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Help meet 13K goal

Operation Christmas Child collecting gifts **A3**



USA TODAY: Five steps to cutting your cable TV costs **c1**

BBQ challenge next weekend to benefit Red Cross

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

The Tom Garrity Firefighter BBQ Challenge will take place Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17-18, at Sumter County Fairgrounds, 700 W. Liberty St.

The competition is named after a former Sumter businessman, civic leader and volunteer fireman who was well known among the firefighter community in both Sumter and across the state, said the event's organizer, William "Dutch" Holland.

SEE **BBQ**, PAGE A13

Vehicle break-ins spike in Sumter

Police say most are unlocked

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter has seen a spike in vehicle break-ins this year, and Sumter Police Department no-

ticed a trend in possibly why those crimes have occurred.

There has been a 36 percent increase in the number of vehicles broken into compared to this time last year, said Tonyia McGirt, the department's public information officer, and more than 90 percent of those break-ins involved unlocked vehicles.

It does not matter where you

live — vehicle break-ins are not isolated to certain neighborhoods, McGirt said.

Lt. Bill Lyons, a detective in the department's investigations division, said the issue started growing in 2012.

"We have a problem with vehicle break-ins," he said.

SEE **BREAK-INS**, PAGE A13

Hometown hero

Vet still helps others after time in Army

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

Phyllis Clark grew up in Lynchburg and is a 1972 graduate of Mount Pleasant High School in Elliot. With an older brother and a cousin in the military, she decided that was what she wanted to do.

She joined the Army in March 1974, completing her basic training at Fort Jackson before serving in Germany as a clerk typist for an inspector general in Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany, just outside of Stuttgart.

"It was fun, but it was a lot of work," Clark said.

Often, the job required making reports on criminal investigations.

"It was just too gruesome to talk about," she said of some things she typed into reports.

A lot was going on, she said, and she often accompanied the inspector general in a heli-

copter as he investigated incidents off base.

"It was a great experience going to the different sites, meeting a lot of people from different countries," Clark said.

After returning from Germany, Clark said she worked at Dorn Veterans Clinic in Columbia, commuting from Sumter before getting a position at the hospital at Shaw Air Force Base.

"Today, they call it a clinic, but it was a hospital then," she said.

She has been married to James Clark for 45 years, and she has an adult daughter, Philene Colclough, and an adult step-daughter, Tanya Williams. She also has four grandchildren, who she admits she dotes on.

Phyllis Clark has worked several jobs during her career, including as a bus driver for the Rural Transit Authority for five years.

"My main route was from Mayesville coming into Sumter," she said. "Picking up the people that were going to the

SEE **CLARK**, PAGE A13



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Phyllis Clark, an Army veteran, volunteers as a clerk at her church and for the Sumter Combat Veterans group.

Man's unsolved killing still haunts former case investigator

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

After nine years of searching for answers and the death of the incident's sole witness, Sumter County Sheriff's Office investigators are still hopeful that the 2008 killing of Jerventez D. Wilson will be resolved.

Wilson, 24, a substitute teacher for the former Sumter School District 17,

COLD CASE

was shot in the chest at point-blank range and robbed while meeting a man in Cabbage Mobile Home Park in Dalzell on Aug. 1, 2008.

Lt. Clarence McMillan, the original investigator for the case, said the unsolved killing has haunted him since he left the investigations division in 2011 — three years



WILSON

shot Wilson, but there is not enough evidence to charge either one. To complicate the situation further, the only

after the shooting.

He said the agency knows of two suspects who may know who

witness to the crime has since passed away, he said.

Though the case seems bleak, McMillan is counting on other people in the community to provide information that can crack the case.

The incident began after the sheriff's office received a call about a shooting victim in Dalzell about noon.

SEE **WILSON**, PAGE A13

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DEATHS, A12

Patricia Anne F. Coffey
Melva Young
Michael D. Walker
Annie D. Burns

Dr. Jack D. Kinder
Barbara Celiz
Sylvia McElveen
Betty Kelly

WEATHER, A14

CLOUDY AND COOL

Mostly cloudy today and chilly; tonight, overcast with showers possible.

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INSIDE

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LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

SLT will hold auditions for latest production

Auditions for Sumter Little Theatre's February production of "Five Guys Named Moe" will be held at 6 p.m. Monday and Wednesday in the SLT classroom, 14 Mood Ave. Performance dates are Feb. 8 through 11 and 15 through 18. Rehearsals will start right away. Five black male singers are sought for the energetic, fun show that will be directed by Eric Bultman. For more information, call (803) 775-2150.

Summerton council meets Tuesday

The Summerton Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, at Summerton Town Hall, 10 Main St., Summerton.

The agenda includes a presentation on a needs assessment for the Harvin Clarendon County Library by Susan Landfried of the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments and consideration of the appointment of Gill Frierson to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Change orders No. 2 and No. 3 for the Force Main Project to Manning will be considered.

For more information, call (803) 485-2525.

Mergers to be discussed at Clarendon meeting

Clarendon County Council will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the Clarendon County Administration Building, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, in the County Council Chambers.

The third and final reading of an ordinance to authorize the merger of the Delinquent Tax Collector's Department and the office of County Treasurer will be considered.

An ordinance to merge the Animal Control Department and the sheriff's office will receive a third reading and final consideration.

Council will also receive reports from the chief financial officer, the county administrator and Council Chairman Dwight Stewart.

For more information, call (803) 435-0135.

Motions to go before school board again

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Board committee reports and an update of happenings across the district by the interim superintendent highlight the agenda for Monday's Sumter School District's Board of Trustees meeting at the district office.

After a mix-up in communication prevented the school board's Facilities Committee Chairman William Byrd from presenting motions to the full board at the board's last meeting Oct. 23, Byrd plans to introduce two motions to the board Monday for discussion.

Those motions involve two independent studies that could affect the future of low-enrollment schools in the district. One is a facilities study that would be a comprehensive look at existing schools' physical assets and needs, and the other is a county population demographics study to include short-term and long-term enrollment projections in the district's schools.

The board formed the facilities committee Sept. 8 to study various brick-and-mortar needs, such as what to do in the future with smaller low-enrollment schools in the district to increase operational efficiencies. In their initial meeting on Oct. 20, committee members approved both motions.

On Monday, the full board is expected to discuss the merits of having the studies conducted by independent consultants. Byrd said previously the studies' costs may be a factor in the board's decision to move forward with them or not.

Interim Superintendent Debbie Hamm has said she will move forward with the formal process of seeking study proposers, if the board gives her the go-ahead.

The topic of closing low-enrollment schools has been discussed at least to some degree since a district financial crisis was discovered last year. The fiscal 2016 audit report, released in December, revealed the district overspent by \$6.2 million that year, drying up most of its general fund balance.

The district has recovered somewhat from the crisis, projecting to add about \$665,000 to its fund balance for fiscal 2017. A "millage rate swap," passed by the full board in September, will also add about \$2 million to the general fund balance this fiscal year.

However, the district does face the issue of declining enrollment, which directly translates to less revenue it can receive from the state, affecting the general fund balance.

According to initial estimates, district Chief Financial Officer Chris Griner said an estimated 170 student decrease in K-12 enrollment this school year from last year will reduce state funding to the district next year by about \$400,000.

The Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee, chaired by board member Bonnie Disney, will also present a report Monday to the full board, according to the agenda.

Monday's meeting at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road, is open to the public, and public participation is also listed on the agenda.



Kingsbury celebrates veterans

Kingsbury Elementary School student Nevaiah Harris is seen with her dad, Master Sgt. Thomas Harris, who was the guest speaker at the school's Veterans Day program. Harris recently returned home from an overseas assignment.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Coalition says Lee County bus system important to community

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The Lee County Transit Coalition was again reminded of the importance of the county's bus system during a luncheon Thursday.

Since it began giving rides in September 2015, the Lee County bus system has provided more than 12,000 trips, according to Lottie Jones, executive director of the Santee-Wateree Regional Transportation Authority.

SWRTA provides public transportation to residents of Lee, Clarendon,

Kershaw and Sumter counties and is the first source of public transportation to be offered in Lee County.

Jones said 3,000 trips were provided between September 2015 and September 2016, and 9,000 trips were provided between September 2016 to September 2017.

Lee County has four routes in Bishopville, one of which takes riders from Bishopville to Lynchburg — a 15.5-mile trip.

During a 2015 interview, Bettye Scott, chairwoman of Lee County Regional Task Force Coalition, said the city of Bishopville — with a pop-

ulation not exceeding 3,500 in recent years — did not even have a taxi service two years ago.

Though Scott heads the transit coalition, she has repeatedly said the bus system exists because of combined efforts between the Lee County Transit Coalition, SWRTA, Lee County resident, and local and state representatives. The transit coalition recognized many of the groups and individuals Thursday who assisted in making the bus system a reality.

Jones said there are plans to extend existing routes and add new

routes in the future.

She said Lee County residents have expressed interest in expanding routes to Woodrow — about 12 miles away from Bishopville — and connecting the Lee County system to neighboring Sumter County.

Jones said Lee County residents have also asked for a route from Lynchburg to Florence — an almost 30-mile trip on Interstate 95 and nearly 20 miles on U.S. 76.

The ultimate goal is to connect a route between Bishopville, Lynchburg and Florence — approximately 32 miles, she said.

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Operation Christmas Child raises goal to help more kids

Drop off shoebox gifts at Westside through Nov. 20

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Westside Baptist Church will again open its doors as a four-county regional collection center/hub for an annual project to send shoeboxes filled with gifts to children in impoverished countries.

Many Sumter churches participate in Operation Christmas Child through Westside. Jill Harvell, a member of Westside and the collection center's coordinator, distributes the empty shoeboxes to churches that promote the annual gift campaign. Those individual churches also generally collect filled shoeboxes from their members and attendees and deliver them to Westside's hub, according to Harvell.

Westside's regional collection center opens Monday for its grand kickoff ceremony at 9 a.m. Churches will be delivering gift shoeboxes to Westside for one full week, through Monday, Nov. 20, she said.

Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization and the organizer of Operation Christmas Child, takes boxes to its processing center in Boone, North Carolina.

From there, they will be distributed to children in more than 160 countries and territories, according to the agency.

Shoeboxes should be filled with new fun toys, such as dolls or soccer balls, school supplies and hygiene items, including toothbrushes and other necessities. The organi-



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SAMARITAN'S PURSE

A child in Nepal receives a shoebox gift as part of Operation Christmas Child.

Gifts are distributed throughout the world in a variety of ways, such as by camel in Namibia.



zation advises to not include candy, toothpaste, food items, liquids, lotions and used or damaged items.

Harvell said if participants haven't picked up a shoebox from a church yet, she still has a limited supply at Westside. People can pick up free, empty boxes during the collection center's hours of operation starting Monday. They

should be dropped off by Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. Westside Baptist Church is at 554 Pinewood Road.

The other counties in the Santee area have their own drop-off locations before gift boxes are sent to Westside. Those include Emmanuel Baptist Church in Manning, Horse Branch Freewill Baptist Church in Turbeville, First Baptist Church in Bishopville and First Baptist Church in Kingstree. Residents of those counties can also pick up empty shoeboxes at those churches, Harvell said.

Last year, the goal was to collect 10,000 shoeboxes in the

total service area. Harvell said they collected a little more than 12,000.

This year's goal is 13,000, according to Harvell.

"Last year, we blew the goal away, and we were very excited," Harvell said. "Hopefully, we can blow the goal out of the water this year, also."

Raised in Sumter, Harvell and her husband, Greg, served on the mission field in the Philippines for 25 years. She said she knows from personal experience that there are never enough shoeboxes to distribute to all the children in an area.

She said mission teams will drive into small, poor areas in countries to deliver the gifts. Residents have to get tickets ahead of time, and there are never enough tick-

DONATE A GIFT

Westside Baptist's Operation Christmas Child collection center hours

Monday — 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday — Noon-6 p.m.

Wednesday — Noon-9 p.m.

Thursday — 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Friday — Noon-6 p.m.

Saturday — 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 19 — 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 20 — 7-11 a.m.

ets for all the kids.

"It's sad," Harvell said. "On one hand, it's a joyous time in the room, but then you look outside and see other kids looking in the window. It's hard. It's a tremendous ministry, but never enough. You are always having to turn down a child."

Since there are never enough to distribute, she challenges Sumterites and others to give more this year.

"I would just challenge people to skip a meal — or not eat out one meal — and go to the Dollar Tree and put stuff in a box," Harvell said. "It makes a difference not only in the lives of those children, but also a lot of times in the lives of their family."

Along with each shoebox, individuals are encouraged to include a \$9 donation, cash or check, to cover shipping and other ministry costs, according to Harvell. Checks should be made out to Samaritan's Purse. Now, individuals can also track where their box ends up by making that \$9 donation online at www.samaritanaspurse.org.

After making the payment online, a donor will receive a special label with a barcode, which can be printed. The label should be attached to the shoebox.

After the box has been delivered to its destination, a donor will be notified by email.

For addresses and hours of operation, visit www.samaritanaspurse.org. Locally, individuals can also call Westside Baptist at (803) 775-3484.

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Katie Damron perhaps made her greatest impact on the community through her involvement with the Sumter Little Theatre, where she directed more than 100 plays. She was the primary force in the 1986 reestablishment of SLT after several years without a theater in Sumter.

Katie's final bow

Family, 'children' remember SLT director Damron, a driving force behind the arts in our community

BY IVY MOORE

Special to The Sumter Item

She was a small woman, barely over 5 feet tall, but friends and family remember longtime Sumter Little Theatre director Katie Damron as having lived a giant life. She died on Wednesday, just four days before her 89th birthday — today.

A native of Pikeville, Kentucky, Damron moved to Sumter with her late husband, Ed, in 1953, having purchased WSSC radio, of which she was vice president through the 1970s. She also held several positions with local government and civic organizations, including the League of Women Voters and the Junior Welfare League. It is through SLT that Damron perhaps made her greatest impact on the community, directing more than 100 plays and changing scores of lives for the better. She was the primary force in the 1986 reestablishment of SLT after several years without a theater in Sumter. SLT named the theater The Katie Damron Stage, and she served as executive director until her retirement in 2009. She was also the first female director of the S.C. Theater Association and a board member of the Southeastern Theater Conference.

This week, her former pupils in the SLT Youth Theatre, which she founded with her friend, the late Jan Taylor, and those she worked with primarily as adults have been remembering Damron with love and

gratitude. She leaves a broad legacy through her three children, their families and her students.

Damron has three children, all of them involved in the arts. Her son, Ed, lives in

Malmö, Sweden, with his wife, son and daughter. He is a professional actor and writer who, with his wife, Vidisha Mallik, owns Express-teatern Theatre. Her daughters are Pam Knight, a singer, musician and retired data analyst in Keen, New Hampshire, and Carla Damron, an accomplished novelist, re-

tired clinical social worker and executive director of the S.C. chapter of the National Association of Social Workers in Columbia.

Knight said what stands out for her about her mother "was her courage. It took courage to leave her friends and family in the mountains of eastern Kentucky to move to Sumter with her young family to help manage a radio station. It took courage to stand up for her convictions and her commitment to the causes of civil rights and justice in an era when those views were not always welcome. She was proud



Katie Damron, who died Wednesday, Nov. 8, would have been 89 today. Her many friends pay tribute and celebrate her life while mourning her passing.



Director Katie Damron works with Jay Witt, left, and John Bartholomew, part of the cast of Sumter Little Theatre's production of "Guys and Dolls" in 1990.

that she was once called a Communist because she spoke out against the John Birch Society in the 1960s. And it took real courage to start directing plays and develop a youth theatre program that had a profound effect on so many lives. I've been really touched by the tributes from her former students. I only wish I had a fraction of the courage that Katie had."

Her son, Ed, agreed. "My mother had a full life," he said. "She worked very hard for that which was important to her: equal rights and the arts. It wasn't easy pursuing those goals in the South. If you want an apple, I suppose you have to shake the tree sometimes. And boy, did Katie shake the tree. And those apples fell and grew into beautiful trees all over the world."

Carla Damron said she looks more and more like her mother, prompting people in Sum-

ter and elsewhere to remark, "You must be Katie's daughter."

"It's happened at the Statehouse when I'm advocating legislators to support a health care bill (that they have no intention of passing)," she said. "It's happened in random bookstores, theaters, etc. Mom had a way of making an impression."

"I inherited something else from her, too. Those who know Mom know she had a temper. You could not win an argument with her, particularly related to something she was passionate about (the arts, homelessness, health care. Donald Trump.) I've come to recognize I have some of her fire in me, and it's proved useful in my advocacy work. I call it "channeling my inner Katie," and I'm told it makes me somewhat formidable."

"For me, the most important thing about Mom was how she cared about the vulnerable

among us. She passed this passion on to each of her children — and not just those of us related by birth. She created a loving, creative, passionate family, and I am privileged to be a part of it."

Laura Knight said of her grandmother, "If you ever thought Katie Damron never spoke her mind, then you'd be very mistaken. It was her leadership and love that helped me become the woman I am today. She was a wonderful grandmother, and she will be greatly missed."

The current executive director of Sumter Little Theatre, Eric Bultman, is one of the "children" not related by birth. He credits Damron for his having become an actor and director.

Bultman produced and organized a 2014 tribute to her, at which he recalled Katie instilling a love for theater in

ENGAGEMENTS

Standish-Rhodes

Mr. and Mrs. George T. Standish of Darlington announce the engagement of their daughter, Kaley Diana Standish, to Charles Lewington Rhodes, son of Mrs. Rose Norton Rhodes and the late Mr. Charles William Rhodes of Mayesville.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Standish and Mrs. Dianne L. Stephens and the late Mr. Victor Craig Stephens, all of Darlington.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. William David Rhodes of Mayesville, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Norton of Johnsonville and Ms. Martha F. Baldwin of North Myrtle Beach.

The wedding is planned for Dec. 9, 2017, at Mayesville Presbyterian Church, Mayesville.



MISS STANDISH, MR. RHODES

ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, BIRTH AND ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Engagement, wedding, birth and wedding anniversaries (25th, 50th and above) of local interest are published on Sundays free of charge. The deadline is noon on the preceding Monday. Deadlines vary during holiday weeks.

Forms may be obtained at The Sumter Item, 36 W. Liberty St., or downloaded from www.theitem.com. Click on the drop down arrow next to the Lifestyle tab on the navigation bar of the website.

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

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

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

EDUCATION NEWS



PHOTO PROVIDED

Amanda Kish's second-grade class at Sumter Christian School celebrated career day recently.

Sumter Christian School

CAREER DAY, READING AND MORE

Amanda Kish's second-grade class celebrated career day on Friday. Students showed up in costume to present art projects and talk about future careers; a chef, a veterinarian, an artist, a policeman, a scientist, a doctor and a teacher were among costumed students.

Students in first through sixth grade finished their participation in the Read Your Way to the Big Game Contest on Friday. Participating students are hopeful to win free tickets and pre-game sideline passes to the Thanksgiving Day Clemson University vs. University of South Carolina game. In an effort to promote literacy in the state of South Carolina, the S.C. Department of Education teamed up with the two universities setting the entry requirements at reading sixth-grade appropriate books in the allotted time.

Several other schoolwide participation incentives for teachers and school libraries were also offered, and the students and teachers at SCS are hopeful that their hard work will pay off. — *Miriam Marritt*

Lee County School District

BISHOPVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bishopville Primary School held its Title I Family Math Night on Oct. 25. Principal Lamont Moore welcomed parents and provided information about the event. He also engaged them in a Kahoot game (Are You Smarter than a Fifth-Grader?) for a prize giveaway.

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Coordinator Henry Dixon Jr. explained what PBIS means and how it would be used with Ripple Effects, a new program to assist with social and personal development as well as student behavior. The Bishopville Primary School choir performed three songs.

Cindy Welsh, nutrition educator from Clemson Extension Expandable Nutrition program, visited Bishopville Primary School on Oct. 23. She taught a lesson to students titled "Rethink Your Drink." During the lesson she demonstrated what the intake of sugar in drinks can do to the body.

LOWER LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students in Justin Gee's Exceptional Learning classes are learning and reviewing division- and place-value

rounding. Students are also working on writing five-sentence paragraphs to improve their writing skills.

In math, 5K students learned about classifying and sorting. In science, students learned about animal groups and their characteristics and habitats. In ELA, the students are learning about adjectives and dictating sentences with adjectives. For writing, students are learning about writing sentences, spaces between words and periods at the end of the sentence.

Character words of the month are the focus in guidance at Lower Lee Elementary School. For October, the character word "courage" was discussed in guidance. Lower Lee Cubs are working on showing courage with their words and actions. Ways to show courage: Do the right thing, even if others are not; bravely deal with your daily challenges; be willing to try new things, even if you might fail; and tell the truth regardless of the consequences.

