



## Get the kids out of the house

Park has swinging bridges, trails, animals and more to see this Christmas break c1

# 'Not going to let them run us out'

## Cherryvale resident worried about crime after man shot dead in street

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
adrienne@theitem.com

In light of only the most recent shooting in Cherryvale that left a 26-year-old man lying dead in the middle of the road Monday night, residents are growing more concerned

about crime in the area.

Christopher Archie was found with an apparent gunshot wound in the 4400 block of Amelia Drive by Sumter County Sheriff's Office deputies just after 9 p.m. Monday, according to Ken Bell, public information officer for the agency, and Sumter County Coroner

Robbie Baker.

Though Bell said the shooting appears to have been an isolated incident, that information still does not shake the concern from some Cherryvale residents.

"It's gotten progressively worse," said Frederick Strohm, who has lived in the area for 40 years.

It seems like there is a shooting every two months, he said.

Archie's body was found on the street behind Strohm's home. He said he was inside his home when the

shooting happened and heard the gunshot.

Vandalism, theft and illegal drugs are other crimes that he said he feels have increased in the area.

A lot of neighbors are really tired of it, he said.

Strohm said his mailbox was shot recently and that windows on his mother's property have been broken. He said he reported both incidents to law enforcement.

SEE CRIME, PAGE A8

## Boykin Christmas Parade doesn't disappoint



PHOTOS BY MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

The 24th-annual Boykin Christmas Parade was held Sunday on S.C. 261 in Boykin. The event had about 70 entries, and crowds lined the road with groups cooking, enjoying picnics and bonfires and walking dogs (and pigs). The fatback queen and court made their usual appearance, and a hearse and an outhouse also made their way down the road. This year, Santa ditched his sleigh again in favor of a pontoon boat pulled by a tractor. See more photos from the parade on page A10.



## Country club is closing its main venue

Sunset golf course, other facilities to remain open; clubhouse may be rented

BY BRUCE MILLS  
bruce@theitem.com

Sumter's country club will close its landmark main clubhouse at year's end but will keep its golf course and other outdoor facilities open, according to the chairman of the club's board.

Sunset Country Club Board Chairman Gifford Shaw said on Tuesday the main clubhouse, at 1005 Golfcrest Road, isn't closing because it's in bad condition or because of a lack of profitable community events. He cited costs upward of \$100,000 to update the building's heating and air systems.

Due in part to its membership being down, the clubhouse was down to serving three meals per week — a Sunday brunch and a Wednesday and Thursday lunch buffet.

Shaw emphasized the club's golf course, 19th hole clubhouse and grill and its swimming pool will all continue to operate.

Shaw said the clubhouse, which opened in the 1960s, has continued to serve a key role in the Sumter community, hosting events for Shaw Air Force Base, schools, debutante balls, wedding receptions and other events through the years.

He said in the last five years, it has been used more by non-members than by club members.

Because it still serves a valuable role in the community for those types of functions, he said the club's leaders would be interested in partnering with anyone who wants to still provide those services.

"The sad part is our community needs that facility for such purposes," Shaw said. "If there were someone else who would be interested in trying to provide that, we would certainly be willing to partner with them and would love to talk with them about how to do that."

The clubhouse will host two wedding

SEE SUNSET, PAGE A8

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### DEATHS, B5

Samuel Blackwell  
Lester L. Poole  
Aaron Canty Jr.  
Ralph Carter  
Veronica R. Rivers  
James E. King

Rhonda P. Richburg  
Allen Williams Sr.  
Ernest Scarborough Sr.  
Celeyse Gregg  
Gary E. Ford

### WEATHER, A12

#### THE RAIN IS BACK

Rain and a storm in the afternoon; mostly cloudy tonight  
HIGH 68, LOW 45

### INSIDE

3 SECTIONS, 22 PAGES  
VOL. 123, NO. 44

Classifieds B6  
Comics C2  
Opinion A9  
Panorama C1  
Sports B1  
Television C3

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# SECOND FRONT

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## AAA: Gas prices higher this holiday travel period

BY KAYLA ROBINS  
kayla@theitem.com

To help with what is sure to be an increased presence of vehicles on roadways this holiday season, the South Carolina Department of Transportation is restricting lane closures on interstate highways for non-emergency construction and roadside improvement work.

The travel period where motorists will see an absence of lane closures is 6 a.m. on Friday through 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3.

"Lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations or any operations that will impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations on non-interstate routes during the Christmas holidays are also prohibited unless otherwise directed by the department," Robert Kudelka with SCDOT stated in a news release.

That additional space on interstates is expected to be needed to support a record-breaking 4.5 million Carolinians who plan to travel during the year-end holiday season (Dec. 23-Jan. 1) — a 3.1 percent increase from last year, according to AAA. Broken down

### CAROLINA HOLIDAY TRAVEL TRENDS BY THE NUMBERS

- 3.1% increase in N.C. / S.C. residents planning to travel
- 1.4 million South Carolinians expected to travel by vehicle, planes, trains and other modes of transportation
- 1.3 million South Carolinians expected to travel by vehicle
- \$2.16 average price per gallon in S.C.
- 20,000 motorists expected to be rescued by AAA Carolinas
- 85,000 South Carolinians will travel by air
- 35,000 S.C. residents will travel by train, bus or other mode of transportation

by state, the agency predicts about 3.1 million North Carolinians and 1.4 million South Carolinians will travel via vehicle, plane, train or other modes of transportation.

Most of those travelers will be doing so by car, according to AAA, with close to 2.8 million from North Carolina and just more than 1.3 million from South Carolina hitting the road over the holiday period.

Motorists will encounter higher gas

prices this year than last, but that is not expected to stop families and individuals from getting behind the wheel.

South Carolina's current average is \$2.16 a gallon, compared to \$2.03 last year, according to Dave Parsons, president and CEO of AAA Carolinas.

"With record numbers on the road, we want to remind everyone to buckle up, never drink and drive, eliminate distractions and exercise patience to help prevent road rage," Parsons said.

The agency recommended motorists avoid driving through major cities during peak travel times — the best times to leave on a trip are early in the morning after the morning commute because "the roads should be less crowded and motorists will have more time to reach their destinations safely. Traveling on the holiday itself often results in fewer cars on the road."

The following are some other tips from AAA to help ensure holiday travel safety:

- Map your route in advance, and be prepared for busy roads;
- Keep valuables in the trunk or away from sight;
- Have roadside assistance contact information on hand in case of an accident;

- Keep a cellphone and charger in the car;
- Obey traffic safety laws by wearing a seatbelt, don't speed, don't drink and drive and don't use a phone while behind the wheel; and
- Make sure your vehicle is road-trip ready before heading out.

AAA Carolinas expects to rescue more than 20,000 motorists this holiday, mainly due to car battery-related issues, lockouts and flat tires.

An estimated 85,000 South Carolinians will travel by air during the holiday period, and many are choosing to visit vacation destinations.

According to AAA Carolinas traveling booking information, the most popular vacations are: Florida, Western Caribbean cruise, Eastern Caribbean cruise, Bahamas, California, Dominican Republic, New York City, North Carolina, Jamaica and Las Vegas.

Airports will be busier with longer lines than usual, so travelers should plan to arrive at the airport at least two hours before the scheduled time of departure.

AAA Carolinas estimated about 35,000 residents from South Carolina will use other modes of transportation, including trains, buses and rails.

## Mail by these dates to get shipments before Christmas

BY KAYLA ROBINS  
kayla@theitem.com

With the night quickly approaching when children are forced to go to sleep so goodies and gifts will magically appear under the tree, the shipping deadlines for those additional presents parents place among Santa's surprises are just as quickly coming.

Consumers are still on the hunt for that perfect gift, and the good news is procrastinating or simply being too busy to get it all done yet does not mean U.S. carriers can't get packages across the nation before Christmas.

Excluding Alaska and Hawaii, packages and mail

must be sent through the United States Postal Service before Dec. 20 for Priority Mail and Dec. 22 for Priority Mail Express to arrive before Dec. 25.

Packages and mail can be shipped by Dec. 20 for FedEx 2-Day and 2-Day AM and for UPS 2nd-Day Air, according to *Offers.com*.

A deadline of Dec. 21 is set for FedEx's First, Priority and Standard Overnight and for UPS's Next Day Air.

For those who get themselves into a serious bind, FedEx offers same-day delivery on Dec. 25. However, the service it offers 365 days a year in all 50 states costs about \$235 for shipments up to 25 pounds.

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				Priority Mail Express
24	25			
	SameDay	Brought to you by <b>Offers.com</b> Your Place to Save Every Day		

## LOCAL & STATE BRIEFS

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

### 3 area state parks offering First Day Hikes on Jan. 1

The state Parks Service is encouraging residents to get the new year started off on the right foot, and three area system parks will be offering First Day Hikes on Jan. 1.

Poinsett State Park in Wedgefield, Lee State Park near Bishopville and Woods Bay State Park just across the Sumter County line in Olanta in

Florence County will all be offering free hikes with park rangers on New Year's Day.

The Poinsett hike will be two miles on the Coquina Trail from 9 to 10:30 a.m., according to the state parks association website. The Lee hike will be one mile down the boardwalk and on the Floodplain Trail and be from 10 to 11 a.m.

The Woods Bay hike in Olanta will also be from 10 to 11 a.m. and will be on the Bay Boardwalk, which is 1/2 mile.

Residents coming out for the First Day Hikes are encouraged to bring bottled water, comfortable shoes and a camera if they want to take pictures.

### Marine who threw himself on grenade graduates college

COLUMBIA — A U.S. Marine who earned the Medal of Honor for throwing himself on a grenade says he was deeply honored by fellow students' standing ovation at his University of South Carolina graduation ceremony.

Kyle Carpenter received his bachelor's degree in international studies on Monday, according to *The State* newspaper. He was recognized during the ceremony, leading to applause from the entire crowd.

Carpenter said fellow students frequently thanked him individually for his service, but the standing ovation at his graduation was perhaps his best

moment at the school.

"That was one of the most incredible moments since I woke up at the hospital and realized I had a second chance at life," Carpenter told the newspaper shortly after graduating.

Carpenter was credited with saving the life of a fellow Marine by shielding him from an exploding grenade in Afghanistan in 2010. He received the nation's highest military honor from President Obama in 2014.

Carpenter lost his right eye and suffered collapsed lungs and broken bones, leading to dozens of surgeries.

Now, Carpenter is weighing options for life after college. He said he plans to continue working with veterans groups and serving as a motivational speaker.

## OSTEEN

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# 5th-annual Elizabeth Foxworth Helping Hands



LEFT: Deputy Cynthia Gonzalez delivers a bag of groceries to a family on Saturday.

CENTER: Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center Officer Clayton Butler helps package groceries for delivery.

BELOW: Lt. Petrina Wiley, left, is joined by members of the late Senior Cpl. Elizabeth Foxworth's family as they prepare to deliver groceries to the elderly and needy on Saturday. They are Mary Foxworth, Beth Foxworth's sister-in-law (Bill's sister); Alice Foxworth, Beth Foxworth's mother-in-law; Bill Foxworth, Beth Foxworth's husband; Amber Foxworth, Beth Foxworth's daughter; and Lance Foxworth, Beth Foxworth's son.



Sumter County Sheriff's Office held its 5th-annual Elizabeth Foxworth Helping Hands project on Saturday. The project, named after Senior Cpl. Elizabeth Foxworth, who died of natural causes in December 2012, raised more than \$1,050 and delivered 120 bags of groceries to elderly and needy families (both new records). ABOVE: A recipient of a bag of groceries hugs Amber Foxworth, daughter of the late Foxworth, to thank her for the food and supplies.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

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AP FILE PHOTO

Zicam Cold Remedy nasal gel is seen in Boston. The Food and Drug Administration on Monday issued a new proposal for regulating homeopathic medicines that have long been on the fringe of mainstream medicine.

# Officials to target high-risk remedies

BY MATTHEW PERRONE  
AP Health Writer

WASHINGTON — U.S. health officials plan to crack down on a growing number of unproven alternative remedies, focusing on products containing dangerous ingredients that have occasionally been linked to serious injury and death.

The Food and Drug Administration on Monday issued a new proposal for regulating homeopathic medicines that have long been on the fringe of mainstream medicine. The agency plans to target products that pose the biggest safety risks, including those marketed for children or for serious diseases.

But under the government's framework, the vast majority of low-risk products would remain on the market. Popular homeopathic brands include Zicam Allergy Relief and Cold-Eeze.

Long regarded by scientists as a form of modern-day snake oil, homeopathic products are treated as drugs under law but not supported by modern science. Most remedies contain heavily diluted drugs, vitamins and minerals.

"People may be putting their trust and money in therapies that bring little or no benefit in combating their ailments, or worse — in products that may cause serious and even irreparable harm," FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb said Monday on a call with reporters.

Once a niche market, homeopathy products have grown into a \$3 billion industry, according to FDA figures.

Homeopathic products are similar to dietary supplements, in that the FDA does not review their safety or effectiveness before they are sold. But unlike supplements, homeopathic medicines can state that they are intended for specific medical symptoms and conditions, similar to drugs.

A handful of products in recent years have been subject to major safety problems, usually involving potentially toxic ingredients.

Last year, the FDA warned consumers about the risks of teething tablets marketed by Hyland's Homeopathic after they were tied to seizures and deaths in infants and children. FDA testing later confirmed the products contained high levels of belladonna, also called nightshade, a poisonous herb that has long been used at low dosages in homeopathic medicine. The products were recalled in April.

In 2009, the FDA ordered Zicam to stop marketing three products that contained zinc gluconate after more than 100 users reported losing their sense of smell. Other dangerous ingredients used in homeopathy products include nux vomica, which contains strychnine. Regulators have issued five warning letters this year to companies selling products with nightshade or nux vomica.

# Use a healthy approach to changing habits

Many of us have already surrendered to the calorie-loaded treats and special holiday coffees and milkshakes. With the New Year just around the corner, we vow to get back to better habits. Maybe some of us are already making plans about what we will give up or cut out of our diets and considering joining a fitness center or program for motivation and accountability.

When deciding which approach to take, watch out for plans that do not seem sensible. It may seem easier to choose a 10-, 20- or 30-day program or just to avoid certain foods for a period of time. Keep in mind that programs that promote eating only one type of food all day or severely restricting calories actually slows down your metabolism and limits the amount of nutrients you are getting.

This short-term approach requires that you just temporarily change your habits to reach a certain goal before re-



Missy Corrigan

turning to your old habits. This doesn't work in the long run for lasting results. While you may temporarily lose weight this way, your body will actually be starving. The human body can survive on limited nutrients, but it cannot thrive.

The key is to create long-term healthy habits by changing your behavior patterns such as eating and exercising regularly. Sustainable lifestyle changes include setting realistic goals and adopting habits you can stick with for life, not quick fixes.

Start with one healthy habit by eating breakfast every day. Eating breakfast kick starts the metabolism. It can set the foundation from which all other healthy meals will follow. Let go of the extra calories you've been sipping by drinking

more water. Many of us rely on mostly coffee, tea and sodas, not realizing that the body needs more water in order to boost metabolism.

If you are in a habit of going through the drive-thru on a regular basis, plan ahead and prepare your meals. It may be convenient, but studies showed that people who ate fast food more than twice a week gained 10 more pounds than those who had it less than once a week. If you can't limit your drive-thrus, at least order a colorful, healthy option.

Only about 20 percent of dieters actually maintain their results over the long term. Instead of yo-yo dieting, vow to make lifestyle changes that promote positive health. Avoid setting specific weight-loss goals. If you vow to lose 5 pounds in two weeks and you don't, you may give up. Instead, focus on the habits that will get you there, and set those as goals. Not only will you become healthier, but your body will also lose weight naturally at the rate it is intended to.

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## SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Can you find all the things in Santa's Workshop listed at right? Read carefully and look closely — it's tricky!

- 12 PAINT BRUSHES
- 11 HAMMERS
- 10 PENCILS
- 9 BASEBALLS
- 8 TEDDY BEARS
- 7 DOLLS
- 6 WRAPPING PAPER ROLLS
- 5 ORNAMENTS
- 4 ROLLS OF TAPE
- 3 STOCKINGS
- 2 MUGS
- 1 SAW

How many candy canes can you find in two minutes?

Find the two identical elves.

**Winter Words**

Look through the newspaper for words that could be used to describe a cold winter. Use them in a sentence to describe the weather today.

Standards Link: Writing: Write sentences using descriptive details.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Draw the snowman that should come next to complete the pattern in each row.


Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Complete patterns.

