



## SPORTS

## Lakewood stays unbeaten in unlikeliest of ways

B1

# Top S.C. court will look into coroner case

**Samuels-Cooper's attorney asks court to reverse decision**

BY KAYLA ROBINS

kayla@theitem.com

The state's top court has decided to look at the ongoing dispute between the woman



SAMUELS-COOPER

who ran for and won the Clarendon County coroner race in the June Democratic primary and the incumbent whose subsequent lawsuit claimed — successfully, according to a judge's order — she is not qualified for the job.

Attorney Ronnie Sabb filed an appeal with the South Carolina Supreme Court asking to reverse Third Judicial Circuit Court Judge R. Ferrell Cothran's ruling that LaNette Samuels-Cooper does not have enough experience in death investigation work to meet the statutory requirements to be a coroner in the state. Sabb said the Supreme

Court expedited the appeal — the Nov. 6 general election is fast approaching — "so everything is on the fast track."

Sabb and his client are hoping the court reverses Cothran's decision that Samuels-Cooper is not qualified. Their defense claimed throughout the litigation and two days of testimony that her 13 years of working as an administrative

assistant should count as the one year of death investigation experience required.

After the initial ruling in early August, a special filing period opened for a new primary, and both she and Bucky Mock, the county's current coroner who lost to Samuels-Cooper in June, were the only

SEE CASE, PAGE A8

# Guastella assumes command of AFCENT in historic ceremony



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN XAVIER NAVARRO

U.S. Army Gen. Joseph L. Votel, Commander of U.S. Central Command, passes the guidon to U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Joseph T. Guastella Jr., right, commander of U.S. Air Forces Central Command, during a change of command ceremony at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, on Aug. 30. As the Combined Force Air Component commander for CENTCOM, Guastella is responsible for developing contingency plans and conducting air operations in a 20-nation area of responsibility covering Central and Southwest Asia. AFCENT, in concert with coalition, joint and interagency partners, delivers decisive air, space and cyberspace capabilities for CENTCOM, allied nations and America.

## 1st change of command held at command's forward headquarters in Qatar

BY U.S. AIR FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AL UDEID AIR BASE, Qatar — Lt. Gen. Joseph T. Guastella Jr. assumed command of U.S. Air Forces Central Command from Lt. Gen. Jeffrey L. Harrigian during a ceremony on Aug. 30.

U.S. Army Gen. Joseph L. Votel, commander of U.S. Central Command, presided over the ceremony, which was held at AFCENT's forward headquarters at Al Udeid Air Base

for the first time. AFCENT's headquarters is at Shaw Air Force Base.

"In the coming era of great power competition, it will be our people and our leaders that will be the difference makers as they direct and enable the military operations and activities in support of our enduring national interests,"

Votel said. "And we will prevail because of the edge they give us. Lt. Gen. Guastella, I

SEE CEREMONY, PAGE A8



U.S. Air Force Lt.

Gen. Jeffrey L.

Harrigian, outgoing

Commander of U.S. Air Forces

Central Com-

mand, speaks to

attendees at the

ceremony.

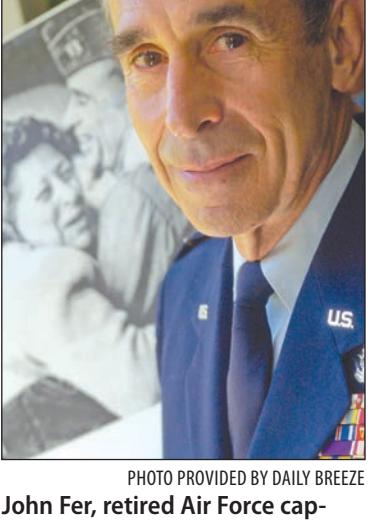


PHOTO PROVIDED BY DAILY BREEZE

John Fer, retired Air Force captain, was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for six years until his release in 1973. In the background is a copy of an Associated Press photograph of Fer being reunited with his mother after returning to the United States.

Former Sumter resident met McCain as POW in Vietnam War

BY DANNY KELLY

danny@theitem.com

Many are mourning the death of the late Sen. John McCain after he died of brain cancer on Aug. 25, including one former Sumterite who knew him personally as they were prisoners of war together.

McCain may be most well known for running as the Republican presidential candidate in 2008 against now-former President Barack Obama.

John Fer, a retired member of the Air Force and former Sumterite who now lives in New Market, Maryland, knew McCain personally; both were prisoners of war during the Vietnam War. The two met at what the American soldiers called Camp Unity in Hanoi, the country's capital.

On Feb. 4, 1967, Vietnamese missiles shot down Fer's plane. Three of his crew members

SEE FER, PAGE A8

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## DEATHS, B5

Joan Welch Hedrick  
Loma Elizabeth T. Pack  
Annie Ruth S. Sparks  
Allison Billups  
Steven Spann Jr.  
Mary Ann G. Burgess  
Willie James Cook  
Bernard L. Christian-Ragins

## WEATHER, A10

## HOT AND HUMID

Mostly sunny today with chance of rain; tonight, mostly clear and humid with chance of rain.

HIGH 92, LOW 72

## INSIDE

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# SECOND FRONT

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## DUI suspect crashes into SUV in driveway, home

BY KAYLA ROBINS

kayla@theitem.com

A 24-year-old is facing driving under the influence charges after a vehicle made an uninvited appearance to the front door of a house on Alice Drive.

Officers responded to a single-vehicle crash about 3:45 a.m. on Aug. 24 and found a 2007 Infiniti slammed between a home in the 100 block of Alice Drive and a Chevrolet Tahoe, which had been sitting in the driveway, according to Tonyia McGirt, public information officer for the Sumter Police Department.

A preliminary investigation



RICHARDSON

indicates Chenique Lashae Richardson, of Lakewood Drive, was traveling south on Alice Drive when she veered off the road to the left and struck a guide wire before going through the front yard of the home and hitting the parked Tahoe and then the house.

Richardson was treated at the scene for minor injuries, McGirt said. No one else was involved or injured.

She said evidence at the scene indicated the driver had been drinking.

Richardson refused a breath analysis and was booked into Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center and charged with DUI and cited for open container.

An investigation is continuing.

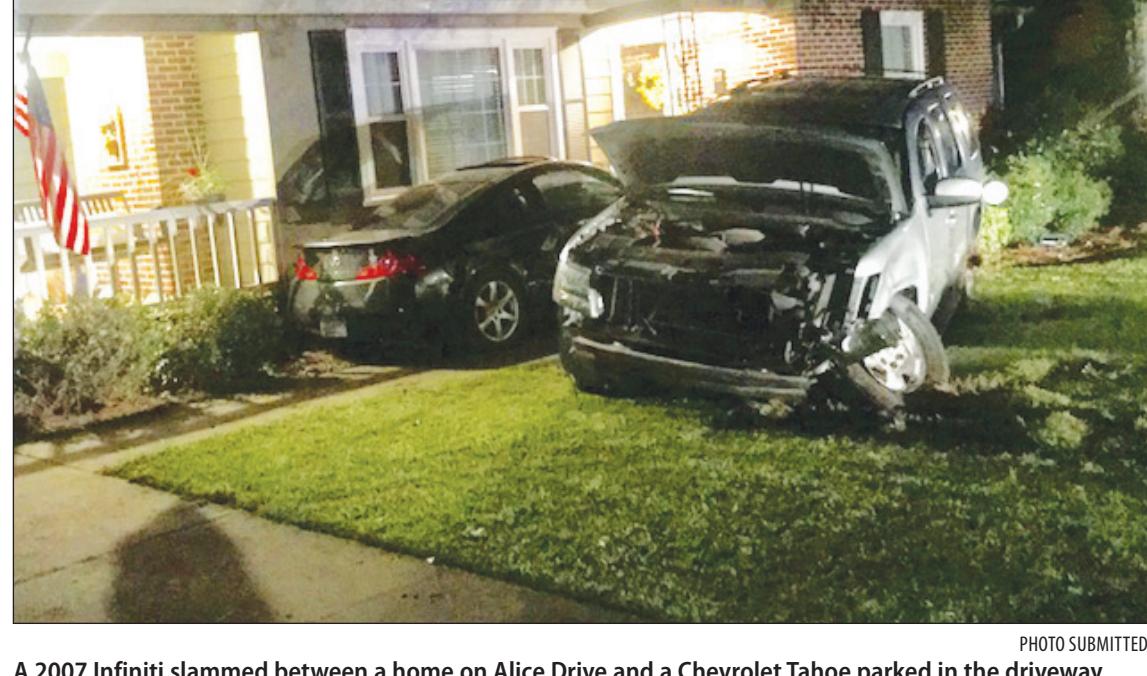


PHOTO SUBMITTED

A 2007 Infiniti slammed between a home on Alice Drive and a Chevrolet Tahoe parked in the driveway.

### LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

#### 2 Sumter School District teachers selected for STAR

Lakia Gaines, Sumter Career and Technology Center Aerospace Engineering teacher, and Marina Mosneaguta from Alice Drive Middle School have been selected to participate in the STAR (Strategies for Teacher Advancement and Renewal) program sponsored by The Foundation for Professional Development and Palmetto State Teachers Association.

Gaines

STAR is a statewide program designed to recognize and reward outstanding veteran teachers in South Carolina. Some primary goals of the STAR program are to enhance teachers' commitments to their profession and to the improvement of educational opportunities for all South Carolina students, and to reward outstanding veteran teachers who have taken initiatives to grow professionally and to recognize them for exceptional performance.

#### Tickets on sale for CWU annual salad luncheon

Meet new friends, see old friends and enjoy numerous salads at Church Women United Annual Salad Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at St. James Lutheran Church, 1137 Alice Drive. All proceeds from the luncheon benefit local charities such as Emmanuel Soup Kitchen, United Ministries, Habitat for Humanity and others.

Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased from your church representative or at the door.

For additional information, call president Lois Parson at (803) 778-1061 or Ollie James at (803) 481-0725.

## Graham pays respects to McCain



KEVIN LAMARQUE / POOL PHOTO VIA AP

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., touches the casket of Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., as he lies in state at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda on Friday in Washington.

## Pinewood man killed in single-vehicle wreck

BY SHARRON HALEY

Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING – A 73-year-old Pinewood man was killed Thursday afternoon in a single-vehicle wreck at Alex Harvin Highway and Rev. J.W. Carter Road, south of Manning, according to Clarendon County Coroner Bucky Mock.

The Clarendon County Fire Department responded to the scene along with Clarendon County EMS.

Steven Spann, the lone occupant of the vehicle, was transported to McLeod Clarendon by ambulance where he

died at 2:02 p.m., Mock said.

"The accident happened at 12:40 p.m.," Mock added. "Mr. Spann was ejected from the vehicle and died at the hospital from chest trauma less than two hours later."

Lance Cpl. David Jones with the South Carolina Highway Patrol said Spann was driving a 2001 Ford Explorer SUV south on U.S. 301 near Rev. J.W. Carter Road when he drove off the right side of the road, overcorrected and went off the left side of the road, overturning several times.

The wreck is under investigation by the South Carolina Highway Patrol, Jones added.



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## Attorney general: No backing down on Trump lawsuit

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for President Donald Trump asked a judge to dismiss a lawsuit brought against his charitable foundation by New York's attorney general, arguing that it was politically motivated.

In the motion Thursday, Trump attorney Alan S. Futerfas argued that former New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman "made it his stated mission to 'lead the resistance' and attack Mr. Trump whenever possible" and "used his public antipathy for Mr. Trump to solicit donations for his own re-election campaign and advance his career interests and aspirations."

Trump very publicly announced his intention to dissolve the foundation and donate all of its remaining funds to charity, but the AG "actively stonewalled dissolution," Futerfas wrote.

"At the same time, the NYAG turned a blind eye to se-

rious and significant allegations of misconduct involving the Clinton Foundation, including claims that it, and its subsidiaries, violated New York law by failing to disclose \$225 million in donations from foreign governments," Futerfas wrote.

Schneiderman began investigating the Trump Foundation in 2016 following *Washington Post* reports that its spending personally benefited the presidential candidate. Schneiderman ordered the foundation to stop fundraising in New York.

Schneiderman resigned in May after allegations that he physically abused women he had dated; he denied the claims.

His successor, Democratic Attorney General Barbara Underwood, filed the lawsuit in June, claiming the Trump Foundation "was little more than a checkbook for payments from Mr. Trump or his businesses to nonprofits, re-

gardless of their purpose or legality." The suit seeks \$2.8 million in restitution and the foundation's disbandment.

The filing said Underwood continued the "inflammatory rhetoric, stating publicly that she considers her battles with the President 'the most important work (she) has ever done' and has vowed that such 'work will continue.'

Trump's lawyers also argued that several impermissible donations by the foundation were due to clerical errors and were all corrected when brought to the attention of foundation officials.

In a statement Thursday, the attorney general's office said it won't back down from "holding Trump and his associates accountable for their flagrant violations of New York law."

"As our lawsuit detailed, the Trump Foundation functioned as a personal piggy bank to serve Trump's business and political interests," the statement said.

Wright says Ellis set the fire at 4 a.m. Aug. 23 and the grandmother, mother and two children inside made it out only because of smoke detectors and "the grace of God."

The sheriff said at a news conference he reviewed Ellis' psychological testing and other paperwork and saw no sign this might happen.

Ellis had been a deputy for just over a year. Wright didn't say if he had a lawyer.

# Bolivian woman might be oldest at nearly 118

SACABA, Bolivia (AP) — Julia Flores Colque still sings with joy in her indigenous Quechua tongue and strums the five strings of a tiny Andean guitar known as the charango, despite a recorded age of almost 118 years.

In her long life, she has witnessed two world wars, revolutions in her native Bolivia and the transformation of her rural town of Sacaba from 3,000 people to a bustling city of more than 175,000 in five decades.

Her national identity card says Flores Colque was born on Oct. 26, 1900, in a mining camp in the Bolivian mountains. At 117 and just over 10 months, she would be the oldest woman in the Andean nation and perhaps the oldest living person in the world.

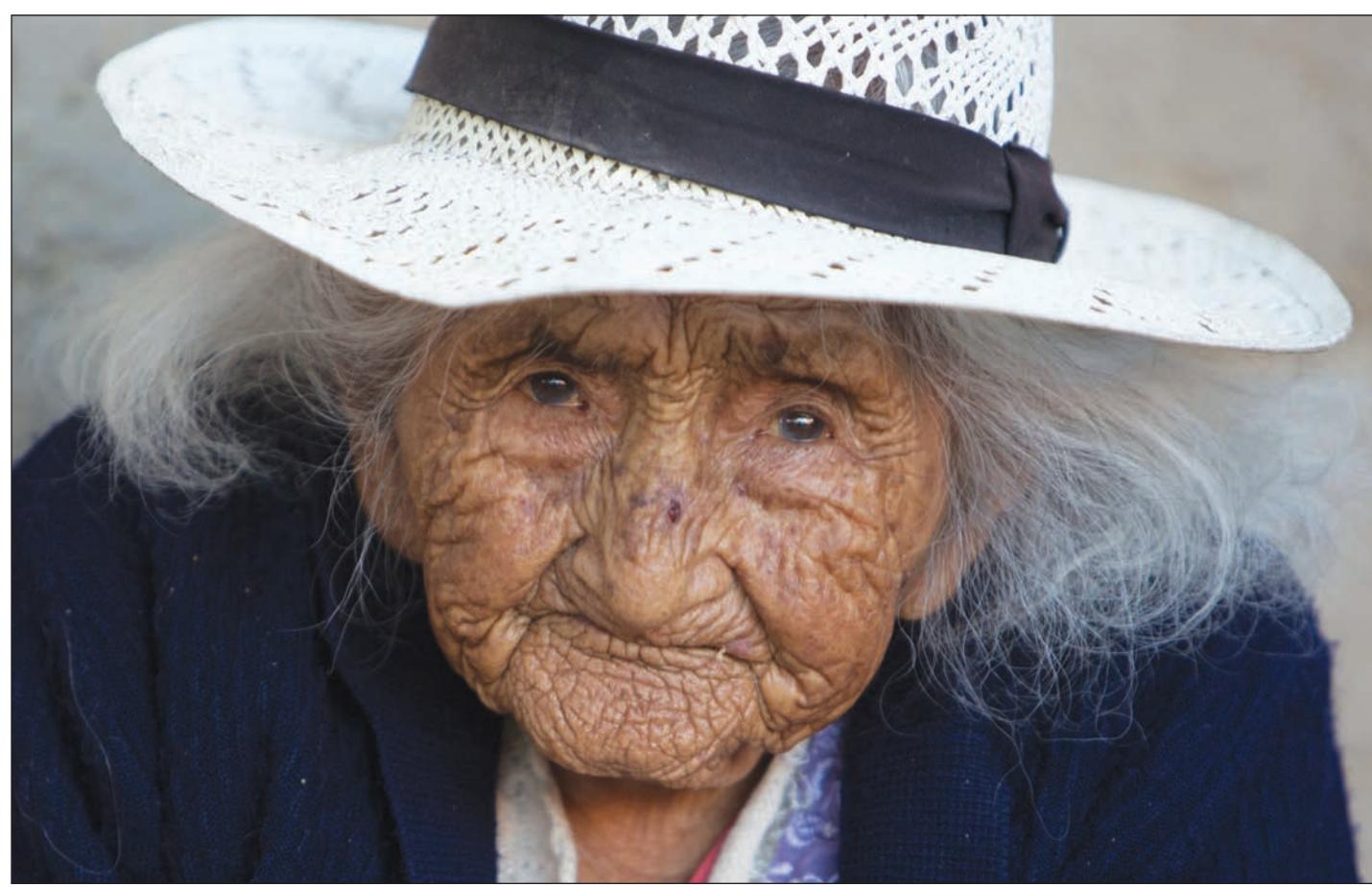
But a spokeswoman for Guinness World Records says she's not aware of receiving any application for her and Flores Colque doesn't seem to care that her record hasn't been confirmed. She hasn't even heard of the reference book.

These days, she enjoys the company of her dogs, cats and rooster. She is lucid and full of life, and she loves a good cake and singing folkloric songs in Quechua to anyone who comes to visit the dirt-floor adobe home she shares with her 65-year-old granddaughter.

"If you would have told me you were coming, I'd have remembered all the songs," she said jokingly while playing the diminutive guitar. She then dipped a finger into a cake, and smiled while she licked the frosting.

"She's always been active, easygoing and fun," said the granddaughter, Agustina Berna.

Growing up, the now-centenarian herded sheep and llamas in the Bolivian highlands until she moved in her teenage years to a valley, where she began selling fruits and vegetables. The produce became her main source of sustenance, and she still maintains a healthy diet though she does indulge in the occasional cake and glass of soda.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Julia Flores Colque eyes the camera while sitting outside her home in Sacaba, Bolivia, on Aug. 23. Her national identity card says Flores Colque was born on Oct. 26, 1900, in a mining camp in the Bolivian mountains. Nearing 118, she would be the oldest woman in the Andean nation and perhaps the oldest living person in the world.**

She never married and has no children.

The previously world's oldest person, a 117-year-old Japanese woman, died earlier this year. Nabi Tajima was born on Aug. 4, 1900. Her passing apparently leaves Flores Colque as the world's oldest living person.

Birth certificates did not exist in Bolivia until 1940, and births previously were registered with baptism certificates provided by Roman Catholic priests. Flores Colque's national identity card, however, has been certified by

the Bolivian government.

Her longevity is striking in Bolivia, which still has one of South America's highest levels of mortality, according to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the U.N.'s regional arm.

The Sacaba mayor's office has named Flores Colque a living heritage. The office and a private foundation have improved her home, building a brick path where she walks, and a shower and toilet with a railing so the centenarian can

safely make her way to the bathroom at night.

Sitting in the sun on a rustic bench, she seems eternal or like an ancient statue carved in stone. She is hard of hearing, but she remains sharp and scolds her smallest dog whenever Blanca tries to venture out into the street.

Just a few years ago, she still walked briskly. But then she fell and hurt her back. The doctor said she would never walk again. She proved the doctor wrong.

## Art group to rebuild Berlin Wall

BERLIN (AP) — The German capital is getting its infamous Berlin Wall back — at least for four weeks.

A group of artists said earlier this week that they're planning to build a facsimile of the wall around a downtown Berlin block in mid-October.

Visitors of the art installation must buy "visas" online starting at \$17.50. When entering the walled area, they'll have to exchange their cellphones for a smartphone which will provide individual instructions for a tour including documentaries, exhibits or concerts.

The artists are not interested in creating a "Disney-style East Germany," said Thomas Oberender of the Berliner Festspiele which organizes many performing arts events in the capital. Instead, the intention is more focused on creating an experience of traveling to a foreign country and losing the sense of freedom.

"Maybe it's not going to be so exciting overall," he said. "However, I think it will be."

Visitors will not know in advance what kind of events will take place on the day they're "in the city inside the city," as the project has been dubbed. The smartphone they're given may lead them to a fake conference of scientists or a meeting with a counselor. If they reject that offer, they will be suggested another event.

The artists' group DAU, which is behind the project, says it wants to distribute between 1,500-3,000 "visas" per day.

Inside the walled block, there will also be viewing platforms from which visitors can peer outside into Berlin — in contrast to the Cold War platforms where people could peek into East Berlin from the West.

The district that will be walled in lies on the city's downtown Unter den Linden boulevard and will include the famous State Opera, the Kurfuerstenpalais palace and other historical buildings. The artists, who envision special dispensations for people who work or live inside the zone, are still waiting for the final OK from the city's authorities for their project.

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**The Sumter Item** PANORAMA



## When should kids start helping in the kitchen?

BY KATIE WORKMAN

Associated Press

**A**s the author of family-oriented cookbooks, I am often asked these two questions:

"When is a good time to have your kids start helping in the kitchen?" Answer: Now!

And, "Which tasks can kids do at what ages?" Answer: Depends on your kid.

Some 7-year-olds are ready to use a sharp knife, while a 12-year-old who has never entered the kitchen except to ask for a glass of juice might be challenged by just rinsing some fruit. Yes, I know some children have been watching "Top Chef"

since they opened their eyes and are already busy flambeing something; if you are the parent of such a child, then just enjoy your souffle. You do not need to read on.

Here are some VERY rough age ranges for when you might think about introducing certain kitchen skills to your kid.

Only you know your child's ability and level of responsibility. And until you are sure that he or she is adept at an assignment, supervise, supervise, supervise.

### Ages 2-5:

Pour, dump, stir, sprinkle. Pick herbs off stems. Spread and brush things, rinse produce, juice citrus. Tear lettuce. Grease pans and decorate cookies.

Help get out the equipment — spoons, measuring cups, bowls (nothing heavy or sharp).

### Ages 5-7:

More of the above, with less assistance from you. They might be able to start cutting very soft items with a kid-safe, plastic serrated knife. There are some good ones on the market made just for this purpose, sharp enough to cut food, gentle enough not to cut little fingers.

Use the electric mixer to mix batters. Knead bread. Crack eggs (get the towels ready). Roll dough. Cut out cookies.

### Ages 7-9:

Even more of the above, plus measuring, frosting, decorating. Also, unmolding cakes and muffins, grating cheeses, skewering kebabs.

Talk about some math concepts, like fractions and multiplication, while you are measuring. Have them help read the recipe, and clarify any terms that are unfamiliar.

Consider the chemistry involved in cooking and baking, and if you're not up to speed yourself, let your kid take the lead in looking it up online or in a book. What happens when baking soda is added to a recipe? What is the differ-

ence between unsweetened chocolate and semi-sweet chocolate?

Children this age also can take part in food presentation, thinking about how things look on the plate and how to make them as appealing as possible.

### Ages 9-12:

At this point, kids might be ready to start using a real knife (begin with very soft foods, like butter or a banana, since the knife is less likely to slip).

They might also be ready to get in front of a stove. Height is a factor: If your child stands on a step stool near a stove, make very sure it's secure. Show children how to position the handle of a pan away from them so they won't bump it, and to never look away from what they are doing.

Let them take the lead on a recipe, with you playing sous chef. They can think about the order of steps, and how long the preparation will take.

Remember, it's never too early to get kids interested in cooking.

When my children were toddlers, I let them sort pasta shapes into a muffin tin. Useful? Nah. But it got them in the kitchen, in the midst of the hustle bustle of preparing dinner, and made them feel part of the action.

Everyone can smell, touch, taste.

And, no matter what age children are, once they can participate even a bit, involve them in two things:

First, let them taste the food, and ask their opinion — does it need more salt? Should we add something different? Should the mashed potatoes be smooth or a little lumpy?

Second, enlist their help cleaning up, even if the most they can contribute is clearing their own plates and pushing the "start" button on the dishwasher. Lending a hand when it's time to clean up is part of the deal, and the earlier that is understood, the happier you'll be.

## ENGAGEMENT



MISS KING, MR. NEISLER

## King-Neisler

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin King of Sumter announce the engagement of their daughter, Brooke Denise King of Sumter, to Cameron Neisler of Norwalk, Connecticut, son of Anton Neisler of Cary, North Carolina, and Debra Neisler of Charlotte, North Carolina.

The bride-elect graduated from the College of Charleston with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and from the Medical University of South Carolina with a Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences. She is a student at the Medical University of South Carolina College of Dental Medicine and expects to complete the Doctor of Dental Medicine degree program in 2021.

