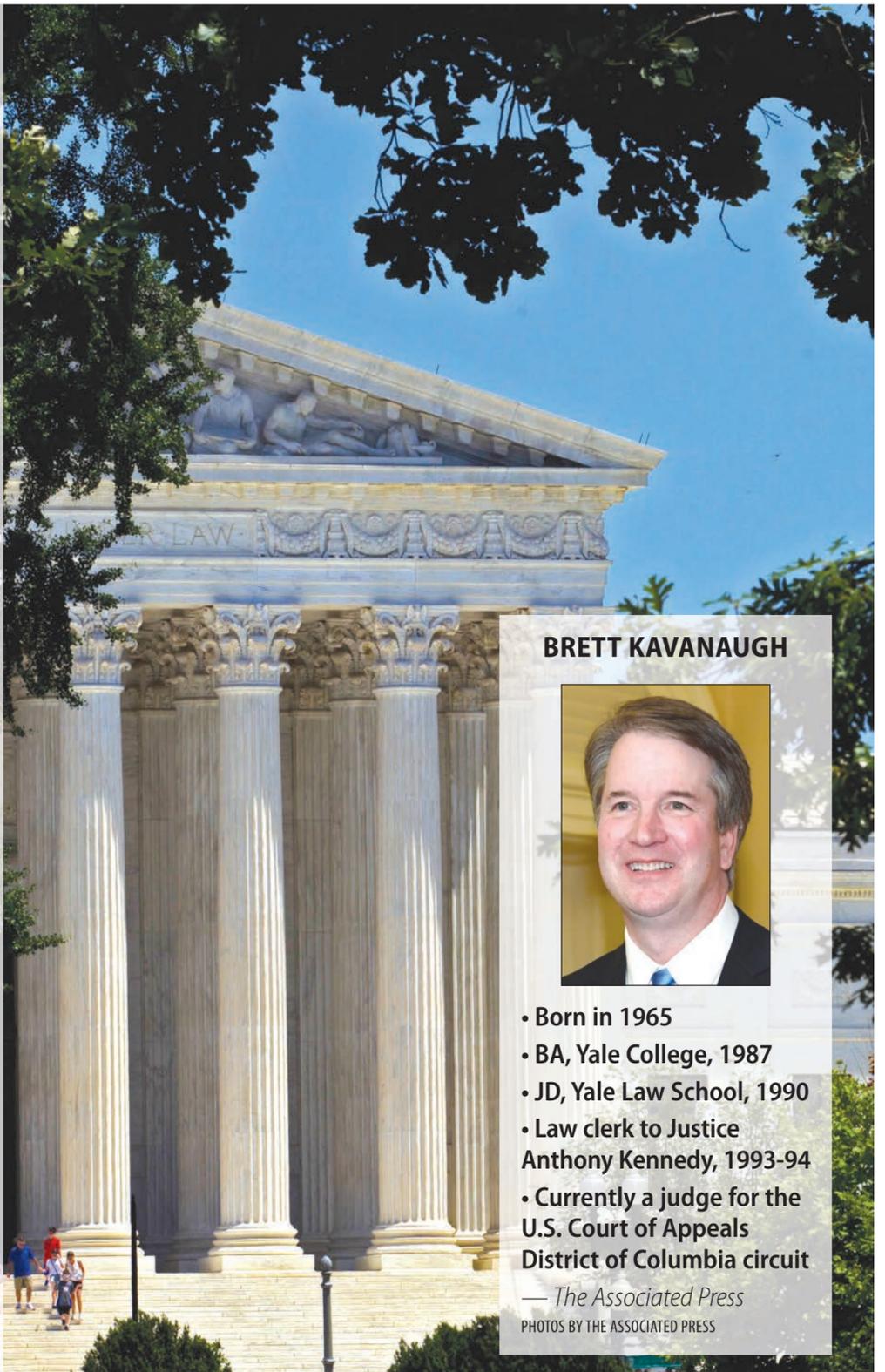
BY LISA MASCARO and CATHERINE LUCEY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, mapped out strategy with Republican leaders Tuesday, launching a fierce confirmation battle that could remake the court for decades and roil the mid-term elections in the meantime.

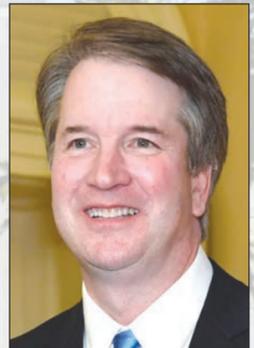
Kavanaugh, a favorite of the GOP establishment, first huddled with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. Joining him were Vice President Mike Pence and former Sen. Jon Kyl. He also met for roughly 30 minutes with Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, chairman of the Judiciary Committee that is taking the first close look at the nomination.

While Republicans have set a goal of confirming Kavanaugh this fall,

SEE KAVANAUGH, PAGE A8



BRETT KAVANAUGH



- Born in 1965
- BA, Yale College, 1987
- JD, Yale Law School, 1990
- Law clerk to Justice Anthony Kennedy, 1993-94
- Currently a judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals District of Columbia circuit

— The Associated Press
PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman grateful after beginning recovery 'journey' at shelter

BY TRAVIS KINLEY
Special to The Sumter Item

Very recently, we — at Sumter United Ministries' emergency shelter — had a client we will call "Joanna."

Joanna came to us after living the life of a millionaire. She was the chief operating officer of a health care administration company and also a co-owner of a trucking business.



KINLEY

When a new parent company dissolved her position, officials of her position offered her a severance package with insurance that would cost her \$1,000.

In the meantime, Joanna accepted another job position that would start in 30 days, so she declined the insurance



shelter.

Joanna wasn't able to afford the needed physical therapy after the accident, she wasn't able to start her new job, and

coverage.

However, a car accident in between the two jobs began a process that led to the local

then she went through a divorce. Her work license lapsed during this process, and all prospects of recovery turned into long-term options.

When Joanna entered the shelter, I knew immediately she was an ideal client who needed very little case management.

I remember walking into the shelter when Joanna first got there, and she was talking

about Jesus with another client. Shortly after entering the shelter, she began working to get her health care administration license reinstated. The process took some time because she needed to take some continuing education classes, but Joanna had her license within months and began applying for jobs.

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Ramon Curtis Bledsoe
Jenkins Cooper
Deneen Carter White
Janie Williams Washington
Betty Robinson
Irene W. Wright

WEATHER, A10

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO FALL

Partly sunny and hot today; mainly clear tonight
HIGH 98, LOW 74

INSIDE

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SECOND FRONT

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

Police seek help locating suspect in burglary

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter Police Department needs the community's help in locating a man who is suspected of taking \$800 worth of yard equipment and other tools from Burgess Do-It Center on Dingle Street on June 23.

Michael Charles Rose, 41, of Council Street, is accused of taking a string trimmer, hammer drills and a push mower from the home improvement center after kicking in a plexiglass door of the business, according to a news release.

Rose, who has past convictions for burglary, is described as 5 feet 9 inches tall, weighs about 185 pounds, has brown eyes and is bald, states the release.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Sumter Police Department at (803) 436-2700.

Information can also be given anonymously by calling Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-888-CRIME-SC. A cash reward may be available for information leading to an arrest.

Man charged with kidnapping, domestic violence

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Jonathan Chadwick Geddings, 43, of Jessamyn Road in Mayesville, was arrested on Sunday for allegedly assaulting a woman and threatening to kill her if she left a residence on Jessamyn Road on Saturday.

According to a news release from Sumter County Sheriff's Office, Geddings grabbed the victim by her hair and pulled her up the steps into the residence before he reportedly threw a cellphone at the victim, striking her in the stomach.

Geddings is also accused of throwing the victim onto a mattress, holding a pocket knife to her throat and punching her with a closed fist. He also reportedly put a BB gun to the woman's head and threatened to kill her.

The woman was able to leave the residence and notify law enforcement after Geddings fell asleep.

Geddings is charged with first-degree domestic violence, kidnapping and possession of a weapon during a violent crime.

Shaw airmen, Falcons to participate in air-to-air combat training exercise

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

Shaw Air Force Base will send about 17 F-16 Fighting Falcons and 230 airmen to Nevada at the end of the month for a combat training exercise.

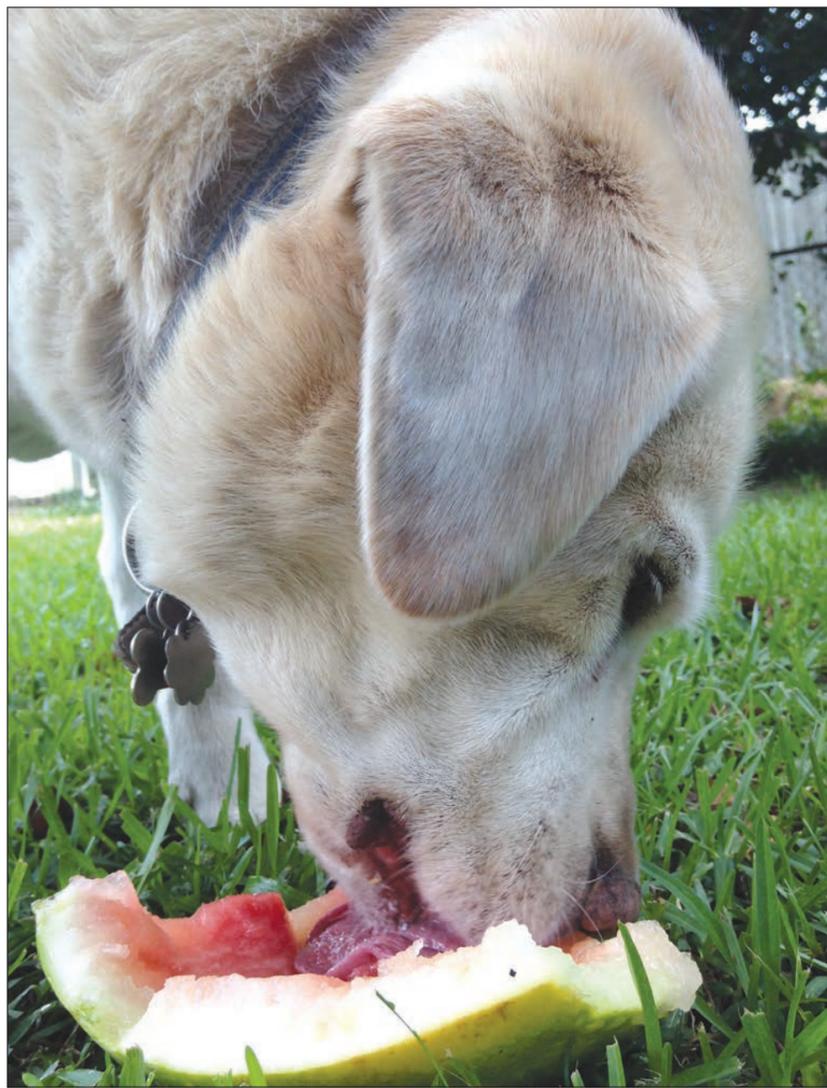
The airmen from the 20th Fighter Wing's 77th Fighter Squadron are scheduled to participate in a Red Flag Nellis exercise at Nellis Air Force Base from July 23 to Aug. 3, according to

the 20th Fighter Wing's Public Affairs Office. The exercise is the premier U.S. Air Force air-to-air combat training exercise allowing U.S. airmen and their international coalition counterparts to experience "multiple, intensive air combat sorties in the safety of a training environment."

The 20th Fighter Wing regularly participates in these exercises, bringing its highly demanded premier suppression of enemy air defenses capa-

bility — a role few other units can fulfill. The 77th Fighter Squadron will also provide other aerial support functions.

Since 1975, 28 countries have joined the U.S. in RF-N exercises, and several other countries have observed them. RF-N has provided training for more than 440,000 personnel, including more than 145,000 aircrew members flying more than 385,000 sorties and logging more than 660,000 hours of flying time.



Getting that last little bit

Max the Labrador retriever enjoys some cool watermelon on a hot day in Sumter recently. If you are wondering if it is OK for a dog to eat watermelon, the answer is yes according to the American Kennel Club. The club suggests taking a few precautions though. Make sure you remove the seeds, and with chewing the rind comes a chance of gastrointestinal upset.

MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

Palmetto Health urges lawnmower safety for children

SUBMITTED

It's finally summertime, which means the sun is out longer and you have more time to work in your yard.

Summertime also means children are out of school, and they may be helping you with the yard work.

Palmetto Health wants parents to remember to keep children away from dangerous yard equipment such as lawnmowers.

In the United States, more than 9,000 children go to the emergency room because of lawnmower-related injuries each year, states a release from the health care provider.

The sharp, fast-moving blades of a mower can cause severe cuts, broken bones and even severed limbs.

Lawnmower injuries are the leading cause of traumatic amputations for children, with most incidents taking

place in their own yards.

Orthopedic surgeon Kristen Nathe, M.D., of Palmetto Health-USC Orthopedic Center, has seen the results of these types of injuries.

"It's important for parents to know what can happen so they can make sure it doesn't happen to their children," she said.

Nathe said a child can sustain injuries from a lawnmower by:

- Falling near the lawnmower;
- Getting run over or struck by the lawnmower;
- Falling when riding with the operator of the lawnmower; and
- Simply touching the hot surface of a lawnmower that has been in the sun.

Fortunately, most of these injuries can be easily avoided, states the release.

Nathe offers the following tips to

help keep children safe around lawnmowers:

- Do not allow children on riding lawnmowers;
- Carefully look for children behind you before mowing in reverse;
- Do not leave a running lawnmower unattended;
- Do not use your hands or feet to remove debris from a mower; and
- If a lawnmower-related injury occurs, call 911 right away.

Nathe also recommends that parents not let children younger than 12 years old use a push lawnmower and should not let children younger than 16 years old operate a riding lawnmower.

For more information about Palmetto Health-USC Orthopedic Center, go to www.phusc.org/orthopedics or call (803) 907-0350.

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Your attitude about exercise will affect health improvements

Research repeatedly supports that exercise brings about mental, physical, psychological and emotional benefits. Exercise has been shown to have a positive effect on stress, mood, anxiety, depression and cognitive function.

While requiring someone to exercise is an ineffective method for decreasing symptoms, choosing to engage in exercise has been found to be just as effective if not more effective than traditional therapies and medications. However, for these improvements to be seen, a minimum of five consistent weeks of exercise is needed.

The enjoyment of exercise strongly correlates to improvements seen through exercise. Additionally, individuals who exercise for enjoyment are more likely to stick with it than those who are doing it because they have to.

When activities are based on personal satisfaction, pleasure and fun, the activity is more likely to be maintained. It is a strong predictor of long-term adherence to exercise. Exercising to achieve a certain look or weight can be shortlived. In fact, more than 50 percent of novice exercisers who started an exercise program to achieve a certain look or weight will quit when they do not see their desired outcome.



Missy Corrigan

Most people will engage in exercise for one of four reasons: prevention, disease management, injury rehabilitation or to improve overall health. To fully understand that the benefits of exercise outweigh the consequences or cost, you must be aware of how your environment and situations influence your overall well-being. By linking positive thoughts about an activity with future benefits and desirable out-



comes, the rate of success for maintaining exercise motivation is much greater.

Lack of time is cited as the No. 1 reason people don't exercise. While people actually do have the time, the perception is that exercise takes too much time. To overcome this

perception, look at the next 24 hours and schedule it, even if it is just a 10-minute walk around the block. The fact that you do it is much more important than the time of day or length of time.

If you have a tendency to start and stop an exercise

program, it is best to have someone you can be accountable to — a workout partner or a trainer or coach you regularly check in with. Even joining a group of like-minded fitness individuals or a gym can increase the rate of success. This is especially true for novice exercisers. While exercising in your own home may sound ideal, studies show that at-home exercisers are twice as likely to discontinue a program than if they were in a group setting or gym.

Whether you are initiating an exercise program to bring back your love of fitness or because there is a sense of urgency to do so because of current health status, it is imperative that you have a supportive network of friends and family who regularly exercise. View exercise as an added value to your health, establish daily routines, and stay connected with your supportive network.

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

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Investigators grill train company about deadly S.C. crash

COLUMBIA (AP) — Federal investigators on Tuesday grilled train company executives about a deadly South Carolina crash that happened earlier this year, asking officials with the company that owns the tracks about changes within the company in the months leading up to the crash.

For several hours, National Transportation Safety Board officials questioned representatives from CSX about the Feb. 4 crash near Cayce. The NTSB has previously said that a switch was left in the wrong position, sending a New York-to-Miami Amtrak passenger train onto a side track where a CSX freight train was parked after offloading materials nearby.

Amtrak engineer Michael Kempf, 54, of Savannah, Georgia, and conductor Michael Cella, 36, of Orange Park, Florida, were killed. More than 100

passengers were taken to hospitals for treatment.

CSX owns the tracks where the crash happened. On Tuesday, NTSB Board Chairman Robert Sumwalt questioned CSX employees over what he saw as executive-level turmoil within CSX that could have potentially laid the groundwork for miscommunication and inattention to details leading up to the Feb. 4 crash.

"What I saw ... was a vast amount of change occurring in a short amount of time," Matt Meadows of CSX told Sumwalt. "That created a lot of flux in manager positions. ... There was a lot of change."

Sumwalt also displayed data charts showing that CSX trains are moving more quickly through the railroad system, yet the company employs fewer people. He asked CSX officials why

safety wasn't listed as a 2017 target on a CSX shareholder report that did mention efficiency, operating ratio, earnings growth and shareholder value.

"What is your metric for safety?" he asked.

CSX representatives present at the hearing responded that their jobs were focused on train operations and signal communication, not business operations, so they would have to let other officials respond.

Justin Meko of Amtrak said that the passenger rail company had evaluated its own safety approach in the months following the crash.

"What's changed is that we don't simply go by the operating practice of the host railroads," Meko said. "We go by what's best for Amtrak, based on the risk assessment."

At the time of the crash, automated

signals that could have warned the passenger train to stop before reaching the switch sending it down the side track were turned off as workers installed a GPS-based system called positive train control, or PTC. Meadows said Tuesday that CSX has made several safety changes since the crash, including requiring employees that change track switches to verbally confirm changes with other crewmembers.

CSX official Jason Schroeder also walked investigators through other changes, including red tags attached to all track-switching locks while signaling systems are suspended, as during the Cayce crash.

"There's a whole barrage of things we do leading into the cutover to make sure they go very well," Schroeder said.

Trump pardons ranchers in case that inspired '16 occupation

BY JILL COLVIN AND ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has pardoned two ranchers whose case sparked the armed occupation of a national wildlife refuge in Oregon.

Dwight and Steven Hammond were convicted in 2012 of intentionally and maliciously setting fires on public lands. The arson crime carried a minimum prison sentence of five years, but a sympathetic federal judge, on his last day before retirement, decided the penalty was too stiff and gave the father and son much lighter prison terms.

