

the Sumter ITEM

HEALTH

Failure shouldn't be the end of your fitness training

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2018 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894

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A3

SCPA: Manning chief's firing illegal

City council violated FOIA's open meetings law; Rogers says firing done 'surreptitiously'

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — The first reading of an ordinance giving the City of Manning's Public Safety Committee hiring and firing privileges, which ultimately led to the

firing of Blair Shaffer as police chief, may not have been handled in accordance with the state's laws on executive session matters. "Discussing an ordinance in executive session is illegal," said William "Bill" Rogers, executive director of the South



ROGERS

Carolina Press Association. "There is no reason it should have been discussed that way." Rogers said the manner in which the ordinance was established and ultimately passed could be "successfully" challenged in court. If the ordinance that gave

the committee power to fire Shaffer was not legally established, the firing therefore would not be valid. "From a public relations standpoint, this is a slap in the face to the public; to do something like that was done surreptitiously," Rogers added. "They did not follow the law." The law Rogers is referring to is the state's Freedom of In-

formation Act that was updated by the South Carolina General Assembly in May 2017. In accordance with the state's FOIA, Manning City Council violated state law twice by holding an executive session to discuss a personnel issue without listing the department where the employee worked and by discussing city

SEE **ILLEGAL**, PAGE A6



PHOTOS BY ADRIENNE SARVIS / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter County Sheriff's Office employees react to a question during a crisis intervention course on how to interact with deaf people on Wednesday.

Taking training for patience, empathy

Deputies learn about crisis intervention with mentally ill and disabled residents

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

With how officers interact with the public being given more public attention recently, Sumter County Sheriff's Office and other first-responder agencies are undergoing crisis intervention training this week to make sure all county residents, especially those with mental illnesses, receive the help they need.

The training, held by the National Alliance on Mental Illness and Protection & Advocacy, instructs officers on how to effectively respond to calls involving people with mental illnesses and disabilities, whom officers are likely to encounter on a daily basis.

"We are doing about 32 week-long trainings this year," said Sherri Cloud, crisis intervention team liaison for NAMI. "We're averaging two a month."

NAMI has been offering crisis intervention team training in South Carolina since 2004 and is now starting to get officers CIT certified, she said.

One lesson on Wednesday — attended by deputies and Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center and Sumter County

EMS employees — featured instruction on how to interact with deaf people.

The first responders learned a few words in sign language and practiced reading lips. The instructor also talked about the common habits of people who are deaf and how they may respond when interacting with officers.

The purpose of the course is to get the officers thinking out of the box when responding to calls, Cloud said.

During the course, officers learn what to look for to identify a person with a mental



Deputies and civilian employees listen during a course on how to interpret sign language during a crisis intervention course on Wednesday.

SEE **TRAINING**, PAGE A3

Michalik thinks his business, educational background fits what school board needs

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Karen Michalik's name will not be on the November ballot for the Area 2 seat on Sumter School Board, but her husband's name will be. With 20 years of experience in both public education and business operations management, John Michalik said Wednesday he thinks he's a candidate who knows how to effectively bridge the



MICALIK

sometimes difficult concept of "school operations" together. Michalik retired as principal of Lakewood High School in June after 20 years of service in public education in Sumter County. He filed for the non-partisan Area 2 seat Monday

SEE **MICALIK**, PAGE A6

WHAT YOUR GOVERNMENT IS DOING: SUMTER CITY COUNCIL

Food trucks now allowed in city outside of community events

Harvin Street auto repair shop to close due to rezoning denial

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The city of Sumter is likely to see more food trucks throughout the year after a vote at a Sumter City Council meeting Tuesday.

Also during the meeting, a vote led to an auto repair shop having to close its doors.

FOOD TRUCKS NOW PERMITTED IN CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Reading: Second and final

Agenda item: An ordinance to amend portions of the city's zoning and development standards to make food trucks a temporary use, subject to annual review, in general commercial, limited commercial, light industrial-warehouse and heavy industrial zoning districts.

The amendment also expands the types of vehicles permitted as mobile vending units.

Background: City council approved an ordinance amendment to only permit hot dog-style carts — mobile vending units that do not exceed 4 feet in width, 6 feet in length and 5 feet in height, excluding the canopy cover — to be operated as mobile vending units in general commercial districts about nine years ago.

Though the city sponsors a food truck festival, the previous version of the ordinance prohibited food truck vendors to operate in the city

SEE **TRUCKS**, PAGE A6

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DEATHS, B4

JoAnne Elizabeth VanHoute Wills
Annie Lee Brown Marion
Anthony Eugene Pringle
Dorothy Hasty Branham

Dorothy Mae Fortune Washington
Delgar Sylvester Ford
Sadie Brown Slater
Allene Griffin Ross

WEATHER, A8

STORM POSSIBLE

Times of clouds and sun; partly cloudy with a storm possible tonight
HIGH 89, LOW 71

INSIDE

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES
VOL. 123, NO. 194

Classifieds B7 Sports B1
Comics B5 Television B6
Opinion A7



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. FRANK MILLER

U.S. Air Force maintainers from the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw Air Force Base ready an F-16CM Fighting Falcon at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada during a previous exercise. The F-16 played an intricate part of Red Flag 16-4, the world's premiere combat training exercise.

Training provides unique simulation for Shaw airmen

BY KAYLA ROBINS
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Any team needs to scrimmage before the real game, and while there's much more at stake than a game winner, about 230 airmen at Shaw Air Force Base took off to Nevada this week for a premier training exercise.

About 17 F-16 Fighting Falcons and the airmen from the 20th Fighter Wing's 77th Fighter Squadron are participating in a Red Flag Nellis air combat training from July 23 to Aug. 4 at Nellis Air Force Base, and Maj. Cory Jerch said the experience is unique for more than one reason.

"It's the only location in the world where we can train at a level that is just shy of real combat," said Jerch, the director of operations for the 77th FS, shortly before he took off later Tuesday.

Jerch is, among having other duties, in charge of scheduling and maintenance for the squadron, which returned from a deployment in Afghanistan in May and is now ready to get back to training for their primary

mission of enemy suppression.

Reg Flag exercises occur three or four times a year, Jerch said. They bring military personnel from branches throughout the United States and coalition forces together, this time at least including Colombia. Navy, Marine and P-52 units are also participating in this exercise.

Jerch said Nellis is unique because there are more resources there and a larger air space on the base to allow for a more realistic simulation of what surface-to-air and air-to-air combat is like.

Nellis is home to the 64th Aggressor Squadron, which has a mission to "prepare the combat air forces, joint and allied aircrews for tomorrow's victories with challenging and realistic threat replication, training, academics and feedback," according to an Air Force fact sheet.

The squadron and the training exercises began in 1972 as a "direct result of the high air combat loss rate experienced in the Vietnam War."

Jerch said Red Flag is ideal for the newest airmen, who

use it to gain confidence in their skills and live to learn from their mistakes.

The exercises allow participants to "scrimmage" as one team against another team instead of having to split up and practice against each other.

Shaw's lineup of who participates in the exercises is also unique in that the 20th Fighter Wing's F-16s are the only active-duty squadrons in the continental U.S. In real combat, it is the Wild Weasels who pilot F-16s to "weasel" their way into enemy airspace, find their surface-to-air missile systems and take them out, clearing the way for P-52s and other units and forces to complete their mission safely.

The 77th FS will also provide other aerial support functions.

Since 1975, 28 countries have joined the U.S. in Red Flag exercises. They have 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.

Storm causes street flooding in Sumter

BY DANNY KELLY
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Sumter County fell victim to flooding Tuesday night because of a thunderstorm that rolled through the area. By 7 p.m., the county was experiencing 1-2 inches of flooding in some areas, with water levels rising.

"We certainly had a lot of rain (Tuesday) in a short amount of time," City of Sumter Senior Planner Helen Roodman said.

Broad Street was one of the many areas affected by the flooding, which is significant because Broad Street recently underwent a resurfacing project to help with flooding and aid water to drain faster.

"I think everything worked as well as it could; it was underwater and the water went down; our drains are working pretty well," Sumter Assistant City Manager Al Harris said. "There was flooding in many different areas,

but for the most part, it went down in a reasonable time, which means the system's working; I know there are some problems, but we're working on some of them (Wednesday)."

Broad Street had almost completely drained by mid-morning Wednesday.

"I know some of it was underwater, but when we went through there at about 9 a.m., most of it was down reasonably," Harris said.

However, should Sumter County be concerned with flooding every time it storms like this?

"If it rains as severely as it did (Tuesday), you may very well have flooding, as every city and every drainage system in the country would," Harris said. "That was a major flood, major downpour, within a short period of time, and it just doesn't get into the basins and into the system and out in that reasonable time; too much, too much volume."

Optimists United Club of Sumter hosts party

BY DANNY KELLY
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The Optimists United Club of Sumter hosted a party for low-income families this Saturday.

More than 100 children and 60 adults came out to enjoy free food, book giveaways, a bounce house and more at Hickory Hollow Apartments on Cashua Drive in Sumter.

"It was a tremendous success," club founding president Joy Obidike said.

"Optimist National and International, and of course Regional, are reaching out to us because they call it a big win."

This was the club's first event after being chartered on May 3. "We're the third Optimists Club in Sumter, and our approach is a little bit different," Obidike said.

"What we have a passion for is getting out into the community. We want to target children in low-income environments, such as the one we just served, simply because if you're in a low-income environment, your parents aren't bringing you to the Iris Festival. They can't afford the things that we have in the city."

The event was held at no cost to the parents or children thanks to sponsorships. Walmart Marketplace provided all the hot dogs, the IGA on Pinewood Road



PHOTO PROVIDED

Joy Obidike, club founding president of Optimists United Club of Sumter, poses with some of the more than 100 children that enjoyed a party hosted by the club at Hickory Hollow Apartments.

sponsored about 200 bottles of water, Kool Smiles provided more than 200 toothbrushes, Sumter Family Health Center provided information and promotional materials, and Piggly Wiggly also chipped in.

"It took about a month and a half (to plan)," Obidike said. "It took a lot of work. We didn't have the budget to do it, but that's still no excuse to not serve if you know how to (get) sponsorships."

The Optimists United Club's next event is a fall festival in October.

Wanted man leads officers on car chase

BY KAYLA ROBINS
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A Sumter man who was wanted in multiple jurisdictions on various charges was arrested Tuesday after he led police officers on a car chase.

Tyburious Heyward, 20, of Vaughn Street in South Sumter, was reportedly traveling "in excess of the speed limit" on Poinsett Drive when he was noticed by an officer after 5:30 p.m., according to Tonyia McGirt, public information officer for the Sumter Police Department.

Heyward attempted to escape by continuing to accelerate as the officer learned he was



HEYWARD

wanted on charges in other jurisdictions, McGirt wrote in a news release, including the State Law Enforcement Division; South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services; the North Carolina Highway Patrol; and Sumter County Sheriff's Office. The pursuit ended after officers safely isolated the suspect's vehicle in a parking lot off Bultman Drive and placed him into custody, McGirt said.

Heyward is being held in Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center after bond was denied Wednesday on charges of habitual offender and failure to stop for blue lights. He also faces charges of driving under suspension-third offense, reckless driving and an ABC violation fined by the police department.

An investigation is continuing.

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Learn from failures to deliver success

Join a gym, hire a trainer, create a meal plan, set a schedule. This seems like a recipe for success, but why doesn't it work?

The fitness industry is designed to be there for you, to motivate and encourage you and to give you the tools to become more physically fit. But what it lacks is the acknowledgment that failure and setbacks are ahead, and that it is OK. With successes always being highlighted, it's no surprise that people completely disappear from the fitness world because of shame, embarrassment and lack of acceptance when they fall off the wagon.

Learning to acknowledge and embrace failure can actually lead to greater success. Some people don't try because of their fear of failure. Others have a "no excuses" attitude and push forward no matter what. Many experience a constant battle of val-

ues — like a new mother, once an avid exerciser, who suddenly stops her exercise program altogether. This isn't because she doesn't value exercise — she just places spending time with family at a higher value than exercise.

There are valuable lessons to be learned within failures that are actually necessary for long-term success. An assessment of our failures leads to greater self-awareness, an increased capacity to overcome obstacles and more skillful practices. While there are plenty of trainers, classes and gimmicks to keep you interested, ultimately we are responsible for our own choices and actions that lead to successes and failures.

We've all experienced failure to some degree and should acknowledge the possibility of failure. If we anticipate setbacks and prepare for them in advance, we can get through them with less negative impact. It's not about giving up or giving in; it's about being empowered to get through the struggles.

Having a plan isn't enough. You must identify the barriers that could occur and create a plan for getting through them rather than reacting emotionally to a situation that occurs unexpectedly. Additionally, you

need to define what success and failure means to you. This is going to be defined differently for each of us and the goals we have set.

To increase your chances of success, try to gain insight from your previous failures: Why did you fail? What prevented you from moving forward and getting what you wanted? What can you do immediately to get back on track? What can you learn about yourself or your strategy that can make you better prepared to overcome setbacks?

Fail to plan or plan to fail? Regardless of your plan, you must plan to fail. Ignoring the possibility of failure sets us up for disappointment, frustration and decreased capacity to handle perceived barriers. When we are more self-aware of what our personal setbacks are, we can address them head on and learn to move past them instead of have them define us or be the reason we could not succeed. It's what you learn from your failures that will determine the future of your own success.

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

TRAINING FROM PAGE A1

illness, she said.

"We tend to think that a lot of times [the person is] either on drugs or they're lying or something along those lines," she said.

Officers learn there could be other options instead of taking people to jail, she said.

Maybe there's a reason the person is acting that way, she said, and many people who have mental illnesses are victims of crimes.

Cloud said the training is extremely important today because officers often encounter people with mental illnesses and disabilities.

She said statistics show that 1 in 4 or 1 in 5 people have a mental illness.

"Right now, we're seeing a lot of this in the news," she said.

Some of the outcomes are really good, and some of them are not, she said.

"I think one of the main things we try to get across is to be patient and to listen to what people are trying to tell them," Cloud said.

But, of course, officers don't always have that option because things can happen really quickly, she said.

Obviously, every call is going to be different, so there's not going to be one standard of how to handle the situation, she said.

This kind of training gives

people living with mental illnesses confidence in the officers as far as the officers understanding what they are going through and having empathy for their conditions, Cloud said.

Chief Deputy Hampton Gardner said the sheriff's office periodically holds training on how to interact with residents who have mental illnesses or disabilities but that this may be the first time the training has been so in depth.

He said crisis intervention is part of law enforcement training even at the basic level. The sheriff's office thought it was necessary to refresh some deputies and introduce this training to others because officers interact with people who are autistic or have other mental illnesses daily, he said.

Gardner said the goal is to have all deputies participate in the training, which is also offered to officers of other agencies.

You just can't say when and where you will encounter someone with a mental illness, but it is highly probable that it will happen on a daily basis, he said.

Crisis intervention training is important, Gardner said, because deputies need to know how to effectively and efficiently approach situations based on with whom they are interacting.

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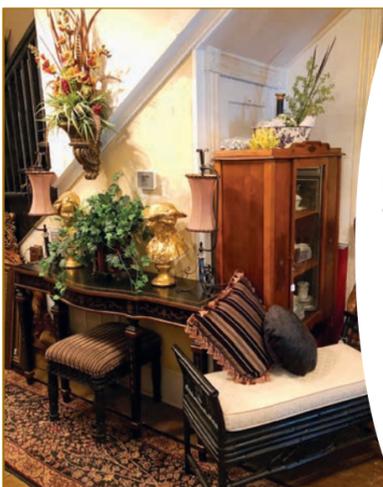
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Trump defends his summit performance

BY ZEKE MILLER and LISA MASCARO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Taking to Twitter early Wednesday, President Donald Trump defended anew his much-criticized performance at the Helsinki summit, promising “big results” from better relations with Russia and hitting back at “haters.”