The bridegroom-elect graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a Bachelor of Science in Business. He is employed as a human resources recruiter by Atlas Technologies Inc. in Charleston.

The wedding is planned for Nov. 3, 2018, at Whitehead Manor in Charlotte.

...

The couple is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, [www.bedbathandbeyond.com](http://www.bedbathandbeyond.com); West Elm, [www.westelm.com](http://www.westelm.com); and The Knot, <https://bit.ly/2PNchXH>

## CELEBRATIONS POLICY

Engagement, wedding, birth and wedding anniversaries (25th, 50th and above) of local interest are published on Sundays except during holiday / vacation weeks.

The normal deadline is noon on the preceding Monday.

Forms may be obtained at *The Sumter Item* or downloaded from [www.theitem.com](http://www.theitem.com). Click on the drop-down arrow next to the Lifestyle tab on the navigation bar of the site.

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

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

Email wedding and engagement forms and photos to [brides@theitem.com](mailto:brides@theitem.com). For additional information, call (803) 774-1264. Email birth and wedding anniversary forms and photos to [sandra@theitem.com](mailto:sandra@theitem.com). For additional information, call (803) 774-1226.

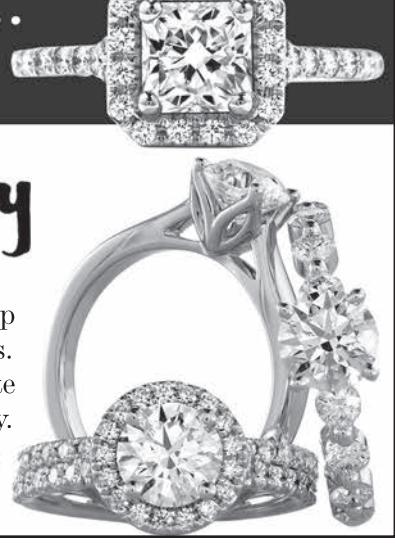
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# Russian hackers targeted Orthodox clergy

BY RAPHAEL SATTER

AP Cybersecurity Writer

LONDON — The Russian hackers indicted by the U.S. special prosecutor last month have spent years trying to steal the private correspondence of some of the world's most senior Orthodox Christian figures, The Associated Press has found, illustrating the high stakes as Kiev and Moscow wrestle over the religious future of Ukraine.

The targets included top aides to Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, who often is described as the first among equals of the world's Eastern Orthodox Christian leaders.

The Istanbul-based patriarch is currently mulling whether to accept a Ukrainian bid to tear that country's church from its association with Russia, a potential split fueled by the armed conflict between Ukrainian military forces and Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine.

The AP's evidence comes from a hit list of 4,700 email addresses supplied last year by Secureworks, a subsidiary of Dell Technologies.

The AP has been mining the data for months, uncovering how a group of Russian hackers widely known as Fancy Bear tried to break into the emails of U.S. Democrats, defense contractors, intelligence workers, international journalists and even American military wives. In July, as part of special counsel Robert Mueller's ongoing investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election, a U.S. grand jury identified 12 Russian intelligence agents as being behind the group's hack-and-leak assault against Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

The targeting of high-profile religious figures demonstrates the wide net cast by the cyber-spies.

Patriarch Bartholomew claims the exclusive right to grant a "Tomos of Autocephaly," or full ecclesiastic independence, sought by the Ukrainians. It would be a momentous step, splitting the world's largest Eastern Orthodox denomination and severely eroding the power and prestige of the Moscow Patriarchate, which has positioned itself as a leading player within the global Orthodox community.

Ukraine is lobbying hard for a religious divorce from Russia and some observers say the issue could be decided as soon as this month.

"If something like this will take place on their doorstep, it would be a huge blow to the claims of Moscow's transnational role," said Vasilios Makrides, a specialist in Orthodox Christianity at the University of Erfurt in Germany. "It's something I don't think they will accept."

The Kremlin is scrambling to help Moscow's Patriarch Kirill retain his traditional role as the head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and "the more they know, the better it is for them," Makrides said.

The Russian Orthodox Church said it had no information about the hacking and declined comment. Russian officials referred the AP to previous denials by the Kremlin that it has anything to do with Fancy Bear, despite a growing body of evidence to the contrary.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko flew to Istanbul in April in an effort to convince the patriarch to agree to a split, which he has described as "a matter of our independence and our national security." Moscow's Patriarch Kirill is flying to Turkey later this week in a last-ditch bid to prevent it.

Hilarion Alfeyev, Kirill's representative abroad, has warned that granting the Tomos could lead to the biggest Christian



A full moon rises in 2004 above the golden domes of the Orthodox Monastery of the Caves in Kiev, Ukraine. Ukraine is lobbying hard for a religious divorce from Russia and some observers say the issue could be decided as soon as September 2018.

schism since 1054, when Catholic and Orthodox believers parted ways.

"If such a thing happens, Orthodox unity will be buried," Alfeyev said.

The issue is an extraordinarily sensitive one for the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Reached by phone, spokesman Nikos-Giorgos Papachristou said: "I don't want to be a part of this story."

Other church officials spoke to the AP about the hacking on condition of anonymity, saying they did not have authorization to speak to the media.

Bartholomew, who is 78, does not use email, those church officials told AP. But his aides do, and the Secureworks list spells out several attempts to crack their Gmail accounts.

Among them were several senior church officials called metropolitans, who are roughly equivalent to archbishops in the Catholic tradition. Those include Bartholomew Samarais, a key confidante of the patriarch; Emmanuel Adamakis, an influential hierarch in the church; and Elpidophoros Lambriniadis, who heads a prestigious seminary on the Turkish island of Halki. All are involved in the Tomos issue; none returned recent AP messages seeking comment.

Spy games have long been a part of the Russian Orthodox world.

The Soviet Union slaughtered tens of thousands of priests in the 1930s, but the Communists later took what survived of the church and brought it under the sway of Russia's secret police, the KGB, with clerics conscripted to spy on congregants and emigres.

The nexus between Russia's intelligence and religious establishments survived the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union and the KGB's reorganization into the FSB, according to Moscow-based political analyst Dmitry Oreshkin.

"Our church leaders are connected to the FSB and their epaulettes stick out from under their habits," Oreshkin said. "They provide Vladimir Putin's policy with an ideological foundation."

That might make one target found by the AP seem curious: The Moscow Patriarch's press secretary, Alexander Volkov.

But Orthodox theologian Cyril Hovorun said he wouldn't be surprised to see a Russian group spying on targets close to home, saying, "they're probably checking him out just in case."

Volkov did not return AP emails seeking comment.

Hovorun is unusually qualified to speak on the issue. In

2012 he — like Volkov — was an official within the Moscow Patriarchate. But he resigned after someone leaked emails showing that he secretly supported independence-leaning Ukrainian clergy.

Hovorun has since been targeted by the Russian hackers, according to the data from Secureworks, which uses the name Iron Twilight to refer to the group.

Hovorun said he believes that those who published his emails six years ago weren't related to Fancy Bear, but he noted that their modus operandi — stealing messages and then publishing them selectively — was the same.

"We've known about this tactic before the hacking of the Democrats," Hovorun said, referring to the email disclosures that rocked America's 2016 presidential campaign. "This is a familiar story for us."

The Russian hackers' religious dragnet also extended to the United States and went beyond Orthodox Christians, taking in Muslims, Jews and Catholics whose activities might conceivably be of interest to the Russian government.

John Jillions, the chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, provided the AP with a June 19, 2015, phishing email that Secureworks later confirmed was sent to him by Fancy Bear.

Fancy Bear also went after Ummah, an umbrella group for Ukrainian Muslims; the papal nuncio in Kiev; and an account associated with the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, a Byz-

antine rite church that accepts the authority of the Vatican, the Secureworks data shows.

Also on the hit list: Yosyp Zisels, who directs Ukraine's Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities and has frequently been quoted defending his country from charges of anti-Semitism.

Zisels said he had no knowledge of the attempted hacking. Vatican officials did not return messages.

Protestants were targeted too, including three prominent Quakers operating in the Moscow area.

Hovorun said Protestants were viewed with particularly intense suspicion by the Kremlin.

"There is an opinion shared by many in the Russian establishment that all those religious groups — like Quakers, evangelicals — they are connected to the American establishment," he said.

...

Secureworks' data shows hacking attempts on religious targets that took place in 2015 and 2016, but other material obtained by the AP suggests attempts to compromise the Ecumenical Patriarchate are ongoing.

On Oct. 16, 2017, an email purporting to come from Papachristou, who was just being appointed as spokesman, arrived in the inboxes of about a dozen Orthodox figures.

"Dear Hierarchs, Fathers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ!" it began, explaining that Papachristou was stepping into his new role as direc-

tor of communications. "It's a very big joy for me to serve the Church on this position. Some suggestions on how to build up relations with the public and the press are provided in the file attached."

The file was rigged to install surveillance software on the recipients' computers.

The email's actual sender remains a mystery — independent analyses of the malicious message by Secureworks and its competitor CrowdStrike yielded nothing definitive.

Church officials told the AP they were disturbed by the hacker's command of church jargon and their inside knowledge of Papachristou's appointment.

"The one who made this is someone who knows us," one official said.

Priests and prelates don't make obvious targets for cyberespionage, but the stakes for the Kremlin are high as the decision on Tomos looms.

Granting the Ukrainian church full independence "would be that devastating to Russia," said Daniel Payne, a researcher on the board of the J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies at Baylor University in Texas.

"Kiev is Jerusalem for the Russian Orthodox people," Payne said. "That's where the sacred relics, monasteries, churches are ... it's sacred to the people, and to Russian identity."

*Francesca Ebel and Nataliya Vasilyeva in Moscow contributed to this report.*



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It took 50 years, until the release of a landmark investigative report on child sexual abuse in six Roman Catholic dioceses in Pennsylvania on Aug. 14, for Mary Robb Jackson, right, and her sister, Cynthia Carr Gardner, to realize they were both among the victims molested by a parish priest in their childhood Pittsburgh-area suburb.

STEVE MELLON/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE VIA AP



## Siblings prevalent among victims of predator priests

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — It took 50 years, until the release of a landmark investigative report, for sisters Mary Robb Jackson and Cynthia Carr Gardner to realize that the parish priest in the Pittsburgh-area suburb where they lived as children had molested both of them, a couple of years apart.

The sisters' discovery — during a long-distance telephone conversation between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania — added theirs to the cases of siblings cited throughout the state grand jury report on the sexual abuse of children by clergy within six Roman Catholic dioceses in Pennsylvania.

The nearly 900-page report, released Aug. 14 after a two-year investigation, cited at least two dozen sets of siblings victimized by clergy among the scores of abuse cases it documented going back to the 1940s. Two of the cases involved five siblings.

Clergy members often won the trust of parents before going on to molest siblings, sometimes in a home while parents were present, sometimes on trips with the children, the report said. The priests then parlayed that trust into leverage against children, who were afraid to say no to an authority figure trusted by their parents.

The predator priests often warned their victims to keep quiet. That and shame often kept victims quiet and unaware of their siblings' trauma for years; some spoke up more quickly.

Jackson did eventually complain to her mother, a devout Roman Catholic, about the Rev. Lawrence O'Connell's abuse, which consisted of groping and kissing while she performed office tasks in the St. Gabriel parish house practically next door as part of an after-school job. Her mother promptly ended the after-school job, Jackson said.

Jackson went off to college, and the girls' mother died suddenly. O'Connell soon invited Gardner — who was 11 or 12 at the time and lived with their father — to spend her afternoons doing office tasks in the parish house, and went on to molest her, Gardner said.

Jackson, away at college, never knew that O'Connell had invited Gardner in, she said. Neither Jackson nor her mother had said anything to the other family members about O'Connell, and neither Gard-

ner nor her father had any reason to refuse a job offer from a man who had bestowed gifts on the girls, including trips to the Ice Capades and the circus.

"Was it calculated? I don't understand that kind of mindset. But, if it was, that's just pure evil," Gardner, now 63, said. "That's pure evil calculation if you take advantage of a family who's had a horrific life event and you prey on the younger version of the sibling."

O'Connell died in 1986.

Child sex abuse cases in which the victims are siblings are more common when the predator is part of an organized religion, said Ben Andreozzi, a lawyer who has represented victims of Catholic clergy and of Jerry Sandusky, the former Penn State assistant football coach now serving a long prison sentence.

"Parents will at times unknowingly legitimize the perpetrator to the children," Andreozzi said. "In other words, the parents will bring them into the home, they'll break bread with the religious figure and hold that religious figure out to the children as someone they can trust. And that religious figure will use that as an opportunity to access the children."

In one case documented in the report, five siblings — brothers and sisters — were allegedly victimized in the 1970s by a seminarian, and three of them by a priest at St. Brigid in Meadville in northwestern Pennsylvania.

"The survivors reported that they were poor, dysfunctional and dependent upon the diocese for their mother's employment at St. Brigid parish," the grand jury report said. "Furthermore, the parents were befriended by the abusers and the family would often invite them over to engage in drinking parties."

Once the parents were drunk and distracted, the abusers would molest or rape the children in the home, and threaten them against telling their parents, the report said.

In another case, two brothers testified that a priest at Mother of Sorrows school in Murrysville in western Pennsylvania molested them in the early 1980s in their bedrooms while praying before going to bed and on trips the family invited the priest to join.

The parents discovered what was going on when one of the

boys screamed at the priest, but the boys had otherwise been afraid to say anything because their parents liked the priest so much, the report said.

The report cites other accusers who are now adults — including one woman in a 2004 lawsuit — saying they had performed sex acts on O'Connell as girls.

Gardner, who lives in Massachusetts, called her sister in suburban Pittsburgh when she realized O'Connell was in the report. In that conversation, they discovered they'd both been abused by O'Connell, although Gardner thought she had mentioned it years earlier.

"She told me she had been haunted by it when we finally had the conversation about it," said Jackson, now 70.

At the parish house, Gardner tried to ward off O'Connell's groping hands and reject his invitations to go somewhere private. She walked out for good after he forced a kiss on her, she said.

The Associated Press does not name victims of sexual abuse without their consent. Gardner decided to speak publicly to add her voice to the others victimized by O'Connell, she said.

Jackson — who had quietly reported her own story to the Pittsburgh Diocese after hearing of the 2004 lawsuit — decided to speak publicly now out of anger that O'Connell had targeted her younger sister.

"That's what made me so sad and so angry," Jackson said. "I never knew."

## Alabama school won't play 'Dixie' any more

ARAB, Ala. (AP) — The fight over Confederate symbolism has landed in an Alabama town where education leaders have banned the high school marching band from playing "Dixie" as the fight song.

Dozens of opponents of the decision packed a city school board meeting Thursday night in support of the tune, which they depict as a traditional part of the soundtrack of life in their small, Southern town rather than an ode to the days of slavery in the Old South.

"We're from Alabama, we're not from New York," said Daniel Haynes, 36, who attended Arab High School and loves hearing the tune played after the Knights score a touchdown.

Board members didn't budge. The 750-student school has a new principal, band director, football coach and stadium this year, said Superintendent John Mullins, and the change was needed in a system where the core values include mutual respect and unity.

"I really think it's the right decision for the right reason at the right time," Mullins said in an interview.

Supporters of the song say they'll now take their complaints to the City Council, which appoints the five-member school board, but it's unclear what might happen next. An old R&B song, "The Horse," has temporarily replaced "Dixie" in the band's repertoire until a new fight song is selected.

Passions are running high among some in Arab, where many are still upset by school leaders' decision a few years ago to comply with a Supreme Court decision and end student-led Christian prayers over the public address system before football games. Complaints about "Dixie" have renewed the debate over the role of religion in pregame ceremonies.

"I like 'Dixie,' but I'm here for prayer," said Shane Allredge, who attended the board meeting wearing a T-shirt that said "Put Dixie and prayer back in the game."

Community college history teacher Russ Williams told the board he loves

"Dixie" and other elements of Southern history, but the song "isn't worth the controversy" if it causes others pain.

The "Dixie" debate isn't brewing just in Arab, an overwhelmingly white town of about 8,200 people that's 70 miles north of Birmingham. Fans of the tune also are complaining in Glade Spring, Virginia, after leaders there prohibited the band from playing "Dixie" during games this fall at Patrick Henry High School.

Written by Ohio native Daniel D. Emmett, "Dixie's Land" was first performed on stage in New York in 1859, two years before the Civil War, said historian and musician Bobby Horton, who performed some of the music for Ken Burns' epic miniseries "The Civil War."

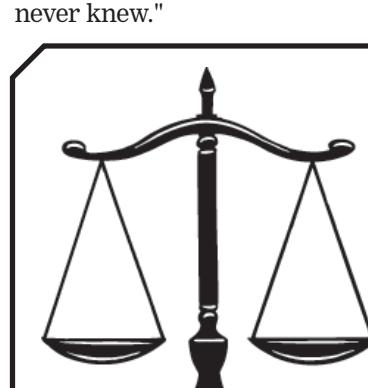
"It was written as what they called a walk-around tune ... for a minstrel show. It was like a tune between acts," said Horton.

Later known simply as "Dixie," the song became an unofficial anthem of the rebel states after it was played at the inauguration of Confederate President Jefferson Davis in 1861. President Abraham Lincoln loved the tune and asked for it to be played at the White House the night Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered, said Horton.

University and high school bands across the South played "Dixie" for generations, but the practice waned as complaints rose about the song being a painful, racially insensitive reminder of the oppression of slavery.

Southern historian Wayne Flynt, who remembers the song being sung in segregated schools in Alabama in the 1940s when he was a boy, said some view it as an anthem of regional pride. But "Dixie" and other Confederate emblems became symbols of white defiance as legalized segregation came under attack during the civil rights era, he said.

"I would argue that Dixie is not necessarily an inherently racist song. It can certainly be a racist song. The way in which it's been used ... tends to accelerate the understanding of it nationally as a racist song," Flynt said.



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**CASE** FROM PAGE A1

two to file.

The South Carolina Democratic Party, after filing an appeal to ask Cothran to clarify his ruling, which he reiterated was the same, did not certify Samuels-Cooper because of the court order that disqualified her from being a coroner.

Because Mock was then the only candidate on the ballot, a new primary, which would have been this upcoming Tuesday, will not need to happen. He will, as it stands now, be placed on the general election ballot unopposed.

Sabb said the court is in the process of gathering transcripts from the three hearings that have taken place, after which both sides will

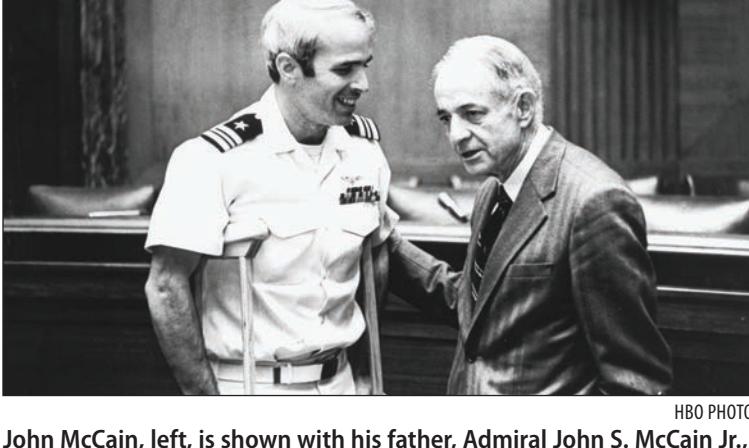
write a brief laying out their wishes and reasonings.

Robert E. Tyson Jr. filed a cross-appeal on behalf of Mock, who had served as deputy coroner for 21 years before being appointed coroner in February following the death of Hayes Samuels Jr. — Samuels-Cooper's brother.

Tyson said the appeal was only necessary because Samuels-Cooper's defense team filed its appeal and that as long as the Supreme Court upholds the Third Judicial Circuit ruling, Mock will advance as coroner as it stands now.

"We don't believe she meets the qualifications under the statute," he said.

He said the involved parties are expecting more information to be known by mid-September.



John McCain, left, is shown with his father, Admiral John S. McCain Jr., after his release from a North Vietnamese prison camp in 1973.

**FER** FROM PAGE A1

were killed, and the rest of the crew was ejected and was taken hostage.

Fer said when McCain was shot down in October 1967, he broke his arm, shoulder and leg and almost drowned in a lake. He was in bad shape when the Vietnamese found him, he said, and the reason they kept him alive was because his father was an admiral, the commander of the Pacific to be exact. The Vietnamese wanted to release him early, but McCain refused because he said it would be disloyal to be released for that reason, Fer said.

The two got to know each other well while they were imprisoned.

"John (McCain) loved poetry, literature and U.S. history," Fer said. "We talked about movies; he loved John Wayne and the military."

In November 1971, Fer, McCain and many other POWs were moved to the Hanoi Hilton, a camp Fer had been contained in before.

It was there that McCain and Fer became bridge partners; Fer said the camp would have packages of cards delivered.

The two also learned different languages, geography, math, auto mechanics, aerodynamics, meat cutting and other skills from other POWs imprisoned in the camp.

However, many of the POWs were tortured. When POWs did not provide information other

*My time with him was all beneficial; I learned a lot from him. He stressed good leadership and told me to study my craft and military history.*

**JOHN FER**

Former Sumterite taken as prisoner of war during Vietnam War with Sen. John McCain

than that which they were obligated — name, rank, service number and date of birth — the Vietnamese would torture them to extract more vital information. According to Fer, everyone there was tortured.

"We continued to stay there until the signing of the peace agreement on Jan. 27, 1973," Fer said. "I was a POW for six years and one month."

Fer was released from containment on March 4, 1973, along with 105 other POWs in the second wave of releases after the treaty was signed. The first wave, which included the release of McCain, occurred on Feb. 12, 1973. There were four waves total, with

566 POWs being returned to the United States.

After retiring from the military in 1990, Fer moved to Sumter where he was the principal of St. Anne Catholic School for 10 years. In 2000, he moved back to San Pedro, California, where he was a principal at a school for three years.

Fer said he has nothing but good things to say about McCain's personality and leadership qualities.

"He was mentally and physically tough and never complained," Fer said. "My time with him was all beneficial; I learned a lot from him. He stressed good leadership and told me to study my craft and military history."

Fer also said McCain told him that, as a leader, you're responsible for keeping your eye on the mission and taking care of your men.

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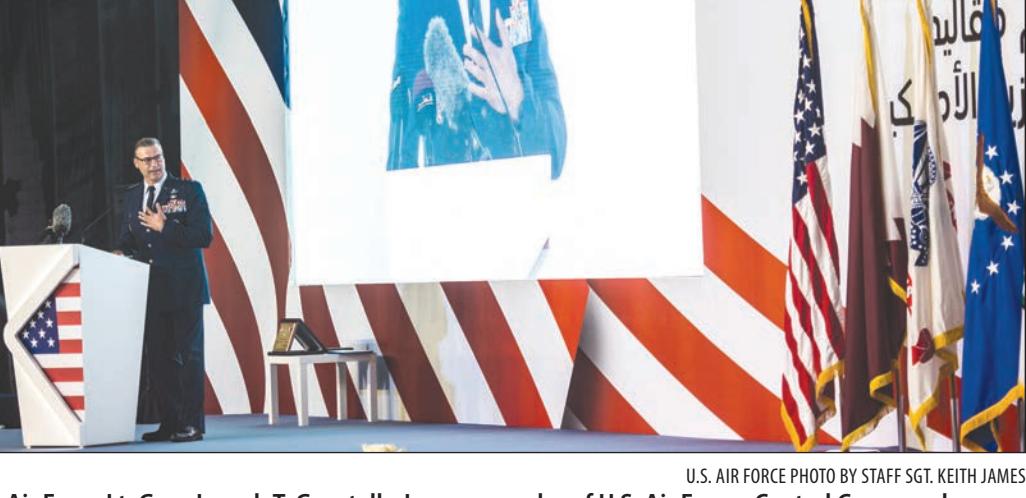
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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. KEITH JAMES

**U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Joseph T. Guastella Jr., commander of U.S. Air Forces Central Command, speaks to attendees at a change of command ceremony at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, on Aug. 30.** Guastella is a command pilot and has accumulated more than 4,000 flying hours, including 1,000 combat hours in the F-16C/D and the A-10C. AFCENT is headquartered at Shaw Air Force Base and has a forward headquarters at Al Udeid Air Base Qatar. As the air component of U.S. Central Command, AFCENT is responsible for air operations, either unilaterally or in concert with coalition partners, and for developing contingency plans in support of national objectives for CENTCOM's 20-nation AOR in Southwest Asia.

**CEREMONY** FROM PAGE A1

have full faith and confidence in your leadership and capabilities."

Guastella was promoted to lieutenant general before the ceremony. As AFCENT commander, he will provide the full spectrum of air component capabilities in air, space and cyberspace to defeat enemies while promoting security and stability in the region.

Also, as the Combined Force Air Component commander for the CENTCOM area of responsibility, he will work closely with coalition, joint and interagency partners across Southwest Asia to ensure stability and defense of a 20-nation region spanning from Egypt to Afghanistan.