Prosecutors won an appeal, and the Hammonds were resentenced in October 2015 to serve the mandatory minimum.

The decision sparked a protest from Ammon Bundy and dozens of others, who occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near the Hammond ranch in southeastern Oregon from Jan. 2 to Feb. 11, 2016, complaining

the Hammonds were victims of federal overreach.

The armed occupiers changed the refuge's name to the Harney County Resource Center, reflecting their belief that the federal government has only a very limited right to own property within a state's borders.

Bundy was arrested during a Jan. 26 traffic stop, effectively ending the protest. Another key occupier, Robert "LaVoy" Finicum, was fatally shot that day by Oregon State Police.

In a statement Tuesday, White House press secretary Sarah Sanders called that decision to resentence the Hammonds "unjust."

"The Hammonds are devoted family men, respected contributors to their local community, and have widespread support from their neighbors, local law enforcement, and farmers and ranchers across the West," she said. "Justice is overdue for Dwight and Steven Hammond, both of whom are entirely deserving of these Grants of Executive Clemency."

The pardons are the latest in a growing list of clemency actions by Trump, who has been using his pardon power with increasingly frequency in recent months.

Trump has been especially pleased with news coverage of his actions, which included commuting the sentence

of Alice Johnson, a woman serving a life sentence for drug offenses whose case had been championed by reality television star Kim Kardashian West.

He has repeatedly referenced emotional video of Johnson being freed from prison and running into her family members' arms and has said he's considering thousands more cases — both famous and not.

But critics say the president could be ignoring valid claims for clemency as he works outside the typical pardon process, focusing on cases brought to his attention by friends, famous people and conservative media pundits.

Aides say that Trump has been especially drawn to cases in which he thinks the prosecution may have been politically motivated — a situation that may remind him of his own position at the center of the ongoing special counsel investigation into Russian election meddling.

Many have also seen the president as sending a signal with his pardons to former aides and associates caught up in the probe, or lashing out at enemies like former FBI Director James Comey, who oversaw the prosecution of lifestyle guru Martha Stewart, whom Trump has said he is thinking of pardoning.

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Cheers erupt as last boys, coach rescued from cave

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP) — A daring rescue mission in the treacherous confines of a flooded cave in northern Thailand has saved all 12 boys and their soccer coach who were trapped deep within the labyrinth, ending a grueling 18-day ordeal that claimed the life of an experienced diver and riveted people around the world.

Thailand's Navy SEALs, who were central to the rescue effort, said on their Facebook page that the remaining four boys and their 25-year-old coach were all brought out safely by early Tuesday evening. Several hours later, a medic and three SEAL divers who had stayed for days with the boys in their tiny refuge in the cave also came out.

Eight of the boys were rescued by a team of Thai and international divers on Sunday and Monday.

"We are not sure if this is a miracle, a science, or what. All the thirteen Wild Boars are now out of the cave," the SEALs said, referring to the name of the boys' soccer team. "Everyone is safe."

Cheers erupted at a local government office where dozens of volunteers and journalists were awaiting news of whether the intricate and high-risk rescue mission had succeeded. Helicopters transporting the boys roared overhead. People on the street cheered and clapped when ambulances ferrying them on the last leg of their journey from the cave arrived at a hospital in Chiang Rai city.

Amporn Sriwichai, an aunt of the rescued coach, Ekkapol Chantawong, said she was happy and excited. "If I see him, I just want to hug him and tell him that I missed him very much," she said.

Payap Maiming, who helped provide food and necessities to rescue workers and journalists, said a "miracle" had happened.

"I'm happy for Thais all over the country," he said. "And actually just everyone in the world because every news channel has presented this story, and this is what we have been waiting for."

"It's really a miracle," Payap said. "It's hope and faith that has brought us this success."

The plight of the boys and their coach has captivated not only Thailand, but also much of the world — from the heart-sinking news that they were missing, to the

first flickering video of the huddle of anxious yet smiling boys when they were found 10 days later by a pair of British divers. They were trapped in the Tham Luang cave on June 23, when they were exploring it after a soccer practice, and it became flooded by monsoon rains.

Each of the boys, ages 11 to 16 and with no diving experience, was guided out by a pair of divers in three days of intricate and high-stakes operations. The route, in some places just a crawl space, had oxygen canisters positioned at regular intervals to refresh each team's air supply.

Highlighting the dangers, a former Thai navy SEAL died Friday while replenishing the canisters.

Cave-diving experts had warned it was potentially too risky to dive the youngsters out.

But Thai officials, acutely aware that the boys could be trapped for months by monsoon rains that would swell waters in the cave system, seized a window of opportunity provided by relatively mild weather. A massive water-pumping effort also made the winding cave more navigable. The confidence of the diving team, and expertise specific to the cave, grew after its first successful mission.

"We did something nobody thought possible," Chiang Rai province acting Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn, leader of the rescue effort, said at a celebratory news conference.

Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, speaking Tuesday before the final rescue was completed, said the boys were given an anti-anxiety medication to help with their perilous removal from the cave.

Asked at a weekly news conference in Bangkok if the boys had been sedated, Prayuth said: "Who would chloroform them? If they're chloroformed, how could they come out? It's called anxiolytic, something to make them not excited, not stressed."

Prayuth said the Tham Luang cave would be closed for some time to make it safe for visitors.

The eight boys brought out by divers on Sunday and Monday were doing well and were in good spirits, a senior health official said. They were given a treat Tuesday: bread with chocolate spread that they had requested.

It's really a miracle.

It's hope and faith

that has brought us

this success.'

PAYAP MAIMING

Helped provide food and necessities to rescue workers and journalists



MISSOULA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE VIA AP

This Sunday photo provided by the Missoula County Sheriff's Office shows a 5-month-old infant with dirt under his fingernails after authorities say the baby survived about nine hours being buried under sticks and debris in the woods.

Baby found alive buried under debris in woods

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — A 5-month-old infant who miraculously survived more than nine hours being buried under a pile of sticks and debris in the woods of western Montana suffered only minor injuries despite wearing wet and soiled clothes in cold weather, authorities said.

The baby boy is otherwise in good condition, authorities said.

Missoula County Sheriff's deputies were called about 8 p.m. Saturday about a man threatening people in the Lolo Hot Springs area of the Lolo National Forest. Deputies apprehended the man, who indicated that a baby was buried somewhere in the woods.

The sheriff's office hastily put together a search crew of federal, state and local officials that combed the forest outside the hot springs for six hours before a deputy heard a baby's cry at about 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

He found the baby face-down under the pile of sticks and debris, dressed only in a wet and soiled onesie in the 46-degree weather.

"He suffered some minor scrapes and bruising but overall is in good health," sheriff's spokeswoman Brenda Bassett said in a state-

ment Monday.

The baby was taken to a hospital. Custody of the child has been referred to the state Division of Child and Family Services. Spokesman Chuck Council declined to answer any questions about where the child will be placed or how the baby will be cared for, citing medical privacy.

Francis Crowley, 32, was being held on \$50,000 bail on a charge of criminal endangerment. Additional charges will follow, the sheriff's office said in a statement Sunday.

"For all of us at the sheriff's office, this is what we call a miracle," the statement said. "For the officers who were present for this event, it's especially hard knowing what this small baby endured in the last 24 hours."

Crowley is from Portland, Oregon, and was previously arrested in June in Missoula on a fugitive warrant from Oregon, the *Missoulian* reported. Crowley was released when Oregon officials decided not to extradite him, Deputy Missoula County Attorney Jason Marks said.

The nature of Crowley's relationship to the baby was not immediately clear. There was no information on whether Crowley had an attorney.

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More than 150 dead in flood-hit Japan

Many have no power, water after storm

BY HARUKA NUGA and MARI YAMAGUCHI
The Associated Press

HIROSHIMA, Japan — Akira Tanimoto says his apartment narrowly survived the floods and mudslide at his residential complex during the weekend, and even if he wants to go back there with his wife and two pet birds, he can't because there is no water, power or food available.

After their desperate run from floods that had hit the apartment complex where about a dozen of his neighbors were found dead, he returned to his place Monday to check on his apartment, which was almost intact. He also had to bring with him his beloved birds, which he initially had to leave behind.

Tanimoto wants to go back there with his wife, Chieko, and their yellow and green parakeets, Pi-chan and Kya-ko-chan, but said it would take a few weeks until they get the utility services back and clean the place.

"I can't go back if I wanted to," the 66-year-old retired Self-Defense serviceman said, holding a bird cage, in which the birds chirped as he spoke. "Electricity is out, water is cut off, and there is no information there."

Rescuers were combing through mud-covered hillsides and along riverbanks Tuesday searching for dozens of people missing after heavy rains unleashed flooding and mudslides in southwestern Japan, where the death toll has exceeded 150.

More than 50 people were unaccounted for as of Tuesday evening, many in the hardest-hit Hiroshima area. At Tanimoto's apartment complex, about a dozen victims have been found. He and his wife grabbed the minimum necessities and walked about 1 mile to a fire engine Sunday after the floods and mudslides hit the complex. Debris and mudslides had stopped right outside the couple's apartment door.

Tanimoto thinks he and his wife are the lucky ones.

"Some of our neighbors had their apartments destroyed; others are still looking for their families. So we are lucky. Our parakeets even survived," he said.



Rescuers clear the debris of damaged houses and vehicles after a mudslide hit Hiroshima, southwestern Japan, on Tuesday. Rescuers were combing through mud-covered hillsides and along riverbanks Tuesday searching for dozens of people missing after heavy rains unleashed flooding and mudslides in southwestern Japan.



Emergency rescue teams recover the body of a victim of the heavy rains Monday in Hiroshima, Japan. Rescuers were hard at work searching for dozens still missing in southwestern Japan after heavy rains that left residents returning to their homes speechless and unsure where to start the recovery and cleanup.

Work under the scorching sun was hampered by mud and heat, and shipments of relief goods were delayed by damaged roads and transportation systems, especially in areas isolated by the disaster.

Residents sheltering at the Yano school were provided with water, blankets and cellphone chargers. But a local volunteer, Yuki Sato, 25, said local convenience stores were obviously in short supply, so she didn't buy anything there because she wanted to save them for the evacuees or others

who can't drive out of town.

Water and other relief supplies were scarce in some of the other disaster-hit areas.

"No water, food, nothing gets here," Ichiro Tanabe, a 73-year-old resident in the neighboring port city of Kure, told the *Mainichi* newspaper. "We are going to be all dried up if we continue to be isolated."

Delivery companies Sagawa Express Co. and Yamato Transport Co. and cargo service Japan Freight Railway Co. said some of their shipments to

and from the flooded areas have been suspended or reduced. Regional supermarket chains such as Every Co. said one outlet is closed and several other outlets have shortened service hours because of delivery delays and supply shortage.

Thousands of homes were still without clean water and electricity in Hiroshima and other hard-hit areas. Residents lined up for water under the scorching sun as temperatures rose to 95 Fahrenheit, raising risks of heat stroke.

In another hard-hit town, Ozu in Ehime prefecture, water supplies were entirely cut off, and residents could not clean their mud-stained homes or even their clothes. At a major supermarket in town, employees sold bottled water and tea, cups of noodles and other preserved foods that survived the floods, while employees cleaned damaged merchandise, throwing items into dozens of plastic bags.

The landslides and flooding across much of western Japan have killed at least 155 people, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference.

Some of the thousands of residents who had been evacuated, some rescued from their rooftops, began cleaning up after the rain stopped Monday.

Suga said the government set up a task force and was spending \$18 million to hasten deliveries of supplies and other support for evacuation centers and residents in the region.

Earlier Tuesday, the Self-Defense Force ferried seven oil trucks from Hiroshima to Kure, a manufacturing city whose 226,000 residents were cut off from the rest of the prefecture because of the disaster.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who had canceled a planned trip to Europe and the Middle East this week to oversee the emergency response, will visit disaster-hit areas in the Okayama prefecture, Suga said. The government mobilized 75,000 troops and emergency workers and nearly 80 helicopters for the search and rescue effort, Suga said.

Assessment of the casualties was slowed by the scale of the area affected. Officials in Ehime prefecture asked the government to review its weather warning system, noting that rain warnings were issued after damage and casualties already had occurred. The Japan Meteorological Agency said as much as 3 inches of rain per hour fell on large parts of southwestern Japan.

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CENTENNIAL FROM PAGE A1

necessary, wins the nation's wars, according to the USARCENT Public Affairs Office.

The Army created the first warrant officer positions as part of the Army's Mine Planter Service on July 9, 1918. This service operated within the Coastal Artillery Corps and was responsible for laying sea-based mines.

Since the Great War, the Army has steadily expanded the role of the warrant officer corps to include 17 branches and 67 specialties. Warrant officers maintain a niche within the Army where they operate as technical experts in their designated fields.

This includes roles in

the Army's seagoing vessels, bands and Army aviation.

"Well, I would say that it adds a different type of skill set to the fight," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Selwyn Roberts of U.S. Army Central's G4.

"When you have the more general officer who's more controlling over and supervisory over all MOSes, all branches ... you need that specific MOS or cohort to specialize in certain areas to bring that extra expertise, combat multiplier."

With a century under its belt, the warrant officer corps has proven itself an asset to the Army and to U.S. Army Central on the land, on the sea and in the air.



U.S. Army Central Command's warrant officers came together to celebrate the 100th birthday of the warrant officer corps. The corps can trace its roots to World War I when the Army created it to fill the technical expertise needed within the Army's Mine Planter Service.

ARMY PHOTO BY SGT. MATT KUZARA / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

CARING FROM PAGE A1

She recently left the shelter after accepting a position in her home state of Georgia.

Joanna wrote us a card with the following note inside:

"Thank you Sumter United Ministries for providing the shelter and safe haven that I needed for healing. I needed to 'dig deep' to begin healing old scars and wounds that led to my homelessness. You provided a place where I could start my journey. I will continue daily on this path [of] transformation, and I am grateful you allowed me to 'live and die' here. I am forever changed and eternally thankful and appreciative. I am no longer a victim."

Joanna's life was changed. The way she looked at life around her and how she fit in it had now changed. Her worldview shifted from thinking some of us are "victims" and others are "perpetrators." It shifted from thinking some of us are "losers" and some of us are "winners."

Joanna learned her circumstances and past do not have to define her. She was able to find refuge in our shelter and allow Jesus Christ to do a work inside her to heal the hurts of the past. We are so grateful to have been able to witness this life change in her and are looking forward to another great Summer of Caring. Please consider donating to the Summer of Caring. Travis Kinley is the director of Sumter United Ministries' emergency shelter.

Sumter United Ministries' services include the emergency shelter, construction and home repair, financial aid for bills, primary health care and education assistance.

Donations for Summer of Caring 2018, a partnership between *The Sumter Item* and Sumter United Ministries, will be collected through the week before Labor Day, which is Sept. 3 this year.

Those who wish to contribute can send financial donations to:

The Sumter Item
P.O. Box 1677
Sumter, SC 29151

Contributions can also be dropped off at *The Sumter Item's* offices, 36 W. Liberty St.

If a donation is made in honor of someone, please provide that individual's full name. Groups' names and acronyms should also be spelled out completely.

For more information about Sumter United Ministries and other ways to get involved with the ministry, go to www.sumterunitedministries.org or call (803) 775-0757 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Donations last week through Monday include: Retired Master Sgt. William L. and Janice D. Oden, \$100.

Donations received this week: \$100

Total donations received year to date: \$100

Total donations received last year: \$3,555

Total donations received since 2014: \$21,272

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America's Independence Day

Too Bad, King George!

On July 4, 1776, people living in the American Colonies declared their independence. They wanted to be independent, or free, from the rules of King George III of England. They wanted to form their own country.

They wrote a document to send to King George. It was called the Declaration of Independence, written on July 4, 1776. This famous document says that all people are created equal and with certain rights.

Unscramble the words to discover the rights mentioned in the Declaration of Independence.

EFLI _____

BILTEYR _____

PINESPHAS _____

Parade Puzzle

Can you find the letters L-I-B-E-R-T-Y hidden here?

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Founding Father Favorite Food

One of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence visited Europe and fell in love with pasta. He brought back a machine to make macaroni and later, he became the first president to serve macaroni and cheese as part of an official state dinner. Which Founding Father was this? Circle every fourth letter to find out!

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

☆☆ TH ☆☆☆

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop Word Search

MACARONI ENGLAND SIGNERS PARADE FATHER CHEESE GEORGE PEOPLE RULES PASTA EQUAL WORDS KING FREE LIFE

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

We the People

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution starts with "We the People ...". Find examples in the newspaper of people working together to improve something or accomplish a goal in your community.

Standards Link: Civics: Understand how a constitutional government has shaped America.

Pop! Boom! Zing!

Onomatopoeia describes words that sound like the sound they make when you say them. For example, when you say, "Pop!" it sounds a bit like a pop. Look through the newspaper. Can you find three to five examples of onomatopoeia?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Vocabulary development.

How many stars can you find below?

BONUS:
How many stars can you find on this page?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Which two picnic pictures are the same?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

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KAVANAUGH

FROM PAGE A1

Grassley said speed isn't the goal. The vetting process, he said, is "going to be thorough and going to be done right." He did not offer a timeline for confirmation hearings.

Republicans have reacted positively to Trump's pick, but McConnell has little margin of error for the final vote unless a few Democrats can be brought onboard. Republicans hold a slim 51-49 Senate majority, but they hope to gain support for Kavanaugh from a handful of Democrats who are up for re-election in states where Trump is popular.

McConnell called Kavanaugh "one of the most thoughtful jurists" in the country and blasted Democrats as "eager to try and turn judicial confirmations into something like political elections." The GOP leader warned against engaging in "cheap political fear-mongering."

"We'll hear all kinds of fantastic stories about the pain and suffering that this perfectly qualified, widely respected judge will somehow unleash on America if we confirm him to the court," McConnell said.

Pence called Kavanaugh a "good man."

Democrats are uniting behind a strategy to turn the confirmation fight into a referendum on conservatives' efforts to undo abortion access and chip away at other health care protections under the Affordable Care Act.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York is vowing to fight the nomination "with everything I have."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Donald Trump talks with Judge Brett Kavanaugh, his Supreme Court nominee, and Kavanaugh's family in the East Room of the White House on Monday in Washington.

Schumer warned, "In selecting Judge Kavanaugh, President Trump did exactly what he said he would do on the campaign trail — nominate someone who will overturn women's reproductive rights and strike down health care protections for millions of Americans."

The Democrats have turned their attention to pressuring two Republicans, Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, to oppose any nominee who threatens the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. The two have supported access to abortion services.

"We've got some due diligence that we've got to do," Murkowski said Tuesday.

Collins said Kavanaugh is "clearly qualified" but other

issues also will come into play for her, specifically "judicial temperament" and "judicial philosophy."

Kavanaugh in the past has made statements about respecting precedent that could help in winning over Murkowski and Collins.