WEST LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

West Lee Elementary School's fourth- and fifth-graders had the unique opportunity to spend three days and two nights getting close to nature. Students and chaperones arrived at Camp Greenville in the Blue Ridge Mountains and quickly realized that nature would be the focus of the trip as all cell reception disappeared.

The camp is located at the top of the mountain and provided for a beautiful view of the surrounding area. Camp staff led engaging activities that filled the days with learning and the evenings with fun. Students learned about the importance of caring for the land and the environment, the interdependence of plants, animals and humans, and the importance of taking time to appreciate the world around us. There were lots of rigorous mountain hikes between informational sessions, but everyone had a fantastic time.

Red Ribbon Week 2017 was observed Oct. 23-31. The theme was, "Your Future Is Key, So Stay Drug Free." The students at West Lee Elementary School talked about the dangers of drugs and the importance of making good decisions. Fourth- and fifth-grade students had the pleasure of a visit from guest speaker Antowine Reames. Reames spoke to the students about making good life choices.

Red Ribbon Week is an alcohol, tobacco and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October.

LEE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lee Central Middle School is excited about the 2017-18 basketball season. Basketball tryouts were held Oct. 31-Nov. 3. Damian Days, head middle school boys coach, and head middle school girls coach Shameeka McDowell took potential team members through rigorous workouts and training.

This is Coach Days' first season as head coach. He is excited about the upcoming season and is thankful for the opportunity. In addition to his team members excelling on the basketball court, Days would like for team members to excel academically. To work on achieving this goal, he requires that his team members participate in study hall before practice. He also asks that teachers submit weekly progress reports to him so that he can track and monitor his team's academic performance.

Congratulations to the students who made the 2017-18 Lee Central Middle School Boys and Girls Basketball teams.

LEE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

The Greenwood Genetic Center's Mobile Science Laboratory, the Gene Machine, visited Lee Central High School on Oct. 18-19. The Gene Machine provided hands-on genetics laboratory activities for students in Mark Davidson's and Mauvette Doyle's biology classes. The students used engaging and fun modules, and the instructors enhanced classroom learning of timely topics and encouraged students to consider careers in genetics and life science.

"This experience provided meaningful content that our students can draw upon for success in the high-stakes Biology End-of-Course exam that will be administered later this school year," Davidson said. "Also, this wonderful opportunity has enlightened many of our students and encouraged them to pursue this field further."

Special thanks to the South Carolina Department of Education for funding the program. — *Shaunta McKenzie*

Morris College

EDUCATION WEEK

Morris College will celebrate American Education Week, Monday through Friday. The theme for the National Education Association in Washington, D.C., is "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility."

The Division of Education at Morris College, under the leadership of Dr. Cathine G. Scott, has established the theme, "The Audacity to Change." Scott says that the new vision for the teacher preparation program is to be the best program of its size. The "Audacity to Change" means that one or a group must have the courage, determination, willingness, faith, skills and vision to carry out the Mission of Morris College and the Division of Education in a new way. The "Audacity to Change" means collectively that the Division of Education and its partners, stakeholders and community leaders must make suggestions and recommendations for changing from being a good program to a great program.

GOSPEL CHOIR FALL CONCERT

The Morris College Gospel Choir comprised of numerous vocally talented students will host its Fall Concert in the Neal-Jones Auditorium on

Thursday at 7 p.m. The event is free, open to the public and will be a wonderful time had by all.

FALL HARVEST PARADE

The Annual Fall Harvest Parade will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18, on West College Street. The parade begins at 1 p.m.

BASKETBALL

The Lady Hornets will take on Cumberland University in the Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 18, following the Fall Harvest Parade.

SPRING SEMESTER ENROLLMENT

Spring semester enrollment is underway. Prospective students can contact the Office of Admission and Records at (803) 934-3225. — *Anika Cobb*

Sumter School District

GOLDEN APPLE PROGRAMS UNDERWAY

The Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce started the Golden Apple awards program many years ago as a pilot program in the high schools to recognize students for citizenship and good character. The program gained in popularity and has become an annual event at each middle and high school.

Twelve students in each of Sumter School District's three high schools and seven middle schools are recognized at each event. The students are nominated by teachers, counselors and administrators who cite examples of how each student demonstrates the qualities of citizenship, character and other good attributes.

The program is underwritten by presenting sponsor Caterpillar Precision Pins and gold sponsors Kaydon Corp. – Plant 12, Nu-Idea School Supply and University of South Carolina Sumter. Members of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce staff and the Chamber Education Committee also attend and make remarks at the program.

The first awards program for the 2017-18 school year was held on Oct. 26 at Crestwood High School. The student honorees were Aquarius Davis, Keion Dicks, Brianna Dixon, Dy'Mond Gipson, Aliyah Grady, Shykia Hardy, Travis Johnson, Abigail Lewandowski, Eszri Salas, Maliyah Spann, Devin Vance and Amaria Weston.

On Nov. 2, the second program in the series was held at Chestnut Oaks Middle School. Students honored were Tiyauna Brown, Shacoyah Dickey, Deidrick Fordham, Sha'kyra Gibbs, Nehemiah Green, Lilliana Gutierrez-De La Cruz, Jada Hearrell, Emily Helms, Cheyenne Hodge, Cam'Ron McCoy, Michael Rembert and Ector Vicente-Larios.

The next program in the series is scheduled for Thursday at Ebenezer Middle School. The program ends in March.

IB STUDENTS HOST EVENTS

The Sumter High School International Baccalaureate CAS hosted an International Cuisine Extravaganza on Tuesday after school to raise money for their Kickin' for a Cure event. Proceeds from Kickin' for a Cure support cancer research. At the International Cuisine Extravaganza, the students were able to taste foods

SEE EDUCATION, PAGE A7

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EDUCATION FROM PAGE A6

from other countries while learning about other cultures. The event was open to all Sumter High students and faculty members.

Kickin' for a Cure is a soccer tournament scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 9, at Patriot Park, 380 General Drive. Teams may register for a fee to participate in the fundraising event for cancer research.

CAS, which stands for creativity, activity and service, is the IB Diploma program course that works with the development of the whole student: socially, emotionally and physically. According to Sumter High School teacher and CAS supervisor Ann-Frances Brown, "The development of attitudes and traits that will be respected by others, such as determination, commitment, initiative and empathy, are a key focus of the course. Students often identify this course as the highlight of their IB program experience because it emphasizes personal growth and student interests."

Brown says that while the course focuses heavily on service, it is not the only focus. Students are encouraged to grow as individuals while pursuing the skills and knowledge IB encourages throughout the 18-month program. All the projects done in the CAS class are initiated and planned by the students, who are encouraged to investigate causes that interest them, identify areas of need and implement projects that will best support that need in the community. The students are required to reflect on the CAS experiences and include the reflections in their final senior year portfolio that highlights the most meaningful experiences.

Other examples of service projects the group has done include Walk against Domestic Violence, Dunks for Diabetes, Children's Hope, Samaritan House, Cups for Pups, Toys for Tots and various others including volunteering at community events and at elementary and middle schools.

CHILD FIND SCREENINGS OFFERED

Sumter School District Department of Specialized Programs offers free vision and hearing, speech and language and development screenings. Any parent or guardian concerned about a preschool-aged child who could be delayed in developmental milestones may schedule a screening.

Other issues which may warrant a screening include academics, participating in classroom activities, speech and language and/or social behaviors. A Child Find screening will determine if further testing is needed to determine eligibility for special education services.

Screenings have been ongoing since August. Other screenings are scheduled for Nov. 15, Dec. 1, Dec. 13, and Jan. 10, Jan. 26, Feb. 7, Feb. 23, March 7, March 23, April 18 and May 4, 2018.

Screenings are for children 2 1/2 and older who reside in Sumter County but are not enrolled in public school. Children who attend day care centers, private schools and home-schools are also eligible to receive free screenings.

The Child Find is located at the Sumter School District Annex, 220 Hasell St. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (803) 775-5500, extension 119.

BOARD TO MEET

Sumter School District Board of Trustees will have its regular monthly meeting on Monday at 6 p.m. at the District Office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road. The meeting is open to the public, and persons interested in addressing

the board during public participation are asked to sign up in the lobby before 6 p.m. — *Mary B. Sheridan*

Wilson Hall

QUIZ BOWL WINS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

Members of the high school quiz bowl team, advised by Tom O'Hare, won first place in the Central Carolina Technical College Academic Challenge on Nov. 3. Fourteen four-student teams from area public and private schools participated in the day-long competition.

The team of seniors Steph Areford and Matthew Tavarez and juniors Shelby Guldán and Ingrid Singleton placed first in the general knowledge exam and first place in the team essay competition. The team of seniors Patrick Fidler and Tod Yang and juniors Sean Alderson and Callie McAdams placed first in the academic challenge competition.

The general knowledge exam was a computer-based 100-question multiple-choice exam with the categories of history and literature, business and industry, science, social science and mathematics. Of the 56 students who took the exam, three Wilson Hall students achieved the highest scores. Areford won first place in social science, Tavarez won first place in science, and Yang won first place in mathematics. For the team essay competition, teams were given a topic and asked to compose a short essay within one hour, and the academic challenge was a Jeopardy-style competition.

ANDERSON PLACES IN NATIONAL CONTEST

Junior Bridget Anderson won third place and a \$250 cash prize in the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation Student Essay Competition. She was one of only three winners in the national competition. In her essay, Bridget compared Liu Xiaobo's confrontation with the ruling Chinese Communist Party with Mulan's challenge to the system prevailing at the time. Bridget was sponsored by Tom O'Hare, a history teacher, in the contest.

ALL-STATE CHOIR

The following students were selected for the S.C. Independent School Association All-State Choir: seniors Pitch Sinlapanuntakul, juniors Emily Bell and Yeajin Kim, and freshman Bella Land. The students, who are members of the choral class taught by Scott Warren, performed at the annual SCISA Heads' Conference in Summerville on Nov. 3. — *Sean Hoskins*

Thomas Sumter Academy

STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR LEARNING

At Thomas Sumter Academy, there are a lot of things going on. One of them is our recognition of our elementary grades for the character winners for October's character trait of Learning: K4, Lawton Hill; K5, Joshua Morrow and Emma Shrank; first, Janvi Patel and Autumn Crockett; second, Colby O'Connell and Riya Patel; third, Sophia Miranda and Jack McGary; fourth, Will Morris and Sadie Cox; and fifth, Diya Patel and Wes Carter.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

As a member of the South Carolina Independent Schools Association, Thomas Sumter had the opportunity to host and participate in the first-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Thomas Sumter Academy hosted and participated in the first SCISA-sponsored Battle of the Books for High School students.

ever Battle of the Books for High School students.

Battle of the Books is a SCISA-sponsored event and has only included the lower school and middle school since 2013. This year, the Battle of the Books expanded to include the high school.

Thomas Sumter Academy hosted the new high school event which included teams on campus competing for the regional and state championships. TSA's team made it to the semi-finals. Team members were Bella Crowe, Ava Claus, Payton Houser, Ed Lee and Liam Miller. Faculty adviser is Polly Mimms.

FALL SPORTS COMPLETE

We just completed our fall sports. Our students learned and grew a lot during this season. Each of our student-athletes grew as principled servant-leaders and young men and women of character, honor and integrity. Win or lose, they all learned tenacity, perseverance, resilience and grit. The Generals are looking forward to a great winter sports schedule.

If you would like to visit our campus or speak with our students, parents, faculty or staff, please call us at (803) 499-3378. Tenacity. Supports. Achievement. — *Dr. F. L. Martin III*

Central Carolina Technical College

BLOOD DRIVE HELD

Central Carolina Technical College held a Halloween Blood Drive on

Main Campus on Oct. 31. Students, faculty and staff donated their time and gave blood in an effort to save lives. CCTC is proud of its longstanding, active relationship with the local Red Cross. CCTC strives to hold two to three blood drives each school year.

3D FINGERTIPS FOR VIRGINIA TECH SCIENCE FESTIVAL

CCTC's Engineering Design Technology program collaborated with a student organization known as Hands On Prosthetic Engineering (HOPE) at the University of South Carolina to print fingertips using 3D printers.

The printing of fingertips is part of a STEM outreach of e-NABLE at the Virginia Tech Science Festival. The e-NABLE Community is a group of individuals from across the world who are using 3-D printers to create free 3-D printed hands and arms for those in need of an upper limb assistive device.

CHRISTMAS TREE DONATIONS NEEDED

Central Carolina Technical College is starting a new tradition. The college will be displaying Christmas trees for two weeks in December. The trees will be on display for public viewing and voting.

If you have a gently used, artificial Christmas tree that you would like to donate, please contact Cathy Wood, director of public relations, at 803-778-6602 or woodcm@cctech.edu for drop-off directions. — *Catherine M. Wood*



PHOTO PROVIDED

Central Carolina Technical College Dean for Learning Resources and Planning Nancy Bishop donates blood at CCTC's Halloween Blood Drive held on Main Campus.

Grieving family member urges smokers to quit deadly habit



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL
VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — The winter months are hard for me. They remind me that another year has gone by without my father and my younger sister.

Dad had been a smoker since his teens and died from pancreatic cancer at 39. I was 13, and my siblings were younger. In those days, we didn't know that smoking was a risk factor for pancreatic cancer.

My sister smoked from the time she was 13. She died from lung cancer at 44, leaving behind two young sons.

Neither my father nor my sister got to experience the wonderful family milestones and celebrations we have had. Their grandchildren will never know them. Each year during the holidays, I feel a sadness in my heart.

I urge every smoker to make a vow

to quit and carry it through, not only for their own sake but also their family's. Stay determined to quit so you won't cause your loved ones sadness and won't miss out on their futures. With all my heart, I wish smokers the best of luck in quitting.

Missing dad and sis in Sacramento

DEAR MISSING — I'm glad you wrote because the American Cancer Society's annual Great American Smokeout will be held on Nov. 16. It's a day when millions of smokers put down their cigarettes — just for one day — with the conviction that if they can go 24 hours without one, then they can do it for 48 hours, 72 hours, and stop smoking for good. The idea grew out of a 1970 event in Randolph, Massachusetts, and became a national event in 1977.

Readers, I'm not going to harangue you with death threats. We are all aware of the grim statistics associated with cancer-related deaths caused by tobacco. If you're interested in quitting, this is a perfect opportunity.

Call (800) 227-2345 to be connected with counseling services in your community, provided with self-help materials offering information and strategies on quitting for good, and to receive information about medications available to help you quit. This service is free and provided 24/7. Or go online to cancer.org.

DEAR ABBY — I need your help. Over the past few weeks, I have been vacationing at my mother-in-law's home. The other day I was browsing on her computer and accidentally opened her browsing history. It turns out that she regularly looks at and responds to Craigslist personals.

I was shocked when I read some of the perverted requests she has responded to. The language she used would make a sailor blush. Keep in mind, my mother-in-law is a married woman.

I don't know how to react. Should I tell my wife? Keep it to myself? Make a fake Craigslist post and catch her in the act?

Kinks in the family

DEAR KINKS — If you disclose this to your wife, it could damage her relationship with her mother. If she tells her mother what you found, it will create a breach in the family. If you trap the woman by creating a fake Craigslist post and she realizes she has been made a fool of, it will not — to put it mildly — endear you to her. Let it lie.

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.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Community council gets closer look at wing's mission

BY SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTOPHER MALDONADO
20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE — The Shaw-Sumter Community Council received an inside look at the 20th Fighter Wing mission on Nov. 2.

The council members toured the base and met with airmen as a way to strengthen the relationship between Shaw Air Force Base and Sumter.

Attendees received a mission brief during the tour as well as the opportunity to visit an engine test facility, the control tower and the weapon standardization hangar.

David Durham, SSCC member, said his favorite part of the tour was seeing the engine testing and the daily operations in the control tower.

Each facility they visited helped engage council members in the bigger picture of the 20th FW mission.

"Most people don't see that Shaw is a combat base," said Robert Sexton, 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs chief of community relations. "They only see the jets coming and going or the military members driving around town. Once they come out here and see the things we do, they leave forever changed."

The purpose of the community council tours is to give the members an inside view of the base and a chance to meet the airmen they are supporting and reinforce the already strong connection the base has with



PHOTOS BY U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTOPHER MALDONADO / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Members of the Shaw-Sumter Community Council watch an F-16CM Fighting Falcon depart Shaw Air Force Base on Nov. 2. During the tour of the installation, SSCC visited an engine test facility, the control tower and the weapon standardization hangar.

the community.

Being given the opportunity to speak with the airmen in their environment and learn about what they do on a daily basis was a take away of the event, Durham said.

"The most common words we hear from our neighbors who come out for their first tour is, 'I had no idea,'" Sexton said. "These visits are tremendously valuable to them and us."

Durham stated that the events gave him an opportunity to learn about the economic and social impact that Shaw provides for the local

community.

Durham added that they also received an opportunity to speak with Shaw leadership and see what the community can do to continue to assist the base.

After meeting with airmen and seeing the facilities on base, the council members provided base leadership with insight on how they can

assist the local community and left with a better understanding of what the 20th FW accomplishes.

By learning about the base and the airmen who make

the 20th FW mission happen, Shaw leadership and members of the Sumter community reinforced an already strong relationship.



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Christopher Benton, 20th Maintenance Group weapons academic instructor, speaks with members of the Shaw-Sumter Community Council during a tour at Shaw Air Force Base on Nov. 2. Benton spoke with members about the suppression of enemy air defenses mission of the base and the various pieces of equipment used to accomplish it.

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KATIE DAMRON

FROM PAGE A5

him at a very young age. When one of his young student actors exuberantly expressed her love for SLT after a performance of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," he said, "I thought about the fact that we're here, and the reason we're here is Katie."

He then made a gesture that included the entire theater wing of the Sumter County Cultural Center.

"She got all of this for us through a lot of persistence and stubbornness," he said. "If we are here to perpetuate it and to keep it alive and keep it going, then we need to recognize her for what she's done. She was the one that made me fall in love with Sumter Little Theatre, so immediately the legacy was right there. I played a dwarf in 'The Hobbit' when I was about 11, and I've been acting ever since."

Bultman visited Damron in the hospital last week.

"I gave Katie a hug and a kiss on her forehead," he said. "She looked at me and said, 'Please shave off that beard. I mean it, Eric. It makes you look old.' I shaved it off that night. I did everything Katie told me to do. She was my director."

With Ms. Damron's passing, actor and director Traci Quinn said, "The Sumter Little Theatre is dark today because its brightest light is gone. ... The lessons she taught us, however, live on in each of us. She was a force of nature. A brilliant and demanding director ... a passionate teacher, a friend and mentor. ... I loved her, and I was smart enough to fear her, too."

"She cheated at Scrabble, gloated when she won at Shanghai. She had strong opinions and delighted in sharing them, whether you wanted her to or not. She was fierce, both in love and in anger. She forced her actors to pull from deep within, to take chances, to be brave and genuine



ABOVE: Katie Damron is seen with her friend Kipper Ackerman, whom she directed in several plays. The occasion was a 2014 production that saluted Damron for her work in the arts, as well as the community at large.

LEFT: The Sumter Little Theatre named the theater The Katie Damron Stage, and she served as executive director until her retirement in 2009.

and true. She rooted out falseness and encouraged intention. She abhorred laziness, in thought and actions.

"She gave us everything she had in every show — a lesson I am still trying to put into practice. ... She was loved by so many."

Heather Osborne Turner said she is one of many students "who was transformed by Katie Damron. The fire that she lit inside of me has been burning since the day I met

her. She lifted me high and gave my feet wings, which I so desperately needed growing up. She laughed with me, argued with me, advocated for me and hugged me in times of tears and joy. She was a powerful straight shooter. You never had to wonder what she thought. She'd tell you, whether you wanted to hear it or not. She was an incredible teacher. She didn't take less than all you had to give, every ounce until there was nothing left. I loved her. I ad-

mired her. I feared her. ... she would make me face things and deal with things that weren't always so easy to tackle. I miss her. Thank you, Katie. ... you always made me feel special: 'Light it up, Heather.'

"Now it's your turn. Light it up, Ms. Damron. I will love you forever."

Actor Braden Bunch praised Ms. Damron as "the most important person to the promotion of the performing arts for the Sumter community ever. ... if you are from Sumter and have ever acted, danced, sung or played a musical instrument in front of a crowd or have witnessed anyone from Sumter doing any of these things in the past 60 years or so, Katie Damron played at least a small part in making that performance a possibility, whether you knew it or not. Her legacy will be felt for years to come, and our community is better for it."

Michael Duffy, a longtime actor and director at SLT, added, "For those of us who had the great good fortune to fall under her influence, she cast a light and a shadow that will stay with us forever. Her lessons were at once a subtle dance and a relentless battle. She taught us the most fundamental of lessons: that the magic of a life well-lived is focus. All else is hubris. She lived an epic life. And because of that, no one walked away unchanged."

Actor Christy Smith agreed. "Katie Damron ... changed lives. She certainly changed mine. I met her when I was cast as Annie at the age of 10. She pushed me then to get out of my comfort zone. She gave me the gift of 'yes' — the will to take on a challenge even when it scared me.