"It goes without saying that I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to lead the men and women of AFCENT and to be a partner of this great coalition," Guastella said. "To our airmen, joint warfighters and men and women of coalition who get the job done: It's our youngest airmen who have signed up to serve our nation who inspire me. From aircrews flying missions to maintainers on the flight line in extremely hot temperatures to logisticians moving supplies to and from the fight to support airmen, you guys are why I continue to serve, so I'm honored to be your new commander and to be a partner with you in this fight."

Most recently, Guastella served as the director of Integrated Air, Space, Cyberspace and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Operations at Headquarters Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

"Just over two years ago, I was honored by Gen. Votel, our partner nations' delegates, our coalition, joint and interagency partners and the men and women of U.S. Air Forces Central Command," Harrigian said. "It has been an incredible two years."

Harrigian served as the CFACC for two years, assuming command in July 2016. He led U.S. and coalition air operations for Operation Inherent Resolve, the mission to defeat ISIS in Iraq and Syria and also against the Taliban and terrorist networks as part of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan.

During his tenure, Harrigian flew multiple combat sorties in the F-22 Raptor as part of OIR.

Over the last two years, the international coalition to defeat ISIS achieved multiple milestones enabled by airpower, including the 2017 liberations of Mosul and Raqqah. Air strikes against ISIS and air operations

in support of coalition and partnered ground forces have devastated the terrorist group and enabled the final phase of the Defeat-ISIS campaign, Operation Roundup.

Also under Harrigian's leadership, the air component supported the Afghan government by striking the Taliban and training, advising and assisting Afghan National Defense and Security Forces, especially the Afghan Air Force.

In 2017, the U.S. began a deliberate air campaign to strike Taliban revenue sources to pressure them to reconcile with the Afghan government. Earlier this year, in line with the new South Asia strategy, AFCENT re-aligned A-10 Thunderbolts, KC-135 Stratotankers and MQ-9 Reapers to Afghanistan as part of a re-focus on operations in Afghanistan.

"What this team is accomplishing every day is something we all should be proud of," Harrigian said. "With over 70 nations and over 21,000 joint and combined airmen, it's clear to me the coalition remains strong. Our mission was clear: to deliver the world's most decisive air, space and cyberspace effects for United States Central Command and for our partners."

Harrigian turns over AFCENT to Guastella, who has plenty of experience in the region.

"Lt. Gen. Harrigian, I can't be more proud to follow in your footsteps," Guastella said. "You've taken this very difficult job as Combined Forces Air Component commander and taken it to another level. I'm deeply honored to hopefully build on your tremendous success."

Guastella previously served as the director of operations for AFCENT and the Combined Air Operations Center from 2006 to 2007. He also commanded the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, from 2012 to 2013.

Guastella has flown the F-16 Fighting Falcon and A-10 Thunderbolt II, served multiple combat tours and instructed at the U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School. He has flown more than 4,000 flight hours including combat missions in support of operations Just Cause and Desert Storm. He previously commanded at the flight, squadron and wing levels.

Guastella commissioned in 1987 after graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He thanked his family for their support throughout his career and Harrigian for setting such a high standard.

Harrigian's next assignment will be as the deputy commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

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# OPINION

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## COMMENTARY

# McCain: Warm remembrances of roads not taken or abandoned

**W**arm remembrances of Sen. John McCain have been filling the political air since his death last weekend. They'll continue through the memorial service in Phoenix, his funeral Saturday at Washington National Cathedral and his interment at the Naval Academy cemetery in Annapolis today.

Praise has been voiced by longtime political foes, admiration from recent detractors and recollections of his (self- and other-) deprecating wit from those long close to him.

Why this outpouring of admiration for a politician who was far from universally admired by members of his own party and whose positive commentary went suddenly silent when he became — or strongly supported — the Republican nominee for president?

One reason is admiration for his endurance and perseverance as a prisoner of war tortured for five-and-a-half years — and for his leadership in seeking rapprochement with the regime of his captors.

Another is the widespread disgust and dismay for President Donald Trump and Trump's churlish response to the senator's death — the grudging proclamation, lowering the flag for only the briefest period — until White House press secretary Sarah Sanders reportedly got him to respond suitably.

A third reason, I think, is that in a political era of unusually bitter partisanship, Americans have mostly lacked an occasion to look back without rancor as a major figure leaves the scene after many years.

Going back four decades, starting with the 1980 election, 15 men and women have been nominated for president by our two major parties. Only one of them has left us: Ronald Reagan, born in 1911, who announced his withdrawal from public life in 1994, a quarter century ago.

Four of these nominees are now past 90, and two more, including McCain, are past 80; seven passed the 70 mark in recent years, and just one, Barack Obama, is under 65. We're used to having them around. In contrast, 40 years ago, there were only five living presidential nominees, Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford and Richard Nixon, plus landslide losers George McGovern and Barry Goldwater.

John McCain does not belong in landslide-loser territory. His loss by 7 points to Barack Obama in 2008 was the widest margin since 1988, but his 45.6 percent of the popular vote was just slightly under Donald Trump's 45.9 percent. (The difference in the result was that Hillary Clinton ran 5 points behind Obama.)

"John taught us how to



**Michael Barone**

lose," his friend and colleague Sen. Lindsey Graham said on the Senate floor Tuesday. He was referring especially to McCain's gracious concession speech on election night 2008, in which he rallied Americans to support the first black president. This was indeed a national service, one Clinton failed to provide eight years later.

"He failed a lot," Graham went on, "but he never quit." One of the poignant things about McCain's death, which made it easier for adversaries to praise and more-bittersweet allies to mourn him, is how many of his favorite causes are at least temporarily lost today.

Not quite all. Congress has just, after years of his laments, significantly increased defense spending. But Americans generally, as well as the current president and the Democrats eager to try to replace him, have no stomach for enterprises like the Iraq war, which he strongly supported.

McCain did criticize the Bush administration's tactics until the troop surge in 2007, which he staunchly supported even as Democrats gleefully predicted its failure. And he continued to believe, in line with Bush's 2005 inaugural speech, that the United States had a responsibility to further freedom and human rights and freedom in the world, about which today's leaders and voters seem indifferent.

Similarly, McCain repeatedly championed comprehensive immigration reform, with amnesty for millions of immigrants in the country illegally, which won't pass any time soon. And he threatened to shut down the Senate to get votes on his campaign finance law, which has been cut back by the courts for infringing freedom of speech.

One of his last acts as senator was to unexpectedly cast the July 2017 vote that stymied Republicans' efforts to repeal and replace Obamacare. McCain complained that Republican leaders weren't seeking bipartisan compromises, as he had done with Democrats Joe Lieberman on defense, Russ Feingold on campaign finance and Edward Kennedy on immigration.

So the warm remembrances of John McCain owe something to the appreciation that many things he fought for were examples of roads not taken, or roads once taken and now abandoned — and at least on some issues, roads we hope America will take again.

*Michael Barone is a senior political analyst for the Washington Examiner, resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and longtime co-author of The Almanac of American Politics.*

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## COMMENTARY

# Impeachment is just a liberal fantasy

**W**ASHINGTON — Michael Cohen's decision to plead guilty for making hush-money payments on Donald Trump's behalf has raised



**Marc Thiessen**

the prospect that if Democrats take control of Congress, they might try to impeach the president over a matter

completely unrelated to a perceived criminal conspiracy with Russia. Good luck with that: Even if Democrats win back both the House and Senate, there is zero chance a two-thirds majority of senators will convict

President Trump for paying off an adult-film star.

It would be the height of hypocrisy if Democrats tried to remove the president over allegations of illegality relating to extramarital affairs. During the Monica Lewinsky scandal, congressional

Democrats told us the private sexual conduct of a president does not matter and that lying under oath to cover up a "consensual relationship" is not an impeachable offense. Then-Rep. Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., said President Bill Clinton's lies under oath about his sexual relationship with a White House intern might have been illegal but declared the

scandal "a tawdry but not impeachable affair" — right before heading off to a fundraiser with Clinton.

At the time, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., declared that the Starr investigation "vindicates President Clinton in the conduct of his public life because we're only left with this personal stuff" and that Founding Fathers "would say it was not for the investigation of a president's personal life that we risked our life, our liberty and our sacred honor."

But now that a Republican president is accused of covering up an affair,

suddenly Democrats are channeling their inner Kenneth W. Starr.

Today, Democrats are outraged and appalled when Trump attacks special counsel Robert S. Mueller III and calls his inquiry a "witch hunt." But back then, then-Sen. Joe Biden called the Starr investigation ... wait for it ... a "witch hunt." Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., declared Starr was "out of control" and accused him of having a "fixation of trying to topple the president of the United States."

Rahm Emanuel, then a White House senior adviser, accused Starr of engaging in "a partisan political pursuit of the president" while White House special counsel Lanny Davis (who is now representing Cohen) said Starr was a "desperate prosecutor who can't make a case on Whitewater" and who should face "possible removal because of his conduct."

The fact is, Democrats were not alone in their concern that an investigation into Whitewater morphed into a perjury probe against Clinton for lying about his relationship with Lewinsky.

Many Republicans agreed that independent counsels had too much power. So in 1999, the GOP-controlled Congress, in its wisdom, let the independent counsel law expire. We were promised that investigators answerable to the Justice Department would be more focused on their original purpose.

Well, it seems like we're right back where we started. Federal prosecutors were supposed to be investigating Russian collusion.

Instead, we have an inquiry into the Trump Organization's finances and whether Trump's payments to Stormy Daniels violated campaign-finance laws.

Both might be worthy of scrutiny but at least under the precedent Democrats set during the 1990s, they are not grounds for impeachment.

If Democrats do try to impeach Trump over anything but a criminal conspiracy with Russia, they will regret it. The president was legitimately elected by Americans who knew about his lecherous past and supported him anyway. Indeed, Trump's election was a direct result of the Democrats' victory in the culture war of the 1990s. Republicans are now simply playing by the rules Democrats established. Millions of Americans absorbed the lesson that Clinton and his Democratic enablers taught us — that a president's "personal stuff," as Pelosi put it, does not matter — and chose Trump.

They will consider any effort to impeach him over it an effort to invalidate their votes. And the blow back will be tremendous. If you thought the "deplorables" were mad in 2016, just wait until 2020.

This does not mean Trump is out of the woods legally. Once he leaves office, Trump may have to face consequences for anything illegal he might have done.

When Clinton left office, he was forced to give up his Arkansas law license for five years and paid a \$25,000 fine as part of a deal with the independent counsel to avoid a perjury prosecution — which resulted in him being disbarred from practicing law before the Supreme Court.

If Mueller finds conclusive evidence that Trump entered into a criminal conspiracy with Russia, then by all means impeach away. But absent such evidence, the idea that Stormy Daniels is going to bring down Trump is a liberal fantasy.

If Democrats are upset that they cannot remove Trump over this, well, sorry — they set the precedent.

*Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.*

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**FYI**

**BANKS** — All area banks and credit unions will be **closed** on Monday.

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

**SCHOOLS** — The following will be **closed** on Monday: Sumter School District; Clarendon School Districts 1, 2 and 3; Lee County Public Schools; Robert E. Lee Academy; Thomas Sumter Academy; Wilson Hall; St. Anne and St. Jude Catholic School; Laurence Manning Academy; Clarendon Hall; Sumter Christian School; and Central Carolina Technical College.

USC Sumter will not hold classes on Monday.

**UTILITIES** — Black River Electric Coop. and Farmers Telephone Coop. will be **closed** on Monday.

**OTHER** — The following will be **closed** on Monday: Clemson Extension Service; Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce; and the Harvin Clarendon County Library.

The Sumter County Library will be closed Saturday-Monday.

*The Sumter Item* will be **closed** on Monday.

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

**SUMTER CITY COUNCIL**  
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St.

**BISHOPVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Colclough Building

**The last word in astrology**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): others stand up and take note. Live in the moment.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Avoiding someone who is demanding or critical won't put an end to the harassment. Address whoever makes you feel uncomfortable or stressed out by sharing what it does to your relationship. Take control instead of running away.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You need a diversion or a change of plans that will invigorate and inspire you. Don't wait for someone else to force change on you. Step up and make choices that will bring love and happiness into your life.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Share your true feelings and find out where you stand. If someone is reluctant to share, you should question why and consider the motives behind the secrecy. Trust in what you see and how you feel.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Personal improvements, inner growth, travel and getting in touch with your feelings are all encouraged.

The changes you make as a result of your findings will make a difference to the way you live and how you relate to others.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Entertain at home or make changes to your space if it will encourage you to be more creative or help you cut your overhead. Use your intelligence and stick to tried-and-true methods to stabilize your life. Romance is highlighted.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep an open mind, but don't let anyone take advantage of you emotionally.

Showing compassion is one thing, but taking on responsibilities that don't belong to you should not be considered. Offer suggestions, but don't offer to do the work.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Bring about the changes that will benefit you the most. Don't feel you have to take on someone else's battles.

Partner with someone who shares your concerns and plans for the future. Do your best to stay healthy and avoid minor mishaps.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): You'll find it difficult to manage your emotions.

Problems will develop if you or

someone else isn't being upfront. Put greater emphasis on making physical improvements and being straight with others regarding your intentions.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Get involved in what matters the most to you. Standing up for your rights will provoke disagreements, but it will also help you better understand both sides of whatever issue concerns you as well as encourage workable solutions.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): A change of pace will do you good. Taking time to relax and rethink your next move will help you avoid an emotional confrontation. Acting too quickly or without enough information will lead to a standoff with someone you love.

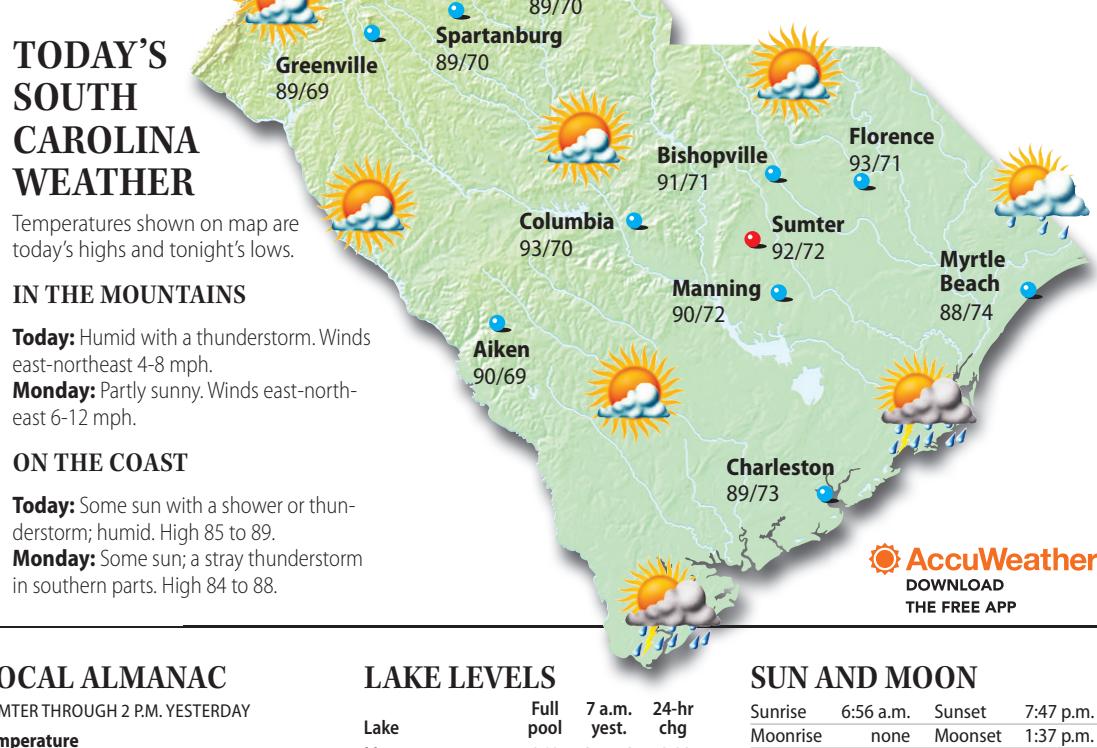
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do things your way. Make a point of being unique and trusting that you can pull off whatever needs to be done. Your tenacity and confidence will make

**DAILY PLANNER****WEATHER**

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

**AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter**

TODAY	TONIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
92° Chance of rain: 25% E 4-8 mph	72° Chance of rain: 10% ESE 3-6 mph	91° / 71° Chance of rain: 20% E 6-12 mph	93° / 72° Chance of rain: 15% E 4-8 mph	93° / 72° Chance of rain: 25% E 4-8 mph	93° / 71° Chance of rain: 55% E 4-8 mph



**AccuWeather**  
DOWNLOAD  
THE FREE APP

**LOCAL ALMANAC**

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

**Temperature**

High	92°
Low	71°
Normal high	87°
Normal low	66°
Record high	99° in 1957
Record low	54° in 1996

**Precipitation**

24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.13"
Year to date	26.76"
Last year to date	27.65"
Normal year to date	33.52"

**LAKE LEVELS**

Lake Full pool 7 a.m. 24-hr

Murray	360	357.12	-0.02
Marion	76.8	75.42	-0.03
Moultrie	75.5	75.28	none
Wateree	100	97.25	+0.01

**RIVER STAGES**

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	3.36	-0.28
Congaree River	19	2.82	-0.28
Lynches River	14	1.42	-0.02
Saluda River	14	2.31	-0.17
Up. Santee River	80	76.52	-0.08
Wateree River	24	8.29	-1.29

**SUN AND MOON**

Sunrise 6:56 a.m. Sunset 7:47 p.m.

Moonrise	none	Moonset	1:37 p.m.
Last	New	First	Full
Sep. 2	Sep. 9	Sep. 16	Sep. 24

**TIDES**

AT MYRTLE BEACH	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	2:02 a.m.	2.9	9:04 a.m.	0.3
	2:36 p.m.	3.3	9:49 p.m.	0.8

Mon. 3:01 a.m. 2.8 10:02 a.m. 0.3

3:39 p.m. 3.3 10:55 p.m. 0.8

**NATIONAL CITIES****REGIONAL CITIES**

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	90/73/pc	89/72/pc	Asheville	84/65/pc	85/66/t	Florence	93/71/pc	92/70/pc
Chicago	88/73/pc	88/74/pc	Athens	91/70/pc	90/70/pc	Gainesville	89/74/t	88/75/t
Dallas	92/74/s	89/74/t	Augusta	93/68/pc	91/70/pc	Gastonia	90/70/pc	90/70/pc
Detroit	90/74/pc	90/73/t	Beaufort	89/73/t	87/73/t	Goldsboro	91/71/pc	91/72/pc
Houston	86/74/t	84/75/t	Cape Hatteras	88/78/pc	87/78/pc	Goose Creek	88/73/t	88/73/t
Los Angeles	82/66/pc	81/65/pc	Charleston	89/73/t	89/73/t	Greensboro	88/70/pc	89/70/pc
New Orleans	83/78/pc	87/78/t	Charlotte	91/70/pc	91/70/pc	Greenville	89/69/pc	89/70/pc
New York	80/73/c	87/77/c	Clemson	89/71/pc	89/72/pc	Hickory	87/68/pc	87/68/pc
Orlando	87/76/t	84/75/t	Columbia	93/70/pc	93/70/pc	Hilton Head	87/77/t	86/76/t
Philadelphia	85/73/t	89/74/pc	Darlington	91/71/pc	91/70/pc	Jacksonville, FL	87/73/t	86/72/t
Phoenix	101/80/pc	99/80/pc	Elizabeth City	90/72/pc	89/73/pc	La Grange	89/72/pc	89/72/pc
San Francisco	72/56/pc	74/56/pc	Elizabethtown	91/71/pc	90/72/pc	Macon	92/71/pc	91/71/pc
Wash., DC	89/76/t	92/77/pc	Fayetteville	92/71/pc				

## USC FOOTBALL



# Eye-opening opener

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina quarterback Jake Bentley (19) hands off to wide receiver Deebo Samuel (1) during the first half of the Gamecocks 49-15 victory over Coastal Carolina on Saturday in Columbia.

## South Carolina rolls up over 550 yards of offense, cruises past Coastal 49-15 in opener

BY EDDIE LITAKER

Special to The Sumter Item

COLUMBIA -- For the University of South Carolina football team, Saturday was all about living up to expectations and coming away with a

dominant win in their season opener against in-state opponent Coastal Carolina at Williams-Brice Stadium.

Could success be measured by 500-plus yards of total offense? Breaking the 50-point barrier? Covering the 29 1/2

point spread? The Gamecock defense keeping the Chanticleers out of the end zone?

USC checked off two of those boxes and came tantalizingly close on the other two as the Gamecocks came away with a convincing 49-15 victo-

ry.

South Carolina closed with 557 yards of total offense, its first 500-plus yard outing since gaining 588 yards in a 44-31 victory over Western Carolina on Nov. 19, 2016. While just missing the 50-

point mark, the 49 points scored marked the fourth most all-time in a season opener as the Gamecocks opened their 125th football season.

SEE USC, PAGE B3

## PREP FOOTBALL

## Lakewood beats Manning 27-26 on last-play safety

BY EDDIE LITAKER

Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING -- The varsity football teams from Lakewood and Manning high schools proved on Friday that baseball legend Yogi Berra's old adage "It ain't over till it's over" still stands true today.

With what both Lakewood head coach Larry Cornelius and Manning head coach Keith West called the craziest play they had ever seen, the Gators were able to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat as Monarch quarterback Jack Owens, in a panicked attempt to run out the clock, ended up running into his own end zone, resulting in a safety that gave Lakewood a 27-26 win at Ramsey Stadium.

"The only positive that I can take out of it is exactly that," said Cornelius, referring to the famous Yogi-ism. "You know, play to the last whistle and good things will happen."

The play started with two seconds on the clock and Manning facing a fourth-and-15 from its own 37, after the Monarchs had taken a delay of game penalty



MARK MORGAN / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Lakewood quarterback Malik Richardson (1) gets away from Manning's Keilah Dupree during the Gators' bizarre 27-26 victory on a safety on the game's final play on Friday at Ramsey Stadium in Manning. Lakewood improved to 3-0 with the victory.

SEE GATORS, PAGE B4

## CLEMSON FOOTBALL

## No. 2 Clemson pounds Furman 48-7, QB question unanswered

Clemson wide receiver Amari Rodgers (3) pulls in a reception for a touchdown while defended by Furman's Quandarius Weems during the Tigers' 48-7 victory on Saturday in Clemson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



BY JEFFREY COLLINS

The Associated Press

CLEMSON — One game against an overwhelmed opponent isn't enough to push the highly touted freshman quarterback at Clemson past the veteran starter.

Freshman Trevor Lawrence threw three touchdown passes and scored on all five of his drives to help No. 2 Clemson beat Football Championship Subdivision Furman 48-7 on Saturday.

But senior starter Kelly Bryant had a touchdown pass of his own. Lawrence completed 10 passes and Bryant completed nine.

"Both missed some throws. Both

SEE TIGERS, PAGE B3

## PREP FOOTBALL

## Henry runs wild in 34-10 Sumter victory over Conway

BY IAN GUERIN

Special to The Sumter Item

CONWAY — Jonathan Henry's third carry of the night was disastrous.

The Sumter High School tailback had the ball punched out of his arms -- inside the red zone, no less -- and blew a golden scoring opportunity for he and his Gamecock teammates.

Consider the misdeed forgiven.

Henry finished with 212 rushing yards and four total touchdowns in leading No. 9 Sumter to a 34-10 win over Conway on Friday.

"When you have turnovers, you always want to make up for it," the senior said. "You always want to do better. If you have turnovers, you want to play better."

The 5-foot-11-inch, 190-pounder had touchdown runs of 3, 37 and

22 yards. He also ran a perfect wheel route out of the backfield for a 20-yard receiving touchdown just prior to half-time that gave the Gamecocks their first lead.

Prior to that, it had been a bumpy first 22 minutes.

After Henry's fumble, which came with 7:12 to go in the opening quarter, Conway ground out the clock and went ahead 7-0. Henry's first score came midway through the second quarter, and moments later is where the game really turned.

SEE SHS, PAGE B4



BARNES

## AUTO RACING

# Hamlin looking to his Darlington touch for NASCAR playoffs

BY PETE IACOBELLI

The Associated Press

DARLINGTON — About the only time Denny Hamlin's had difficulty at Darlington Raceway came when he was trying to impress the brass at Joe Gibbs Racing.

He and Tony Stewart tested at the track "Too Tough To Tame" about 15 years ago and Hamlin remembers tagging the infamous and troublesome wall some 19 or 20 times, "where we didn't have any sheet metal on the side and had worn completely through," he said.

"Since that point, it just kind of clicked."

Hamlin, now a mainstay at JGR, needs his Darlington touch to click once more at the Southern 500 on Sunday night. Hamlin has not won on the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series since taking the checkered flag here a year ago. He's on the verge of qualifying for the playoffs — he needs eight points out of the weekend to clinch a spot with only one regular-season race remaining after this — but sorely wants to enter running at peak performance.

He's off to a good start on the weekend by winning the pole Saturday for the Southern 500. Kyle Larson will



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denny Hamlin drives into Turn 1 during a practice session at Darlington Raceway on Friday in Darlington. Hamlin will start on the pole for today's Southern 500.

start next to Hamlin, with last year's series champion Martin Truex Jr. in third.