In his 2006 confirmation hearing to become a federal judge, Kavanaugh said, "I would follow Roe v. Wade faithfully and fully" because it's "binding precedent" that has been "reaffirmed many times."

Yet there's little doubt that Kavanaugh, a solidly conservative, politically connected judge, would shift the nation's highest court further to the right.

A product of the Republican legal establishment in Wash-

ington, Kavanaugh, 53, is a former law clerk for retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy. Like Trump's first nominee last year, Justice Neil Gorsuch, Kavanaugh would be a young addition who could help remake the court for decades with rulings that could restrict abortion, expand gun rights and roll back key parts of "Obamacare."

In a prime-time televised announcement, Trump called Kavanaugh "one of the finest and sharpest legal minds of our time."

"Brett Kavanaugh has gotten rave reviews — rave reviews — actually, from both sides," Trump said Tuesday as he left the White House for a weeklong overseas trip.

"And I think it's going to be a beautiful thing to watch over

the next month."

With Kavanaugh, Trump is replacing a swing vote on the nine-member court with a staunch conservative. Kavanaugh, who serves on the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, has taken an expansive view of executive power and has favored limits on investigating the president.

Speaking at the White House, Kavanaugh pledged to preserve the Constitution and said that "a judge must be independent and must interpret the law, not make the law."

Some conservative and libertarian-leaning activists were disappointed by the pick and doubted it would provide Republicans with the midterm election boost they are looking for to motivate voters to go to the polls.

"This is going to give heartburn to some conservatives," said Brian Darling, a former Republican counsel to Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky.

"It's not the pick conservatives had hoped for," Darling said.

Paul was among some Republican senators who had favored other options. But the senator tweeted after the announcement that he looked forward to meeting Kavanaugh "with an open mind."

Like the other eight justices on the court, Kavanaugh has an Ivy League law degree, spending his undergraduate and law school years at Yale. Since 2006, he has been a judge on the federal appeals court in Washington. He also was a key aide to Kenneth Starr during Starr's investigation of President Bill Clinton, worked on behalf of George W. Bush's campaign during the election recount in 2000 and served in the Bush White House.

Keeping Sumter Beautiful

Katie Altman, Water Resources Extension Agent

A Sunhat for Your Yard

Mr. B. W. Wiles, Jr., the second oldest of thirteen children, once pulled his truck into our St. Matthews driveway and tooted the horn (tooted, not blew, Mr. Wiles was the soul of courtesy and thoughtfulness). In the back of his truck were vegetable and fruits he grew from the same seeds his father had planted. A life-long friendship with a wise man began for my family.

Thin and wiry, Mr. Wiles worked with a small, old tractor. He was a true dirt farmer. Once he was talking about a brother-in-law whom he considered somewhat trifling. To illustrate this character flaw, Mr. Wiles told us that he had visited the gentleman in question recently and found him working on a car under a shade tree with a fan blowing on him. It was the fan, not that tree that Mr. Wiles found objectionable. This was during a summer that set records for high temperatures.

While working in my garden, I try to position myself to be in the areas where nearby trees are casting some shade. This lets me be on the right side of my garden in the mornings and work my way towards the back if I have the energy to venture out in the afternoon. While at Brookgreen Gardens earlier this month, we managed to enjoy the scattered sculptures by choosing paths that hugged the shade cast by the ancient oaks that dominate that property.

Make plans now to plant trees near your house this fall (fall is the best time to plant here in the South as the roots can grow during the winter while the evergreen or deciduous canopy has dramatically reduced water needs). Here is some information from a federal website. Deciduous trees with high, spreading crowns (i.e., leaves and branches) can be planted to the south of your home to provide maximum summertime roof shading. Trees with crowns lower to the ground are more appropriate to the west,

where shade is needed from lower afternoon sun angles. (Source: <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/landscaping-energy-efficient-homes/landscaping-shade>)

Feeling like you won't be in your house long enough to enjoy the results? With proper mulching, that is a ring of mulch that extends three to six feet away from the tree trunk, the growth rate for that plant is nearly double. Mulch should not, however, touch the tree trunk, as that quickly can lead to disease and rot (do you want to wear wet socks and sneakers twenty-four seven — imagine what your feet would look like). Apply three to four inches of mulch under and beyond the tree canopy — less for a heavier material like wood chips and more for pine straw) keeping the mulch six inches from the tree trunk. Smaller trees grown in containers, five gallons or so, actually outgrow a larger tree that has lost most of its root ball when dug from the field, and they are a heck of a lot less expensive and you can easily install them yourself. <http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/care/planting/establishing-and-establishing-trees.html>. This website is the most comprehensive one I have found. That shouldn't be too surprising as it is from Florida and if you think they don't take shade seriously in that state, then you have been standing in the sun too long.

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OPINION

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36 W. LIBERTY ST., SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA 29150 • Founded October 15, 1894

COMMENTARY

Shooting ourselves in the foot

The Canadian government, lining the pockets of its dairy producers, imposes high tariffs on American dairy imports. That forces Canadians to pay higher prices for dairy products. For example, Canadians pay \$5.24 for a 10.5-ounce block of cheddar. In Washington, D.C., that same amount of cheddar sells for \$3.64. Canadians pay \$3.99 for a 1-pound container of yogurt. In Washington, D.C., you can get nearly twice as much yogurt for a little over \$4. It's clear that the Canadian government's tariffs screw its citizens by forcing them to pay higher prices for dairy products.



Walter Williams

What should the U.S. response be to Canada's screwing its citizens? If you were in the Trump administration, you might propose imposing tariffs on soft wood products that Americans import from

Canada — in other words, retaliate against Canada by screwing American citizens. Canadian lumber — such as that from pine, spruce and fir trees — is used in U.S. homebuilding. Guess what tariffs on Canadian lumber do to home prices. If you answered that they raise the cost and American homebuyers are forced to pay higher prices, go to the head of the class.

This retaliation policy is both cruel and not very smart. It's as if you and I were in a row-boat out at sea and I shot a hole in my end of the boat. What should be your response? If you were Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross or Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, you might advise retaliating by shooting a hole in your end of the boat. If I were president, I'd try to persuade officials of other countries not to serve special producer interests by forcing their citizens to pay higher prices. But if they insisted, I'd say, "Go ahead, but I'll be damned if I'll do the same to Americans!"

The ruse used to promote producer interests through tariff policy is concern about our large trade deficit. It's true that we have a large current account trade deficit. However, that's matched exactly by a very large capital account surplus. Translated, that means Americans buy more goods from other countries than they buy from us; that's our current account deficit. But other countries find our investment climate attractive and invest more in the U.S. than we invest in other countries; that's our capital account surplus.

Have you ever wondered why foreigners are willing to invest far more money in Texas and California than they are willing to invest in Argentina and Venezuela? Do you think it's because they like North Americans better than they like South Americans? No. We've always had an attractive investment climate, and we've had current account deficits and capital account surpluses throughout most of our nation's history (<http://tinyurl.com/jc-zqrhu>). In fact, the only time we had a sustained current account trade surplus was during the Great Depression, when we had a surplus in nine out of 10 years, with 1936 being the lone exception.

Let's delve a bit into the politics of trade tariffs. Whom do we see spending the most resources lobbying for tariffs on foreign steel and aluminum? Is it American users of steel and aluminum, such as Harley-Davidson and John Deere? Or is it United States Steel Corp. and Alcoa? Of course it's U.S. Steel and Alcoa. They benefit from tariffs by being able to sell their products at higher prices. Harley-Davidson and John Deere lose by having to pay higher prices for their inputs, steel and aluminum, and their customers lose by having to pay higher product prices.

There's a lot of nonsense talk about international trade, which some define as one country's trading with another. When an American purchases a Mercedes, it does not represent the U.S. Congress' trading with the German Bundestag. It represents an American citizen's engaging in peaceable, voluntary exchange, through intermediaries, with a German auto producer. When voluntary exchange occurs, it means that both parties are better off in their own estimation — not Trump's estimation or General Motors' estimation. I'd like to hear the moral case for third-party interference with such an exchange.

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



AVanne©BANDREWSMCMEE.COMICS.COM EMAIL: hpayne@detroitnews.com

COMMENTARY

Republicans should know better on climate change

Candidates say silly things to us about climate change not because they're dumb, but because they think we're dumb. But we're not dumb, and they'll start saying smart things to us when we prove to them that we're ready to think.

Consider the recent South Carolina Republican gubernatorial runoff debate. Henry McMaster, the currently serving governor of South Carolina, and John Warren, his challenger, were asked if climate change is real



Bob Inglis

and if it's human-caused. Both men are clearly smart enough to know that the answer is "yes" and "yes," but neither answered that way.

Looking out over the partisan crowd assembled for the debate on June 20 at the Newberry Opera House, John Warren accommodated us at our lowest and least. Having made much of his courage in battle and leadership in business, Warren showed neither courage nor leadership in his answer:

"The environment is constantly changing. I don't believe necessarily all those figures. Al Gore said that we would be 10 degrees hotter right now, which never happened. I don't know what the cause is. Twenty years ago people were talking about global cooling, so the environment is constantly changing, and I think the science is undecided in terms of the cause."

Warren is clearly smart enough to know that what he was saying is demonstrably wrong, but he knew what the crowd wanted to hear, and he gave it to them.

Gov. McMaster couldn't go quite as far as Warren in actively promoting our ignorance. He decided to cover himself with a little self-deprecating humor that got the audience laughing along with him:

"I know the water is comin' up in Charleston because it floods the city streets about 50 or 60 times a year. ... I think it's gettin' warmer. Whether it fits your definition, I don't know, but it's gettin' warmer. I know the water is comin' up. Must be something meltin' somewhere, I guess."

Perhaps Warren and McMaster



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Charleston resident puts plastic up over his apartment door as a car rests in floodwaters near East Bay Street in Charleston after Hurricane Irma on Sept. 10, 2017.

had gotten the same advice from their campaign advisers that Robert Penn Warren's gubernatorial candidate got from his campaign adviser in the book *All the King's Men*:

"Hell, make 'em cry, or make 'em laugh, make 'em think you're their weak and erring pal, or make 'em think you're God-a-Mighty. Or make 'em mad. Even mad at you. Just stir 'em up, it doesn't matter how or why, and they'll love you and come back for more. ... Tell them anything. But for Sweet Jesus' sake don't try to improve their minds."

Most politicians are happy to play to our prejudices and preconceptions. Few lead. The silliness, the ineptitude, the lack of problem solving that we all decry in our capitols will diminish when we demonstrate that we're ready to start learning — learning about the hard choices needed to balance budgets, learning about the complexities of health care, learning about solutions to climate change that are consistent with our values.

We like to blame our problems on our politicians. We say that they don't listen to us, but they listen to us very carefully — and they parrot back what we say.

We say, "Balance the budget, but don't touch Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid or defense spending, and whatever you do, don't raise our taxes." That makes

it impossible to balance the budget.

We say, "In health care we want access, affordability and quality." The reality is that it's a struggle to deliver two of those three things.

We say, "Climate change must not be true because we don't want it to be true," and the politicians tell us, "Alright, then, I'll say it's not real, and it's certainly not human-caused."

The worst of our politicians go farther. They aim us at some "other," some out-group that's supposedly the cause of our problems. History bears the horrendous scars of that sort of blame shifting.

Real change will come when we rise to full citizenship. It will come when we tell politicians that we are smart enough and serious enough to understand the facts. Then they will come to us with smart policy options, and America will lead the world to solutions on challenges like climate change. Meanwhile, the water is comin' up. Must be something meltin' somewhere, I guess.

Bob Inglis, a Republican, represented South Carolina's 4th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. He directs *republicEn.org*, a community committed to free enterprise action on climate change.

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.

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN:

AA — Monday-Friday, noon and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA Women's Meeting — Wednesdays, 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA Spanish Speaking — Sundays, 4:30 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA "How it Works" Group — Mondays and Fridays, 8 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. (803) 494-5180.

441 AA Support Group — Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 p.m., Hair Force, 2090-D S.C. 441.

AA Summerton Group — Wednesday, 8 p.m., town hall.

Manning Al-Anon Family Group — Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Behavioral Health Building, 14 Church St., Manning. (803) 435-8085.

C/A "Drop the Rock" Group — Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. (803) 607-4543.

MONDAY MEETINGS:

Sumter Vitiligo Support Group — Second Monday, 5:45-6:45 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Call (803) 316-6763. The group is also on Facebook.

TUESDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. coffee / snacks, 7 p.m. meeting, Alice Drive Baptist Church, Studio 4.3 (youth building), 1305 Loring Mill Road. Help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, addictions, pornography, smoking, anxiety, etc.

Heroin Anonymous — Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 p.m., 4742 Broad St. Call (803) 494-5180.

Sumter Connective Tissue Support Group — First Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November, 7 p.m., 180 Tiller Circle. Call (803) 773-0869.

Sumter Combat Veterans Group Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.

"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. For teens and adults with special needs. Call (803) 972-0051 or (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.

Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.

Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) — Third Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m., Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St.

Open to anyone who has lost a loved one to murder in a violent way.

Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — Third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498 or (803) 316-4506.

EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call (803) 895-1252/1253 or (803) 847-2377.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:

Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call (803) 774-6181.

Divorce Care and Grief Share — Both groups meet separately on Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

THURSDAY MEETINGS:

TOPS S.C. No. 236 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) — Thursdays, 9 a.m., Spectrum Senior Center, 1989 Durant Lane. Call (803) 775-3926 or (803) 469-4789.

Alzheimer's Support Group through S.C. Alzheimer's Association — First Thursday, 6-8 p.m., National Health Care, 1018 N. Guignard Drive. Call (803) 905-7720 or the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 636-3346.

Journey of Hope (for family members of the mentally ill), Journey to Recovery (for the mentally ill) and Survivors of Suicide Support Group — Each group meets every first Thursday, 7 p.m., St. John United Methodist Church, 136 Poinsett Drive. Call (803) 905-5620.

FRIDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, 360 Miller Road. Help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.

Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call (803) 778-0303.

SATURDAY MEETINGS:

Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Support Group — Third Saturday, 1:30 p.m., 3785 Blackberry Lane, Lot 7. Call (803) 481-7521.

SUNDAY MEETINGS:

Sumter MS Support Group — First Sunday, 3 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church, 2751 S. Wise Drive. Call (803) 481-5344 or (803) 464-6440. Email l.am.me.not.ms@gmail.com or msmiles013@gmail.com.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
98°	74°	94° / 71°	92° / 70°	91° / 72°	94° / 73°
Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 50%	Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 30%
N 3-6 mph	S 4-8 mph	N 4-8 mph	ENE 6-12 mph	ESE 4-8 mph	SW 4-8 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

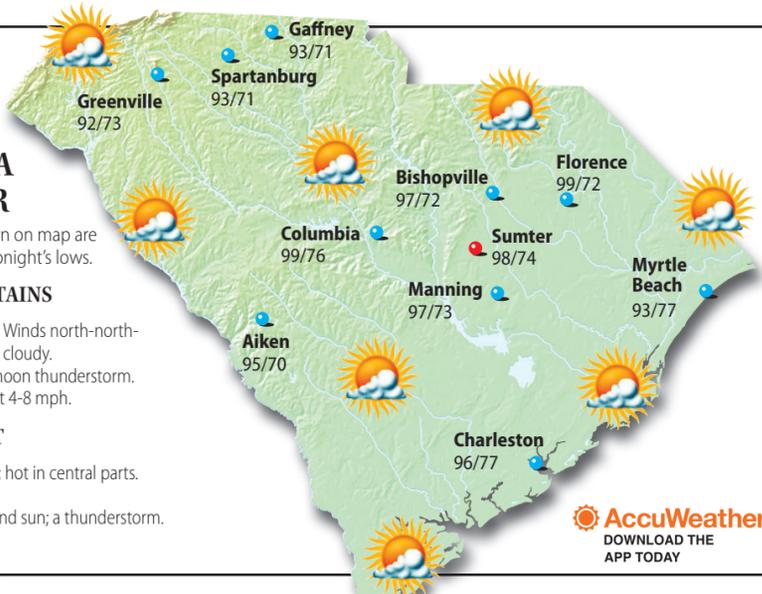
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Partly sunny. Winds north-north-west 4-8 mph. Partly cloudy.
Thursday: An afternoon thunderstorm. Winds east-northeast 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Partly sunny; hot in central parts. High 91 to 97.
Thursday: Clouds and sun; a thunderstorm. High 89 to 97.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
91°	91°	64°	91°	70°	104° in 1986	58° in 1961

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
0.00"	0.41"	1.56"	18.02"	22.84"	24.35"	

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.78	+0.01
Marion	76.8	75.58	+0.01
Moultrie	75.5	75.41	-0.07
Wateree	100	97.46	-0.39

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	5.50	-0.26
Congaree River	19	3.52	-0.70
Lynchies River	14	1.72	-0.11
Saluda River	14	4.72	-0.03
Up. Santee River	80	77.02	+0.19
Wateree River	24	11.14	+1.30

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:19 a.m.	Sunset	8:35 p.m.
Moonrise	4:45 a.m.	Moonsset	7:14 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
July 12	July 19	July 27	Aug 4

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	7:55 a.m.	2.9	2:44 a.m.	0.0
	8:29 p.m.	3.7	2:46 p.m.	-0.7
Thu.	8:54 a.m.	3.0	3:40 a.m.	-0.3
	9:26 p.m.	3.8	3:42 p.m.	-0.8

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.
Atlanta	93/73/pc	92/74/t
Chicago	88/68/s	90/72/pc
Dallas	92/77/t	93/78/t
Detroit	86/62/s	84/66/s
Houston	91/76/t	92/76/t
Los Angeles	88/69/pc	86/68/pc
New Orleans	89/77/t	90/76/t
New York	86/68/pc	83/69/pc
Orlando	91/74/pc	91/75/t
Philadelphia	89/68/pc	84/68/pc
Phoenix	98/84/pc	100/84/t
San Francisco	80/61/pc	80/62/pc
Wash., DC	90/71/pc	86/70/s

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	City	Today	Thu.
Asheville	87/66/t	84/66/pc	Florence	99/72/pc	93/73/t
Athens	95/71/pc	94/71/t	Gainesville	95/73/pc	94/74/pc
Augusta	97/71/pc	96/74/t	Gastonia	94/72/pc	89/69/t
Beaufort	97/77/pc	97/77/t	Goldsboro	97/70/pc	88/68/t
Cape Hatteras	90/76/pc	85/73/t	Goose Creek	96/74/pc	95/74/t
Charleston	96/77/pc	95/76/t	Greensboro	91/68/t	86/65/pc
Charlotte	96/70/pc	90/67/t	Greenville	92/73/pc	89/71/t
Clemson	93/73/pc	91/73/t	Hickory	90/68/t	86/68/t
Columbia	99/76/pc	97/74/t	Hilton Head	93/78/pc	93/77/t
Darlington	97/72/pc	92/71/t	Jacksonville, FL	94/72/pc	95/74/pc
Elizabeth City	92/72/t	84/68/t	La Grange	93/74/pc	90/74/t
Elizabethtown	96/73/pc	88/69/t	Macon	96/71/pc	94/72/pc
Fayetteville	97/72/pc	89/69/t	Marietta	92/71/pc	92/70/t
			Marion	88/68/t	84/67/pc
			Mt. Pleasant	94/77/pc	94/76/t
			Myrtle Beach	93/77/pc	90/73/t
			Orangeburg	96/72/pc	94/73/t
			Port Royal	94/77/pc	94/76/t
			Raleigh	94/70/pc	85/65/t
			Rock Hill	95/71/pc	89/69/t
			Rockingham	96/72/pc	89/69/t
			Savannah	96/74/pc	96/76/pc
			Spartanburg	93/71/pc	88/70/t
			Summerville	96/73/pc	94/74/t
			Wilmington	95/74/pc	88/69/t
			Winston-Salem	91/68/t	86/65/pc

PUBLIC AGENDA

SUMTER COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION / ELECTION COMMISSION
Thursday, 5:30 p.m., registration / election office, 141 N. Main St.