"As the years passed ... I came to love her rare blend of candor and compassion. I could always count on her to tell me what she thought — unabridged. But I could also count on her to listen seriously to all of my small worries. She took me to see shows my family couldn't afford, shared her peanut butter crackers

SEE **KATIE DAMRON**, PAGE A10

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Legal Notice

Current and Former Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers in the Southeast and Their Family Members or Representatives

Could Get Money From a \$24 Million Settlement

A \$24 million Settlement has been reached with U.S. Tobacco Cooperative, Inc. ("U.S. Tobacco"), formerly known as Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, to resolve claims made by current and former U.S. Tobacco members over reserve funds. Tobacco growers across North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Florida, Georgia, and Alabama who were or are members of U.S. Tobacco, as well as their heirs or representatives, are eligible for a payment from the Settlement.

The Settlement stems from a lawsuit that claims U.S. Tobacco: (1) accumulated funds over the years through members who may now claim portions of those funds and (2) no longer served its purpose once the Tobacco Price Support Program ended. Although U.S. Tobacco denies these claims and that it is required to distribute any money, it has agreed to do so in this Settlement.

You may have seen information about the Lewis/Fisher Lawsuit in the North Carolina Superior Court that was certified as a class action. You can submit a claim even if you are a class member in the Lewis/Fisher Lawsuit. This Settlement will not become effective, and claims will not be paid, until the class claims in the Lewis/Fisher Lawsuit are discontinued or dismissed.

Am I Included?

You may be included in this Settlement if you are an individual or business that is or was a shareholder or member of U.S. Tobacco from June 1, 1946, through the date the Settlement goes into effect, or an heir or legal representative. An heir in this case is a person who received (or inherited) a share of a former shareholder's stake or member's membership in U.S. Tobacco. A legal representative is a person who legally acts for or on behalf of the shareholder or member.

How Can I Get a Payment?

You must submit a Claim Form online or by mail by **May 26, 2018**. The payment amount will be based on the total pounds of flue-cured tobacco you marketed and sold and/or the total number of crop years you marketed and sold flue-cured tobacco, relative to all members who submit a claim.

Your Other Options

If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement, you can exclude yourself from the Settlement by **December 20, 2017**. If you do not exclude yourself, you may object to the Settlement by **December 20, 2017**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **January 19, 2018**, to consider whether to approve the Settlement. Attorneys representing the Class will request up to \$2 million to be paid out of the \$24 million Settlement Fund to pay attorneys' fees and expenses and incentive payments to the individuals (i.e. class representatives) who brought the case and helped negotiate the Settlement. You and your own lawyer can appear and speak at the hearing, but you do not have to.

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PHOTO COURTESY SHANNON MEWBORN

Katie Damron was photographed after a 1988 performance of Sumter Little Theatre Youth Theatre's production of "The Hobbit." She was the founder, with her late friend and actress Jan Taylor, of SLT Youth Theatre, still a vital part of SLT.

KATIE DAMRON

FROM PAGE A9

with me and was kind in countless small but important ways. She was smart, brave, creative and generous — a fierce advocate for the arts and all they can do to strengthen a community. At age 10, I wanted to grow up to be like her. I still do."

Longtime family friend Blanding Jones called Damron "a wonderful friend, advocate and pillar of the arts community. ... she was provocative, brave, controversial, perfectionist, honest, inclusive and persistent. The greatest thing that I admire about Katie was that she shared the love of theatre and the arts with many an impressionable youth of Sumter, providing a proactive channel for self-expression and personal development."

Carmela Bryan, retired director of Sumter Cultural Commission, SLT actor and director: "She showed me how to have courage in my choices, dared me not to waste any talents I have, and I am forever grateful to her. She was my teacher, in theater and in life."

Former Sumter resident and SLT actor Marc van Bulck, now pastor at Seville (Ohio) Presbyterian Church, said, "My life would not be what it is today if it weren't for Katie. I was a horribly shy young person in early adolescence with pretty pitiful social skills. My impulse was always to hide, to retreat into myself and into my solitude, but I couldn't hide from Katie."

"... She used the arts to push me out of that comfort zone. She pulled me out of my shell and pushed me onto the stage, kicking and screaming, and it drew something out of me that I never in my wildest dreams imagined I could have: confidence."

"Katie Damron gave me the gift of my voice. I would never in a million years have been able to find the courage to go into the ministry without that gift, and I'll never be able to fully, truly thank her for that. God knows I tried, but Katie always fussed at me when I did."

"I didn't do it," she said, "the arts did it, and I believe that the arts still do it." Amen, Katie. That said, we still had one hell of a teacher. We love you. We all love you. Well done, good and faithful servant. Well done."

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OPINION

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

COMMENTARY

Thanks to staff at Tuomey for the memories

For the past week, I've been on a brief vacation at Tuomey hospital.

Thanks to Dr. Gene Dickerson and the tender mercies of the world-class nurses at Tuomey, I am back on my feet and ready to resume writing.

Being confined to a bed at Tuomey isn't too bad when you're in good hands. Even the cuisine isn't too bad at Tuomey. I especially enjoyed the chicken noodle soup. However, the bed I was assigned in my room was somewhat disappointing — too small, more fitting for a midget. But who goes to a hospital to sleep? It's not exactly the Ritz Carlton, nor is it supposed to be.

I wish I could name all the nurses who took care of me, but they know who they are, and I thank

them for their very fine care, although I keep wondering — when do they ever sleep?

Sure, they pestered me when checking my vitals and hooking up the IV's in my arms, but so what? That comes with the territory, and none of the nurses were like



Hubert D. Osteen Jr.

Nurse Ratched in the Jack Nicholson movie. When she saw to it, he got a lobotomy. Remember her? Tuomey's angels of mercy were real pros, and I thank them for helping put me back together again. Thanks for the memories, Tuomey staff. It sure was fun — wasn't it?

I hope you'll understand and not take it personally when I say I won't be back anytime soon.

Cheers,
Your appreciative patient
H.D. Osteen Jr.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COUNTRY NEEDS A BIG DOSE OF DR. JESUS

There appears to be a cloud hovering over our great nation, sucking the life for our people, division.

Hate, violence, crime, demands, protests and ungodly acts of pure evil. When and where will all of this end?

We, as a nation, have left our first love, God. We have many gods and idols in our lives, the wrong ones. We cannot serve two Gods, we will love the one and hate the other.

We need a great big dose of Dr. Jesus. He makes all things new. He heals and delivers, strengthens and renews, loves unconditionally.

God said, "If you will humble yourselves, repent of your sins, I will heal your land." 2 Chronicles 7:14. If our land ever needed healing, it is now.

We are the most blessed nation in the world. People from other countries will trade places with us in a second. What we take for granted, others treasure.

However, freedom wasn't free. It costs us nothing but it cost our fathers, grandfathers, uncles and brothers some limbs, some, their lives.

We are standing at the beginning of the end. God is not happy with us. His patience won't endure forever. Time as we know it is coming to an end.

It is true. We do need healing but, within ones self first, our hearts, homes, families and country, united, indivisible and justice for all, by all, for all.

If we choose not to honor God and our country, that is our choice but, who will God honor?

I choose God firsts and foremost. Without him, we are "blind leading the blind."

I pray, we as a Christian nation will show the world "In God We Trust" and believe and trust in God.

Love instead of bitterness and hate, unity, one God, one nation, one flag, one people, one heart.

Wake up America, take a stand, have a voice for our heavenly father. He heals all wounds for, "God so loved" you and me, he never leaves nor forsakes us, we forsake him.

Wake up. Today may be our last day to serve God.

SHERIAN MATTHEWS
Manning

McELVEEN IS MAYOR OF, FOR THE PEOPLE

On Wednesday, Nov. 8, Mayor Joseph McElveen attended a Care and Kindness Luncheon and recognized 10 deserving volunteers for their outstanding commitment to the Sumter community, effectiveness to volunteering and inspiration to others.

The mayor arrived enthusiastic and cheerful in spite of an injury

and assistance from a medical walker. For more than 30 minutes, he stood and presented awards, sharing personal stories and congratulatory remarks. Our mayor exemplified dignity, compassion and respect and all the criteria of an effective leader. The Evening Pilot Club of Sumter thanks him for all that he does for the community. Our city needs to know that Mayor Joseph McElveen is the mayor of the people and for the people.

DR. ANITA F. KIESLICH
The Evening Pilot Club of Sumter

DENTAL CLINIC EXCITED TO OFFER CARE IN SUMTER

Thank you for your recent article regarding the opening of Carolina Dental Associates. I am writing to clarify a few points about the article "Health center opens Sumter dental clinic," featured on the front page of the Nov. 7 edition of *The Sumter Item*.

Carolina Dental Associates is excited to offer general dentistry care for residents of the Sumter community. CDA accepts most insurances, including Medicaid, and sliding fee discounts are available to uninsured individuals based upon family size and income. The sliding fee discount program applies to all services offered by CDA for which a charge has been established; charges are neither based upon the sliding fee scale nor the individual's income level.

Dr. Dee Dailey, CDA's dental director, brings over 30 years of dental experience to the practice. Both Dr. Dailey and practice Administrator Jamie Geddings Rivers are longtime residents of the Sumter community.

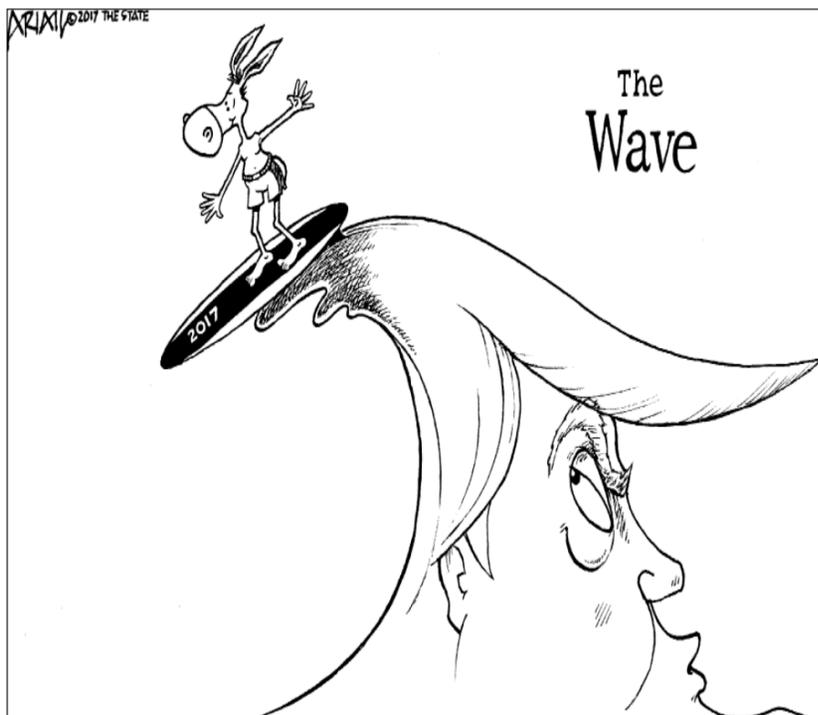
CDA has nine state-of-the-art operatories, each equipped with monitors to allow the dentists to show patients their X-ray images and further educate patients on any dental issues.

Carolina Dental Associates is open Mondays and Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Fridays, and is excited to offer extended hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

As one of four patient service delivery sites, Carolina Dental Associates is yet another way Sumter Family Health Center is improving access to affordable, comprehensive health care services for individuals living in Sumter County and its surrounding communities.

Individuals who participated in the interview for the article include: Jamie Geddings Rivers, CDA practice administrator; Sandra Sturkie, SFHC's corporate compliance officer; and Holly Chase, SFHC's director of community development.

ANNIE BROWN, MHA, BSN, RN
Chief executive officer, Sumter Family Health Center



COMMENTARY

Republican party should repeal, replace tax code

WASHINGTON — The Republicans' tax bill would somewhat improve the existing revenue system that once caused Mitch Daniels (former head of the Office of Management and Budget, former Indiana governor) to say: Wouldn't it be nice to have a tax code that looked as though it had been designed on purpose? Today's bill, which is 429 pages and is apt to grow, is an implausible instrument of simplification. And it would worsen the tax code's already substantial contribution to "moral hazard."



George Will

Economists use that phrase to denote circumstances in which incentives are for perverse behavior. Today's tax code is such a circumstance, and the Republican bill would exacerbate this by expanding the \$1,000 child credit to \$1,600 with an additional \$300 "family credit" for each parent and non-child dependent, and by doubling the standard deduction to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples. These measures would increase the number of persons not paying income taxes and would further decrease the percentage of income tax revenues paid by low-income earners.

Already 62 percent of American households pay more in payroll taxes than in income taxes. The bottom 50 percent of earners supply less than 3 percent of income tax revenues.

Forty-five percent of American households pay no income tax, either because they earn too little or because they qualify for enough exemptions and credits to erase their liability. Sixty percent pay nothing or less than 5 percent of their income.

Forty percent of earners are net recipients from the income tax because they qualify for refundable tax credits.

All this means that an already large — and, if the Republican bill passes, soon to be larger — American majority has a vanishingly small incentive to restrain the growth of a government that they are not paying for through its largest revenue source.

These facts might be the results of defensible tax and social policies. They should, however, be discomfiting to those remaining conservatives — they are on the endangered species list — who dispute Dick Cheney's notion that "Reagan proved deficits don't matter."

Deficits matter for their political as well as — actually, even more than — their economic effects: Deficits make big government cheap, enabling the political class to charge taxpayers rather less than \$1 for every \$1 of government benefits dispensed.

When the Bush-Cheney administration managed the last large tax cut, the publicly held national debt was 33 percent of GDP. Today it is 75 percent.

Today's Republican bill, drafted in the aftermath of the failure to repeal and replace Obamacare, is supposed to demonstrate to the party's Trumpian base that congressional majorities matter and must be extended. Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., chairman of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, has said (to USA Today): "If we had a whole bunch of wins on major items up to this point, would we perhaps be a little bit more deliberate in

our negotiations? I think the answer is yes." But the facts about participation in the income tax mean that the bill is unlikely to assuage the injured feelings of core Trump supporters, understood as downscale white working-class voters who supposedly are seething because they are not benefiting enough from burdensome government. They might have valid grievances, but not ones that can be addressed by income tax rate reductions for individuals. Payroll tax reductions would be another matter.

And all individual earners will benefit to some extent from cutting the corporate rate from 35 percent to 20 percent. The incidence of corporate taxation — who actually pays it — is fiercely debated by economists, a remarkably cocksure cohort with strikingly divergent views about the degree to which corporate taxation depresses the wages of the corporations' workers, curtails shareholders' dividends and is passed on to consumers in the costs of corporations' products. Suffice it to say that corporations do not pay taxes, they collect taxes. Uncertainty about the incidence of corporate taxation is one reason the Republican bill's corporate tax rate is 20 points too high.

This year's best tax bill, which Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., has introduced six times since 2006, is four pages long and contains fewer words (411) than the new Republican bill has pages. It could be titled "The 'What You Wished For, Mitch Daniels' Act."

It is titled, with almost unprecedented accuracy, the "Tax Code Termination Act." It would nullify the existing 4 million-word code as of Dec. 31, 2021, and require that by July 4 of that year it must be replaced by a new one, which would necessarily be one designed on purpose.

George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.

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Trump calls Putin sincere, ex-US intelligence heads 'hacks'

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE
AND JILL COLVIN

The Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam — Days before returning home from a whirlwind trip to Asia, President Donald Trump was back on the defensive over Russian election meddling, saying he considers President Vladimir Putin's denials sincere, dismissing former U.S. intelligence officials as "political hacks" and accusing Democrats of trying to sabotage relations between the two countries.

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One, Trump said Russian President Vladimir Putin had again vehemently insisted — this time on the sidelines of an economic summit in Vietnam — that Moscow had not interfered in the 2016 U.S. elections. Trump declined to say whether he believed Putin, but he made clear he wasn't interested in dwelling on the issue.

"He said he absolutely did not meddle in our election. He did not do what they are saying he did," Trump said as he traveled to Hanoi, the second-to-last stop of his Asia trip.

"Every time he sees me, he said: 'I didn't do that.' And I believe — I really believe — that when he tells me that, he means it," Trump said. He called the accusation an "artificial barrier" erected by Democrats — once again casting doubt on the U.S. intelligence community's conclusion that Russia tried to interfere in the election to help the Republican Trump beat Democrat Hillary Clinton.



Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, and President Trump talk as they arrive for the family photo session during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in Danang, Vietnam, on Saturday.

Trump is in Hanoi for a brief state visit. He'll depart for the Philippines later Sunday for a pair of summits that will close out his trip.

Trump and Putin did not have a formal meeting while they were in Vietnam for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, but the two spoke informally several times and reached an agreement on a number of principles for the future of war-torn Syria.

Trump made clear that the issue of Russian meddling in the election hovers over the leaders' relationship and said it jeopardized their ability to

work together on issues including North Korea's escalating nuclear program and the deadly conflict in Syria.

"Having a good relationship with Russia's a great, great thing. And this artificial Democratic hit job gets in the way," Trump told reporters. "People will die because of it."

Trump danced around the question of whether he believed Putin's denials, telling reporters that pressing the issue would have accomplished little.

"Well, look, I can't stand there and argue with him," Trump said. "I'd rather have him get out of Syria, to be honest with you. I'd rather have him, you

know, work with him on the Ukraine than standing and arguing about whether or not — 'cause that whole thing was set up by the Democrats."

Multiple U.S. intelligence agencies have concluded that Moscow meddled in the 2016 election to try to help Trump win. But Trump called the former heads of those agencies "political hacks" and argued there's plenty of reason to be suspicious of their findings.

The comments made clear that Trump still does not take the meddling seriously and sees little benefit in punishing a nation accused of undermining the most fundamental tenet of American democracy: free and fair elections. They also suggest that Trump is unlikely to work aggressively to try to prevent future meddling despite repeated warnings from senior intelligence officials that Russia is likely to try to interfere again.

Meanwhile, a special counsel investigation of potential collusion between Moscow and Trump campaign aides so far has resulted in two indictments for financial and other crimes unrelated to the campaign, as well as a guilty plea. Congressional committees have also been interviewing campaign and White House staff.

"Trump really raised the topic of so-called interference in US elections," Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, was quoted by Russian news agencies as telling reporters. "Putin categorically rejected even the hypothetical possibility that Russia could have in some way interfered in the U.S. electoral process."

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA ANNE F. COFFEY

MANNING — Patricia Anne Fockler Coffey, 83, widow of Howard Carroll Coffey, died on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017, at McElveen Manor in Sumter.

Born on Jan. 30, 1934, in Waynesboro, Virginia, she was a daughter of the late Albert and Addie Rebecca

Dickinson Fockler. She was a member of Manning First Assembly of God.

She is survived by three daughters, Carol Mims (Floyd) of Manning, Susan Coffey Campbell (George) of Sumter and Deborah Faye McDaniels (Archie) of Cleveland, Tennessee; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday in the chapel of Stephens Funeral Home with Pastor Brian Magaw officiating. Burial will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery in Sumter.

Pallbearers will be Gary Berry Jr., Doug Berry, Del Magaw, Matthew Ellis, Adrian Campbell and Jason Campbell.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from noon to 1 p.m. at Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the residence, 1827 Home Branch Road, Manning.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 520 Gervais St., Suite 300, Columbia, SC 29201.

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

MELVA YOUNG

MANNING — Melva Jean Smith Young, 77, wife of W. David Young, died on Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017, at her home.

Born on Nov. 20, 1939, in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Roy Lynwood and Sarah Pauline McLeod Smith.

She was the secretary for Woodman Life Lodge 10 in Turbeville for more than 25 years. She was also a member of Clarendon Baptist Church and the Annie DuRant Sunday school class.

She is survived by her husband of Manning; four daughters, Jean Phillips (Eddie), Marie Tolson (Watson) and Melodie Young, all of Lynchburg, and Cindy Welch of Turbeville; eight grandchildren, Sarah DenHartog (Rob), Edward Phillips (Caitlin), Andrew Tolson, Alex Tolson,

Dusty Ward, Daniel Welch (Danielle), Danielle Bullard (Will) and Sabrina Welch; a great-grandson, Brody Welch; and a number of nieces, nephews and special friends.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday at Clarendon Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike DeCosta officiating, assisted by the Rev. Patrick Goodwin. Burial will follow in Trinity Cemetery in Alcolu.

Pallbearers will be Bruce Phillips, David Ward, David Jones, Jack Horton, Legrande Jones and Carroll Welch.

Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Annie DuRant Sunday school class.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. on today at Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the residence, 2148 Lake Shore Drive, Manning.

Memorials may be made to Clarendon Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 307, Alcolu, SC 29001.

The family would like to thank Dennis Reynolds, Amedisys Hospice, especially Allison Ridgeway and Linda Ward, for all of their loving care and attention.