Hamlin has won twice here on the Cup side and five times in Xfinity. More amazingly, he's never missed a lap at Darlington as Cup driver.

"That's called a jinx, thank you," Hamlin answered when told of his success here.

Hamlin could use a bit of a jinx put on the trio of NASCAR champions dominating victory lane. Kevin Harvick, the 2014 champion, leads the way

with seven wins, while 2015 champion Kyle Busch has six. Defending series winner Martin Truex Jr. has won four times this season, meaning the three have combined to take 70 percent of the races.

Busch said his mission and mindset is clear: finish the regular season as the top playoff seed.

"We want to continue our dominant stretch, continuing to win races, top fives and add to those bonus points," he said. "You want to win the regular season."

## SOUTHERN 500 LINEUP

By The Associated Press

Saturday; Race: Sunday

At Darlington Raceway

Darlington, S.C.

Lap length: 1.5 miles

(Car number in parentheses)

1. (1) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 173.571 mph.
2. (42) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 173.411.
3. (78) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 173.204.
4. (88) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 173.155.
5. (18) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 173.064.
6. (31) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 172.832.
7. (20) Erik Jones, Toyota, 172.511.
8. (22) Joey Logano, Ford, 172.505.
9. (41) Kurt Busch, Ford, 172.336.
10. (24) William Byron, Chevrolet, 172.245.
11. (9) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 171.381.
12. (10) Aric Almirola, Ford, 170.030.
13. (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 172.790.
14. (21) Paul Menard, Ford, 172.517.
15. (6) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 172.475.
16. (19) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 172.408.
17. (14) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 172.263.
18. (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 172.034.
19. (37) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 171.818.
20. (48) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 171.734.
21. (12) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 171.566.
22. (4) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 171.542.
23. (38) David Ragan, Ford, 170.691.
24. (47) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 170.572.
25. (17) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 172.917.
26. (34) Michael McDowell, Ford, 172.881.
27. (43) Bubba Wallace, Chevrolet, 172.614.
28. (13) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 172.293.
29. (95) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 172.034.
30. (32) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 171.812.
31. (1) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 170.637.
32. (52) JJ Yeley, Chevrolet, 170.430.
33. (15) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 169.994.
34. (72) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 169.042.
35. (00) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 167.665.
36. (66) Timmy Hill, Toyota, 163.822.
37. (51) BJ McLeod, Chevrolet, 163.713.
38. (99) Derrike Cope, Chevrolet, 160.381.
39. (23) Joey Gase, Toyota, 154.734.
40. (96) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Toyota, 0.000.

## SCOREBOARD

## TV, RADIO

## TODAY

6:30 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Made In Denmark Final Round from Aarhus, Denmark (GOLF).

8:25 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Cardiff City vs. Arsenal (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

9:05 a.m. — Formula One Racing: Italian Grand Prix from Monza, Italy (ESPN2).

9:30 a.m. — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Fortuna Dusseldorf vs. RB Leipzig (FOX SPORTS 1, UNIVISION).

10:55 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Manchester United vs. Burnley (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

11 a.m. — Professional Tennis: U.S. Open Men's and Women's Round-of-16 Matches from New York (ESPN).

Noon — College Football: MEAC/SWAC Challenge from Atlanta — Prairie View A&M vs. North Carolina Central (ESPN2).

Noon — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Hertha Berlin vs. Schalke 04 (FOX SPORTS 1).

1 p.m. — Track and Field: IAAF Diamond League Meets — Weltklasse from Zurich, Switzerland, and AG Memorial Van Damme from Brussels, Belgium (WIS 10).

1 p.m. — PGA Golf: Dell Technologies Championship Third Round from Norton, Mass. (GOLF).

1:30 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Philadelphia (TBS).

2 p.m. — Women's College Volleyball: Notre Dame at Purdue (ESPNU).

3 p.m. — PGA Golf: Dell Technologies Championship Third Round from Norton, Mass. (WIS 10).

3 p.m. — Professional Tennis: U.S. Open Men's and Women's Round-of-16 Matches from New York (ESPN).

3 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Playoffs Semifinal Series Game 4 — Atlanta at Washington (ESPN2).

3 p.m. — Horse Racing: Prioress Stakes from Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (FOX SPORTS 2).

3 p.m. — Professional Golf: Web.com Tour DAP Championship Final Round from Beachwood, Ohio (GOLF).

3 p.m. — IRL Racing: IndyCar Series Grand Prix of Portland from Portland, Ore. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

3:30 p.m. — Women's College Volleyball: Texas Christian at Colorado State (STADIUM).

5 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Playoffs Semifinal Series Game 4 — Seattle at Phoenix (ESPN2).

5 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Pittsburgh at Atlanta (FOX SPORTSOUTH, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).

5 p.m. — Senior PGA Golf: PGA Tour Champions Shaw Charity Classic Final Round from Calgary, Alberta (GOLF).

6 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series Southern 500 from Darlington (NBC SPORTS NETWORK, WEGX-FM 92.9).

7 p.m. — Youth Baseball: Perfect Game 14U Select Festival from Fort Myers, Fla. (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

7 p.m. — Professional Tennis: U.S. Open Men's and Women's Round-of-16 Matches from New York (ESPN2).

7 p.m. — LPGA Golf: Portland Classic Final Round from Portland, Ore. (GOLF).

7:30 p.m. — College Football: Miami vs. Louisiana State from Arlington, Texas (WOLO 25).

7:30 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Atlanta at D.C. (FOX SPORTS 1).

8 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los Angeles Angels at Houston (ESPN).

**MONDAY**

11 a.m. — Professional Tennis: U.S. Open Men's and Women's Round-of-16 Matches from New York (ESPN).

11:30 a.m. — PGA Golf: Dell Technologies Championship Final Round from Norton, Mass. (WIS 10).

4 p.m. — Major League Baseball: New York Yankees at Oakland (ESPN).

4 p.m. — Horse Racing: Hopeful Stakes from Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (FOX SPORTS 1).

6 p.m. — IRL Racing: Indy Lights Series from Portland, Ore. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXA-AM 1240).

7 p.m. — Professional Tennis: U.S. Open Men's and Women's Round-of-16 Matches from New York (ESPN2).

8 p.m. — College Football: Virginia Tech at Florida State (ESPN, ESPNEWS, ESPN2).

8 p.m. — Major League Baseball: New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers or San Diego at Arizona (MLB NETWORK).

## USC FOOTBALL

# Former Crestwood standout Williams turns in solid day

BY DANNY KELLY

danny@theitem.com

COLUMBIA — Former Crestwood High School running back Ty'Son Williams was a huge reason for the South Carolina Gamecocks' success against the Coastal

Carolina Chanticleers on Saturday at Williams-Brice Stadium, a game which the Gamecocks won with ease, 49-15.

Williams carried the ball 11 times for 82 yards – an average of 7.5

yards per rush with a long of 21 yards – and a touchdown, with one of his carries ending with a hurdle over a Chanticleer defender. Williams also caught a pass for 15 yards.

"I thought Ty'Son had about eight yards a carry; he ran the ball extremely well," South Carolina head coach Will Muschamp said. "We have to have a running back that has instincts and can put his foot in

**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCORES**

Abbeville 52, Emerald 17  
Airport 21, Swansea 20  
Andrew Jackson 37, Blacksburg 8  
Andrew Jackson Academy 68, Calhoun Academy 23  
Andrews 48, Waccamaw 6  
Archer, Ga. 51, Spartanburg 17  
Ashley Ridge 21, Stratford 6  
Augusta Christian, Ga. 34, Calhoun Falls 0  
Aynor 24, Green Sea Floyd's 16  
**Bamberg-Ehrhardt 28, Scott's Branch 0**  
Baptist Hill 60, Burke 6  
Barnwell 21, Silver Bluff 14  
Beaufort 21, Effingham County, Ga. 13  
Beaufort Academy 58, Laurens Academy 0  
Belton-Honea Path 25, Greenville 24  
Berea 21, Carolina High and Academy 20  
Berkeley 46, West Ashley 7  
Bethesda Academy, Ga. 57, Northwood Academy 0  
Bethune-Bowman 42, North 0  
Blackville-Hilda 16, Allendale-Fairfax 13  
Bluffton 35, Ridgeland-Hardeeville 12  
Blythewood 42, Fairfield Central 22  
Broome 42, Clinton 7  
C.E. Murray 44, Oceanside Collegiate Academy 16  
Calhoun County 48, North Charleston 8  
Cardinal Newman 20, Heathwood Hall 8  
Carolina Academy 48, Williamsburg Academy 20  
Carolina Forest 40, Colleton County 14  
Carvers Bay 46, Georgetown 0  
Central 45, Marshville Forest Hills, N.C. 40  
Chapin 27, Lugoff-Elgin 14  
Chapman 55, Boiling Springs 28  
Chesneet 42, Blue Ridge 7  
Chester 36, Rock Hill 14  
Christ Church Episcopal 48, West Oak 27  
**Clarendon Hall Academy 46, Holly Hill Academy 0**  
D.W. Daniel 51, Seneca 14  
Denmark-Olatz 28, Branchville 13  
Dillon 40, Latta 0  
Dixie 38, Carolina Christian Cavaliers 6  
Don Bosco Prep, N.J. 22, James F. Byrnes 17  
Dorman 35, Northwestern 24  
Dreher 28, Gray Collegiate Academy 24  
Dutch Fork 58, Irmo 0  
Eastside 27, Wade Hampton (G) 21  
**First Baptist 70, Wilson Hall 3**  
Fort Dorchester 31, Viera, Fla. 28  
Wardlaw Academy 62, Palmetto Christian Academy 8  
Gaffney 34, Union County 7  
Gaston Huss, N.C. 21, Clover 14, OT  
Great Falls 26, Lewisville 22  
Greenwood 35, Aiken 21  
Greenwood Christian 42, Northside Christian 0  
Greer 48, Westside 14  
Hammond 42, Ben Lippen 7  
Hanahan 37, Woodland 12  
Hartsville 35, Camden 21  
Hemingway 28, Johnsonville 14  
Hilcrest 27, Woodmont 0  
Hilton Head Island 27, Battery Creek 6  
Indian Land 14, York Comprehensive 9  
James Island 28, Bishop England 6

Jefferson Davis Academy 78, Patrick Henry Academy 52  
John Paul II def. St. Andrew's, Ga., forfeit  
Lake City 32, Kingtree 21  
Lake View 54, South Robeson, N.C. 6  
**Lakewood 27, Manning 26**  
Lamar 26, Darlington 0  
Lane, Ga. 40, McCormick 0  
**Laurence Manning Academy 48, Florence Christian 6**  
**Lee Central 14, Timmonsville 12, OT**  
Lexington 21, Gilbert 14  
Marlboro County 41, Scotland, N.C. 25  
Mauldin 51, J.L. Mann 0  
May River 27, Whale Branch 7  
Mullins 52, Marion 34  
Myrtle Beach 42, Laurens 6  
Newberry 41, Batesburg-Leesville 39  
Ninety Six 45, Crescent 33  
North Augusta 31, Grovetown, Ga. 6  
North Central 61, McBee 13  
North Myrtle Beach 35, West Brunswick, N.C. 10  
Orangeburg Prep def. Christian Academy of Myrtle Beach, forfeit  
Orangegburg-Wilkinson 35, Lake Marion 0  
Palmetto 31, Pendleton 21  
Pee Dee Academy 49, Dorchester Academy 40  
Philip Simmons 45, Charleston Charter 8  
Pickens 18, Liberty 0  
Porter-Gaud 27, Pinewood Prep 0  
**Richland Northeast 21, Crestwood 20**  
Ridge Spring-Monetta 38, Whitmire 6  
River Bluff 65, Pelion 6  
**Robert E. Lee Academy 28, Dillon Christian 7**  
Saluda 49, Mid-Carolina 7  
South Aiken 14, Strom Thurmond 0  
South Columbus, N.C. 41, Loris 14  
South Florence 27, Wilson 26  
South Pointe 60, Nation Ford 14  
Southside 56, Riverside 6  
Spartanburg Christian 26, Oakbrook Prep 6  
Spring Valley 49, Brookland-Cayce 35  
St. John's 18, Garrett Academy of Technology 6  
St. John's Christian Academy 44, W. Wyman King Academy 0  
St. Joseph 47, Anderson Cavaliers 12  
Summerville 34, Goose Creek 0  
Summerville Faith Christian 68, Winn Academy 66  
**Sumter 34, Conway 10**  
T.L. Hanna 41, Royal Imperial Collegiate, Ontario 7  
Thomas Heyward Academy 23, Colleton Prep 14  
Timberland 47, Cross 0  
Travelers Rest 49, Ware Shoals 0  
Tri-Academy 50, Cathedral Academy 22  
**Trinity Byrnes School 42, Thomas Sumter Academy 7**  
Wade Hampton (H) 41, Estill 0  
Wagener-Salley 58, East Claire 6  
Walhalla 10, Landrum 7  
Wando 52, R.B. Stall 13  
West Columbus, N.C. 27, Creek Bridge 0  
Westwood 40, Lower Richland 12  
White Knoll 49, W.J. Keenan 20  
Woodruff 28, Southside Christian 27  
Wren 69, Powdersville 7

**GATORS** FROM PAGE B1

MANNING -- The varsity football teams from Lakewood and Manning high schools proved on Friday that baseball legend Yogi Berra's old adage "It ain't over till it's over" still stands true today.

With what both Lakewood head coach Larry Cornelius and Manning head coach Keith West called the craziest play they had ever seen, the Gators were able to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat as Monarch quarterback Jack Owens, in a panicked attempt to run out the clock, ended up running into his own end zone, resulting in a safety that gave Lakewood a 27-26 win at Ramsey Stadium.

"The only positive that I can take out of it is exactly that," said Cornelius, referring to the famous Yogi-ism. "You know, play to the last whistle and good things will happen."

The play started with two seconds on the clock and Manning facing a fourth-and-15 from its own 37, after the Monarchs had taken a delay of game penalty on the previous play. As the ball was snapped, Owens began running backwards and, according to West, got confused when the buzzer sounded as the clock ran out. Rather than just taking a knee or running out of bounds, the panicked Owens unfortunately did the one thing that could cost his team the win.

"It was the craziest play that I've ever seen in my life," said West, whose team fell to 1-2 after the shocking ending. "There was two seconds left and all we had to do was kneel on it. We told him to go back a few feet and kneel on it, and then the buzzer went off. The buzzer kind of freaked it a little bit and he thought the game was over and stopped, and then he took off running. Then once he took off running he just didn't know what he was doing. He just ran into the end zone, he thought he was killing the clock and he ran all the way (back) and gave them a safety."

While Cornelius was happy to see his team move to 3-0 on the season, he was very sympathetic to the emotions and psyche of the Monarchs' senior quarterback after the game.

"In the 19 years of me coaching high school football, that's the craziest thing I've seen on the field at the end of the game," Cornelius said. "It's unfortunate for the Manning quarterback. He's a great kid and one play, one kid, doesn't define what happened there. I just hope that everyone picks up the quarterback from Manning because he's a great athlete, a better young man and he played a great game tonight."

While the ending was unfortunate for Owens, he had done plenty up until that point to put the Monarchs in position for the win. Owens connected with wide receiver Aaron

Smith for a 55-yard touchdown pass on a third-and-20 to end Manning's opening drive and later found Smith for a 40-yard completion that setup a 2-yard Owens scoring run that put the Monarchs up 13-6 with 3:35 to go in the first half.

After failing to get a first down on their first two possessions, the Gators found the end zone on a 1-yard Malik Richardson run with 1:14 to go in the opening quarter. Richardson's run capped a 13-play, 61-yard drive that saw Richardson run six times for 21 yards and complete a 16-yard pass to Taron Wilson.

The first half ended with the teams trading scores in the span of 11 seconds. Lakewood tied the score at 13-13 after a 14-yard Travious Epps run before Manning retook the lead on a 76-yard kickoff return by Demont Dennis as the Monarchs went to the break with a 20-13 lead.

Manning put the ball on the ground twice early in the second half, with Lakewood turning both turnovers into points. The first fumble came on a Darius Williams run on the second play of the half, putting the Gators at the Monarchs' 31. On the next play, Epps broke through the line and took it to the end zone untouched. Placekicker Frankie Gonzalez missed his second PAT kick attempt of the night, leaving Lakewood down by a point, 20-19, with 11:02 left in the third quarter.

On the ensuing kickoff, Chandler Brunson had trouble getting a handle on the ball and coughed it up at his own 25. This time it took Richardson and the Gator offense three plays to find the end zone. The score came on a 10-yard Epps run, with a failed 2-point conversion run attempt by Richardson leaving the Lakewood lead at 25-20 with 9:37 on the clock.

The Gators also came up with an interception later in the third as Jalen Clea picked off an Owens pass intended for Corey Graham. It would be the first of two interceptions thrown by Owens, but the Monarch defense stiffened both times to keep the Gators from capitalizing.

Manning's last scoring drive went 62 yards in 11 plays and was stalled and kept alive by a few untimely penalties on both squads. The Monarchs saw a 25-yard run play and a 25-yard pass play both nullified by an illegal block and illegal procedure penalty, respectively. The Gators later allowed Manning to escape a second-and-26 with a personal foul for roughing the quarterback that resulted in an automatic first down, with the drive ending on a 7-yard pass from Owens to Graham. A failed conversion run attempt by Owens left the Monarchs clinging to a 26-25 lead with 8:24 to go in the game.

**MORE TO THE STORY**

Read on at [www.theitem.com](http://www.theitem.com).

**SHS** FROM PAGE B1

and injured. At least partially as a result, the Tigers went from the 2:34 mark of the first quarter to the 2:19 of the third without a first down.

"Obviously we caught a break tonight - I hope their quarterback is OK. But when he went down, their offense changed a bunch," Sumter head coach Mark Barnes said. "We ought to be a good offensive football team. We just didn't look like we were in sync until the second half. Then we started playing a lot better."

Of course, a lot of that had to do with Henry's burst.

After a relatively light 38 yards rushing in the first half, he exploded for 174 in the second. And although he did put

the ball on the ground once more in the third quarter (it was recovered by a teammate), Barnes said it wasn't enough to make him change course.

"There's two ways. If you're a compulsive fumbler, yeah, I'm going to bench you," Barnes said. "[Henry] is not that kind of guy. Normally he takes care of the football. ... That was very uncharacteristic of him."

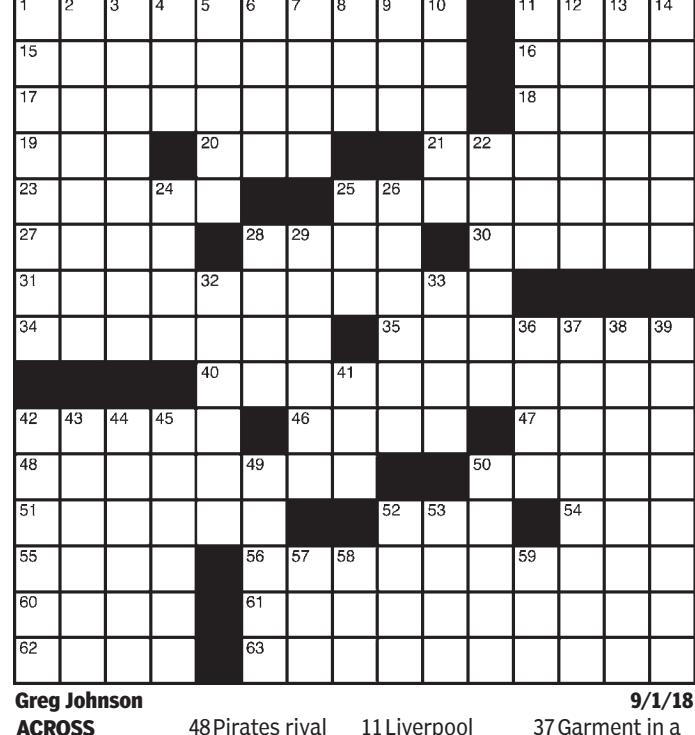
Henry wasn't the only player who had turnover issues. Gamecock quarterbacks Ontra' Harvin and Hayden Vasquez each threw an interception. However, none of that did anything but slightly delay Sumter taking control of this rivalry again.

Conway won the game last

season to claim the Region VI-5A crown. However, in the past 11 years total, the Gamecocks are now 8-3 against the Tigers.

In the immediate, people are starting to wonder just how good this 3-0 Sumter team could be. It has opened the season with three double-digit victories and is now considered by most to be the favorite in Region IV-5A. Barnes' team will have a couple more non-region games before starting to figure that out, but Henry and Co. proved what they can accomplish when they take care of business.

"First half, we weren't focused," Henry said. "We made too many mistakes. We have to do better. We came out the second half and played a lot better."

**SATURDAY PUZZLES****THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

## PREP FOOTBALL



Crestwood quarterback Joshua Simon (6) tries to get around a pair of Richland Northeast defenders during the Knights' 21-20 loss on Friday at Donald L. Crolley Memorial Stadium in Dalzell.

## Knights lose heartbreaker to Richland Northeast, 21-20

BY DANNY KELLY

danny@theitem.com

DALZELL — Close, but no cigar.

The Crestwood High School football team couldn't quite get it done against the Richland Northeast Cavaliers on Friday at Donald L. Crolley Memorial Stadium, falling by a final score of 21-20.

"(We had) a lot of turnovers in the red zone," said Crestwood head coach Roosevelt Nelson, whose team fell to 0-3 on the season.

The Knights started out looking good in the first quarter on defense with a defensive stand on a Cavaliers fourth-down-and-goal rush by running back Twontae Wallace from the 2-yard line.

However, on the ensuing drive, Crestwood quarterback Joshua Simon, who is still filling in for the suspended Anthony Bradley, threw an interception to Cavaliers linebacker Samad Todd, ending the Crestwood threat and setting RNE up at the Crestwood 30.

The Cavaliers took advantage of the opportunity. After a 29-yard run from Wallace on second down, quarterback Josh Boyd tossed a one-yard

touchdown pass to wide receiver Ty'Sean Osby with 2:25 left in the first quarter. Placekicker Gervis Villagran tacked on an extra point to put the Cavaliers up 7-0.

The Knight's woes continued in the second quarter. Running back Damontae Furman fumbled the ball on the Richland Northeast 19-yard line and the Cavaliers scooped it up. However, the Cavaliers did nothing with it.

Crestwood's luck changed later in the quarter. Running back Christopher Haynesworth bullied his way into the end zone for a 2-yard touchdown run with 7:17 to go in the half. Placekicker Gavyn Zimmerman knocked in the extra point to knot the score up at 7-7.

However, the Cavaliers would strike back.

With 5:37 to go before the half, Boyd found wide receiver Michael Reynolds for a 38-yard touchdown pass. A Villagran extra point extended the Cavalier lead to 14-7.

Crestwood answered with a touchdown of its own 40 seconds before halftime, this time an 11-yard scamper from Simon. Zimmerman's point after tied the game at 14-14.

Simon also contributed on the defensive side of the ball with a big interception in the third quarter. This led to an 8-yard touchdown run from Furman. However, a blocked extra point left the score at 20-14, and it would prove costly.

"Miscues in the kicking game were the difference in the game," Nelson said

In the fourth quarter, the Cavaliers took the lead for good.

Boyd found wide receiver James McCann in the end zone for a 22-yard strike with seven minutes to go. Villagran's extra point gave the Cavaliers a 21-20 lead, which ended up being the final score.

Crestwood had a chance at the end, but an incomplete pass from Simon on fourth down and nine with less than a minute to go sealed the Knights' fate.

"Our kids played better than they did in the first two games, but it wasn't enough," Nelson said. "They (Richland Northeast) just beat us."

Crestwood will take on the Manning Monarchs on Friday at home at 7:30 p.m.

"We have to go back to the drawing board," Nelson said. "They're (Manning) a good team."

## PREP FOOTBALL

## Barons smothered by 2017 2A state champion First Baptist 70-3

BY DENNIS BRUNSON

dennis@theitem.com

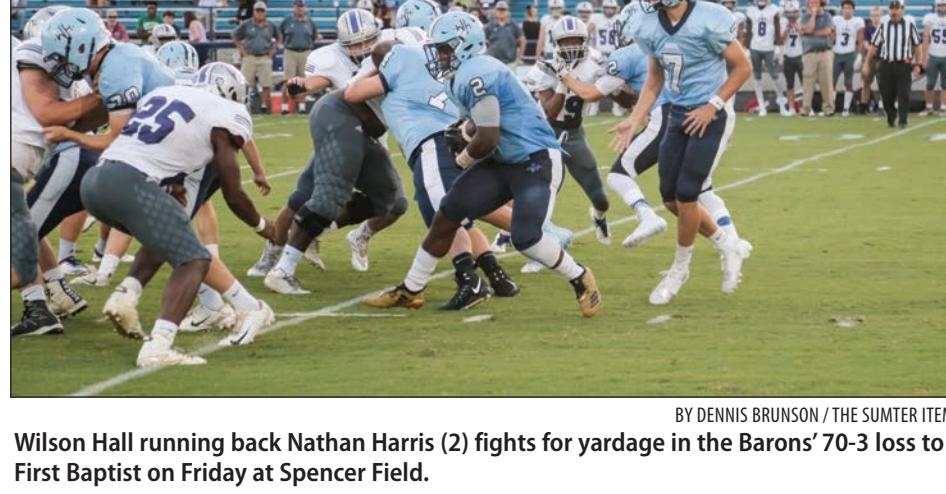
There was a glimmer of hope in the early going for the Wilson Hall football team on Friday in its contest against First Baptist of Charleston at Spencer Field.