### Kid Scoop Word Search

ORNAMENTS WRAPPING STOCKINGS WORKSHOP PENCILS SANTA ROLLS ELVES TEDDY PAINT CANDY TAPE MUGS COLD SAW

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

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

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

### FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

#### Naughty and Nice

Look through the newspaper to find a news story about someone being naughty and another news story about someone being nice. Write a letter to each of them.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write informal letters using correct format.

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# Commuters stop to help people out of derailed train, comfort victims

BY RACHEL LA CORTE AND SALLY HO  
The Associated Press

DUPONT, Washington — Daniel Konzelman was one of thousands of commuters barreling along a highway outside Seattle on Monday morning when the emergency response training he learned as an Eagle Scout kicked in.

He and a friend pulled over after an Amtrak passenger train hurtled off an overpass and crashed into vehicles on Interstate 5 below, killing at least three people and injuring dozens of others, authorities said.

A U.S. official who was briefed on the investigation said earlier that at least six people were killed. The difference in the numbers could not immediately be reconciled. The official was not authorized to discuss the investigation publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Konzelman and his friend rushed to help, running along the tracks and over the bridge to get to the scene.

Some train cars had their roofs ripped off or were turned upside down. Others were turned sideways on the bridge. Konzelman, 24, and his friend clambered into train cars to look for victims.

"I just wanted to help people because I would want people to help me," he said.

The scene was grisly, with some people pinned under the train and others who appeared to be dead. If people could move and seemed stable, Konzelman said he helped them climb out of the train. If they looked seriously hurt, he tried to offer comfort by talking to them to calm them down.

They stayed to help for nearly two hours.

"I wasn't scared. I knew what to expect. ... I prepared for the worst and hoped for the best. I saw a little bit of both," Konzelman said.

Dr. Nathan Selden, a neurosurgeon at the Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Oregon, was driving to Seattle with his son and stopped to help. He went to a medical triage tent to help tend to victims.

The most severely wounded had already been taken to hospitals by the time he arrived, Selden said. The victims he assessed had injuries



A volunteer carries out a box of supplies, including a stuffed bear, from DuPont City Hall following a passenger train derailment in the area on Monday.

GRANT HINDSLEY / SEATTLEPI.COM VIA AP

the base regularly train with local authorities so they are ready to help in emergencies.

Witnesses said some military personnel ran to the cars stopped along the side of the road, gathering first-aid kits, towels and other items that could help with the rescue efforts.

Wendy Simmons arrived as people were helping the injured and saw first responders climbing into the train cars dangling over the edge of the overpass. She said people driving by also were stopping to help.

"People were pulling first-aid kits out of their cars — putting jackets on people," she told Seattle-area television station KCPQ.

such as sprains, open wounds, skull and pelvis fractures.

He called it a miracle that an infant from the train appeared completely unharmed.

While the doctor worked, others — including Selden's son, a college freshman — helped carry in supplies from firetrucks and other tasks. He applauded the first responders as skilled, dedicated and compassionate.

"We were very close to the trains, and it was a chaotic scene but a scene of complete

purpose. Everybody knew what the goal was," Selden said.

The train was making its first-ever run along a faster new route between Portland, Oregon, and Seattle. Seventy-seven passengers and seven crew members were aboard.

About 35 military personnel from nearby Joint Base Lewis-McChord were among the first to respond to the derailment. Base spokesman Gary Dangerfield said paramedics, firefighters and others from

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# UN says there are 258 million international migrants today

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — An estimated 258 million people have left their birth countries and are now living in other nations — an increase of 49 percent since 2000, says a U.N. report on international migration released Monday.

The biennial report released on International Migrants Day said the percentage of the world's people who are international migrants has increased modestly from 2.8 percent in 2000 to 3.4 percent this year.

But the report from the U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs said the percentage living in high-income countries rose from 9.6 per-

cent in 2000 to 14 percent in 2017.

"Reliable data and evidence are critical to combat misperceptions about migration and to inform migration policies," said Undersecretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Liu Zhenmin.

In September 2016, all 193 U.N. member states, including the United States under President Obama, adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. It said no one country can manage international migration on its own.

The countries agreed to implement well-managed migration policies and committed to sharing more equitably the

burden of hosting refugees. They also agreed to protect the human rights of migrants and to counter xenophobia and intolerance toward migrants.

They further agreed to launch a process leading to the adoption of a global compact in 2018.

Liu said the new estimates "will provide an important baseline for member states as they begin negotiations on the Global Compact."

One important country will not be taking part. In early December, the United States said it was ending its participation in negotiations on the compact.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Migrants walk on train tracks near the western Serbian town of Sid, near Serbia's border with European Union member Croatia, on Monday.

U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley said the declaration "is simply not compatible with U.S. sovereignty." A statement from the U.S. Mission said numerous provisions were "inconsistent with U.S. immigration and refugee policies" under President Trump.

The U.N. report said that in 2017, high-income countries hosted 64 percent of the international migrants worldwide, or nearly 165 million people.

This year, two-thirds of migrants were living in just 20 countries, the report said.

SUMTER MEETS

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# Oil, gas plumes found at site of 13-year-old leak in Gulf

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Federal regulators have found fresh evidence of an "ongoing oil release" at the site of a 13-year-old oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico, where chronic sheens often stretch for miles off Louisiana's coast, according to government lawyers.

In a court filing Friday, Justice Department attorneys said recent scientific surveys revealed two plumes of oil and gas flowing from where an underwater mudslide during Hurricane Ivan in 2004 toppled an offshore platform and buried the cluster of wells owned by Taylor Energy Corp.

The New Orleans-based company has repeatedly insisted there is no evidence that oil is seeping from any of its unplugged wells on the seafloor. The government's court filing doesn't address whether any of Taylor's wells could be the source of the plumes.

"There is no evidence of an active-

ly leaking well, and all evidence continues to support the conclusion of remnant oil that has long been trapped in sediment on the sea floor," Taylor Energy spokesman Todd Ragusa said in a statement Monday.

But the presence of the plumes could complicate the company's efforts to negotiate a settlement that could allow it to recover millions of dollars it set aside for work to end the leak.

Taylor Energy sued the federal government nearly two years ago, seeking to recover up to \$432 million from a trust it formed nearly a decade ago. The lawsuit has remained on hold for months amid settlement talks between the government and company.

Those negotiations were ongoing when the Interior Department's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement conducted an underwater survey of the leak site in Septem-

ber, using a remotely operated vehicle. Earlier this year, scientists for the government and the company also performed a series of studies at the leak site.

The survey and studies showed the two "active plumes" emanating from a depression adjacent to and partly underneath the wreckage of Taylor Energy's toppled platform, Justice Department lawyers said in Friday's filing. They didn't disclose any other details of their findings.

In its January 2016 lawsuit, the company said it had eliminated two oil plumes that were present at the site in Ivan's aftermath. Sonar surveys "confirmed an absence of any plumes (well leaks) remaining in existence," the company said in a November 2016 court filing.

Taylor Energy has argued nothing can be done to completely eliminate the persistent slicks on the surface. The company has claimed the sheens

are coming from residual oil oozing from contaminated sediment.

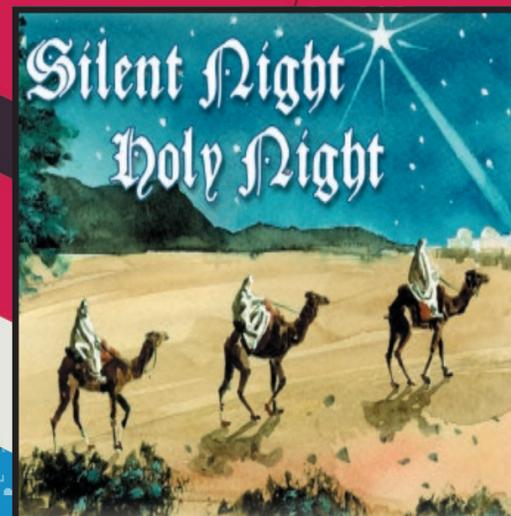
Ragusa, Taylor Energy's spokesman, said the recent detection of plumes "is not new information" and "merely refers to a well-known water column anomaly largely consisting of naturally occurring biogenic gas, which is prevalent in the Mississippi River Delta area."

But an expert said the plumes could be the source of the oil on the water's surface.

"If these plumes are associated with the oil slicks on the surface, then it's not just incidental gas common everywhere in the Mississippi River Delta," said Ian MacDonald, a Florida State University oceanography professor. MacDonald, who has flown over the leak site roughly 20 times in the past five years, was an expert witness for environmental groups that sued Taylor Energy in 2012.



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# SUNSET

FROM PAGE A1

receptions in January that were already on the calendar before the closing was decided upon, Shaw said.

Details on the main clubhouse's closing will be finalized at the country club's next membership meeting Jan. 4.

### WANT TO LEASE IT?

If anyone is interested in leasing or purchasing Sunset's main clubhouse for use as an event provider business, please contact Melissa Hudson, the club's accounting manager, at (803) 775-5541.



The Sunset Country Club main clubhouse will close at the end of the year but be available for rent. The golf course and other facilities will remain open.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

# CRIME

FROM PAGE A1

Cherryvale was a different area 40 years ago, one where neighbors talked to each other, he said.

Crime started creeping up in the neighborhood about 30 years ago, he said.

Now, people are scared to walk down the street — one street is now a drug-infested area, Strohm said.

He said he is afraid to let his daughter ride her bike down the street.

"I shouldn't have to feel like that," he said.

Despite the apparent increase in crime, Strohm said, he has no intentions of leaving the neighborhood where he has lived since he was six years old.

He also lives near his moth-

er, who is in her 70s and has no intentions of leaving the area.

Strohm said the area where he lives is a tight-knit community where everyone watches out for each other.

"We're not going to let them run us out," he said.

Contrary to perceptions of crime in Cherryvale, Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis said overall crime — burglaries, assaults, etc. — is down in the area.

Though the frequency of crime in Cherryvale has decreased, there has been an increase in isolated incidents such as the senseless killing that took place on Monday, he said.

The sheriff's office is continuing its investigation into the senseless shooting death of Archie, Bell said.

"Our investigators worked through the night and into

this morning to gather information," he said on Tuesday. "We have received a large number of tips and are in the process of checking out each one."

He said he hopes people in the community will continue to come forward so the case can be solved.

Anyone with information can leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers at (803) 436-2718 or 1-888-CRIMESC.

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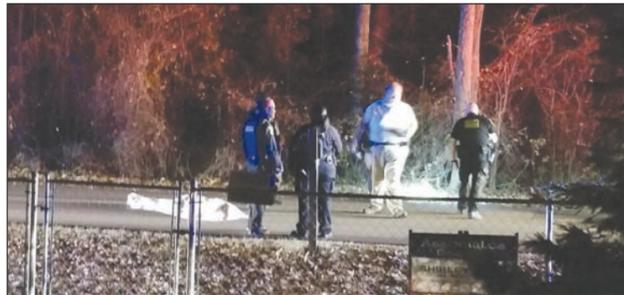


PHOTO PROVIDED

Sumter County Sheriff's Office deputies respond to the scene of a deadly shooting in Cherryvale on Monday night.

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## COMMENTARY

Fascism and  
communism

Before the question, how about a few statistics? The 20th century was mankind's most brutal century. Roughly 16 million people lost their lives during World War I; about 60 million died during World War II. Wars during the 20th century cost an estimated 71 million to 116 million lives (<http://tinyurl.com/ya62mrqa>).

The number of war dead pales in comparison with the number of people who lost their lives at the hands of their own governments. The late professor Rudolph J. Rummel of the University of Hawaii documented this tragedy in his book "Death by Government: Genocide and Mass Murder Since 1900." Some of the statistics found in the book have been updated at <http://tinyurl.com/y96tqhr1>.

The People's Republic of China tops the list, with 76 million lives lost at the hands of the government from 1949 to 1987. The Soviet Union follows, with 62 million lives lost from 1917 to 1987. Adolf Hitler's Nazi German government killed 21 million people between 1933 and 1945. Then there are lesser murdering regimes, such as Nationalist China, Japan, Turkey, Vietnam and Mexico. According to Rummel's research, the 20th century saw 262 million people's lives lost at the hands of their own governments (<http://tinyurl.com/lu8z8ab>).



Walter Williams

Hitler's atrocities are widely recognized, publicized and condemned. World War II's conquering nations' condemnation included denazification and bringing Holocaust perpetrators to trial and punishing them through lengthy sentences and execution. Similar measures were taken to punish Japan's murderers.

But what about the greatest murderers in mankind's history — the Soviet Union's Josef Stalin and China's Mao Zedong? Some leftists saw these communists as heroes. W.E.B. Du Bois, writing in the National Guardian in 1953, said, "Stalin was a great man; few other men of the 20th century approach his stature. ... The highest proof of his greatness (was that) he knew the common man, felt his problems, followed his fate." Walter Duranty called Stalin "the greatest living statesman" and "a quiet, unobtrusive man." There was even leftist admiration for Hitler and fellow fascist Benito Mussolini. When Hitler came to power in January 1933, George Bernard Shaw described him as "a very remarkable man, a very able man." President Franklin Roosevelt called the fascist Mussolini "admirable," and he was "deeply impressed by what he (had) accomplished."

In 1972, John Kenneth Galbraith visited Communist China and praised Mao and the Chinese economic system. Michel Oksenberg, President Jimmy Carter's China expert, complained, "America (is) doomed to decay until radical, even revolutionary, change fundamentally alters the institutions and values." He urged us to "borrow ideas and solutions" from China. Harvard University professor John K. Fairbank believed that America could learn much from the Cultural Revolution, saying, "Americans may find in China's collective life today an ingredient of personal moral concern for one's neighbor that has a lesson for us all." By the way, an estimated 2 million people died during China's Cultural Revolution. More recent praise for murdering tyrants came from Anita Dunn, President Barack Obama's acting communications director in 2009, who said, "Two of my favorite political philosophers (are) Mao Zedong and Mother Teresa."

Recall the campus demonstrations of the 1960s, in which campus radicals, often accompanied by their professors, marched around singing the praises of Mao and waving Mao's Little Red Book. That may explain some of the campus mess today. Some of those campus radicals are now tenured professors and administrators at today's universities and colleges and K-12 schoolteachers and principals indoctrinating our youth.

Now the question: Why are leftists soft on communism? The reason leftists give communists, the world's most horrible murderers, a pass is that they sympathize with the chief goal of communism: restricting personal liberty. In the U.S., the call is for government control over our lives through regulations and taxation. Unfortunately, it matters little whether the Democrats or Republicans have the political power. The march toward greater government control is unabated. It just happens at a quicker pace with Democrats in charge.

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

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## COMMENTARY

Legislature must provide real reforms  
for electric power in South Carolina

BY DANA BEACH

Editor's note: This piece originally ran in *The Post and Courier* on Dec. 16.

More than four months after SCANA and Santee Cooper announced the demise of their partially built nuclear plant, the magnitude of the disaster still boggles the mind. We know that the two utilities wasted \$9 billion on the facility, and that virtually none of that amount is recoverable. Thanks to insightful investigative reporting by *The Post and Courier*, we also know that losses of comparable magnitude occurred in at least four other Southern states — on "clean coal" plants in Mississippi and Florida, on aborted upgrades to a Florida nuclear plant and on nuclear projects in North Carolina and Florida that were never even started. And we know that in each of these states, legislators set the stage for catastrophe by providing blank checks for the utilities, drawn on the accounts of millions of ratepayers.

In the coming years, South Carolina energy producers will spend another \$9 billion on new capacity and old plant replacement. Will they repeat the errors of judgment that led inexorably to the Jenkinsville nuclear debacle? Or will they prepare the state for an era when the least costly power is also the cleanest power? It all depends on whether the S.C. General Assembly will enact meaningful reform during the upcoming legislative session.

First, though, let's put the size of the loss in perspective. Nine billion dollars amounts to:

- Almost three times the amount of money the state allocates annually to our schools — K-12 and higher education;
- 15 times SCANA's reported profit in 2016;
- 150 percent of SCANA's market value on Dec. 14;
- 18 times the amount of money U.S. taxpayers lost when the much vilified solar manufacturing company, Solyndra, declared bankruptcy;
- Four-and-a-half times the amount of money the city of Charleston estimates it would

*Nine billion dollars later, the trust has begun to wear thin. Reform is in the air. But there is still a strong risk of recidivism.*

take to end flooding and substantially reduce the risk of hurricanes, and

• Slightly less than half of what the Confederacy spent fighting the Civil War (in 2011 dollars).