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

MICHAEL D. WALKER

Michael Duane Walker, affectionately known as "Big Mike," was born on May 24, 1974, in Cassatt, to Johnny Council and the late Elise Blackwell. He departed this earthly life on Monday, Nov. 6, 2017, at Palmetto Health Richland, Columbia.

Mike attended the public schools of Cassatt. Mike accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior at an early age. He was employed in construction at D. Holland Inc. in Camden in his earlier years. In 2005, he met and fell in love with the love of his life. Later in 2007, he was blessed with a loving and devoted wife, Shannaree Portee Walker.

He leaves to cherish his fond memories: his loving wife of 12 years, Shannaree Portee Walker; one daughter, Anastasha Walker of Ocala, Florida; two brothers, Carl (Yolanda) Blackwell of Lugoff and Marvin (Zasha) Walker of Chattanooga, Tennessee; one sister, Hope Walker of Columbia; two granddaughters; father, Johnny Council of Camden; a devoted father-in-law and mother-in-law, Theodore Jr. and Earnestine Portee of Rembert; a very special sister-in-law, Angieleka (Timothy) Pendergrass of Dalzell; one brother-in-law, Jamaal Portee of Sumter; a special aunt, Maggie Fowler of Cassatt; a

special uncle, Willie Williams of Camden; two special friends, Harry Moore and Albert Moore of Rembert; 13 nieces; and seven nephews, who will miss him dearly.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p.m. today at Greater Mount Pisgah Baptist Church, 609 Miller Road, Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Marvin Hodge, pastor, assisted by Minister Miceal Clea, eulogist, and Minister Carol Sanders. Interment will follow at Greater Mount Pisgah Baptist Church cemetery.

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

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

ANNIE D. BURNS

ALCOLU — Annie Davis Burns, 93, died on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017, at McLeod Health Clarendon, Manning.

She was born on April 18, 1924, in Alcolu, a daughter of the late Willie Davis Sr. and Darcus Anderson Davis.

The family is receiving friends at her residence, 1215 Tearcoat Road, Alcolu.

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

DR. JACK D. KINDER

ANDREWS — Dr. Jack Darrow Kinder, 85, died on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017, in Sumter.

Jack was born on Dec. 7, 1931, in Andrews, a son of the late Lucian Percy Kinder and Sallie Fitzgerald Kinder.

Dr. Kinder was a graduate of Andrews High School, attended Newberry College, and was a graduate of Emory University School of Dentistry, receiving degrees in dentistry and orthodontics — DDS, MSD. He began his orthodontics practice in 1970 and retired in 2008.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Andrews, a former Shriner and served his country in the S.C. Army National Guard.

Dr. Kinder was a member of the S.C. Dental Association, Pee Dee Dental Society, Southern Association of Orthodontist, American Association of Orthodontist, and World Federation of Orthodontist.

Surviving are four sons, Stephen Kinder of Hartsville, Scott Kinder (Cristi) of Sumter, Walter Owens (Melissa) and Joey Owens (Vicki), both of Andrews; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his wife LaJean Barrineau Owens Kinder; and a brother, Lucian "Pete" Fitzgerald Kinder.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. today in An-

drews Memorial Cemetery with the Rev. Dr. Paul Sapp officiating.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Andrews parlor following the service.

Sign the guest book at www.mayerfuneralhome.com.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Andrews, 10 N. Rosemary Ave., Andrews, S.C. 29510, or to the charity of one's choice.

BARBARA CELIZ

Barbara Gail Burns Celiz, age 65, beloved wife of Leopold Celiz and beloved mother of Nicolas and Brendan, died on Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017, at her residence.

Plans will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.



SYLVIA MCELVEEN

MANNING — Sylvia Stone McElveen, 76, widow of Joel Michael McElveen, was called home to rest in the arms of his loving savior on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017, at McLeod Health Clarendon surrounded by her family.

Born July 20, 1941, in Manning, she was a daughter of the late Sidney P. and Vera Geddings Stone.

She was a member of Home Branch Baptist Church where she was a former Sunday school teacher, G.A. leader, and member of the Joyful Heart Circle.

She retired as bookkeeper and assistant manager of The Daisy Shop. Sylvia had a special love for her family and children.

Survivors include three children, Barney Osborne (Vera), Sheila Bradshaw (Eddie) and Kim Osborne, all of Sumter; three step-children whom she loved as her own, Lynn McElveen and Wayne McElveen, both of Sumter, and Ann McElveen Deal (Tim) of Powell, Ohio; 14 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a brother, Phil Stone (Sherry) of New Hill, North Carolina; and two sisters, Jean Lowder and Joyce Hudson, both of Manning.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday at Home Branch Baptist Church with the Rev. Bennie Barwick and the Rev. Robert Haynes officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Noel Rodgers, Josh Osborne, Joe Osborne, J.T. Harrington, Fonzie Gipson, and Mac Geddings.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home, 2916

Stone Road, Manning.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Larry Edwards, Fonzie Gipson, Betty James, and Dayquan Ramos for the love, care, and support that they provided.

Memorials may be made to Love A Child Inc., 12411 Commerce Lakes Drive, Fort Meyers, FL 33913, or online at www.loveachild.givingfuel.com, or to the Lupus Foundation of America Inc., 2121 K St., NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20037-1830.

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

BETTY KELLY

Betty Bradley Kelly, 83, widow of Howard Herbert Kelly Sr., died on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, at her home.

Born on Oct. 18, 1934, in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late William Thomas and Lorna Tindal Bradley. She was a member of Calvary Bible Church and retired from Perfection Bakery after 30 years of service.

Survivors include six children, Howard "Butch" Kelly (Kathy), Michael "Mike" Kelly (Belinda), Daniel "Danny" Kelly, Heather Spiegel (Matthew), and Joseph "Bo" Kelly (Sabrina), all of Sumter, and Lorna Cripps (Mark) of Huntsville, Arkansas; 14 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; a brother, Jackie Bradley (Betty) of Sumter; and three sisters, Elaine McLeod (Ernest), Marie Phillips, and Lois Chandler, all of Sumter.

She was preceded in death by a son, Joey Kelly; and a brother, Billy Bradley.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Monday in Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. John Hall officiating. Burial will be in the Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Butch Kelly, Danny Kelly, Bo Kelly, Mike Kelly, Marcus Kelly Cripps, and Mark Cripps.

Honorary pallbearers will be Matthew Spiegel, Bridgett, Michelle, and Cynthia.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 3 p.m. on Monday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at 2455 Toxoway Dr., Sumter.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Carolina Geriatric Specialists, Amedisys Home Health, and Hospice for all of their care and compassion.

Memorials may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 4550 Montgomery Ave., Suite 1100 N, Bethesda, MD 20814.

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

Steve Bannon tells black business leaders to demand better

CHARLESTON (AP) — Former White House strategist Steve Bannon told a group of black South Carolina business leaders Friday that he understands the frustration they and others might feel at not being able to grow their businesses.

"Minority entrepreneurs are the biggest customers of community banks," Bannon said. "And you know why they didn't get recapitalized? Because nobody cares. When it comes time to make the deals, you're not in the room."

The Brietbart News chief participated in a round-table discussion

with several dozen black business leaders from across the Carolinas and Georgia. The event sponsored by the South Carolina African American Chamber of Commerce was closed to media except for The Associated Press.

Chamber Chairman Stephen Gilchrist, who counts Bannon as a friend, said he broached the idea of speaking to some of his members during a recent visit with Bannon at his Washington, D.C., home.

"This administration has an opportunity to engage a new constituency, and show them what policy really

means," Gilchrist told AP, ahead of the event.

Bannon got a warm welcome from the group, getting a resounding "Amen!" from members when he explained that his concept of "economic nationalism" has nothing to do with ethnicity or race but rather for policies that advance opportunities for its citizens.

For the black community, Bannon said, that means strengthening the community banks on which he said many minority-owned businesses rely. Those institutions, he said, didn't get the same bailout opportu-

nities as bigger banks did following the economic downturn several years ago.

"When it comes time to make the deals, you're not in the room," he said, adding that big banks "got a piece of the action."

"Isn't it time for your piece?" he asked.

Saying she and other black voters had trusted Trump when he told them he would support their communities, Vareva Harris of Benedict College — a historically black school in Columbia — asked Bannon what other candidates they should support to have a voice in government.

CLARK

FROM PAGE A1

rehabilitation place on Highway 15 and at the disability school."

Her last job before retiring was as a cook in Sumter school districts 17 and 2.

Retirement hasn't slowed down the soft-spoken grandmother.

She is secretary and clerk for Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church in Lynchburg, she said.

"I am a very church-going person," Clark said.

She also uses her talents as secretary of the Sumter South Carolina Combat Veterans Group.

"She keeps up with the minutes and the paperwork," said Ray Johnson, commander of the the group. "We have a very busy group, and she takes notes and makes sure we have got things."

She is dedicated and hard-working and does much more than just secretarial work, he said.

"All the events we have here, our balls, our family get together, she's definitely involved with that," John-

PHYLLIS CLARK

Age: 63

Husband: James Clark

Service: U.S. Army 1974-76, Fort Jackson and Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany

Education: Mount Pleasant High School, Elliot, South Carolina; Sumter Technical College; Certified Nurses Aid

Favorite Food: Homemade biscuits, peaches, fried chicken

Favorite Scripture: Psalms 51:10 — "Create in me a clean heart, oh God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Motto: Keep God first forever and learn to repent, rethink self, forgive others and learn to love and live."

son said. "She goes the extra mile and, should I say, is an outstanding soldier. We think a lot of her."

Clark said she still retains much that she learned in the military.

"I learned how to be disciplined, polite, caring about others and putting them first, knowing how to treat people," she said.

She said she also learned exercise and keeping fit.

"I," she said, "miss the cadence."



Mementos of Phyllis Clark's time in the U.S. Army are seen.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

BBQ

FROM PAGE A1

"He was a great friend to the community," he said.

The Anything Butt competition is from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday. Competitors may cook anything "from lobster to rattlesnake" but not pork. Samples are \$1 each. A \$100 People's Choice Award will be determined by the number of \$1 tickets collected.

"BBQ - By the Sandwich or by the Pound" will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Awards for firefighters include a Firefighter's First Place Pork trophy and a People's Choice Trophy. Competition awards include First Place Pork, \$800 plus plaque; Second Place Pork, \$300 plus plaque; Third Place Pork, \$100 plus plaque; First Place Ribs, \$200 plus plaque; Grand Champion, \$200 plus trophy; and Reserve Grand Champion, plaque.

The competition is sanctioned by the Southern BBQ Network, and cooks must abide by the group's rules.

A door prize at the competition will be a custom-built barbecue grill.

"It was made for us here locally in Sumter," Holland said. "It is a pull-behind-your-vehicle grill with two internal burners and one external burner."

Holland said the grill will be displayed behind the Sumter Combat Veterans entry in Saturday's Sumter Veterans Day Parade on Veterans Day.

"Anyone who buys a ticket can win the grill," he said. "You do not need to be present to win."

Visitors can also see a fire truck show, an Explorer/Junior Firefighter skills competition and enjoy music and entertainment.

Tickets to Saturday's events are \$10. Children age 10 and younger are admitted free. One person will win a stainless steel grill donated by Sumter ReMax Realty.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the American Red Cross.

For more information, visit www.sbbqn.com/firefighters-bbq-challenge.html or call (803) 775-2363.

BREAK-INS

FROM PAGE A1

Vehicle windows are broken occasionally, but targeted vehicles are usually left unlocked, Lyons said. As many as 30 vehicles have been entered in one night.

Recently, officers arrested three teenagers — 14, 16 and 18 years old — for allegedly breaking into vehicles in the historic district of the city and taking firearms, money and electronic devices on Nov. 5. According to the police department, all of the vehicles they targeted were unlocked. Some of the items reported stolen were recovered after the arrests.

This is a preventable problem, Lyons said. He described break-ins as crimes of opportunity.

When a person has the desire and ability to commit a crime, the opportunity will be taken advantage of when it is presented, he said.

Something as simple as a phone charger could motivate a criminal to pull on the door handle and try to enter the vehicle, he said.

Lyons said multiple unlocked cars can encourage criminals to stay in or return to certain areas to commit more break-ins.

When a person pulls on the door handle of an unlocked vehicle, the alarm

does not go off, allowing criminals to move on to the next vehicle, Lyons said.

The sound of a window breaking or an alarm going off could alert people in the neighborhood and possibly prevent other break-ins, he said.

There may be times when items such as concealed firearms have to be left inside vehicles, but they should be hidden from sight, he said.

Lyons said the best practice is to remove all valuables when getting home because most break-ins happen overnight. That includes coolers and tool boxes in the bed of pick-up trucks, he said.

Once you start locking your car every night before going to bed, it will become habit, he said.

"We want the community to help themselves," Lyons said.

Report all vehicle break-ins, even if nothing was taken, he said, and report any suspicious people or vehicles seen in your neighborhood at night.

Make sure to provide details of the person or vehicle, McGirt said.

The police department urges residents to be especially vigilant during this time of year — the holiday season.

Park in well-lit areas and secure valuable items out of sight before walking away from your vehicle, Lyons said, and never leave your car unattended while it is on, even if you are letting it warm up in the morning.

WILSON

FROM PAGE A1

According to information originally given to deputies, a man — an alleged stranger to Wilson — took Wilson to Dalzell Fire Station on U.S. 521 North after Wilson flagged him down while running out of the mobile home park.

The driver left the area after dropping Wilson off at the fire station, McMillan said.

Wilson was transported to Tuomey Regional Medical Center, now Palmetto Health Tuomey, in Sumter, where he was pronounced dead.

After further investigation, deputies found out that the driver and Wilson were acquaintances and that the driver took Wilson to Cubbage Mobile Home Park to meet another person, McMillan said.

He said the driver — and only witness — took Wilson to the mobile home park to meet the suspect who alleg-

edly pulled the gun, took Wilson's money and shot him in the chest.

The suspect then ran out of the back entrance of the mobile home park, McMillan said.

Investigators received tips indicating that two brothers may have been involved in some aspect of the incident, he said. At least one of the brothers may have known the man who robbed and killed Wilson, he said.

Wilson's cellphone records show he had been in contact with the brothers until a few minutes before he was shot, McMillan said.

The two suspects' alibis on the night Wilson was killed did not match up, he said. They "lawyered up" when they were approached for a second interview.

Though investigators had the phone records, they were still not enough to pursue charges.

The fact that the men spoke to Wilson minutes before he died does not necessarily

show criminal intent, McMillan said. Physical evidence is needed to gain an arrest warrant, he said.

But the two men have not been ruled out.

McMillan said investigators always thought the witness knew the suspect but was afraid to say anything.

He said the witness repeatedly said he did not want to put his family in danger when asked to give information about the shooter.

"That let us know he knew who the suspect was," he said.

McMillan said the witness did provide information for a composite sketch of the suspect, but nothing came of it.

According to previous reports of the incident, the shooter is described as a dark-skinned black man, about 5 feet, 9 inches tall, and 150 pounds.

The witness took whatever else he knew about the suspect to the grave, McMillan said.

This case is solvable, but

without any new information it will remain a cold case, he said.

Anonymous tips can be given by calling Crime Stop-

pers at (803) 468-2718 or 1-888-CRIME-SC. Information can also be provided by calling Sumter County Sheriff's Office at (803) 436-2000.

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AROUND TOWN

Sumter High School Class of 1978 will hold a 40th class reunion planning meeting at 3 p.m. today at the Sumter County Library, 111 N. Harvin St. Contact Sumter High School of 1978 on Facebook or email sumter-high1978@gmail.com.

The Sumter Branch NAACP's Veterans Day program will be held at 5 p.m. today at Beulah AME Church, 3175 Florence Highway. Lt. Col. Tammie L. Sledge

will serve as keynote speaker. **The General George L. Mabry Jr. Chapter 817, Military Order of Purple Heart** will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 16, at the Sumter Combat Veterans Group building, 529 N. Wise Drive. All Purple Heart recipients and those interested in association membership are invited. Life membership is available for only \$25. For more information, call (803) 773-0658.

PUBLIC AGENDA

CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL
Monday, 6 p.m., Administration Building, Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning

LYNCHBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., Teen Center on Magnolia Street, Lynchburg

SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, 6 p.m., 1345 Wilson Hall Road

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., Sumter County Council Chambers

LEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., family courtroom, second floor of the courthouse

PINEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., town hall

SUMTER HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
Tuesday, noon, Sunset Country Club

TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., town hall

SUMMERTON TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., town hall

MAYESVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 7 p.m., town hall

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional matters will escalate if someone hasn't been truthful. Make sure that your personal papers and any joint holdings are up-to-date and in safe hands. Don't let anger lead to isolation. Use facts and offer solutions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Personal partnerships, making plans for the future and enjoying what life has to offer with someone you love should be on your agenda. Taking care of your emotional needs is encouraged.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Check out your options when it comes to joint endeavors. Someone may try to take advantage of you if you are too easygoing or gullible. Money and possessions should be tucked away in a safe place. Emotional blackmail is apparent.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can make some positive changes at home or to the way you live. A simpler lifestyle will give you more time to enjoy new activities and make new acquaintances. Expand your interests and pay more attention to the way you look.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Disillusionment will set in if you believe everything you hear. Don't indulge in a competition with someone eager to make you look bad. Excess in any form will put you in a precarious position. Protect your reputation and your health.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Channel your emotional energy into something that will benefit you. Taking a course or a trip that will encourage you to engage in conversations with people from different backgrounds will lead to

new insights. Romance is encouraged.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emotional confusion will set in. Someone will lead you astray if you are too open about the way you feel. Put your money in a safe place and don't trust someone from your past with big ideas and expensive taste.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Accept change and figure out the best way to make things work in your favor. Flexibility will be required if you are to take advantage of a situation that can affect your home and relationships. Romance is highlighted.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An emotional situation will arise. Try to figure out what's fact and what's fiction. Knowing the truth about a situation will give you the leverage you need to avoid an emotional blunder. A self-awareness program is recommended.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The stars are aligning in your favor, but if you let your emotions take over you will miss out on a stellar opportunity. A chance to take part in something unique should be given your undivided attention. Make a personal commitment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional deception is apparent. Whether it's you withholding facts or someone else, you have to think carefully before you get involved in a joint endeavor. Avoid excessive and indulgent behavior.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional disillusionment will set in if you allow others to limit your freedom or put demands on your time. Take the initiative to do things your way and to make choices based on your needs. Romance is highlighted.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Cloudy and cool	Overcast with a shower	Some clouds, then sunshine	Mostly sunny	Sunny to partly cloudy	Sunshine
60°	46°	63° / 41°	60° / 38°	61° / 39°	67° / 45°
Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 10%
NE 6-12 mph	NNE 4-8 mph	NNE 6-12 mph	NE 7-14 mph	NE 6-12 mph	NNW 3-6 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

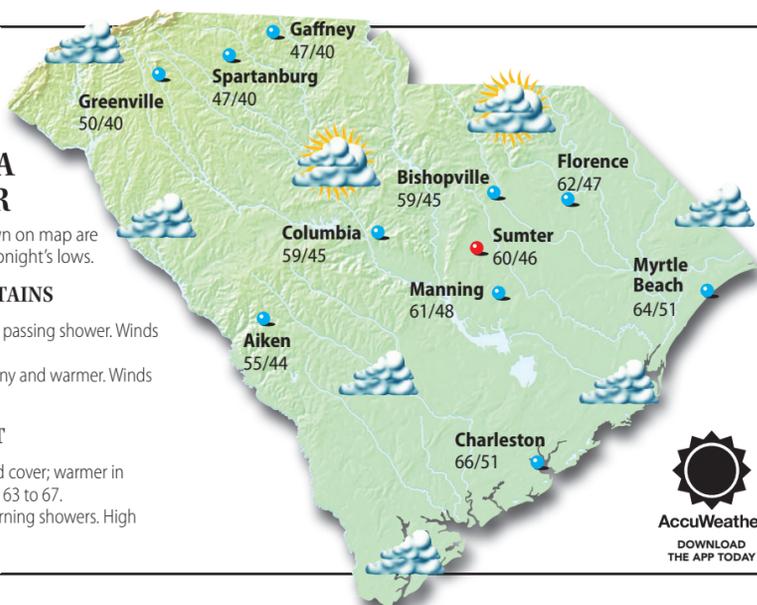
Today: Chilly with a passing shower. Winds northeast 4-8 mph.

Monday: Partly sunny and warmer. Winds north 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A thick cloud cover; warmer in northern parts. High 63 to 67.