The Barons' Graham Van Patten intercepted a pass from Hurricane quarterback Myron Wigfall, setting WH up at the First Baptist 30-yard line. Though the Barons didn't get a first down, they did get a 30-yard field goal from Mills Herlong for a 3-0 lead with 6:42 remaining in the first quarter.

Then it got real ugly, real fast.

FB's Tyler Major returned the ensuing kickoff 97 yards for a touchdown, and things spiraled out of control for the Barons. The Hurricanes led 21-3 after one quarter and 56-3 at halftime on the way to a 70-3 triumph in a game played with a running clock in the second half.

"We started off playing well and then it just got away from us," said Wilson Hall head coach Adam Jarecki, whose team fell to 0-2 both on the season and in SCISA 3A contests as well. "We were already down three starters (entering the game, including defensive end and captain Mitchell Matthews), and then we had two others injured in this one. We just can't afford that."



Wilson Hall running back Nathan Harris (2) fights for yardage in the Barons' 70-3 loss to First Baptist on Friday at Spencer Field.

"Plus, First Baptist is a very, very good team."

The Hurricanes, the 2-time defending 2A state champion now playing at the 3A level, were led by running back Michael Dukes. Dukes, who has several Football Bowl Subdivision offers and has both South Carolina and Clemson talking to him, rushed for 155 yards on 11 carries while scoring five touchdowns. He had scoring runs of 2, 87, 2, 23 and 17 yards.

"He's an awful good running back," Jarecki said of Dukes. "They have a lot of speed and that really ended up

hurting us."

First Baptist, which improved to 3-0, ran just 28 offensive plays but scored 10 touchdowns. And even if you take away the two kickoff returns for scores -- Major had a 93-yarder as well to open the second half -- the Hurricanes still scored eight TDs in 28 plays.

After Major's first kickoff return, FB had its only semblance of a sustained drive. The Hurricanes needed six plays to score from 48 yards out with Dukes scoring on a 2-yard run with 3:53 left in the first quarter to

make it 14-3.

If not for a 3-yard loss on the first play when FB got the ball again, it would have scored touchdowns on four straight offensive plays.

After the loss, Dukes broke off an 87-yard run to make it 21-3 just before the end of the first quarter. When First Baptist recovered a fumble and returned it to the Wilson Hall 2, Dukes scored on the first play of the second quarter to make it 28-3. Major connected with Sincere Brown to make it 35-3 with 10:19 still left in the first half.

Dukes scored on a 23-yard run to push it to 42-3. A Wilson Hall defender had him by the jersey on one side of the field, spun him around and Dukes headed in the other direction for the TD.

First Baptist scored twice in the final three minutes for the 56-3 half-time lead. The Hurricanes had 292 yards of total offense in the first half, 219 on the ground. They finished with 349 yards rushing, thanks mainly to an 82-yard scoring run by John Ravelin in the fourth quarter.

While obviously not happy with the outcome, Jarecki is taking things in stride.

"We're just going to have to continue to work hard and get better," he said. "We're still very young."

Wilson Hall plays host to Porter-Gaud on Friday.

## PREP FOOTBALL

## Generals suffer 42-7 loss to Trinity-Byrnes

BY J.B. BRUNSON

Special to The Sumter Item

DALZELL — The Thomas Sumter Academy football team looked to defend its home turf against the Titans of Trinity-Byrnes on Friday in head coach Randy Stogner's first game at General Field.

The Generals would prove to be heavily outmatched, however, and fall by a final score of 42-7 to drop to 0-2 on the season.

"We've got some work to do. We played a good football team tonight," Stogner said when asked what he took away from his team's performance Friday.

Trinity-Byrnes, which improved to 2-1, began with great field position, starting at the TSA 32-yard line, and needed six plays to get in the end zone. The drive was capped off with a 5-yard run by quarterback Jordan Jones, and the point after kick made it 7-0 with 7:41 left in the first quarter.

Thomas Sumter would quickly go three and out again and punt the ball back to Trinity. The Titans started at the TSA 34 this time.

They needed three plays to score, the drive capped off by 4-yard rushing touchdown from running-back Brandon Scott to extend their lead to 14-0 with 5:14 left in the first quarter.

The Generals' Mason Warren responded with a long kickoff-return on the ensuing kickoff that would set up the Generals on the Trinity 30-yard line. Things spiraled out of control quickly from there, however.

On the following play,

Thomas Sumter quarterback Jarrett Poole would be intercepted by Trinity-Byrnes cornerback Tre Mcleod, giving the Titans the ball at the Thomas Sumter 37.

On the next play, Jones connected with wide receiver Reggion Bennett for a 63-yard passing touchdown to give the Titans a 21-0 lead with 4:41 left in the first quarter.

Thomas Sumter started at its 23 following the kickoff. On the first play from scrimmage, a wild snap was recovered by Trinity-Byrnes at the Thomas Sumter 6. On the next play, fullback Shamar Byrd would bulldoze through the line for a 6-yard touchdown run to give the Titans a 28-0 lead with 4:13 left in the first quarter.

After a Thomas Sumter punt, Byrd would find the end zone again with a 14-yard touchdown run with 9:56 left in the second quarter. The Titans scored one more time in the first half would find the end zone one more time in the first half on a 39-yard run by Bennett for a 42-0 halftime lead.

With a running clock in the second half, Thomas Sumter finally got a spark in the third quarter when the offense strung together a 10-play, 69-yard scoring drive that would be capped off with a 1-yard run by Warren with 34 seconds left in the third quarter.

Stogner hopes his team will learn from this game, but move on from it.

"We're gonna watch film, find things that we need to address, and work on them at practice on Tuesday," he said.



Thomas Sumter linebacker Graham Campbell, right, forces a fumble by Trinity-Byrnes running back Shamar Byrd during the Generals' 42-7 loss on Friday at General Field in Dalzell.

**JOAN WELCH HEDRICK**

Joan Welch Hedrick, 80, wife of Walter R. Hedrick, died on Thursday, Aug. 30, 2018, at her home in Sumter.

Born in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late John Howard Welch and Eva Nesbitt Welch. Mrs. Hedrick was a member of First Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Carol H. Ardis (Wendell Ardis) of Sumter and Brenda H. Huggins (Marion E. Huggins) of Lynchburg; three grandchildren, Ashley A. Ferguson (Chase M. Ferguson), Brittany H. Lowder (Raleigh Lowder) and Austin C. Huggins; and a great-granddaughter, Laney Ann Lowder.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, James H. Welch, Charles E. Welch and John R. Welch; and four sisters, Lillie Mae Felder, Orie Elizabeth Welch, Ruby Watts and Iva Nell Bradham.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. today in the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. Paul Howell and the Rev. James McElveen officiating. Burial will be at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Austin Huggins, Luke Miles, Steve Felder, Lynn Felder, Ricky Webster and Todd Welch.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 4 p.m. today at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at 1345 Walcora Drive, Sumter.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 2609 McCrays Mill Road, Sumter, SC 29154.

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

**LOMA ELIZABETH T. PACK**

ALCOLU — Loma Elizabeth Thigpen Pack, 96, widow of George W. Pack Jr., died on Thursday, Aug. 30, 2018, at NHC of Sumter.

Born on April 18, 1922, in Manning, she was a daughter of the late Thomas Jackson Thigpen and Annie Corrie Gladden Thigpen. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Alcolu.

She is survived by a son, Bobby G. Pack Sr. (Geraldine) of Manning; three grandchildren, Robbie Pack (Monica) of Alcolu, Sheila Ayers (Mark) of Sumter and Donna Hodge (Cecil) of Manning; three great-grandchildren, Aubrey Pack, Bryceson Pack and Tony Ayers (Amanda); and a great-great-grandchild, Connor Ayers.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Frances Ardis and Iola Amerson; and a brother, Arthur Thigpen.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Trinity United Methodist Church Cemetery in Alcolu.

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

**ANNIE RUTH S. SPARKS**

Annie Ruth Singleton Sparks was born on June 25, 1952, in Pinewood, to the late Mildred Singleton Rice and Lewis Pringle.

She was raised by her grandparents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Singleton, and later by her aunt and uncle, the late Mr. and Mrs. Robin James. Annie was called to her heavenly home on Aug. 29, 2018. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and friend to many. She



SPARKS

was a faithful member of Kingsbury Road Church of Christ, where she served as church secretary for many years.

Annie suffered severe hearing loss at an early age, yet, she successfully graduated from Furman High School in 1971 and attended Sumter Technical College from 1971 to 1972. She moved to New York, New York, in her early 20's, where she resided until she moved back to Sumter in 1991, where she worked for the Sumter County Assessor's Office for nearly 23 years, until her retirement.

Annie will always be remembered for her warm disposition, bright smile and excellent baking skills. She enjoyed baking, making special treats for the holidays for family and friends and relaxing in different cities as she visited her daughter. Countless moments and priceless memories will forever dwell in the heart and minds of the loved ones that she leaves behind.

The ones who remain to cherish her precious memories are her loving daughter, Yasmin Jenkins (Jayson); her doting son, Lamar; her beloved granddaughter, Makayla; and a grandson due November 2018. She is also survived by her siblings, Gail Singleton, Lagretta Pringle, Lissa Pringle Owens, Cedric Pringle and Geoffrey Rice; and a host of aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and close friends.

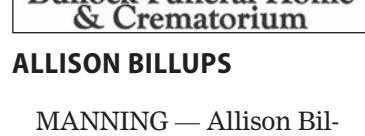
She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, William J. Sparks of New York; her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Singleton; and aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Robin James, both of Pinewood.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at Kingsbury Road Church of Christ with Minister Melvin Sapp officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

A visitation will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday at Bullock Funeral Home and from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, one hour prior to the service, at Kingsbury Road Church of Christ.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Palmetto Health Tuomey Hospice, 500 Pinewood Road No. 2, Sumter, SC 29154.

You may go to [www.bullock-funeralhome.com](http://www.bullock-funeralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book. The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**ALLISON BILLUPS**

MANNING — Allison Billups, 32, died Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018, at McLeod Regional Hospital in Florence. She was

born Oct. 20, 1985, in Manning, a daughter of John McBride and Osetta Billups McBride.

Funeral services for Ms. Billups will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at Weldon Auditorium, 7 Maple St., Manning, with the Rev. Lillian Wright, presiding; the Rev. Major Lloyd, Eulogist, Minister John Billups and Evangelist Ernestine Hilton, assisting. Burial will follow in Mt. Zero Missionary Baptist Church cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 1054 Cellissia Road, Manning.

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

**STEVEN SPANN JR.**

PINEWOOD — Steven Spenn Jr., 73, husband of Bernice Conyers Spenn, died on Thursday, Aug. 30, 2018, at McLeod Health Clarendon, Manning. He was born on March 26, 1945, in Camden, a son of the late Steven Spenn Sr. and Eva Bell Carter Spenn.

The family is receiving

**OBITUARIES**

friends at his residence, 1206 St. Marks Road, Pinewood.

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

**MARY ANN G. BURGESS**

TURBEVILLE — Mary Ann Gamble Burgess, 77, widow of Thomas Burgess Jr., died on Thursday, Aug. 30, 2018, at her residence, 2517 Sandhill Road, Turbeville. She was born on June 17, 1941, a daughter of the late Robert and Edna Gamble.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her daughter, Monika and Kervin Whack, 1258 Main St., Turbeville.

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

**WILLIE JAMES COOK**

Willie James Cook, 62, died on Friday, Aug. 31, 2018, at his home in Dalzell. Born on Feb. 26, 1956, in Lee County, he was a son of Isaac and Frances Boone Cook.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 56 Cook Lane, Dalzell.

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

**BERNARD L. CHRISTIAN-RAGINS**

Today we honor and celebrate the life of Bernard Lejohn Christian-Ragins, affectionately known as "Bernie." Bernard was born on Nov. 23, 1974, in Sumter, to Gwendolyn Ragins (Johnny) Heyward. He departed from this life on Monday, Aug. 27, 2018.

Bernard was the first grandson and nephew in the family and was reared by his loving grandparents, Robert Goodman Sr. and the late Helen Goodman, along with three cousins / siblings. He was not only the first grandchild, but the first to attend and complete college.

Bernard was privileged to be the first child in Gamecock Apartment Complex in 1976 to own a mobile egg car. He could be seen any day of the week riding his egg all through the complex, and everyone knew there's Rabbit's boy, Bernard.

He graduate from Sumter High School in 1993 and furthered his education at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, where he graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in psychology. Bernard was quite smart and very smart-mouthed. His friends and family could and did at any time heard him say, "I'm not trying to counsel you but ... I do have my degree in psychology."

Bernard grew up in Sumter but knew at a very early age that Sumter was just a little too small for him. So, after completing his undergrad studies, he launched out to pursue his passion, which was acting and being in the public's eye. Bernard attended The American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, New York. He then moved to Los Angeles, California, where he was featured in shows such as "ER," "Any Day Now," "Malibu's Most Wanted," "Love & Hip Hop New York," and many audience appearances on "The Steve Wilkos Show," "The Wendy Williams Show," "The View" and "The Newlywed Game Show."

He leaves to cherish his fond memories" his loving and dedicated mother, Gwendolyn Ragins Heyward; his committed life partner, Scott Christian-Ragins; his maternal grandfather, Robert Goodman Sr.; two brothers, Rickey (Laveranda) Ragins of Columbia and Tony Heyward of Baltimore; four sisters, Sabretta Ragins of Charlotte, North Carolina, Yulandria Ragins of Laurel, Maryland, Yolanda (Lee) Hopewell of Dayton, Ohio, and Shavonda Heyward of Guam; six aunts, Cora Lee Ragins, Mary Jane Ragins, Angela (Shawn) Foxworth and Valerie Goodman, all of Sumter, and Rebecca Lynch of Suitland, Maryland; five un-

cles, Leon Gass and James (Tonya) Goodman of Sumter, Robert Goodman Jr. of Huntsville, Alabama, and Rodney (Mary) Miller of Lithonia, Georgia; a very devoted friend (from childhood), Kimberly Sanders; a special friend, Larisha Porter; and a host of cousins, other loved ones and friends.

Bernard was preceded in death by his loving maternal grandmother, Helen Goodman; his caring stepfather, Johnny Heyward; his paternal grandfather, Walter Allen; his aunt and godmother, Patricia Gass; and great-grandmother, Kelsie Ragins.

Mr. Ragins will be placed in the church at 2 p.m. today for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral service will be held at 4 p.m. today at Westend Community Church, 101 S. Salem Ave., with Pastor James F. Goodman, Alive Praise & Worship Center, Sumter.

The family will receive friends at the home of his aunt, 34 Dillard Drive, Sumter. Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

**RAQUAN HICKMON**

BISHOPSVILLE — Raquan Hickmon, 19, passed away on Aug. 31, 2018. Plans are incomplete and will be announced by JP Holley Funeral Home, Bishopville Chapel.

**DOLLIE MAE D. THIGPEN**

Funeral services for Dollie Mae Davis Thigpen, 88, who entered into rest on Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, will be held at 3 p.m. today in the chapel of Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home. Pastor Gary Boykin will officiate. Burial will follow at Ashwood Baptist Church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service and in the Ashwood Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, immediately following the graveside service.

Mrs. Thigpen was born in Lee County, a daughter of the late Jasper J. and Lillie Mae Merritt Davis. Mrs. Thigpen was a devoted Christian, a proud Southern lady, a devoted mother, grandmother, wife, sister and a friend to many of her fellow South Carolinians.

She grew up in the Ashwood community during the Depression. She was especially proud of being a graduate of the former Ashwood High School. She also thoroughly enjoyed gardening and reading all of her life. She retired from the former General Telephone Co.

She is survived by her loving husband, Edward M. Thigpen of Sumter; sons, James E. Thigpen of Mount Pleasant and Allan D. Thigpen of Sumter; sister, Louise Watson of Bishopville; and grandchildren, Emily Ann Thigpen of Tennessee, Bobby Thigpen of Tennessee and Jasper M. Thigpen of Sumter. She was preceded in death by her son, Jeffery M. Thigpen.

**ARGENELL DELORIS A. THAMES**

MANNING — Argenell Deloris Andrews Thames, 82, wife of Leon Thames, died on Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, at McLeod Regional Medical Center, Florence. She was born on April 3, 1936, in Cheriton, Virginia, a daughter of the late England and Dora Mae Gunter Andrews.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 9 p.m. daily Tuesday through Friday at her residence, 1032 Leo Road, Manning.

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

**SHIRLEY L. OLIVER**

MANNING — Shirley Lawson Oliver, 79, widow of Titus Lee Oliver, died on Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, at her residence, 1506 Deberry Road, Manning. She was born on July 20, 1939, in Summerton, a daughter of the late Elijah and Sarah Stukes Lawson.

Funeral services for Mrs. Oliver will be held at noon on Tuesday at Liberty Hill AME

Church, 2310 Liberty Hill Road, Summerton, with the Rev. Robert L. China, pastor.

The family is receiving friends at the residence.

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

**MARQUIS L. LEWIS**

Marquis L. Lewis, 26, son of Gloria Jean Prescott was born on Sept. 3, 1991, in Sumter County. Marquis entered eternal rest on Aug. 25, 2018. He was a 2010 graduate of Sumter High School. Marquis then furthered his education by attending Central Carolina Technical College. He was employed by the City of Sumter. His favorite hobby was lifting weights, which he loved.

He leaves to cherish his memories: a loving mother, Gloria Prescott; his father, Harry L. Lewis; a daughter, Kaleese M. Lewis; a son, Marseen J. Lewis; a brother, Quan'ta M. Lewis; grandparents: Alex Prescott, Corine Cabbagestalk, and Arthur and Marie Knox; special friend and brother, Mario Benbow; and a host of uncles, aunts, extended brothers and sisters, other relatives and friends.

Public viewing will be held today from 5 to 8 p.m. at Job's Mortuary.

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

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with Min. Tonya Battie-Washington Officiating and the Rev. Dr. Joann P. Murrill, Eulogist. Interment will follow in Mt. Olive Memorial Gardens.

Family will receive friends at the home, 1043 Wellington Road, Sumter. Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at [jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com](mailto:jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com) or visit us on the web at [www.jobsmortuary.net](http://www.jobsmortuary.net).

**PATRICK D. HOOVER SR.**

Patrick Daniel Hoover Sr., 71, husband of Jennie R. Hoover, died Friday, Aug. 31, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born Dec. 13, 1946, in Manchester, Kentucky, he was a son of the late Vincent Hoover and the late Addie Phillips Hoover. He retired from Burgess Brogdon Building Supply and the U.S. Postal Service.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years; a son, Patrick Daniel "Danny" Hoover Jr. of Sumter; and a granddaughter, Sarah Abigail Hoover.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home with the Rev. Charles Ahtonen officiating. Burial with military honors will be in the Fort Jackson National Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers will be Danny Hoover, Thomas Mayer and James Lowery.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675-8517.

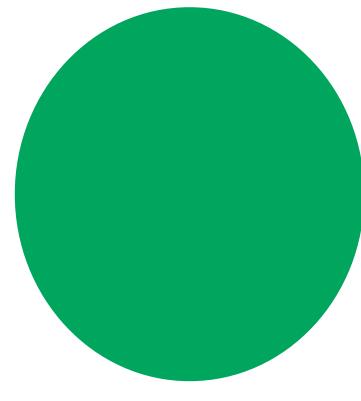
Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

**SARA G. BROWN**

Sara G. Brown of Mayesville, died Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Belk Funeral Home.

**RUBY JOHNSON**

MANNING — Ruby Johnson, 90, died Friday, Aug. 31, 2018, at Palmetto Baptist Hospital, Columbia. She was born Aug. 2, 1929, in Manning, a daughter of the late James Johnson and Louise Pressley Johnson.



# USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE

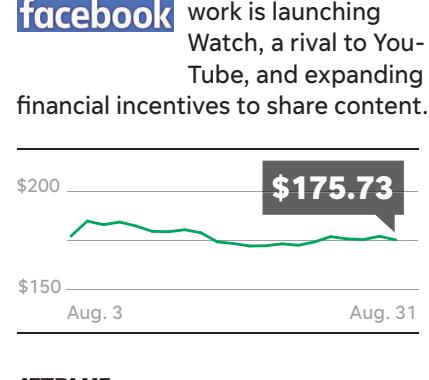
## ON THE MOVE

Stock stories of the week

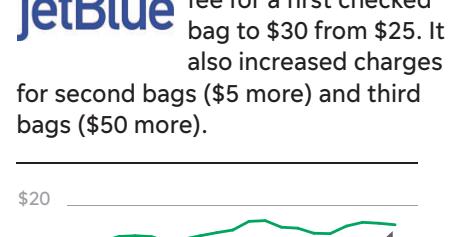
### APPLE



### FACEBOOK



### JETBLUE



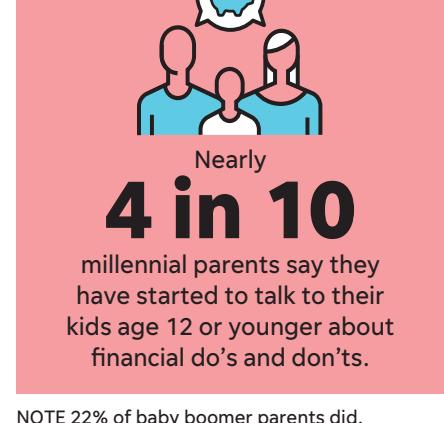
### QANTAS AIRWAYS



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### USA SNAPSHOT®



### MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow Jones industrial average  
▲ 0.7% week

▲ 2.5% month | ▲ 5.4% 3 months

S&P 500  
▲ 0.9% week

▲ 3.1% month | ▲ 6.1% 3 months

Nasdaq composite index  
▲ 2.1% week

▲ 5.2% month | ▲ 7.3% 3 months

Wilshire 5000  
▲ 0.9% week

▲ 3.4% month | ▲ 6.2% 3 months

Gold Ounce, Comex  
▼ 0.5% week

▼ 1.4% month | ▼ 7.3% 3 months

Oil Light sweet crude  
▲ 1.6% week

▲ 3.2% month | ▲ 6.1% 3 months

Euro Dollars per euro  
▼ 0.0028 week

▼ 0.0067 month | ▼ 0.0065 3 months

Yen Yen per dollar  
▼ 0.19 week

▼ 0.55 month | ▲ 1.50 3 months

## MORE KIDS CAN EXPECT COLLEGE COSTS TO PUT THEM IN DEBT

Only 70 percent of parents are saving money for college, according to new research from Fidelity. It was 72 percent two years ago. Only 29 percent of parents plan to fully pay for their kids to go to college (down from 43 percent two years ago). Parents now expect to pay just 62 percent of their children's total college costs (down from 70 percent two years ago).



**"Inflation is the silent killer of your financial plan."**

**Derek Brainard**  
Manager of education services, AccessLex Institute

## What will you get from Social Security?

It depends, so set up an account to find out

**Selena Maranjian**  
The Motley Fool

How much will you get from Social Security if you earn \$100,000 – or any other amount, for that matter? It's a good question. After all, about 50 percent of married elderly Social Security beneficiaries and 71 percent of unmarried ones get 50 percent or more of their income from Social Security, per the Social Security Administration.

Here's how much people making \$100,000 annually might get from Social Security, along with how you can find out what you can expect to reap from the program.

**I How much will you get?** You can find out what you can expect to receive in retirement by setting up a my Social Security account with the SSA. That's also where you can change your address, review the SSA's record of your past earnings to make sure they're correct, check the status of your application for benefits, request a replacement Social Security card (if you meet certain criteria), request a replacement Medicare card, start or change the direct depositing of your benefit payments, and get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S form for tax purposes – among other things. Setting up an account is a smart thing to do. (It can also prevent identity theft and headaches, if you set up your account before a scammer does so for you, pretending to be you.)

**I What those earning \$100,000 might collect:** There's no single answer; it will depend on factors such as your age and when you start collecting your benefits, not to mention your precise earning history. (You may have earned low salaries for 20 years before starting to earn \$100,000 annually.)

Here's a little more insight into Social Security benefits: The average Social Security retirement benefit was recently \$1,413 per month, or about \$17,000 per year. Why so low? Because relatively few people earn that \$100,000 annually. The median net compensation in the U.S. was around \$30,500 in 2016, per the SSA.

If your earnings have been above average, though, you'll get more money out of the Social Security program than most people. The recent maximum monthly Social Security benefit for those retiring at their full retirement age was \$2,788. (That's about \$33,500 a year.)

The Social Security website has its own online calculator to help you estimate your benefits, though it likely won't be as precise as setting up your "my Social Security" account.