Now let's consider what \$9 billion could have done had it been invested in energy efficiency and clean energy production, instead of being left to corrode in the middle of the state's largest mud puddle. Energy efficiency has been known for decades to be lower cost more than any power generation option. Furthermore, solar energy now ranks as the least expensive generation technology available and has been cost competitive with nuclear for the past five years. Per kilowatt hour, only natural gas is comparable in efficiency to solar power.

If SCANA and Santee Cooper had spent \$9 billion on solar facilities, they could have produced around 10 million megawatt hours of electricity per year, representing about 12 percent of the state's total annual energy sales. Or, if the utilities had spent \$9 billion on programs to make homes and businesses more energy efficient, we could have achieved annual savings of at least equaling the amount of energy the nuclear plant would have generated.

This is to say that had SCANA and Santee Cooper invested in clean energy technology, the result could have powered more than one-tenth of the state, without carbon pollution or waste disposal problems. And remember, unlike a coal plant or a nuclear plant, solar energy production and energy efficiency are not "all or nothing" propositions. These can be built incrementally, and each increment can

begin producing electricity as soon as it is completed. Consequently, there is no need for front-loading rate increases, no need to commit to large capital expenditures on facilities that may turn out to be unneeded or uneconomical, and no risk of the entire proposition crashing and burning.

But South Carolina, operating more like a tribal society than a modern state, conformed to former House Speaker Bobby Harrell's assessment: "When you're in the General Assembly, you have a need to be able to trust the people in authority." And trust authority they did — including lobbyists like Richard Quinn, whom SCANA hired for assistance on legislative matters.

How visible was the problem? The Sierra Club objected to the Base Load Review Act (cynically branded by utility lobbyists as the "Rate Payer Protection Act"), pointing out many of the risks that later plagued the project. Six members of the House voted against the law, including four from Charleston. So did Sen. Chip Campsen, R-Charleston. Gov. Mark Sanford refused to sign the bill.

Nine billion dollars later, the trust has begun to wear thin. Reform is in the air. But there is still a strong risk of recidivism. The new SCANA leaders, at the executive and board levels, were in positions of authority throughout the entire nuclear meltdown. Exactly the same is true with Santee Cooper. The only change is that they have moved up a notch in the hierarchy.

Structurally, nothing has changed either. The Legislature will debate a variety of reform measures in the new year, many of which are no more than window dressing or grandstanding.

True reform must include new safeguards that require regulated and publicly owned power producers to choose the least cost, cleanest technologies available. True reform must also infuse the power production sector with real competition, so that the market can serve as a primary driver of innovation and efficiency.

Dana Beach is executive director of the Coastal Conservation League.

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# The Grinch, Cruella and more



PHOTOS BY MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

A couple of parachuters kicked off the annual Boykin Christmas Parade on Sunday. Cruella DeVille waved to the crowd, and even the Grinch showed up. See more photos on A11.

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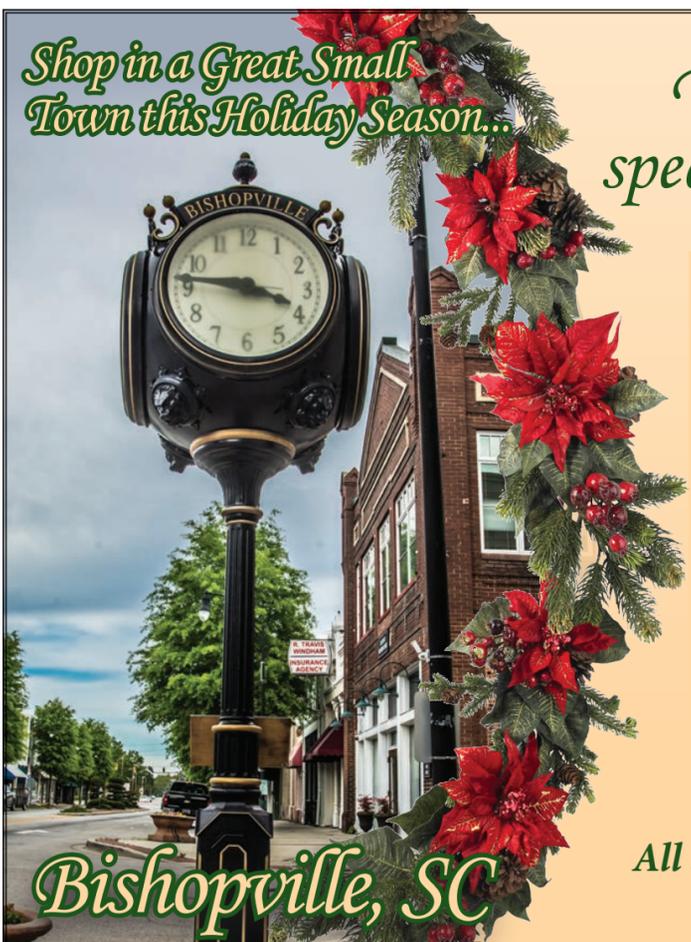
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# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**BANKS** — All area banks and credit unions will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25.

**SAFE** Federal Credit Union and First Citizens will also be closed on Saturday, Dec. 23.

**GOVERNMENT** — The following will be closed Friday-Tuesday, Dec. 22-26: state government offices; City of Sumter offices; Sumter County offices; Clarendon County offices; Lee County offices; and City of Bishopville offices.

City of Manning offices will be closed Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 25-27.

Federal government offices and the U.S. Postal Service will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25.

**SCHOOLS** — The following will be closed through Monday, Jan. 1, 2018, with students returning on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018: Lee County Public Schools and Thomas Sumter Academy.

The following will be closed through Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, with students returning on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018: Sumter School District; Clarendon School District 1; Clarendon School District 2; Wilson Hall; St. Anne and St. Jude Catholic School; St. Francis Xavier High School; Laurence Manning Academy; and Clarendon Hall.

Clarendon School District 3 and Sumter Christian School will be closed through Monday, Jan. 1, 2018, and will observe a faculty in-service day on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, with students returning on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018.

Robert E. Lee Academy will be closed Thursday, Dec. 21, through Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018, with students returning on Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018.

**UTILITIES** — FTC will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25. Black River Electric Coop. will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26.

**OTHER** — Clemson Extension Service and the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce will be closed Monday-Friday, Dec. 25-29.

The Harvin Clarendon County Library will be closed Friday-Tuesday, Dec. 22-26.

The Sumter County Library will be closed Saturday-Tuesday, Dec. 23-26.

The City of Sumter will not collect household garbage or recyclables on Christmas Day. Residents with Monday garbage and recycling service will have pickup on Saturday, Dec. 23. Residents are asked to have their roll cart and recycling bin at the curb by 7 a.m. There will be household garbage and recycling pickup on New Year's Day. For additional information, call the sanitation department at (803) 436-2558.

Santee Wateree RTA will be closed and not offering services on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26. Normal operations will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 27.

*The Sumter Item* will be closed Friday, Dec. 22, and Monday, Dec. 25.

# WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

## AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Rain and a t-storm in the p.m.	A shower early; mostly cloudy	Cooler with clouds and sun	Warmer with partial sunshine	Mostly cloudy, a little rain	Mostly cloudy and warm
68°	45°	54° / 40°	65° / 51°	74° / 58°	72° / 51°
Chance of rain: 70%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 25%
SE 6-12 mph	NNE 7-14 mph	NE 6-12 mph	SE 3-6 mph	SSW 7-14 mph	SSW 6-12 mph

### TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

**IN THE MOUNTAINS**

**Today:** Rain, and thunder, becoming heavier. Winds east 4-8 mph.  
**Thursday:** Cooler with clouds and sun. Winds northeast 4-8 mph.

**ON THE COAST**

**Today:** Cloudy; periods of rain and a thunderstorm. High 64 to 73.  
**Thursday:** Clouds and sun; areas of morning fog in southern parts. High 53 to 60.

AccuWeather  
DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY

### LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
74°	74°	51°	56°	33°	79° in 1967	15° in 1975

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
0.00"	0.00"	2.62"	1.94"	36.14"	49.12"	45.54"

### LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	354.59	-0.01
Marion	76.8	74.22	+0.04
Moultrie	75.5	74.21	-0.03
Wateree	100	96.74	+0.08

### SUN AND MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Dec. 26	7:23 a.m.	5:16 p.m.	9:01 a.m.	7:32 p.m.

	First	Full	Last	New
	Dec. 26	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 16

### RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	9.25	-0.15
Congaree River	19	1.12	-0.29
Lynches River	14	5.38	-0.51
Saluda River	14	3.22	+0.47
Up. Santee River	80	75.72	+0.23
Wateree River	24	5.32	+0.56

### TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	10:15 a.m.	3.2	4:25 a.m.	0.1
	10:20 p.m.	2.6	5:10 p.m.	0.2
Thu.	10:50 a.m.	3.1	5:01 a.m.	0.2
	10:56 p.m.	2.6	5:47 p.m.	0.3

# SUPPORT GROUPS

**AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**MONDAY MEETINGS:**

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

**TUESDAY MEETINGS:**

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

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

**Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child)** — First Tuesday at noon and third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498, (803) 469-4506 or (803) 938-8544.

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	69/49/t	57/48/pc
Chicago	39/30/pc	41/35/c
Dallas	65/48/pc	74/54/pc
Detroit	36/26/pc	38/33/c
Houston	74/51/pc	75/66/c
Los Angeles	62/46/pc	64/41/s
New Orleans	76/53/t	72/61/pc
New York	42/29/pc	38/33/s
Orlando	83/62/pc	83/61/pc
Philadelphia	45/29/pc	41/32/s
Phoenix	70/45/s	59/35/s
San Francisco	55/42/pc	56/38/s
Wash., DC	50/33/c	46/36/s

### REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	54/41/r	48/41/pc	Florence	64/43/r	53/40/pc
Athens	68/44/t	54/44/pc	Gainesville	79/60/c	78/54/pc
Augusta	72/51/r	58/41/pc	Gastonia	57/43/r	50/37/pc
Beaufort	73/54/r	60/46/pc	Goldboro	58/41/r	54/41/pc
Cape Hatteras	58/41/r	55/48/c	Goose Creek	72/52/r	56/42/pc
Charleston	72/53/r	59/43/pc	Greensboro	52/36/r	48/38/pc
Charlotte	58/40/r	52/40/pc	Greenville	60/43/r	51/43/pc
Clemson	62/46/r	51/44/pc	Hickory	53/39/r	48/40/pc
Columbia	71/49/r	56/41/pc	Hilton Head	69/54/r	58/45/pc
Darlington	63/42/r	50/39/pc	Jacksonville, FL	81/60/c	75/58/pc
Elizabeth City	58/36/r	52/37/pc	La Grange	71/53/t	65/53/pc
Elizabethtown	59/41/r	51/39/pc	Macon	72/51/t	64/48/pc
Fayetteville	58/41/r	54/40/pc	Marietta	68/47/r	56/47/pc
			Marion	54/39/r	45/36/pc
			Mt. Pleasant	71/54/r	58/44/pc
			Myrtle Beach	65/45/r	53/42/pc
			Orangeburg	70/48/r	52/40/pc
			Port Royal	71/55/r	58/46/pc
			Raleigh	54/36/r	51/38/pc
			Rock Hill	59/42/r	49/37/pc
			Rockingham	57/40/r	50/35/pc
			Savannah	77/56/c	64/48/pc
			Spartanburg	58/43/r	47/40/pc
			Summerville	72/51/r	55/40/pc
			Wilmington	63/43/r	56/45/pc
			Winston-Salem	53/37/r	48/39/pc

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# SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PETS OF THE WEEK



**CAN'T ADOPT BUT WOULD STILL LIKE TO HELP IN SOME WAY?** Sumter Animal Control will gladly accept donations of the following:

Capstar flea control pills (available at Petco or Tractor Supply), bleach (gallons or spray bottle type), metal food and water bowls in all sizes, towels, waterless pet shampoo, dog cologne, kibble, puppy food, newspapers and leashes and collars. You can also make a tax-deductible donation via Paypal at [sumterstrays@gmail.com](mailto:sumterstrays@gmail.com). One hundred percent of your donation will be used for the animals at Sumter Animal Control.

**TOP:** Chris is a 6-month-old male who loves people and other dogs. He is gentle, loving and just about perfect. The whole world is a playground for Chris. This boy has so much potential, and we want him to have a forever home, where he can reach adulthood as part of a loving family.

**BELOW:** Mandy is Chris' sister. She is a charmer. Lively and loving, Mandy adores other dogs, people and just about everything in the whole world. She would be great in a family with children who are old enough to run and play with her to help burn off some of that puppy energy. We want Mandy to have a terrific forever home with a family who will give her the time and training to reach her potential.

It would be wonderful if Chris and Mandy had forever homes in time for the holidays. To inquire about Chris in kennel 19 or Mandy in kennel 18, call the volunteer coordinator at (803) 774-3232 or stop by Sumter Animal Control, 1240 Winkles Road. We have many other adoptable dogs as well as animals who were found and are waiting for their owners to claim them. Please check Sumter Animal Control on Facebook.

### The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Choose love over force.

Someone will test your patience if you feel you're being taken for granted. Use your intelligence to even out the playing field and you will have no regrets.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Refrain from making an impulsive move. Be extra cautious when dealing with legal, financial or health issues. Make whatever adjustments are necessary and proceed with honesty, love, patience and understanding.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Emotional matters will escalate when dealing with peers, superiors or anyone looking for a way to make you look bad. Use your charm and powers of persuasion to smooth over any past mistakes that could end up costing you.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Be careful how you spend your money. Impulsive purchases won't turn out to be as great as you anticipate. Walk away from situations that can leave you emotionally exhausted and confused. Concentrate on investing in yourself, not someone else.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't give in to someone who is asking you to make unrealistic changes. Step aside and do your own thing instead of allowing emotions to lead you into a vulnerable situation. Know when to say "no" and walk away.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll get an emotional nudge from someone you live with or are close to. Don't dismiss what's being said. The clues are right in front of you. Ask questions and find out what you can do to encourage better days ahead.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't fold under pressure. You can't make a decision if you aren't ready. Look for peace and quiet or spend time with someone you know will offer you sound advice. Don't limit what you want to do because of someone else.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Lend a helping hand and you'll feel good. It's the little things that will count the most, so don't waste time on extravagant offerings when your time, patience and hands-on help are all that are required to succeed.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Impulsive spending will leave you in a quandary. Take a moment to consider the consequences of your actions before you make your move. Choose to be methodical rather than reckless. If you want to show off, do something nice for someone.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll excel when it comes to getting things done, but don't sign up for something that will take you away from promises you've made to your family. A last-minute change of plans will throw you off-guard.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Spur-of-the-moment purchases, decisions and offers won't work out well in the end. Be careful not to make promises you won't want to keep. Keep your schedule simple and offer your time to those you care about.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional decisions may cost you. You can offer help or suggestions, but don't go overboard trying to do too much for too many. You have to look out for your own interests if you want to avoid getting burned out.

USC FOOTBALL

## Worth the wait

Lakewood  
standout  
Johnson will  
sign with USC

BY DENNIS BRUNSON  
dennis@theitem.com

When Tyreek Johnson found out that he wasn't going to be able to sign to play college football with the University of South Carolina on National Signing Day in February of this year at part of the school's 2017 recruiting class, it didn't sit well with him.

"It was heartbreaking at first," said Johnson, the former Lakewood High School standout, who was gray-shirted when it was discovered he had injured his labrum in his shoulder and had to have surgery.

Johnson, a defensive end/outside linebacker prospect, was told he would be part of the '18 recruiting class, and he's actually getting to sign earlier than he thought he would. With the first early signing period for football players set for today, Johnson will be signing with the Gamecocks today.

"It feels pretty good," Johnson said on Tuesday. "I get a chance to do what I've been wanting to do since last year. This is kind of like redemption."

Johnson, who was good on the academic side before the decision was made to gray-



Former Lakewood standout Tyreek Johnson (3) will sign with the University of South Carolina today as part of the 2018 recruiting class after being grayshirted last year.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

shirt, will be enrolling at USC in January and will take part in spring practice when it begins.

Johnson, who committed to Carolina in April of '16, suffered the injury late in the Gators' '16 season. John-

son said he sat out a couple of games with the injury,

SEE USC, PAGE B4

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## Early signing period creates challenges for new coaches

BY STEVE MEGARGEE  
The Associated Press

An active coaching carousel has added more uncertainty to this week's early signing period and its impact on this year's recruiting cycle.

A new policy allows high school seniors to sign national letters of intent Wednesday through Friday of this week in addition to the traditional February signing date.