Monday: A few morning showers. High 62 to 67.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	
High	51°
Low	35°
Normal high	68°
Normal low	42°
Record high	81° in 2006
Record low	25° in 1973

Precipitation	
24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date	0.68"
Normal month to date	1.03"
Year to date	33.25"
Last year to date	44.55"
Normal year to date	41.72"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	354.71	-0.04
Marion	76.8	74.65	-0.08
Moultrie	75.5	74.58	none
Wateree	100	96.90	-0.21

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	5.28	+0.38
Congaree River	19	1.75	-0.02
Lynchies River	14	3.17	+0.21
Saluda River	14	4.44	+1.54
Up. Santee River	80	76.54	-0.02
Wateree River	24	11.36	+0.74

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:52 a.m.	Sunset	5:20 p.m.
Moonrise	1:07 a.m.	Moonset	2:22 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Nov. 18	Nov. 26	Dec. 3	Dec. 10

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	3:55 a.m.	3.1	10:36 a.m.	0.4
	4:15 p.m.	3.3	11:14 p.m.	0.3
Mon.	4:55 a.m.	3.2	11:37 a.m.	0.3
	5:10 p.m.	3.2	---	---

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	52/45/c	65/45/s
Chicago	41/29/r	42/32/pc
Dallas	69/53/r	65/56/r
Detroit	41/32/c	44/32/pc
Houston	78/60/c	79/56/s
Los Angeles	71/56/pc	73/57/pc
New Orleans	73/60/c	74/56/s
New York	48/40/pc	48/38/r
Orlando	80/67/pc	79/65/sh
Philadelphia	50/38/pc	51/35/r
Phoenix	86/63/pc	88/62/pc
San Francisco	65/55/pc	65/52/sh
Wash., DC	50/40/c	51/40/r

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	52/40/c	58/35/pc	Florence	62/47/c	62/41/sh
Athens	52/41/c	66/41/s	Gastonia	49/41/c	64/39/s
Augusta	60/45/c	67/40/pc	Greenville	50/40/c	65/41/pc
Beaufort	67/52/c	67/46/c	Hickory	47/39/pc	62/37/pc
Cape Hatteras	67/56/c	66/53/c	Hilton Head	67/55/c	66/50/c
Charleston	66/51/c	64/45/c	Jacksonville, FL	78/60/pc	75/56/pc
Charlotte	50/39/c	64/38/s	La Grange	54/44/c	67/42/s
Clemson	48/42/c	65/43/pc	Macon	58/42/c	69/41/s
Columbia	59/45/c	66/40/r	Marietta	52/42/c	64/42/pc
Darlington	60/46/c	62/40/sh			
Elizabeth City	60/49/c	60/47/sh			
Elizabethtown	61/49/c	61/43/sh			
Fayetteville	59/46/c	61/41/sh			

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

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the Sumter ITEM

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

WHAT'S WHAT: Some adage equivalents
By Fred Piscop

ACROSS

- 1 Biographies
- 6 Hard to lift
- 11 Julius Caesar costume
- 15 Pealed
- 19 Comforting comment
- 20 Novelist Walker
- 21 Taken by spoon
- 22 Son of Isaac
- 23 " is "
- 26 Parcheesi pair
- 27 Regular dates
- 28 Numerical prefix
- 29 "Hollywood's Biggest Night" bestowals
- 31 Prime time hour
- 32 Vigor, on music
- 33 Moral principle
- 34 Polyester fabric

- 38 Quebec neighbor
- 40 Afghanistan's capital
- 43 Flub
- 44 " is "
- 49 Actor Neeson
- 50 Functioned
- 52 Bar garnish
- 53 Sushi ingredient
- 54 Sand shade
- 55 Low-heeled shoes
- 56 Snowy
- 58 Vuitton rival
- 60 Battery descriptor
- 62 Quaker captain of fiction
- 63 Steamy spots at spas
- 64 " is "
- 68 Jack London character
- 71 Successor of Claudius
- 72 Saw to it
- 76 Notable function
- 77 Penned
- 79 Kitchen mishap
- 80 Royal pal of Falstaff

- 81 Long, long time
- 82 Respectful address
- 83 Goosebumps author
- 84 Motel worker
- 85 " is "
- 90 Get extra mileage from
- 91 Hits the roof
- 92 Present an address
- 93 Catch-22 author
- 94 Allots, with "out"
- 97 Verified statement
- 98 Take to court
- 99 Can be found
- 101 Computer support pro
- 102 In addition to
- 107 Cheerful tune
- 108 " is "
- 112 Just sitting around
- 113 Facebook thumb icon
- 114 Adventure-some one
- 115 Clarification starter

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN

- 47 Bar mixer
- 48 Caspian et al.
- 50 Sci-fi being
- 51 "Please, please?"
- 55 Admiral's command
- 56 Invitation subhead
- 57 Seraphic symbol
- 58 Comic strip square
- 59 They may be underfoot
- 61 Trade org.
- 62 Assist in wrongdoing
- 63 Move laterally
- 65 Garden decoration
- 66 Conqueror's domain
- 68 Scallion cousin
- 69 Stratford-up-

- 70 City near Tahoe
- 73 Ryder rival
- 74 Hike up
- 75 Church official
- 77 Walk through a creek
- 78 Car wash supplies
- 79 Proofreader's mark
- 82 Family Guy daughter
- 83 Police jacket letters
- 84 Director Brooks
- 86 Took forcibly
- 87 Hold up well
- 88 One way to cook eggs
- 89 Corsage flowers
- 90 Brings aboard, as a fish

- 93 Rainbow array
- 94 Neighborhood shops
- 95 Rust, for example
- 96 Northern French city
- 97 Lavish parties
- 98 Took an oath
- 100 Price-cutting promotion
- 101 Little guy
- 102 City near New Delhi
- 103 Went swiftly
- 104 Prom rental
- 105 Explorer Tasman
- 106 Park-bench plank
- 109 Disallow, so to speak
- 110 Day-care break
- 111 Compass pt. "IGNORANCE is BLISS" (44)

Across) was coined by English poet Thomas Gray. "KNOWLEDGE is POWER" (85 Across) is attributed to Sir Francis Bacon, first appearing as its Latin equivalent. The Joseph HELLER (93 Across) novel Catch-22 was originally titled Catch-18, but was changed to avoid confusion with Leon Uris' recently published novel Mila 18.

SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

CROSSWORD

NOKIA	GDP	PS	WINE
ERECT	AREA	ITAL	
HELLO	VIP	PASSE	S
TEMP	LE	SE	PURCHASE
	LEIA	POUFFE	
NEW	DELHI	TRUETO	
ALOU	LOMA	ALCOA	
RIOS	SONGS	TRIS	
CADET	TORE	HELLI	
OSCAR	S	TERMITES	
	ADEAL	EVAN	
BAR	RELO	FMON	KEYS
ADV	IS	ABLE	GINSU
LIEN	DEAN	INKED	
MARK	SSGT	AGER	S

SUDOKU

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

JUMBLE

BLURB WAGER PICKUP PALLET
When the young players started crying, the baseball field became a — "BAWL" PARK

PREP FOOTBALL



PHOTOS BY TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

The Laurence Manning Academy football team and fans celebrate the Swampcats' 43-40 victory over Ben Lippen in the semifinals of the SCISA 3A state playoffs on Friday in Columbia. LMA will face Hammond in the championship game on Saturday at Benedict College's Charlie W. Johnson Stadium in Columbia. Hammond beat Porter-Gaud 42-14 on Friday.

Laurence Manning holds off Ben Lippen 43-40 to claim spot in SCISA 3A title game

BY TREVOR BAUKNIGHT
trevor@theitem.com.

COLUMBIA — Laurence Manning Academy will play for the SCISA 3A football state championship.

The Swampcats punched their ticket to Saturday's championship game at Benedict College's Charlie W. Johnson Stadium with a 43-40 victory over defending state champion Ben Lippen on Friday at the BL field.

Laurence Manning built a 43-26 lead in the fourth quar-

ter of the rematch of the Falcons' 26-23 regular-season win and held on for the win, surviving two late Falcon scores and getting a key fourth-quarter first down that enabled it to kill the clock.

LMA enters the championship game with a 10-2 record on the season. They'll face 11-0 Hammond, which defeated Porter-Gaud 42-14 on Friday to advance. Hammond beat the 'Cats 35-21 in their regular-season meeting.

"I'm so proud of the kids; they fought their tails off,"



Laurence Manning wide receiver Taylor Lee hauls in a touchdown pass just before halftime that gave the Swampcats a 28-20 lead over Ben Lippen in the semifinals of the SCISA 3A state football playoffs on Friday in Columbia. The senior wide receiver had two first-half touchdown receptions, of 65 and 19 yards, and the Swampcats held on to win 43-40 and advance to Saturday's state championship game against Hammond.

said LMA head coach Robbie Briggs, in his fifth season at the helm. "These guys have been together for four years, and I'm just really proud of

our effort. We kept our poise at the end and everybody contributed.

"I'm proud of the organization. We needed a win like

this," Briggs said. "We're a young football team, and we needed a win like this."

SEE LMA, PAGE B6

USC FOOTBALL

Gamecocks hold off Florida, win 28-20

BY EDDIE LITAKER
Special to The Sumter Item

COLUMBIA — What South Carolina quarterback Jake Bentley couldn't do with his arm on Saturday he more than made up for with his legs.

The sophomore signal caller uncharacteristically threw three interceptions against a struggling University of Florida squad but ran it in for two scores. Sophomore running back Mon Denson added the first two rushing touchdowns of his USC career as the Gamecocks held on for a 28-20 win at Williams-Brice Stadium.

"Well, we made it probably a little bit more interesting than it needed to be. (USC athletic director) Coach (Ray) Tanner has been complaining about concessions, so I figured we'd keep some people around until the



South Carolina running back A.J. Turner (25) runs the ball against Florida cornerback Marco Wilson (3) during the Gamecocks' 28-20 victory on Saturday in Columbia.

SEE USC, PAGE B4

CLEMSON FOOTBALL

No. 4 Clemson guts out 31-14 victory over FSU

BY PETE IACOBELLI
The Associated Press

CLEMSON — Travis Etienne rushed for 97 yards and two touchdowns, including a 1-yard burst with 3:05 left, and No. 4 Clemson won the ACC Atlantic Division with a 31-14 victory over Florida State on Saturday.

The Tigers (9-1, 7-1, No. 4 CFP) and their dominant defense looked to have this one wrapped up when they carried a 17-0 lead into the final couple minutes of the third quarter. But the Seminoles rallied

on Jacques Patrick's 9-yard scoring run and a double flea-flicker for a 60-yard TD catch by tight end Ryan Izzo.

Florida State then recovered Kelly Bryant's fumble on the Clemson 40 with 6:46 to go, putting the Seminoles in position to spoil the Tigers' College Football Playoff hopes. But safety Van Smith intercepted James Blackman's pass over the middle on the next play, setting up the TD drive that secured the win for the defending national champions.

Etienne had a 25-yard run to the

FSU 5 and took it in two plays later as the chilly Death Valley crowd erupted in celebration of a chance for a third straight ACC title in Charlotte in three weeks.

"I don't know if it's soaked in yet," Etienne, a freshman, said with a smile.

Cornerback Trayvon Mullen knocked away Blackman's fourth-down pass with 2:13 left to end the Seminoles' comeback hopes.

It's the fifth time in coach Dabo Swinney's nine full seasons that he

SEE TIGERS, PAGE B4

PREP FOOTBALL

Sumter's season comes to end in Summerville

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

SUMMERVILLE -- When Da'jon Butts scored from seven yards out and Roman Childers added the extra point, the Sumter High School football team had a 10-2 lead with 2:16 left in the third quarter of its 5A state playoffs second-round game against Summerville. While not a huge lead, things certainly looked good for the Gamecocks as the Green Wave was having no luck sustaining any offense.

Three minutes, 58 seconds, of actual game time later, Summerville was in possession of a 17-10 advantage. And that's the way the score would remain at Memorial Stadium's John McKissick Field as the Green Wave advanced to the quarterfinals.

Summerville, which improved to 10-2 on the season, will take on defending state champion Dutch Fork on Friday. Sumter finishes its season at 9-3.

"Our defense had played good all night, but then we just let it get away from us," said Gamecock head coach Mark Barnes. "We talked about not allowing explosive plays, but that's what we did down the stretch."

The Green Wave only had 233 yards of total offense, and 154 of that came in the 14:16 of the contest. Also, they did without their starting quarterback, Johnathan Bennett. He went out with a knee injury early in the second quarter.

SEE SHS, PAGE B6



BARNES

AUTO RACING

Elliott, Blaney bring new faces to NASCAR finale

AVONDALE, Ariz. (AP) — There’s no denying the rapid changing of the guard in NASCAR, and this year’s playoffs proved how quickly the young new drivers can make their way in this sport.

Chase Elliott, Ryan Blaney, Austin Dillon and Kyle Larson claimed four of the 16 playoff positions — a glimpse of the future of NASCAR.

Blaney and Elliott are the only two drivers still in the playoffs, and the two are among five drivers racing Sunday at Phoenix Raceway for one spot in next week’s championship deciding finale. Blaney will start from the pole, and Elliott will start fourth.

Their competition? Seven-time and defending NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson, 2012 champion Brad Keselowski and Denny Hamlin, probably the most successful active driver without a title.

A win Sunday by any of the five earns them an automatic berth into the finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway. Already qualified for the title

race are 2015 champion Kyle Busch, 2014 champion Kevin Harvick and Martin Truex Jr., the most dominant driver this season.

Blaney is ready to roll. “I don’t really feel a lot of pressure in any situation,” he said after winning the pole. He also noted that by points, he’s not currently eligible for the fourth spot. Should none of the contenders win at Phoenix, the final spot at Homestead will go to the highest-ranked driver, and that is currently Keselowski.

“We’re really not under any pressure right now. We’re out,” Blaney said. “If we were in right now, if we were like in a spot where we could get bumped out, that would be pressure. We really don’t have much to lose just because we’re not in a position to where we’re already locked in.

“I just think we’re up for the challenge. I think this team rises to those occasions and that’s what I like.”

Elliott likened his situation to the

closing laps of the Daytona 500, when he ran out of gas while leading. Opportunities come and go, and he’s learning that he’s got to grab them when he has the chance. He’d been eliminated from the playoffs before this round last year, so Elliott embraced that he’s still got a shot.

“This is my second time in the playoffs, we are still a part of it right now and that is more than I could say a year ago,” said Elliott. “I have learned a lot and I have learned that I don’t want to miss out on those opportunities moving forward. I am obviously going to try to do everything that I can if you ever have the chances down the road.”

If Blaney and Elliott fail to advance to the championship, it will be a victory for the old guard in NASCAR. The three already in at Homestead are longtime Cup veterans, which is no longer the best thing to be in NASCAR. As older drivers are being moved around for young, new faces, many have also gone overlooked.

PHOENIX CAN-AM 500 LINEUP

- By The Associated Press**
Friday’s qualifying; race Sunday
At Phoenix Raceway
Avondale, Ariz.
(Car number in parentheses)
- (21) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 137.942 mph.
 - (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 137.936.
 - (42) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 137.926.
 - (24) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 137.641.
 - (78) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 137.583.
 - (4) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 137.247.
 - (20) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 137.190.
 - (18) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 136.711.
 - (22) Joey Logano, Ford, 136.711.
 - (19) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 136.467.
 - (77) Erik Jones, Toyota, 136.374.
 - (48) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 136.224.
 - (1) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 136.841.
 - (88) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 136.322.
 - (41) Kurt Busch, Ford, 136.307.
 - (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 136.302.
 - (5) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 136.281.
 - (31) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 136.044.
 - (27) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 135.864.
 - (14) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 135.670.
 - (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 135.588.
 - (43) Aric Almirola, Ford, 135.308.
 - (47) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 135.227.
 - (10) Danica Patrick, Ford, 134.862.
 - (6) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 135.634.
 - (38) David Ragan, Ford, 135.354.
 - (17) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 135.318.
 - (95) Michael McDowell, Chevrolet, 135.293.
 - (13) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 135.014.
 - (32) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 134.847.
 - (37) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 134.695.
 - (34) Landon Cassill, Ford, 134.519.
 - (23) Corey LaJoie, Toyota, 133.551.
 - (72) Cole Whitt, Chevrolet, 133.546.
 - (7) Joey Gase, Chevrolet, 133.482.
 - (66) David Starr, Toyota, 132.558.
 - (15) DJ Kennington, Chevrolet, 132.251.
 - (33) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 131.617.
 - (51) Kyle Weatherman, Chevrolet, 127.042.
 - (00) Derricke Cope, Chevrolet, 0.000.

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
6:30 a.m. — International Tennis: Fed Cup Final Rubber 3, 4 & 5 — United States vs. Belarus and ATP World Tour Finals Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).
10:30 a.m. — Formula One Racing: Brazilian Grand Prix from Sao Paulo, Brazil (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
11:50 a.m. — International Soccer: UEFA 2018 World Cup Qualifying Leg 2 Match from Basel, Switzerland — Northern Ireland vs. Switzerland (ESPN2).
Noon — College Soccer: Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament Championship Match from Charleston — Virginia vs. Wake Forest (ESPN2).
Noon — College Soccer: Big East Conference Tournament Championship Match from Washington — Xavier vs. Georgetown (FOX SPORTS 2).
Noon — College Basketball: Jacksonville at Georgetown (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
Noon — International Tennis: Fed Cup Final Rubber 3, 4 & 5 — United States vs. Belarus and ATP World Tour Finals Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).
1 p.m. — NFL Football: Pittsburgh at Indianapolis (WLTX 19).
1 p.m. — NFL Football: New Orleans at Buffalo (WACH 57).
1 p.m. — CFL Football: Eastern Conference Playoffs Semifinal Game — Saskatchewan at Ottawa (ESPN2).
1 p.m. — College Volleyball: Missouri at Florida (SEC NETWORK).
1 p.m. — PGA Golf: OHL Classic at Mayakoba Final Round from Playa del Carmen, Mexico (GOLF).
1:30 p.m. — Women’s College Basketball: Stanford vs. Connecticut from Columbus, Ohio (ESPN).
1:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Monmouth at Seton Hall (FOX SPORTS 1).
2 p.m. — College Soccer: American Athletic Conference Championship Match from Dallas (ESPN2).
2 p.m. — College Basketball: George Mason at Louisville (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
2 p.m. — College Basketball: North Carolina A&T at Clemson (WWBD-FM 94.7, WPUB-FM 102.7).
2:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series Can-Am 500 from Avondale, Ariz. (WIS 10, WEGX-FM 92.9).
2:30 p.m. — International Soccer: UEFA 2018 World Cup Qualifying Leg 2 Match from Piraeus, Greece — Croatia vs. Greece (ESPN2).
3 p.m. — College Basketball: Nebraska (Omaha) at Oklahoma (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
3 p.m. — Professional Basketball: NBA G-League Game — Grand Rapids at Long Island (NBA TV).
3 p.m. — College Volleyball: Texas A&M at Mississippi (SEC NETWORK).
3 p.m. — College Soccer: Patriot League Tournament Championship Match (SPECTRUM 1250).
3:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Vermont at Kentucky (ESPN).
4 p.m. — NFL Football: Dallas at Atlanta (WLTX 19).
4 p.m. — Women’s College Basketball: Louisville at Ohio State (ESPN2).
4 p.m. — Senior PGA Golf: PGA Tour Champions Charles Schwab Cup Championship Final Round from Phoenix (GOLF).
4:30 p.m. — CFL Football: Western Conference Playoffs Semifinal Game — Edmonton at Winnipeg (ESPN2).
6 p.m. — College Basketball: Tennessee (Martin) at Illinois (ESPN2).
6 p.m. — College Basketball: Princeton at Butler (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
6 p.m. — College Basketball: Bucknell at Arkansas (SEC NETWORK).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Alcorn State at Creighton (FOX SPORTS 1).
8:20 p.m. — NFL Football: New England at Denver (WIS 10, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).
9 p.m. — Women’s International Soccer: United States vs. Canada from San Jose, Calif. (FOX SPORTS 1).

MONDAY
7 a.m. — International Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals Doubles and Singles Round-Robin Matches (TENNIS).
9 a.m. — International Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals Singles Round-Robin Matches (TENNIS).
1 p.m. — International Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals Doubles Round-Robin Matches (TENNIS).
2:30 p.m. — International Soccer: UEFA 2018 World Cup Qualifying Leg 2 Match from Milan, Italy — Sweden vs. Italy (FOX SPORTS 1).
3 p.m. — International Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals Singles Round-Robin Matches (TENNIS).
6 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Baseball Writers’ Association of America Awards — Rookies of the Year (MLB NETWORK).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Minnesota at Providence (FOX SPORTS 1).
7 p.m. — Women’s College Basketball: South Carolina at Maryland (ESPN2).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Gardner-Webb at Florida (ESPN2).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Delaware State at DePaul (FOX SPORTS 2).
7 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Dallas at Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Sacramento at Washington (NBA TV).