## Benefits by year, age

Here's a rough idea of Social Security benefits, using an online calculator:

Born in today	Collect at age 62	Collect at age 66	Collect at age 70
1988 30	\$43,041	\$57,597	\$76,522
1983 35	\$39,652	\$53,058	\$70,491
1978 40	\$36,713	\$49,122	\$65,262
1973 45	\$34,231	\$45,797	\$60,844
1968 50	\$32,003	\$42,793	\$56,853
1963 55	\$29,765	\$39,706	\$52,752
1958 60	\$26,819	\$35,758	\$47,400

Source: smartasset.com

## RETIREMENT SAVINGS

# Don't forget to factor in inflation

**Spencer Tierney | NerdWallet**

\$1 million might sound like enough to retire with today, but by retirement, it'll be worth less than you might think. The reason is inflation, and it affects how you plan for the future.

### Here's what inflation is ...

Broadly speaking, inflation is the increase in overall prices for goods and services in an economy. You'll need more money tomorrow to buy the same things you buy today.

"Inflation is the silent killer of your financial plan," says Derek Brainard, manager of education services at AccessLex Institute, a nonprofit that helps law students understand their finances.

When putting away money for retirement, Brainard says, "you might need to be saving a lot more than you think because of inflation."

The long-term average rate of inflation is between 2 and 4 percent annually, based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### ... and here's how to beat it

You can't stop inflation, but you can make your money work better for you:

**I Invest for retirement with a 401(k) or IRA:** You might already do this, but you might not know why it matters: These accounts are your best bet for earning long-term returns that beat inflation.

Investing in stocks through brokerage accounts such as 401(k)s and IRAs has led to an average return in the past century of about 10 percent annually. When you factor in inflation, that leaves the real return clos-

er to 6 to 8 percent.

### For short-term savings, find a high-yield certificate of deposit:

Some online banks and credit unions have one-year CDs with annual percentage yields higher than 2 percent and five-year CDs with APYs over 3 percent. These federally insured accounts lock up funds for a fixed period; they're best for money you don't need for months or years.

### Keep emergency fund separate

Dana Twight, a Seattle-based certified financial planner and owner of Twight Financial Education, says, "Your emergency fund's purpose is not to beat inflation." Rather, it's for easy access to money when you need it. A regular savings account is easier to withdraw from than a CD or investment account.

An emergency fund should cover three to six months of living expenses, but "that's based on the costs today," Brainard says. "It's important to revisit that (number) every single year."

### Should I worry about inflation?

A little inflation is not bad. "Around 2 percent" is generally an acceptable rate, according to the Federal Reserve. And it helps stave off deflation, which is when prices and even wages can fall, which happened during the Great Depression.

# Health care costs ruin couple's finances



**Pete the Planner**  
Peter Dunn  
USA TODAY

**Dear Pete:** It's too late for me. I'm 89 and my husband and I have been retired for 19 years. We started out with about \$2 million, enough for us to live to age 120, so they said. We never took out more than our required minimum distribution (RMD). Two years ago the health effects of Parkinson disease's on my husband became severe enough that he needed expensive full-time care. We had never purchased long-term care insurance, as my husband thought he could self-insure and that he was invulnerable. I can no longer afford to live to 120. I think you should stress getting this insurance while you are young and it is relatively inexpensive. I am now taking out more than my RMD to pay the bills and count myself lucky that I have generous children. – Joan

*Dear Joan:* Thank you for sharing this story. Sometimes we forget how true wisdom is acquired. It comes from experience, from pain, and from victories. It comes from making mistakes. And it comes from good people such as you who are willing to bare their soul and their finances to warn others.

I guarantee, after reading your story, numerous people will take action and protect their finances against the astronomical costs of long-term care.

You should extend yourself some grace, too. The reality is that everyone, no matter how well-planned their finances are, finds themselves in situations where life happens. You had your finances planned out to keep you going to age 120. And although our health doesn't get better as we age, no one expects to face Parkinson's and the expenses that disease entails.

Most people should explore long-term care insurance, especially if they are concerned about their assets being diverted entirely to their medical care, thus leaving the rest of their family's obligations unfunded.

There are two primary types of long-term care coverage people should know



**The reality is everyone, no matter how well-planned their finances are, finds themselves in situations where life happens.**

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about. The first is traditional coverage. It's a ridiculous name considering that the concept of long-term care coverage is only a few decades old. Under the traditional arrangement, a person pays premiums, usually starting in their 50s or 60s, and then files a claim, which typically begins to pay after a 90-day waiting (elimination) period. The policy continues to pay based on the length of coverage purchased and the amount of daily benefit purchased.

For instance, if you need to go into an assisted living facility (or in-home care), you must pay for those services out of pocket for 90 days. That is called an elimination period. It's basically a time deductible. If you still need services after the elimination period, the policy begins to pay based on the daily benefit purchased. This daily amount can vary greatly, but don't be surprised to see this benefit at more than \$200 per

day. The policy continues to pay this hypothetical \$200 a day as long as your benefit period lasts. It could be two years, could be five years, or it might even be for the rest of your life.

As you can imagine, all of these variables affect what you'll pay the insurance company on a monthly basis. And these types of policies can also unexpectedly increase in price.

If the thought of paying into a policy month after month and finding you have nothing to show for it if you don't actually file a claim frustrates you, then you're not alone. The long-term care industry has recently acknowledged this frustration and created a more modern insurance solution – hybrid policies. These products are also called asset-based long-term care.

These types of policies make more sense to me. Instead of simply purchasing long-term care, you would purchase

a multiuse product such as a life insurance policy with long-term care benefits or an annuity with long-term care benefits. With these products, you don't have to root for a claim to feel vindicated in your purchase decision. If you go your entire life without filing a claim, you will still hold something of value. If you plan on exploring long-term care options, start with these types of products.

If you choose to ignore the possibility that you will need long-term care, or you choose to not prioritize it, then you may share Joan's reality. You don't want that for yourself, Joan doesn't want that for you, and neither do I.

*Peter Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host, and he has a free podcast: "Million Dollar Plan." Email him at AskPete@petetheplanner.com. The views and opinions expressed in this column are the author's and do not necessarily reflect those of USA TODAY.*

## DIGITAL DOLLARS

# Your old wireless plan may still be a good deal

Some carriers' switches make new ones costlier

**Rob Pegoraro**

Special to USA TODAY

When all four of the nationwide wireless carriers rewrote their unlimited-data wireless plans over the past few weeks – making them more complex and, in their cheaper forms, more limited – they didn't really retire their older plans.

Although new customers can't decline these new offerings from AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon, subscribers to their old plans can keep them, just as they could through earlier changes.

That's not always a good thing – the unlimited-data plans that AT&T and Verizon once sold, now each \$90 factoring in unlimited-texting-and-calling packages, cost more than their latest unlimited options. But in certain other situations, holding on to a grandfathered plan can save serious cash.

For example, if you switched to an unlimited-data plan in late February 2017, after Verizon's return to selling uncapped data goaded its rivals into sweetening their unlimited deals, you probably have a better bargain than what you'd get today. If so, ignore your carrier's enticements to switch.

T-Mobile, for instance, offered unlimited data plus HD video streaming and 10 GB of LTE mobile-hotspot use for \$70 – taxes and fees included. Today, that would cost \$85.

As recently as January, Sprint offered unlimited data with HD streaming and 10 GB of hotspot for just \$60; now that's \$70, although it does up the hotspot quota to 15 GB.

Verizon's unlimited deal then cost \$80 and also included 10 GB of hotspot use; the closest equivalent now runs \$85, except with 15 GB of hotspot use.

AT&T, however, has cut the price of its hotspot-enabled unlimited-data option from \$90 to \$80, and that's persisted through the last round of changes.

But many users still find that limited-data plans work better – their allotments more than cover their data consumption, something you can check by consulting your bill, but they cost \$20 or \$30 a month less. AT&T and Verizon even sell them to new customers.

A survey of 1,176 subscribers released in July by the research firm Cowen and Company found that only 56.3 percent of them were on unlimited plans. At AT&T and Verizon, both of which still offer cheaper limited plans to new customers, the figures were 53.4 percent and 47.5 percent, versus 80.2 percent of Sprint subscribers and 85 percent of T-Mobile's.

"There have been periodic efforts by carriers to move them from legacy plans," analyst Jeffrey Moore, founder of Wave7Research, wrote in an email. But they've made little difference, he added. "You'd be surprised how many Verizon and AT&T customers are still on shared data plans."

He noted one case of enthusiasts profiting especially well from a long-gone option, the "Framily" shared-usage plan Sprint launched in 2014 that let you build a group of up to seven unrelated people to max out the per-line discount on either 1 GB per line or unlimited data. Today, four years after Sprint quit selling Framily, Sprint customers still match up with other Framily members on a Reddit forum.

Moore also called out a plan that's aged especially badly, also from Sprint: the "Simply Everything" plan it introduced in 2008, which runs \$100 a month for unlimited data.

Timing when to change plans remains difficult, however. The Cowen survey offers one reminder: Respondents' single-line bills, taxes and fees included, averaged \$104 a month for iPhones and \$93 for other smartphones. That strongly suggests many remain on older, pricier rates.

A mirror lends me another reminder: I'm one of those T-Mobile subscribers who didn't jump on that \$70 T-Mobile One rate when it was available.

## REAL ESTATE

# If you're financing a home, do your homework on points

In some situations, paying them benefits long-term homeowners

**Kailey Fralick**

The Motley Fool

If you find mortgages confusing, you're not alone. There are a lot of numbers to compare – loan terms, interest rates, down payments, closing costs and more. And then there are mortgage points. Not every mortgage offers them, and they can either help or hurt you depending on how long you plan to stay in the home and how much you can afford for a down payment.

Here's a brief overview of how mortgage points work and when it may and may not be a good idea to pay them.

### Two types of points

Mortgage points come in two different types: origination points and discount points. Both types are equivalent to 1 percent of your mortgage amount. So if you have a \$100,000 mortgage, one point is worth \$1,000.

A lender may ask you to pay one or more origination points to cover its own costs for processing the loan. Not all mortgage lenders will charge these, and if yours does, you may be able to negotiate with them to get these points removed. This can save you money on your closing costs.

The more common type of mortgage point is known as a discount point. This is essentially prepaid interest.

Your mortgage may have zero, one, or several discount points. You can pay the equivalent dollar amount with your closing costs, or your lender may enable you to roll them into your mortgage. This means the cost of these points will be added to your mortgage balance so you'll pay less upfront, but you'll have to borrow a few thousand dollars more.

In exchange for paying points, your



**A discount point, the most common, is essentially prepaid interest.**

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lender will lower your interest rate. The exact amount it will lower your interest rate can fluctuate, but in most cases one point is worth a quarter of a percentage point off your interest rate.

### Should you pay discount points?

Paying points on your mortgage can be a good idea, but only in certain circumstances. As a general rule, it makes more sense if you plan to be in your home for a long time than if you plan to move within a few years.

Say you get a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage for \$250,000 with a 4.5 percent interest rate. Your monthly payments would be \$1,267, and you'd end up paying \$456,000 over the lifetime of the loan. Now, take that same loan and say you paid two mortgage points. That would be \$5,000. In exchange, your interest rate would be lowered by a half-percent. Now your monthly payments would only \$1,194, and you'd only pay \$430,000 over the 30-year period.

It all comes down to the math. Get some estimates from your lender as to how much the points would lower your interest rate. Then set aside some time to run the numbers and see how long it will take you to break even and how much it'll save you over the lifetime of the loan.



# REFLECTIONS



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

Children play in Memorial Park's wading pool in the 1940s.

## Wading pool was popular at Memorial Park

A 2-part look at how Sumter kept its cool before air conditioning

**R**eflections recalls the early summer activities enjoyed by the young people of Sumter in a two-part series. This part focuses on visitors to Memorial Park, and part two will highlight activities at Savage-Glover School. This facility was open during the summer months and was a part of the city's recreational schedule of activities. The information and photos used to complete this article were secured from *The Sumter Item* archives.

**Sammy Way**  
REFLECTIONS

An article published in 1938 gives the reader an overview of the origin and enjoyment of the much-loved addition to the park. "This playground was open under supervision from Monday through Friday each week. The hours were from 9 to 12 noon and from 2 to 5 p.m. Miss Ethel Morrissey was in charge and led the children in quiet play during the hottest hours, told or read stories and looked after them on the playground apparatus. An assistant was provided as needed; both of the workers were sent by the WPA as part of their recreation program."

The favorite part of the playground was the wading pool constructed by the Shriners of Sumter in 1924. This pool was 24 inches deep in the west end and 6 inches deep on the east side. Its use enabled small children to overcome their fear of the water, and how they enjoyed it. The pool was drained and cleaned daily, and the water was sterilized before the children entered it. Children using the pool were required to wear bathing suits and were inspected to be sure no rashes were evident. If they had even a small sore on their feet or legs caused by scratching insect bites, they were not allowed to enter the water. After the bathers spent their full time in the water, the pool was drained and refilled, then children who did not bring suits were allowed to wade and play in the pool. The children were protected and supervised."



Memorial Park was designed by Julia Lester Dillon and remains one of the most beautiful parks in Sumter.



Downtown Sumter's children pause from their activities for a group photo.

## 4 swimmers break records; Parnell takes over at Rec Dept.

### 75 YEARS AGO — 1944

March 25 — 31

• The Santee-Cooper project is demonstrating its efficiency as a flood-control factor in the present rainy season, and indications are that it could care for twice as much water as now is being handled by the Santee River and its tributaries, the South Carolina Public Service Authority reported. A maximum of 16 of the project's 62 gates were opened Saturday and Sunday to care for 5½ inches of rainfall which has fallen in the Piedmont, but some of these are being closed. It is expected that soon only six will be open.

• Duke endowment trustees appropriated \$674,379.43 to 97 hospitals and 40 orphanage homes in the Carolinas at their meeting today. Announcement of the action from the endowment offices said appropriations were made on the basis of the institution's charity work in 1943. The list included: Sumter: Tuomey Hospital, \$10,192; John K. Crosswell Home for children, \$1,864.69; and the Children's Home, \$403.15.

• The \$13,500 well begun in February for the city by the Layne-Atlantic Co. of Norfolk, Virginia, and Savannah, Georgia, is completed, and the water department held a celebration barbecue dinner for company employees. The 631-foot-deep well is in the process of being cleared and tested, J. A. Raffield, city manager, noted. Approximately 1,400 gallons of water per minute is the estimated flow. Workmen have been on the job 24 hours a day, he continued.

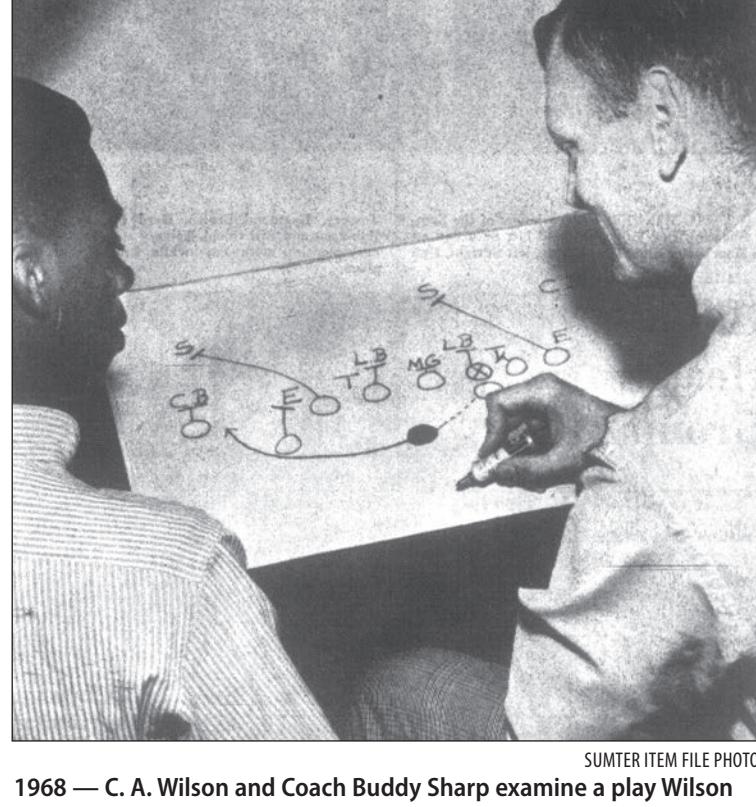
• Staff Sgt. Henry S. (Hamp) Flowers has been reported missing since March 8 in action over Germany, according to a message from the adjutant general to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Flowers. Sgt. Flowers, an only son, is a radio operator on a Flying Fortress and has been stationed in England since Jan. 1. Prior to going across, he was based in Tennessee. Sgt. Flowers graduated from Sumter High School in 1940.

• Two young Alcolu girls were found slain early this morning, climaxing an all-night search when the children failed to return from picking flowers. Mary Emma Thames, 7, and Betty June Binnicker, 11, were the victims. Deputy Sheriff H. S. Newman, of Clarendon County, told *The Item* that George Junius Stinney, 14-year-old boy, had been arrested in connection with the crime.

• After serving 19 months in the Marines, where he believes he was the youngest corporal in the Corps, Earl Edward Griffin, 17, of Paxville, has gone over to the Navy. With his mother's consent, Griffin enlisted in the Marines in 1941 at the age of 14, and after 10 months of training at Parris Island he served nine months in the Southwest Pacific until an older brother revealed his age. "After fighting with the Leathernecks, I'm anxious to serve in the Navy — the outfit that gets them there," said the youthful veteran.

• WAVE recruiting specialist Ruth E. Loven will be available in Sumter, from 10 to 5 o'clock Monday, March 27, at the Navy Recruiting Station in the City Hall to talk with young women of this area interested in service with the WAVES of the U. S. Navy. Specialist Loven will have at hand detailed information needed by young women who are interested in learning whether they are qualified for service with the Navy's WAVES and are desirous of learning more about the many and varied billets now being filled by WAVES.

• The Sumter Y team, in its final game of the local season, eked out a 40-39 victory over the Charlotte Y all-stars on the Y court. It was a thrill-



1968 — C. A. Wilson and Coach Buddy Sharp examine a play Wilson used to roll up many yards. The play utilizes Wilson's speed to the outside.

ing victory for the local team, and the crowd was standing and yelling at the finish. The Sumter Y five started off like a whirlwind and at the end of the first quarter was leading by the score of 14-0. However, the superior height and weight of the Charlotte quintet soon enabled them to bring up the score, and the half ended with the locals in the lead by 22-18.

• The Western Auto Associate Store is to be sold to the Western Auto Supply Co., it was learned today. The store will be closed for approximately two weeks during which time it will be redecorated, restocked and opened under the management of W. J. Barham of Greenville. The store was formerly owned by W. H. Christie. Mr. Barham, formerly assistant manager of the Greenville branch of the Western Auto Supply Co., is to move to Sumter with his wife and daughter as soon as arrangements are completed.

• The first forum of the Institute of International Understanding sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sumter will be held in the Edmunds High School auditorium at 8 o'clock. Tickets may be secured from members of the club. Prof. I. J. Fisher, of Vancouver, B.C., Canada, will be the speaker and his topic "The Oriental Nations as Contributors to a New World Order." Professor Fisher, educator and lecturer, was born and raised in England and received his college and university training in the USA. He attended Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan; Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio; and did graduate work at Columbia University.

### 50 YEARS AGO — 1968

Nov. 25 — 30

• Edmunds High School won its fourth-straight cross country meet, defeating a field of four other high schools in the Airport Invitational Meet. Sumter has 37 points to 61 for Brookland-Cayce, 66 for A.C. Flora, 70 for Airport and 123 for Rock Hill. This was the final team meet to be held prior to the state championship competition to be run in Sumter.

• Bids for addition and remodeling to Sumter County Health Department will be received at the Sumter County courthouse, according to William Hodge, chairman of the County Board of Commissioners. If the bids fall within the allocated funds, construction is expected to begin around Jan. 1, Dr. E. Alex Heise, medical director Sumter County Health Department, added.

• The Columbia Swim Club smashed 22 Sumter YMCA records here to dazzle the home town club in a dual meet. Four Sumter swimmers broke local records to spark it in the dismal loss. The defeat came after a victory over Charleston. Lori Ogle of

Sumter was the outstanding individual in the meet to claim some honor for the home towners.

• One hundred thirty turkeys would almost feed an Army — or an Air Force. Shaw Air Force Base is doing just that on Thanksgiving with 2,600 pounds of turkey, 900 pounds of ham, 400 pies and a wide assortment of 30 other traditional items. "This is the one time of year we look forward to," said Senior Master Sgt. Emerson Williamson, supervisor of dining halls. "The food service likes to show off on this day with a big meal. We really go all out for the Thanksgiving Day dinner," he added.

• Miss Louise McLeod, 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. McLeod of Pinewood, was crowned 1968-69 Buddy Poppy Queen at the VFW. The queen is a 1968 graduate of Furman High School, where she held the titles of "Miss Furman," "Miss Chieftain," "Miss South," Homecoming Queen, Miss DAR and was first runner-up in "Miss Sumter Pageant." Susan Allene Prescott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Prescott, was named second runner-up. Miriam Evelyn Jackson, daughter of Mrs. W.S. Jackson, was named Miss Congeniality.

• The new wing of Edmunds High School, the W.S. Jackson wing, will be dedicated. Among the local and state dignitaries expected to attend are Gov. Robert McNair, former governor, Secretary of State and Supreme Court Justice James F. Byrnes, U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, Sen. Ernest F. Hollings and former mayor Clifton G. Brown.

• Capt. James E. Stone of the Prospect community was killed in action in Vietnam on Nov. 20. Funeral services will be at Prospect Pentecostal Holy Church. The service will be conducted by the Rev. Rhett Ward, the Rev. Joe Cagle and the Rev. Terry Tripp.

• The old adage "statistics are for losers" is true in many cases, but in the light of a combined 26-1 record by Sumter Junior High and the Edmunds Jayvees, they can hold truths for winners. It was a dazzling season for sub-varsity performers in Sumter, with Edmund's jayvees finishing at 12-0, McLaurin Junior High at 9-0 and Alice Drive Junior High at 7-1. Speculation for future gridiron prospect is always moot; so much can happen in the off season. Kids suffer injuries, move away, etc. Coaches can never really count on athletes until practices really start.

• Danny Hill, an avid sportsman in Sumter, has been selected to serve as area chairman for Ducks Unlimited, a conservation organization. Hill was picked by Billy Pate, chairman of the South Carolina Ducks Unlimited

Organization. "In view of the duck hunting situation in South Carolina, this chapter is being organized in Sumter to promote not only duck hunting, but the conservation of our waterfowl resources which have been in drastic danger for a number of years."

• In the halls of Tuomey Hospital and on the ground floor of the Nurses' Home, Sumter's 13 practical nursing students are learning the ins and outs of their future profession in the first and only school of practical nursing in this area. Founded last March, the school offers a 12-month course in practical nursing under the supervision of the Trade and Industrial Education section of the South Carolina State Department of Education, which provides money for the school.

• A class of 35 new volunteers recently completed their orientation for Red Cross volunteers under the direction of Mrs. Fred H. Bounds. These volunteers are currently working in Shaw Heights Elementary School conducting the school health room on a daily basis while school is in operation. Another group of volunteers is working at the Base Dental Clinic and undergoing special training. Still a third group is working in many areas of the base hospital to provide assistance to the staff and service to members of the Air Force and their dependents.

• Rosa Gurganus of Shaw shot an 82 to win the low field gross honors in the WAGS Invitational Golf Tournament. Women from Sunset, Manning, Forest Lake and Columbia participated in the handicap affair. Taking low field net honors was Mary Casoli of Shaw with a 69. Caral Dupre of Columbia took low field putts with 30.

### 25 YEARS AGO — 1993

Aug. 27 — Sept. 2

• Congress said some viewers could save as much as 10 percent on their cable television bill under the 1992 Cable Act, but just the opposite is going to happen next week to half of the 21,000 cable subscribers in Sumter County. Vision Cable of Sumter announced that starting Sept. 1, the monthly bills of cable customers with one "hook-up" will jump between \$1.74 and \$4.49, depending on which channels a customer receives and whether he has a "cable-ready" television or a converter box.

• For Phil Parnell, taking over as athletic director at the Sumter County Recreation Department is a challenge. Sure he held the same position for four years in his hometown of Darlington, but Sumter's different. "It's a lot broader," Parnell said.

"When I was in Darlington, we covered only the city. Here, it's a whole county."

Parnell is already faced with

registrations for fall pro-

grams. Youth soccer, football

and cheerleading are sched-

uled to begin in October.

"Basically, I've got to learn who

everybody is around here,"

he said. "I really don't know

that many people here, and it

will take some time for me to

get adjusted to what's going

on. I've been making a lot of

phone calls, trying to contact

some of the people who

coached last year. It's just a

matter of getting in contact

with everybody and getting

things started. I guess I kind

of came in here at a bad time,

but things will get better."

• A Sumter mobile home dealer has let one of his homes go to the dogs. Shot McLendon, owner of McLendon's Town and Country Mobile Homes, donated the home to the Sumter Law Enforcement K-9 Unit after he learned that police were looking to buy a mobile home for the unit. According to Sumter Police Chief Harold Johnson,

the K-9 unit, which is run jointly by the police department and Sumter County Sheriff's Department, began looking for a mobile home to cut down on the amount of time it took to get a dog to a crime scene.