That left a short recruiting window for the 11 Power Five programs that changed coaches in the last month, a figure that increases to 12 including Mississippi's decision to remove the interim tag from Matt Luke's title. The list includes eight schools that signed top-25 classes last year according to a composite ranking of recruiting sites compiled by 247Sports: Florida State, Florida, Texas A&M, Tennessee, Oregon, UCLA, Nebraska and Mississippi State.

"It's difficult because of the relationships you have to

build, which is so important in recruiting, and you have such a short time building those relationships," Florida State coach Willie Taggart said. "So it's a challenge,

but I look forward to it."

The newly hired coaches have plenty of ground to make up.

As of early Tuesday afternoon, Nebraska was in the 40s while Tennessee and Florida State were outside the top 50 in the 247Sports Composite. Those classes lost numerous verbal commitments amid coaching changes.

Under the old recruiting calendar, coaches that took over programs in December had a couple of months to sway recruits. Now they just have a couple of weeks.

As it looks now, many of those new coaches will have to fill their class from a small pool of available prospects when the February signing date approaches.

"The transition classes from schools that have new coaches are going to be lower rated than we've ever seen in some cases because now they don't have that extra month of January for a lot of these kids to change their minds," said Mike Farrell, the director of recruiting for Rivals.

SEE SIGNING, PAGE B4

CLEMSON-USC BASKETBALL

## Tigers smother Gamecocks 64-48

CLEMSON (AP) — Marcquise Reed scored a career-high 25 points including four second-half 3-pointers to lead Clemson to a 64-48 win over South Carolina on Tuesday night.

The Tigers (10-1) crushed their bitter in-state rival by closing down on almost all of the Gamecocks' shots outside the paint.

South Carolina (9-2) scored 28 of its 48 points in the paint, shooting just 35 percent (19 of 54) from the field.

Clemson never trailed in the game, but couldn't put the Gamecocks away either until the second half. Reed hit four of his five 3-pointers in the second half, including the 3 with 11:54 left that finally pushed Clemson's lead into double-digits for good at 43-32.

Chris Silva had 12 points and nine rebounds for South Carolina, and was the only Gamecock in double figures.

Gabe DeVoe scored 12 points and Shelton Mitchell added 10 for Clemson.

And at the end, the crowd at Littlejohn Coliseum started chanting "just like football," reminding South Caroli-

CLEMSON 64, SOUTH CAROLINA 48

**SOUTH CAROLINA (8-3)**  
Minaya 0-6 0-0 0, Silva 4-10 4-4 12, Kotsar 3-5 0-0 6, Booker 0-4 2-2 2, Gravett 1-7 0-0 3, Haase 1-5 0-0 2, Myers 4-7 1-2 10, Holden 4-5 0-0 8, Hinson 0-0 0-0 0, Beatty 2-5 1-2 5. Totals 19-54 8-10 48.

**CLEMSON (10-1)**  
Grantham 2-7 0-0 5, Thomas 4-6 0-2 8, DeVoe 4-10 3-4 12, Mitchell 3-8 4-5 10, Reed 6-11 8-11 25, Simms 0-1 1-2 1, Skara 1-2 0-0 3, Donnal 0-1 0-0 0, Trapp 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 20-46 16-24 64.  
Halftime: Clemson 31-26, 3-Point Goals: South Carolina 2-16 (Myers 1-2, Gravett 1-5, Minaya 0-1, Silva 0-1, Booker 0-2, Beatty 0-2, Haase 0-3), Clemson 8-20 (Reed 5-9, Skara 1-2, Grantham 1-3, DeVoe 1-4, Mitchell 0-1, Simms 0-1). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: South Carolina 29 (Silva 9), Clemson 32 (Grantham 7). Assists: South Carolina 3 (Minaya, Gravett, Holden 1), Clemson 8 (Reed 3). Total Fouls: South Carolina 17, Clemson 9.

na of Clemson's 34-10 win last month in that sport.

BIG PICTURE

South Carolina: This was an ugly loss in an important game both emotionally and for recruiting for the Gamecocks. The theme in all three of South Carolina's losses has been poor

shooting. They have shot at least 45 percent in each win and under 38 percent in each loss ... The 48 points were South Carolina's lowest in the Clemson rivalry since losing 58-39 to the then No. 8 Tigers in 1996.

Clemson: South Carolina's defense is designed to allow some open looks from 3, and Clemson took advantage, making 8 of 20 from behind the arc. Reed was 5 of 9 on 3-pointers ... The Tigers received the third highest number of votes for a team that didn't make in the AP Top 25 this week. Clemson has not been ranked since January 2010, the season before Brownell took over.

UP NEXT

South Carolina: The Gamecocks host Division II Limestone on Dec. 27, then open up Southeastern Conference play Dec. 31 at Mississippi.

Clemson: The Tigers host Louisiana Lafayette on Friday afternoon, then host North Carolina State to open up Atlantic Conference play Dec. 30.

PRO BASKETBALL

## Shooting for 2: Lakers retire Kobe Bryant's 8 and 24 jerseys

BY GREG BEACHAM  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Although Kobe Bryant has been asked many times, he still isn't sure who would win a mystical game of one-on-one between the young Kobe in his No. 8 Lakers jersey and his older self, who wore No. 24.

"I kind of go back and forth," Bryant said with a sly grin. "But 8 has something that 24 will never, ever, ever have, and that's the ability to grow hair."

The Lakers couldn't choose, either. So they honored both eras of Kobe's incredible career.

In an NBA first, the Lakers on Monday night retired both jersey numbers worn by Bryant, the leading scorer in franchise history.

Bryant attended the Lakers' game against the Golden State Warriors for a halftime ceremony at Staples Center, which was packed with fans eager to

bear witness once again to the beloved superstar scorer. Dozens of Bryant's former teammates showed up, including Shaquille O'Neal and Derek Fisher, along with the Lakers' usual cavalcade of celebrity fans.

"I feel great," Bryant said after entering Staples Center while pushing a stroller containing Bianka Bella Bryant, his infant daughter. "I'm very proud I get to come here with my family. It feels good as a father to have my family come in and share this."

Bryant is the 10th player with a retired jersey for the 16-time NBA champion Lakers. His numbers were revealed high on the Staples Center wall, flanking the banner honoring Lakers broadcaster Chick Hearn.

"It's not about the jerseys that are hanging up there for me," Bryant told the cheering crowd. "It's about the jerseys that were hanging up there before."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Los Angeles Laker guard Kobe Bryant had the two numbers he wore with the Lakers retired on Monday at halftime of a game against the Golden State Warriors at Staples Center. On the left, Bryant wore his No. 24 while on the right a 17-year-old Bryant holds his No. 8 during a 1996 news conference.

SEE KOBE, PAGE B4

## SCOREBOARD

## TV, RADIO

**TODAY**  
**2:30 p.m.** — International Soccer: German Cup Round-of-16 Match — Borussia Dortmund vs. Bayern Munich (ESPN2).  
**2:30 p.m.** — College Football: National Signing Day Special (ESPN2).  
**4:30 p.m.** — College Basketball: Hall of Fame Birthday of Basketball Game from Uncasville, Conn. — St. John's vs. St. Joseph's (ESPNU).  
**6:05 p.m.** — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).  
**6:30 p.m.** — College Basketball: Hall of Fame Birthday of Basketball Game from Uncasville, Conn. — Houston vs. Providence (ESPN2).  
**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: Evansville at Duke (ESPN2).  
**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: Wagner at Seton Hall (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: North Texas at Georgetown (FOX SPORTS 2).  
**7 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Toronto at Charlotte (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).  
**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: James Madison at Florida (SEC NETWORK).  
**8 p.m.** — College Football: Frisco Bowl from Frisco, Texas — Louisiana Tech vs. Southern Methodist (ESPN).  
**8 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Houston (NBA TV).  
**8 p.m.** — NHL Hockey: Detroit at Philadelphia (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Wofford at North Carolina (ESPN2).  
**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Albany at Louisville (ESPN2).  
**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: South Carolina Upstate at Creighton (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Furman at Tennessee (SEC NETWORK).  
**10:30 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Memphis at Golden State (NBA TV).  
**11 p.m.** — College Basketball: Spokane Showcase from Spokane, Wash. — Kansas State vs. Washington State (ESPN2).

## NFL STANDINGS

## AMERICAN CONFERENCE

## East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	11	3	0	.786	395	274
Buffalo	8	6	0	.571	264	306
Miami	6	8	0	.429	252	342
N.Y. Jets	5	9	0	.357	285	342

## South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Jacksonville	10	4	0	.714	374	209
Tennessee	8	6	0	.571	296	319
Houston	4	10	0	.286	319	380
Indianapolis	3	11	0	.214	225	368

## North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Pittsburgh	11	3	0	.786	344	278
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	345	256
Cincinnati	5	9	0	.357	233	305
Cleveland	0	14	0	.000	207	362

## West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	8	6	0	.571	359	302
L.A. Chargers	7	7	0	.500	311	255
Oakland	6	8	0	.429	281	324
Denver	5	9	0	.357	254	328

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE

## East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Philadelphia	12	2	0	.857	438	279
Dallas	8	6	0	.571	336	311
Washington	6	8	0	.429	305	359
N.Y. Giants	2	12	0	.143	228	355

## South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	401	282
Carolina	10	4	0	.714	331	286
Atlanta	9	5	0	.643	318	282
Tampa Bay	4	10	0	.286	285	336

## North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Minnesota	11	3	0	.786	343	242
Detroit	8	6	0	.571	358	339
Green Bay	7	7	0	.500	309	333
Chicago	4	10	0	.286	234	394

## West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
L.A. Rams	10	4	0	.714	338	272
Seattle	8	6	0	.571	321	294
Arizona	6	8	0	.429	246	337
San Francisco	4	10	0	.286	253	337

x-clinched playoff spot  
 y-clinched division

## THURSDAY'S GAME

Denver 25, Indianapolis 13

## SATURDAY'S GAMES

Detroit 20, Chicago 10  
 Kansas City 30, L.A. Chargers 13

## SUNDAY'S GAMES

Minnesota 34, Cincinnati 7  
 Washington 20, Arizona 15  
 Buffalo 24, Miami 16  
 Baltimore 27, Cleveland 10  
 Carolina 31, Green Bay 24  
 Jacksonville 45, Houston 7  
 New Orleans 31, N.Y. Jets 19  
 Philadelphia 34, N.Y. Giants 29  
 L.A. Rams 42, Seattle 7  
 New England 27, Pittsburgh 24  
 San Francisco 25, Tennessee 23  
 Dallas 20, Oakland 17

## MONDAY'S GAME

Atlanta 24, Tampa Bay 21

## SATURDAY, DEC. 23

Indianapolis at Baltimore, 4:30 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Green Bay, 8:30 p.m.

## SUNDAY, DEC. 24

Cleveland at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Denver at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 L.A. Rams at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 L.A. Chargers at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at New England, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.  
 Seattle at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.

## MONDAY, DEC. 25

Pittsburgh at Houston, 4:30 p.m.  
 Oakland at Philadelphia, 8:30 p.m.

## NBA STANDINGS

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	26	7	.788	—
Toronto	20	8	.714	3½
New York	16	14	.533	8½
Philadelphia	14	15	.483	10
Brooklyn	11	18	.379	13

## Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	16	14	.533	—
Miami	15	15	.500	1
Charlotte	11	19	.367	5
Orlando	11	20	.355	5½
Atlanta	7	23	.233	9

## Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	23	8	.742	—
Detroit	17	13	.567	5½
Indiana	17	14	.548	6
Milwaukee	15	13	.536	6½
Chicago	9	20	.310	13

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	25	4	.862	—
San Antonio	21	10	.677	5
New Orleans	15	15	.500	10½
Memphis	9	21	.300	16½
Dallas	8	23	.258	18

## Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	18	13	.581	—
Portland	16	14	.533	1½
Denver	16	14	.533	1½
Oklahoma City	15	15	.500	2½
Utah	14	17	.452	4

## Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	24	6	.800	—
L.A. Clippers	11	18	.379	12½
L.A. Lakers	10	18	.357	13
Phoenix	11	21	.344	14
Sacramento	9	20	.310	14½

## MONDAY'S GAMES

Boston 112, Indiana 111  
 Charlotte 109, New York 91  
 Atlanta 110, Miami 104  
 Chicago 117, Philadelphia 115  
 Houston 120, Utah 99  
 Minnesota 108, Portland 107  
 Oklahoma City 95, Denver 94  
 Phoenix 97, Dallas 91  
 San Antonio 109, L.A. Clippers 91  
 Golden State 116, L.A. Lakers 114, OT

## TUESDAY'S GAMES

New Orleans at Washington, 7 p.m.  
 Sacramento at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.

## TODAY'S GAMES

Toronto at Charlotte, 7 p.m.  
 Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.  
 Miami at Boston, 7:30 p.m.  
 Sacramento at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.  
 L.A. Lakers at Houston, 8 p.m.  
 Orlando at Chicago, 8 p.m.  
 Utah at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.  
 Detroit at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Denver, 9 p.m.  
 San Antonio at Portland, 10 p.m.  
 Memphis at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.  
 Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY'S GAMES

Chicago at Cleveland, 7 p.m.  
 Toronto at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.  
 Boston at New York, 8 p.m.  
 Memphis at Phoenix, 9 p.m.  
 San Antonio at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY'S GAMES

New Orleans at Orlando, 7 p.m.  
 New York at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
 Washington at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.  
 Atlanta at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.  
 Charlotte at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.  
 Dallas at Miami, 8 p.m.  
 L.A. Clippers at Houston, 8 p.m.  
 Denver at Portland, 10 p.m.  
 L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

## NHL STANDINGS

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	32	24	6	2	50	123	80
Toronto	35	21	13	1	43	117	98
Boston	31	16	10	5	37	93	87
Montreal	33	14	15	4	32	87	103
Detroit	32	12	13	7	31	86	103
Ottawa	31	11	13	7	29	85	103
Florida	33	12	16	5	29	95	115
Buffalo	33	8	18	7	23	72	111

## Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	33	19	9	5	43	105	99
Washington	34	21	12	1	43	108	98
Columbus	34	20	13	1	41	97	93
N.Y. Islanders	33	18	12	3	39	118	114
N.Y. Rangers	33	18	12	3	39	108	96
Pittsburgh	35	17	15	3	37	101	112
Philadelphia	33	14	12	7	35	92	94
Carolina	33	14	12	7	35	91	106

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	32	21	7	4	46	108	85
St. Louis	35	22	11	2	46	107	88
Winnipeg	34	19	10	5	43	112	94
Chicago	33	17	11	5	39	102	86
Dallas	34	18	14	2	38	99	99
Minnesota	33	17	13	3	37	94	95
Colorado	33	16	15	2	34	105	109

## Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	35	21	10	4	46	107	82
Vegas	32	21	9	2	44	112	97
San Jose	32	17	11	4	38	88	80
Calgary	34	17	14	3	37	97	102
Anaheim	34	14	12	8	36	91	100
Vancouver	34	15	14	4	34	88	106
Edmonton	34	15	17	2	32	101	110
Arizona	35	7	23	5	19	78	122

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

## MONDAY'S GAMES

New Jersey 5, Anaheim 3  
 Boston 7, Columbus 2  
 Los Angeles 4, Philadelphia 1  
 Edmonton 5, San Jose 3  
 Colorado 4, Pittsburgh 2

## TUESDAY'S GAMES

Toronto 8, Carolina 1  
 Minnesota at Ottawa, 7 p.m.  
 Detroit at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.  
 Anaheim at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.  
 Boston at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.  
 Winnipeg at Nashville, 8 p.m.  
 Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.  
 Florida at Arizona, 9 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Vegas, 10 p.m.  
 Montreal at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

## TODAY'S GAMES

Toronto at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.  
 Detroit at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY'S GAMES

Columbus at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.  
 N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey, 7 p.m.  
 Anaheim at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.  
 Winnipeg at Boston, 7 p.m.  
 Ottawa at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.  
 Carolina at Nashville, 8 p.m.  
 Chicago at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Edmonton, 9 p.m.  
 Colorado at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.  
 Vancouver at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY'S GAMES

Philadelphia at Buffalo, 7 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Florida, 7:30 p.m.  
 Montreal at Calgary, 9 p.m.  
 Washington at Arizona, 9 p.m.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## MEN'S TOP 25 RESULTS

**Monday**  
 1. Villanova (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Hofstra, Friday.  
 2. Michigan State (11-1) beat Houston Baptist 107-62. Next: vs. Long Beach State, Thursday.  
 3. Arizona State (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Longwood, Tuesday.  
 4. Duke (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Evansville, Wednesday.  
 5. North Carolina (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wofford, Wednesday.  
 6. Miami (9-0) did not play. Next: at Hawaii, Friday.  
 7. Kentucky (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. UCLA, Saturday.  
 8. Texas A&M (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Northern Kentucky, Tuesday.  
 9. Xavier (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Marshall, Tuesday.  
 10. West Virginia (9

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Targeting calls set record; Pac-12, SEC had most

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Targeting penalties in the top tier of college football reached an all-time high this season and the Pac-12 and Southeastern conferences had the most players flagged, according to an analysis of NCAA data and research by The Associated Press.