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

to discuss your thoughts with and get feedback from people you respect who are qualified to offer good advice. The information you gather will help point you in the right direction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't get into a debate without having the knowledge and experience to make your point and to validate your reasons for making the choices you do. Your opinion counts. Personal improvements will turn out better than expected.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let emotions take over. Be realistic when dealing with affairs of the heart or situations that can affect your relationship with someone you live with. Fair solutions will be the only way to reach an agreement.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Before you complain or criticize someone, take a closer look inward and consider how you can improve. Your personal achievement will motivate others to follow suit and make positive adjustments as well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Exaggeration will play a factor in the outcome of a situation you face. The changes that come about will leave you or someone you're dealing with at a loss if promises aren't kept.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take on anyone making false claims. Keeping events straight and being clear in regard to who did what will help others make a positive decision that will assist you in reaching your set goals.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep busy and move forward. Your instincts will help you determine your best move. Refuse to let anyone bully you into something that doesn't fit into your plans. React sensibly and without feeling guilty.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look for alternatives. If one door shuts, another will open. Have faith in yourself and your ability to get things done. Embrace the future with optimism and patience. Don't cave under pressure. Personal improvements can be made.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Think matters through. Understand the benefits as well as the consequences of your actions. Use reason when dealing with anyone who doesn't see things your way. A change will turn out better if monitored every step of the way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Share your thoughts and look for alternative ways to get what you want without damaging a relationship. Incentives will make a difference to the way others feel about you and how you handle matters. Romance will improve your personal life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your distance from inconsistent or unpredictable individuals. It's in your best interests to avoid excessive behavior or anyone using emotional tactics to persuade you to get involved in something that isn't good for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Know your limitations as well as your attributes. Be prepared to ask for what you want and to settle for what feels fair. Maintaining balance and integrity will also help you avoid repercussions. Romance is in the stars.

SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PETS OF THE WEEK



CAN'T ADOPT BUT WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN SOME WAY? Sumter Animal Control accepts donations of the following: Capstar flea control pills (at Petco or Tractor Supply), bleach (gallons or spray bottle), metal food and water bowls in all sizes, towels, waterless pet shampoo, dog cologne, kibble, puppy food, newspapers and leashes and collars. Tax-deductible donations can be made via Paypal@sumterstrays@gmail.com. One hundred percent of your donation will be used for the animals at Sumter Animal Control.

TOP: Leela is a small, sugar-sweet 1-year-old girl who is just about perfect in every way. She likes kids and other dogs. She is fully vetted and housebroken. However, she would require a home with no cats as she does not like cats at all. We strongly suggest that you have a fenced yard. Leela is a favorite with volunteers because of her sweet disposition and good manners.

BELOW: Max, 4 to 5 years old, is a great big hunk of love. This large, mixed breed boy is gentle and attentive with volunteers. We are unsure about how he would feel about living with other dogs. We would recommend a family with kids older than 10 due to his large size. Max has a good amount of energy, so a single person or family who jogs and lives an active lifestyle would be a great match. If you've ever sat down next to a big dog and given him a hug, you know just how comforting a big boy can be.

If you would like to meet Leela in kennel 36 or Max in kennel 21 at Sumter Animal Control, 1240 Winkles Road, call the adoption coordinator at (803) 774-3232 or email rescuesumtersc@gmail.com. As with all of our adoptable dogs, we do require a spay or neuter agreement, and it is strictly enforced. Proof of spay/neuter after adoption will be required. We have many other adoptable dogs as well as animals who were found and are waiting for their owners to claim them. Check Sumter Animal Control on Facebook.

YOUTH BASEBALL

Defending their turf



MARK MORGAN / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter National third baseman Matthew McKinnon (15) and the rest of his teammates will begin play in the AAA state tournament on Saturday in Moncks Corner against Green Sea Floyds.

Sumter National 9-10 team hopes glove work will help in state

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter National 9-10 year-old AAA all-star baseball team certainly had its moments of offensive prowess in winning the District 9 tournament at Patriot Park SportPlex last month. Offense, however, is not what manager Knowl Davis

considers to be the strength of his team. "I think we're a little stronger defensively than anything else," said Davis, whose team will be playing in the state tournament in Moncks Corner on Saturday. "We've been able to make the plays, and that has been a big advantage for us. We've just been a strong fielding team." Sumter National will take on District

11 champion Green Sea Floyds at noon at Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex. The tournament features 16 teams playing in two 8-team, double-elimination brackets. The two bracket winners will play a best-of-3 series to decide the state champion.

SEE STATE, PAGE B3

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

P-15's beat Hartsville 10-0 in opener

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter P-15's had Lathan Todd on the mound and on his game against Hartsville Post 53 in the opening game of their American Legion baseball first-round state playoffs series on Monday at Riley Park. The right-hander had a no-hitter through four innings, but found himself in a scoreless tie against Hartsville righty Caleb Peach.

Then Daulton Dabbs put down a bunt to start the bottom of the fourth. Dabbs reached on a throwing error and that opened the floodgates to a 6-run inning. Todd went on to toss a 1-hit shutout, and the P-1's came away with a

10-0 mercy rule victory in six innings. Sumter, which improved to 16-9 on the season, and 9-10 Post 53 will play Game 2 today at 7 p.m. at Jimmy White Park in Kelleysville. The P-15's had a runner on base in each of the first three innings and left runners in scoring position in the first two, but had no runs to show for it. Dabbs led off the fourth by laying a bunt down the third base line. Third baseman Ashaunti McFarland fielded the ball and a good throw would have had Dabbs. However, McFarland threw it away for a 2-base error.

SEE P-15'S, PAGE B3



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Lathan Todd tossed a 1-hit shutout to lift the Sumter P-15's to a 10-0 victory over Hartsville on Monday at Riley Park in the first game of their state playoff series.

USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Changing of the guard: Gamecocks look for backcourt success

COLUMBIA — South Carolina is changing its approach this season, turning to its deep group of guards to keep the four-time Southeastern Conference Tournament champions on top.

Coach Dawn Staley led the team to a national title in 2017, largely with a run of players like Alaina Coates and last year's consensus national player of the year A'ja Wilson.

But with the 6-foot-5 Wilson excelling as a WNBA rookie in Las Vegas, Staley's most experienced and talented players start in the backcourt.

"We'll look a little different," Staley said. "But, hopefully, we'll have the same results."

There is no natural successor to Wilson, the dynamic All-American who set the school's career scoring mark. So

SEE USC, PAGE B3



A season after guiding national player of the year in 6-foot-5 A'ja Wilson, South Carolina coach Dawn Staley is going small.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PRO FOOTBALL

Panthers owner under contract to keep statue of Richardson

BY STEVE REED
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — While new Carolina Panthers owner David Tepper would like the focus to be on his plans for the team's future, he cannot completely put the franchise's sullied past behind him.

Tepper has to keep the prominent statue of Panthers' founder Jerry Richardson outside of the stadium as part of the NFL-record \$2.2 billion deal he agreed to in June after Richardson decided to sell the team in December amid reports



TEPPER

of sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace.

Tepper said Tuesday when he was introduced as the team's new owner that he's "contractually obligated" to keep the 13-foot high statue of Richardson standing alongside two growling panthers where it is.

The league substantiated the allegations against Richardson following a six-month investigation and fined him \$2.75 million.

Fans have expressed their desire on social media and sports talk shows to remove the statue, which was built in 2016.

And while Tepper said contractually he can't do that, he spoke repeatedly about changing the environment of the Panthers workplace.

Tepper said there will be "no impediment" in employees feeling comfortable coming forward if they if they have any problems on the business side of the organization.

He wants to create an environment where "everybody feels safe like a family."

Sports Illustrated reported in December, citing unnamed sources, that Richardson made sexually suggestive comments to women and on at least one occasion directed a racial slur at an African-American Panthers scout. The report states that he reached settlements that included non-disclosure requirements forbidding the parties from discussing the details.

"Listen, whatever was, was. This is now," Tepper said. "This is going to be an open place. So there are not going to be non-disclosure agreements, no matter what, in this new place. That was then, this is now."

The Panthers are only tied to Charlotte through June 2019 in terms of a stadium agreement, but Tepper reiterated the city is "the most logical place" to keep the team, although adding that a "redo" is necessary.

The Panthers and the city of Charlotte came to an agreement on improvements for the team's stadium in 2013, calling for the city to contribute about \$87 million for renovations to Bank of America Stadium in exchange for a six-year hard tether to keep the NFL franchise in Charlotte.

Tepper's focus right now is on new practice facilities.

He said the Panthers are "falling behind a little bit" other teams in the league.

He is considering moving the team's practice facilities to South Carolina, in part to keep both states interested in the team. The Panthers currently practice on three fields within walking distance to their downtown stadium. Tepper said that valuable land could be used for developmental purposes.

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE B3

WORLD CUP SOCCER



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France's Samuel Umtiti celebrates after scoring the only goal in France's 1-0 victory over Belgium in the World Cup semifinal match on Tuesday in Saint Petersburg, Russia. France advanced to the championship match where it will face either England or Croatia.

France defeats Belgium 1-0 to advance to World Cup final

BY STEVE DOUGLAS
The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia — They're young, they're brash and they're collectively worth a billion dollars. The one thing missing for this French squad is an international title.

Kylian Mbappe, Paul Pogba and France are about to get that chance.

Les Bleus are headed to the World Cup final.

Samuel Umtiti clinched a 1-0 win over Belgium — and earned the approval of watching French President Emmanuel Macron in the VIP seats at St. Petersburg Stadium — by scoring on a header off a corner kick in the 51st minute on Tuesday.

"Vive la France! Vive la Republique!" France forward Antoine Griezmann shouted during postgame celebrations.

Umtiti played his part in a strong defensive effort by the French, too, helping to shut out the highest-scoring team at the tournament and leaving Belgium's golden generation of Eden Hazard, Kevin De Bruyne and Romelu Lukaku to regret another missed opportunity at a major tournament.

"It's me that scored," Umtiti said, "but we all delivered a big game."

France's players danced on the field after the final whistle

and their fans sang in the stands long past the end of the match, surrounded by yellow-clad security.

They certainly hope to keep the party going on Sunday in the final in Moscow. France — with an average age of 26 — will face either Croatia or England, who play Wednesday at the Luzhniki Stadium in the Russian capital, and has a shot at redemption after losing its last two major finals — at the 2006 World Cup when Zinedine Zidane was sent off for a nasty head-butt and the 2016 European Championship on home soil.

"We're immensely privileged to be in the World Cup final," France coach Didier Deschamps said. "It was so painful two years ago we have to savor it."

Deschamps now has the chance to become the third person to win the World Cup as a player and a coach, after German great Franz Beckenbauer and Brazil's Mario Zagallo. As France captain, Deschamps raised soccer's most prized trophy in 1998.

Deschamps has faced some criticism for being too pragmatic and functional despite having a squad of superstars, but his team was set up superbly against an opponent that was largely restricted to only minor chances and denied on two occasions in particular by France goalkeeper Hugo Lloris.

He dived to his right midway through the first half to claw away Toby Alderweireld's shot, then got in front of Lukaku to punch away one of the many crosses sent in by Belgium in the final stages.

In a tournament dominated by goals from set pieces, France's goal came off a corner when Griezmann curled in the ball from the right and Umtiti got in front of tall Belgium midfielder Marouane Fellaini to knock in his header at the near post.

Up in the corporate seats, president Macron reacted to the goal by shaking the hand of King Philippe of Belgium as FIFA president Gianni Infantino watched on between them.

"Unfortunately for us, the difference is just a dead-ball situation, a set play," Belgium coach Roberto Martinez said. "The game was, as you can imagine, very close, very tight, and it was going to be decided (on) maybe the one that could find that final touch in the box."

After reaching the quarterfinals at both the 2014 World Cup and the European Championship in 2016, Belgium again missed the chance to get to an international final and has yet to fulfil its lofty expectations. Leading the scoring in this tournament with 14 goals, many thought this could be their year.

WORLD CUP SOCCER



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Croatia's Domagoj Vida kicks the ball during a training session on Tuesday in preparation for today's World Cup semifinal match against England in Moscow.

Southgate, England ready to face music of soccer history

BY RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Gareth Southgate and England are ready to face the music.

No other soccer nation dwells on decades of failure quite like the English. Southgate was so demoralized by his penalty kick failure against Germany in the 1996 European Championship semifinals, he avoided The Lightning Seeds "Three Lions," the team's official song when it hosted the tournament.

Now the song, with its repeated chorus of "football's coming home," is a staple again, No. 5 this week on YouTube UK's top music videos chart with more than 2 million views on the day of England's last match.

"Football's coming home" is a song I couldn't even listen to for 20 years, frankly, so for me it has a slightly different feel," Southgate said Tuesday on the eve of England's World Cup semifinal match against Croatia. "But it's nice to hear people enjoying it again."

When the song first was released, the chorus proclaimed "Three lions on a shirt/Jules Rimet still gleaming/Thirty years of hurt/never stopped me dreaming." A 1998 update changed the third verse to "no more years of hurt."

England hasn't played in the semifinals of a major tournament since Southgate's penalty kick at Wembley was saved by Andreas Koepke 22 years ago, and Andrea Moeller put the next kick over David Seaman and under the crossbar. The most-cherished national team memory remains the 1966 World Cup final victory at Wembley over West Germany, a demarcation point in the island's history as much as 1066 (the Norman invasion) and 1707 (union with Scotland).

"It was a long time ago, so not too many of us can remember that far back," said midfielder Jordan Henderson, born in 1990.

The winner Wednesday advances to Sunday's final against France. Southgate wants to break stereotypes, and not just on the field.

"I'm rare breed. I'm an Englishman that doesn't drink tea," he said.

England and Croatia are teams that innovated over time but have generally been immutable during the World Cup, sticking to virtually identical starting lineups except for group phase finales, after advancement was secure. In the other four

games, Croatia's only variable to its 4-2-3-1 formation was whether to start captain Luka Modric in a deep midfield role and Andrej Kramaric more advanced, or to move up Modric and start Marcelo Brozovic.

Right back Sime Vrsaljko limped off during the quarterfinal win over host Russia and goalkeeper Danijel Subasic had a hamstring injury during extra time but remained in the match.

When asked about injuries, Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic responded through a translator with inconclusive palaver about Vrsaljko having "this niggle."

England has gone with a 3-5-2, and the only change was to start Ruben Loftus-Cheek in midfield after Dele Alli injured a thigh.

"The biggest thing that the gaffer's brought since he's come in, which he's brought right from day one, was identity, and about the way that we wanted to create a team," Henderson said. "You can see that togetherness on the pitch now, and I think that's valuable in crucial moments in big games, and yeah, I can definitely say this is most together England team that I've been involved in, and so I think that makes a massive difference and you get your rewards for that."

With an average age of 26, England is one of the youngest teams at the World Cup.

"We were never quite sure how far this team could go," Southgate said. "The age of the players, the improvement in the players, the hunger in the players has been apparent for everybody to see. We're really proud in the style that we've played, with the intelligence that we've played, and that we've performed under pressure and dealt with difficult situations in games where we've had to wait until the last minute to score, we've had to recover from conceding in last minute, we've been through extra time, penalties."

Croatia made its only semifinal appearance in 1998, losing 2-1 to host France. Defender Dejan Lovren is a teammate of Henderson's on Champions League finalist Liverpool, and Lovren bristled when asked about a 4-1 loss at Tottenham last October when England striker Harry Kane scored twice.

"It's completely irrelevant," he said through a translator. "Why didn't you ask me how I played well against him? You are just nitpicking my poor performances."

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
8 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Men's Quarterfinal Matches from London (ESPN, ESPN2).
8 a.m. — International Cycling: Tour de France Stage 5 from Quimper, France (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
11:30 a.m. — WNBA Basketball: New York at Connecticut (NBA TV).
Noon — Major League Baseball: Detroit at Tampa Bay or Kansas City at Minnesota (MLB NETWORK).
3:30 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at San Francisco (MLB NETWORK).
4 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (ESPN).
4:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (NBA TV).
6 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (ESPN2).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (NBA TV).
6:30 p.m. — American Legion Baseball: State Playoffs First-Round Series Game 2 — Hartsville at Sumter (WWHM-FM 92.3, WWHM-FM 93.3, WWHM-AM 1290).
7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Texas at Boston (ESPN).
7:30 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Toronto at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST, WWHM-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (ESPN2).
8:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (NBA TV).
10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (ESPN2).
10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Seattle at Los Angeles or Arizona at Colorado (MLB NETWORK).
10:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League First-Round Playoff Game from Las Vegas (NBA TV).

Houston	61	32	.656	—
Seattle	57	34	.626	3
Oakland	51	40	.560	9
Los Angeles	46	45	.505	14
Texas	40	52	.435	20½

MONDAY
 Baltimore 5, N.Y. Yankees 4, 1st game
 Boston 5, Texas 0
 Cincinnati 7, Cleveland 5
 Tampa Bay 10, Detroit 9, 10 innings
 N.Y. Yankees 10, Baltimore 2, 2nd game
 Minnesota 3, Kansas City 1
 Oakland 2, Houston 0

TUESDAY
 N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
 Detroit at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m.
 Texas at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
 Toronto at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
 Kansas City at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
 Oakland at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
 St. Louis at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
 Seattle at L.A. Angels, 10:07 p.m.

TODAY
 Detroit (Zimmermann 4-0) at Tampa Bay (TBD), 12:10 p.m.
 Kansas City (Smith 0-0) at Minnesota (Lynn 6-7), 1:10 p.m.
 N.Y. Yankees (Gray 5-7) at Baltimore (Bundy 6-8), 7:05 p.m.
 Cincinnati (Mahle 7-6) at Cleveland (Carrasco 9-5), 7:10 p.m.
 Texas (Colon 5-6) at Boston (Sale 9-4), 7:10 p.m.
 Toronto (Gaviglio 2-2) at Atlanta (TBD), 7:35 p.m.
 Oakland (Bassitt 1-3) at Houston (McCutters 10-3), 8:10 p.m.
 St. Louis (Weaver 5-7) at Chicago White Sox (Rodon 1-3), 8:10 p.m.
 Seattle (Gonzales 9-5) at L.A. Angels (Barria 5-5), 10:07 p.m.