8 p.m. — College Basketball: Charlotte at Oklahoma State (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
8 p.m. — College Basketball: Western Michigan at South Carolina (SEC NETWORK, WDXY-FM 105.9, WNKT-FM 107.5, WDXY-AM 1240).
8:15 p.m. — NFL Football: Miami at Carolina (ESPN, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
8:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Rider at Xavier (FOX SPORTS 1).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: College of Charleston at Wichita State (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Wagner at Missouri (ESPN2).
9 p.m. — USL Soccer: USL Championship Match from Louisville, Ky. — Swope Park Rangers vs. Louisville City FC (ESPN2).
10 p.m. — College Basketball: Tennessee Tech at Texas Christian (Joined In Progress) (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
11:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Rhode Island at Nevada (ESPN2).

NFL STANDINGS

By The Associated Press
All Times EST
AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	2	0	.750	216	179
Buffalo	5	3	0	.625	174	149
Miami	4	4	0	.500	116	179
N.Y. Jets	4	5	0	.444	191	207

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	5	3	0	.625	181	193
Jacksonville	5	3	0	.625	206	117
Houston	3	5	0	.375	229	208
Indianapolis	3	6	0	.333	162	260

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750	167	131
Baltimore	4	5	0	.444	190	171
Cincinnati	3	5	0	.375	129	158
Cleveland	0	8	0	.000	119	202

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	6	3	0	.667	253	208
Oakland	4	5	0	.444	196	214
Denver	3	5	0	.375	150	198
L.A. Chargers	3	5	0	.375	150	152

NATIONAL CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	8	1	0	.889	283	179
Dallas	5	3	0	.625	226	178
Washington	4	4	0	.500	177	194
N.Y. Giants	1	7	0	.125	129	207

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	6	2	0	.750	221	155
Carolina	6	3	0	.667	168	159
Atlanta	4	4	0	.500	170	172
Tampa Bay	2	6	0	.250	158	198

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	6	2	0	.750	179	135
Detroit	4	4	0	.500	206	186
Green Bay	4	4	0	.500	181	191
Chicago	3	5	0	.375	134	171

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
L.A. Rams	6	2	0	.750	263	155
Seattle	6	3	0	.667	211	165
Arizona	4	5	0	.444	155	223
San Francisco	0	9	0	.000	143	239

THURSDAY’S GAMES
 Seattle 22, Arizona 16

TODAY’S GAMES
 Pittsburgh at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
 Minnesota at Washington, 1 p.m.
 L.A. Chargers at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
 New Orleans at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
 Green Bay at Chicago, 1 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
 Cleveland at Detroit, 1 p.m.
 Houston at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
 Dallas at Atlanta, 4:25 p.m.
 New England at Denver, 8:30 p.m.
 Open: Kansas City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Oakland

MONDAY’S GAMES
 Miami at Carolina, 8:30 p.m.

NBA STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	11	2	.846	—
Toronto	7	4	.636	3
New York	6	5	.545	4
Philadelphia	6	5	.545	4
Brooklyn	5	7	.417	5½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	8	4	.667	—
Washington	6	5	.545	1½
Miami	6	6	.500	2
Charlotte	5	7	.417	3
Atlanta	2	10	.167	6

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	9	3	.750	—
Indiana	6	7	.462	3½
Milwaukee	5	6	.455	3½
Cleveland	5	7	.417	4
Chicago	2	8	.200	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	9	3	.750	—
Memphis	7	4	.636	1½
San Antonio	7	5	.583	2
New Orleans	6	6	.500	3
Dallas	2	10	.167	7

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	7	4	.636	—
Denver	7	5	.583	½
Portland	6	6	.500	1½
Utah	5	7	.417	2½
Oklahoma City	5	7	.417	2½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	9	3	.750	—
L.A. Clippers	5	6	.455	3½
L.A. Lakers	5	7	.417	4
Phoenix	4	9	.308	5½
Sacramento	3	8	.273	5½

FRIDAY’S GAMES

Detroit 111, Atlanta 104
 Boston 90, Charlotte 87
 Indiana 105, Chicago 87
 Miami 84, Utah 74
 Milwaukee 94, San Antonio 87
 Oklahoma City 120, L.A. Clippers 111
 Orlando 128, Phoenix 112
 Brooklyn 101, Portland 97

SATURDAY’S GAMES

Atlanta at Washington, 7 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
 Memphis at Houston, 8 p.m.
 Sacramento at New York, 8 p.m.
 Chicago at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
 Cleveland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Utah, 9 p.m.
 Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
 Orlando at Denver, 9 p.m.

TODAY’S GAMES

Toronto at Boston, 3:30 p.m.
 Miami at Detroit, 4 p.m.
 Houston at Indiana, 6 p.m.
 Dallas at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.

MONDAY’S GAMES

Sacramento at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Cleveland at New York, 7:30 p.m.
 Atlanta at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
 Memphis at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
 Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m.
 Denver at Portland, 10 p.m.
 Orlando at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

TUESDAY’S GAMES

Boston at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
 Toronto at Houston, 8 p.m.
 San Antonio at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	17	13	2	2	28	69	45
Toronto	18	11	7	0	22	68	62
Ottawa	16	8	3	5	21	59	53
Detroit	17	8	8	1	17	48	49

Boston	15	6	5	4	16	43	47
Montreal	17	7	9	1	15	44	60
Florida	15	5	8	2	12	52	60
Buffalo	16	5	9	2	12	39	58

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	15	9	4	2	20	52	48
N.Y. Rangers	18	9	7	2	20	60	59
Pittsburgh	18	9	7	2	20	46	63

USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



South Carolina forward A'ja Wilson, right, drives to the basket against Alabama State's Arleatha Gipson during the first half of the Gamecocks' 99-31 victory on Friday in Columbia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Defending champ No. 4 South Carolina opens with 99-31 win

COLUMBIA (AP) — South Carolina coach Dawn Staley keeps the net she cut down after winning the national title hanging on her rear view mirror.

And after the title banner dropped before Friday's 99-31 win over Alabama State, Staley said it is time for her No. 4 Gamecocks (1-0) to put the title in their rear view mirrors too.

"We've moved on," Staley said. "We're a lot different. We look different."

Not everything is different. Two-time all-American A'ja Wilson scored 16 points and had 10 rebounds in just 14 minutes.

Penn State transfer Lindsey Spann, the Lady Lions leading scorer a year ago, added 16 points of her own for a team that had three players in the top 10 picks of this year's WNBA draft.

The party started before Friday's warmups. The SEC championship rings were passed out and confetti poured down as the title banner dropped.

"We threw the confetti in so they could get a good sense of what we felt in Dallas," said Staley, whose Gamecocks beat Mississippi State 67-55 to win the school and her first national title.

The party continued after the tip. Alabama State's Amber Hunt hit a 3 to put the Lady Hornets (0-1) up 3-2. South Carolina would score the next 23 points. The Gamecocks also ended the first half with another 23-0 run.

The 68-point margin was the second-largest win at South Carolina for Staley.

The Gamecocks forced 29 turnovers and held Alabama State to 20 percent (11-of-54) shooting.

BIG PICTURE

Alabama State: Ten of the 11 Lady Hornets who played scored. Hunt led the team with eight points. Alabama State is picked to finish third in the Southwestern Athletic Conference after finishing third last season.

South Carolina: Staley opens her 10th season with the Gamecocks. No coach in the Southeastern Conference has been with a team longer. Friday's game ended a whirlwind offseason for Staley. She took over the U.S. national team this summer along with countless appearances across the country. Senior and likely starter Bianca Cuevas-Moore sat out Friday with a sore knee and Staley said she will likely miss the next game too.

MOTHER AND CHILD REUNION

For one player and coach, this game was extra special.

Lady Hornets coach Freda Freeman-Jackson got to see her daughter Bianca Jackson's college debut for the Gamecocks. The freshman had eight points and six rebounds and found herself getting instructions from both ends of the floor.

"I gave her some looks. Get up on your shot! Your shot is flat!" Freeman-Jackson said, recalling her advice.

Mom said she was proud Friday, especially after Jackson didn't score in South Car-

olina's 116-56 exhibition win over Coker.

"How do you have 116 points and you're not on the board," Freeman-Jackson said she asked her daughter while in town.

FIFTH WHEEL

While everyone celebrated the national title, Spann just watched. But she said the ceremony will serve as motivation.

"It's something I definitely want to be a part of. That's still another goal for this season," Spann said.

UP NEXT

Alabama State: The Lady Hornets play their home opener on their redesigned floor at the Dunn-Oliver Acadome on Monday against Savannah State.

South Carolina: The Gamecocks get a much tougher test Monday at No. 15 Maryland.

SOUTH CAROLINA 99 ALABAMA ST. 31

ALABAMA ST. (0-1) Stephens 1-7 1-2 3, Calhoun 0-0 0-0 0, Hunt 3-9 0-2 8, Pye 1-3 0-0 2, Smith 1-2 0-0 2, Milner 0-5 2-4 2, Nelson 2-4 0-0 4, Sapp 1-7 1-1 3, Harvey 1-8 0-0 2, Gipson 1-5 0-2 3, Lee 0-4 2-4 2, Totals 11-54 6-15 31. SOUTH CAROLINA (1-0) Jennings 3-7 1-1 7, Wilson 5-9 6-6 16, Cliney 5-8 4-4 15, Harris 4-7 0-0 9, Spann 6-9 1-1 16, Harrigan 7-10 4-5 18, Williams 1-5 0-4 2, Grissett 1-2 4-7 6, Jackson 4-10 0-0 8, Patrick 1-5 0-0 2, Totals 37-72 20-28 99. Alabama St. 9 5 13 4 —31 South Carolina 29 27 25 18 —99 3-Point Goals Alabama St. 3-9 (Hunt 2-5, Pye 0-1, Milner 0-1, Sapp 0-1, Gipson 1-1), South Carolina 5-19 (Jennings 0-1, Cliney 1-3, Harris 1-4, Spann 3-5, Jackson 0-3, Patrick 0-3), Assists Alabama St. 9 (Smith 8), South Carolina 16 (Harris 4), Fouled Out Alabama St. Stephens, Calhoun, Milner, Rebounds Alabama St. 31 (Harvey 9), South Carolina 48 (Wilson 10), Total Fouls Alabama St. 27, South Carolina 14. A_13,723.

USC MEN'S BASKETBALL

Kotsar, Booker lead Gamecocks to 73-52 win over Wofford

SPARTANBURG (AP) — Frank Booker has had a lot to learn in a short amount of time with South Carolina. The graduate transfer looks like he's figuring things out at the right time for the Gamecocks.

Booker, who's played at Oklahoma and Florida Atlantic before joining the Gamecocks, scored 12 points off three 3-pointers in South Carolina's 73-52 rout of Wofford on Friday night.

Booker is among eight new faces for a South Carolina that ran to the Final Four last season. Booker shot confidently, hitting four of his six shots, and calmly helped the Gamecocks (1-0) take care of the ball on the way to their 17th straight opening-game victory.

Maik Kotsar, one of two starters back from last year's group, had 13 points while two other first-year Gamecocks in Felipe Haase and Wesley Myers scored 10 points each.

"It was fun," said Booker, who helped Oklahoma reach the NCAA Tournament both years there. "It was exciting. I love these guys already. But going through practice the way we go through practice, coming to the game we can just relax and play basketball the way we know to."

Booker canned a 3-pointer on his first shot, also the first basket made in a game at Wofford's glittery new basketball venue, funded and named after Carolina Panthers owner and Wofford alumnus Jerry Richardson.

South Carolina coach Frank Martin thought it essential to bring in some experience, even if it weren't in his system. Booker fills that bill. Martin acknowledged that getting a feel of someone's game can be a time-consuming process. "But I'm starting to get a better feel on Booker on what things I can do for him and not do for him," Martin said.

SOUTH CAROLINA 73] WOFFORD 52

SOUTH CAROLINA (1-0) Silva 2-5 5-6 9, Kotsar 5-10 3-4 13, Minaya 2-5 1-1 6, Booker 4-6 1-2 12, Gravett 2-7 0-0 5, Gueye 0-0 0-0 0, Haase 4-6 0-1 10, Cudd 0-0 0-0 0, Doumbia 0-1 0-0 0, Myers 3-6 2-2 10, Beatty 2-6 0-0 6, Corchiani 0-0 0-0 0, Holden 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 25-54 12-16 73. WOFFORD (0-1) Jackson 3-7 3-6 9, Pegram 3-7 4-4 12, Hoover 2-7 4-5 9, Theme-Love 0-2 0-0 0, Magee 7-17 0-0 17, Aluma 0-0 0-0 0, Lowery 0-0 0-0 0, Hollowell 0-2 0-0 0, Murphy 1-4 1-1 3, Brooks 1-3 0-0 2, Totals 17-49 12-16 52. Halftime South Carolina 33-24. 3-Point Goals South Carolina 11-23 (Booker 3-5, Haase 2-3, Myers 2-4, Beatty 2-4, Minaya 1-2, Gravett 1-2, Silva 0-1, Kotsar 0-1, Holden 0-1), Wofford 6-19 (Magee 3-9, Pegram 2-2, Hoover 1-4, Hollowell 0-1, Brooks 0-1, Theme-Love 0-1, Jackson 0-1), Fouled Out None, Rebounds South Carolina 35 (Silva 10), Wofford 22 (Jackson 9), Assists South Carolina 17 (Kotsar 4), Wofford 7 (Murphy 4), Total Fouls South Carolina 17, Wofford 16. A_3,400 (3,500).

Wofford (0-1) kept things tight most of the first half and trailed 25-22 on Derrick Brooks' jumper with 3:15 left in the opening half.

That's when the Gamecocks took control with a 20-2 run that spanned both periods. Booker and fellow first-year player Myers



MARTIN

had 3s in the run. When Hassani Gravett closed the surge with one more 3, South Carolina led 45-24.

"The wheels just came off," Wofford coach Mike Young said.

Fletcher Magee had 17 points, 15 in the opening half, to lead Wofford.

BIG PICTURE

South Carolina: The Gamecocks had open looks from the outside and knocked them down. That will be harder to come by as the competition gets more difficult the next few weeks. South Carolina will need to drive to the basket more than they showed against the Terriers.

Wofford: Win or lose, the Terriers and their fans were excited to play in their new building. The Southern Conference school did not have enough to hang with the Gamecocks of the Southeastern Conference. But will compete strongly in their league this season and enjoy a bigger home advantage than ever before.

UP NEXT

South Carolina opens up its home schedule Monday night against Western Michigan.

Wofford takes on Washington & Lee at home Sunday before flying cross country to play at California on Thursday night.

MORE TO THE STORY

Read on at www.theitem.com.

CLEMSON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Grantham leads Clemson to easy victory over WCU

CLEMSON (AP) — Donte Grantham scored 14 points and grabbed five rebounds to lead Clemson to an 85-57 victory over Western Carolina in both teams' season opener Friday night.

"It's really kind of the way you want an opening game to go," Clemson head coach Brad Brownell said. "We had to work a little bit in the first 10 minutes and make a few plays, but I thought the mid part of the first half we did some good things defending the 3, attacking the basket, got to the free-throw line."

The Tigers shot 50 percent from the field and held the Catamounts to 39 percent shooting while out-rebounding the visitors 39-32.

Elijah Thomas came off the bench to record 11 points while starter Gabe DeVoe also reached

that mark.

Grantham, a senior forward, shot 5 of 6 from the field and made all three of his 3-point attempts. He credited his teammates for finding him in open space.

"We've got so many guys who can have a good night any night," Grantham said. "That was just a flash of just how we can play."

Coming off a season of seemingly countless close losses, Clemson made sure there was nothing to sweat in the first game to begin 2017-18.

The Tigers led 22-19 with 8:56 left to play in the first half, but they closed with a 22-2 run over the final 6:59 of the half to take a 44-22 lead into the locker room.

"We got them to turn the ball over. We got some steals and some long rebounds that led to transitions," said Clemson guard Marquise Reed, who scored 10 points. "When we're playing in the open floor we're a real hard team to stop."

Haboubacar Mutombo, nephew of former NBA center Dikembe Mutombo, led Western Carolina with 10 points.

The Catamounts recorded 20 turnovers, which Clemson turned into 20 points. The Tigers also got 38 points from their bench.

"It's always really good when you get to play a lot of kids and they play well and make a basket or two," Brownell said. "Now we can move on and start to get a little better. We need improve our turnovers, but beyond that I thought our defense was good and it was a good start."

BIG PICTURE

Western Carolina: The Catamounts, who were picked to finish ninth in the Southern Conference, have lost 28 of their last 37 road openers.

Clemson: The Tigers got off to a solid start defensively, despite not having junior forward David Skara, whom Brownell called the team's best defender in the preseason. The Valparaiso transfer is suspended for the first nine games this season for violating an undisclosed NCAA rule at his previous school.

UP NEXT

Clemson gets another home game Sunday against North Carolina A&T before playing in next week's Gildan Charleston Classic.



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COLLEGE FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Auburn cruises past No. 2 Georgia

AUBURN, Ala. (AP) — Kerryon Johnson ran for 167 yards and caught a 55-yard touchdown pass from Jarrett Stidham and No. 10 Auburn smothered No. 2 Georgia's running game in a 40-17 victory Saturday.

The Tigers (8-2, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) remained in Western Division and potentially playoff contention after snapping a three-year losing streak to one of their top rivals. The Bulldogs (9-1, 6-1) came in with the top spot in the playoff rankings and could get a rematch if Auburn can beat No. 1 Alabama in two weeks.

The first go around wasn't pretty for Georgia. Auburn held Nick Chubb, Sony Michel and the SEC's top ground game to 46 yards, 233 below their season average.

GEORGIA TECH 28
(17) VIRGINIA TECH 22

ATLANTA — TaQuon Marshall made the most of his only two completions.

And, finally, Georgia Tech won a close game.

Marshall threw a pair of long scoring passes, including an 80-yarder to Ricky Jeune with 6½ minutes remaining, and Ajani Kerr swatted away a fourth-down pass in the end zone to preserve Georgia Tech's 28-22 upset of No. 17 Virginia Tech

on Saturday. This one felt especially good for the Yellow Jackets (5-4, 4-3 Atlantic Coast Conference), who had lost three games by a total of six points.

(11) OHIO STATE 48
(13) MICHIGAN STATE 3

COLUMBUS, Ohio — No. 11 Ohio State put to rest any notion that it wouldn't be motivated to finish strong after a surprising loss last week dropped the Buckeyes out of national championship contention.

The Buckeyes came out fast, scoring on five of their first six possessions on the way to a 48-3 rout of No. 13 Michigan State, a team that has given them headaches in recent years.

The blowout in front of the home fans helped Ohio State (8-2, 6-1 Big Ten, CFP No. 13) bury last week's mystifying loss to Iowa, and put it in sole possession of first place in the Big Ten East with two games remaining.

(6) WISCONSIN 38
(25) IOWA 14

MADISON, Wis. — Kendrick Pryor scored twice, and No. 6 Wisconsin relied on stifling defense to overcome four turnovers and Iowa cornerback Josh Jackson's two touchdowns in a 38-14 win

Saturday over the Hawkeyes.

The win allowed the Badgers (10-0, 7-0 Big Ten, CFP No. 8) to clinch a trip to the conference title game as West champions.

Credit their defense for another overpowering outing at chilly Camp Randall Stadium.

Leon Jacobs recovered two fumbles — one returned for a score — and fellow linebacker T.J. Edwards had an interception for the Badgers, who shut down an Iowa offense that had overwhelmed Ohio State last week.

(12) OKLAHOMA STATE 49
(24) IOWA STATE 42

AMES, Iowa — One week after letting Oklahoma break its heart, No. 12 Oklahoma State rallied late to stun 24th-ranked Iowa State — handing the Cyclones one of the most devastating defeats in school history.

Mason Rudolph threw for 376 yards and three touchdowns — including two in the final 5:55 — and Oklahoma State beat Iowa State 49-42 on Saturday to keep its Big 12 title hopes alive.

Justice Hill had 134 yards and three TD runs for the Cowboys (8-2, 5-2 Big 12, No. 15 CFP), who remain in a tie for second place in the league with two games to go.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCORES

STATE	(late)
SATURDAY	Georgia Tech 28, (17) Virginia Tech 22
	Army 21, Duke 16
	North Carolina State 17, Boston College 14
	Wake Forest 64, Syracuse 43
	Louisville 38, Virginia 21
SEC	
SATURDAY	(1) Alabama at (18) Mississippi State (late)
	(10) Auburn 40, (2) Georgia 17
	LSU 33, Arkansas 10
	Mississippi 50, Louisiana Lafayette 22
	Kentucky 44, Vanderbilt 21
	Tennessee at Missouri (late)
ACC	
SATURDAY	(3) Notre Dame at (7) Miami

TOP 25	
FRIDAY	Stanford 30, (9) Washington 22
SATURDAY	(8) TCU at (5) Oklahoma (late)
	(6) Wisconsin 38, (25) Iowa 14
	(11) Ohio State 48, (13) Michigan State 3
	(12) Oklahoma State 49, (24) Iowa State 42
	(14) UCF 49, Uconn 24
	(15) Southern Cal 38, Colorado 24
	(16) Penn State 35, Rutgers 6
	(19) Washington State at Utah (late)
	(21) Michigan 35, Maryland 10
	(23) West Virginia 28, Kansas State 23

TIGERS FROM PAGE B1

has taken the Tigers to the conference title game. Clemson will face No. 7 Miami, which won the Coastal Division with Virginia's 38-17 loss to Louisville on Saturday.