• Tom Lewis doesn't mince words. "I don't want to sound like we're blowing our own horns, but I believe we should be right there at the top," he said. It's difficult to argue with that assessment. Over the last eight years, Lewis' Sumter High School football program has produced five trips to the 4A Division 1 state championship game and a pair of state titles. The Gamecocks followed a state title in 1990 with consecutive state championship losses to Spartanburg and Gaffney in 1991 and 1992.

• All things considered, Sumter High head football coach Tom Lewis was well pleased with his team's 26-14 win over Battery Creek. "Battery Creek doesn't have a bad football team," said Lewis, whose Gamecocks defeated Battery Creek 38-6 last year. "You could tell it was the first game for both teams, but we didn't have too many offensive penalties and no turnovers. Defensively, we also didn't have too many stupid penalties, which you worry about with a young team on opening night."

• Sumter resident Jim Barnard vividly remembers how the truck hurled his friend past him in the accident on Pinewood Road two years ago.

"I was ahead of him, so I didn't see the accident happen," Barnard said. "I just remember seeing him go flying past me, and then hitting the ground and rolling for about 130 feet. I remember thinking that I couldn't believe a person could fly so far in the air." The bicyclist was hit from behind by a truck traveling at a high rate of speed. Unfortunately for bicyclists around the state, such accidents are on the rise.

• It has been absolutely relentless. It started the last of April and has held its grip on the multi-county area since that time. It is the "1993 Drought." For those of us who experienced the droughts of 1977, 1980, 1986 and 1990, this year's drought has to be placed in a category all by itself. It simply has not let up and is predicted to be here through the end of September. If an analogy could be made to a hurricane, it would closely equal Hugo or Andrew.

• June Floyd is what some might term a "guardian angel." But her actual title is "Guardian ad Litem" of Sumter County, and her job is to act as an advocate for abused or neglected children. "Sometimes I cry, sometimes I hurt," she said. "But nobody can know that. I can't go to the child and say, 'I wish this didn't happen to you.' But I can go home in my car and cry. It can be frustrating and very personal, but sometimes you have to back up and get control of your emotions, because if you get too emotional, you can't do a good job."

• Laidlaw Environmental Services Inc. — routinely despised and praised for its hazardous-waste landfill in Sumter County — is playing a waiting game. It is waiting for a ruling on its permanent operating permit from the board of trustees of the state health department. It is waiting for state health officials to announce a fine for multiple regulatory violations discovered this spring at the company's 279-acre hazardous-waste landfill near Lake Marion. It is waiting to learn if it will once again be allowed to take federal Superfund waste after the federal EPA banned shipments to the site. It is waiting for pending state and federal lawsuits against Sumter County's zoning ordinance.



# OUTDOORS

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

## Ginger's story

**"I'm writing a story,"** she said. "Would you like to hear it?"

She was sitting on the

couch with her laptop, and I was watching an episode of Northwoods Law.

I was a little surprised but answered, "of course," and turned away from the television.

What follows is Ginger's story — in her own words.

"Well it's here — again. Deer hunting season. I know this because bags of corn have appeared at our back

door. I've also seen a box that contains a new ground blind in our hobby room. Now, in Dan's defense, I knew he wanted a new ground blind, but it's just another thing. To him, it's like me getting another pair of black shoes or a great new ball of yarn.

"I do love the outdoors, and fall is my favorite season. I love the crispness in the air, the smell of a wood fire and the change in the trees. I make it a point to go driving in the mountains to see the brilliant colors. In fact, I planned a trip to visit my son in Colorado this fall so I could also experience the color changes in the Aspen trees. So I can truly understand how Dan loves to sit in the autumn woods and hunt.

"I've heard him say many times that he doesn't need to kill anything; he just enjoys



DAN GEDDINGS / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM  
Buster is Ginger's faithful companion during the long deer season.

being in the outdoors.

"When I think of the outdoors, I also think of mosquitoes, spider webs and snakes. I think of Bigfoot. I can honestly say that I don't particularly enjoy walking through the woods, but I will do it — if I have to.

"Around our house, the anticipation of the deer hunting season builds over the long, hot summer, and now — here

it is. It doesn't matter that it's still 92 degrees. Sitting in a tree is fun. I smile knowing that it brings him such great delight. In the time that we have been married, hunting is something that Dan has also shared with his family and many friends.

"I think it is great that some husbands and wives hunt together, and I know that there are ladies that go deer hunting by themselves. I am not one of them. I did mention to Dan, in a moment of weakness, that I would go hunting with him on our land near Paxville and give it a try. I know he is going to hold me to it because he has already asked me when I wanted to go.

"Like many other wives, I know the deer hunting season puts the long 'honey do' list on hold. The day is pretty much gone because he wakes up very early and is tired when he gets back home.

"But it is a season for me, too! It doesn't take me long to find my groove on the weekends, by myself. I enjoy watching college football.

The cooler weather gets me in the mood to knit. I love to curl up with a good book and read. I recently found the art of binging on whole seasons of television shows that I didn't see the first go round. So my dog Buster and I will have plenty to do."

She stopped here and said, "That's all I've got right now, and I know I need to end it. I think I know what else I need to say."

After a few minutes, she tapped out the words, then read me her ending.

"I know that God made us all different, and that's a good thing. Sometimes I give Dan a hard time about hunting. I love to joke with him about it. But, if truth be told, I'm glad he can do something he truly enjoys. He puts his heart and soul into the outdoors. He enjoys sharing stories with everyone, and he makes me proud.

"Well folks, it is here. Are you ready?"

Reach Dan Geddings at [cdgeddings@gmail.com](mailto:cdgeddings@gmail.com).



PHOTOS BY TOM POLAND

## An afternoon for redfish

**M**any years it's been since I fished, 40 at least. The drought ended Aug. 22. Out onto Port Royal I went with Beaufort fishing guide Capt. Tuck Scott and Tony Royal of Baystreet Outfitters.

Out we went in Scott's Hells Bay Stealth, a shallow water skiff.

We sought redfish, which go by various names ... spot tail, red drum, channel bass and "red."

The weather cooperated, and we had the Broad River portion of Port Royal to ourselves. Like a water bug, we skimmed the chop to shallow areas where spartina thrust green reeds up. Here and

there you see seed heads tossed in the wind. Spartina's detritus, you should know, forms the basis of the sea's food chain. It's no exaggeration to say we were in the sea's nursery.

A unique tide situation that occurs twice a month gave us ideal conditions for seeking redfish along the edges of Spartina. We sought and found them in shallow water. Redfish love fiddler crabs, and you can spot their tails in the air as they tip over and suck fiddler crabs from their hiding places.

Tony Royal worked a fly rod baited with crabs, a preferred redfish food. Watching a fly rod in action is a thing of beauty, and while I didn't fish myself, I photographed the outing for Shrimp, Collards & Grits Lifestyle Magazine, of which I'm editor. I fished with a Canon.

Capt. Tuck spotted reds from his tower and gave Tony directions ... "Cast at 11 o'clock. He's moving right to left. Try again at 9 o'clock." The directions worked, and reds struck the tiny crabs with force. Tony worked them in slowly, steering them clear



of Spartina best he could. Whatever we caught, we released.

The expedition brought back memories. I recalled fishing for bass in Granddad's farm ponds in Georgia. I thought of my grandmother teaching me to bait a hook, and I recalled watching dragonflies perch on my red-and-white cork, a sign of good luck. Bites are sure to come your way. When I was a boy, fishing was about all I wanted to do, but then life turned serious, work assumed center stage, and I left fishing in my wake. Until my Port Royal expedition.

It felt good to be out in all that sunshine and salt air. The adventure did me good.

More than that, the outing reminded me of just how artificial man's world has become. Nothing's fake about nature. Live or die. It's as simple as that. As we fished, Tony, Capt. Tuck and I discussed how juvenile redfish stay in the sound and estuaries until they mature. To venture into the big water too soon means being cut to pieces by porpoises, which herd them into shallows and feast on them. Then we saw a mink on a rack of detritus. Flashing white and bright in its dark chocolate mouth was a doomed blue crab, dinner. It was too far away for my lens, but I got a shot nonetheless.

Port Royal deserves mention. North America's earliest

explorers, Spaniards, came through here. The absence of freshwater rivers allows Spartina to flourish here, and Beaufort County possesses half of all of South Carolina's salt marshes. In the distance lay legendary Paris Island. Close by, Beaufort's Marine Corps Air Station is home to five Marine Corps F/A-18 squadrons. Toward sundown, a sole fighter jet flew over, of which the air base says, "The noise you hear is the sound of freedom." Outside of that jet, all we heard were the sounds of nature ... wind, shorebird cries and the watery explosions of feeding redfish.

As the sun sank, we headed back to the landing. We had released all fish but captured memories. It had been a good day and an especially good day to swap man's propped-up house of cards for nature's brutal but beautiful world.

Tom Poland is the author of 12 books and more than 1,000 magazine features. A Southern writer, his work has appeared in magazines throughout the South. The University of South Carolina Press released his book, *Georgialina, A Southern Land As We Knew It*, in November 2015 and his and Robert Clark's *Reflections Of South Carolina, Vol. II*, in 2014.



Tom Poland

# the Sumter ITEM

CLASSIFIEDS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Announcements

Tuesday, September 4, 2018 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Games: (SC924) MONEY MANIA, (SC977) MONEY MATCH

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### Card of Thanks



Alfonso (Son) Billie

Nov. 4, 1921 - Aug. 13, 2018

The family of the late Alfonso (Son) Billie wish to express deep appreciation and sincere thanks to those who have offered such kindness, support and messages of sympathy and comfort in our time of sorrow. May God richly bless you all.

The Billie Family



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**EMPLOYMENT**

### Help Wanted Full-Time

Bucket operator/goundsman needed for local tree service. Must have Valid Drivers License. Call 803-983-9721.

A well-established Sumter law firm is seeking a **Bookkeeper-Real Estate Paralegal/Assistant**. Must have at least two years real estate paralegal & bookkeeping experience. Applicants should be multi-task oriented, have excellent written & oral communication skills, & be able to function well in a fast paced environment. The responsibilities include: Processing payables & receivables, payroll and payroll reporting, assisting the attorneys in real estate client matters, reading abstractors' title work, preparing title commitments & title policies, updating titles, handling trust accounts, preparing CD/HUD statements, drafting correspondence & legal documents, recording documents, keeping schedules, maintaining files, monitoring progress, & following up to ensure all required actions are completed. Applicants should be familiar with real estate terminology, Soft Pro and QuickBooks preferred. Please send resume to P-488 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

**2 PT or 1 FT CDL driver**, with clean driving record to switch trailers in yard or move freight within Sumter. Mon-Fri. 7-5 Call 803-938-2708 lv. msg.

### Help Wanted Full-Time

**Ashley Furniture HomeStore of Sumter** is searching highly motivated individuals to join our Sales team. Must be goal-oriented and have exceptional interpersonal skills; basic computer skills and a passion for building strong client relationships. **Ashley Furniture Industries** is the #1 selling brand of furniture in the World. Join our team today. Send resumes to 2850 Broad Street, Sumter, SC 29150 or email to [sperrkins@ashleysumter.com](mailto:sperrkins@ashleysumter.com) No Phone Calls, Please.

**Orthodontic Practice** looking for a full time receptionist. Dental experience a plus. Benefits offered. Send resume to 2590 Lin-Do Ct. Sumter SC 29150.

**Berenyi, Inc.** is seeking to hire a Full-Time Structural P.E., experience preferred for their Sumter, SC office. Candidate must be self-motivated, reliable, a team player that understands the importance of providing a high level of quality service, and able to communicate effectively with clients. Some travel required. Salary and benefits package provided. Compensation will be based on experience. Resume's to be submitted via email to [shorton@berenyi.com](mailto:shorton@berenyi.com)

**Full Time or Part Time Sales position** available. Some experience preferred but will train. No calls. Apply at Wally's Hardware 1291 Broad St.

### Help Wanted Part-Time

**PT MAINTENANCE** personnel needed at local apt. complex. Must have drivers license & own tools. HVAC exp. a plus. Apply in person at 625 S. Mill St. Manning or call 803-435-2751.

### Schools / Instructional

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Puppies for sale...

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**2011 LT Chevrolet Impala**, excellent condition, 78,000 miles, \$7995. Call 803-499-4207

### LEGAL NOTICES

### Beer & Wine License

### Notice Of Application

Notice is hereby given that Dolgencorp, LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and off-premises consumption of Beer & Wine at Dollar General Store #19563, located at 1370 Myrtle Beach Hwy. Sumter, SC 29153 To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than September 11, 2018. For protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

11:30 a.m. the day before for

Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday & Friday edition.

11:30 a.m. Friday for Sunday's edition.

We will be happy to change your ad if an error is made; however we are not responsible for errors after the first run day. We shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from the printing or omission of an advertisement. We reserve the right to edit, refuse or cancel any ad at any time.

### Public Hearing

Districts.

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

**Joseph T. McElveen, Jr.**

Mayor

### Abandoned Vehicle Notice:

The following vehicle was abandoned at 1035 David Austin Road, Wedgefield, SC 29168. Described as a 1973 Kirkwood mobile home, VIN # 0343215 95830M. Owner is asked to call 803-494-2446. If not claimed in 30 days, it will be turned over to the Magistrate's Office for public sale.

### Public Hearing

### NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Sumter City Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the City of Sumter Zoning Ordinance on **Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers located on the Fourth Floor of the Sumter Opera House (21 N. Main St.). The following requests are scheduled for consideration:

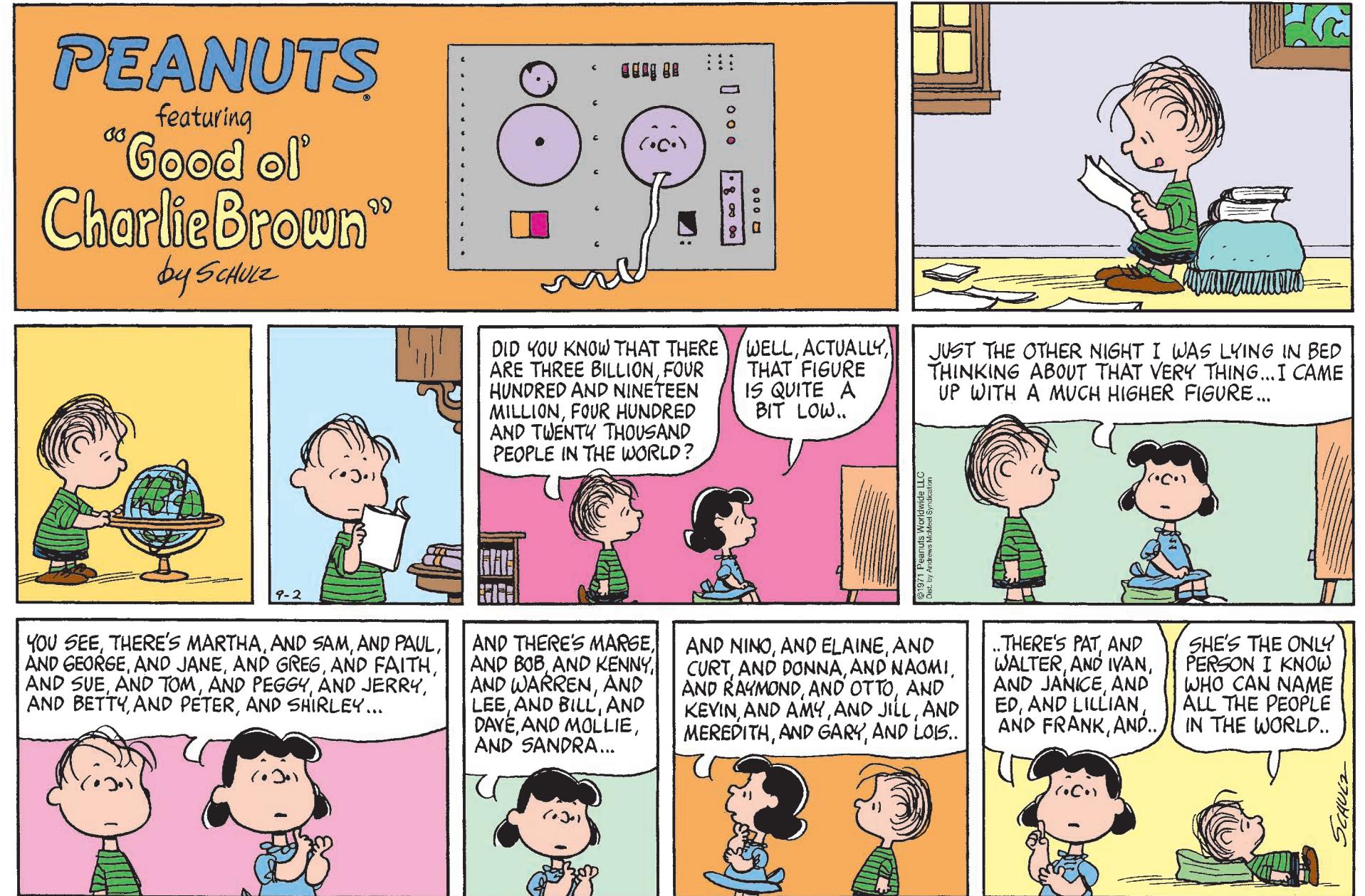
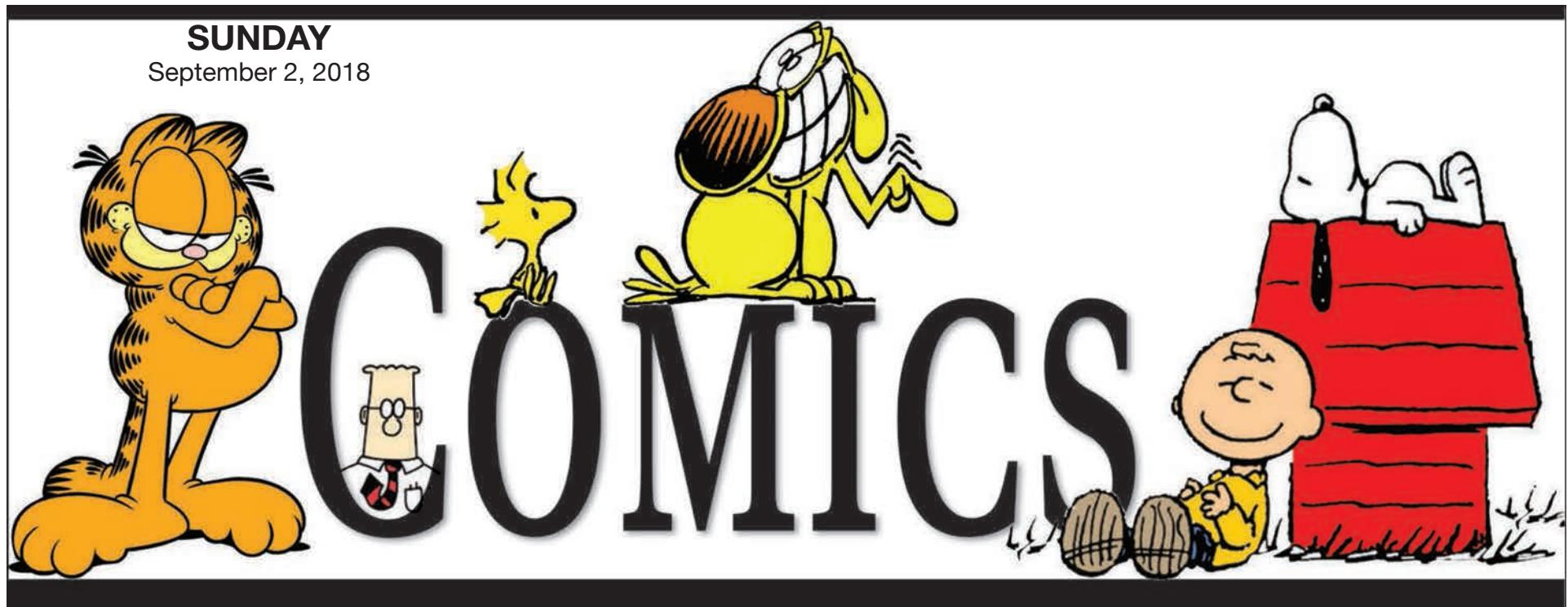
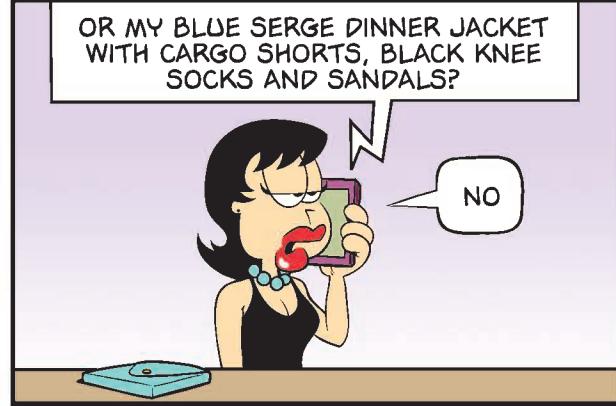
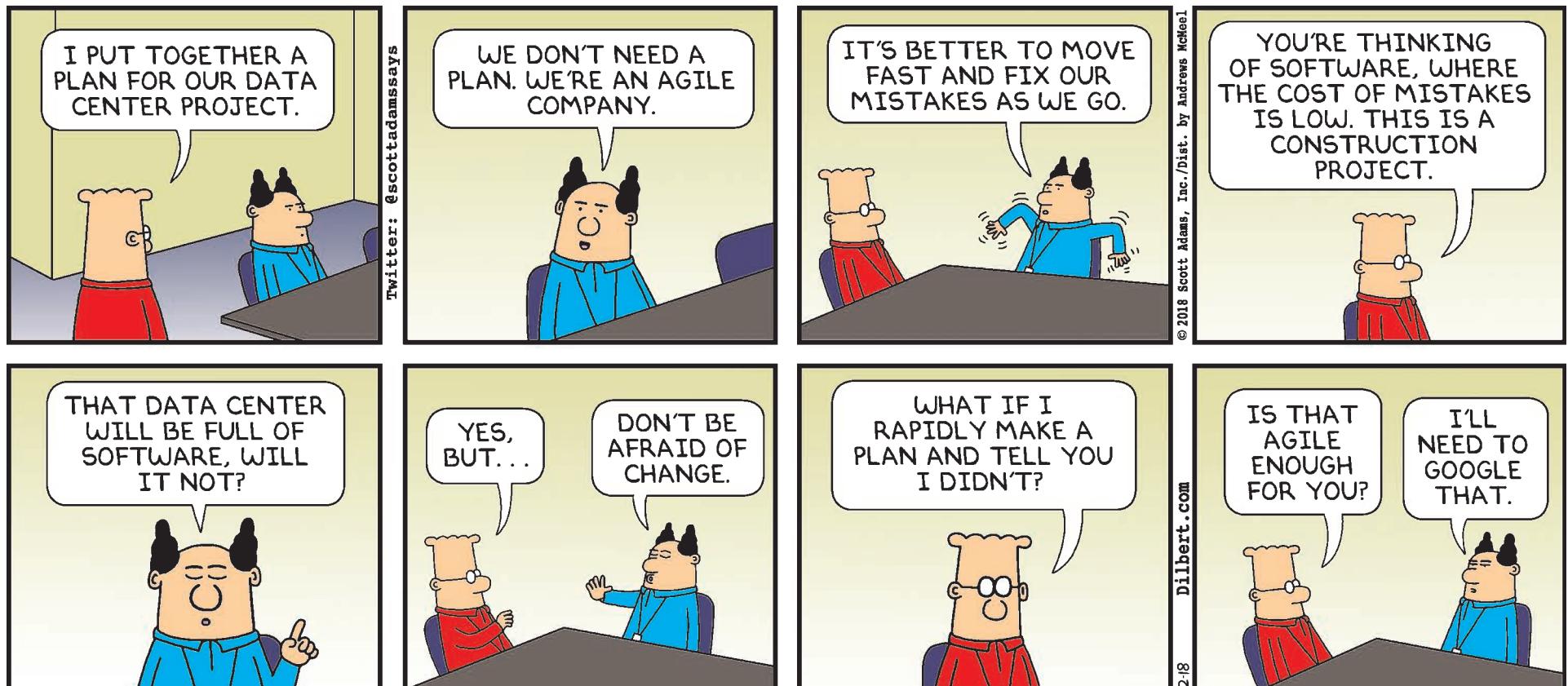
### OA-18-08\_Schools in Commercial Zoning Districts(City)

Amend the City of Sumter Zoning and Development Standards Ordinances to add Elementary and Secondary Schools with SIC Code 821 as a Conditional Use in the PO, NC and GC Commercial Zoning