THURSDAY
 Oakland at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Yankees at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
 Toronto at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
 Seattle at L.A. Angels, 10:07 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division

Atlanta	50	39	.562	—
Philadelphia	50	39	.562	—
Washington	45	45	.500	5½
New York	36	52	.409	13½
Miami	38	55	.409	14

Central Division

Milwaukee	54	37	.593	—
Chicago	51	37	.580	1½
St. Louis	46	43	.517	7
Pittsburgh	42	48	.467	11½
Cincinnati	40	51	.440	14

West Division

Arizona	50	41	.549	—
Los Angeles	49	41	.544	½
San Francisco	48	45	.516	3
Colorado	46	44	.511	3½
San Diego	39	54	.419	12

MONDAY
 N.Y. Mets 4, Philadelphia 3, 1st game, 10 innings

Pittsburgh 6, Washington 3
 Cincinnati 7, Cleveland 5
 Miami 4, Milwaukee 3, 10 innings
 Philadelphia 3, N.Y. Mets 1, 2nd game
 L.A. Dodgers 8, San Diego 2
 San Francisco 2, Chicago Cubs 1, 11 innings

TUESDAY
 Washington at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Miami, 7:10 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
 Toronto at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
 St. Louis at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
 Arizona at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
 L.A. Dodgers at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

TODAY
 Washington (Gonzalez 6-5) at Pittsburgh (Williams 6-7), 12:35 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Montgomery 3-3) at San Francisco (Rodriguez 3-1), 3:45 p.m.
 Cincinnati (Mahle 7-6) at Cleveland (Carrasco 9-5), 7:10 p.m.
 Milwaukee (Peralta 4-1) at Miami (Straily 3-4), 7:10 p.m.
 Philadelphia (Velasquez 5-8) at N.Y. Mets (deGrom 5-4), 7:10 p.m.
 Toronto (Gaviglio 2-2) at Atlanta (TBD), 7:35 p.m.
 St. Louis (Weaver 5-7) at Chicago White Sox (Rodon 1-3), 8:10 p.m.
 Arizona (Miller 0-3) at Colorado (Marquez 7-8), 8:40 p.m.
 L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 5-5) at San Diego (Lucchesi 4-4), 10:10 p.m.

THURSDAY
 Arizona at Colorado, 3:10 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
 Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
 L.A. Dodgers at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.

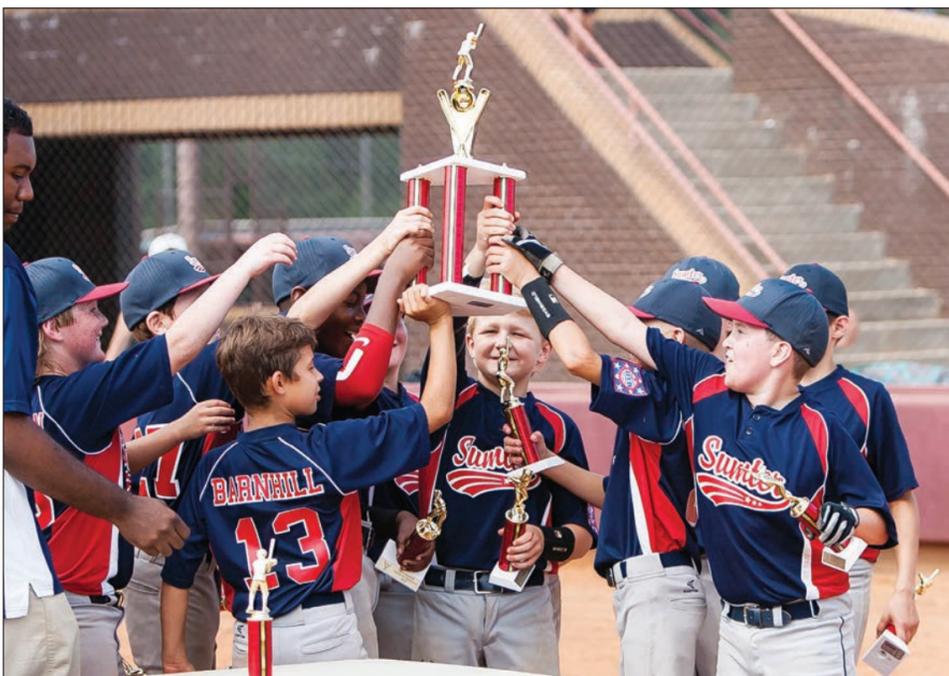
WORLD CUP SOCCER

QUARTERFINALS
 Friday, July 6
 At Nizhny Novgorod, Russia
 France 2, Uruguay 0
 At Kazan, Russia
 Belgium 2, Brazil 1
 Saturday, July 7
 At Samara, Russia
 England 2, Sweden 0
 At Sochi, Russia
 Croatia 2, Russia 2, Croatia advanced 4-3 on penalty kicks

SEMIFINALS
 Tuesday, July 10
 At St. Petersburg, Russia
 France 1, Belgium 0
 Wednesday, July 11
 At Moscow
 England vs. Croatia, 2 p.m.

THIRD PLACE
 Saturday, July 14
 At St. Petersburg, Russia
 Belgium vs. England-Croatia loser, 10 a.m.

CHAMPIONSHIP
 Sunday, July 15
 At Moscow
 France vs. England-Croatia winner, 11 a.m.



MARK MORGAN / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

The Sumter National 9-10 year-old AAA all-star baseball team teammates lifts the District 9 championship trophy. Sumter National begins play in the state tournament in Moncks Corner on Saturday.

STATE FROM PAGE B1

Davis likes the progress his squad has made from when it first came together to where it is heading into the state tournament.

"All of the coaches feel like we've continued to get better as we go along," said Davis, whose squad went 5-0 in winning the district. "We think we've gotten better as the days have gone by. It's hard to gauge when you're not playing against anybody, but we feel like we've been making steady progress."

Along with the strong defense, Davis believes he has

pretty good pitching to complement the defense.

"We've got four or five guys that we think can do the job for us on the mound," Davis said. "They throw strikes and don't walk a lot of batters. They like to compete, like to battle. They are not afraid to be in pressure situations."

Davis said the pitchers who'll handle most of the innings for National are Bodie Bowden, Ayden Gibbons, Marion Davis, Owen Barkley and Matthew McKinnon. Manager Davis pointed out though that he has other arms he can go to if needed.

Sumter National found itself in some tough situations in the district. It needed to score three runs in the top of the sixth inning to beat Sumter American 6-4 in the championship game. Manager Davis hopes the competitiveness of the district will pay dividends in the state tournament.

"In three of the five games we played, they were very tight," he said. "We had the two games against Sumter American and the one against Lake Marion that were very tight. You'd like to think being in games like that will help you in this."

P-15'S FROM PAGE B1

An infield single by Jacob Holladay reloaded the bases before Ryan Moore singled home Hunter to make it 5-0. Austin Sellers relieved Peach and got an out at the plate before walking Dabbs to force in another run. Post 53, which split two regular-season games with Sumter, got out of the inning when the P-1's ran themselves into an unconventional double play.

"The bunt game is something we can do, and we made it work for us tonight," Johnson said.

The six runs was more than enough for Todd, even though Hartsville got its only hit of the game in the fifth. Todd struck out five and didn't walk a batter.

"I've been struggling to throw strikes this year," Todd said. "Coach Johnson told me to

go out there and not worry about who is at the plate, just throw my pitch. I felt like I was throwing everything pretty well tonight."

"This was one of his better outings (this season)," Johnson said of Todd. "He had command of all of his pitches, and he went out there and he competed."

Sumter put the game away with four runs in the bottom of the sixth. Bobby Crisp and Pereira had RBI singles, and Dabbs scored the winning run on a wild pitch.

The P-15's finished with 11 hits. Holladay, Moore, Crisp and Yates each had two hits. Holladay and Dabbs both scored twice.

The offense was balance as seven batters had a hit, eight scored a run and seven drove in a run.

The right-handed Williamson is set to start on the mound today.

USC FROM PAGE B1

Staley is counting on experienced guard play from returning veterans like Tyasha Harris and Bianca Cuevas-Moore and first-year transfers like Te'a Cooper from Tennessee and Nelly Perry from Clemson.

Opponents will likely see three guards in the lineup much of the time next season. Staley, a former point guard who led the United States to three Olympic gold medals, has toyed with four-guard lineups to take advantage of what she believes is the team's improved quickness.

"We have a lot of options," Staley said. "We can go positional with three guards, we can go small with four guards."

Harris was a freshman starter at the point for the national champions; she then led the SEC in assists as a sophomore.

She will be challenged this year at the position by Cooper and Cuevas-Moore.

Cooper made the SEC all-freshman team two years ago with the Lady Vols and is eligible to play this fall after missing 2016-17 with injury. She sat out last year after joining the Gamecocks due to NCAA guidelines.

Cuevas-Moore, part of the same recruiting class as Wilson that ranked No. 2 in the country, had announced her transfer to West Virginia for a final season. But after her graduation, Staley reached out and discovered Cue-

vas-Moore was not locked into leaving.

The coach and player have not always seen eye-to-eye, but they continued talking and Cuevas-Moore will finish her college career where it began.

Staley is confident Cuevas-Moore can play like the lead guard she envisioned when she first recruited her.

"She's ready to take that next step," Staley said.

Perry may be the most surprising addition to the Gamecocks. She played three seasons with Staley's former college teammate and good friend Audra Smith at Clemson, where Perry was the leading scorer two years ago.

But she missed last season with a shoulder injury. When Smith was let go by the Tigers — Smith is now coach at South Carolina State — Perry joined the Gamecocks as a graduate transfer.

Staley said Perry's biggest role will be providing leadership lost with Wilson's departure.

"When you lose someone like A'ja, you want in some other way to gain some experience in the locker room," the coach said.

Add senior Doniyah Cliney and sophomores Bianca Jackson and Lele Grissett to the guard mix while South Carolina's top newcomers are guards in Victoria Saxton and McDonald's All-American Destanni Henderson.

"I'm just excited," Staley said, "because all of them are a lot different than each other."

SPORTS ITEMS



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE MORNING NEWS

The Sumter American 7-8 year-old coaches pitch all-star team was recognized on Tuesday for sportsmanship in the state tournament in Florence. Sumter American was eliminated by eventual state champion Midlands.

Churches Challenge still taking rally registrations

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 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 8 MONCK'S CORNER 4

UNION — The Sumter 11-12 year-old "O"Zone all-star baseball team defeated Moncks Corner 8-4 on Monday in an elimination game in the state tournament.

Walker Smith and Clark Kinney both hit home runs for Sumter. Dylan Jones Hayden Mims and Ian Harris each had two hits with Harris driving in two runs. Mims was the winning pitcher.

Sumter was scheduled to play either Midlands or Hartsville Northern on Tuesday.

SUMTER 30 CHERAW 22

BLUFFTON — The Sumter 15-and-under all-star softball team took advantage of 27 walks to beat Cheraw 30-22 on Monday in an elimination game in the state tournament.

Sumter finished with 11 hits with Emily Jordan Kaydee Moore leading the way with two apiece. Moore had a triple and Josie Self had a double.

Moore, Makayla Cooper and Anna Marie Beard all scored four runs, while Brooke Reed and Morgan Berry each scored three times. Beard had four runs batted in, while Cooper, Cambrie Deberry and Self had three RBI apiece.

GAVERIA CLAIMS 2ND TOUR WIN ON STAGE 4

SARZEAU, France — Colombia's Fernando Gaviria took his second win in four stages at the Tour de France on Tuesday, while Olympic champion Greg Van Avermaet kept the yellow leader's jersey.

Gaviria won Stage 4 after edging world champion Peter Sagan in a sprint finish to the flat 195-kilometer (121-mile) leg from La Baule to Sarzeau that started and finished on the Atlantic coast.

Defending champion Chris Froome, who entered the day 55 seconds back after losing time in a fall on the opening stage, finished safely in the pack with leader Van Avermaet.

Today's Stage 5 is a hilly 204.5-kilometer leg from Lorient to Quimper.

From staff and wire reports

PANTHERS FROM PAGE B1

Tepper, who grew up playing football, also said he wants more events at the team's stadium, including high school state championship football games and the "right kind of concerts."

He is excited about the football side of the team, praising two-time AP Coach of the Year Ron Rivera and his hiring of new offensive coordinator Norv Turner to replace Mike Shula.

"I'm not looking to do too much there," Tepper said of the coaching side.

However, Tepper plans to hire a new team president

to replace Danny Morrison, who left last year, and former COO Tina Becker, who resigned on Monday after seven months in the position. He said he has two replacement candidates in mind, both with some marketing background.

He also likes the makeup of the team's roster with training camp right around the corner, citing how involved players are in the community and charity work.

He cited Spider-Man, saying that "with great power comes great responsibility."

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PRO GOLF



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russell Knox celebrates with the trophy he received for winning the Irish Open on Sunday in Donegal, Ireland.

Knox has slow road to top 50 followed by quick fall

BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

Russell Knox entered the world ranking in 2009 when he played his first Web.com Tour event at age 24. A year later, he cracked the top 1,000 with a tie for seventh in Knoxville. It took another four years before Knox cracked the top 100 following a top 10 at Hilton Head. And then two years later, he cashed in by winning a World Golf Championship in Shanghai to move into the top 50.

And that's where he stayed for 93 consecutive weeks, reaching as high as No. 18 after his victory in the Travelers Championship in 2016. Life was good. He was in all the majors, all the WGCs, and he even played in the Hero World Challenge that Tiger Woods hosts in the Bahamas.

"I saw how good a place that was," Knox said after his playoff victory in the Irish Open. "I think I tried to get better too quickly. I've kind of preached to myself and younger players my whole career that you get better slowly without forcing it, without trying to get better."

His golf got worse. Knox had only eight top 10s in his next 55 starts after winning the Travelers. He fell out of the top 50, and then he fell out of the top 100, dropping to No. 137 before slowly — there's that word again — working his way back up until it culminated with a runner-up finish in France and a victory in Ireland.

Knox now is No. 49 heading into the Scottish Open this week.

"You just naturally evolve as a golfer," he said. "I think I got to the point where I was really close to being right where I wanted to be — top 10 in the world — and I just pushed too hard and I got worse. It's just hard. Once you lose your confidence, which I did a little bit — and I was tinkering with equipment — I just didn't quite get it right. But I knew starting this year, I'd played good golf and I knew that eventually, something about was going to happen."

HERMAN'S TOES

An injury that might sound small turned out to be plenty big for Jim Herman. Imagine trying to play golf for a living and needing surgery on your toes.

Herman was last seen trudging up the hill on the 18th at Riviera in the second round of the Genesis Open, and then facing an even steeper walk up the steps to the clubhouse. He immediately withdrew and didn't play again until last week on the Web.com Tour in what amounted to rehab assignment.

The issue? Herman noticed the nails on his baby toes (both feet) would fall off, grow back awkwardly, and then fall off again. It eventually became too painful to walk, and because he

couldn't shift his weight to his left side, it began affecting his swing.

"It got to point where I couldn't make a swing without pain," he said.

Along the way, he developed plantar fasciitis, leading to a miserable year. Herman had surgery on his toes and wore a boot to deal with the plantar fasciitis. He returned last week at the Lecom Health Challenge, where he tied sixth.

"I've missed it. It was good to get back out," Herman said. "And it was nice to get this resolved."

He plans a few more Web.com Tour starts to make sure his feet can handle a full schedule. Because he won't be in the FedEx Cup playoffs, Herman plans to take a major medical for next season, in which he will get 18 starts.

CONSISTENCY PAYS

Kevin Na went 158 starts on the PGA Tour in nearly seven years before winning at Greenbrier for his second title. That puts him in a small, but peculiar group of players who shows that consistency pays off, even if that doesn't mean a case full of trophies.

Na joins Charles Howell III and Tim Clark as the only players with two victories to have at least \$20 million in career earnings.

Howell leads the way with \$35,527,655, and while his only victories were at Kingsmill and Riviera, he has 16 runner-up finishes and 88 finishes in the top 10. Na now has \$27,283,596 in official earnings. He has been runner-up six times since his previous victory in Las Vegas.

Tim Clark, who hasn't played in more than two years and now spends most of his time coaching, has \$23,942,321. His two victories were the Canadian Open and The Players Championship. The South African had 13 runner-up finishes in his career.

All three of them recorded top 10s roughly 17 percent of the time.

RETURN TO THE OLD COURSE

Mark Calcavecchia is among those from the PGA Tour Champions who have three straight weeks of majors — the Senior Players Championship outside Chicago this week, the British Open at Carnoustie next week, followed by the Senior British Open at St. Andrews.

Calcavecchia skipped the trip across the Atlantic last year, mainly because Royal Birkdale (Open) and Royal Porthcawl (Senior) are not among his favorites. St. Andrews is hosting the Senior Open for the first time, which will be Calcavecchia's seventh time competing on the Old Course.

The question is whether he'll play the first hole ahead of Thursday's opening round.

Calcavecchia has a habit

of walking out of the Old Course Hotel to the second tee and heading back to his room when he finishes the 17th hole. The only time he sees the first tee is when he has to show up at the clubhouse to register.

Will history repeat itself? "I don't know," he said.

"We're not staying at the Old Course Hotel, so maybe. That would be a first for me."

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

The British Open announced a \$10.5 million prize fund this year, with \$1,890,000 going to the winner. And to think golf's oldest championship once had a hard time attracting top Americans because they wound up losing money from all the travel expenses. Sam Snead, for example, won 150 pounds when he won at St. Andrews in 1946.

Times have changed, and so has the money.

Majors now pay even the players who miss the cut.

The R&A says last place will receive \$13,500. The top 10 pros and ties who miss the cut will get \$7,375, and the next 20 pros and ties will get \$5,900. Everyone else gets \$4,950. The U.S. Open and the Masters pay \$10,000 to everyone who misses the cut.

DIVOTS

Thomas Pieters was among five Europeans who took up PGA Tour membership this season, though the Belgian is not likely to last. Pieters has played just nine PGA Tour events going into the British Open and is No. 172 in the FedEx Cup. ... Aaron Wise has missed the cut in four straight tournaments since winning the AT&T Byron Nelson. ... Canadian Pacific has extended its title sponsorship of the Canadian Women's Open for five years through 2023. The purse next year will increase to \$2.25 million. ... Players from the PGA Tour and LPGA Tour will compete separately next year for a \$1 million bonus based on how they play select holes on their tours. It's called the Aon Risk Reward Challenge. Players will be measured by how they play the risk-reward holes that are selected. Scoring and which holes will be highlights are among the details still to be sorted out.