For Florida State (3-6, 3-5), it marked its first losing ACC record since 2006. And the Seminoles' landmark streak of 35 straight bowl games is in jeopardy, too — they have three games left against Delaware State, rival Florida and Louisiana-Monroe.

Bryant finished with 151 yards passing. He also rushed for 60 yards and a touchdown. Adam Choice had a 10-yard TD run with 35 seconds left for Clemson's final score.

"The story of the night was definitely the defense and the turnovers," Swinney said. "Especially that one by Van Smith. And we finally got that drive that we needed" in Etienne's second TD.

Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher said his team will regroup and prepare to build on its second half.

"We usually find a way to win games like these," he said. "We've got to find that again."

THE TAKEAWAY

Florida State: The Seminoles defense can play with

anyone and, with just a little offensive help, should be able to keep the team in its remaining games. Florida State rescheduled the game with Louisiana-Monroe, postponed by Hurricane Irma, for Dec. 2 with potential bowl eligibility on the line.

Clemson: The Tigers had another uneven offensive showing with Bryant struggling on longer passes. While Clemson has a defense capable of carrying it to another deep playoff run, it must show more consistency and effectiveness on offense to make it through the more difficult opponents looming in the post-season.

INJURY ISSUE

Clemson played without a pair of key defensive starters in tackle Dexter Lawrence and linebacker Kendall Joseph. Lawrence, a 6-foot-4, 340-pound sophomore, was out with a foot injury. Joseph, the team's second-leading tackler, sustained a leg injury last week against North Carolina State. Cornerback Ryan Carter missed much of the final stretch after he was hit hard on a punt return by Florida State linebacker Emmett Rice. Rice was flagged for targeting.

(4) CLEMSON 31				
FLORIDA ST. 14				
Florida St.	0	0	7	7
Clemson	7	10	0	14
				-14
				-31
First Quarter				
CLE_K.Bryant 2 run (Al.Spence kick), 2:51				
Second Quarter				
CLE_Etienne 28 run (Al.Spence kick), 6:34				
CLE_FG Al.Spence 26, 1:43				
Third Quarter				
FSU_Patrick 3 run (Aguayo kick), 1:13				
Fourth Quarter				
FSU_Izzo 60 pass from Blackman (Aguayo kick), 8:53				
CLE_Etienne 1 run (Al.Spence kick), 3:05				
CLE_Choice 10 run (Al.Spence kick), :35				
A_81,436.				
First downs	FSU	CLE		
	12	24		
Rushes-yards	24-21	52-227		
Passing	208	151		
Comp-Att-Int	13-32-1	20-30-0		
Return Yards	86	92		
Punts-Avg.	7-39.14	6-33.83		
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2		
Penalties-Yards	4-55	7-80		
Time of Possession	23:50	36:10		
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS				
RUSHING Florida St., Akers 12-40, Eberle 0-4, Patrick 5-3, Blackman 7-(minus 26), Clemson, Etienne 14-97, K.Bryant 19-60, Choice 7-40, Feaster 9-21, Fuller 2-10, (Team) 1-(minus 1).				
PASSING Florida St., Blackman 13-32-1-208, Clemson, K.Bryant 20-30-0-151.				
RECEIVING Florida St., Murray 4-73, Tate 4-33, Gavin 2-17, Izzo 1-60, Akers				

USC FROM PAGE B1

for second place in the Southeastern Conference's Eastern Division, finishing at 5-3 for just the eighth winning conference record since joining the SEC in 1992.

While Muschamp has the Gamecocks on a strong upward trend in his second season as head coach, UF is trending in the opposite direction. The loss drops the Gators to 3-6 overall and 3-5 in the SEC, the program's third losing conference record since 2011.

Muschamp cited "the culture within our program" as the key to his team being able to overcome injuries and adversity in a year when other teams have struggled with those circumstances.

"We have a 'so what, now what' mentality and that's part of who we are and what we are moving forward," Muschamp said. "That's true in life. To me, you talk about progress. This football team was 3-9 two years ago, 3-9! I just complimented them in the locker room. You talk about investing in what you need to do to be successful -- to buy into a new coaching staff, to buy into maybe a different way of doing things. I'm really proud of how this football team has invested in us and invested in themselves and each other because there's a lot of progress being made.

"We're not happy with where we are. Don't misunderstand what I'm saying. We have a lot more out there for us moving forward, but I'm very proud of the progress we've been able to make."

USC continued the trend of teams piling up rushing yardage against the beleaguered Gator defense, rushing for a net of 220 yards on 47 attempts. A.J. Turner led the way with 136 yards on 22 carries while Denson closed with 13 rushes for 61 yards, including touchdown runs of 24 and 12 yards.

"I had an opportunity to get a lot of space today," Turner said. "I felt like (tight

end) Hayden (Hurst) and Jake really did a good job blocking as well as our O-linemen. You have to give credit to them. Without them, I wouldn't be able to do what I did. I just ran to the open holes and ran hard."

With Turner and Denson seeing so much run success, former Crestwood High School standout Ty'Son Williams did not take the field against the Gators.

"Ty'Son is fine," Muschamp said. "A.J. was running extremely well. Mon was playing extremely well. I just talked to Ty'Son in the locker room and he's good. Certainly we're going to need him moving forward."

Along with his run game success against the Gators, Turner played a key role in the pass game, hauling in three passes for a career-high 36 yards. All three of Turner's receptions resulted in Gamecock first downs, including a third-down conversion.

Bentley lost 15 yards on three sacks to pull his rushing numbers down to 29 yards on eight runs, including a long of 17 yards and scoring runs of four and seven yards. His final passing numbers were 19 of 29 for 249 yards with the three picks.

"It was total miscommunication on the first one. It was completely my fault on that one," Bentley said. "The second one, I didn't see the guy. Hayden was completely open but just didn't see the rotation. Despite that, Hayden did a good job of recognizing what we were doing and just running across the field. The third one just can't happen. I need to just throw it away and take care of the ball. It was a bad decision, but at the end of the day we won and it's easier to learn from a bad decision with a win than the other way around. You just have to learn from it."

Of the three UF interceptions, the first exemplified a

season of struggle and chaos for a program that has won the last two SEC East titles. With the Gamecocks clinging to a 7-0 lead and taking over at their own 4 after a 59-yard Johnny Townsend punt, Bentley lofted a pass that UF defensive back C.J. Henderson intercepted at the Gamecock 25. With Henderson headed to the end zone for a potential game-tying score, Hurst came up with the tackle at the 1, forcing a fumble that Turner recovered in the end zone and ran back out to the 24.

The Gators would force a punt, which would be fumbled by Brandon Powell, with Javon Charleston recovering at the UF 13. Then, just when it seemed the Gamecocks were about to take charge, Bentley threw a second interception, which Chauncey Gardner Jr. returned from the 1 to the Gators' 47.

UF got three points off the Gamecocks' only fumble of the game on a play where a punted ball hit a USC player and was recovered by Rayshad Jackson at the USC 38. UF starting quarterback Malik Zaire completed three passes to get the ball to the 12 before Eddy Piniro came on for a 29-yard field goal, cutting the lead to 14-3 with 14:02 left in the half.

Zaire would come out for a play on the Gators' next possession, with Felipe Franks coming on to throw an incomplete pass, then reenter. Zaire cut to his left and then fell to the ground untouched for a 6-yard loss. Zaire, who rushed six times for 21 yards and completed 7-of-14 passes for 49 yards, would not make it back onto the field for the remainder of the game.

"After he collapsed, we took him out because of the severity of the injury," said UF interim head coach Randy Shannon, who would not give injury specifics until he could contact Zaire's family. "This is not the NFL (National Football League), this is college football and no matter what the injury is, we can't allow guys to put them-

selves in harm's way. He wanted to go back in. He came out at halftime and I came up to him and said, 'I can't do it to you. We will be OK, we will be all right.' He just started crying. I cannot put anyone in that situation."

With Zaire out, Franks came on to complete the 7-play, 46-yard drive that ended with a 37-yard Pineiro field goal.

Denson's 12-yard scoring run capped an 8-play, 75-yard drive and put USC up 21-6 with 4:07 left in the half. Most of the yardage came on two plays, a 14-yard Or'Tre Smith reception and a 13-yard Turner run.

UF answered with a 7-play, 75-yard drive that ended in the Gators' first touchdown of the day. Franks hooked up with

Josh Hammond for 37 yards to open the drive and Lamical Perine closed the drive with an 18-yard run that closed the gap to 21-13 heading into halftime.

Trailing 28-13 late, the Gators added another "did that really happen" moment as Franks scrambled and found a wide open Moral Stephens streaking toward the end zone. As Stephens gathered in the pass, he ran into the only person between him and the goal line, teammate Mark Thompson, with Stephens going down at the 1 for a 63-yard gain. UF would score on the next play, with Thompson running it in for the ultimate vulture touchdown, but not before almost losing it on a fumble that was ruled to have come after Thompson crossed the goal line.

SOUTH CAROLINA 28				
FLORIDA 20				
Florida	0	13	0	7
South Carolina	14	7	7	0
				-20
				-28
First Quarter				
SC_Bentley 4 run (White kick), 11:30				
SC_Denson 24 run (White kick), 2:08				
Second Quarter				
FLA_FG Pineiro 29, 14:02				
FLA_FG Pineiro 37, 7:47				
SC_Denson 12 run (White kick), 3:40				
FLA_Perine 18 run (Pineiro kick), 1:18				
third Quarter				
SC_Bentley 7 run (White kick), 2:08				
Fourth Quarter				
FLA_M.Thompson 1 run (Pineiro kick), 3:43				
A_79,727.				
First downs	FLA	SC		
	12	24		
Rushes-yards	22-78	47-220		
Passing	223	249		
Comp-Att-Int	17-39-1	19-29-3		
Return Yards	0	55		
Punts-Avg.	8-39.0	4-37.75		
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	0-0		
Penalties-Yards	10-56	3-26		
Time of Possession	24:19	35:41		
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS				
RUSHING Florida, M.Thompson 3-35, Perine 6-24, Zaire 6-21, Harkless 0-0, Franks 7-(minus 2), South Carolina, Turner 22-136, Denson 13-61, Bentley 8-14, Hurst 1-11, Bry.Edwards 1-2, (Team) 2-(minus 4).				
PASSING Florida, Zaire 7-14-0-49, Franks 10-25-1-174, South Carolina, Bentley 19-29-3-249.				
RECEIVING Florida, B.Powell 5-58, Toney 3-37, Massey 2-11, M.Stephens 1-63, Hammond 1-37, Cleveland 1-11, Swain 1-7, Perine 1-2, Lewis 1-(minus 1), M.Thompson 1-(minus 2), South Carolina, O.Smith 5-60, Hurst 5-59, Bry. Edwards 3-48, Turner 3-36, S.Smith 1-26, August 1-11, Dawkins 1-9.				
MISSSED FIELD GOALS South Carolina, White 47.				

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TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

Laurence Manning's Burgess Jordan looks for running room against during the Swampcats' 43-40 victory over Ben Lippen in the semifinal round of the SCISA 3A state playoffs on Friday in Columbia.

LMA FROM PAGE B1

The 43 points scored were a marked contrast to the Swampcats' last two outings, a pair of hard-fought wins over Wilson Hall, a 14-13 last-second win at Spencer Field in Sumter and a 20-14 overtime thriller last week in Manning in a first-round game. Briggs said he felt the difference was his team's ability to execute its plan.

"We felt like we could do some things against them," Briggs said. "We had an idea of what they were going to do defensively. Last game, they kind of surprised us with some looks, but our kids had a good week of practice and responded well.

The game had the makings of a shootout, with each team scoring touchdowns on three of their first five possessions. The Swampcats got a defensive stop and finished the first half with an 11-play, 75-yard drive that culminated in a 19-yard touchdown pass to senior wide receiver Taylor Lee, who also had a 65-yard touchdown catch and run to open the Swampcats' scoring. Brewer Brunson's 2-point conver-

sion dive gave LMA a 28-20 halftime lead.

Brunson had two touchdowns of his own, scoring on runs of one and eight yards. Burgess Jordan added a 1-yard scoring dive, and Wyatt Rowland had a 17-yard touchdown reception.

The Falcons cut the lead to 28-26 with a methodical touchdown on their first possession of the second half, but their 2-point conversion attempt failed. Laurence Manning answered with a 13-play drive capped by Brunson's 3-yard plunge, and Jackson Lee's point-after kick made it 35-26.

A big defensive stop on Ben Lippen's next series gave LMA the ball near midfield as the third quarter drew to a close. The 'Cats drive ate up nearly four minutes of the fourth stanza before Burgess Jordan dove in from the 1-yard line, and another successful 2-point conversion made it 43-26 with just over eight minutes remaining.

"We were balanced," Briggs said. "Everybody contributed, and we're thankful for the win and happy for the organization. We'll just go back to work tonight."

S.C. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULE

SCHSL

5A

SECOND ROUND

UPPER STATE

Greenwood 28, T.L. Hanna 21
Dorman 36, Mauldin 9
Gaffney 21, Northwestern 10
Hillcrest 33, Spartanburg 14

LOWER STATE

Dutch 42, West Florence 14
Summerville 17, Sumter 10
Spring Valley 35, Conway 28
Fort Dorchester 55, Carolina Forest 13

QUARTERFINALS

FRIDAY

Upper State
Greenwood at Dorman
Gaffney at Hillcrest

LOWER STATE

Summerville at Dutch Fork
Spring Valley at Fort Dorchester

4A

SECOND ROUND

UPPER STATE

Greenville 42, York 27
Greer 42, South Aiken 21
South Pointe 45, Belton-Honea Path 3
Eastside 48, Westwood 15

LOWER STATE

Lower Richland 34, Myrtle Beach 31
Hartsville 35, Cane Bay 7
North Myrtle Beach 42, Crestwood 28
Berkeley 44, Lugoff-Elgin 14

QUARTERFINALS

FRIDAY

Upper State
Greenville at Greer
Eastside at South Pointe

LOWER STATE

Lower Richland at Hartsville
North Myrtle Beach at Berkeley

3A

SECOND ROUND

UPPER STATE

Chapman 55, Chester 25
Palmetto 42, Seneca 0
Fairfield Central 14, Newberry 7
Emerald 49, Broome 21

LOWER STATE

Gilbert 48, Bluffton 21
Dillon 43, Bishop England 12
Brookland-Cayce 35, Wade Hampton 13
Timberland 28, Georgetown 6

QUARTERFINALS

UPPER STATE

Palmetto at Chapman
Emerald at Fairfield Central

LOWER STATE

Dillon at Gilbert
Brookland-Cayce at Timberland

2A

SECOND ROUND

UPPER STATE

Cheraw 40, Blacksburg 6
Abbeville 61, Chesterfield 35
Saluda 28, Ninety Six 14
Lee Central 21, Southside Christian 14

LOWER STATE

Bamberg-Ehrhardt 42, Latta 7
Carvers Bay 41, Woodland 21
Batesburg-Leesville 42, Whale Branch 21
Barnwell 28, Andrews 16

QUARTERFINALS

FRIDAY

UPPER STATE

Cheraw at Abbeville
Lee Central at Saluda

LOWER STATE

Bamberg-Ehrhardt at Carvers Bay
Batesburg-Leesville at Barnwell

1A

SECOND ROUND

UPPER STATE

Lewisville 24, McCormick 22
Ridge Spring-Monetta 7, Timmonsville 0
Lamar 55, Hunter-Kinard-Tyler 8
Williston-Elko 18, Dixie 3

LOWER STATE

Baptist Hill 33, Green Sea-Floyds 24
Lake View 32, Cross 12
C.E. Murray 41, Hannah-Pamplico 37
Hemingway 48, St. John's 0

QUARTERFINALS

FRIDAY

UPPER STATE

Lewisville at Ridge Spring-Monetta
Lamar at Williston-Elko

LOWER STATE

Lake View at Baptist Hill
C.E. Murray at Hemingway

SCISA

3A

SEMIFINALS

Laurence Manning 43, Ben Lippen 40
Hammond 42, Porter-Gaud 14

CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY

At Benedict College in Columbia
Charlie W. Johnson Stadium
Laurence Manning vs. Hammond, 7:30 p.m.

2A

SEMIFINALS

First Baptist 77, Robert E. Lee 20
Trinity-Byrnes 19, Florence Christian 6

CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY

At Benedict College in Columbia
Charlie W. Johnson Stadium
Trinity-Byrnes vs. First Baptist, 3:30 p.m.

1A

SEMIFINALS

Pee Dee 42, Thomas Heyward 34
Dillon Christian 45, Carolina 14

CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY

At Benedict College in Columbia
Charlie W. Johnson Stadium
Dillon Christian vs. Pee Dee, noon

8-MAN DIVISION I

SEMIFINALS

Wardlaw 58, Beaufort 8
Northside Christian 66, Coastal Christian Prep 44

CHAMPIONSHIP

FRIDAY

At Calhoun Academy in St. Matthews
Wardlaw vs. Northside Christian, 7:30 p.m.

8-MAN DIVISION II

SEMIFINALS

Andrew Jackson 30, Clarendon Hall 24
Jefferson Davis 30, Patrick Henry 8

CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY

At Calhoun Academy in St. Matthews
Jefferson Davis vs. Andrew Jackson, noon

SHS FROM PAGE B1

"You have to give them credit," Barnes said. "They overcame a lot of adversity there."

Sumter seemed to have the momentum well in hand in the third quarter. After fumbling the football and having Summerville recover at the Sumter 43-yard line, the Gamecock defense came up with three negative plays, forcing the Wave to punt.

Starting at its 20, Sumter put together a 9-play scoring drive. Quarterback Ontra' Harvin connected with wide receiver Anthony Dinkins-McCall for a 32-yard gain on the drive. Butts covered the final 24 yards, going in from seven yards out for the score.

Summerville finally got its offense in gear, mainly the passing game between backup quarterback Andre Banks and 6-foot-5-inch wide receiver Shaq Davis.

Banks, who normally plays H back or a slot receiver, connected with Davis for a 12-yard gain on first down. After running back DJ Hancock had a 14-yard run, Banks placed a pass perfectly into the hands of Davis for a 36-yard gain to the Sumter 26.

"Andre has good touch with his passing," said Summerville head coach Joe Call, the grandson of McKissick, the winningest high school coach ever. "After what happened to Bennett, we were able to catch our breath and see what we could do offensively. We were able to do a lot more than we thought we could.

It looked like the Gamecocks might stymie Summerville again when Banks was called for intentional grounding, leaving it facing third down and 26 yards to go from the 35. However, with three receivers to his left, Banks went to Davis, who was isolated on the right. Davis went up and made a catch for a touch-

down. Ray Cotton added the extra point to make it 10-9 with 31 seconds left in the third quarter.

"That was the one play that really killed us," Barnes said.

It quickly went from bad to worse for Sumter. On the first play of the fourth quarter, Harvin was trying to pass when he was hit from the backside by outside linebacker Colby Taylor, jarring the football loose and the Green Wave recovered at the Sumter 17.

Banks went back to the same well, connecting with Davis for a 13-yard scoring pass with 10:18 remaining in the game. Banks then threw to Olin McCurdy for the 2-point conversion to make it 17-10.

Sumter was on the move on the ensuing possession. It started at its 19 and got as far as the Wave 32 before turning the ball over on downs on fourth down.

On the first play after tak-

ing over with 5:19 left, Summerville laid the ball on the ground and it looked as though Sumter would recover. However, the Green Wave came up with the ball and picked up three first downs to run out the clock.

"I'm just really proud of my players," Barnes said. "They've stuck with it through adversity, and these seniors have won a lot of games."

Sumter only managed 218 yards of total offense, 136 of it coming on the ground. Jonathan Henry led the way with

90 yards on 22 carries, while Butts had 54 yards on nine totes.

"We just played a very sloppy game tonight," Barnes said.

In the first half, Childers booted a 30-yard field goal with 2:34 left in the first quarter to make it 3-0. Summerville got its first-half points when Harvin was called for intentional grounding after fumbling a snap in the end zone, then picking up the ball and throwing it away.

That made it 3-2 with 5:58 left in the first half.

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THIS WEEK

According to a survey by Harris Poll for SunTrust Banks, 60% of those who spend time buying or making holiday gifts said they would spend more time with friends and family if they didn't have to worry about the gifts. Other findings:

- 25% would use the gift money on activities with friends/family.
- 43% feel pressured to overspend on gifts.
- 37% would pay down debt.
- 47% would save or invest.