Trump made no mention of his having walked back comments that called into question U.S. intelligence findings of Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election. Those comments, delivered alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin at a summit press conference Monday, had prompted blistering, bipartisan criticism at home.

“So many people at the higher ends of intelligence loved my press conference performance in Helsinki,” Trump tweeted.

He added: “We got along well which truly bothered many haters who wanted to see a boxing match.”

In a follow-up tweet, Trump wrote that Russia has agreed to help in deli-

cate negotiations with North Korea. But he gave no details on how and when that would happen.

“Big benefits and exciting future for North Korea at end of process!” he wrote.

Amid bipartisan condemnation of his embrace of a longtime U.S. enemy, Trump sought to end 27 hours of recrimination by delivering a rare admission of error Tuesday. He backed away from his public undermining of American intelligence agencies, saying he misspoke when he said he saw no reason to believe Russia had interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

“The sentence should have been, ‘I don’t see any reason why I wouldn’t, or why it wouldn’t be Russia’” instead of “why it would,” Trump said Tuesday of the comments he had made standing alongside Putin on the summit stage in Helsinki.

That didn’t explain why Trump, who had tweeted a half-dozen times and sat for two TV interviews since the Putin news conference, waited so long to correct his remarks. And the scripted

cleanup pertained only to the least defensible of his comments.

He didn’t reverse other statements in which he gave clear credence to Putin’s “extremely strong and powerful” denial of Russian involvement, raised doubts about his own intelligence agencies’ conclusions and advanced discredited conspiracy theories about election meddling.

Trump also accused past American leaders, rather than Russia’s destabilizing actions in the U.S. and around the world, for the souring of relations between two countries. And he did not address his other problematic statements during a week-long Europe tour, in which he sent the NATO alliance into emergency session and assailed British Prime Minister Theresa May as she was hosting him for an official visit.

“I accept our intelligence community’s conclusion that Russia’s meddling in the 2016 election took place,” Trump conceded Tuesday. But even then he made a point of adding, “It could be other people also. A lot of people out there. There was no collu-

sion at all.”

Moments earlier, the usually reserved Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell, publicly reassured America’s allies in Europe with whom Trump clashed during his frenzied trip last week.

“The European countries are our friends, and the Russians are not,” McConnell declared.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said Trump was trying to “squirm away” from his comments alongside Putin. “It’s 24 hours too late and in the wrong place,” he said.

By dusk, hundreds of activists, led by attorney Michael Avenatti and actress Alyssa Milano, staged a protest near the White House, with chants of “traitor!” echoing along Pennsylvania Avenue.

Trump still maintained that his meetings with NATO allies went well and his summit with Putin “even better.” But this reference to diplomatic success carried an edge, too, since the barrage of criticism and insults he delivered in Brussels and London was hardly well received.

Tale of sex, deception emerges about woman suspected to be agent

BY CHAD DAY and ERIC TUCKER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A 29-year-old gun-rights activist suspected of being a covert Russian agent was likely in contact with Kremlin operatives while living in the United States, prosecutors said Wednesday in court papers that also accused her of using sex and deception to forge influential connections.

The woman, Maria Butina, was observed by the FBI dining privately with a Russian diplomat suspected of being an intelligence operative in the weeks before the envoy’s departure from the U.S. last March, prosecutors say. She also had contact information for people who investigators think were employees of Russia’s Federal Security Services, or FSB, the successor intelligence agency to the KGB.

The allegations, made in court filings aimed at persuading a judge to keep Butina in custody, add to the portrait of a Russian woman who the Justice Department says worked covertly to establish back-channel lines of communication to the Kremlin and infiltrate U.S. political organizations, including the National Rifle Association, and gather intelligence for a senior Russian official.

Butina awaits trial on charges of conspiracy and acting as an unregistered foreign agent for Russia. A judge on Wednesday ordered Butina held in jail as the case moves forward.

Citing her intelligence ties, the government is arguing that Butina poses an “extreme” risk of fleeing the U.S., where she has been living on a student visa. In seeking her detention, prosecutors said Buti-

na’s “legal status in the United States is predicated on deception.”

Her lawyer has called the allegations overblown and has denied that Butina is a Russian agent.

Butina was arrested during the weekend amid signs that she planned to leave the country.

Her lease on an apartment ends later this month, and her belongings were packed at the time of her arrest, prosecutors said.

Her personal ties, “save for those U.S. persons she attempted to exploit and influence,” are to Russia, according to the government court filing.

“The concern that Butina poses a risk of flight is only heightened due to her connection to suspected Russian intelligence operatives,” prosecutors wrote.

Prosecutors also said Butina was regarded as a covert agent by a Russian official with whom she was in touch, with text messages discovered by the FBI showing how the official likened her to Anna Chapman, a Russian woman who was arrested in 2010 and then deported as part of a prisoner swap.

In March 2017, following news coverage of Butina, the Russian official wrote, “Are your admirers asking for your autographs yet? You have upstaged Anna Chapman. She poses with toy pistols, while you are being published with real ones,” according to the court filing.

Butina and the official messaged each other directly on Twitter, prosecutors said. One such exchange occurred a month before the U.S. presidential election when Butina said she understood that “everything has to be quiet and careful.”



AP FILE PHOTO
Maria Butina, leader of a pro-gun organization in Russia, speaks to a crowd during a rally in support of legalizing the possession of handguns in Moscow, Russia, in 2013. Butina, a 29-year-old gun-rights activist, served as a covert Russian agent while living in Washington, gathering intelligence on American officials and political organizations and working to establish back-channel lines of communications for the Kremlin, federal prosecutors charged Monday.

They also spoke on January 20, 2017, when Butina sent the official a photo of her near the U.S. Capitol on the day Donald Trump was inaugurated as president. According to court papers, the Russian official responded, “You’re a daredevil girl! What can I say!” Butina responded, “Good teachers!”

Authorities have not named the Russian official,

but details in the court papers match the description of Alexander Torshin, a former legislator who is now a senior official in the Central Bank of the Russian Federation.

Torshin, who became an NRA life member in 2012, was among a group of Russian oligarchs and officials targeted in April by Treasury Department sanctions for their associations with Russian President Vladimir

Putin and their roles in “advancing Russia’s malign activities.”

Prosecutors say the official directed Butina to use her contacts with the NRA and other conservative causes to gather intelligence on American officials and political organizations. She is also accused of trying to establish back-channel lines of communication for the Kremlin.

The NRA, which has previously been connected to Butina, has not commented on the charges. Butina’s attorney, Robert Driscoll, has called the allegations “overblown” and denied his client was a Russian agent.

Driscoll said she was just a student, attending American University in the nation’s capital, who “at most” was seeking to promote a better relationship between the U.S. and Russia.

But in court papers, prosecutors said Butina’s university enrollment was a cover for her covert duties and that she suggested, falsely, on her visa application that she was no longer employed by the Russian official at the time she applied for a student visa.

Prosecutors also alleged that she used a personal relationship with an unidentified American political operative, with whom she was living, “as simply a necessary aspect” of her covert activities on behalf of Russia.

Authorities say the relationship with the operative, identified as “U.S. Person 1” in court papers, shouldn’t be seen as a “strong tie” to the U.S., noting she “offered an individual other than U.S. Person 1 sex in exchange for a position within a special interest organization.”

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Out of hospital, Thai boys share lessons learned in cave

CHIANG RAI, Thailand (AP) — The 12 boys and their soccer coach rescued from a cave in northern Thailand left the hospital where they had been recuperating and appeared at a news conference Wednesday, saying the ordeal made them stronger and taught them not to live carelessly.

The group, looking healthy, entered the news conference to applause from reporters and classmates and put on a quick demonstration of their ball-handling skills on a miniature soccer field set up in the hall where they met journalists from around the world.

They then hugged their friends before taking seats up front with doctors and members of the Thai navy SEAL unit who dived to help bring them out, along with others who helped them during their ordeal, which ended after more than two weeks when they were rescued last week.

The boys, whose ages range from 11 to 16, and their 25-year-old coach an-

swered questions submitted by the media, including about the lessons they learned during their experience.

"I feel stronger, I have more patience, endurance, tolerance," 13-year-old Mongkol Boonpiam said.

Adul Samon, 14, said, "This experience teaches me not to live life carelessly."

Several said they want to become professional soccer players, while four said they wanted to emulate the heroes who saved them.

"I want to be a navy SEAL because I want to help others," said one.

All said they want to apologize to their parents, most of whom they had not informed in advance about the trek to the cave after soccer practice.

"I know my mom is going to punish me, and I am in big trouble with my mother," one of the boys said when asked what he expected to happen when he got home.

Doctors said the 13 were healthy in

body and mind. They said the boys gained around 6.6 pounds on average since they were rescued from the cave. They were said to have lost an average of 9 pounds during the more than two weeks they were trapped in the cave.

The news conference was the first opportunity the members of the team had to speak directly to the media, though video of them was released previously. Officials reviewed questions in advance to make certain none might cause damaging psychological effects.

They were asked about the moment when two British cave divers first found them and also the circumstances of how they entered the cave and got trapped there.

The Wild Boars teammates had entered the Tham Luang cave on June 23 for what was to be a quick, relaxing excursion after soccer practice. But rain began falling while they were underground, and water filled the caverns, cutting off their escape.

The British divers found the group huddling on a spot of dry ground deep inside the cave nearly 10 days later, hungry but generally healthy. An international team of rescuers using diving equipment and pulleys extracted the 12 boys and their coach through the tight, flooded passageways over three days, concluding July 10.

Some of the boys were treated for minor infections during their hospital stay, but all 13 have been described as recovering well.

The family of one of the boys was preparing their home for his return Wednesday night.

Banphot Konkum, an uncle who has raised 13-year-old Duangpetch Promthep, said he'll have a renovated bedroom and gifts awaiting him.

"We'll do whatever he wants. If he wants anything we'll buy it for him as a present as we promised that when he gets out, whatever he wants we'll do it for him," Banphot said.

Study links air pollution to drop in national park visitors

BY MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

DENVER — Visitors appear to be steering clear of some U.S. national parks or cutting visits short because of pollution levels that are comparable to what's found in major cities, according to a study released Wednesday.

Researchers at Iowa State and Cornell universities looked at more than two decades of data on ozone pollution at 33 parks — from Shenandoah to Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon and Yosemite. They say visitor numbers dropped almost 2 percent when ozone levels went up even slightly and by at least 8 percent in months with three or more days of high ozone levels compared with months with fewer days of high ozone.

Study co-author Ivan Rudik said air quality warnings issued by parks and other government agencies may be causing the visitation drop. That's consistent with previous research on so-called avoidance behavior in response to pollution alerts in other settings.

The study sought to control for seasonal variations and daily changes in the weather.

"Even though the national parks are supposed to be icons of a pristine landscape, quite a lot of people are being exposed to ozone levels that could be detrimental to their health," said Rudik, an assistant professor of economics at Cornell.

The study was published in the journal *Science Advances*. It comes as national parks have seen record numbers of visitors in recent years despite any concerns over pollution.

Ozone, the main ingredient in smog, is formed when small particles of pollution from cars, power plants and industrial facilities react with sunlight. It limits visibility and can cause respira-

tory problems.

In parks, ozone is carried in on the wind and also caused by traffic and other activities.

Virginia Tech economist Kevin Boyle, who has researched ozone in parks and was a peer reviewer for the study, said it provides "strong, suggestive evidence" that air pollution is changing people's behavior when planning a park visit. Boyle said follow-up research is needed to confirm the findings.

Ozone concentrations nationwide have generally fallen since the Clean Air Act was amended in 1990 to address the problem, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Yet amounts still regularly exceed national guidelines, and the researchers determined that many national parks have pollution levels similar to New York or Los Angeles.

A comparison of ozone in parks to levels in the 20 most populous U.S. cities showed they were "statistically indistinguishable," according to the study.

At Sequoia National Park, about 200 miles north of Los Angeles, there have been more bad ozone days than in the city in all but two years since 1996, the study said.

Park visitors who live nearby are more likely to change their plans than out-of-town visitors who have sunk money into airplane tickets, lodging and rental cars, said John Loomis, an economics professor at Colorado State University who was not involved in the study.

Studies of air quality alerts and the reactions they trigger among schoolchildren in England and children and the elderly in Los Angeles have reached similar conclusions.

"You basically shift what you do" to avoid pollution, Loomis said.

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M. A. Boswell
Health News Syndicate

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"It's really changed my life. Now I'm able to accomplish a lot of the things that I haven't been able to do in the last few years. I feel amazing!"

And Patti, 50's, says "For as many years as I can remember, I've had social anxiety in large crowds. I decided to try SuperClinical Hemp Oil, and I have to tell you that it has helped calm my mind so I can relax and enjoy myself... I'm much happier!"

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MICHALIK FROM PAGE A1

with the Sumter County Voter Registration and Elections Office.

Initially, after earning an undergraduate degree in business management, Michalik worked 20 years on the operations side in the restaurant business.

Toward the end of his time in that field, he was an operations director, responsible for analysis, employee training and evaluations, among other duties.

Michalik said he holds two master's degrees in education — one from the University of South Carolina and another from Cambridge University in Massachusetts.

Michalik said he thinks his hands-on expertise in the business world and education helps him understand where school operations funding needs to flow, and should flow, to serve the students in the county the best

way possible.

He said he thinks he's the type of person who can continue to represent the residents of Area 2 well, as he thinks his wife has done.

Area 2 represents a northwest portion of the county to include Dalzell, Stateburg and Rembert and runs down to the Carter Road area in the City of Sumter.

A 1973 graduate of Hillcrest High School, Michalik said he's been a member of the Sumter community for 45 years.

He said he thinks he can help the school board continue its progressive vision and help hold the board accountable while still keeping the students first.

Michalik said he thinks he can help the district communicate its operations better to various community stakeholders.

"The operations of a school district are much different than the operations of a private-sector business,"

Michalik said, "and you really can't compare how both are run. Maybe we can communicate that a little bit better."

Before working the last five years as Lakewood's principal, Michalik was principal for four years from 2009-13 at the Sumter County Career Center (now Sumter County Career and Technology Center). He started his educational career as a classroom teacher and later was an assistant principal at Lakewood.

Being the former head of the career center, Michalik said he's personally interested in the district having further discussions of a new technical high school.

"I would like to be part of that process since I have served in that capacity at the technology center before," Michalik said.

KAREN MICHALIK SAYS 'TIMING IS RIGHT'

After serving 16 years since 2002 on

the former Sumter School District 2 Board of Trustees and now the consolidated district's board, Karen Michalik said "the timing is right, now" to step down.

Michalik said she considered a couple times in the past to not run for reelection, but the board and district were always in the middle of various projects, and she felt obligated to continue to serve.

She said she thinks the board and school district are now in a good position under Interim Superintendent Debbie Hamm, who will serve as the district's leader for another year before the next full-time superintendent comes on board.

"Now, I feel that things are going to be fresh and new," Michalik said. "There are some great things coming up, and I would like for somebody to get in on the ground floor who's committed and excited and wants to do that. But overall, I feel like the timing is just right, now."

TRUCKS FROM PAGE A1

limits on a daily basis.

According to the ordinance amendment, mobile food trucks will only be located on property that is occupied by a business in one of the approved zoning districts with the business owner's permission.

The vehicles must be removed from the property during non-business hours.

Sumter Planning Department Director George McGregor said food trucks cannot operate on vacant lots.