STAT OF THE WEEK

In the eight years of the PGA Tour at the Greenbrier, Kevin Na (No. 65) and Angel Cabrera (No. 90) were the only winners ranked among the top 100 in the world.

FINAL WORD

"Only difference really is the competition is a little bit steeper." — U.S. Amateur runner-up Doug Ghim, on the difference between college golf and the PGA Tour.

ON THE FRINGE

PGA Championship to May critical piece in new schedule

BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — The timing for a revamped PGA Tour schedule could not have been more appropriate.

This is the 50-year anniversary of the PGA Tour breaking away from the PGA of America, leading to years of disharmony. Well, as much as this genteel game allows. And yet all these years later, it took a strong relationship between the two organizations for American-based golf to get the schedule it wanted.

Next season's schedule was released Tuesday, and there were lots of moving parts, most of them already known.

The FedEx Cup playoffs have been reduced from four events to three, with the opening event alternating between the New York area and Boston. The season will end at the Tour Championship on Aug. 25, allowing the richest payoff in golf — expect that \$10 million FedEx Cup prize to increase significantly next year — to be awarded before fans shift their interest to college football and the NFL.

Minnesota replaces Houston. Golf returns to Detroit and leaves Washington. Florida will have four straight tournaments in March for the first time since 2006.

None of this works, however, without the PGA Championship moving from August to May.

"Without the commitment and great partnership with FedEx, and the great partnership with the PGA of America, we're not where we are today," PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan said Tuesday.

Monahan's main concern was his biggest corporate partner, FedEx, which in 2007 ponied up \$35 million in bonus money for a year-end bonanza aimed at giving the PGA Tour a more defined finish to its season. It was critical to establish continuity and heritage for the tour to renew its deal, and that meant creating more value — more attention — for the FedEx Cup.

That was tough to do in late September in Atlanta. Even with Jordan Spieth capping off a great year, Rory McIlroy holing out a shot from the fairway, Bill Haas splashing out of a lake to make par in a playoff, golf had to compete with America's most popular sport. And it was a losing battle.

"We wanted to finish before football and other sports," Monahan said, "and own August." The PGA Championship

moving to May allows that to happen.

Monahan speaks of the "cadence" to the new schedule, though nothing really changes. Golf still has a big event every month, only it now starts in March with The Players Championship instead of April with the Masters. The PGA is in May, the U.S. Open is in June, the British Open is in July, the FedEx Cup in August.

The finished product doesn't seem all that complicated now, though it required cooperation from just about everyone.

"Everybody, including us, had to give along the way," Monahan said. "You do that if you think the end result is worthwhile. We never wavered on that front."

Still to be determined is how this works out.

For next season, 46 tournaments will be crammed into 41 weeks. There will be even more golf in the 2019-20 season when Houston and Greenbrier are in the fall, with plans for an official event in Japan, and perhaps one other domestic event.

That's also an Olympic year, and the tour is considering an off week during the men's competition.

The strongest competition might be found outside the ropes as tournaments try to persuade the most appealing players not to take time off during their events.

Tournament officials at the Honda Classic and Valspar Championship already are nervous about whether Tiger Woods will return, mainly because those two tournaments fall into a seven-week stretch that includes the Genesis Open at Riviera (run by the Tiger Woods Foundation), Bay Hill (where he has won eight times), The Players Championship and two World Golf Championships, assuming Woods is eligible.

Fast forward to the end of the season. While the top 125 players still qualify for the FedEx Cup playoffs, one fewer playoff event means only the top 70 — instead of the top 100 — advance to the second round before the top 30 make it to the Tour Championship.

"We have a stronger conclusion to our season. By having a stronger conclusion, it's making every event that much more important," Monahan said. "Depending on where you are, a lot less people will be comfortable with their position because they have one fewer at-bat."

Monahan is banking on players competing more, keeping the PGA Tour relevant right up until the end.

Right before kickoff.



AP FILE PHOTO

PGA Tour commissioner Jay Monahan said cooperation with the PGA of America was pivotal in the PGA Tour revamping its schedule.

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the
**Sumter
ITEM**

WIMBLEDON

Del Potro faces challenges in return to men's quarterfinals

BY SAM JOHNSTON
The Associated Press

LONDON — Juan Martin del Potro faces some major challenges if he's going to go any further at Wimbledon after reaching consecutive Grand Slam quarterfinals for the first time since 2012.

First, he'll take to the court today for a third consecutive day amid concerns over his fitness. Second, his opponent will be two-time Wimbledon champion Rafael Nadal.

2009 U.S. Open champion Del Potro defeated Gilles Simon 7-6 (1), 7-6 (5), 5-7, 7-6 (5) in a match that was carried over to Tuesday to complete the men's quarterfinal lineup at the All England Club.

The other matchups see defending champion Roger Federer against Kevin Anderson; Novak Djokovic takes on Kei Nishikori and Milos Raonic meets John Isner in a matchup of big servers.

After reaching the French Open semifinals last month, Del Potro — who has missed long periods with a career-threatening left wrist injury — returned to his career-high ranking of No. 4 for the first time since February 2014, which he acknowledges is a "good signal".

"I don't know if I'm better or not, a better player than few years ago," said Del Potro, after returning to the last eight at Wimbledon

for the first time since 2013. "I'm doing a good season already. I'm very proud to be in the last eight players of this tournament"

Del Potro's Roland Garros run was ended by eventual champion Nadal. If the Argentine is to make it back-to-back last four appearances, he will need to reverse that result on Wednesday.

"If I want to beat him (Nadal)," Del Potro said. "I have to come to the net very often and play hard with my forehands, with my backhands, and try to take all the chances."

With the fifth-seeded Del Potro's fourth-round match — the longest men's singles contest of the tournament so far — having required to be finished Tuesday, he will be taking to the court for a third consecutive day.

Given the fact he withdrew from a pre-Wimbledon event with a groin concern and called the trainer during his match with Simon, Del Potro's fitness could be a factor.

"I think I will be in good condition," Del Potro said. "My body feels OK."

There is little doubt that Nadal — who is playing in the Wimbledon quarterfinals for the first time since 2011 — will provide a big test.

Before Del Potro and Nadal arrive on Centre Court, three-time champion Novak Djokovic, will get the chance he's been waiting for.

WIMBLEDON



Serena Williams celebrates winning her women's singles quarterfinal match against Camila Giorgi in the Wimbledon Championships in London on Tuesday. Williams won by the scores of 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'This is really happening'

Serena will face Goerges in semifinal

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

LONDON — There are moments in which nothing at all seems different about Serena Williams, moments such as when she unleashed a 109 mph service winner to even her Wimbledon quarterfinal at a set apiece, leaned forward and yelled, loudly as can be, "Cooome ooon!"

Or when, about 10 minutes later, she stretched for a lunging backhand winner to break at love and take control of the third set, then raised a fist, figuring a berth in her 11th semifinal at the All England Club was close at hand.

And after Williams came up with a comeback to beat 52nd-ranked Camila Giorgi of Italy 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Tuesday, she headed off Centre Court with her right index finger aloft. Yes, no matter what the rankings or seedings say, no matter how long she was away, Williams still looks capable of playing like someone who's No. 1, just about 10 months after having a baby.

"Everything right now is a little bit of a surprise. To be here. To be in the semifinals. I mean, I always say I plan on it, I would like to be there, have these goals," Williams said. "But when it actually happens, it still is, like, 'Wow,

this is really happening.'"

So what if she's still getting her game in gear?

So what if Giorgi wouldn't seem to miss while moving out to that early lead?

Williams never was worried about losing.

"It's weird. Sometimes I feel, 'Man, I'm in trouble.' Sometimes I feel, 'I can fight.' For whatever reason, today I was so calm," said 36-year-old American, who has been wearing compression leggings as a precaution after a blood-clot scare following her daughter's birth. "Even when I was down the first set, I thought, 'Well, she's playing great. I'm doing a lot of the right things.'"

Asked whether that might represent a new way of looking at things, Williams smiled.

"No. Just to be clear, that was just today. I mean, I'm hoping this is, like, a new thing," she said. "Honestly, I highly doubt it."

Next up for Williams as she tries to earn her eighth title at the All England Club and 24th Grand Slam trophy overall will be a match Thursday against No. 13 seed Julia Goerges of Germany, a 3-6, 7-5, 6-1 winner against No. 20 Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands.

"It's pretty unreal for me," said Goerges, who reached her first major semifinal at a

tournament where she exited in the first round each of the past five years.

The other semifinal is No. 11 seed Angelique Kerber of Germany vs. No. 12 Jelena Ostapenko of Latvia.

Kerber is a former No. 1 who owns two Grand Slam titles and was the runner-up to Williams at Wimbledon two years ago. Ostapenko won last year's French Open.

Kerber needed seven match points to close out No. 14 Daria Kasatkina of Russia 6-3, 7-5 at Centre Court, while Ostapenko defeated 2014 Australian Open runner-up Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia 7-5, 6-4 at a windy No. 1 Court.

After a series of upsets made this edition of Wimbledon the first since it began seeding players in the 1920s that none of the top 10 women reached the quarterfinals, Nos. 11, 12 and 13 are still around. And so is No. 25, Williams.

The All England Club seeded her there as a nod to all of her past success at the grass-court major, including titles the last two times she entered, in 2015 and 2016. She missed Wimbledon a year ago because she was pregnant, going about 16 months between Grand Slam tournaments, so her ranking is just outside the top 180.

That is going to change now.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two-time Wimbledon champion Rafael Nadal will take on Juan Martin del Potro in the men's quarterfinal today.

OBITUARIES

THOMAS E. KING

MANNING — Thomas Ellison King, 73, husband of Paulette Gilford King, died on Thursday, July 5, 2018, at his residence, 7917 Greeleyville Highway, Manning.



KING

He was born on Jan. 3, 1945, in the Wilson community of Clarendon County, a son of the late Simuel and Ada Dozier King. Funeral services for Mr. King will be held at noon on Thursday at William's Chapel Christian Church, 1072 Forest Trail, Manning, with the Rev. William J. Frierson Sr., presiding, the Rev. Emanuel Evans, pastor, officiating, and the Rev. David Woods and Evangelist Willette Gaiters assisting. Burial will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to one of the following organizations in memory of Thomas Ellison King: CAMP KEMO, 1600 Marion St., Columbia, SC 29201, <https://events.foundation.palmettohealth.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=207>; Camp Happy Days, 1 Carriage Lane, Building C, Suite 101 & 102, Charleston, SC 29407, <https://www.camphappydays.org/donations/>;

Alzheimer's Association — South Carolina Chapter, 901 S. Pine St., Lower Level, Spartanburg, SC 29302, https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df_

[id=32112&32112](https://www.craigking-group.com).

[donation=form1&s_affid=161](https://www.craigking-group.com); or Craig Q. King, CEO/Founder of the Craig King Group LLC Consultant & Motivational Speaker, www.craigking-group.com, thecraigking-group@gmail.com, Facebook: The Craig King Group, LLC, Twitter: @craigkinggroup and Instagram: @thecraigking-group.

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

The family is receiving friends at his residence.

RAMSON C. BLEDSOE

SUMMERTON — Ramson Curtis Bledsoe, 73, husband of Carolyn Reynolds Bledsoe, died on Monday, July 9, 2018, at Lexington Medical Center.

Born on Oct. 28, 1944, in Bamberg, he was a son of the late Claude Montague Bledsoe and Alma Elizabeth Bledsoe. He was a member of the S.C. National Guard for six years and he retired from B.C. Moore & Sons in 2006 with 42 years of service. He loved farming, fishing, hunting and being an active member of Summerton Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife of Summerton; daughter, Beth Cumming; granddaughter, Landyn Cumming; two sisters, Catherine Barton of Bamberg and Tina Williams of Orangeburg; two brothers,



BLEDSOE

Gerald Bledsoe (Maxine) of Pickens and Tony Bledsoe (Cheryl) of Bamberg; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Kim Bledsoe; and two sisters, Lucille Edgemon and Claudia Bledsoe.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday at Summerton Baptist Church with the Revs. Billy Carlisle and Gerald Bledsoe officiating. Burial will follow at Summerton Baptist Church Cemetery.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from 10 to 11 a.m. in the church fellowship hall and other times at the residence.

Memorials may be made to Summerton Baptist Church, 215 E. Main St., Summerton, SC 29148.

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

JENKINS COOPER

GABLE — Jenkins Cooper, 73, husband of Deloris Hodge Cooper, died on Sunday, July 8, 2018, at his residence, 960 One Mile Road, Gable.

He was born on Dec. 16, 1944, in Sumter, a son of the late James J. and Sarah Hudson Cooper.



COOPER

Masonic Rites with Golden Gate Masonic Lodge 78 will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. today at Hayes F. Samuels Sr. Memori-

al Chapel, 114 N. Church St., Manning.

Funeral services for Mr. Cooper will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday at Melina Presbyterian Church, 3539 Black River Road, Gable, with the Rev. Samuel Sparks, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at his residence.

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

DENEEN C. WHITE

BISHOPVILLE — Deneen Carter White, wife of Sargent White Jr., entered eternal rest on July 4, 2018, at Kent General/Bayhealth Hospital in Dover, Delaware.

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

Visitation will be held from 2 until 6 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at Liberty Hill Baptist Church, 55 Dove Lane, Bishopville, with the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jerome Douglas, officiating. Interment will follow at Boone Memorial Garden, Bishopville.

Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville, is in charge of arrangements.

JANIE W. WASHINGTON

Janie Williams Washington, 92, died on Sunday, July 8, 2018, at her residence in Sumter.

Born in Sumter County, she

was a daughter of the late James and Corine Felder Williams.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m. daily until Friday at 26 E. Newberry St., Sumter.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc.



BETTY ROBINSON

Betty Robinson, 65, died on Monday, July 9, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on June 4, 1953, in Sumter County, she was a daughter of Melton Bland and Edmonia Dinkins Wade.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 6260 Dinkins Mill Road, Rembert.

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

IRENE W. WRIGHT

Irene W. Wright entered eternal rest on July 9, 2018, at McLeod Hospice House, Florence.

The family is receiving friends and relatives at the residence, 620 Tolson Road, Lynchburg.

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

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Indoor Multi-Family Yard Sale: Sat. July 14th 7-1 at 995 N. Pike (old reality center) next to Black River Electric. Toys, furniture, appliances, clothes, exercise equipment, office furniture, boat and many many more.

Big variety yard sale! 2021 Tudor St. Sat. July 14th 7am - 12 noon. Bargains! Hope to see you!

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Georgio's II now taking applications for FT/PT positions. Apply in person from 2-5 at Savannah Plaza location. Must have some exp. Must be 18 or older. No phone calls please.

Bethlehem MBC, Summerton, SC is seeking a Holy Spirit Filled Minister of Music. Must be able to play a New Millennium Hammond Organ and Piano. Salary negotiable Pastor David Lawson at (803) 478-7833

NOW HIRING Site Supervisor & Security Officers for all shifts in Sumter. Call 803.551.0389 or visit website ussecurityassociates.com

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Barnette's Auto Parts is seeking a **Parts Puller** at our **Salvage Yard**. Must have mechanical experience and basic tools. Apply in person, 1370 N. St. Paul's Church Rd.

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4BR, 2BA DW MH with Dbl. carport, C/H/A, Hwy 15 near Summerton, \$600/mo., \$600 sec. dep. Housing Authority vouchers will be considered. 803-378-6206.

Homes for Sale

2BR/1BA brick fixer upper for sale. Located at 6 David Ct, Sumter SC. Make an offer. Call 803-840-3705 or 803840-3686 for details and to view property.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Council (the "County Council") of Sumter County, South Carolina (the "County"), on June 12, 2018 enacted **Ordinance No. 18-889** entitled "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2018A, OR SUCH OTHER APPROPRIATE SERIES DESIGNATION, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500,000; FIXING THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE CERTAIN DETAILS RELATING TO THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO" (the "Ordinance"). The Ordinance authorized the issuance and sale of not exceeding \$2,500,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2018A (the "Bonds") of the County.

The proceeds of the Bonds will be used for any one or more of the following purposes: (i) funding capital projects; (ii) paying costs of issuance of the Bonds; and (iii) such other lawful purposes as the County Council shall determine.

Pursuant to Section 11-27-40(8) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, unless a notice, signed by not less than five (5) qualified electors of the County, of the intention to seek a referendum is filed both in the office of the Clerk of Court of the County and with the Clerk of the County Council, the initiative and referendum provisions of South Carolina law, Sections 4-9-1210 to 4-9-1230, South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended, shall not be applicable to the Ordinance. The notice of intention to seek a referendum must be filed within twenty (20) days following the publication of this notice of the adoption of the aforesaid Ordinance in a newspaper of general circulation in Sumter County.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Summons & Notice

IN THE FAMILY COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DOCKET NO. 2017-DR-43-0288 ORDER OF CONTINUANCE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

JENNIFER BYRD, Plaintiff,

MILTON BYRD, Defendant.

On this day came counsel for Plaintiff, Ryan W. Lane, and moved

Summons & Notice

this Honorable Court for a continuance of the Final Hearing scheduled for May 2nd, 2018. Counsel for Plaintiff presents the following grounds for which this Motion is being requested:
1.The Pro Se Defendant has not been timely served with Notice of the scheduled Final Hearing.
2.Therefore, the Plaintiff, by and through her counsel requests a continuance of the Final Hearing.

WHEREFORE, for good cause, it is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the thirty-minute Final Hearing shall be rescheduled for **July 23, 2018 at 2:30 p.m.**

BE IT SO ORDERED.

The Honorable
Thomas M. Bultman
Presiding Judge
Sumter County Family Court
Third Judicial Circuit

Public Hearing

NOTICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION DESIGN REVIEW

The Historic Preservation Design Review Committee will meet on **Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Sumter Opera House (21 North Main Street, Sumter, South Carolina). This is a public hearing.

HP-18-15, 121 & 127 N. Purdy St. (City)

Request for Historic Preservation Design Review approval for the installation of a six foot white vinyl privacy fence on properties located at 121 and 127 N. Purdy St. and represented by Tax Map #s 228-11-01-036 and 228-11-01-032.

HP-18-14, 10 S. Main St. (City)

Request for Historic Preservation Design Review approval for facade renovations for property located at 10 S. Main St. and represented by Tax Map #228-13-07-015.

Documents pertaining to the proposed request(s) are on file in the Office of the Sumter City-County Planning Department and are available to be inspected and studied by interested citizens.