It has been 10 years since the crackdown started on forcible hits above the shoulders of players determined to be defenseless. This season, the NCAA reported 188 enforced targeting calls in 832 regular-season games of the Bowl Subdivision; that is 30 percent more than last year, when there were 144 in 839 games. The per-game average has risen 35 percent, from 0.17 last year to 0.23 this season. It is the fourth consecutive season that targeting calls have increased.

That might seem alarming, but the increase doesn't indicate a trend of head-hunting in the sport, said Rogers Redding, the NCAA's national coordinator of officials. He attributed the increase to officials getting better at detecting the penalty, more willingness of replay officials to call fouls missed on the field and the expanded definition of what constitutes a defenseless player.

The calls may be up, but play is likely safer.

"Players are getting their head out of it, they're lowering their strike zone, you don't see as much of a launch, but you still see a crouch and upward thrust," he said. "Even though the numbers are up, the player behavior overall has changed."

The NCAA compiles its numbers through reports



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hawaii wide receiver Kalakaua Timoteo, center, drops the ball after taking a helmet-to-helmet hit by UCLA linebacker Josh Woods, who was penalized for targeting and ejected. There were a record number of targeting calls in college football this season. Read the full story at [www.theitem.com](http://www.theitem.com).

submitted each week by conferences. A conference report includes any targeting call made by its officiating crews, even if the penalty was against an opponent from another conference. The NCAA report, therefore, would not always reflect the actual number of targeting fouls committed by players in a particular league.

The AP verified the circumstances of 176 targeting calls this season through official play-by-play sheets, media accounts and with the assistance of school and conference sports information directors.

The SEC confirmed 27 instances of its players being flagged for targeting but declined to provide details of five calls not reported on play-by-play sheets or by the media. In all, the AP could not account for seven targeting penalties out of the 188 reported by the NCAA.

Among the AP's findings: — The Pac-12 had a nation-high 30 targeting calls against its players, with UCLA and Utah having five apiece.

— Five other FBS schools had five targeting calls: Akron, New Mexico State, Ohio State, Temple and Texas A&M.

— Akron cornerback Alvin Davis Jr. was flagged for targeting three times, most in the nation, and seven other players were each flagged twice.

— On 152 running or passing plays when targeting occurred, 46 calls were against safeties, 43 against defensive linemen, 33 against linebackers and 20 against cornerbacks.

— Of the 176 verified calls, 113 occurred on pass plays, 39 on runs, 21 on kickoffs or punts, and one each on a point-after touchdown, 2-point conversion try and field-goal attempt.

## BOWL SCHEDULE

**TUESDAY, DEC. 19**  
**Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl**  
Akron (7-6) vs. FAU (10-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20**  
**Frisco (Texas) Bowl**  
Louisiana Tech (6-6) vs. SMU (7-5), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**THURSDAY, DEC. 21**  
**Gasparilla Bowl**  
At St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Temple (6-6) vs. FIU (8-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**FRIDAY, DEC. 22**  
**Bahamas Bowl**  
Nassau  
Ohio (8-4) vs. UAB (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Famous Idaho Potato Bowl**  
Boise  
Central Michigan (7-5) vs. Wyoming (7-5), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

**SATURDAY, DEC. 23**  
**Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl**  
South Florida (9-2) vs. Texas Tech (6-6), Noon (ESPN)  
**Armed Forces Bowl**  
Fort Worth, Texas  
San Diego State (10-2) vs. Army (9-3), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Dollar General Bowl**  
Mobile, Ala.  
Appalachian State (8-4) vs. Toledo (11-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

**SUNDAY, DEC. 24**  
**Hawaii Bowl**  
Honolulu  
Fresno State (9-4) vs. Houston (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**TUESDAY, DEC. 26**  
**Heart of Dallas Bowl**  
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Utah (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Quick Lane Bowl**  
Detroit  
Northern Illinois (8-4) vs. Duke (6-6), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Cactus Bowl**  
Phoenix  
Kansas State (7-5) vs. UCLA (6-6), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27**  
**Independence Bowl**  
Shreveport, La.  
Southern Mississippi (8-4) vs. Florida State (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Pinstripe Bowl**  
Bronx, N.Y.  
Boston College (7-5) vs. Iowa (7-5), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Foster Farms Bowl**  
Santa Clara, Calif.  
Arizona (7-5) vs. Purdue (6-6), 8:30 p.m. (FOX)  
**Texas Bowl**  
Houston  
Texas (6-6) vs. Missouri (7-5), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

**THURSDAY, DEC. 28**  
**Military Bowl**  
Annapolis, Md.  
Virginia (6-6) vs. Navy (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Camping World Bowl**  
Orlando, Fla.  
Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Virginia Tech (9-3), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Alamo Bowl**  
San Antonio  
Stanford (9-4) vs. TCU (10-3), 9 p.m.

(ESPN)  
**Holiday Bowl**  
San Diego  
Washington State (9-3) vs. Michigan State (9-3), 9 p.m. (FOX)

**FRIDAY, DEC. 29**  
**Belk Bowl**  
Charlotte, N.C.  
Wake Forest (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (7-5), 1 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Sun Bowl**  
El Paso, Texas  
NC State (8-4) vs. Arizona State (7-5), 3 p.m. (CBS)  
**Music City Bowl**  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Kentucky (7-5) vs. Northwestern (9-3), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Arizona Bowl**  
Tucson, Ariz.  
**New Mexico State (5-6) vs. Utah State (6-6), 5:30 p.m. (CBSN)**  
**Cotton Bowl Classic**  
Arlington, Texas  
Southern Cal (11-2) vs. Ohio State (11-2), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**SATURDAY, DEC. 30**  
**TaxSlayer Bowl**  
Jacksonville, Fla.  
Louisville (8-4) vs. Mississippi State (8-4), Noon (ESPN)  
**Liberty Bowl**  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Iowa State (7-5) vs. Memphis (10-2), 12:30 p.m. (ABC)  
**Fiesta Bowl**  
Glendale, Ariz.  
Washington (10-2) vs. Penn State (10-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Orange Bowl**  
Miami Gardens, Fla.  
Wisconsin (12-1) vs. Miami (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**MONDAY, JAN. 1**  
**Outback Bowl**  
Tampa, Fla.  
Michigan (8-4) vs. South Carolina (8-4), Noon (ESPN2)  
**Peach Bowl**  
Atlanta  
UCF (12-0) vs. Auburn (10-3), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Citrus Bowl**  
Orlando, Fla.  
Notre Dame (9-3) vs. LSU (9-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)  
**Rose Bowl (CFP Semifinal)**  
Pasadena, Calif.  
Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Georgia (12-1), 5:10 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Sugar Bowl (CFP Semifinal)**  
New Orleans  
Clemson (12-1) vs. Alabama (11-1), 8:45 p.m. (ESPN)

**MONDAY, JAN. 8**  
**CFP Championship**  
Atlanta  
Rose Bowl winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**SATURDAY, JAN. 20**  
**East-West Shrine Classic**  
At St. Petersburg, Fla.  
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)  
**NFLPA Collegiate Bowl**  
At Carson, Calif.  
American vs. National, TBA (FS1)

**SATURDAY, JAN. 27**  
**Senior Bowl**  
At Mobile, Ala.  
North vs. South, 2:30 p.m. (NFLN)

## PRO FOOTBALL

# Panthers sale sparks buzz in political, business circles

## BY STEVE REED

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — The stunning news of the rare opportunity to purchase an NFL team has quickly garnered the attention of sports figures, business investors and politicians alike.

Amid reports of sexual and racial remarks made by Carolina Panthers owner and founder Jerry Richardson in the workplace, he has unexpectedly announced that he is selling the NFL franchise after this season ends.

It was a bombshell that rocked the Carolinas, and generated shockwaves inside and out of the organization. The team Monday promoted Tina Becker as COO and gave her full control of the day-to-day operations.

Becker said in a release that "these have been some of the most difficult days of my 19 years with the Panthers." She added that her immediate focus will be on corporate side of the organization, "while addressing the real concerns that have been raised in recent days."

Richardson, meanwhile, stepped away from daily responsibilities to focus on the sale of the team — which will come with a multi-billion dollar price tag.

That's what is known, but Richardson's decision to walk away after nearly 25 years as owner has left more questions than answers about the franchise's future — most notably, who will buy it and will they keep the team in Charlotte.

Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles said she is committed to working to keep the team in Charlotte.

"The City of Charlotte values its long-running relationship with the Panthers after more than 22 seasons of NFL football," Lyles said in a statement to The Associated Press. "The Panthers are part of Charlotte's fabric. We've celebrated victories and anguished over defeats. We understand transitions are inevitable, and we look forward to working with current and future ownership."

The Panthers are tethered to Charlotte through the 2018 season because of an agreement on an \$87.5 stadium renovation between the city and the team in 2013. That renovation is nearly complete.

But a buyer could potentially purchase the team and move it in 2019.

Former North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory, who was mayor of Charlotte when the



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson, right, watches the action during the first half of the Panthers' game against the Green Bay Packers in Charlotte on Sunday. The Panthers have announced that Richardson is selling the franchise amid an investigation by the league into allegations of sexual and racist misconduct by Richardson in the workplace.

Panthers settled into their new stadium, has seen both sides. He also was the mayor when the Hornets left town. He said another question might be about Bank of America stadium.

"Will (the new owners) ask for government subsidy to continue to improve the stadium, or, in fact, even build a new stadium, like what's happened in Atlanta and Dallas?" McCrory said. "That would be a tall order."

He said it will be a business decision — and the highest bidder will get the team, to possibly do with it as they chose.

"Unless the NFL steps in and says, 'No, you need to have a local ownership group,'" he said, "which I'd encourage them to do."

Panthers coach Ron Rivera was "a little taken aback" when Richardson informed him Sunday night of his decision to sell the team. But he too believes the Panthers should remain in Charlotte.

"This organization has been a source of pride and goodwill and I would like it to continue," Rivera said Monday. "This is a great community with a very supportive fan base that has been out there for us. They have been here for me and this football team and I hope that somehow it is able to stay here."

The chance to purchase an NFL team has potential suitors coming out of the woodwork. Rapper and actor Diddy indicated his interest in purchasing the Panthers on Twitter moments after Richardson's announcement.

## PRO FOOTBALL



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atlanta running back Devonta Freeman (24) breaks away from Tampa Bay defenders on a 32-yard touchdown run during the Falcons' 24-21 victory on Monday in Tampa, Florida.

## Falcons stay close in NFC South, with 24-21 win over Buccaneers

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — There's only one team the Atlanta Falcons need to be concerned about the rest of the way.

Their own.  
The defending NFC champions trail division rivals New Orleans and Carolina by one game with two weeks remaining in the regular season. But if the Falcons (9-5) beat the Saints (10-4) and Panthers (10-4), they win the NFC South again. One victory in the final two games guarantees Atlanta a playoff berth.

"We're right where we need to be at this point of the season," quarterback Matt Ryan said after Monday night's 24-21 win over the Tampa Bay

Buccaneers. "We've got to find a way to get back to work this week, try to improve and make sure we play the best we're capable of playing this Sunday."

"That's really all our focus needs to be about," he added. "If we're worried about anything else then you're not as locked in as you need to be."

Devonta Freeman had 194 yards from scrimmage — rushing for 126 on 22 carries and catching five passes for a team-high 68 yards — to pace Atlanta's fifth victory in six games, which eliminated Green Bay from playoff contention.

# COMS hosting holiday hoops tournament

The Chestnut Oaks Christmas Basketball Tournament will be held Thursday through Saturday at the Chestnut Oaks Middle School gymnasium.

The boys and girls teams from both Chestnut Oaks and Furman, the boys teams from Scott's Branch and Manning and the girls team from Hillcrest will play in the tournament.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday and noon on Friday. The championship games will be played on Saturday with the girls starting at 1 p.m. followed by the boys.

**THURSDAY**  
10 a.m. - Scott's Branch vs. Southeast (B)  
11 a.m. - C.E. Murray vs. Hillcrest (G)  
Noon - Scott's Branch vs. C.E. Murray (B)  
1 p.m. - Furman vs. Hillcrest (G)  
2 p.m. - Furman vs. Manning (B)  
3 p.m. - Southeast vs. Darlington (B)  
4 p.m. - Chestnut Oaks vs. Heyward Gibbes (G)  
5 p.m. - Chestnut Oaks vs. Heyward Gibbes (B)  
6 p.m. - Heyward Gibbes vs. Darlington (G)  
7 p.m. - Heyward Gibbes vs. Manning (B)

**FRIDAY**  
Noon - C.E. Murray vs. Darlington (B)  
1 p.m. - Furman vs. Heyward Gibbes (B)  
2 p.m. - Darlington vs. Chestnut Oaks (G)  
3 p.m. - Darlington vs. Scott's Branch (B)  
4 p.m. - Chestnut Oaks vs. Manning (B)  
5 p.m. - C.E. Murray vs. Southeast (B)  
6 p.m. - C.E. Murray vs. Furman (G)  
7 p.m. - Chestnut Oaks vs. Furman (B)

**SATURDAY**  
1 p.m. - Girls Championship  
2:30 p.m. - Boys Championship

## GIRLS

### VARSITY BASKETBALL

**SUMTER 38**  
**PEE DEE 36**

**FLORENCE** — Sumter High School's varsity girls basketball team advanced to the championship game of the Little Caesars Invitational with a 38-36 victory over Pee Dee Academy

## AREA ROUNDUP

on Tuesday at the South Florence High gymnasium.

SHS will face either Manning or South Florence in the championship game today at 7:30 p.m.

Nina Edlow led the Lady Gamecocks, who improved to 7-3 on the season, with 15 points. Tamerah Brown had seven and Dynasia Jackson had six.

On Monday in the tournament, Sumter defeated Darlington 40-27.

Layken Cox had a double-double of 12 points and 10 rebounds. Brown had 13 and Jackson had eight.

**CRESTWOOD 74**  
**EAST CLARENDON 47**

**TURBEVILLE** — Jah'Che Whitfield had a triple-double to lead Crestwood to a 74-47 victory over East Clarendon on Tuesday at the EC gymnasium.

Whitfield scored 18 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and handed out 10 assists for the Lady Knights, who improved to 7-1. Destinee Jamison led CHS in scoring with 28 points.

Monijah Lewis had 14 points and Sedajah Rembert had eight.

**LAURENCE MANNING 44**  
**C.A. JOHNSON 34**

**COLUMBIA** — Laurence Manning Academy evened its record at 5-5 with a 44-34 victory over C.A. Johnson High School on Saturday in the Home Pest Control Holiday Classic at the Heathwood Hall gymnasium.

Brooke Bennett and Lexi Bennett both scored 17 points to lead the Lady Swampcats.

On Friday in the tournament, LMA

lost to Heathwood 52-51. Brooke Bennett led the way with 16, while Lexi Bennett had 13 and Sarah Frazier 11.

**BEAUFORT 58**  
**CLARENDON HALL 32**

**BEAUFORT** — Clarendon Hall fell to 2-5 with a 58-32 loss to Beaufort Academy on Monday at the BA gymnasium.

Mallory McIntosh led the Lady Saints with 11 points. Kenzie Bagnol had six points and Sydney Wells grabbed eight rebounds.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**EBENEZER 31**  
**BATES 29**

Jenyadadis Davis scored 17 points to lead Ebenezer to a 31-29 victory over Bates on Monday at the EMS gymnasium.

Nia English added eight points for the Lady Tigers.

## BOYS

### VARSITY BASKETBALL

**CLARENDON HALL 62**  
**BEAUFORT 59**

**BEAUFORT** - Clarendon Hall improved to 6-1 with a 62-59 victory over Beaufort Academy on Monday at the BA gymnasium.

Zyan Gilmore led the Saints with 19 points. Kylic Horton added 15 points, while Dylan Way had 11. Tyrese Mitchum grabbed 10 rebounds to go with nine points.