He said the Sumter Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendment but expressed a wish that food trucks not be allowed in the central business districts downtown in defense of existing restaurants and the attempt to expand the local restaurant community.

Planning department staff recommended approval of the amendment.

Discussion: Councilman Steve Corley made a motion for approval, which Councilman David Merchant seconded.

Vote: 6-1 approval — Councilwoman lone Dwyer voted in opposition.

REZONING REQUEST FOR HARVIN STREET REPAIR SHOP DENIED

Reading: Final

Agenda item: A request to rezone .99 acres at 835 S. Harvin St. from residential-6 to general commercial to operate an auto repair shop.

Background: The property is surrounded by residential structures at the sides and rear, and a general commercial parcel is directly across the street.

In the past, the property was used as an oil and gas company and has had an active license for a real estate office since 2002, according to a report from the planning department.

During a previous meeting, McGregor said the auto repair shop had not been legally operating on the property because it is not zoned for that kind of use and that there is no business license for the shop.

McGregor said the planning commission did not make a recommendation on the rezoning request and that planning department staff was not supportive of the rezoning because there is clearly an established residential pattern in the area.

Discussion: "As a representative of that area, I have some serious concerns," said Dwyer, who abstained from voting during the first reading on June 22. She said she did not know how to vote on the issue during the first meeting.

People are making improvements in that area, and a garage sometimes brings in other sorts of people that may not fit with the direction of those improvements, she said.

Council needs to think about the future and the young people of the area in this decision, Dwyer said, and not just what's going on today.

If the parcel of land were rezoned to general commercial, McGregor said the property owner would be entitled to all uses permitted under the general commercial zoning district.

General commercial is the most diverse zoning category for commercial uses and includes the operation of liquor stores, which are allowed by special exception, he said. A liquor store would be difficult for the applicant to open on this specific property because it likely would not meet the required distance from churches and residents, he said.

According to a report from the planning department, the planning commission forwarded the request to council without a recommendation, and planning department staff did not support the request.

Councilman Thomas Lowery made a motion to approve the request, and Councilman Robert Galiano seconded, he said, so council could continue its discussion of the issue and cast a vote.

Vote: 6-1 denial — Lowery voted in favor of the request.

ILLEGAL FROM PAGE A1

policy behind closed doors. The second violation could result in nullifying the ordinance, according to the South Carolina Press Association.

The General Assembly specified actions and discussion that can or cannot happen behind closed doors, where the public has no access to meeting minutes or recordings. A copy of the FOIA can be found at www.scpres.org under the heading FOIA with pages 15-19 dealing with public meetings.

"While drafting South Carolina's FOIA, the General Assembly found the following: The General Assembly finds that it is vital in a democratic society that public business be performed in an open and public manner so that citizens shall be advised of the performance of public officials and of the decisions that are reached in public activity and in the formulation of public policy," South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson stated in a letter to the public on page 5 of the document.

According to the June 5 agenda for the Manning City Council budget workshop meeting, executive session included "a personnel issue concerning compensation as related to the FY 2019 Budget" and "a personnel matter concerning an Amendment to Chapter 2, Section 2-86, of the City of Manning Code of Ordinances."

According to the South Carolina Municipal Association, ordinance modifications must receive a second reading before becoming policy.

At Manning City Council's June 18 meeting, the ordinance passed second reading with Manning Mayor Julia Nelson and council members Julius Dukes Jr., Diane Georgia, Johnny Gordan and Clayton Pack signing it. Council members Sherry A. Welle and Ervin Davis were not present at the meeting. Davis said he was out of town for the birth of a grandchild.

The Sumter Item obtained a copy of the agenda and finalized ordinance with the signatures.

At 4:15 p.m. on July 12, Nelson issued a news release stating Manning Police Chief Blair Shaffer had been fired regarding "issues involving the city's public safety programs."

Nelson also stated that "following an evaluation of the city's public safety programs, the Public Safety Committee voted to terminate" Shaffer's employment immediately.

Less than two hours after announcing Shaffer's firing, city council held a swearing-in ceremony for Shaffer's interim replacement, 30-year law enforcement veteran Anthony "Keith" Grice. No information was given at the ceremony as to how Grice was chosen for the position or when he was first contacted for or offered the interim job.

Though he did not speak, Shaffer, his wife and one of his daughters were present at the July 16 Manning City Council meeting where Councilman Davis made a motion to dissolve all the committees within the city. He cited his confusion and the confusion of his constituents over the firing of Shaffer as his reasons for his motion.

Davis' motion was seconded by Dukes. Nelson told the council they would discuss the matter in executive session but allowed the motion to be discussed in open session after *The Sumter Item* told her the matter was not eligible for discussion behind closed doors.

After a heated discussion between Nelson and Davis on the validity of his motion, the mayor asked for a vote. Davis, Dukes, Georgia and Gordon voted to abolish the city's committees while Clayton Pack was the lone vote against the motion. Pack is on the Public Safety Committee.

Council immediately voted to go into executive session to discuss a "personnel matter concerning the Public Safety Department," which was a direct violation of the state's FOIA that requires public bodies to list specific departments when discussing personnel matters. The Public Safety Department encompasses the police and fire departments, and the agenda must state which of those agencies the personnel matter concerns, such as finance, human resources, etc.

For almost two hours, coun-

cil members met in executive session before returning to council's chambers in open session. Nelson said there would be no action on the personnel matter.

However, she did say Davis' motion would be "stricken." In another FOIA violation, discussing the motion was not on the agenda for executive session.

Nelson said because Davis' motion was not on the printed agenda that it was not up for consideration; however, without having the matter listed on the printed agenda, a decision was made to strike Davis' motion from the meeting.

After the meeting, Shaffer said he was confused why he was fired over a matter of public safety. He told *The Item* that, in February 2018, Manning's police department was given a score of 100 on its safety program by the South Carolina Municipal Association. He also said during his tenure as police chief, the city has seen its crime rates dip by more than 15 percent.

He has retained legal representation and is examining what his options are.

The FOIA also requires that minutes be taken at meetings. As of early Wednesday afternoon, minutes from the council's June 5 and June 18 meetings have not been posted on the city's website (www.cityof-manning.org).

Manning City Council is governed by a weak mayor/strong council form of government where all policies must receive a majority vote of council to become active. The council is comprised of a mayor, an at-large position and five council members — one council member from each of Manning's five districts. The mayor and council members serve four-year terms with council members serving staggered terms.

The mayor can only vote to break a tie.

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OPINION

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

COMMENTARY

Trump isn't the 1st president to cozy up to Putin

WASHINGTON — The definition of insanity is doing the same thing again and again and expecting to get a different result, which is one of the many reasons President Trump's news conference with Russian President Vladimir Putin seemed so insane. Trump is trying to do something that both of his immediate predecessors tried to do: turn over a new leaf with Russia. They both failed, and so will he.

Recall that George W. Bush entered the White House promising to end the "dead ideological rivalry" of the Cold War. At a 2001 summit with Putin in Slovenia, Bush declared, "I looked the man in the eye. I found him very straightforward and trustworthy — I was able to get a sense of his soul." President Barack Obama tried to appease Putin by giving in to the Russian leader's demands that we cancel our missile-defense plan with Poland and the Czech Republic — and did it on the 70th anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Poland. And while serving as Obama's secretary of state, Hillary Clinton humiliated herself when she gave Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov a giant red button with the word "reset" on it (which, adding insult to injury, misspelled the Russian word for "reset" to read "overload").

It is now Trump's turn to learn the hard way that Russia is an adversary, not a competitor. His summit with Putin was a moment that called for presidential strength. It came on the heels of the indictment of 12 Russian intelligence agents for intervening in the 2016 election and of Russia's brazen use of a banned chemical weapon on British soil, which resulted last week in the death of a British citizen. But instead of condemning these actions, Trump refused to acknowledge or denounce the fact of Russia's election interference, and he publicly sided with Putin over his own intelligence community. It was a position he wisely retracted on Tuesday, declaring what he should have said standing next to Putin: "I accept our intelligence community's conclusion that Russia's meddling in the 2016 election took place."

Trump does not seem to fathom that the problem with U.S.-Russia relations is not a lack of effort on the part of U.S. presidents. Russia is the only country on Earth other than North Korea that would dare use a toxic nerve agent to attempt to carry out assassinations on foreign soil. It is a regime that blatantly violates its nuclear and chemical weapons treaty obligations, has invaded two of its neighbors and has threat-

ened NATO countries (and even Mar-a-Lago) with nuclear annihilation.

Yet, as cringeworthy as Trump's news conference was, unlike Obama, he didn't throw U.S. allies under the bus to appease Putin or take any of the actions many feared — such as lifting sanctions or recognizing Putin's annexation of Crimea. Unlike his rhetoric, Trump's Russia policy has actually been a dramatic improvement over that of his predecessor. Trump expelled 60 Russian diplomats, approved a \$47 million arms sale to Ukraine, continued the deployment of NATO forces to the Baltic states, posted troops to Poland's border with Russia and levied new sanctions against Moscow for violating the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. During his first

year in office, he got NATO allies to increase their defense spending by \$12 billion and twice bombed Putin's ally, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, for his regime's use of chemical weapons. If Putin was looking for more pro-Moscow policies from the United States, his election interference backfired in a big way.

Critics say, words matter — and they are right. But if words matter, then Trump's critics should be careful what they say. In many cases, their responses to Trump's news conference have matched the president in absurdity. John Brennan, the CIA director under Obama, tweeted that "Donald Trump's press conference performance in Helsinki rises to & exceeds the threshold of 'high crimes & misdemeanors.' It was nothing short of treasonous." And Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., declared, "A single, ominous question now hangs over the White House. What could possibly cause President Trump to put the interests of Russia over those of the United States?"

As always, Trump's critics bail him out by overplaying their hands. A news conference, however humiliating, is not an impeachable offense.

And conspiracy theories aside, there is a simple explanation for Trump's performance in Helsinki: He is deeply wrong on Russia. He thinks he can charm Putin into behaving like a normal leader. He'll learn that Putin is KGB to his core, just as those before him learned.

When should we be worried? When Trump's actions match his rhetoric. Until then, Trump's summit was simply an embarrassment, not a disaster.

Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.

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COMMENTARY

Boys and Girls State teens provide reasons for optimism for our state

Each year, hundreds of South Carolina high schoolers get a close-up lesson in how government works as part of the Palmetto Boys State and Palmetto Girls State programs.

Sponsored nationally by the American Legion, Boys State and Girls State are immersive, weeklong sessions designed to promote patriotism, leadership, civic involvement and an understanding of our nation's institutions. There are mock elections for state-wide offices, as well as a mock Legislature and court system.

Participants are selected by their high schools and formally sponsored by their local American Legion posts. Palmetto Boys State, which began in 1940, was held this year at Anderson University in Anderson. Palmetto Girls State was first held in 1947 and was hosted this year by Presbyterian College in Clinton.

On June 15, Boys State and Girls State came together at the State Capitol for a parade, rally and mock inauguration ceremony. As always, I was excited to participate. The opportunity to

speak and interact with state officials is an important part of the Boys State/Girls State experience. And personally, I always learn a lot from spending time with them.

I'm always impressed by these young people. It certainly speaks well of them that they're willing to spend the first week of their summer break in this way, especially while many of their friends are headed to Beach Week. They're obviously excited to be there and enthusiastic about learning the ins and outs of public policy making. And they're optimistic about the future.

For those people let down by or fed up with the politicians of the present, these teens offer hope.

Today's political class falls short of what Americans deserve. Especially in Washington, those who govern us often seem more interested in scoring political points than fixing problems. Some in Congress are bent on endlessly refighting a two-year-old presidential election.

The current state of public debate isn't for the squeamish. We live in a time when incivility is defiantly embraced. Toxic rhetoric which once would have been condemned by decent people of all stripes — from vile personal attacks to calls for the public harassment of civil servants — aren't

just tolerated, they're celebrated. Certainly, such atmosphere does little to promote the kind of meaningful debate that is needed to find solutions to our many formidable challenges.

Yes, it's easy to be dispirited. But there's also good reason for optimism, as I was reminded as I spoke with the young men and women of Boys/Girls State, and as I'm reminded whenever I'm afforded the opportunity to spend time with today's young people. They want a better country, and they're eager to help build it. They seem to understand that meaningful change isn't about winning elections but about winning hearts and minds.

They realize it's possible to fight for closely held convictions without abandoning civility or decency. They believe public service is an honorable pursuit for those who are in it to further our common good. They may be coming up in an age of cynicism, but they're committed to rising above it.

Today's teens will one day be the ones who must create the policies we live under, chart our society's course and clean up messes left behind by their elders. I believe they're up to the challenge. We'll be in good hands.

Richard Eckstrom is a CPA and the state's comptroller.

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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.

AROUND TOWN

The American Red Cross is issuing an urgent call for blood donors of all blood types, especially type O. Schedule your donation appointment by using the free Blood Donor App, by visiting www.redcross-blood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Help save a life by participating in one of the following American Red Cross blood donation opportunities: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 24, Central Carolina Technical College, 506 N. Guignard Drive; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, July 26, SAFE Federal Credit Union, 160 W. Westmark Blvd.; and 2-7 p.m. Thursday, July 26, Grace Baptist Church, 219 W. Calhoun St.

The General George L. Mabry Jr. Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart will meet at 6 p.m. today at the Sumter Combat Veterans Group building, 529 N. Wise Drive. All Purple Heart recipients and those interested in association membership are invited. Life membership is available for only \$25. For more information, call (803) 773-0658.

The Sumter Combat Veterans Group will meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 20, at the headquarters building, 529 N. Wise Drive. All veterans are invited to attend.

The Sumter Branch NAACP will meet at 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, at Congruity Presbyterian Church, 3750 Congruity Road, Gable.

A Red, White and Blue Ball, presented by American Legion Post 202 Women's Auxiliary, will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturday, July 28, at 310 Palmetto St. Event will feature DJ Smoove as well as free food. Tickets are \$20 each. Semi formal attire. Call Janet at (803) 406-8038.

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

The Sumter Combat Veterans Group will host a veterans helping veterans seminar 11

a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 7, at the Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. This event will focus primarily on VA claims. All area veterans are invited and encouraged to attend. If you are having problems with your claims, there will be someone at this meeting with information and answers to your questions.

The Sumter Satellite James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell Foundation will host a back-to-school giveaway from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 8, at South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. There will be door prizes, lunch and fun and games.

The Sumter Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14, at Shiloh-Randolph Manor, 125 W. Bartlette St. It is also time to reserve gala tables for Dec. 11. Contact Debra Canty, chapter president, at (803) 775-5792 or debra.canty@frontier.com.

The Sumter Branch NAACP's Annual Health Fair will be held 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18, at the M.H. Newton Life Center, 415 Manning Ave.

The Sumter Combat Veterans Group will hold its annual golf tournament on Saturday, Sept. 15, at Crystal Lakes Golf Course, 1305 Clara Louise Kellogg Drive. There will be a 9 a.m. shotgun start. Registration fee is \$50 per golfer limited to the first 40 teams. Fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, souvenirs, cart, green fees and refreshments during play. Team format will be two person Captain's Choice. There will be first and second place prizes for men's and women's teams, closest to the pin and longest drive. Raffle tickets for a La-Z-Boy recliner will be \$2 each or three for \$5. Call Rich Grimsley at (803) 469-6227, Earnest Roland at (803) 840-0935 or Johnny Goodley at (803) 236-0488 or email at vnam6970@yahoo.com.