Joseph T. McElveen, Jr.
Mayor

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Thurs., July 12th 11:00am - 7:00pm
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For more detailed information on the job listings go to www.ropersstaffing.com
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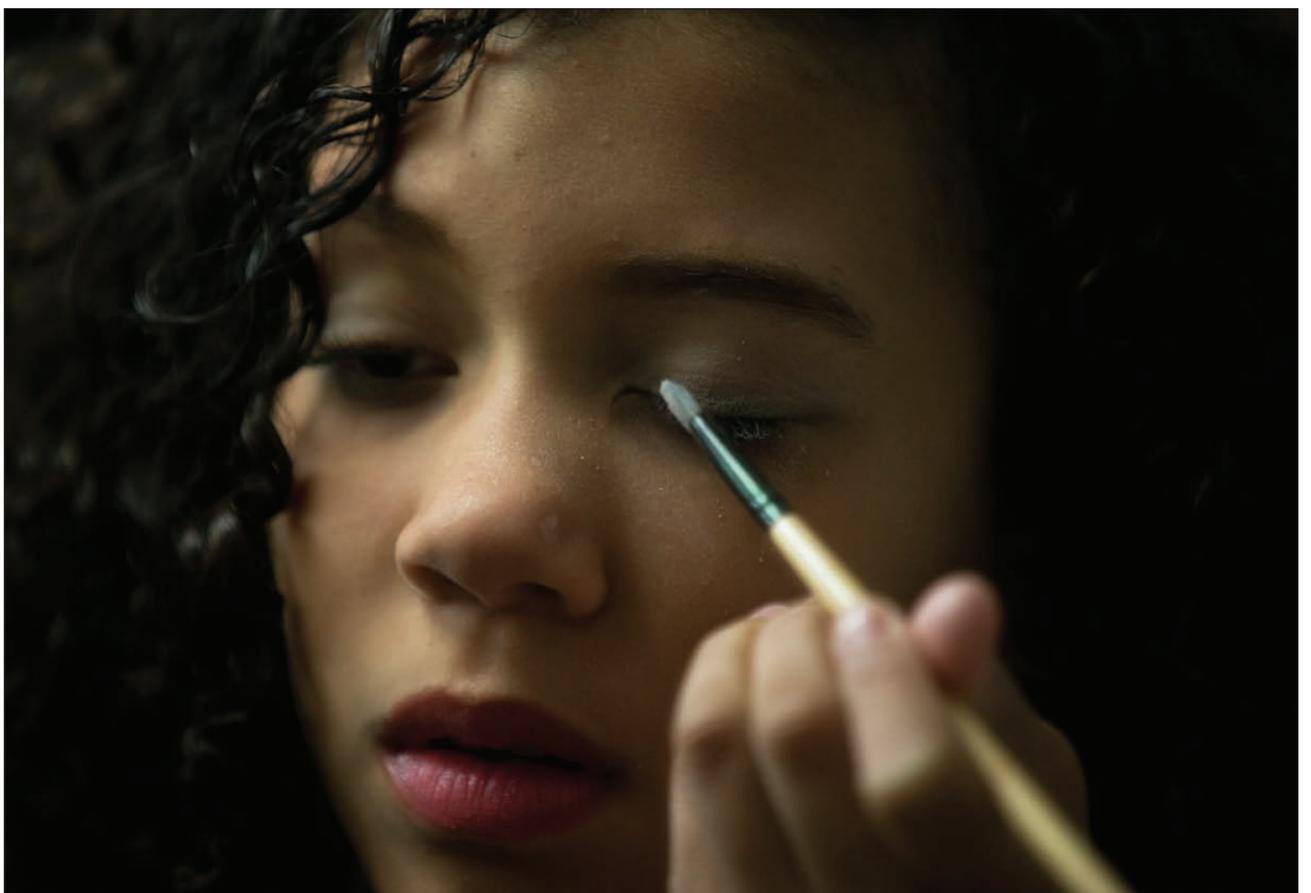
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In embattled Venezuela,

A young modeling student practices during a makeup class at Belankazar Modeling Academy in Caracas, Venezuela. While in the United States beauty pageants like Miss America are quickly falling out of favor amid the rise of the #MeToo movement and growing furor over endemic sexism, in Latin America young women continue to flock to competitions where good looks are unabashedly championed above all else.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



beauty offers ladder out of poverty

BY FABIOLA SANCHEZ
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — At a small home with a leaking tin roof near Venezuela's capital, Johandrys Colls proudly shows off two metal crowns with plastic gemstones and nine satin sashes won in local beauty pageants.

The 16-year-old daughter of a butcher and a teacher is pinning her hopes for a future free of poverty on a single goal: rising through the world of pageants and becoming an international beauty queen.

"These sashes represent a huge accomplishment for me," says the skinny teen with dark brown eyes as she pushes her long black hair from one side to another. "I accomplished what I set out to achieve."

While growing concern about sexism and the rise of the #MeToo movement recently led the Miss America contest to drop swimsuit competitions and emphasize personal accomplishment, in Latin America young women continue to flock to competitions where good looks are unabashedly championed above all else.

In Venezuela, competing comes at a high price: Elaborate sequined gowns and pricey cosmetic surgeries are out of reach for most in a country where inflation is running in the five digits and state workers earn about \$3 a month. Earlier this year the Miss Venezuela pageant was rocked by accusations that some contenders finance their journey to the crown by finding wealthy men to pay for gowns and surgeries in exchange for sex.

But even alarming charges like those have done little to deter young women like Colls, whose parents have enrolled her in one of Venezuela's top modeling schools despite their modest income in hopes of transforming their daughter into a beauty queen.

"I hope the values and education I am instilling in my daughter serve her well," said Lisbeth Linarez, the teen's mother. "So that in the future if anything bad might come her way, she knows how to ward it off."

After oil, beauty queens may be Venezuela's biggest export: Women from the South American nation have captured seven Miss Universe titles, and crown holders have gone on to notable careers as actresses, journalists and even presidential candidates.

When the annual Miss Venezuela pageant is aired on television, millions tune in, paralyzed in suspense as contestants parade on stage in neon-colored bikinis while their measurements are read aloud and they answer questions like how they would draw people back to the waning Roman Catholic church.

As the nation plummets into economic ruin, even more young women are holding fast to dreams of becoming beauty queens.

At a recent casting for the Nuestra Belleza Venezuela contest, a pack of teens and 20-something women donned towering heels and coated their lips in glossy pink hues before strutting in front of judges. Among them was Oxlaniela Oropeza, a law student, who said the recent Miss Venezuela scandal hadn't quashed her ambitions.

"My values are intact, and no one can take that away from me," she said. "From the time I was 6 years old, my goal has been to become Miss Venezuela."

In Venezuela, one man has ruled as king in transforming fledgling ingenues into flawless beauty queens: Osmel Sousa.



The so-called "Czar of Beauty" led the Miss Venezuela pageant for nearly four decades before leaving the organization in February as accusations spread on social media that organizers had arranged for some contestants to work as escorts for high-ranking government officials in exchange for glimmering jewels, elegant gowns and cosmetic surgeries.

The Miss Venezuela contest suspended operations amid the outcry.

Sousa has denied any claims suggesting he played a role in helping contestants find so-called "sponsors," and several candidates have spoken out in his defense. Still, multiple women have come forward to say that finding a well-off man to back their pageant aspirations has long been a common practice.

Patricia Velasquez, a contestant in the 1989 Miss Venezuela pageant, wrote in her memoir about feeling obliged to enter a relationship with an older man who found her an apartment in Caracas and paid for breast implants.

"I quickly learned that getting into the Miss Venezuela contest meant I would have to start prostituting myself in order to find a sponsor," she wrote. "Not everyone needed to go to such lengths, but that was my reality."

In a recent interview with The Associated Press, Sousa said that if any wrongdoing was committed, those responsible should be held accountable. He recently launched a new pageant called "The Contest" that will still feature a swimsuit segment, which he defended as an important demonstration of style, physique and health.

"Watching the swimsuit competition is practically the most important part," Sousa said from the lobby of a posh Arabic restaurant in Caracas.

Some like Esther Pineda, an expert in women's studies, think the continued popularity of beauty pageants in Venezuela is also an indication of how deeply sexist the country remains.

Even as more women occupy seats in Congress and become business leaders throughout Latin America, a culture where looks are prized above intellect remains prevalent. The #MeToo movement that has toppled the careers of Hollywood luminaries and political heavyweights has registered little more than a ripple in Venezuela.

Few think that Venezuelan pageants are likely to emulate the recent decision by the Miss America pageant to nix the swimsuit segment.

"Physical beauty is seen as a value," Pineda said. "And it's given more importance than any other attribute."

Colls still remembers watching the Miss Venezuela pageant with her family at 6 years old and then stealing her mom's high heels to imitate the beauty queens on screen.

"It's inspiring," she said, her lips curling into a smile at the memory. "It's something beautiful to see them compete and share their talent with the world."

'My values are intact, and no one can take that away from me. From the time I was 6 years old, my goal has been to become Miss Venezuela.'

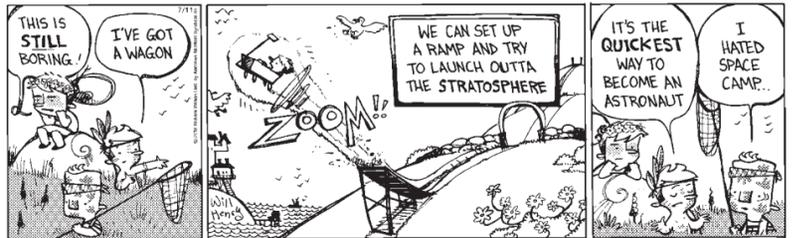
OXLANIELA OROPEZA

A law student and beauty pageant contestant

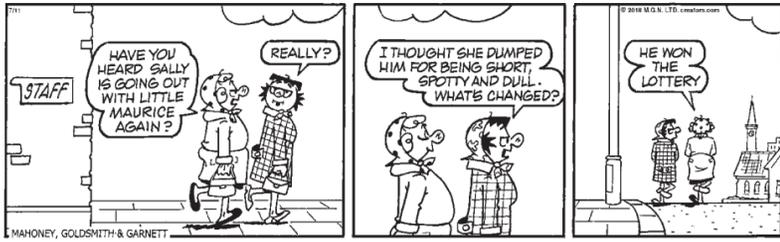
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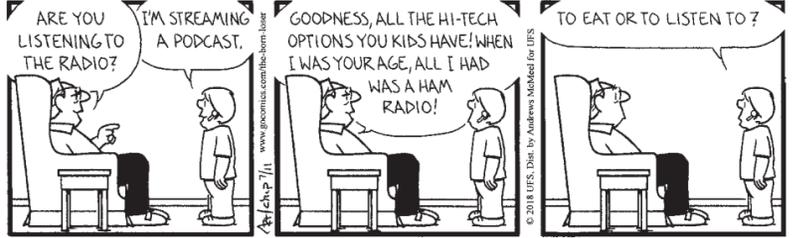
GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Wife of perfect husband cheats without remorse



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — I have a wonderful husband of 11 years and three children. "Carl" is attentive, caring and always puts the needs of our family first. You could say he's everyone's dream husband.

Long story short, I cheated on him while I was on vacation. It started as innocent flirtation, but then it went further. When "Brad" kissed me, I knew it wasn't going to stop there. Afterward, I not only didn't feel guilty, I did it again. I've been quietly communicating with Brad and sent him revealing photos and a graphic video of myself. He loved it, and we plan to meet again soon.

Please help me understand why I'm cheating on such a wonderful husband. Shouldn't I feel guilty? What can I do to stop this before it gets out of control and Carl finds out? I really don't want to lose him.

Don't feel guilty

DEAR DON'T FEEL GUILTY — I have a flash for you. This fling is already out of control. While the excitement may have gone out of your marriage, I guarantee that when Carl gets wind of this you'll have an abundance of it.

If you really value your marriage, start devoting as much energy to working on it as you've been directing toward Brad. And pray that Brad is a good enough sport to delete the

photos and video.

DEAR ABBY — I have a concern I suspect is shared by others. Keeping a journal has been shown to be of significant psychological benefit, but I don't want my private thoughts and concerns read by others after my death. Is this silly of me? I realize I'll be dead and gone, but the possibility of it happening inhibits me from recording my thoughts and feelings. Thanks for any insights you and/or your readers can offer.

Private in Virginia

DEAR PRIVATE — Unless you have an executor you can trust to dispose of your journals when you're gone, my recommendation would be to keep your journals online, in the cloud, and able to be accessed only by you.

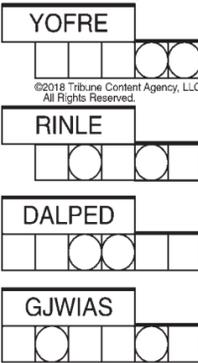
husband.

Long story short, I cheated on him while I was on vacation. It started as innocent flirtation, but then it went further. When "Brad" kissed me, I knew it wasn't going to stop there. Afterward, I not only didn't feel guilty, I did it again. I've been quietly communicating with Brad and sent him revealing

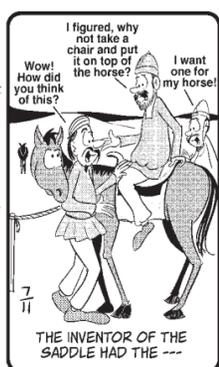
JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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



Print your answer here: " " " " " "



THE INVENTOR OF THE SADDLE HAD THE

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

(Answers tomorrow)
SNAZZY KITTEN

Yesterday's Jumbles: SOUPY PRONG
Answer: When he failed the driving portion of his driver's test, he was in a — NO PASSING ZONE

SUDOKU

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

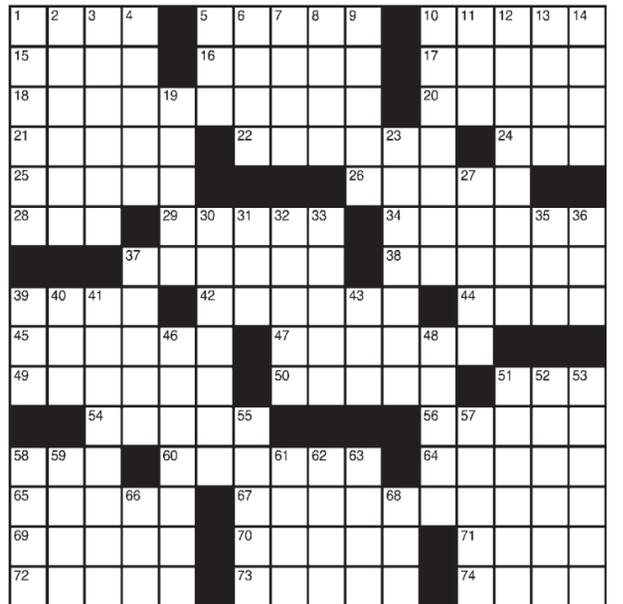
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Andrew Linzer

- 7/11/18
- ACROSS**
- 1 Teensy
 - 5 Box for tea leaves
 - 10 Japanese box lunch
 - 15 Tree with an oil-rich seed
 - 16 Streamlined
 - 17 Frank Wright
 - 18 "Long time no see" follower
 - 20 Old enough
 - 21 "Lady and the"
 - 22 Traffic signals
 - 24 Possesses
 - 25 Stage of grief
 - 26 Smartens (up)
 - 28 Manhattan liquor
 - 29 Full of activity
 - 34 "Ben-Hur" extras
 - 37 "Now it's clear"
 - 38 Sonogram subject
 - 39 Sticks (out)
 - 42 Had a nice chitchat
 - 44 out a living
 - 45 Ahead
 - 47 Not for kids, filmwise
 - 49 One whose wages come from wagers
 - 50 Slugger Hank
 - 51 Feel crummy
 - 54 Rum-flavored cakes
 - 56 River mouth formation
 - 58 Far from friendly
- DOWN**
- 1 Beatty/Hoffman box office flop
 - 2 Sticky
 - 3 Water treatment plant input
 - 4 "I did good!"
 - 5 Fort Collins sch.
 - 6 Actress Jessica
 - 7 One in the headlights?
 - 8 Critter on XING signs
 - 9 Informal "See what I mean?"
 - 10 Come into one's own
 - 11 Pixie
 - 12 Craft for six puzzle answers
 - 13 Rapper whose name sounds like a big cat
 - 14 Poems of praise
 - 19 "A Wrinkle in Time" (2018) actress
 - 23 Electrically connected with
 - 27 Plant firmly
 - 30 "So what?!"
 - 31 Can. neighbor
 - 32 Ref. slangily
 - 33 Last critter in an ABC book
 - 35 TV's "Science Guy"
 - 36 Lawn starter
 - 37 Honshu port
 - 39 Chore
 - 40 "One card left!" game warning
 - 41 12-Down queueing pattern depicted by six puzzle answers
 - 43 Corn unit
 - 46 Science fair awards
 - 48 Ultimately become
 - 51 Nook
 - 52 58-Down default music program
 - 53 Under the surface
 - 55 "So I was wrong!"
 - 57 Defunct scandal-plagued company
 - 58 Apple computer
 - 59 Toll lane choice
 - 61 Throat trouble
 - 62 Kissable fairy-tale critter
 - 63 Unaccompanied
 - 66 Ray gun sound
 - 68 Legged it