## SIGNING FROM PAGE B1

The early signing period also creates complications for veteran coaches preparing teams for the postseason. That's particularly true for teams that played in bowls last weekend as most programs were hosting prospects.

"Our message there is while staffs are out there recruiting, we're playing, which is what you want to be doing that type of year," said Boise State coach Bryan Harsin, whose Broncos beat Oregon in the Las Vegas Bowl on Saturday.

Alabama's Nick Saban expressed his frustration with the early signing period, saying, "I have not talked to a coach that's happy with it."

Still, there are coaches who have embraced it.

Clemson's Dabo Swinney said he liked the early signing

period and noted it allows prospects who made their college choices months ago to finalize their decisions.

"Most of our guys are committed, and I think it allows everybody the chance to kind of move on," Swinney said.

Here are some things to watch this week during the early signing period.

**HOW MANY WILL SIGN EARLY?** Because this early signing period is a new thing, nobody knows for sure how many seniors will capitalize on it. Farrell believes about 70 percent of senior prospects will sign this week.

**PROSPECTS TO WATCH:** At least eight uncommitted top-25 prospects from the 247Sports Composite are expected to sign this week. The list includes defensive ends

Micah Parsons, Eyabi Anoma, K.J. Henry and Brenton Cox, offensive tackles Jackson Carman and Cade Mays, offensive guard Jamaree Salyer and receiver Terrace Marshall.

**BIG WEEK FOR CLEMSON:** The defending national champions already have verbal commitments from two of the nation's top three overall prospects in quarterback Trevor Lawrence and defensive end Xavier Thomas. They're also in play for Salyer, Carman, Mays and Henry among others. "They could potentially have five of the top 10, six of the top 16 players in the country," said Barton Simmons, the director of scouting for 247Sports.

**ALABAMA'S CONCERNS:** Alabama has topped the 247Sports Composite team recruiting ranking seven straight years but could have

a tough time making it eight in a row. Alabama is ranked seventh and should move up this week, but the early signing period could make it dif-

ficult for the Crimson Tide to produce its typical February rush with fewer top prospects available at that point.

## USC FROM PAGE B1

but played again when it didn't hurt as much. Johnson played the Shrine Bowl with the injury even though "it still didn't feel right. It felt weak."

The injury wasn't discovered until the USC medical staff prior to signing day. He had surgery performed and went through rehabilitation. He is cleared to play.

"This might actually help me out in the long run," Johnson said. "It gave me time to get better, to help get my shoulder right. At the end of the day, it's probably a better situation for me."

While he has been working out, training and performing football drills, Johnson hasn't been involved in any contact situations since the Shrine Bowl in December of '16.

"I'm ready to get back out there," Johnson

said. "It will be over a year since I've played football, but I think once I get back out there it will all be good."

Johnson went to all of South Carolina's home games in its just-completed 8-4 season. He's excited with the progress the program has made in just two seasons under head coach Will Muschamp.

"It's been pretty good improvement," Johnson said. "The defense got better last year, and I think it will continue to improve. I think the improvement is going to continue to where we have a chance to be the best team in the country."

Johnson was a big play performer in his final two seasons with Lakewood. As a senior, he had 91 tackles, 43 of them solo and 23 for a loss. He had six quarterback sacks and also blocked six kicks.

Johnson finished with 87 tackles, 21 for a loss, as a junior. He had seven sacks and three forced fumbles.

## KOBE FROM PAGE B1

They inspired me to play the game at a high level."

Magic Johnson and Lakers owner Jeanie Buss gave brief tributes to Bryant at halftime, with Magic boldly declaring, "We're here to celebrate the greatest who ever wore the purple and gold."

Buss cleverly explained the reasoning behind the Lakers' decision to hang two jersey numbers for Bryant: "If you separated each of the accomplishments under those numbers, each of those players would qualify for the Hall of Fame."

"I thank you for staying loyal to the purple and gold and remaining a Laker for life when it might have been easier for you to leave," Buss added.

Along with Bryant's 33,643 points, the five-time NBA champion and 18-time All-Star selection also leads the Lakers in games played (1,346),

3-pointers (1,827), steals (1,944) and free throws (8,378). Bryant is the third-leading scorer in league history.

He also was the first player to spend at least 20 seasons with one franchise, and he is widely beloved in Southern California, where he still lives with his family.

"He's everything in this city," said Lakers coach Luke Walton, Bryant's teammate on the last two title teams.

"To play his entire career for one organization, in modern sports, it really doesn't happen very often anymore," Walton added. "To go through two different championship runs, I think the Lakers are such a huge part of this city that people feel connected to him. ... They feel as if they were on that journey with him, with us, and I think that's why there's such a connection."

The Lakers celebrated by closing down the street outside Staples Center and staging a street fair dubbed "Kobeland," complete with a Ferris wheel and many other games and attractions. Thousands of fans crowded into the downtown streets several hours before the game just to appreciate the atmosphere.

The Lakers typically only retire the numbers of players enshrined in the Hall of Fame. Bryant isn't eligible until 2021, but the Lakers decided not to wait for that formality — and for Kobe, they doubled up the honor.

Bryant switched jersey numbers halfway through his career, neatly dividing the eras of his 20 years with the Lakers. The No. 8 Bryant won three NBA titles, and the No. 24 Bryant won two more before retiring in 2016 with a stunning 60-point performance in his farewell game against Utah.

## PREP SCHEDULE

### TODAY

**VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
Sumter in Little Caesars Invitational (at South Florence) (Girls Only), TBA  
Lakewood in Panther Classic (in Myrtle Beach) (Boys Only), TBA

### THURSDAY

**VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
Crestwood in Moody Holiday Classic (Boys Only), TBA  
Lakewood in Panther Classic (in Myrtle Beach) (Boys Only), TBA

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Chestnut Oaks, Furman, Hillcrest, Manning, Scott's Branch in Chestnut Oaks Christmas Tournament, 10 a.m.

### FRIDAY

**VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
Crestwood in Moody Holiday Classic (Boys Only), TBA  
Lakewood in Panther Classic (in Myrtle Beach) (Boys Only), TBA

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Chestnut Oaks, Furman, Hillcrest, Manning, Scott's Branch in Chestnut Oaks Christmas Tournament, noon

### VARSITY WRESTLING

Sumter in Coastal Clash (in Myrtle Beach), TBA

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**ALICE DRIVE 39**  
**MAYEWOOD 33**

Alice Drive remained undefeated with a 39-33 victory over Mayewood on Monday at the AD gymnasium.

The Hawks, who improved to 7-0, were led by Nakeem Isaac and Marquis Lane-Owens with 11 points each. Joseph Durant added 10.

**BATES 39**  
**EBENEZER 10**

Zyeir Gamble scored 11 points to lead Bates to a 39-10 victory over Ebenezer on Monday at the EMS gymnasium.

Brendan Gathers added eight points for the Bantams.

## Keeping Sumter Beautiful

Katie Altman, Water Resources Extension Agent

### Fat-free Sewers

Like many, this is one of my favorite times of year. Holiday festivities are in full swing, there are cheerful decorations everywhere, and there's no shortage of tasty food! The increase in cooking this holiday season also means an increase in fats, oil, and grease. I don't bring this up out of concern for your waste-line, but for the health of our sewer and stormwater systems. Did you know that fats, oil, and grease (FOG) can be hazardous to our local water resources if disposed of improperly?

FOG in our storm drains and pipes can solidify, causing blockages and localized flooding. That's right, pouring oils down the storm-drain can cause flooding on your street and in your yard. When FOG accumulates in our pipes it can cause foul odors, unwanted bacteria growth, and pollution in our local waterways.

Here's how you can help:

- Never put fats, oil, or grease (FOG) down the drain or a storm drain.
- Instead, cool FOG down, seal it in a can or bottle, and take it to your nearest recycling center or dispose of it in your household trash.
- Wipe pots, pans, and dishes with dry paper towels before

rinsing or washing them, then throw away the paper towels

- Educate others about the threat FOG poses to our water and our health

To protect your household plumbing and septic tank or sewer lines, don't pour FOG down the drain. According to a report from the EPA, grease from restaurants, homes, and industrial sources cause 47% of reported blockages. It's also important to remember that our stormwater is not treated before it is released into local waters. If you pour something like cooking or motor oil down a stormwater drain, you might as well be pouring it directly into the water we use for fishing, swimming, boating, and drinking! So enjoy the food and festivities this holiday season, but keep the fat out of our sewers, stormwater, and waterways.

If you see any illegal dumping of FOG or other pollutants into stormwater drains or waterways, you can report the incident to the Sumter County Stormwater Department at (803)-464-7497.

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## ON THE FRINGE

## Best shots, and personal favorites, of major champs

Jordan Spieth won the British Open with a flourish at the end. Justin Thomas hit 7-iron that had to be perfect for him to seal his first major at the PGA Championship.

Both wonder if they would have been in position to win on Sunday if not for key shots earlier in the week.

It's like that just about every year. There is a signature shot from a major, the one that gets replayed more than the others. And there is another shot — or one moment, as was the case for Masters champion Sergio Garcia — that is just as meaningful to them.

## MASTERS

For all the Sunday drama at Augusta National, Sergio Garcia made only one birdie on the back nine in regulation. The signature shot of this Masters, however, led to eagle. After smashing a drive on the par-5 15th, Garcia hit 8-iron that nicked the pin and set up a 15-foot eagle putt to tie Justin Rose for the lead.

"One of the best shots I hit all week," Garcia said.

Just as meaningful to him was the 15th club in his bag — the space between his ears.

Garcia had every reason to believe this major would turn out like so many others when he began the back nine with two bogeys to fall two shots behind, and then watched his tee shot on the 13th bounce off a tree into the hazard.

"Funny enough, most other weeks I would have been thinking, 'Here we go. What's going on?'" Garcia said.

Instead, he was determined to make par. After a drop, he hit a baby hook with the 9-iron down the fairway and was in position from 89 yards to save par.

"The most important thing was that I felt calm throughout the whole thing," he said. "That calmness gave me confidence. I was like, 'It's OK. You're doing everything right. You're playing great. It's your time.'"

And it was.

## U.S. OPEN

Brooks Koepka pulled away at



Justin Thomas hits from the bunker on the 18th hole during the final round of the PGA Championship at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte in August. Thomas won his first major with key shots at the start and finish of the tournament.

Erin Hills with four straight one-putts — a par save on the 13th and three birdies. The clinching moment was his birdie on the par-3 16th, where his 9-iron came back to the front section of the green for a putt that allowed him to go four shots ahead.

"We thought it might be up top, and it was a relief to see it at the bottom and have a putt at it," Koepka said. "I just remember saying, 'Get it there.' I started it on line, and I was looking at it with disbelief that it's going in. In my mind, you are in complete control at that point. The only thing you can do from here is mess it up."

Koepka knew he was in control a few holes earlier, a shot that he recalled without any hesitation.

"The tee shot on the par 5, No. 14," he said. "We could hit 3-wood and get to the bunker, but driver was no good because we couldn't carry it or we had a 20-yard fairway. We actually had to cut this 3-wood up into the wind. We had to take a lot off it. It only wound up 4 yards short of the bunker. We were walking up and I said, 'I think we can go

for that par 5 in two.'"

He put it in the greenside bunker and got up-and-down for birdie.

"That's probably a moment a normal person wouldn't think anything of it," he said.

## BRITISH OPEN

Jordan Spieth saw his 50-foot eagle putt that gave him the lead for good at Royal Birkdale differently than anyone watching on television or anyone else.

"I knew it was going to bend a little bit to the right as it went down off the slope to the bunker," he said. "And then when it gets to the valley, the hole is on a 3-degree slope going the other way, into and off the right. So it's going to be a downhill left-to-right, and then it double breaks into uphill right-to-left."

Got that? "Go get that," he told caddie Michael Greller after making the putt. "I like those putts," he said. "They become total feel. That's what I needed at that point in time, to get the technicality out of it."

The finish is famous. Overlooked was a shot in the second round that

Spieth felt kept him from a mini-meltdown. Right when the rain started pounding, Spieth drove into a pot bunker on No. 10, punched out and then hit his third shot long and to the right. Facing bogey or worse, he chipped in for par.

"I hit a beautiful chip that went in that kept momentum going in the worst of the weather that we experienced that week," Spieth said. "That chip shot was massive at that point because I was faltering. I could have made bogey or double easy."

## PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Justin Thomas said his stock 7-iron goes 190 yards. He had 199 yards to clear the water on the par-3 17th at Quail Hollow.

He went with 7-iron. "I know it's not what I would usually hit," Thomas said. "But it was a situation where I did not want to ease off something. My adrenaline was going so much, I was hitting it well and I could turn it toward the pin. I made a perfect swing."

The ball landed on the front of the green and set up a birdie putt that sent him to the final hole with a three-shot lead.

Much like Spieth, however, Thomas recalled a short-game shot earlier in the tournament that could have turned his fortunes. It was Thursday morning. He started on the back nine and was 2 over with three holes left, starting with the par-5 seventh. That's a birdie hole if he can get it into the fairway. He hit into the water and made bogey.

Then, he flew the green on No. 8, and suddenly an opening-round 75 was a real possibility.

"I could not have been in a worse place," Thomas said. "I was 7 yards over the green on a down slope. And now I have a chip that I have to get up-and-down or I'm 4 over and it just changes everything. Now I go into Friday grinding to make the cut."

"I hit one of the most ridiculous flop shots I've ever hit."

He birdied the ninth for a 73, shot 66 the next day and was on his way.

## OBITUARIES

## SAMUEL BLACKWELL

ALCOLU — Samuel Blackwell, 61, died on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017.

He was a son of the late Leon Blackwell Sr. and Rachel Witherspoon Blackwell.

Funeral services for Mr. Blackwell will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at Harmony Presbyterian Church, Alcolu, with the Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Colclough Sr., moderator, officiating, and the Rev. Mary R. Hagen, the Rev. Otis Blackwell and Elder Stanley Durant assisting. Burial will follow at the church cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Paul and Elma Blackwell, 1106 Howell St., Manning.

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

## LESTER L. POOLE

BATESBURG — Graveside services for Lester L. Poole, 81, will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Friday at Samaria Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday at Barr-Price Funeral Home and Crematorium, Historic B-L Chapel.

Memorials may be made to Samaria Baptist Church, 6560 Fairview Road, Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29006 or to the charity of one's choice.

Mr. Poole passed away on Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017.

Born in Sumter, he was a son of the late Duffie and Emalee Cotton Poole. Mr. Poole was a member of Samaria Baptist Church. He served in the South Carolina Air National Guard for more than 30 years and was a retired maintenance technician.

Surviving are his daughters, Juanora P. Biering (David) of Holly Hill and Mary Harris (Russ) of Batesburg; grandchildren, Gene and James Biering, Damon (Tracy), Raven and Myracle Poole, Rachel (Chris) Denny, Arora and Phoenix Harris; and seven

great-grandchildren.

Mr. Poole was predeceased by his wife, Rachel P. Poole; and grandsons, Andrew Biering and Nathan Poole.

## AARON CANTY JR.

PINEWOOD — Aaron "Blue J" Canty Jr., 74, died on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017, at his residence, 2441 Elliott Road, Pinewood.

He was born on July 14, 1943, in Pinewood, a son of the late Aaron Blue Canty Sr. and Everlina Wilson Canty.

The family is receiving friends at his residence.

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

## RALPH CARTER

CAMDEN — Ralph Carter, 84, of 146 Battleship Road, passed on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p.m. on Thursday at Good Hope-Wesley Chapel UMC with burial at Wesley Chapel Church Cemetery.

Nelson Haile Funeral Home of Camden is in charge of arrangements.

## VERONICA R. RIVERS

Veronica R. Rivers entered eternal rest on Dec. 17, 2017, at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 801 St. Andrews Road, Rembert.

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

## JAMES E. KING

MANNING — James Ellebree King, age 87, beloved husband of 61 years to Peggy Creighton King, died on Monday, Dec. 18, 2017, at McElveen Manor.

Plans will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.



## RHONDA P. RICHBURG

Rhonda Pearl Richburg, 61, departed this life on Monday,

Dec. 18, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

She was born on May 23, 1956, in Chester, a daughter of the late Milburn Fulton Richburg Sr. and Sarah Arthenia Floyd Richburg.

The family will be receiving friends at the home of her sister and brother-in-law, 104 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, SC 29150. Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

## ALLEN WILLIAMS SR.

LYNCHBURG — Funeral service for Allen Williams Sr. will be held at noon on Thursday at King Emanuel Baptist Church. Burial will be at the church cemetery, directed by Bacote-Eaddy Funeral Home.

He died on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017.