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

PUBLIC AGENDA

CLARENDON SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
Today, 7:30 p.m., district office, Turbeville

The last word in astrology
EUGENIA LAST

Do your best not to make snap judgments or decisions that can leave you in a vulnerable or awkward position. Make adjustments and proceed forward with a plan.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't underestimate what someone else might say or do. Be fully prepared to counter any aggressive action with facts. Keeping a level head will help you bring about positive change without upsetting someone who could cause problems for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Interact with people who have something to contribute. Whether you are challenged physically or mentally, knowing your opponent will help you gain acceptance and accomplish what you set out to do.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look for the outlet that excites you most. Getting involved in something you feel passionate about will encourage you to put in the time and effort to surpass your initial plans. A partnership will undergo a positive change with a kind gesture.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Express your intentions and listen to suggestions. Finding a way to please everyone won't be easy, but it will help you avoid discord. Too much of anything will lead to loss. Distance yourself from indulgent or narcissistic people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on yourself and how best to improve your health, physical appearance and important relationships. Putting more thought into the changes you want to bring about will ensure help moving forward. Take the initiative and make things

happen.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you have to use force, you should rethink your plan of attack. An intelligent idea that is well-presented will help you weed out those who aren't interested, leaving you with the right people to help you put your plans in motion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Rely on your basic instincts when you feel the urge to indulge in something you know you shouldn't. Temptation will be the negative in your life, while health and love will encourage progress. Lean toward the positive and forgo a senseless battle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Easy does it. Rely on your intelligence and ability to gather the facts, not what someone else leads you to believe. Keep your money, possessions and personal identity in a safe place. Avoid excessive and persuasive individuals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The art of the deal is in the palm of your hand. Refuse to let greed or emotions ruin what you've worked so hard to acquire. Know your boundaries and what you are up against. Be aware of when to say no.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional or aggressive behavior will be upsetting. Walk away from anyone trying to get you to part with your money. An aggressive sales pitch must not undermine your sense of what you need and what you can do without.

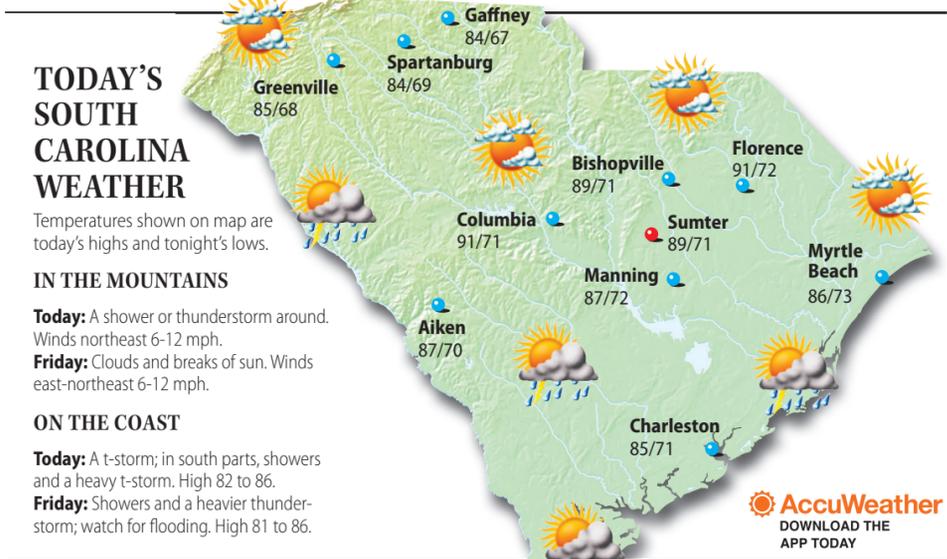
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for the best deal and offer the most efficient suggestions and help. Don't let someone in an authoritative position put undue pressure on you to reveal information that could set you up for a fall. Protect your reputation.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Times of clouds and sun	Partly cloudy with a t-storm	Mostly cloudy with a t-storm	Clouds and sun	Some sun with a t-storm; humid	Mainly cloudy with a t-storm
89°	71°	86° / 68°	90° / 73°	88° / 70°	89° / 72°
Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 55%
ESE 7-14 mph	ESE 4-8 mph	ENE 7-14 mph	W 4-8 mph	SW 7-14 mph	SSW 6-12 mph



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	Precipitation
High 89°	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest. 1.91"
Low 74°	Month to date 2.38"
Normal high 91°	Normal month to date 2.98"
Normal low 70°	Year to date 19.99"
Record high 101° in 2002	Last year to date 25.52"
Record low 62° in 1967	Normal year to date 25.77"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.76	-0.01
Marion	76.8	75.52	+0.01
Moultrie	75.5	75.40	-0.10
Wateree	100	97.53	-0.06

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	2.75	-0.10
Congaree River	19	2.97	+0.24
Lynches River	14	2.08	+0.44
Saluda River	14	3.28	+0.74
Up. Santee River	80	76.28	-0.35
Wateree River	24	7.60	-0.78

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:24 a.m.	Sunset	8:32 p.m.
Moonrise	1:30 p.m.	Moonset	12:44 a.m.
First	July 19	Full	July 27
Last	Aug. 4	New	Aug 11

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	2:50 a.m.	3.1	9:48 a.m.	-0.1
	3:40 p.m.	3.1	10:21 p.m.	0.3
Fri.	3:43 a.m.	2.9	10:41 a.m.	0.0
	4:36 p.m.	3.1	11:21 p.m.	0.4

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	87/72/pc	88/72/c
Chicago	86/71/pc	83/69/t
Dallas	107/81/s	108/82/s
Detroit	84/66/pc	84/68/t
Houston	100/79/pc	101/79/s
Los Angeles	85/70/pc	85/68/s
New Orleans	93/76/t	96/77/t
New York	82/67/s	84/67/s
Orlando	89/75/t	89/75/pc
Philadelphia	85/66/s	86/67/pc
Phoenix	106/87/pc	109/88/pc
San Francisco	77/60/pc	80/62/pc
Wash., DC	87/69/s	88/70/pc

REGIONAL CITIES

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

PICTURES FROM THE PUBLIC



Make-A-Wish South Carolina recently coordinated a trip to Japan for Brandon Davey. In the photo at left, Brandon, left, and his friend, James Holzaphel, stand at the summit of Mount Takao in Japan. At right, Brandon and James stand at the front of a bullet train that they rode from Tokyo, Japan, to Yokohama, Japan. Photos submitted by Lisa Davey, Brandon's mom.

HAVE YOU TAKEN PICTURES OF INTERESTING, EXCITING, BEAUTIFUL OR HISTORICAL PLACES? Would you like to share those images with your fellow *Sumter Item* readers? E-mail your hi-resolution jpegs to sandra@theitem.com, or mail to Sandra Holbert c/o *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, SC 29150. Include clearly printed or typed name of photographer and photo details. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of your photo. Amateur photographers only please. Photos of poor reproduction quality may not publish. With the exception of pictures that are of a timely nature, submitted photos will publish in the order in which they are received.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL



Junior P-15's advance

DENNIS BRUNSON / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Wylie Coker gets back to first base ahead of the tag of Camden first baseman Witt Branham during the Junior P-15's 7-6 victory over Camden in the second round of the American Legion state playoffs on Wednesday at Riley Park. Sumter advances to the state tournament for the second straight year.

Sumter rallies past Camden 7-6, heading back to state tournament

BY EDDIE LITAKER
Special to The Sumter Item

After losing just two games entering the second round of the Junior American Legion baseball playoffs, Sumter entered play on Wednesday looking to avoid a potentially season-ending 2-game losing streak in its best-of-3 series against Camden.

For six innings, it didn't look good for the Junior P-15's.

Then came a 6-run rally in the seventh and Sumter was suddenly a 7-6 winner and heading back to the state tournament for the second consecutive year.

After managing just one run off Camden starter Carson Barrett, the P-15's worked

their way deep into the Post 17 bullpen, sending 10 batters to the plate to face three pitchers in the seventh.

Kieran Hagerty opened and closed the inning, with very different results in the two at-bats. Barrett retired Hagerty on a fly ball to short to open the frame, but the Camden starter struggled mightily from there. Victor Brown sin-

gled to left before Barrett hit Wylie Coker with a pitch to load the bases.

Barrett would then balk home a run before a Dustin Kennedy single loaded the bases once again. Bryce Lyons lined a double to left, plating two to cut the Camden lead to 6-4. After Barrett retired Tanner Epps on a pop to second, SB Ducom came to the plate

as the potential tying run. Ducom drew a walk, representing the last batter of the night for Barrett.

Mason Cassaday came on only to hit Josh Burns with a pitch and walk Austin Trapp, setting up Hagerty's second at-bat of the inning. Austin Bowers came to the mound,

SEE P-15'S, PAGE B3

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

UNC's Fedora causes stir with CTE comment at ACC media days

BY AARON BEARD
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — North Carolina coach Larry Fedora said Wednesday he doesn't believe it's been proven that football causes the degenerative brain disease CTE and offered a passionate defense of a sport he believes is "under attack."

Fedora, during interviews at Atlantic Coast Conference preseason media days, described the sport as an integral part of American culture and said it is "safer right now than it's ever been," though he acknowledged the risk of concussions in a sport featuring constant collisions.

It wasn't clear who Fedora was referring to in saying the game was under attack, with the seventh-year Tar Heels coach noting, for example, "it's more about people twisting data" to argue football is unsafe. He also said players should be educated on the risks of the game.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Carolina head coach Larry Fedora answers a question during a news conference at the NCAA Atlantic Coast Conference college football media day in Charlotte on Wednesday.

"I don't think that the game of football, that it's been proven that the game of football causes CTE," Fedora said. "But that's been put out there. We don't really know yet."

SEE ACC, PAGE B3

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Alabama coach Nick Saban leads his team onto the field before the 2018 NCAA college football playoff championship game against Georgia in Atlanta. Saban should feel right at home at the College Football Hall of Fame, the facility hosting part of this week's SEC media days.

AP FILE PHOTO

Saban still star at SEC Media Days

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Nick Saban peeked around the curtain, wondering if it was time to make his grand appearance.

Everyone else at Southeastern Conference Media Days must accept a supporting role.

Saban is the undisputed star of

the show.

Just a few months removed from his record-tying sixth national championship, the Alabama coach straightened his crimson tie, cleared his throat and held court for a half-hour at the College Football Hall of Fame on Wednesday.

SEE SEC, PAGE B3

LOCAL SPORTS

Sumter Touchdown Club looking for new members, sponsorships

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter Touchdown Club presented by FTC has made great strides in what it does for local high school football players in the past few years in honoring them for both their on-field and academic successes.

As it prepares for its 29th season, the club is looking to expand its outreach even more and is looking to increase both its membership and sponsorship rolls.

"We've had as our goal to

be a scholarship organization," said Lee Glaze, one of the board members for the TD Club. "Because of that, we had to change how we approached things, and that is why we've pushed to increase our memberships and sponsorships to further that mission."

"Our goal is not to accumulate funds, but to give away funds."

This past season, the club gave out seven \$500 Merit Scholarship Awards to help

SEE CLUB, PAGE B4



The scholar athletes honored by the Sumter Touchdown Club at its banquet in January display their plaques. The club, which begins its 29th year on Aug. 31, is looking to expand its membership and sponsorship rolls.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

PRO GOLF

Knox feels like gold with spot in Open, pairing with Tiger

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland — Getting into the British Open was a reward in itself for Russell Knox. And then it got better.

The text messages kept his phone buzzing — from his wife, his nephew, his brother-in-law — as he drove back to his hotel. He looked over at the screen and kept seeing the same message.

"Tiger?"
"I was driving, so I just glanced at it," Knox said. "I got to where I was going, and my heart was pounding."

Knox, the highest-ranked player from Scotland, qualified for Carnoustie only when he started his three-week stint in Europe with a runner-up finish in the French Open. Then, he won the Irish Open by making a 40-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole to force a playoff, and then another 40-foot birdie putt on the 18th to win.

To cap it all off, the R&A put Knox in the same group with Tiger Woods and Hideki Matsuyama for the opening two rounds of the British Open.

"A man on form playing with his idol," Knox said Wednesday.

The 33-year-old from Inverness grew up watching



AP FILE PHOTO

Russell Knox hits onto the seventh green during the first round of the Valspar Championship golf tournament in Palm Harbor, Florida, in March. Getting into the British Open was a reward in itself for Knox. And then it got better. The R&A put Knox in the same group with Tiger Woods and Hideki Matsuyama for the opening two rounds of the British Open. "A man on form playing with his idol," Knox said Wednesday.

Woods set a new standard in golf. He was in Florida on holiday when Woods won at Disney in 1996, his second PGA Tour victory in two months as a pro. Knox became a huge fan, like most golfers his age.

"He's like this mythical creature," Knox said. "Even when I see him today, it's like

he's fake because I've seen him on TV my whole life. So if you had said to me when I was a 15-year-old watching Tiger dominate that I would get to play with him, I would have laughed. And then if you had said we would play in a major, in Scotland, with you being somewhat of a sneaky

threat?"
"Not everyone gets the opportunity to live their dream, and this is it," he said. "I'm going to try to enjoy every minute it."

Woods, a three-time Open champion, is playing for the first time since St. Andrews in 2015 and remains the biggest attraction in golf by some margin. Matsuyama has been Japan's biggest golf star for the last several years. It figures to be pure chaos Thursday afternoon.

"There will be thousands of Tiger and Hideki fans, and millions of Scottish fans," Knox said, showing off his self-deprecating style that has endeared him to so many players on the PGA Tour.

He knows his obscurity, even with a World Golf Championship among his two victories at the highest level.

Knox, whose father is from San Diego, was barely good enough to compete for Scotland as a junior. He used a recruiting service to land a scholarship to Jacksonville University, and he stayed in Florida after he got out of college to play the mini-tours. It took him five years to reach the PGA Tour.

The first time he met Woods on tour was a few years ago at the AT&T National.

They were going to the bathroom.

"That was an interesting story," Knox said. "I chatted to him. I thought: 'This is weird. The first time I said anything to Tiger was while we were in the bathroom.'"

They finally had a proper conversation in the Bahamas two years ago at the Hero World Challenge.

Knox is not at Carnoustie to watch Woods.

He has been a regular at the majors since 2016, though he has never fared particularly well. He has made the cut only five times in 13 majors, though he tied for 12th last month in the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills. He qualified only by making four birdies on the last five holes.

So his game is looking up, and that makes Knox as excited as playing with Woods for the first time. The R&A has put Woods with a European all but three years in his 18 times playing as a pro, but it's typically a European with credentials, such as Justin Rose or Lee Westwood, Henrik Stenson or Graeme McDowell.

"It's been such a good summer for me already," Knox said. "This is a nice way to get recognized. It's nice to have been put in a group like that. You don't get into the Tiger group playing average golf. It's a nice pat on the back that you've earned this tee time."

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
5 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Swedish Open Singles and Doubles Quarterfinal Matches and Hall of Fame Quarterfinal Singles Matches (TENNIS).
6 a.m. — PGA Golf: British Open First Round from Angus, Scotland (GOLF).
6:30 a.m. — International Cycling: Tour de France Stage 12 from Alpe d'Huez, France (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
9 a.m. — College Football: SEC Media Days from Atlanta (SEC NETWORK).
11 a.m. — International Lacrosse: FILA World Lacrosse Championship Semifinal Match from Netanya, Israel (ESPN).
11 a.m. — PGA Golf: British Open First Round from Angus, Scotland (GOLF).
11:30 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Swedish Open Singles and Doubles Quarterfinal Matches and Hall of Fame Quarterfinal Singles Matches (TENNIS).
5 p.m. — PGA Golf: Barbasol Championship First Round from Auburn, Ala. (GOLF).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — American Legion Baseball: State Playoffs Second-Round Series Game 3 — Sumter at Camden (WVHM-FM 92.3, WVHM-FM 93.3, WVHM-AM 1290).
7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis at Chicago Cubs (ESPN).
8 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Washington at Dallas (ESPN2).
1:30 a.m. — PGA Golf: British Open Second Round from Angus, Scotland (GOLF).
4:55 a.m. — Formula One Racing: German Grand Prix Practice from Hockenheim, Germany (ESPN2).