Previous Puzzle Solved



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 (N)	America's Got Talent "Best of Auditions" A look back at moments from the season.			Reverie "Pas De Deux" Mara tries to save a young dancer. (N)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Amy Adams; Rob Reiner; Backstreet Boys.		
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Big Brother House guests vie for the power of veto. (N)		TKO: Total Knock Out (Series Premiere) (N)	Code Black "As Night Comes and I'm Breathing" Willis tends to Rox's medical needs. (N)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert		
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs "Girl Talk" (DVS)	The Goldbergs Beverly decides to reinvent herself.	Modern Family Gloria rushes Phil to the hospital.	(:31) American Housewife "All Coupled Up"	Shark Tank Non-toxic, super hydrophobic spray. (DVS)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	
WRJA	27	11	14	Travels With Darley Bandlerier National Monument.	Visionkeepers "Not Business as Usual"	Earth's Natural Wonders -- Life at the Extremes "Surviving the Extreme" Mountains, arctic and outback.		The Rockies: Kingdoms of the Sky: The wildlife and people of the Rockies.	NOVA "Treasures of the Earth: Gems" Precious gems. (DVS)	Amanpour on PBS (N)	BBC World News	Earth's Natural Wonders -- Life at the Extremes	
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory A friendship is tested.	MasterChef "A Gordon Ramsay Wedding" Chefs cook for Shaun O'Neale's wedding. (N) (DVS)		Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back "Sherman's Restaurant" Gordon revamps Sherman's Restaurant. (N)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV	FIFA World Cup Tonight (N) (Live)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Eve tries to avoid a tough teacher.	Last Man Standing Bud gets jumped at the pot shop.	The Outpost "One Is the Loneliest Number" Talon seeks those who killed her people.		The Originals "There in the Disappearing Light" Klaus helps Hope cope with her pain. (N)	Dateline "Secrets in Seattle" Investigating a woman's death.	Dateline "Secret Lives" A young mother's disappearance.	The Game Tasha faces her insecurities.		
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Ozzy and Kelly tour the Biosphere.	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Welcoming a new family member.	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Ozzy, Jack and Kelly visit New Mexico. (N)	(:01) Wahlburgers (N)			(:04) Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Ozzy and Jack thank their wives.			Ozzy and Jack's World Detour	
AMC	48	180	(5:30) ** "The Day the Earth Stood Still" (2008) Keanu Reeves.	** "Snitch" (2013, Crime Drama) Dwayne Johnson, Barry Pepper, Jon Bernthal. A man infiltrates a drug cartel to save his son from prison.	** "Snitch" (2013, Crime Drama) Dwayne Johnson, Barry Pepper, Jon Bernthal. A man infiltrates a drug cartel to save his son from prison.	** "Snitch" (2013, Crime Drama) Dwayne Johnson, Barry Pepper, Jon Bernthal. A man infiltrates a drug cartel to save his son from prison.			** "Snitch" (2013, Crime Drama) Dwayne Johnson, Barry Pepper, Jon Bernthal. A man infiltrates a drug cartel to save his son from prison.				
ANPL	41	100	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	(:02) Animal Crib			(:02) Insane Pools: Off the Deep End			Insane Pools	
BET	61	162	*** "Set It Off" (1996, Action) Jada Pinkett, Queen Latifah, Vivica A. Fox. Desperation drives four women to bank robbery.	*** "Set It Off" (1996, Action) Jada Pinkett, Queen Latifah, Vivica A. Fox. Desperation drives four women to bank robbery.	*** "Set It Off" (1996, Action) Jada Pinkett, Queen Latifah, Vivica A. Fox. Desperation drives four women to bank robbery.	(:03) ** "ATL" (2006, Comedy-Drama) Tip Harris, Lauren London, Mykelti Williamson. Four Atlanta teens face challenges.			(:02) Insane Pools: Off the Deep End			Insane Pools	
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann gets out of rehab.	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann deals with unwanted press.	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann prepares for her cabaret show.	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann prepares for her cabaret show.	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann prepares for her cabaret show.	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann prepares for her cabaret show.	Watch What Happens Live	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann prepares for her cabaret show.	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann prepares for her cabaret show.		
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	The Deed "It's a Family Affair" (N)			Shark Tank	Shark Tank			
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Cuomo Prime Time (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)			CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Anderson Cooper			
COM	57	136	South Park "Marjorie"	South Park "Raisins"	South Park "Butters' Bottom Bitch"	South Park "Cartman Sucks"	South Park	South Park	South Park "AWE-SOM-O"	South Park "Casa Bonita"	South Park "Red Hot Catholic Love"	South Park "Tweek vs. Craig"	
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Andi Mack	Raven's Home	Stuck in the Middle	Big City Greens	Bizaardvark	Raven's Home	Bunk'd	DuckTales	
DSC	42	103	Misfit Garage: Fired Up The Misfits unearth a 1961 Morris Minor. (N)	Misfit Garage A 1964 GMC Truck. (N)	Misfit Garage A 1964 GMC Truck. (N)	Sticker Shock (N)			Misfit Garage A 1964 GMC Truck.			Misfit Garage	
ESPN	26	35	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Boston Red Sox. From Fenway Park in Boston. (N) (Live)	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Boston Red Sox. From Fenway Park in Boston. (N) (Live)	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Boston Red Sox. From Fenway Park in Boston. (N) (Live)	Baseball Tonight (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	27	39	NBA Summer League Basketball	NBA Summer League Basketball First Round: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)	NBA Summer League Basketball First Round: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)	NBA Summer League Basketball First Round: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)			NBA Summer League Basketball First Round: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)			World/Poker	
FOOD	40	109	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games "Sibling Duos"	Guy's Grocery Games			Guy's Grocery Games			Guy's Games	
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	
FREE	20	131	(6:00) ** "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" (1994) Jim Carrey.	Young & Hungry (N)	(:31) Young & Hungry (N)	(:02) **** "Beauty and the Beast" (1991) Animated. A maiden trades places with her captive father.			Voices of Paige O'Hara, Robby Benson.			The 700 Club	How I Met Your Mother
FSS	21	47	Braves Live!	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Atlanta Braves. From SunTrust Park in Atlanta. (N) (Live)	Braves Live! Post.	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Atlanta Braves.			MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Atlanta Braves.				
HALL	52	183	Last Man Standing "Breaking Boyd"	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing "Tasers"	Last Man Standing "Stud Muffin"	The Middle "The Test"	The Middle "Bad Choices"	The Middle "Halloween II"	The Middle	The Golden Girls "All That Jazz"	The Golden Girls "Ebb Tide"	
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers: Buying & Selling (N)			House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	Flipping Virgins "Flipping in the Pink"	Buying and Selling	
HIST	45	110	Truck Wars	Speed Demons: A chronicle of the history of speed.	Speed Demons: A chronicle of the history of speed.	SIX "Fubar" A firefight breaks out. (N)			(:01) SIX "Fubar" A firefight breaks out.			Speed Demons	
ION	13	18	Law & Order "Remains of the Day" A tabloid queen's son dies.	Law & Order "Charity Case" Murder probe centers on adopted baby.	Law & Order "Talking Points" Someone in a crowd fires a gun.	Law & Order "Church" Pastor accused of murder.			Law & Order "Melting Pot" An actress is found hanging.			Law & Order "Murder Book"	
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: LA Tonya makes a drunken confession.	Little Women: LA Tonya professes her love to Jaa. (N)	Little Women: LA "Kicking and Screaming" Mika organizes a kickball game.	(:03) Seatbelt Psychic			(:33) Seatbelt Psychic (N)	(:05) Seatbelt Psychic	(:34) Seatbelt Psychic	(:12:01) Little Women: LA	
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show	The Last Word			The 11th Hour With Brian Williams (N)			Rachel Maddow	
NICK	16	210	The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare (N)	Double Dare	** "Legally Blonde" (2001) Reese Witherspoon, Luke Wilson.			Friends			(:35) Friends
PARMT	64	153	(5:30) **** "Titanic" (1997) Leonardo DiCaprio. A woman falls for an artist aboard the ill-fated ship.	Yellowstone "No Good Horses" (N)	(:04) ** "Rocky IV" (1985) Sylvester Stallone.	Face Off "Divine Dryads" The artists create dryad protectors.			** "Exodus: Gods and Kings"				
SYFY	58	152	(6:00) ** "G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra" (2009, Action) Channing Tatum, Dennis Quaid.	** "G.I. Joe: Retaliation" (2013, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Bruce Willis, Channing Tatum. Threats from within the government jeopardize the G.I. Joes. (DVS)	** "G.I. Joe: Retaliation" (2013, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Bruce Willis, Channing Tatum. Threats from within the government jeopardize the G.I. Joes. (DVS)	The Big Bang Theory			Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	Conan "Howie Mandel; Lil Rel Howery" Actor Howie Mandel. (N)	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee		
TBS	24	156	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Conan "Howie Mandel; Lil Rel Howery" Actor Howie Mandel. (N)	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee		
TCM	49	186	(5:45) *** "The Asphalt Jungle" (1950) Sterling Hayden. (DVS)	*** "The Time of Their Lives" (1946) Bud Abbott. Two ghosts are stuck on Earth until they clear their names.	*** "Sons of the Desert" (1933, Comedy) Stan Laurel, Oliver Hardy.	(:04) Dr. Pimple Popper			(:09) My 600-Lb. Life Ashley has hit an emotional wall.				
TLC	43	157	(6:56) My 600-Lb. Life "Doug, Part 2"	NCIS: New Orleans "Master of Horror" A Naval Staff Judge Advocate is killed. (DVS)	NCIS: New Orleans "Master of Horror" A Naval Staff Judge Advocate is killed. (DVS)	(:15) ** "The Hangover Part III" (2013, Comedy) Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms, Phil, Stu, Alan and Doug head to Thailand for Stu's wedding. (DVS)			(:09) My 600-Lb. Life Ashley has hit an emotional wall.				
TRNT	23	158	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	
TRUTV	38	129	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	(:36) M*A*S*H	(:12) Everybody Loves Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Two and Half Men	Two and Half Men	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	
USA	25	132	NCIS "Semper Paratus" An officer is killed in a hit and run. (DVS)	NCIS "Exit Strategy" Torres' partner mysteriously vanishes. (DVS)	NCIS "Skeletor Crew" Investigating a sailor's kidnapping. (DVS)	*** "The Wedding Singer" (1998) Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore.			*** "The Wedding Singer" (1998) Adam Sandler.				
WE	68	166	Criminal Minds "The Big Game"	Criminal Minds "Revelations"	*** "The Wedding Singer" (1998) Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore.	*** "The Wedding Singer" (1998) Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore.			*** "The Wedding Singer" (1998) Adam Sandler.				
WGNA	8	172	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	

'Bobcat Goldthwait's Misfits & Monsters' debuts

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

The anthology series is back. Over the past couple of years, series offering stand-alone short stories have returned to television. Netflix's "Black Mirror," Amazon's "Electric Dreams" and HBO's "Room 104" offer doses of horror, suspense, satire and speculations about the relationship between technology and society. Add "Bobcat Goldthwait's Misfits & Monsters" (10 p.m., TruTV) to the mix.

"Misfits" offers half-hour stories harkening back to the old "Twilight Zone" as well as contemporary satire.

Goldthwait's participation and the casting of Michael Ian Black, Bridget Everett, Dave Foley, Seth Green, Melissa Joan Hart, David Koechner, Samm Levine and Danny Pudi in the first eight-episode series offers a hint that the series will tilt towards absurdist comedy.

In the first episode, a cartoon voiceover artist (Seth Green) becomes unhinged when his favorite animated character begins to stalk his home and threaten his family. As Goldthwait has described the twisted hybrid, it's a retelling of "Cape Fear" with a cartoon character as the monstrous intruder. It's interesting to note that Goldthwait has worked as a voiceover artist. So now we know what haunts him.

Goldthwait has a well-established reputation for movies that defy audience expectations. His 1991 comedy "Shakes the Clown" remains a cult classic. His 2009 dark comedy "World's Greatest Dad" remains one of the most audaciously bleak films I have ever seen. He has directed series by other comedians, including "Chappelle's Show" and "Maron," starring Marc Maron, now starring in

"Glow." As a voice artist, he appeared on the legendary "Space Ghost, Coast to Coast" and provided the voice of Floppy the cranky stuffed bunny on the WB comedy "Unhappily Ever After."

- CBS debuts "TKO: Total Knock Out" (9 p.m.), an obstacle course competition produced by prolific TV creator Mark Burnett ("Survivor"). Kevin Hart ("Jumanji") hosts.
- A dermatologist with a wide social media following, Dr. Sandra Lee gets her own series with a name to tickle the fancy of 12-year-olds everywhere. In every episode, "Dr. Pimple Popper" (10 p.m., TLC, TV-14) consults patients with lumps, bumps, lesions and damaged skin that keep them from living normal lives. Consulted by millions on her Facebook and Instagram pages, Lee has already appeared on a TLC "Dr. Pimple Popper" special and a TLC GO series "Dr. Pimple Popper: This is Zit."
- The costume drama "Harlots," set in an 18th century London brothel, returns for a second season on Hulu. Two new episodes stream tonight, with subsequent "Harlots" arriving every Wednesday.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Contestants cater a wedding on "MasterChef" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14).
- "Earth's Natural Wonders: Life at the Extremes" (8 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings) returns with a look at people surviving mountains, deserts and Arctic conditions.
- A Mississippi landmark needs help on "Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14).
- Willis comforts Rox on



Bobcat Goldthwait, left, and Nora Muhlenfeld attend the Turner Networks 2018 Upfront at One Penn Plaza in May in New York. The new anthology series "Bobcat Goldthwait's Misfits & Monsters" premieres at 10 p.m. today on TruTV.

"Code Black" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).

- A depressed dancer clings to fantasies on "Reverie" (10 p.m., NBC, TV-PG).
- A new twist on the zip-top bag on "Shark Tank" (10 p.m., ABC, r, TV-14).
- The Duttons observe a painful anniversary on "Yellowstone" (10 p.m., Paramount, TV-MA).
- Snyder schemes to take Seattle on "Colony" (10 p.m., USA, TV-14).

SERIES NOTES

Julie Chen hosts "Big Brother" (8 p.m., CBS, TV-14) * A glance back at the best auditions so far on "America's Got Talent" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-PG) * On two helpings of "The Gold-

bergs" (ABC, r.), Adam casts Marvin (8 p.m., TV-PG), Beverly's plan B (8:30 p.m., TV-14) * Talon wants revenge on "The Outpost" (8 p.m., CW, r, TV-14) * The family gathers around an ailing Phil on "Modern Family" (9 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * Klaus helps Hope on "The Originals" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14) * The kids enter the shallow end of the dating pool on "American Housewife" (9:30 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG).

LATE NIGHT

Howie Mandel and Lil Rel Howery appear on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS) * Dwayne Johnson and Alessia Cara are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS) * Jimmy Fallon wel-

comes Amy Adams, Rob Reiner and the Backstreet Boys on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC, r) * Nick Kroll, Stacey Abrams, Katie Stevens and Jennie Vee & Joe Russo visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC, r) * Melissa McCarthy, Chris Parnell and Wallows are on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

CULT CHOICE

A would-be assassin (Frank Sinatra) commanders the home of a war widow and her child in the 1954 thriller "Suddenly" (4:15 p.m., TCM), co-starring Sterling Hayden.

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PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Balsamic-Pepper Flank Steak with Grilled Pear and Blue Cheese is seen served on a platter, and flank steak tacos with charred corn salsa are seen below.

Let us sing the praises of the humble, grillable flank steak

BY AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

We wanted a simple, economical cut of meat for a casual backyard barbecue. After considering various cuts, we landed on flank steak. Like other cuts from the chest and side of the cow, such as skirt steak and hanger steak, flank steak boasts rich, full, beefy flavor.

What's more, because it is very thin, it cooks quite quickly, making it an ideal candidate for grilling. We visited our supermarket's meat counter, bought a 2-pound flank steak, trimmed it and got cooking.

We found that there was no need to marinate this cut before cooking; with just a little salt and pepper and some sugar (which we added to aid in browning), it was ready to hit the grill.

For this quick-cooking steak, we opted for a half-fire grill setup: We spread the coals over half the grill to concentrate the heat for optimal char on the steak and left the other

side of the grill much cooler so we could move the steak over if it started to burn. In just about 10 minutes, the steak was perfectly done.

For a bright counterpoint, we made a quick and easy herb sauce. Fresh parsley contributed a grassy, herbal element; pungent garlic stood up to the meaty flavor of the steak; and lemon juice added a touch of acidity. A bit of sugar introduced sweetness and helped mellow the potent sauce.

We prefer flat-leaf parsley as opposed to curly parsley here. California Olive Ranch Everyday Extra Virgin Olive Oil is our favorite supermarket extra-virgin olive oil.

EASY GRILLED FLANK STEAK WITH GARLIC-HERB SAUCE

Servings: 4-6

Start to finish: 50 minutes

1 (2-pound) flank steak, trimmed
1 teaspoon sugar
Salt and pepper
1 cup minced fresh parsley
1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons lemon juice
3 garlic cloves, minced

Pat steak dry with paper towels, sprinkle with 3/4 teaspoon sugar, and season with salt and pepper. Combine parsley, oil, lemon juice, garlic, remaining 1/4 teaspoon sugar, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper in small bowl and set aside for serving.

• **For a charcoal grill:** Open bottom vent completely. Light large chimney starter filled with charcoal briquettes (6 quarts). When top coals are partially covered with ash, pour evenly over half of grill. Set cooking grate in place, cover, and open lid vent completely. Heat grill until hot, about 5 minutes.

• **For a gas grill:** Turn all burners to high, cover, and heat grill until hot, about 15 minutes. Leave primary burner on high, and turn other burner(s) to medium.

Clean and oil cooking grate. Place steak on hotter side of grill. Cook (covered if using gas), turning as needed, until lightly charred and meat registers 120 to 125 F (for medium-rare), 8 to 12 minutes.

Transfer steak to carving board, tent with aluminum foil, and let rest for 5 to 10 minutes. Slice steak against grain very thin on bias and serve with garlic-herb sauce.

Nutrition information per serving: 299 calories; 170 calories from fat; 19 g fat (5 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 86 mg cholesterol; 271 mg sodium; 2 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 1 g sugar; 28 g protein.

You can't go wrong with **flank steak** and **charred corn salsa**

BY AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Charred corn salsa combined with cumin-scented flank steak is a winning match.

We wanted all the char and perfectly seared steak without having to step outside to grill, so we turned to our cast-iron skillet. We cut the steak into fourths to increase its surface area and seasoned it with ground cumin, salt and pepper so that when we seared it, it developed a great crust.

After cooking the steak, we took it out to rest and added the corn to the skillet. We let the corn cook without disturbing it to create a flavorful char.

We then built our salsa: We added the corn to a lively combination of red onion, spicy jalapeno, lime juice and cilantro. Finally, we cut the meat thin against the grain, ensuring that each bite was as tender as it was flavorful. Serve with your favorite taco toppings.

FLANK STEAK TACOS WITH CHARRED CORN SALSA

Servings: 4

Start to finish: 45 minutes

1 teaspoon ground cumin
Salt and pepper
1 (1 1/2-pound) flank steak, trimmed
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 1/2 cups fresh or thawed frozen corn
1/4 cup finely chopped red onion
1 jalapeno chili, stemmed, seeded and minced
2 tablespoons lime juice
1 tablespoon minced fresh cilantro
12 (6-inch) corn tortillas, warmed

Adjust oven rack to middle position, place 12-inch cast-iron skillet on rack, and heat oven to 500 F. Meanwhile, combine cumin, 3/4 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper in bowl. Cut steak lengthwise with grain into 2 equal pieces, then cut each piece in half crosswise to create four equal pieces. Season steaks with spice mixture, and let sit at room temperature.

When oven reaches 500 F, pat steaks dry with paper towels. Using potholder, remove skillet from oven and place over medium-high heat; turn off oven. Being careful of hot skillet handle, add oil and heat until just smoking. Cook steaks, without moving, until lightly browned on first side, about 2 minutes. Flip steaks and continue to cook until lightly browned on second side, about 2 minutes.

Flip steaks, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook, flipping every



2 minutes, until steaks are well browned and meat registers 120 F to 125 F (for medium-rare), 4 to 8 minutes. Transfer steaks to carving board, tent loosely with aluminum foil, and let rest while making salsa.

Add corn to now-empty skillet and cook over medium heat, without stirring, until lightly charred, about 4 minutes. Stir corn and continue to cook until tender, about 1 minute; transfer to medium bowl. Stir in onion, jalapeno, lime juice, cilantro, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Season with additional salt and pepper to taste. Slice steak thin against grain, and serve with tortillas and corn salsa.

Nutrition information per serving: 132 calories; 83 calories from fat; 9 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 318 mg sodium; 11 g carbohydrate; 3 g fiber; 7 g sugar; 4 g protein.