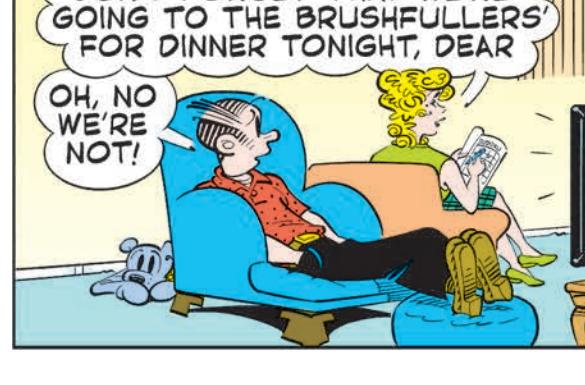
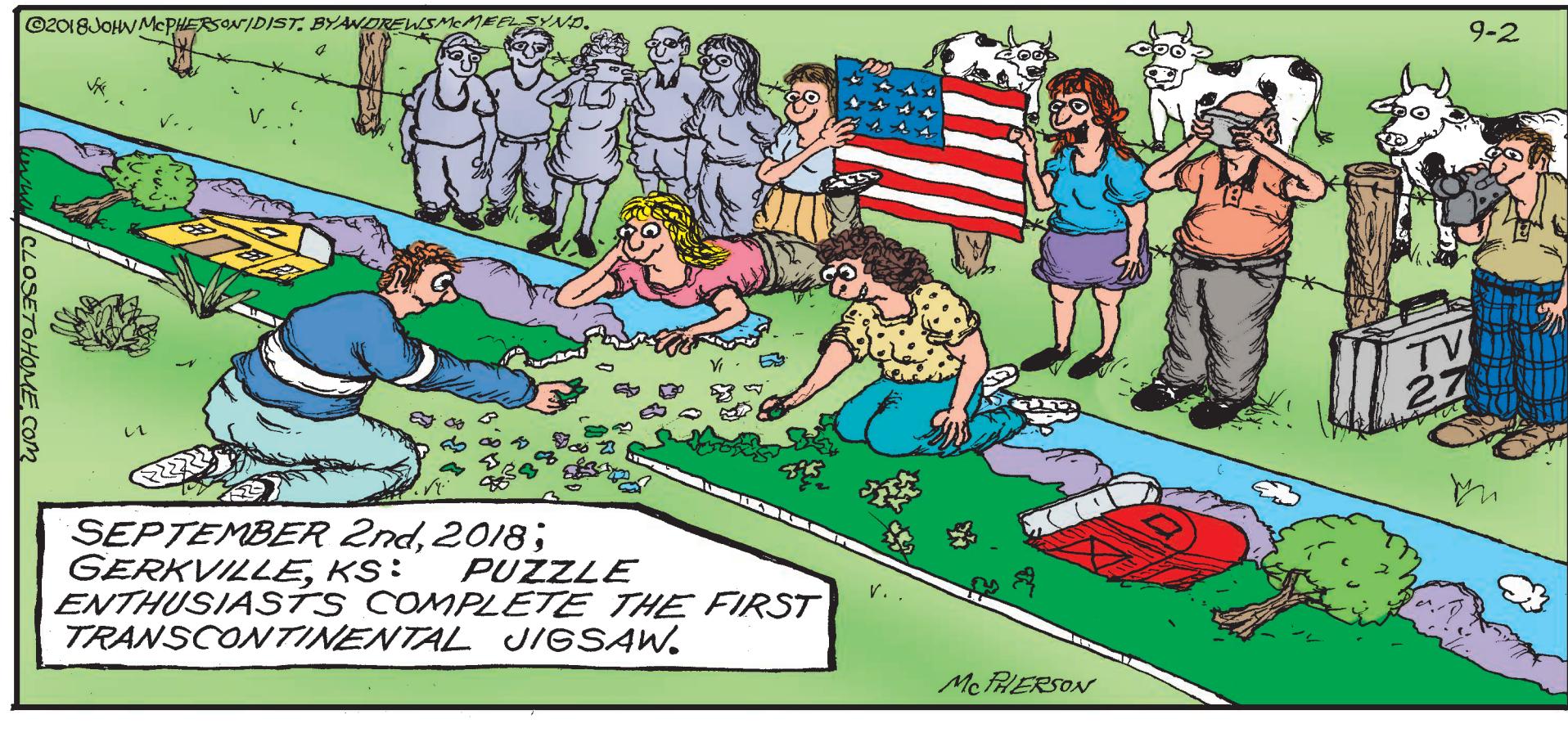
## 1 Bedroom Apartments for 62 YEARS AND OLDER

- Refrigerator
- Central Heat & Air
- Community Room
- Range
<li

**GARFIELD****DILBERT****BY SCOTT ADAMS**

## CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



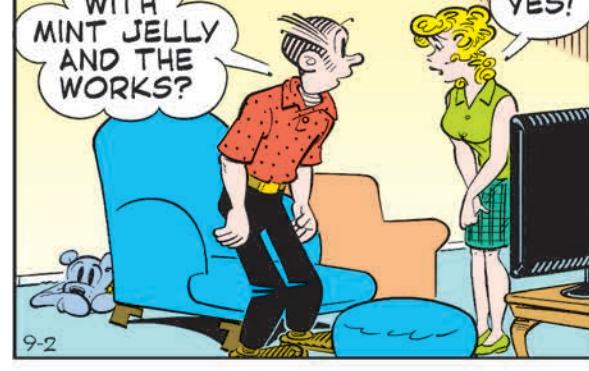
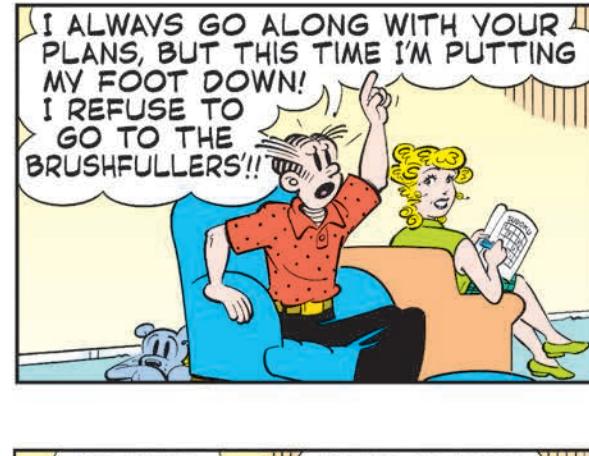
## FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



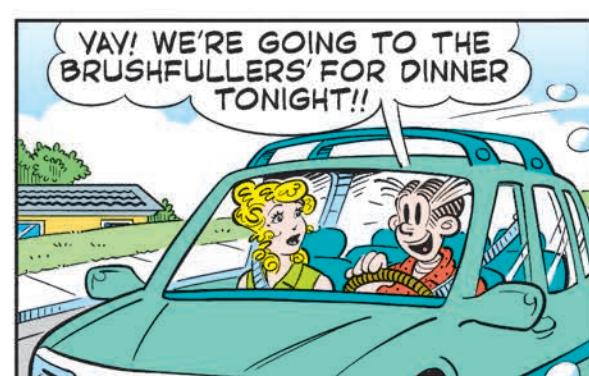
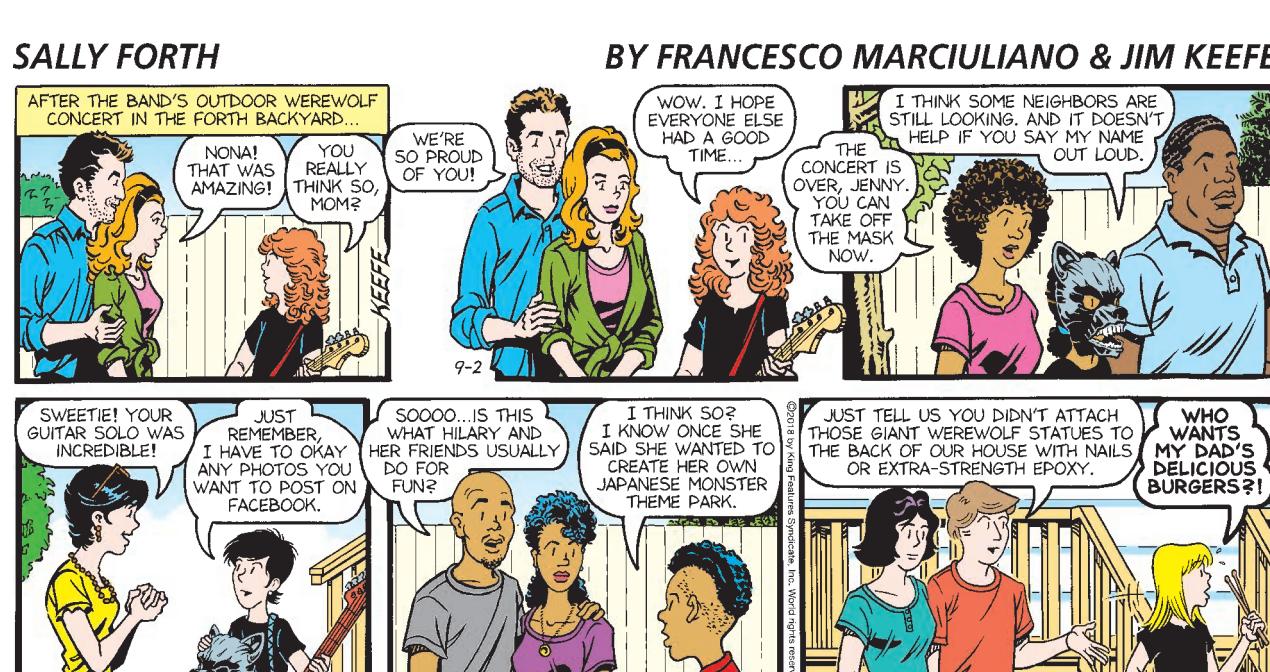
## THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

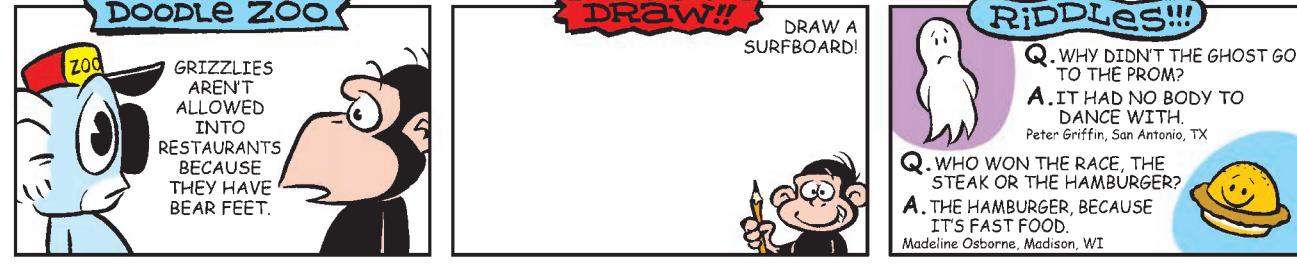
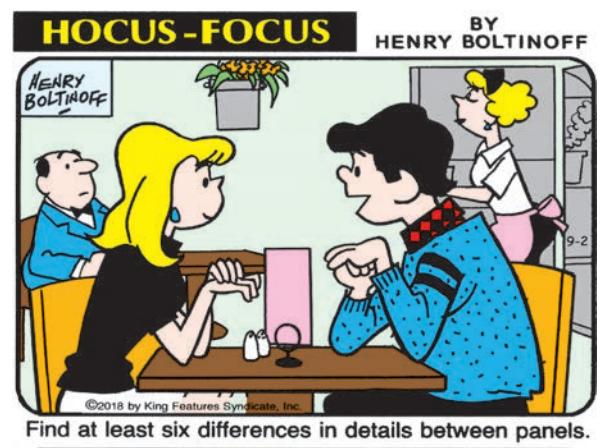
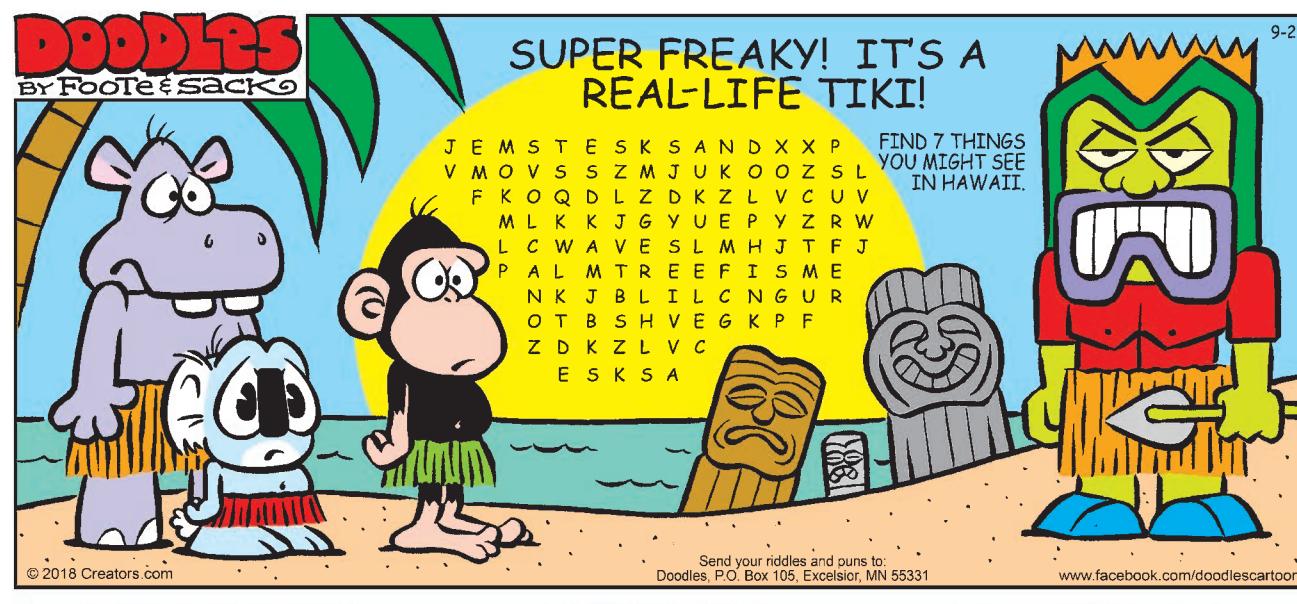
By Bil Keane



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO &amp; JIM KEEFE

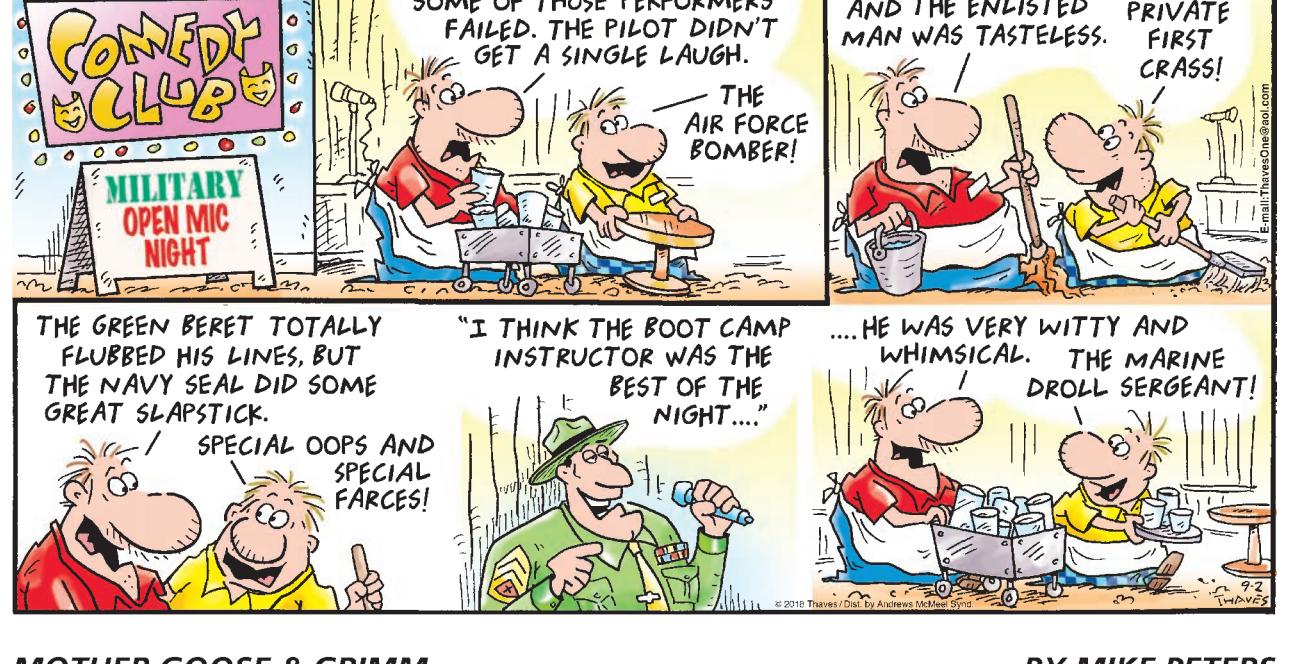




Wide: 6. Steam from pot in kitchen is missing. 3. Doorknob is not as wide. 6. Back of chair is higher. 3. Doorknob is missing.

Differences: 1. Flower pot is smaller. 2. Apron bow is missing.

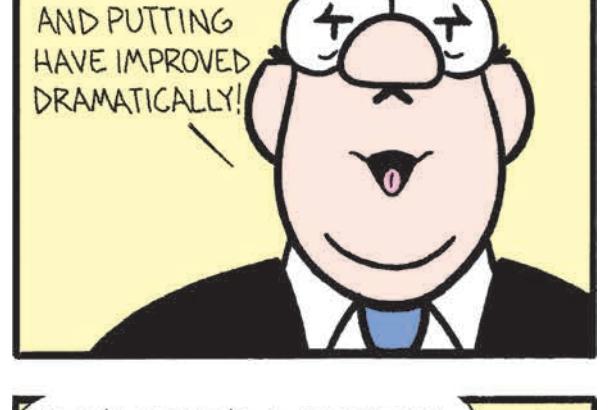
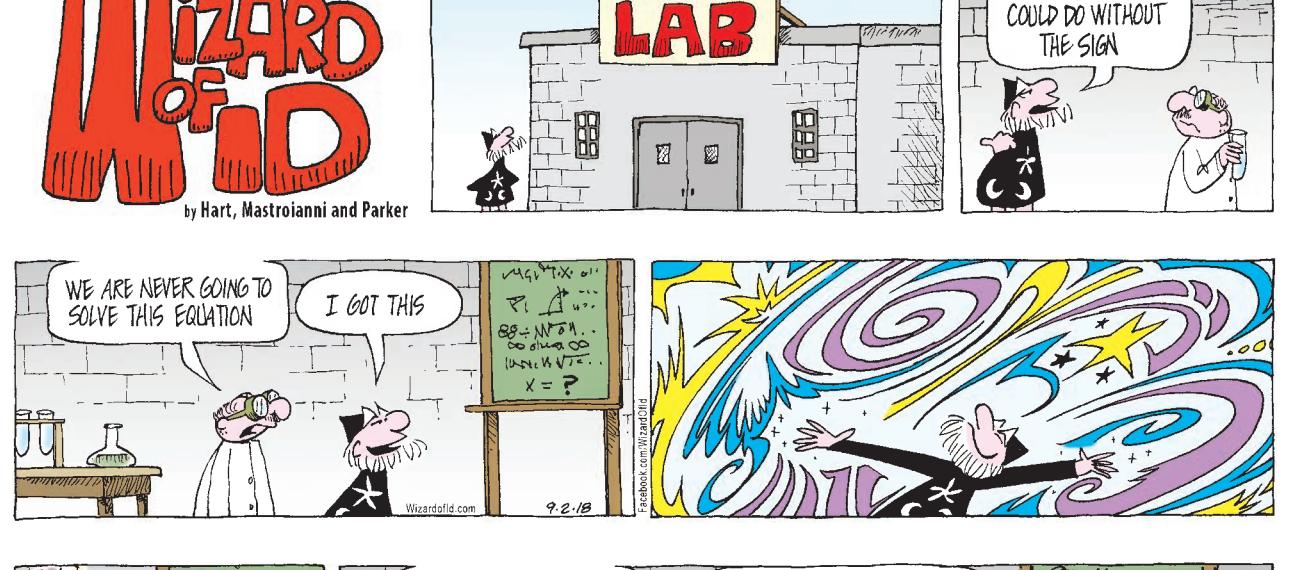
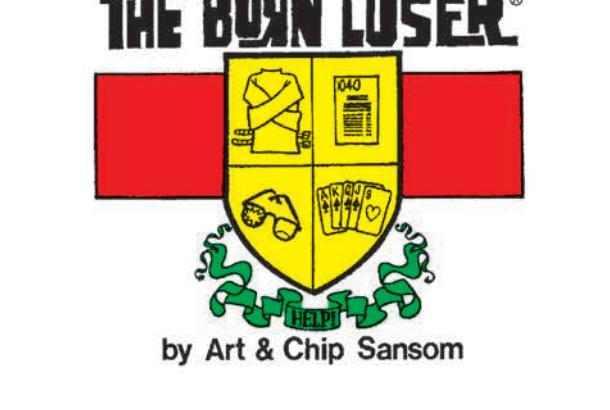
# FRANK AND ERNEST®



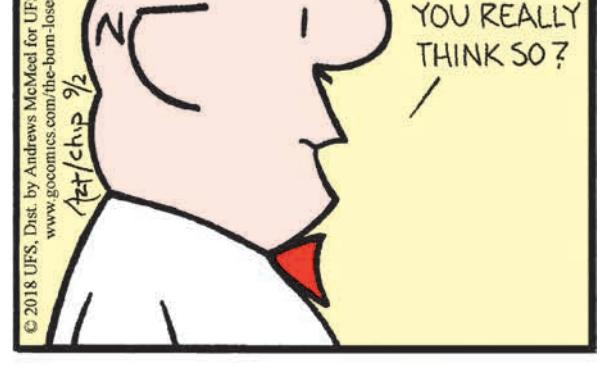
## MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



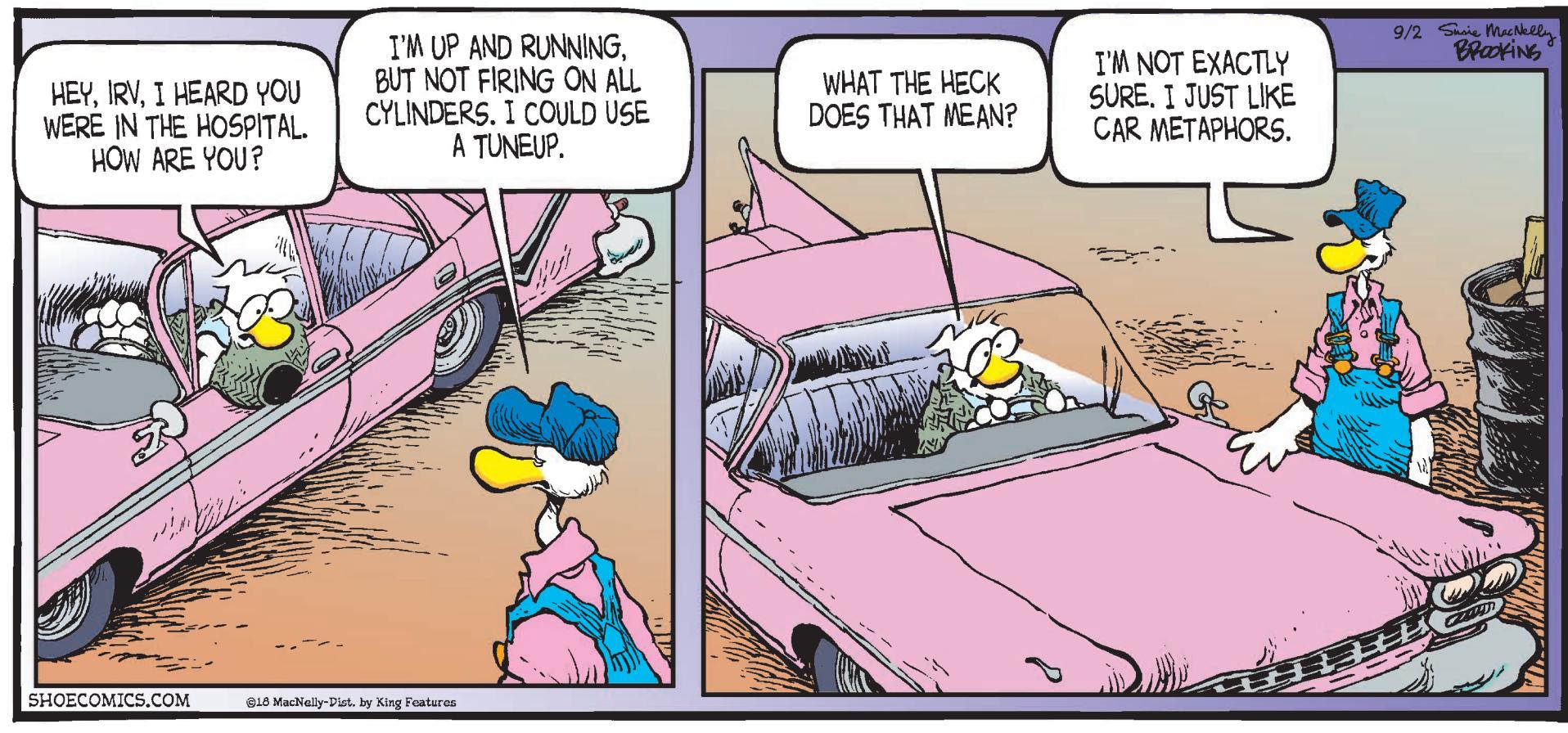
BY MIKE PETERS



BY DARBY CONLEY



## SHOE



SHOECOMICS.COM

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