N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
San Diego at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.
Miami at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
San Francisco at Oakland, 9:35 p.m.
Colorado at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.

SATURDAY
N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 1:05 p.m., 1st game
Miami at Tampa Bay, 6:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
San Diego at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 7:15 p.m., 2nd game
Colorado at Arizona, 8:10 p.m.
San Francisco at Oakland, 9:05 p.m.

MLB LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
BATTING_Betts, Boston, .359; Altuve, Houston, .332; Martinez, Boston, .328; Segura, Seattle, .323; Duffy, Tampa Bay, .317; Machado, Los Angeles, .315; Simmons, Los Angeles, .313; Rosario, Minnesota, .311; Trout, Los Angeles, .310; Gurriel, Houston, .310.
RUNS_Lindor, Cleveland, 85; Betts, Boston, 79; Martinez, Boston, 72; Trout, Los Angeles, 71; Benintendi, Boston, 68; Ramirez, Cleveland, 68; Bregman, Houston, 67; Judge, New York, 66; Segura, Seattle, 66; Springer, Houston, 65.
RBI_Martinez, Boston, 80; Ramirez, Cleveland, 70; Haniger, Seattle, 67; Encarnacion, Cleveland, 65; Machado, Los Angeles, 65; Bogaerts, Boston, 64; Bregman, Houston, 64; KDavis, Oakland, 64; Gattis, Houston, 63; 2 tied at 62.
HITS_Altuve, Houston, 129; Segura, Seattle, 120; Rosario, Minnesota, 117; Martinez, Boston, 116; Castellanos, Detroit, 115; Machado, Los Angeles, 115; Lindor, Cleveland, 113; Merrifield, Kansas City, 109; Betts, Boston, 108; Ramirez, Cleveland, 108.
DOUBLES_Escobar, Minnesota, 35; Bregman, Houston, 31; Lindor, Cleveland, 30; Merrifield, Kansas City, 30; Castellanos, Detroit, 29; Abreu, Chicago, 27; Andujar, New York, 27; Pillar, Toronto, 27; 3 tied at 26.
TRIPLES_Sanchez, Chicago, 9; Hernandez, Toronto, 6; Benintendi, Boston, 5; Moncada, Chicago, 5; Smith, Tampa Bay, 5; Jones, Detroit, 4; Moreland, Boston, 4; Profar, Texas, 4; Wendle, Tampa Bay, 4; 15 tied at 3.
HOME RUNS_Martinez, Boston, 29; Ramirez, Cleveland, 29; Judge, New York, 25; Lindor, Cleveland, 25; Trout, Los Angeles, 25; Machado, Los Angeles, 24; Betts, Boston, 23; Stanton, New York, 23; 3 tied at 22.
STOLEN BASES_Gordon, Seattle, 22; Anderson, Chicago, 21; Ramirez, Cleveland, 20; Betts, Boston, 18; Benintendi, Boston, 17; Merrifield, Kansas City, 17; RDavis, Cleveland, 16; DeShields, Texas, 16; Smith, Tampa Bay, 16; Trout, Los Angeles, 15.
PITCHING_Severino, New York, 14-2; Kluber, Cleveland, 12-5; Snell, Tampa Bay, 12-5; Carrasco, Cleveland, 11-5; Morton, Houston, 11-2; Porcello, Boston, 11-4; Rodriguez, Boston, 11-3; 6 tied at 10.
ERA_Sale, Boston, 2.23; Bauer, Cleveland, 2.24; Snell, Tampa Bay, 2.27; Verlander, Houston, 2.29; Severino, New York, 2.31; Cole, Houston, 2.53; Skaggs, Los Angeles, 2.57; Kluber, Cleveland, 2.76; Morton, Houston, 2.96; Gonzales, Seattle, 3.42.
STRIKEOUTS_Sale, Boston, 188; Cole, Houston, 177; Bauer, Cleveland, 175; Verlander, Houston, 172; Paxton, Seattle, 155; Morton, Houston, 146; Severino, New York, 144; Snell, Tampa Bay, 134; Kluber, Cleveland, 132; Berrios, Minnesota, 127.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
BATTING_Gennett, Cincinnati, .326; Markakis, Atlanta, .323; Almora, Chicago, .319; Freeman, Atlanta, .315; Suarez, Cincinnati, .312; Arenado, Colorado, .312; Kemp, Los Angeles, .310; Dickerson, Pittsburgh, .306; Aguilar, Milwaukee, .298; Parra, Colorado, .297.
RUNS_Albies, Atlanta, 74; Blackmon, Colorado, 73; Arenado, Colorado, 63; Hernandez, Philadelphia, 63; Baez, Chicago, 61; Goldschmidt, Arizona, 61; Pham, St. Louis, 60; Yelich, Milwaukee, 60; Freeman, Atlanta, 59; Gennett, Cincinnati, 59.
RBI_Baez, Chicago, 72; Suarez, Cincinnati, 71; Aguilar, Milwaukee, 70; Arenado, Colorado, 68; Story, Colorado, 68; Gennett, Cincinnati, 63; Freeman, Atlanta, 61; Markakis, Atlanta, 61; Rizzo, Chicago, 61; 2 tied at 60.
HITS_Markakis, Atlanta, 120; Gennett, Cincinnati, 115; Albies, Atlanta, 114; Freeman, Atlanta, 114; Castro, Miami, 112; Anderson, Miami, 109; Peraza, Cincinnati, 108; Arenado, Colorado, 107; Story, Colorado, 107; Blackmon, Colorado, 105.
DOUBLES_Albies, Atlanta, 29; Markakis, Atlanta, 29; Carpenter, St. Louis, 28; Story, Colorado, 27; Baez, Chicago, 25; Freeman, Atlanta, 25; Rendon, Washington, 25; Anderson, Miami, 23; Hosmer, San Diego, 23; 7 tied at 22.
TRIPLES_KMarte, Arizona, 8; CTaylor, Los Angeles, 8; Baez, Chicago, 6; Nimmo, New York, 6; Contreras, Chicago, 5; Dickerson, Pittsburgh, 5; Hamilton, Cincinnati, 5; Rosario, New York, 5; Story, Colorado, 5; 10 tied at 4.
HOME RUNS_Aguilar, Milwaukee, 24; Arenado, Colorado, 23; Harper, Washington, 23; Nuncy, Los Angeles, 22; Goldschmidt, Arizona, 21; Albies, Atlanta, 20; Story, Colorado, 20; 5 tied at 19.
STOLEN BASES_SMarte, Pittsburgh, 25; MTaylor, Washington, 24; Inciarte, Atlanta, 23; Hamilton, Cincinnati, 22; Turner, Washington, 22; Baez, Chicago, 18; Cain, Milwaukee, 18; Peraza, Cincinnati, 17; Dyson, Arizona, 16; 3 tied at 14.
PITCHING_Lester, Chicago, 12-2; Nola, Philadelphia, 12-3; Scherzer, Washington, 12-5; Godley, Arizona, 11-6; Greinke, Arizona, 10-5; Mikolas, St. Louis, 10-3; 10 tied at 8.
ERA_deGrom, New York, 1.68; Nola, Philadelphia, 2.30; Scherzer, Washington, 2.41; Lester, Chicago, 2.58; Foltyniewicz, Atlanta, 2.66; Mikolas, St. Louis, 2.79; Freeland, Colorado, 3.11; Greinke, Arizona,

3.18; Arrieta, Philadelphia, 3.23; Corbin, Arizona, 3.24.
STRIKEOUTS_Scherzer, Washington, 182; Corbin, Arizona, 149; deGrom, New York, 149; Nola, Philadelphia, 131; Gray, Colorado, 125; Greinke, Arizona, 124; Foltyniewicz, Atlanta, 120; Pivetta, Philadelphia, 113; Velasquez, Philadelphia, 110; 4 tied at 108.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

STATE PLAYOFFS
SECOND ROUND
Best-of-5
Midlands Region
Sumter vs. Camden
Monday
Camden 10, Sumter 9, 9 innings, Camden leads series 1-0
Tuesday
Camden at Sumter (ppd. rain)
Wednesday
Camden at Sumter (late)
Today
Sumter at Camden
Friday
Camden at Sumter (if necessary)
Saturday
Sumter at Camden (if necessary)
Coastal Region
Florence vs. Charleston/Goose Creek
Monday
Charleston/Goose Creek 3, Florence 1, Charleston/Goose Creek leads series 1-0
Tuesday
Florence at Charleston/Goose Creek (late)
Today
Charleston/Goose Creek at Florence
Thursday
Florence at Charleston/Goose Creek (if necessary)
Friday
Charleston/Goose Creek at Florence (if necessary)
Piedmont Region
Gaffney vs. Fort Mill
Monday
Gaffney 10, Fort Mill 0, Gaffney leads series 1-0
Tuesday
Gaffney at Fort Mill (late)
Today
Fort Mill at Gaffney
Thursday
Gaffney at Fort Mill (if necessary)
Friday
Fort Mill at Gaffney (if necessary)
Upstate Region
Greenwood vs. Chapin/Newberry
Monday
Greenwood 6, Chapin/Newberry 4, Greenwood leads series 1-0
Tuesday
Chapin/Newberry at Greenwood (late)
Today
Greenwood at Chapin/Newberry
Thursday
Chapin/Newberry at Greenwood (if necessary)
Friday
Greenwood at Chapin/Newberry (if necessary)

STATE TOURNAMENT
July 24
Game 1 -- Midlands winner at Coastal winner, TBA
Game 2 -- UpState winner at Piedmont winner, TBA at Spirit Communications Park (in Columbia)
July 25
Game 3 -- Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 4 -- Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 7 p.m.
July 26
Game 5 -- Game 4 loser vs. Game 3 winner, 7 p.m.
July 27
Game 6 -- Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
Game 7 -- If necessary

WNBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	13	9	.591
Washington	13	9	.591
Connecticut	12	11	.522
New York	7	15	.318
Chicago	7	16	.304
Indiana	2	21	.087

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct
Seattle	17	6	.739
Phoenix	15	8	.652
Los Angeles	14	9	.609
Dallas	13	9	.591
Minnesota	13	10	.565
Las Vegas	10	13	.435

TUESDAY
Dallas 104, New York 87
Atlanta 86, Connecticut 83

WEDNESDAY
Minnesota 89, Indiana 65
Seattle 101, Chicago 83

TODAY
New York at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Las Vegas at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY
Seattle at Connecticut, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Chicago, 9 p.m.
Indiana at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.<

PRO BASKETBALL



AP FILE PHOTO

Toronto Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan (10) scores over Cleveland Cavaliers guard George Hill during the first half of Game 1 of the NBA playoffs Eastern Conference semifinal in Toronto in May.

Leonard goes to Raptors, DeRozan goes to Spurs

BY TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

The Kawhi Leonard saga in San Antonio is over. So is DeMar DeRozan's time in Toronto.

An NBA summer blockbuster got pulled off Wednesday, with the Spurs sending Leonard to the Raptors as part of a four-player deal that has DeRozan heading to San Antonio. The Spurs also got center Jakob Poeltl and a 2019 protected first-round draft pick, while the Raptors acquired sharpshooter Danny Green.

For Leonard and the Spurs, there's finally closure to a relationship that seemed fractured beyond repair and played out like a soap opera as the season went along. But in the end, Spurs coach Gregg Popovich — insisting that looking back at what happened would not be worth his time, and that Leonard was a good teammate throughout his tenure in San Antonio — simply said he hopes the move works out for everyone involved.

"Kawhi, obviously, worked very hard to become the player he is," Popovich said in San Antonio, a couple of hours after the trade became official when the teams got approval on the terms from the NBA. "Our staff worked very hard to help him get there. We wish him all the best as he moves on to Toronto. I think he's going to be great."

Leonard was the 2014 NBA Finals MVP and had been with the Spurs for seven seasons, averaging 16.3 points, though was limited to just nine games last season because of a leg injury. DeRozan has been in the league for nine years, all of them with Toronto, and is a career 19.7 point-per-game scorer.

PRO BASEBALL

Boom or bust as homers, strikeouts dominate diamond

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Boom or bust. This is what baseball has become — and that has owners worried.

"It's just kind of what it is: home runs and strikeouts," Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Ross Stripling said.

Stripling had just given up 10th-inning home runs on consecutive pitches to Houston's Alex Bregman and George Springer on a night players combined for 10 long-balls, nearly double the previous All-Star record.

Last fall, you may remember, the Dodgers and Astros totaled 25 home runs in the World Series, four more than had ever been hit before in a Fall Classic.

"It's extremely tough to manufacture hits these days, especially with the shift," Stripling said after the American League's 8-6 win Tuesday night. "I certainly understand that's where the game's going, and so I think this game encapsulated that."

It took until the 344th pitch for a run to be driven in on something other than a homer, Michael Brantley's tuck-on sacrifice fly that boosted the AL's lead to 8-5. Joey Votto added the final home run in the bottom half, four more than the previous All-Star mark.

"Everybody's throwing 97 to 100," Washington ace Max Scherzer, the NL starter, said in a reference to pitch velocity. "You're not going to string



Houston's Alex Bregman (2) hits a solo home run during the 89th MLB All-Star Game on Tuesday at Nationals Park in Washington. The American League won 8-6.

three hits together like that. So everybody's just swinging for the fence."

Hours earlier, baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred was expressing alarm. Strikeouts (24,537) are on track to surpass hits (24,314) for the first time and are likely to set a record for the 12th straight season. This year's average of 17.0 per game is up from 12.6 in 2005. The current big league batting average of .247 would be the lowest since 1972.

And the average of 2.28 homers per game is just below the record 2.51 set last year.

"Standard operation nowadays, right? We're going to

homer-and-punch-out as an industry," said Astros manager A.J. Hinch, who led the AL to victory. There's a great love affair with both results."

Among 90 plate appearances, 44 ended in a home run, strikeout (25) or walk (nine), at 48.9 percent the highest in All-Star history, according to STATS.

"I don't really want to see guys shorten up and slap the ball around the infield just to avoid a strikeout. That doesn't excite me," said Colorado's Charlie Blackmon, who won the NL batting title last year while hitting 37 home runs. "I don't mind

strikeouts. That doesn't mean I want guys swinging way out of the zone, but it doesn't bother me."

Many cite shifts as the cause of the, well, big shift in offense, transforming groundballs that once were hits into outs. There have been 20,587 shifts on balls in play, according to Baseball Info Solutions. That projects to a full-season total of 34,668 — up 29.8 percent from last year and an increase from 6,882 for the entire 2013 season.

"There is a growing consensus or maybe even better an existing consensus among ownership that we need to

have a really serious conversation about making some changes to the way the game is being played," Manfred said. "We are not at the point where I can articulate for you what particular rule changes might get serious consideration. I can tell you the issues that concern people: I think that the period of time between putting balls in play, the number of strikeouts, to a lesser extent the number of home runs, the significance of the shift and what it's done to the game, the use of relief pitchers and the way starting pitchers are going to be used."

When it comes to change, players are Luddites. Union head Tony Clark maintained his members are "stewards of the game" and are resistant to tinkering with the rules for fear of unintended consequences.

"We may get to a point where those coming to the ballpark or have an interest in coming to the ballpark for whatever reason aren't 100 percent certain that what they are seeing is the type of game that they want to see," Clark said.