He was a son of Robert and Janie Bell Williams. He was a 1982 graduate of Pleasant Grove High School. He was a lifelong member of King Emanuel Baptist Church. He was employed with Budden Heat and Air Co.

Survivors include his wife, Rebecca Williams; his parents, Robert and Janie Bell Williams; five sons, Clifton (Marilyn) Toney, Allen Williams Jr., Ravon (Shakia) Williams, Anthony Williams and Cary Williams; four daughters, Shontia Williams, Keiandra Williams, Shama (Sunny) Rufus and Tequila (Don) Beard; four sisters; six brothers; and 17 grandchildren.

The family is receiving friends at 918 Back Swamp Road, Lynchburg.

## ERNEST SCARBOROUGH SR.

BISHOPVILLE — Ernest "Shot" Scarborough Sr., 88, husband of Estelle Gamble Scarborough, passed at his residence on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017.

Born in Lee County, he was a son of the late Doc Luke and Lula Hannibal Scarborough.

The family will receive friends and relatives at the home, 25 Shot Lane, Bishopville.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Square Deal Funeral Home of Bishopville.

## CELEYSE GREGG

BISHOPVILLE — Celeyse Gregg entered eternal rest on

Dec. 18, 2017, at her residence, 151 Toney Court, Bishopville.

The family is receiving friends at the residence.

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

## GARY E. FORD

Gary Eugene Ford, 81, husband of Audrey Elizabeth Layton Ford, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017, at National Health Care, Sumter.

Gary was born in Forsythe, Montana, to the late Dwight H. and Beatrice Burns Ford. He was a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard and a captain in the U.S. Air Force, serving during Vietnam. He enjoyed coaching kid's sports teams and was a member of St. Jude, where he was a lector and sang with the choir. In Michigan, where the family lived before coming to Sumter,

Gary was a member of the Knights of Columbus and an auxiliary police officer.

Surviving are his wife of Sumter; a son, Erik Ford (Sharon) of Singapore; three daughters, Leslie F. Weber (Michael) of Bethesda, Maryland, Laurie Lumish (Michael) of Oakland, California, and Danika Ford (Warren Como) of Odenton, Maryland; and five grandchildren.

Services will be scheduled at a later date.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.sumterfunerals.com](http://www.sumterfunerals.com)

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



Elmore Hill McCreight FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

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Wed. Dec. 20th @ 2 pm  
Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 11 am  
Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 2 pm  
Thurs. Dec. 28th @ 2 pm  
Fri. Dec. 29th @ 11 am

Have a safe and Merry Christmas!

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**Large 2BR/2BA MH for rent in Whispering Pines**, unit 12A. \$550 Month. Water is included with rent. Contact David at 803-468-3724

#### Office Rentals

**690 Bultman Dr** 1612 Sq. Ft. Reception area w/ hwdw floors, 4 Private offices, Conference rm, Secretarial work area, Copier/Equip. Rm, Shower rm, 2 1/2 baths, file storage rm, \$2050 mo+\$57.76 CAM Call 803 773-1477

#### Commercial Rentals

**32,000 Sq. ft shed** \$1500 mo. Call Bobby Sisson 803-464-2730.

### REAL ESTATE

#### Homes for Sale

FSBO: Manning: 3 Br, 1.5 Ba, fenced in backyard, storage bldg, refrigerator, stove, fresh paint, new carpet. Ready to move in! Call 803-225-5658 or email bbhhill@hotmail.com

#### Land & Lots for Sale

OWNER FINANCING! 3 acres for sale by owner near St. Charles. Call or text 803-464-5813.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### Autos For Sale

**Holiday Sales** Cars, Trucks and Vans Starting at \$1995 Price is Right Auto Sales 3210 Broad St 803-494-4275

#### Miscellaneous



Refurbished batteries as low as \$45. New batteries as low as \$65. 6v golf cart battery as low as \$65. Auto Electric Co., 102 Blvd Rd. 803-773-4381

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### Summons & Notice

**IN THE FAMILY COURT 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CASE NO. 2017-DR-21-817**

#### STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF FLORENCE

**APRIL LAKEISHA GRANT, PLAINTIFF vs. DEMETRICE JACOBY WILLIAMS, IN THE INTEREST OF FAITH ABELLA WILLIAMS, A. MINOR WITH THE DATE OF BIRTH: MAY 25, 2010, DEFENDANT**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action, copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve copy of your answer upon the undersigned at his office 2301 S. Irby Street, Florence, SC 29505 within thirty (30) days of the service hereof upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer as aforesaid the Plaintiff herein will apply to the Court for the relief prayed for in the Complaint and judgement by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

### Summons & Notice

#### NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED:

NOTICE is hereby given that the Complaint in the foregoing action, together with the Summons, of which the foregoing is copy, was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Florence County, on the 23rd day of May 2017.

**The Law Office Of Linward Edwards II** Linward C. Edwards, Attorney for Plaintiff 2301 S. Irby Street Florence, SC 29505 (843)410-9605

### SUMMONS AND NOTICES (Non-Jury) FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2017-CP-43-01839**

#### STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

**Pingora Loan Servicing, LLC, Plaintiff,**

**Brian D. Bean, Defendant(s).**

#### TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices at 1201 Main Street, Suite 1450, Columbia, SC 29201, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

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

YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment may be made by Attorney for Plaintiff.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference or the Court may issue a general Order of Reference of this action to a Master In Equity / Special Referee, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

### Summons & Notice

**YOU WILL FURTHER TAKE NOTICE** that under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 29-3-100, effective June 16, 1993, any collateral assignment of rents contained in the referenced Mortgage is perfected and Attorney for Plaintiff hereby gives notice that all rents shall be payable directly to it by delivery to its undersigned attorneys from the date of default. In the alternative, Plaintiff will move before a judge of this Circuit on the 10th day after service hereof, or as soon thereafter counsel may be heard, for an Order enforcing the assignment of rents, if any, and compelling payment of all rents covered by such assignment directly to the Plaintiff, which motion is to be based upon the original Note and Mortgage and the Complaint attached hereto.

#### NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Summons and Complaint, of which the foregoing is a copy of the Summons, were filed with the Clerk of Court for Sumter County, South Carolina on October 10, 2017.

**William S. Koehler** Attorney, SC Bar No.: 74935 Albertelli Law 1201 Main St, Suite 1450 Columbia, SC 29201 Phone: (803) 828-0880 Fax: (803) 828-0881



## Classified In-line

Edition	Deadline
Fri., Dec. 22nd	Wed. Dec. 20th @ 11:30 am
Sun., Dec. 24th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 9:30 am
Tues., Dec. 26th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 11:30am
Tues., Jan. 2nd	Thurs. Dec. 28th @ 2 pm

Have a safe and Merry Christmas!  
Business office will be closed December 22nd, 25th and January 1

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PHOTOS BY MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

A Cuban tree frog is one of the many animals at Lynchess River County Park's Environmental Discovery Center that visitors can meet.

## Oh, no! The kids are out of school

### Lynchess River County Park is a perfect place for a day trip

BY MELANIE SMITH  
melanie@theitem.com

If you're trying to find something to do to keep your kids busy during Christmas break, Lynchess River County Park might be the answer for a day trip.

I recently traveled to the park on a day trip with the Sumter Digital Camera Club, and everyone in the group found something to interest them.

On 676 acres, this park seems to have it all — nature trails with a boardwalk, a large education center with animals to meet, picnic spots and swinging bridges of the canopy walk. Several of the bridges are connected by platforms perched in large trees.

Everywhere I go, plants are what usually attract my attention, so I was hooked as soon as we got out of the van. At this park, there are pitcher plants that despite the recent cold weather are still growing in a small garden in front of the Environmental Discovery Center. Kids will love seeing these — the sweet liquid inside the plants attracts insects that get stuck in them and die, and the plants then feed on the dead insects, according to [www.carnivorous-plants.com](http://www.carnivorous-plants.com). (Kids love gross but interesting things, right? I admit I did. OK, I still kind of do.)

A group nearby was playing a rollicking game of cornhole, and a fire pit was also set up and still smoking when we arrived in the afternoon.

Inside the discovery center,

there is plenty to do and a variety of critters to meet. An adorable Cuban tree frog smiled at me through the glass of his or her decked-out aquarium, and its neighbor in another aquarium, a soft-shelled turtle, hid in a hollowed-out rock while staring at me. Only its snout poked out to keep watch. In a huge tank down the hallway, an alligator was floating and watching visitors.

A separate room held glass cases of labeled, long-deceased insects, and about a dozen pelts were arrayed on a table nearby. Each pelt had a sign on it asking you to guess which animal it had come from, and you're encouraged to touch them and then turn over the sign to find out if your guess is correct. I think the softest fur came from the racoon and, surprisingly enough, an opossum.

There are even themed backpacks hanging from hooks inside that you can grab and take with you into the woods. Each is basically a kit dedicated to a topic such as birds or plant life you might see and includes ways to identify them.

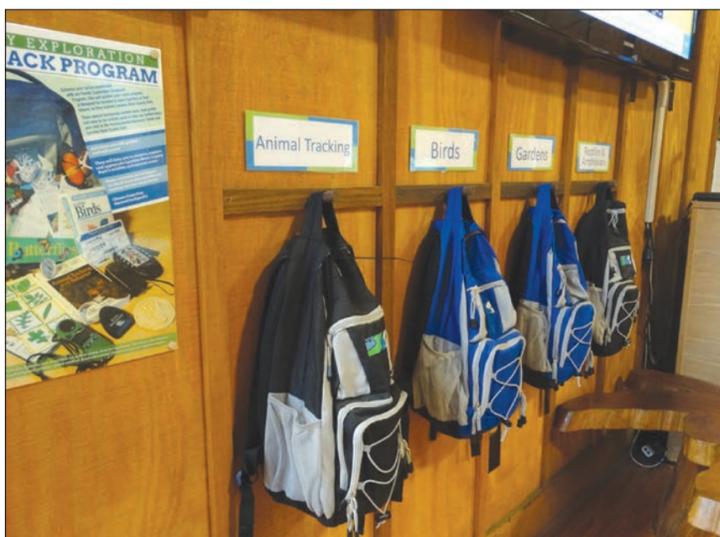
A door at the end of the center leads to the swinging bridges outside, which were probably the highlight for most of the camera club members.

Each short bridge is connected to a platform high in a tree, which is connected to the next bridge, and the bridges move about as you cross them. We took turns crossing, most of us gingerly making our way to the next platform with our hands on the rope sides the whole time. My dad, though, practically zoomed



PHOTOS BY MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

Michael Derek Summer, a Sumter Digital Camera Club member, walks across the first swinging bridge to a platform at Lynchess River County Park recently.



The Backpack Program is meant for families to enjoy the outdoors with themed packs that include activities and identifying birds, plants and more in the park.

across and jangled the whole bridge wildly.

After making our way back to the center, we took a path to the river and headed into the woods by way of a very long boardwalk. We all heard the cornhole players still hooting and hollering through the trees.

The boardwalk connects to other nature trails, so you can either keep going or turn back and follow the boardwalk to

the center again.

In the summer, I can imagine this park would be perfect for canoeing and camping, but there is still plenty to see this time of year. Enjoy a day trip by yourself, or take your children to learn and play in the woods.

The park is at 5094 County Park Road, Coward, and is only closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. There are cab-

ins and campgrounds available to rent, and the park often has special events going on. Follow its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/EDCatLRCP>.

The Environmental Discovery Center and canopy walk are open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Call (843) 389-0550 for more information about the park.



ABOVE: Kids will enjoy learning about the pitcher plant, which tempts its insect victims with a sweet-tasting nectar that traps them.

LEFT: A long boardwalk is set up along the Lynchess River at the park.

**BIZARRO**



**SOUP TO NUTZ**



**ANDY CAPP**



**GARFIELD**



**BEETLE BAILEY**



**BORN LOSER**



**BLONDIE**



**ZITS**



**MOTHER GOOSE**



**DOG EAT DOUG**



**DILBERT**



**JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE**



*Other woman cheats on man who's cheating on wife*



**Dear Abby**  
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY** — A year ago, my husband confessed that he was having an affair at work. Before it started, he tried setting "Velma" up with his twin brother, but she said she wasn't interested. Their affair lasted for months, until the guilt "ate him up." When he told me, I was devastated. We agreed to get counseling and work on our marriage. Well, it turns out Velma was also seeing his brother while she was with my husband. Oh! And she had a baby and we're not

sure who the father is. My brother-in-law claims he loves Velma and she loves him. I have been asked if I am willing to sit with her, my husband and brother-in-law to "clear the air." I don't think I can do it. Although I want my brother-in-law to be happy, at the same time, I don't want to ever be near this woman. Please help.

*Losing myself*

**DEAR LOSING YOURSELF** — Has your brother-in-law married Velma? If not, I see no reason why you should be forced to clear anything with her. If the two of them have tied the knot, then I can see a benefit for you in having a discussion. Of course, that discussion should be in the office of a professional mediator and you should first make a list of

all the questions you would like her to answer. At the top of the list would be why she was sleeping with your husband and his brother at the same time. Close to that one would be why she thinks you would ever want to have a relationship with her. Take it from there and add questions of your own.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.Dear-Abby.com](http://www.Dear-Abby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**JUMBLE**

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

NICGI

KMISP

VINIET

DOLNEO

Print answer here:



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLOSS SCOUR RODENT INFLUX  
Answer: The golfer's tee shot ended up in a yard as a result of it being hit — OFF COURSE

**SUDOKU**

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

**THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18			19					
20								21					
22					23	24	25				26	27	
28		29	30		31					32			
		33	34					35	36	37			
		38	39					40					
41								42					
43								44		45		46	47
48			49	50	51				52			53	54
									56	57	58		
59	60							61	62				
63								64				65	
66												68	

**Agnes Davidson and C.C. Burnikel** 12/20/17

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jeans joints
  - 6 Big coffee holders
  - 10 Window unit
  - 14 Major deity in Indonesia
  - 15 Sentence structure element
  - 16 Entry on a list
  - 17 Polygraph procedure
  - 20 Boots from school
  - 21 Latte option
  - 22 Small swallow
  - 23 Aunt Bee's boy
  - 28 Jicama or ginseng
  - 31 Two-time Oscar-winning director Lee
  - 32 Stock market debut, initially
  - 33 Racket
  - 35 St. Peter holds its keys
  - 38 Five-card draw variation
  - 41 Professional pursuit
  - 42 Sidekick who rode Scout
  - 43 Ventilate
  - 44 Article in Der Spiegel
  - 45 Veterinarian's subj.
  - 48 Tract
  - 53 Tease
  - 55 "I understand!"
  - 56 Disney World's county
  - 59 Dinner table question answered by this puzzle's circled letters
  - 63 No longer here
  - 64 Ancestry.com diagram
  - 65 Pop by boy
  - 66 They catch fish
  - 67 "Size matters not" Jedi master
  - 68 Out of style
- DOWN**
- 1 Black Friday events
  - 2 Magical mixture
  - 3 Syrian city on the Silk Road
  - 4 Conjured up Author Silverstein
  - 5 One, for Monet
  - 7 Mythical big bird
  - 8 Apple pie spice
  - 9 Supercilious type
  - 10 Brief and forceful
  - 11 Totally creamed
  - 12 Video game letters
  - 13 Life-saving pro
  - 18 General on Chinese menus
  - 19 Early TV maker
  - 24 Robles, California
  - 25 Subject of Newton's first law
  - 26 "0" button letters
  - 27 Director Howard
  - 29 It may be enough
  - 30 Dealer's tip
  - 34 Negev Desert land: Abbr.
  - 35 Lady bird
  - 36 Soul singer James
  - 37 Oceans
  - 38 "Just Visiting" Monopoly square
  - 39 Overbearing
  - 40 City on the Rhine
  - 41 Gas tank cover
  - 44 Matador's opponent
  - 46 "Gunsmoke" star James
  - 47 Mosul Dam's river
  - 49 Convenient bags
  - 50 Some NHL endings
  - 51 Old Glory's star count
  - 52 Female deer
  - 54 Davis of "All About Eve"
  - 57 Invitation request
  - 58 Much of the Silk Road is in it
  - 59 Chicago-based cable superstation
  - 60 Tool that gets ground up
  - 61 Flushed
  - 62 Org. in the 2000 film "Traffic"