Home runs bring the crowd to its feet, especially by the home team. Think back to the 1998 Nike advertisement with Greg Maddux and Tom Glavine, titled "Chicks Dig the Long Ball." The Yankees' Aaron Judge started the All-Star Game barrage with a second-inning solo shot off Scherzer.

"I know the fans enjoy seeing these homers," Judge said.

P-15'S FROM PAGE B1

hoping to preserve a Post 17 win, but Hagerty lifted a ball into shallow right-center that Camden right fielder Heath Erwin dived for but came up empty on, allowing Ducom and Burns to race home with the tying and winning runs.

After running themselves out of a potential first-inning rally as Coker was thrown out at third for the final out, Sumter took a 1-0 lead in the second as Burns reached on a fielder's choice, stole second and scored as Trapp tripled to left.

Camden pushed across three unearned runs as Sumter committed two errors that contributed to two runs in the third and a wild pitch that added the third Post 17 run in the fourth.

Trailing 3-1 entering their half of the fourth, the P-15's loaded the bases with one out but had nothing to show for it.

After a Josh Burns walk, Austin Trapp single to left and Xavier Brown single up the middle, Victor Brown grounded to first, resulting in Burns being thrown out at the plate. Wylie Coker followed with a grounder to short that ended the threat.

The sting of that missed opportunity was sharpened as Camden struck for three runs in its half of the fifth, stretching its lead to 6-1. Sumter starter Austin Trapp walked the last batter he would face, Heath Stokes, before Coker came on to hit the only two batters he would face. Cody Windham came on and surrendered a 2-RBI double down the third-base line to Jake Tanner. Cody Nelson added a sac fly to left to plate the final Post 17 run as Cassaday came home from third.

Sumter runs its record to 19-3-1 heading to the upcoming state tourney in Georgetown while Camden ends its season with a 13-9 record.



Sumter's Austin Trapp delivers a pitch during the Junior P-15's victory over Camden on Wednesday at Riley Park.

DENNIS BRUNSON / THE SUMTER ITEM

ACC FROM PAGE B1

"Are there the chances for concussions in the game of football? Yeah, we all have common sense, right? Yeah, there are. When you have two people running into each other or multiple people running into each other, there is a chance of a concussion. But again, I'm going to say, the game is safer than it's ever been in the history of the game."

Known to cause violent moods, depression, dementia and other cognitive difficulties, CTE has been linked to the repeated hits to the head endured by football and hockey players, boxers and members of the military. The NFL's billion-dollar concussion settlement included payouts for a qualifying diagnosis of CTE.

North Carolina is home to a noted center researching sports-related brain injuries and Fedora's comments caused a stir at the ACC event, which opened two days of sessions with the league's seven Coastal Division teams. He returned nearly two hours later to speak with a handful of reporters.

"I'm not sure that anything is proven that football itself causes it," he said. "Now we do know from what my understanding is that repeated blows to the head cause it. So I'm assuming that every sport that you have, football included, could be a problem with that, right? As long as you've got any kind of contact, you could have that. That does not diminish the fact that the game is still safer than it's ever been in the history of the game because we continue to tweak the game to try to make it safer for our players."

Fedora also clarified his earlier comments to say the game wasn't under attack from rule tweaks to improve or promote safety.

"No, no, that's not what I meant," Fedora said. "How's the game under attack? To me, it's more about people twisting the data and the information out there to use for whatever their agenda is. Tweaking the game doesn't mean that the game is under attack. Any time you're changing the game for the betterment for the health and safety of the players, you're doing a great thing."

Asked if he believes the findings of some research studies on the topic, Fedora responded: "Depends on the study. I believe some of the studies and there's some of them that I don't. But that's why you do studies, I think."

Earlier in the afternoon, Fedora had touted the life lessons learned from the game have "a major impact on who we are as a country," even connecting that to the strength of the U.S. military.

"Oh yes, I fear that the game will get pushed so far to one extreme that you won't recognize the game 10 years from now," Fedora said. "That's what I worry about. And I do believe if it gets to that point, that our country goes down, too."

The ACC opened the day with state-of-the-league comments from Commissioner John Swofford, including his expectation of a national standardized policy for reporting injuries and ineligible players following a recent Supreme Court ruling striking down a federal law barring gambling on college sports.

The two-day session concludes Thursday with the Atlantic Division teams.

SEC FROM PAGE B1

He touched on a wide range of subjects, all while making it clear which ones wouldn't reveal the least bit of insight (most notably, the Crimson Tide's quarterback dilemma, which he brushed off with a preemptive "still to be determined").

He never wavered much from his lecturing tone, except to throw in a slight bit of disdain — even while telling the assembled media how excited he was to be here (sorry, that was one time he didn't sound the least bit persuasive).

Saban will turn 67 on Halloween.

Amazingly, said linebacker Anfernee Jenkins, "he seems to be getting younger."

That age-defying assessment can't be too comforting to a conference that has been trying for more than a decade — without much success — to knock Saban from his throne.

"I really enjoy what I'm doing right now, and as long as I'm healthy and I can do it, I'm going to continue to do it and not worry about any numbers or what my age is or anything like that," he said. "I would not want to be in the position where I ever rode the program down because I wasn't capable of making a contribution that would be positive to the success of the program."

No worries there.

Saban's sixth national title — the one that pulled him even with Bear Bryant for the most by any coach in college football history — might have been his greatest of all.

The Crimson Tide battled a rash of injuries, especially on the defensive side of the line. There was a loss to

bitter rival Auburn in the regular-season finale, a defeat that cost Alabama a shot at the SEC title. Then, after claiming a spot in the playoff and knocking off defending national champion Clemson in the semifinals, Saban faced an excruciating decision in the title game.

With his team down 13-0 to Georgia at halftime and doing nothing offensively, Saban yanked starting quarterback Jalen Hurts — despite a 25-2 career record as a starter — and inserted freshman Tua Tagovailoa.

All the young Hawaiian did was throw three touchdown passes, including a 41-yard scoring strike in overtime to give the Crimson Tide another national crown.

"There was tremendous adversity, probably more adversity than any championship team we've ever had," Saban allowed, in a rare instance of looking backward. "This was more self-fulfilling maybe than ever before."

Of course, he didn't linger long on the past.

Never does.

"He probably celebrated that night," Jenkins said, "and then he was back to recruiting the next day."

Saban's success has put the rest of the mighty SEC into a perpetual state of catch-up, most notably by focusing their coaching hires on someone — anyone — who has been touched by the master's genius.

Five of his former assistants have gone on to head coaching jobs in the SEC. While Jim McElwain didn't last long at Florida, the other four — most notably, Kirby Smart of rising powerhouse Georgia — will be trying to knock Saban off his pedestal this season.

CLUB FROM PAGE B1

seniors with their college educations. The club also presented plaques to 12 scholar athletes, *The Sumter Item* All-Area and All-Independent Football teams, its offensive, defensive and special teams players of the year, an offensive lineman of the year and the assist-

tant coach of the year.

The club had around 70 members last year and between 60 and 70 sponsorships.

"We feel like it is going to be bigger and better than ever this year," Glaze said of the 12 weekly meetings, the first of which will be on Aug. 1. "We're going to have outstanding speakers and a great breakfast as we promote the sport

of high school football."

Membership is open to the public. The fee is \$100 per year and includes a full buffet breakfast from Shoney's each week along with the ability to participate in all that the TD club offers. Sponsorships are \$200 per year.

The club will hold its 12 meetings at Swan Lake Visitors Center beginning at 7:15 a.m. The visitors

center is located inside the gates of Swan Lake-Iris Gardens on West Liberty Street.

For those interested in becoming a member or a sponsor, go to www.sumtertdclub.com and click on the membership form or sponsorship form.

For more information, go to the website or call Glaze at (803) 968-0773.

OBITUARIES

JOANNE V. WILLS

DALZELL — JoAnne Elizabeth VanHoute Wills, 71, wife of Glenn Eugene Wills, passed away on Monday, July 16,

2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on May 20, 1947, in Waterloo, New York, she was a daughter of the late Jacob and Agnes Murphy VanHoute. She was

of the Catholic faith. She was a graduate of DeSales High School and retired from AAFES after 28 years as a military clothing sales manager.

Survivors include her husband of 50 years; a son, Jeffrey Wills (Leslie) of Hartford, Alabama; two daughters, Jo Lynne Schneider (Michael) of Guntersville, Alabama, and Lee Anna Brown of Sumter; three grandchildren, Michael Schneider of Mobile, Alabama, Allyson Wills of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Lizbeth Wills of Dalzell.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Donald VanHoute; two sisters, Carol Bliss and Ann Belote; a nephew, Ryan Dumas; and a niece, Taylor Rae Bliss.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of arrangements.

ANNIE LEE B. MARION

Annie Lee Brown Marion, born Feb. 8, 1926, in Sumter, died on Monday, July 16, 2018. She was a daughter of James

Baldwin Brown and Annie Geneva Hatfield Brown.

Ann grew up in Sumter surrounded by 11 siblings, all of whom have predeceased her.

This large, close-knit family was her passion and spending time with them was her greatest joy. She graduated from Sumter High School and immediately entered the work force in an era when many young women did not. She worked briefly as a secretary for minor league baseball and also worked for several years at Shaw Air Force Base.

Ann married Lt. Ants Wiise of the U.S. Air Force, originally of Estonia, in 1950, and their daughter, Paula, was born later that same year. Lt. Wiise died in 1952 and, in 1958, Ann married Bill Marion, whom she met at Shaw Air Force Base. Bill and Ann moved the family to Macon, Georgia, where their son, Jim, was born in 1961. While living in Macon, Ann continued to work for the Air Force at Robins Air Force Base, rising to the level of GS12. She became a member of, and later president of, the Georgia Chapter of the Business & Professional Women's Foundation. Ann and Bill remained in Macon until 1985, when they retired to Columbia to be closer to Ann's family.

While living in Columbia, Ann was a docent for the Historic Columbia Foundation and was later the treasurer for the Iris Garden Club. After Bill's death in 2011, Ann moved to Annapolis, Maryland, later in 2013 near her daughter's family. In late 2017, she moved to the Atlanta area, near her son.

The family gratefully acknowledges the care and attention Ann received from the staff at Sunrise of Annapolis and Sunrise of Johns Creek, who helped to make Ann's last years more comfortable.

Ann was preceded in death by her brothers, JW Brown, Raymond Brown, Cecil Brown, Thomas Brown, Carl Brown, James Brown, Leland Brown and Dr. Alec Brown;

and her sisters, Kathleen Brown Parker, Bernice Brown Dombrosky and Alene Brown Hawkins.

Ann is survived by her daughter, Paula Wiise McFarland of Annapolis; her son, Jim Marion and his wife, Mary Beth, of Atlanta; her grandchildren, Kelly Drennon Karpovich and her husband, Bill, of Baltimore, Matthew McFarland and his fiancée, Jiyoung Kang, of San Francisco, and Jeffrey McFarland and his wife, Megan, of San Francisco; and her great-grandchildren, Nicholas Karpovich, Ana Grace Karpovich, James McFarland and Charles McFarland.

Ann is also survived by her brother-in-law, Paul Hawkins of South Carolina; her sisters-in-law, Patsy A. Brown, Sybil B. Brown and Clare G. Brown, all of South Carolina; sister-in-law, Mari Zarins of Estonia; sister-in-law, Riina Viise of Massachusetts; brother-in-law, Michael Viise of Iowa; special friends, Marie and Carlton Driskell of Macon; many fond nieces, nephews, cousins and their families; and friends who enjoyed her company over the years through work, garden clubs and the Georgia chapter of the Business & Professional Women's Foundation.

"The General" will be particularly missed at the large family reunions of the Brown and Hatfield families. Family was the most important thing in the world to Ann and she leaves a legacy of loyalty and commitment to that family.

A memorial service will be held to honor Ann's life at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Bullock Funeral Home, 1190 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150.

Ann loved flowers and would be honored by your contributions to your favorite garden club or to your favorite charity.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



ANTHONY E. PRINGLE

Funeral services for Anthony Eugene Pringle will be held at noon today at Palmer Memorial Chapel, 304 S. Main St., Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Vonshurrii Wrighten officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery, Sumter.

Mr. Pringle will be placed in the chapel at 11 a.m. for public and final viewing until the hour of service.

Anthony Pringle, 63, transitioned on Friday, July 13, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey, Sumter. He was a son of the late Manning and Juanita Glover Pringle and was a graduate of Sumter High School Class of 1973. He attended Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, Sumter. He was employed by Exide Battery Co., Sumter; O.T.R. Trucking Co.; The VA Medical Center in Hampton, Virginia; and served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was honorably discharged.

Survivors include a son, Emanuel E. Pringle Sr. of Raleigh, North Carolina; two grandchildren, Emanuel E. Pringle II and Jeremiah J. mar McLamb; brother, Thomas C. Pringle Sr.; sisters, Theresa (Quintus Sr.) Wrighten and Felecia Pringle Maple, all of Sumter; nephews, Dr. Quintus F. Wrighten Sr. of Columbia, Anthony S. Wrighten of Sum-

ter and Thomas C. Pringle Jr. of Richmond, Virginia; nieces, Kaila J. I. Wrighten and Shanekia Pringle of Anderson and Ella Harley of Lithonia, Georgia; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Professional services rendered by Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc.

Please visit our website for more details at www.palmermemorialchapel.com.



DOROTHY H. BRANHAM

Dorothy Hasty Branham, 96, widow of Melvin Branham, died on Monday, July 16, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.



BRANHAM

Born on Sept. 6, 1921, she was a daughter of the late Marcus and Margaret Gardner Hasty. Mrs. Branham and her husband farmed and

owned a dairy. In addition to working in their farming business, Dorothy enjoyed gardening, cooking, fishing, watching sports and spending time with her family. She was a member of Sumter Baptist Temple.

She is survived by her children, Dorothy Jean Millard (Wes) of Florida, Geri Thompson Rabon (Larry) of Sumter and Danny Branham (Brenda), Donnie Branham (Margaret) and David Branham (Pat), all of Lee County; 17 grandchildren; 44 great-grandchildren; and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, William Leonard Hasty; a sister, Margaret Hasty Mobley; and a granddaughter, Charlotte Molina Randolph.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to her caregiver, Susan Reagin.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday at Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday in the chapel of Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home with the Rev. Michael Westmoreland officiating. Burial will follow at Ashwood Baptist Church Cemetery, 1075 Lake Ashwood Road, Sumter (Lee County).

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Memorials may be made to Sumter Baptist Temple, 22 Harper St., Sumter, SC 29153 or to Sumter United Ministries, P.O. Box 1017, Sumter, SC 29151.

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

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



DOROTHY MAE F. WASHINGTON

Dorothy Mae Fortune Washington was born on March 11, 1949, in Bishopville, to the late Sammie Lee Sr. and Essie Mae Bradley Fortune.



WASHINGTON

Dorothy was united in holy matrimony to L. J. Washington. With much tender, loving and caring, they were blessed to raise five children.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents; her siblings, Jay Fortune, Walter

Fortune and Willie James Fortune; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild.

Dorothy departed this life on Friday, July 13, 2018, at University Hospital in Augusta, Georgia.

She is survived by her husband, L.J. Washington; her children, Kennedy D. Washington, Shirletha W. (Thomas) Abrams, Anthony C. (Nataasha) Washington, Caretha Washington and Harry E. (Jennifer) Washington, all of Sumter; 34 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; siblings, Hattie Mae Fortune-Jackson, Lucius (Teresa) Fortune and Sammie Lee Fortune Jr.; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday at St. Paul Holiness Church, 129 W. Moore St., Sumter, with Elder Barrington Pierson, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at New Zion AME Church Cemetery, Bishopville, (Wicksack community).

A public viewing will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Messages of hope can be left at www.whitesmortuary.net.

The family is receiving friends at 5690 Alcott Drive, Wedgefield.

Services are entrusted to Whites Mortuary LLC of Sumter.

DELGAR S. FORD

Delgar Sylvester Ford was born on Jan. 3, 1945, in Sumter County, a son of the late Delgar Ford Jr. and Mrs. Edna Brunson Ford. He departed this life on Friday evening, July 13, 2018, at his home.

Mr. Ford attended the public schools of Sumter County. At an early age, he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and attended Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, until his health failed and he could no longer attend. He joined the armed forces on Oct. 15, 1967, as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. During his tenure as a Marine, he was deployed in support of the Vietnam War and he was a recipient of the Purple Heart. For his valor and commitment to serving his country, he also received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal with 1 star, Vietnamese Campaign Medal and the Meritorious Mast for his honorable service. After his military duty, he became a civil service employee as an automotive mechanic for 37 years at Shaw Air Force Base. He was also known as the "Community Mechanic."

Sylvester leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Mary Ann Ford of the home; seven children, Terry Ford of Miami, Charlene Ford and Darrell (Shaneca) Ford, both of Sumter; Caresta Jones of Charleston, Yasmeen Stuckey of the home, and Jimmy Davis and Johnny Abrams, both of Atlanta; 29 grandchildren; two sisters, Shirley F. (Walter Davis) Brown of Sumter and Diane F. Gardner of Charlotte; one brother, Jeremiah (Geneva) Ford of Sumter; one aunt, Shuril P. Ford of Sumter; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Sylvester was preceded in death by his father and mother; one son, Kenneth Ford of Miami; two brothers, Edward and Joseph Ford; and other relatives.

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

Mr. Ford will be placed in the church at 9 a.m. on Friday for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, 805 S. Harvin St., Sumter, with Pastor Marion H. Newton officiating. Interment will follow at Fort Jackson National Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the home, 850 S. Harvin St., Sumter.

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

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

SADIE B. SLATER

Sadie Brown Slater, 88, widow of Harmon Slater, died on Monday, July 16, 2018, at Coney Island Hospital, Brooklyn, New York.

Born on July 6, 1930, in Sumter County, she was a daughter of the late Robert and Emma Herriott Brown.

The family will receive relatives and friends from 4 to 8 p.m. at the home of Ruby Robinson, 825 Bama Lane, Apartment 1, Sumter.

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

ALLENE G. ROSS

Allene Griffin Ross, 90, widow of George W. Ross, died on Monday, July 16, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

She was a daughter of the late Ernest Collin Griffin Sr. and Martha McLeod Griffin. She was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Sumter. She was an employee of Becton-Dickinson for a number of years, but her primary and most important role in life was that of a very loving and devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother who cared deeply for all her family members. She was especially known for keeping abreast of those who were ill through phone calls and visits to help in any way that she could. A caregiver all her life, she will be sorely missed by all those whose lives she touched, including her beloved feline family, Agnes and Isabel.

Surviving are her daughter, Linda R. Myers and husband, J.T., of Sumter; a grandson, James E. Mathis Jr. and wife, Wendy, of Alabama; great-granddaughter, Cassia Mathis of Alabama; great-granddaughter, Callie Mathis Matthews and husband, Jon, of San Diego; great-grandson, Sean Mathis of Alabama; three step-granddaughters, Malia, Dawn and Jenny of Washington, D.C., area and many nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Ross was predeceased by all her brothers, Ernest C. Griffin Jr., James R. Griffin Sr., Leslie W. Griffin Sr., Herbert Griffin and John H. Griffin; her sister, Louise Turner; and a great-grandson, James Austin Mathis.

The family would like to thank Sylvia Davis and Crystal Friel for their loving companionship.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday at First Church of the Nazarene, 3700 Patriot Parkway, Sumter, with the Rev. Gregory Pressley officiating. Burial will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

The family will receive friends and relatives at 2 p.m. on Saturday preceding the service at the church and other times at the Ross home at 1307 Muller Drive.

Memorials may be made to First Church of the Nazarene, 3700 Patriot Parkway, Sumter, SC 29154 or to the ASPCA, P.O. Box 96929, Washington, DC 20077-7127.

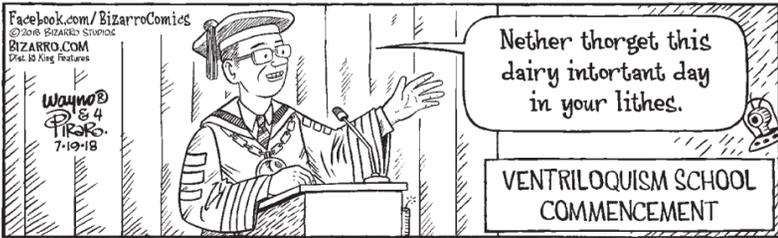
Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com.

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



Elmore Hill McCreight
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

BIZARRO



WALLACE THE BRAVE



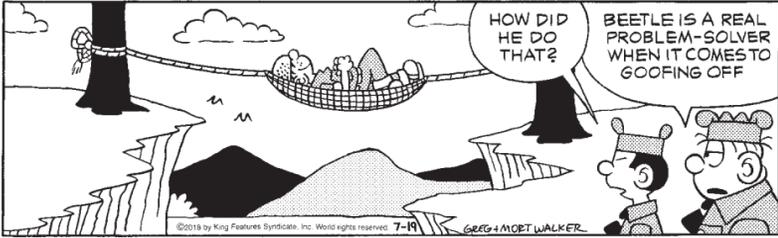
ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



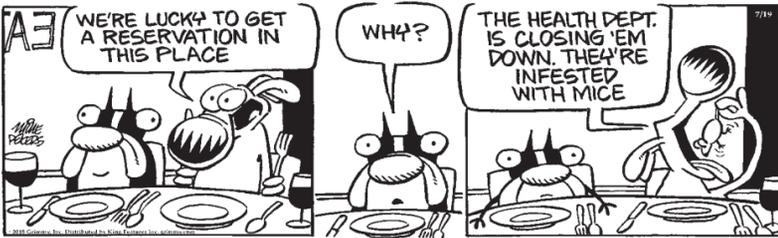
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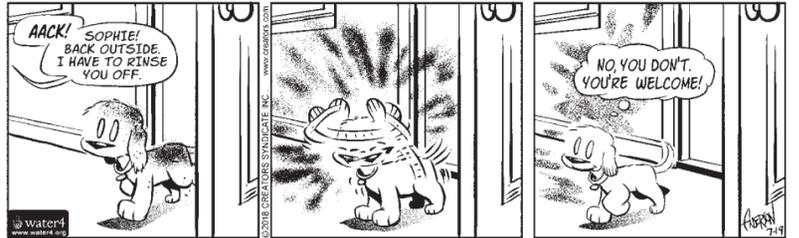
ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Widow returns to dating pool, finds troubled water



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — I was widowed seven years ago. When my husband died, I thought it was the end of my suffering. It had been a mentally and physically abusive marriage for 30

years. We were complete opposites and were always financially stressed. I've decided to start dating again. I want to meet someone and hopefully feel loved. I joined a dating website, but the men on it look disturbed and creepy. I have no friends, and I feel like I'm dying. I'm 57. Where are all the good men?

My boss told me I should consider dating women since I've had no luck meeting men. She is pushing me into meeting her lesbian friend. Her friend was in an abusive marriage, and her husband is no longer in her life. Abby, I'm shocked that she would even suggest it. I'm considering quitting my job because it's awkward being around my boss. She started joking about it with other co-workers until I told her to stop bringing up the subject. Even though she's curbed her tongue, the fact still remains that my co-workers know she wanted to match me with a woman. I cringe working around her and want to crawl under a rock. Please help.

Longing to be loved

DEAR LONGING — It's time to join some different dating sites and

enlarge your pool of prospects. However, when you do, keep in mind that your marital history may have negatively affected your judgment about men. "Dating" does not carry with it a guarantee of love. Your relationship with your husband should have shown you that. Also, because a man doesn't photograph well doesn't mean he's disturbed or creepy. (One woman's creep can be another woman's "Prince Charming.")

That said, if I ever heard about creating a hostile work environment, what your boss did is a textbook example and should have been discussed with HR. "Joking" about an employee's sexuality is considered to be both discriminatory and a form of sexual harassment. Her behavior was beyond the pale, and you should start looking for another job.

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.

ZAUZB

PRYEK

WERHDS

DAYALM

Print answer here:



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

Yesterday's Jumbles: USHER GIANT (ANSWERS TOMORROW)
Answer: Explaining the rules of arm wrestling is simple because it's — EASY TO GRASP

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20							21			22				
			23				24		25		26			
				27				28			29	30	31	
32	33					34				35				
36					37			38	39			40		
41					42			43			44			
45						46	47				48			
					49					50				
51	52	53				54		55		56		57	58	59
60						61				62				
63											65			
66											68			

Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke 7/19/18

- ACROSS**
- 1 New England sch.
 - 6 Dominant protector
 - 14 Up
 - 15 Stunt cyclist, e.g.
 - 16 Valuable extraction
 - 17 Exhale over scalding coffee?
 - 19 Bit of muesli
 - 20 Mariners' home, familiarly
 - 21 Bilingual subj.
 - 22 July 4th events, briefly
 - 23 Five-O cop
 - 25 James or Jones of jazz
 - 27 Discontinue slanted material in articles?
 - 32 Letters of urgency
 - 34 Long of "In Too Deep"
 - 35 Broad neckwear
 - 36 One in an airport queue
 - 37 Talking points?
 - 40 Memorable 1969 bride
 - 41 Harry's Hogwarts nemesis
 - 43 Letters in an unfilled sched. slot
 - 44 From the top
 - 45 Visit some animal shelter residents?
 - 49 Classroom "I know! I know!"
 - 50 First name in country
 - 51 Did a number
 - 54 Small application
 - 56 Ear inflammation
 - 60 Fire
 - 61 Delay passing a congressional bill?
 - 63 General Mills cereal
 - 64 Metal giant
 - 65 Debate topic
 - 66 Id follower?
 - 67 Conductor Zubin
 - 68 Arms treaty subj.
 - 10 Half of a very high price?
 - 11 Schmo
 - 12 Green Zone country
 - 13 Action at the track
 - 18 "That's all wrong!"
 - 22 Streisand, in fanzines
 - 24 "The Wizard "
 - 26 They usually end up in hot water
 - 27 Plotting group
 - 28 Hill of country
 - 29 iPhone array
 - 30 Top-drawer
 - 31 Stash
 - 32 Adapter letters
 - 33 "Waitress" Tony nominee
 - 37 "Hunny" lover
 - 38 Lyft alternative
 - 39 Fashioned from
 - 42 Heavy shoe
 - 44 Saying nay to
 - 46 Plant root growth
 - 47 Pastoral roofing
 - 48 Get one's hands on
 - 51 Sushi go-with
 - 52 Allies' enemy
 - 53 Coming right up
 - 55 One in an UGG box
 - 57 Shock, in a way
 - 58 Post-op areas
 - 59 "Leave it in" mark
 - 61 Bobby's wife on "Dallas"
 - 62 Pilot-licensing org.
- DOWN**
- 1 Cities, informally
 - 2 Kunis of "Black Swan"
 - 3 Starting on
 - 4 Clinched
 - 5 Treaded winter vehicle
 - 6 Wikipedia lacks them
 - 7 Untimely?
 - 8 Like alarm clocks
 - 9 Part of HMO
- Previous Puzzle Solved**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | H | U | | M | C | J | O | B | | T | M | C | | | | | | |
| G | O | P | S | I | L | U | V | U | | T | R | U | E | | | | | |
| T | T | S | O | | L | R | E | D | | H | I | S | N | | | | | |
| E | T | T | O | | T | B | A | R | S | | E | A | S | T | | | | |
| N | E | A | T | O | | S | S | T | | U | M | B | E | R | | | | |
| C | A | T | H | Y | | O | S | O | | F | E | L | L | A | | | | |
| E | S | E | L | E | D | I | N | T | O | | E | S | L | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | C | A | R | F | S | | | | | K | R | A | K | O | W | | | |
| T | O | Q | U | E | | F | I | B | | O | V | I | N | E | | | | |
| D | O | U | B | T | | A | C | E | | M | A | C | E | S | | | | |
| | | | | | | P | A | R | A | L | L | E | L | P | A | R | K | S |
| S | E | M | I | | | G | L | A | Z | E | | I | S | T | O | | | |
| T | R | A | C | | | B | O | X | E | R | | C | U | E | S | | | |
| S | S | N | S | | | T | W | E | R | P | | E | P | P | S | | | |