**Previous Puzzle Solved**

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

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
<b>LOCAL CHANNELS</b>												
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	Will & Grace Karen must deal with a personal tragedy.	*** "Pitch Perfect" (2012, Musical Comedy) Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Rebel Wilson. College students enter an a cappella competition.	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(-34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Christoph Waltz; Beanie Feldstein. (N)			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Survivor (Season Finale) (N)	Survivor "Reunion Special" (N)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(-35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Lisa Kudrow; Josh Earnest; Tony Rock. (N)			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Home for the Holidays" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs Erica moves into her dorm.	Speechless J.J. returns from summer camp.	Modern Family Mitchell runs into an old flame.	(-31) American Housewife "The Lice Storm"	Match Game Amy Sedaris; Chris D'Elia.	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(-35) Jimmy Kimmel Live
WRJA	27	11	14	Weekends With Yankee "The Coast"	Expeditions With Patrick McMillan	Nature "The Story of Cats: Asia to Africa" Cats in Asia and Africa. (Part 1 of 2) (DVS)	NOVA "Bird Brain" Scientists test avian aptitude. (N) (DVS)	SuperNature - Wild Flyers "Masters of the Sky" The extremes of true flight.	Tavis Smiley (N)	BBC World News	NHK Newslines	
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory "The Zazzy Substitution"	The Big Bang Theory	Empire "Full Circle" Lucious looks to a friend for answers. (DVS)	Star "Insecure" The new label head wants to rebrand. (DVS)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Mike misses his adrenaline rush.	Last Man Standing "Baxter & Sons"	Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer Animated. Grandma goes missing.	The Top 12 Greatest Christmas Movies of All Time: Dean Cain counts down holiday films.	Dateline "The Quiet One" The death of a wife and mother of three.	Dateline "The Client" Detectives search for a missing realtor.	The Game Melanie finds the perfect wedding dress.		
<b>CABLE CHANNELS</b>												
A&E	46	130	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars "Ve-gas Shrugged"	Storage Wars "Kumba-YUUUP!"	Storage Wars (N)	Storage Wars (N)	(-01) Ozy and Jack's World Detour Mars Desert Research Station in Utah.	(-03) Storage Wars "Buyerina"	(-33) Storage Wars "Buyerina"	(12:03) Storage Wars
AMC	48	180	(6:00) ** "Happy Feet Two" (2011, Children's) Voices of Elijah Wood.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.	*** "The Bucket List" (2007)
ANPL	41	100	Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	(-09) Dr. Jeff Rocky Mountain Vet	Dr. Jeff: RMV		
BET	61	162	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills The ladies let loose in Sin City.	The Real Housewives of New Jersey The women take a trip to Milan.	The Real Housewives of New Jersey Margaret and Danielle go to a factory.	The Real Housewives of New Jersey Margaret and Danielle go to a factory.	Married to Medicine Simone plans a surprise.	Watch What Happens Live	The Real Housewives of New Jersey Margaret and Danielle go to a factory.			
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank (DVS)	Shark Tank (DVS)	The Job Interview	The Job Interview	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Anderson Cooper	Anderson Cooper	Anderson Cooper
COM	57	136	(6:50) South Park	(-25) South Park	South Park "Red Sleigh Down"	South Park "Christmas in Canada?"	South Park	South Park	South Park	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	The Opposition w/ Jordan Klepper	(12:01) South Park
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	"Home Alone: The Holiday Heist" (2012, McDowell, Debi Mazar, Edward Asner.	Children's) Malcolm	(-40) Raven's Home	(-05) K.C. Undercover	Liv and Maddie	Bizaardvark	Raven's Home Nia contacts her father.	Stuck in the Middle
DSC	42	103	Homestead Rescue "Cows Gone Wild" A family needs with food in Arizona. (N)	Homestead Rescue "Drowning"	Homestead Rescue "Drowning"	Homestead Rescue "Drowning"	Homestead Res	Homestead Rescue "Hill of Death"	Homestead Rescue "Drowning"			
ESPN	26	35	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	College Football DXL Frisco Bowl -- Louisiana Tech vs Southern Methodist. (N) (Live)	College Football Wofford at North Carolina. (N) (Live)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)					
ESPN2	27	39	College Basketball Evansville at Duke. (N) (Live)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)	College Basketball Kansas State at Washington State. (N)
FOOD	40	109	Iron Chef America "Symon vs. Okuwa"	Iron Chef Showdown	Iron Chef Showdown (N)	Iron Chef: Behind the Battle (N)	Iron Chef: Behind the Battle (N)	Iron Chef: Behind the Battle (N)	Iron Chef: Behind the Battle (N)	Iron Chef: Behind the Battle (N)	Iron Chef: Behind the Battle (N)	Iron Chef
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)
FREE	20	131	(6:40) *** "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989, Comedy) Chevy Chase. A traditional Griswold yuletide backfires in comic fashion.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.	(8:50) *** "E!r" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.
FSS	21	47	Hawks Pregame	NBA Basketball Indiana Pacers at Atlanta Hawks. From Philips Arena in Atlanta. (N) (Live)	Hawks Postgame	Hawks Build	NBA Basketball Indiana Pacers at Atlanta Hawks.					
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Sharing Christmas" (2017) Ellen Hollman, Bobby Campo, Dave Koz.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.	"Enchanted Christmas" (2017, Romance) Alexa PenaVega, Carlos PenaVega. A woman is tasked with remodeling a hotel by Christmas Eve.
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers	Property Brothers "Miles Apart"	Property Brothers at Home: Drew's							
HIST	45	110	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Vikings "The Plan" (DVS)	Vikings "The Prisoner" (N)	(-01) Knightfall (N) (DVS)					
ION	13	18	Law & Order "Charity Case" Murder probe centers on adopted baby.	Law & Order "Talking Points" Someone in a crowd fires a gun.	Law & Order "Church" Pastor accused of murder.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Underbelly" A prostitution ring.
LIFE	50	145	Grey's Anatomy Patient with a hysterical pregnancy.	Little Women: Atlanta Monie's marriage is threatened. (N)	Little Women: Atlanta Andrea reveals a big secret to Amanda. (N)	Little Women: Atlanta Andrea reveals a big secret to Amanda. (N)	(-02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree. (N)	(-02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree. (N)	(-02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree. (N)	(-02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree. (N)	(-02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree. (N)	(-02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree. (N)
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)
NICK	16	210	(6:30) "Santa Hunters" (2014)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)	*** "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" (2015)
SPiKE	64	153	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*** "Road House" (1989) Patrick Swayze, Kelly Lynch. A legendary bouncer agrees to tame a notorious gin mill.	Happy! "When Christmas Was Christmas" Sax journeys through a dark past.	(10:48) * "The Condemned 2" (2015) Randy Orton. Convicts fight to the death in a tournament. (DVS)	Conan "Bill Clinton; Jack Whitehall" Former President Bill Clinton.	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee
SYFY	58	152	(5:00) ** "XXX" (2002)	*** "Mad Max: Fury Road" (2015, Action) Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult. Mad Max must outrun a warlord and his men in a desert chase. (DVS)	Happy! "When Christmas Was Christmas" Sax journeys through a dark past.	(10:48) * "The Condemned 2" (2015) Randy Orton. Convicts fight to the death in a tournament. (DVS)	Conan "Bill Clinton; Jack Whitehall" Former President Bill Clinton.	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee				
TBS	24	156	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory
TCM	49	186	(6:00) *** "Betrayed" (1954, Suspense) Clark Gable, Lana Turner.	(-15) *** "The Story of Robin Hood" (1952) Richard Todd. Sherwood Forest's outlaw-hero battles the evil Sheriff.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.	(-45) ** "The Sign of Zorro" (1960, Children's) Guy Williams, Henry Calvin. Don Diego de la Vega rides as a masked avenger in old California.
TLC	43	157	My 600-Lb. Life "Diana's Story" Diana is a prisoner to her body.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.	The Librarians "And the Silver Screen" The Librarians enter a film noir world.
TNT	23	158	(5:00) *** "The Hunger Games" (2012) Jennifer Lawrence. (DVS)	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers
TRUTV	38	129	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers	Imprecious Jokers
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	(-36) M*A*S*H	(-12) Everybody Loves Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Mom	Mom	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens
USA	25	132	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Evidence exonerates a convicted rapist.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A banker accuses her client of rape.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A murder suspect claims to know secrets.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit The SUV uncovers a sex trafficking ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit The SUV uncovers a sex trafficking ring.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A false identity lures a woman to bed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A false identity lures a woman to bed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A false identity lures a woman to bed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A false identity lures a woman to bed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A false identity lures a woman to bed.
WE	68	166	(5:30) *** "Dirty Dancing" (1987)	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.	*** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey. A sheltered teen falls for a street-wise dance instructor.
WGNA	8	172	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops

# A new look at bird brains; 'Survivor' concludes

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

According to tonight's "NOVA" (9 p.m., PBS, TV-G, check local listings), the term "bird brain" may no longer work as a putdown. Long thought to be "flighty" things ruled by little more than instinct, birds are showing scientists and behaviorists that they are capable of learned behavior and may have advanced thinking skills that were presumed unique to humans.

Over the course of an hour, we learn that parrots can actually plan ahead; jackdaws can "read" human faces, and crows are capable of solving complex, multi-step problems. Some of the feathered friends tested here show intelligence levels and skills superior to 3- and 4-year-old human children. Perhaps most remarkable are the birds who demonstrate emotions, even empathy. Perhaps it's time to stock up on some extra seeds for the feeder this winter season. That would be the thoughtful thing to do.

A winner emerges on the 35th season finale of "Survivor" (8 p.m., CBS, TV-14). A reunion (10 p.m., TV-PG) follows.

While I pretty much gave up on watching this spectacle around the time of the Rupert Boneham era, 35 seasons is nothing to sniff at. "Survivor" is the most durable series of the reality television era. It has been around for the entire 21st century (so far), outlasting "CSI" and its many reality competitors.

In fact, some reality shows dating back to the "Survivor" era have come and gone and been revived over the same time period. Are you ready for the "new" version of "American Idol," premiering on ABC on March 11?

But for "Survivor," much of broadcast television has entered into its long winter nap — or perhaps its comfort food binge. Having awarded a new

winner of "The Voice," NBC goes a capella with the 2012 musical comedy "Pitch Perfect" (8:30 p.m., NBC, TV-14), starring Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Rebel Wilson, Adam DeVine and Anna Camp.

For musical diversions of an older vintage, WE offers a double helping of the 1987 romance "Dirty Dancing" (8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.). I wonder if ABC will ever re-air its 2017 remake starring Debra Messing and Bruce Greenwood? Or will it simply go down as one of the most jaw-dropping, unintentionally funny misfires of the year?

For the record, BBC America is airing nothing but "Doctor Who" episodes until 7 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27.

### TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Forest Whitaker guest-stars on "Empire" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14).
- A 2000 special animates the novelty song "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer" (8 p.m., CW, TV-G).
- On two helpings of "The Librarians" (TNT, TV-PG), a long-postponed vacation (8 p.m.), a retreat into celluloid (9 p.m.).
- Dean Cain hosts the "The Top 12 Greatest Christmas Movies of All Time" (9 p.m., CW, TV-PG), first aired in 2016.
- Floki returns on "Vikings" (9 p.m., History, TV-14).
- The pope orders a search for the Holy Grail on "Knightfall" (10 p.m., History, TV-14).
- Catesby and fellow conspirators prepare to blow up Parliament as the three-part historical drama "Gunpowder" (10 p.m., HBO, TV-MA) concludes.

### CULT CHOICE

Mickey Mouse must save the town from a giant invader in the 1938 animated short "Brave Little Tailor" (8 p.m., TCM). This was released a year after "Snow White" proved that Dis-

ney could succeed with complex feature-length musicals that had nothing to do with a mischievous little mouse.

### SERIES NOTES

Tragedy derails Karen on "Will & Grace" (8 p.m., NBC, r, TV-14) \* Erica times two on "The Goldbergs" (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) \* J.J.'s got a girlfriend on "Speechless" (8:30 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) \* A new label boss makes the singers uneasy on "Star" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) \* Life on the lake on "Modern Family" (9 p.m., ABC, r, TV-14) \* Nit picking on "American Housewife" (9:30 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) \* Amy Sedaris plays on a repeat of "Match Game" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-14).

### LATE NIGHT

"The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) looks back at 2017 \* Bill Clinton and Jack Whitehall are on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS, r) \*



LARRY HORRICKS / HISTORY

Tom Cullen, left, stars as Templar Knight Landry and Simon Merrells as Templar Knight Tancrede in "The Black Wolf and the White Wolf" episode of "Knightfall," airing at 10 p.m. today on History.

Expect Josh Earnest, Lisa Kudrow and Tony Rock on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 CBS, r) \* Jimmy Fallon welcomes Christoph Waltz, Beanie Feldstein, Cardi B and Erykah Badu on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) \* Mar-

tha Stewart and Nico De Soto visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC) \* Matthew Broderick, Gina Rodriguez and Christopher Meloni appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Serve stuffed petite beef filet for Christmas

BY SARA MOULTON  
Associated Press

**W**ant to serve a fancy roast for Christmas dinner without breaking the bank? Try a petite beef filet. Cut from the shoulder, long and thin, and weighing between 8-10 ounces, the petite filet looks like a mini tenderloin of beef — one of the priciest and most popular of roasts. But it's much less expensive and more flavorful than the tenderloin. And tender, too.

Here we've rolled it up and stuffed it with prosciutto, as well as with pesto and roasted red peppers. The latter two ingredients — one green, the other red —

echo the signature colors of the holiday even as they delight the taste buds. And, bonus! You can buy them by the jar in the supermarket, which makes the prep that much easier.

The only tricky part of this recipe for Prosciutto and Red Pepper Stuffed Petite Filet is double-butterflying the roast — that is, cutting the filet in such a way that it becomes a big flat rectangle. Start by looking for the largest petite filets you can find. They're the easiest to slice, and they hold more stuffing. Then, before commencing your butterfly surgery, read the instructions several times. The goal is to avoid cutting a hole in the meat as you butterfly it, although it's not a problem even if you do. The roast will still hold together after the meat is pounded, lined with prosciutto, rolled and tied. And tying it isn't that difficult. If you need help, there are several terrific videos online that will take you through it step by step.

This recipe doesn't need to be made at the last minute. You can cut, roll and tie the roast ahead of time and chill it for several hours. Then,

when you're 25 minutes or so from sitting down to dinner, brown it, pop it in the oven and let it rest for the requisite 10 minutes. Whip up the

sauce while the roast is resting. You will look like a culinary genius as you plate up a singularly elegant and festive holiday meal.

### PROSCIUTTO AND RED PEPPER STUFFED PETITE FILET

**Servings:** 4  
**Start to finish:** 45 minutes (25 active)  
Two large petite beef filets (about 1 1/4 pounds total)  
1/4 pound thin-sliced prosciutto  
1/4 cup pesto  
1/4 cup thin red pepper strips  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
Kosher salt  
Black pepper  
1/3 cup dry red or white wine  
1/2 cup low-sodium chicken broth

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.  
Butterfly the petite filet roasts: Working with one filet at a time, place the filet on a cutting board with one of the short ends facing you. Start cutting the roast along the left long side about 2/3 of the way down from the top of the filet, cutting through almost to the other side but stopping about 1/2 inch from the other side. Flip the roast over so that the cut side is now on the right. Repeat the procedure on the left side again, slicing about 2/3 of the way down from the top of the filet, cutting to within 1/2-inch of the other side. Open up the two flaps that you have just cut in the filet so it is

the shape of a rectangle. Pound the meat between two sheets of plastic wrap, sprinkled with water until it is about 1/4-inch thick all over.

Arrange half the prosciutto over the inside of each roast, leaving a 1/2-inch border on all sides. Spread half of the pesto on top of the prosciutto and arrange the red pepper strips down the middle. Starting with the long end, roll up the beef to form a cylinder and tie it with twine at 1-inch lengths.

In a medium ovenproof skillet, heat the oil over medium-high heat, add the meat, season all over with salt and pepper and brown it on all sides, about 5 minutes. Transfer the pan to the middle shelf of the oven and roast the filets for 10 minutes for medium-rare meat. Transfer the roasts to a plate, cover them loosely with foil and let them rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

Meanwhile, add the wine to the skillet and deglaze the pan over medium-high heat, scraping up the brown bits from the bottom. Add the chicken broth and any juices from the resting meat, and simmer for 3 minutes.

To serve: Remove the strings, slice the meat and arrange it on four plates. Spoon some of the pan juices over each portion.

**Nutrition information per serving:** 402 calories; 201 calories from fat; 22 g fat (5 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 122 mg cholesterol; 976 mg sodium; 4 g carbohydrates; 0 g fiber; 1 g sugar; 42 g protein.

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