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)	Ellen's Game of Games "Ellen's Game of Games" Dizzy Dash; Tuba Toothpaste; Aw Snap.	Trial & Error "The Suitcase" The firm gets its first case.	Trial & Error Lavinia must stand trial for murder. (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "In Loco Parentis" Carisi opens a police investigation. (DVS)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Pierce Brosnan; Pusha T; 070 Shake. (N)			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition The 2018 ESPY Awards. (N)	The Big Bang Theory "The Solo Oscillation"	(:31) Young Sheldon (DVS)	Big Brother Eviction; head of household competition. (N)	S.W.A.T. "Blindspots" A robbery crew targets dispensaries.	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Denzel Washington; Joe Kennedy III. (N)			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Best Friends"	Jeopardy! (N)	Take Two "Death Becomes Him" Man hires Eddie and Sam to protect him. (N)	Match Game Mario Cantone; Cheryl Hines; Adam Pally. (N)	The Gong Show "Selma Blair; Ken Jeong; Yvette Nicole Brown" Selma Blair; Ken Jeong. (N)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live "Jim Gaffigan; Antonio Brown; Imagine Dragons" Jim Gaffigan; Antonio Brown. (N)				
WRJA	27	11	14	Rick Steves' Europe	Palmetto Scene SC Hall of Fame biographies.	Secrets of the Six Wives: Henry VIII's last three wives. (Part 3 of 3)	Endeavour on Masterpiece "Colours" A murder at an army base.	The Tunnel: Vengeance Coordinates lead to the next victim.		BBC World News	The This Old House Hour			
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory "The Gyroscopic Collapse"	The Big Bang Theory Sheldon punishes Leonard.	The Four: Battle for Stardom "Week Six" A new set of challengers face the Four. (DVS)		WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)		This Year in the SEC: College Football 2018	DailyMailTV	TMZ (N)		
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Mandy makes an announcement.	Last Man Standing Mike is inspired to open a restaurant.	Supernatural "The Bad Place" Jack tries to prove that he is good.	Black Lightning "The Book of Little Black Lies" Black Lightning must clear his name.	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "The Good" Couple bludgeoned to death.		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "To the Bone" A killer targets affluent art-owners.		The Game "Parachutes ... Beach Chairs"		
CABLE CHANNELS														
A&E	46	130		Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol	Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	Live PD: Police Patrol (N)	(:01) Live PD Presents: PD Cam	(:32) Live PD Presents: PD Cam (N)	(:04) Live PD: Police Patrol	(:34) Live PD: Police Patrol	(12:03) Live PD: Police Patrol
AMC	48	180		*** "The Karate Kid" (1984, Children's) teenager to defend himself.	Ralph Macchio, Noriyouki "Pat" Morita, Elisabeth Shue. A Japanese handyman teaches a					(:05) *** "The Karate Kid Part II" (1986, Children's) Ralph Macchio, Noriyouki "Pat" Morita, Martin Kove. While visiting Okinawa, Daniel battles his mentor's foes.				
ANPL	41	100		Lone Star Law "Border Bust"	Lone Star Law: Uncuffed A sudden flood; illegal operations. (N)					Northwest Law "Meth & Mischief" (N)	Lone Star Law: Uncuffed A sudden flood; illegal operations.			
BET	61	162		(5:00) *** "The Wood" (1999)	(:25) ** "Just Wright" (2010, Romance-Comedy) Queen Latifah, Common, Paula Patton. A physical therapist falls in love with her patient.					The Grand Hustle "Hustle 101" Sixteen hustlers gather to compete.	The Grand Hustle "Hustle 101" Sixteen hustlers gather to compete.			
BRAVO	47	181		Southern Charm "Game Changer" Thomas plays in a polo match.	Southern Charm "Ho, Ho, Ho" Patricia makes peace with Kathryn.					Southern Charm "Reunion Part 1" Members of the cast come together. (N)	Watch What Happens Live	Southern Charm "Reunion Part 1" Members of the cast come together.		
CNBC	35	84		Shark Tank	Shark Tank					Shark Tank	Shark Tank (DVS)	Jay Leno's Garage		
CNN	3	80		Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)					CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Anderson Cooper		
COM	57	136		(6:50) The Office "The Chump"	(:25) The Office "Whistleblower"	The Office "Nepotism"	The Office "Counseling"	The Office "Andy's Play"	The Office "Sex Ed"	The Office Andy starts a band.	Detroiters "Mort Crim" (N)	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	(:31) The Office "Halloween"	(12:01) South Park "Erection Day"
DISN	18	200		Bunk'd	Bug Juice: My Adventures at Camp	Andi Mack	Raven's Home	(:07) Big City Greens	Stuck in the Middle	Bizaardvark	Bug Juice: My Adventures at Camp	Andi Mack	Bunk'd	Bunk'd
DSC	42	103		Naked and Afraid "Fan Down"	Naked and Afraid "King of the Mountain" Survivalists compete against predators. (N)							Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid
ESPN	26	35		MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Chicago Cubs. From Wrigley Field in Chicago. (N) (Live)						X Games From Minneapolis. (N) (Live)				SportsCenter (N)
ESPN2	27	39		NFL Live	WNBA Basketball Washington Mystics at Dallas Wings. (N) (Live)					SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)		Nación ESPN (N)
FOOD	40	109		Chopped "Midnight Snack Attack"	Chopped "A Frog Leg Up"					Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Chopped
FOXN	37	90		The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)					The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Tucker Carlson		Tucker Carlson
FREE	20	131		(6:00) *** "Mulan" (1998) Voices of Ming-Na Wen, Eddie Murphy.	Marvel's Cloak & Dagger Tandy gets information about her father. (N)					(:01) Marvel's Cloak & Dagger Tandy gets information about her father.	(:01) Marvel's Cloak & Dagger Tandy gets information about her father.	The 700 Club Food helped numb the pain.		How I Met Your Mother
FSS	21	47		MLS Soccer Seattle Sounders FC at Atlanta United FC.						Fight Sports: Boxing		ACC All-Access	Big 12	Big 12
HALL	52	183		(6:00) "Christmas Under Wraps" (2014) Candace Cameron Bure.	"The Nine Lives of Christmas" (2014, Children's) Brandon Routh, Kimberly Sustad. A bachelor learns the value of love and companionship.					"A Dream of Christmas" (2016, Drama) Nikki DeLoach, Andrew Walker, Cindy Williams. A married woman's wish to be single is magically granted.				"Christmas Cookies" (2016)
HGTV	39	112		Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop					House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	Music City Fix (N)	House Hunters	Flip or Flop
HIST	45	110		Mountain Men: Fully Loaded (N)	Mountain Men: Fully Loaded (N)					(:03) Alone "Of Mice and Men" (N)	(:05) Mountain Men: Fully Loaded	Mnt. Men		Mnt. Men
ION	13	18		Blue Bloods "The Greater Good" A woman asks Frank for a favor.	Blue Bloods "The Price of Justice" A hostage victim won't press charges.					Blue Bloods "Mob Rules" A mob attacks Gormley outside his home.	Blue Bloods "Good Cop, Bad Cop" A stray bullet strikes an elderly woman.	Blue Bloods "For the Community" An activist is in danger of deportation.	Blue Bloods "Whistleblowers"	Blue Bloods "Whistleblowers"
LIFE	50	145		(6:00) ** "William & Kate" (2011) Ben Cross, Camilla Luddington.	"Harry & Meghan: A Royal Romance" (2018, Biography) Parisa Fitz-Henley, Burgess Abernethy, Meghan and Harry meet after being set up by friends.					(:03) 20/20 "America Royal" Meghan Markle's royal engagement.	Harry and Meghan: A Royal Wedding: Highlights from the royal wedding.	Harry and Meghan: A Royal Romance		"Harry & Meghan: A Royal Romance"
MSNBC	36	92		Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)					The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Last Word	The 11th Hour With Brian Williams (N)	Rachel Maddow	Rachel Maddow
NICK	16	210		The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare (N)	SpongeBob			*** "Happy Feet" (2006, Children's) Voices of Elijah Wood, Robin Williams.		(:35) Friends	(12:09) Friends	
PARMT	64	153		Friends	Friends					American Woman	Lip Sync Battle (N)	Lip Sync Battle (N)	(:33) "The Day After Tomorrow" (2004)	
SYFY	58	152		* "Rush Hour 3" (2007, Action) Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker, Hiroyuki Sanada. Carter and Lee battle Chinese gangsters in Paris.						*** "Hellboy II: The Golden Army" (2008, Action) Ron Perlman, Selma Blair, Doug Jones. Hellboy and his team battle an underworld prince.		(:36) ** "A Nightmare on Elm Street" (2010) Jackie Earle Haley.		
TBS	24	156		Seinfeld "The Yada Yada"	Seinfeld "The Millennium"	Seinfeld "The Muffin Tops"	Seinfeld			The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Conan Actors Olivia Munn and Thomas Jane. (N)	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	
TCM	49	186		(6:15) *** "Penelope" (1966, Comedy) Natalie Wood, Ian Bannen.	*** "Bullitt" (1968, Crime Drama) Steve McQueen, Robert Vaughn. San Francisco detective won't let go of mob-witness case.					*** "The Sand Pebbles" (1966, Adventure) Steve McQueen, Richard Attenborough, Candice Bergen. Politics and the tide hold a U.S. gunboat in 1926 China.				
TLC	43	157		My 600-Lb. Life "Nikki's Story"	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)					My 600-Lb. Life "Supersized: Lupe & Brittan" Brittan loses over 400 pounds.	(:01) Dr. Pimple Popper	My 600-Lb. Life		
TNT	23	158		NCIS: New Orleans "The List" A sailor is murdered in a strip club.	** "Shooter" (2007, Suspense) Mark Wahlberg, Michael Peña, Danny Glover. A wounded sniper plots revenge against those who betrayed him. (DVS)					** "Contraband" (2012, Action) Mark Wahlberg, Kate Beckinsale, Ben Foster. A former smuggler finds he has to get back in the game. (DVS)				
TRUTV	38	129		Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Misfits & Monsters	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	Love-Raymond	Two and Half Men	Two and Half Men	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens
USA	25	132		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A case takes an emotional toll on Dodds.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A member of a church group is raped.					Queen of the South "El Juicio" An enemy lays siege to Teresa's winery. (N)	(:01) Shooter "A Call to Arms" Bob Lee visits a friend of Earl's. (N)	(:02) Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Exposing the meat-packing industry.	(12:02) Queen of the South	
WE	68	166		Growing Up Hip Hop	Growing Up Hip Hop (N)					Growing Up Hip Hop	Growing Up Hip Hop	Growing Up Hip Hop	Braxton Family	
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	Last Man Standing

Does 'Trial & Error' need Chenoweth's effervescence?

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Kristin Chenoweth joins the cast for the second season of "Trial & Error" (9 p.m., and 9:30 p.m., NBC, TV-14). "Error" is a broad parody of true crime documentaries like "The Staircase," now streaming in an expanded version on Netflix.

She plays Lavinia Peck-Foster, the richest woman in a town that shares her name, leading to dozens of jokes about the townsfolk being called "Peckers" and all that follows from that 7th-grade-level innuendo. Nicholas D'Agosto returns as clueless lawyer Josh Segal.

"Trial" unfolds more like a comedy improv class than a series, with characters continually explaining and then reacting to very contrived setups. Segal's perceived Jewishness is referred to in whispers as being "Northeastern." His assistant, Anne Flatch (Sherri Shepherd), suffers from some affliction that causes her to jump when excited. According to local custom, Sheriff Dwayne Reed's (Steven Boyer) last name is synonymous with excrement and local law mandates that no woman can drive a car without the assistance of a flagman to warn pedestrians and other drivers. All of these fabrications add up to silly situations that make sense only within this hermetically sealed exercise.

Adding Chenoweth to the proceedings only makes "Trial" exponentially more obvious.

We seem destined, or doomed, to relive the 1980s one series at a time. On "The Americans," "Halt and Catch Fire," "Stranger Things," "GLOW" and "The Goldbergs," the Reagan era never ends. And let's not forget "Snowfall" (10 p.m., FX, TV-MA).

Now entering its second season, this series recalls the rise of crack cocaine via overlapping stories involving several drug dealers and crime syndicates and a CIA operative. It's hard enough trying to muster up some kind of sympathy for crack-dealing antiheroes. Spreading so many plotlines around makes that all but impossible.

These distractions also contribute to a number of odd shifts in tone and emphasis. Sometimes "Snowfall" unfolds like a procedure-heavy inside



SERGEI BACHLAKOV / NBC

Nicholas D'Agosto, left, stars as Josh Segal and Kristin Chenoweth as Lavinia Peck-Foster in the season two premiere episode of "Trial & Error: Lady, Killer," airing at 9 p.m. today on NBC.

look at the drug demimonde and the role of Reagan-Contra conspiracy in the crack epidemic. At other moments, it throws subtlety to the wind and explodes with all of the baroque excess of Brian DePalma's "Scarface."

BBC America cobbles together old footage and new animation to present "Doctor Who: The Lost Episode" (8 p.m.), an unfinished and unaired story about the Tardis time traveler written by Douglas Adams ("The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy"). Tom Baker plays the "Fourth Doctor."

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- A terminally ill man needs protection on "Take Two" (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).
- A moving memorial service on "Marvel's Cloak and Dagger" (8 p.m., Freeform, TV-14).
- Gunnar finds inspiration on "Nashville" (9 p.m., CMT, TV-PG).
- Stars from "The Bachelor" franchise compete on "Lip Sync Battle" (10:30 p.m., Paramount, TV-PG).

SERIES NOTES

Jack consults a dreamcatcher on "Supernatural" (8 p.m., CW, r, TV-14) * Comparative religions on "Young Sheldon" (8:30 p.m., CBS, r, TV-PG) * A father avenged on "Black Lightning" (9 p.m., CW, r, TV-14) * Hondo is put on leave on "S.W.A.T.:" (10 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * Less-than-perfect witnesses on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" (10 p.m., NBC, r, TV-14) * Ken Jeong guest-judges "The Gong Show" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).

LATE NIGHT

Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal are booked on "The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) * Olivia Munn, Keegan-Michael Key, Sterling K. Brown, Thomas Jane, Trevante Rhodes, Alfie Allen, Augusto Aguilera, Jake Busey, Yvonne Strahovski and Shane Black appear on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS) * Denzel Washington, Rep. Joe Kennedy III, D-Mass., and Carmen Lagala are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"

(11:35 p.m., CBS) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Pierce Brosnan and Pusha T on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) * Jim Gaffigan, Antonio Brown and Imagine Dragons appear on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" (11:35 p.m., ABC) * Amanda Seyfried, Brandi Carlile and Emmanuelle Caplette visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC) * Amanda Peet, Johnny Knoxville and Dave Blaine are

on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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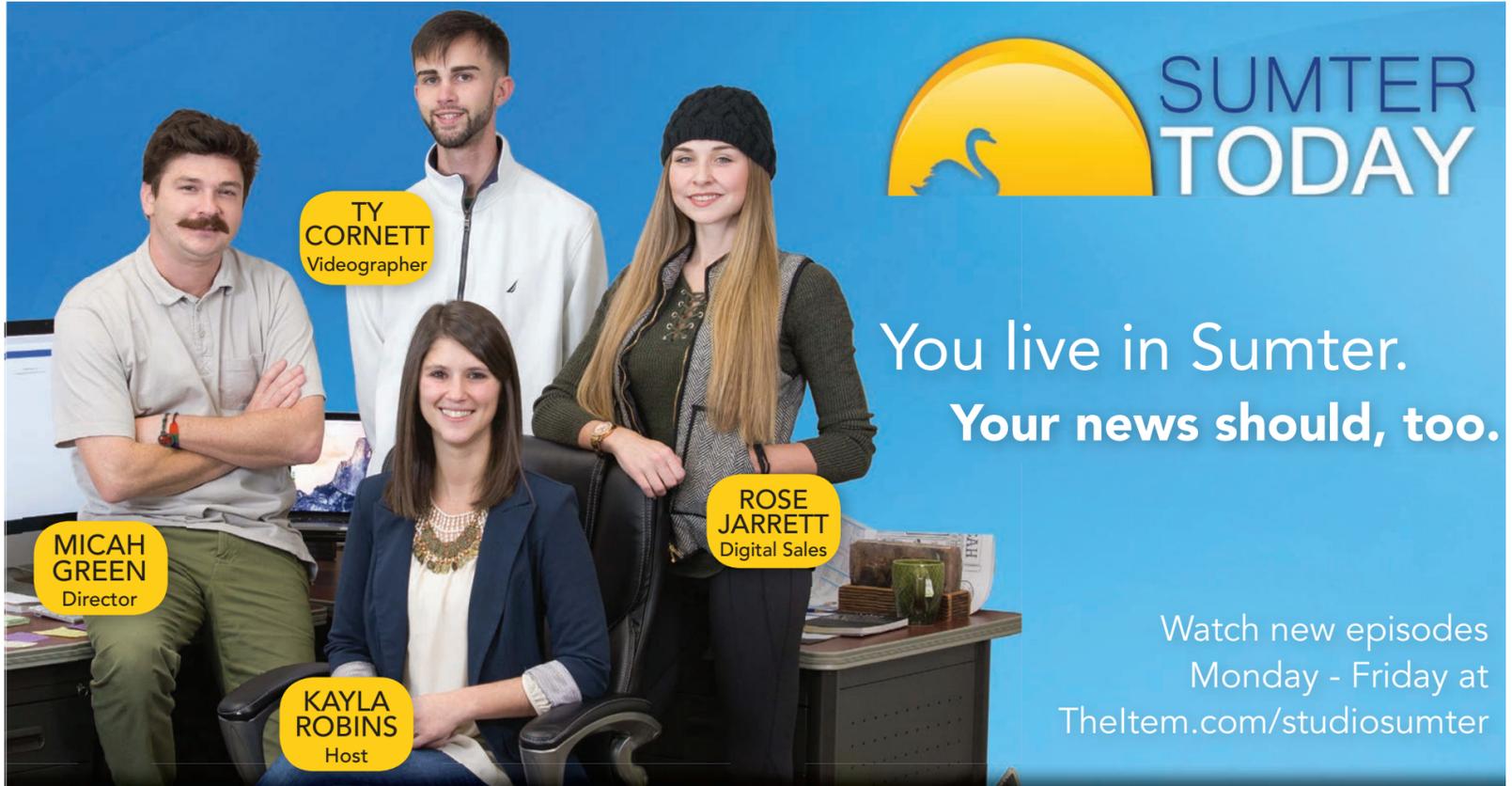
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Address: 129 South Harvin Street, P.O. Box 2462, Sumter, SC 29151
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