ON THE MOVE

Stock stories of the week

MICHAEL KORS HOLDINGS

MICHAEL KORS The fashion company's shares soared on progress in winning back luxury customers and reported earnings well above analysts' estimates in its second quarter.



NIKE

 In the first year of an eight-year, \$1 billion deal with the NBA, the athletic gear maker's jerseys are ripping apart when pulled by other players during games.



FORD MOTOR

 The automaker finalized an alliance with Anhui Zotye Automobile to make a full line of electric vehicles in China with a \$756 million investment.



AMAZON

 The e-commerce giant is teaming with Manchester City of the Premier Soccer League to produce a behind-the-scenes look of the team throughout the season.



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USA SNAPSHOTS®

63% of consumers keep cash on hand specifically for tipping

SOURCE Cardtronics and Edelman Intelligence survey of 1,000 adults

JAE YANG, JANET LOEHRKE/USA TODAY



TAMING YOUR BUDGET-BUSTING BILLS

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Five steps to cutting your cable TV costs

From downsizing to streaming, a little effort can help you rack up big savings

Brett Molina
USA TODAY

Each week, USA TODAY will look at one of your monthly bills and offer tips on how to cut that bill down to size and save you money.

There's perhaps no bill capable of generating peak frustration more than the one for cable TV.

Cable television companies report average spending per subscriber of about \$85 a month, while the average among satellite TV providers tops \$100 a month, according to Leichtman Research Group. But there's hope.

"Most people think, like a utility bill, if it comes in the mail at \$200, that's your bill, end of story," said Phillip Swann, publisher of the television industry site TVPredictions.com. "It is not the end of the story."

Five things you can do:

1 Assess what you watch: Get rid of extras, downsize plans

Before making any changes, review your current plan and what channels you get. Cutting premium channels and sports packages is an easy way to rack up savings. There's a good chance you can drop down to a smaller, less

"Most people think, like a utility bill, if it comes in the mail at \$200, that's your bill, end of story. It is not the end of the story."

Phillip Swann
Publisher of the television industry site TVPredictions.com.

expensive package and still get most of the channels you need.

2 Examine those extra fees

Some fees and taxes are required but some could be cut back. Do you have one or several set-top boxes for watching TV throughout the house? Those rental fees for boxes can add up.

If you package your cable with Internet, consider buying a compatible modem instead of paying the monthly rental fee. When buying, make sure to confirm with your operator that it works for your provider and is certified for the speeds you want. Most large providers have a list of approved modems.

3 Skip the two-year contracts

Yes, the pricing can be very attractive. However, you're better off staying with a month-to-month commitment, Swann says. "You are bound to that company," he said. "You have no leverage during that two-year period."

Swann said consumers will usually pay as much or more compared to a plan without contracts. Also, most cable companies will require you pay an early termination fee.

4 Call your cable company and negotiate

Contact a customer service representative at your cable provider. Check out the latest deals that they are offering to new subscribers and compare them to what you're currently paying.

"Knocking down the price is as simple as taking the time to call and ask — politely," personal finance writer Andrea Woroch says. If there's a competitor, threaten to cancel your service and switch. Woroch suggests asking for a supervisor or manager if necessary.

5 Consider a leap to streaming services

Sling TV, DirecTV Now, PlayStation Vue, Hulu and YouTube all offer skinny bundles with a solid core channel lineup. The cheapest option among the group is Sling TV's Orange plan for \$20 a month and features channels including ESPN, CNN, Disney and Food Network.

Streaming also allows users to watch on smartphones and tablets, but if you prefer the traditional TV experience, you can get a set-top box such as Apple TV or Fire TV or a streaming stick such as devices made by Roku and Amazon. One drawback is limited availability to your local channels.

Contributing: Eli Blumenthal

Capitalize on Small Business Saturday

Day after Black Friday can be a boon — or bust

Steve Nicastro
NerdWallet

Small Business Saturday has become a boon for local shops: Last year, 112 million consumers spent \$15.4 billion at such businesses, according to American Express, which is behind the shopping holiday founded in 2010.

Held the day after Black Friday, Small Business Saturday is dedicated to supporting the millions of small businesses that create jobs and boost the economy. Here's how your small business can capitalize Nov. 25.

Get the word out online

Make it clear on your website, on social media and in the local community that everyone's invited to shop with you. Give consumers an idea why



Last year, 112 million customers spent \$15.4 billion in small and local retailers and restaurants on Small Business Saturday. AP IMAGES FOR AMERICAN EXPRESS

Collaborate with other businesses

Cross-promotion is another way to expand your outreach, says Jennifer Frye, founder and marketing coach at Clever Me in Detroit. E-commerce businesses can offer online deals on products or services, but they may also look to collaborate with businesses that have a brick-and-mortar presence so they can meet customers in person. Retailers selling complementary products can offer discounts or coupons for shopping at both businesses.

Check inventory levels

The worst thing that can happen is having a long line of customers and turning them away because you've run out of inventory. Check in with suppliers and order products earlier than usual. Retail businesses can look to stock up on best-selling items ahead of time, while restaurants can check food inventory levels.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow Jones industrial average ▼0.5% week ▲2.4% month ▲7.2% 3 months	S&P 500 ▼0.2% week ▲1.1% month ▲5.8% 3 months	Nasdaq composite index ▼0.2% week ▲2.2% month ▲7.9% 3 months	Wilshire 5000 ▼0.4% week ▲0.6% month ▲5.9% 3 months	Gold Ounce, Comex ▲0.3% week ▼1.0% month ▼1.2% 3 months	Oil Light sweet crude ▲2.0% week ▲10.6% month ▲16.2% 3 months	Euro Dollars per euro ▲0.5043 week ▲0.4795 month ▲0.4826 3 months	Yen Yen per dollar ▼0.95 week ▲0.79 month ▲4.17 3 months
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Health care stability hard to come by

Follow these three strategies and you can eliminate errors and pay the least amount of cash possible



Peter Dunn
Columnist
USA TODAY

Have you ever been so frustrated that you can't even focus on who or what to be mad at? That's where I'm at with health care right now. I'm merely bothered by my family's struggle with health coverage stability over the last few years, but I'm mortified at the experiences some of my friends have had recently. While all the talk revolving around health care seems to focus on health insurance premiums, there are much bigger problems afoot.

Despite having zero medical concerns as a family, my family's coverage has been canceled three times over the last four years, and we pay an exorbitant amount of money for just four wellness visits per year. We were not renewed yet again this year, and early quotes for new coverage suggest I'll be paying 62% more than I did last year for health care coverage.

Fortunately, we're a family of four with zero pre-existing conditions or medical concerns.

In the last three weeks alone, I've witnessed two friends have their financial lives ruined by health care issues. While most folks understand good health care comes at a cost, I don't think any of us expect out-of-pocket bills in excess of \$50,000 at the drop of a hat. I'm fully aware that every insurance policy has restrictions and limitations, but those limitations never feel like a factor until your health takes a strange turn.

For one of my friends, and I can only assume many other Americans, the stress associated with his newly acquired mountain of debt made his medical problem markedly worse. His blood pressure was through the roof, and he had to stay extra days at a hospital, which then increased his debt.

If you have any chance at all to financially survive a medical procedure, it will be because you adopt the following three health care consumer financial

The solution can't just be "hope that you're lucky," right?

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

strategies:

No. 1, call and ask questions about every bill you receive.

I know what you're thinking — that seems a bit much. Nope, it's not. For instance, I received a \$225 bill from my doctor's office following a recent wellness visit, flu shot and blood work. A bill for \$225 seems reasonable for those services, until you remember those services are all covered by my plan. In other words, I shouldn't be paying a nickel.

I called my doctor's office, asked about the bill and they informed me they forgot to enter my insurance information into the system.

Can you imagine how many errors like that occur on a daily basis? Out of 10 people, how many do you think would

just pay the bill without calling first? Call on every bill you receive.

Ask for details and insist on receiving the itemized bill, no matter how frustrated the presence of \$75 aspirin will leave you. Don't ever blindly pay a medical bill without understanding why you're being asked to pay. You will find errors when you receive the itemized billing that you wouldn't have found with the initial bill.

No. 2: Negotiate better pricing before you receive service.

Yes, talking money with a stranger while sitting in a hospital gown with your pants folded over the back of a chair is an odd sensation, but unfortunately it's necessary. "How much will this cost?" isn't only a fair question, it's

nearly required. "Is there another option which might be as effective, yet much less expensive?" is the suitable follow-up question. A friend recently saved 60% on a five-figure medical bill by negotiating a cash price to be paid before she left the hospital. You really have to keep your wits about you to pull this move off, but a 60% discount is worth the hassle

No. 3: Use sites such as HealthCareBlueBook.com to retroactively negotiate bills.

Sure your doctor charged you \$1,700 for some random test you've never heard of, but what is that test really supposed to cost? Sites such as HealthCareBlueBook.com provide the average cost of different procedures based on real billing data in your particular ZIP code.

Call the entity that sent you the medical bill, and ask them if they can do any better on the price based on the data you've obtained. It won't work all of the time.

But I've personally saved a couple of thousand dollars negotiating the bills associated with the birth of my son. The 10 minutes it takes to call and open negotiations is worth the possibility of paying less money.

You have even more leverage if you have the ability to pay over the phone on the day you call. Many medical providers will offer an immediate cash discount.

If you follow these three strategies, you'll be able to eliminate errors and pay the least amount of money for your care that's possible.

Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host, and he has a free podcast: *Million Dollar Plan*. Have a question about money for Pete the Planner? Email him at AskPete@petetheplanner.com

THE WEEK AHEAD



Housing starts were hit by the hurricanes in September. Those impacts likely reversed in October, which should amount to a net gain. MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Housing starts likely up with storm recovery

Paul Davidson
USA TODAY

Hurricanes Harvey and Irma had both positive and negative effects on the economy in September, boosting car sales but hurting housing starts, for example. Those impacts likely reversed in October, which should amount to a net gain for an economy that's been humming along.

Consumer prices got a lift from the storms in September as refinery disruptions caused gasoline prices to spike. Pump prices, in turn, fell nearly 1.5% last month, PNC Financial Services Group says, tempering inflation overall. Core prices, which strip out volatile food and energy items, rose just modestly in September, defying expectations that damaged homes and vehicles would push up rent and auto prices, says Nomura economist Lewis Alexander.

All told, economists expect the Labor Department on **Wednesday** to report just a 0.1% rise in consumer prices in October, pushing down the annual gain to 2% from 2.2%. Core prices are expected to increase 0.2%, leaving the 12-month increase unchanged at 1.7%.

Retail sales were bolstered by the hurricanes in September as consumers in Texas and Florida bought new cars and flocked to building supply stores to begin repairs, while U.S. gas prices driven higher by the storms also pushed up sales totals. Those effects were probably offset in October, Alexander says. A core measure of sales — which excludes autos, gas, building materials and food services — was mixed in September.

On **Thursday**, the Fed reports industrial production for October. Output generally has been strong on an improving global economy and sturdy U.S. job and income growth. Texas refinery outages triggered by Hurricane Harvey in late August were still dampening production in September, but a recovery in October should have bolstered the numbers, Alexander says. Economists expect the Fed to report a healthy 0.4% rise in industrial production last month.

Housing starts were pummeled by the hurricanes in September, falling 4.7%. Economists expect Commerce on **Friday** to report an October rebound, with starts rising 5.4%.

DIGITAL DOLLARS

Best apps to save you money on Black Friday

Marc Saltzman
Special for USA TODAY

As we approach Black Friday and Cyber Monday, here's a look at some deal-sniffing downloads.

Ebates

The premise is simple: Shop where you already like to shop, but get cash back after your purchases, whether you opt to pay by check or a PayPal deposit. Be aware the percentage varies depending on the online retailer or marketplace, and there are more than 2,000 to choose from. The app will notify you of sales and special offers.

Flipp

Another "must have," Flipp aggregates all your local circulars (flyers) in one place — now with more than 1,000 popular retailers — whether you want to browse through weekly ads or search for something specific by keyword. When you land on a product you've had your eye on, Flipp looks to match the deal with coupons.

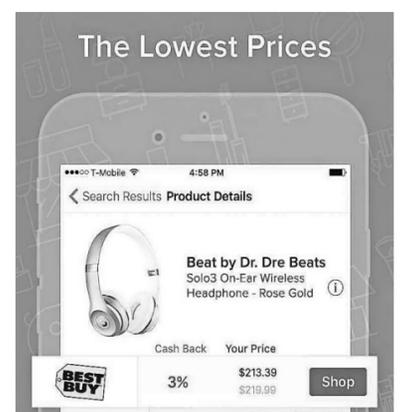
Shopkick

Updated this week, Shopkick rewards you with free gift cards for stores such as Target, Walmart, Amazon, Sephora, Starbucks and more.

To get going, open the Shopkick app while you're at the mall and you'll start to earn points ("kicks") for simply walking into select stores, scanning products and purchasing products.

DealNews

Rather than scouring the Web for the best deals, DealNews has an "ob-



With Ebates, earn cash back on online purchases at more than 2,000 stores and marketplaces, including Amazon, Walmart, Macy's, Target, Kohl's and Groupon. EBATES

sessive" team of deal experts who look for the best prices on the biggest brands and then publishes the 300 best deals and coupons (and in some cases, freebies) to the DealNews app.

eBay

From tech and clothing to cars and jewelry, the eBay app makes it easy to search, browse, bid or buy. And the product is shipped to your door, too.

Mint

Just like the website it's based upon, Intuit's Mint.com Personal Finance app helps you set budgets, track expenses and reach financial goals. As with most other personal finance apps, Mint is password-protected, so your data is safe even if your device is lost or stolen.

Follow Marc on Twitter: @marc_saltzman

Skip lines at the airport — and it won't cost a dime

Travelers love life in the fast lane, but the price sometimes is too high

Gregory Karp NERDWALLET

As federal officials continue to tweak passenger security screening at U.S. airports, more people could avoid hassle if they joined programs that let them use expedited lanes at checkpoints. ■ Better yet, there are ways to get that privilege without spending a dime. For example, some premium credit cards reimburse the \$85 application fee for TSA Precheck or the \$100 fee for Global Entry. Membership in these federal background-check programs lasts five years before you need to reapply.

Travelers who use the fast lanes typically say they'll never go back, says Joe Brancatelli, a business travel writer and founder of travel site JoeSentMe.com. That's the case even for infrequent flyers, he adds.

"I don't think I can overstate the value of these programs," he says. "And the more you travel, the more valuable they are."

Over the summer, tightened airport security rules meant travelers in standard checkpoint lines had to remove electronics larger than cellphones from carry-on bags and place them in a separate bin for X-ray screening. Travelers in TSA Precheck lanes could leave electronics in their bags.

But the bigger advantages of the

speedy security lanes are shorter waits and less intrusive screening; you can leave your shoes on, for example. In September, 96% of TSA Precheck passengers waited in line less than five minutes, according to the Transportation Security Administration. To date, more than 5 million people have enrolled in the program, which is available at 200 airports via 37 airlines.

Which program to choose

Global Entry costs \$15 more and is less convenient to apply for: It requires a passport and an interview, available at fewer locations than TSA Precheck. But Global Entry includes TSA Precheck and offers expedited entry



A passenger passes by a sign for the TSA Precheck line at Logan Airport in Boston. The speedy security lanes not only have shorter waits but less intrusive screening. CHARLES KRUPA/AP

"These services have helped me save anywhere from five to as much as 20 minutes."

Henry Harteveldt

Travel industry analyst at Atmosphere Research Group

through U.S. customs when you return from a foreign country.

The cost difference — just \$3 a year on average — probably isn't that much of a factor, but convenience might be. Those who have a passport and live near a Global Entry interview center — typically larger airports — should consider that program. If you don't live near a Global Entry center, don't have a passport and rarely travel abroad, TSA Precheck may be the better option.

Application details are on the Global Entry and TSA Precheck websites.

Henry Harteveldt, a travel industry analyst at Atmosphere Research Group, says he can't imagine traveling without a trusted traveler program. "These services have helped me save anywhere from five to as much as 20 minutes waiting in security screening lines," he says.

A survey his firm conducted this year found that 91% of business airline

travelers said expedited airport screening was "very important" or "somewhat important."

A similarly high percentage said expedited border crossing programs, such as Global Entry, were important.

Use a credit card to apply free

Several premium credit cards reimburse your application fee if you pay it with the card.

"I don't know that it would swing your choice of credit card per se, but it is nice to know you had an elite card that rebated your fee," Brancatelli says.

However, many such cards have high annual fees. A sampling:

■ Bank of America Premium Rewards credit card. Annual fee: \$95.

■ U.S. Bank Altitude Reserve Visa Infinite Card. Annual fee: \$400.

■ Citi Prestige Card. Annual fee: \$450.

■ Chase Sapphire Reserve. Annual fee: \$450.

■ The Platinum Card from American Express. Annual fee: \$550.

Also, some credit card and travel loyalty programs will let you use travel credits or rewards points to pay the application fee. And some airlines might offer reimbursement if you have elite frequent flyer status with them.

Fingerprints and photos

Besides cost and effort, another consideration with trusted traveler programs is your comfort level with handing over more information to the U.S. government, including fingerprints and a photo.

However, provided their personal information is kept secure, 81% of U.S. business passengers said they feel comfortable sharing it with airlines and other travel-related organizations if it results in better, less stressful journeys, according to Atmosphere Research Group's study.

"The government knows all this stuff about you already," Brancatelli says. "You're not really giving up anything more."

Karp is a writer at NerdWallet, USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage from around the Web.



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RETIREMENT

Aging doesn't make you passive in U.S. economy

More older people demand to be active participants



Robert Powell
Columnist
Special for USA TODAY

Joe Coughlin, the director of the MIT Age Lab, wants to help companies unlock the world's fastest-growing, most misunderstood market — aging Boomers. His new book, *The Longevity Economy*, describes how companies can prepare for the guaranteed — an aging world. Below he answers questions about his book and an \$8 trillion market.

Why are so many companies unprepared for an aging world?

The problem is not so much that companies are afraid of age. It's that they think they understand it — but that "understanding" is woefully incomplete. The dominant narrative of old age, taken for granted by almost everyone, portrays a highly specific image of "oldness": a need for rest at all times. A diminishment of output, such as work, ideas, cultural products. An overarching idea that older people are always takers, never givers; always consumers, never

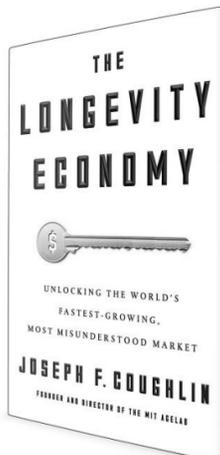
producers. And as a result, companies make products that, at their core, are designed for passive participants in society. Meanwhile, older people increasingly demand to be active participants.

A new better story of life in old age will replace our current narrative of aging? What is that story?

It's impossible to say exactly what tomorrow's older adults will find meaningful as they begin to explore new possibilities in old age; likely, it will be a variety of things broad enough to defy description. But what will change will be the presence of products and services designed to support them.

Who will be the agents of change in the new world of longer life and older age?

Women, particularly those of middle age and above, are likely to be the leaders in identifying new wants and needs on the aging frontier. And, given a fair chance, they will be the ones



Joe Coughlin, author of *The Longevity Economy*.

to innovate answers to those demands in the form of products. (Hint, Silicon Valley finance!) Not only do women typically live longer than men, but they are most likely to be the chief consumer officer of the home. Women make or directly influence purchasing decisions in key consumer categories including automotive, health and many other domains. Moreover, it is the deeply unfair truth that women provide more eldercare than men. Research we've done at the

MIT AgeLab suggests that women enter old age with a clearer, more detailed picture of what's ahead. That makes sense: The firsthand knowledge that comes from being the primary buyer and caregiver gives them a unique vantage in understanding what products, services and experiences are effective as they respond to the challenges and exigencies of old age — and which could be improved upon.

Unfortunately, older women are often invisible to the investment and technology communities. The unac-

ceptable result is that the needs and wants they are responsible go unanswered, and the tools they deserve never get built.

What is legacy of Baby Boomers?

The Baby Boomers are the loudest generation. Now, someone turns 65 every seven or eight seconds. They've had companies cater to their every whim throughout their lives, and they don't expect that to stop.

That will mean enormous demand for products that don't merely work for tomorrow's older adults, but will actively excite and delight them for decades. The new generation gap will be the gap of expectations: not just to live longer, but to live better. Fascinatingly enough, that heightened level of expectation, combined with both the Boomers' political and economic power, may change the fabric of what is possible in old age. As the Boomers demand and use the tools to pursue meaning later in life than ever before, our narrative of aging will change. They may lay the foundation for others to live in a world that is ageless: where old age is a stage where the norm is not to withdraw, but to engage.

Powell contributes regularly to USA TODAY, *TheStreet*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Email rpowell@allthingsretirement.com.

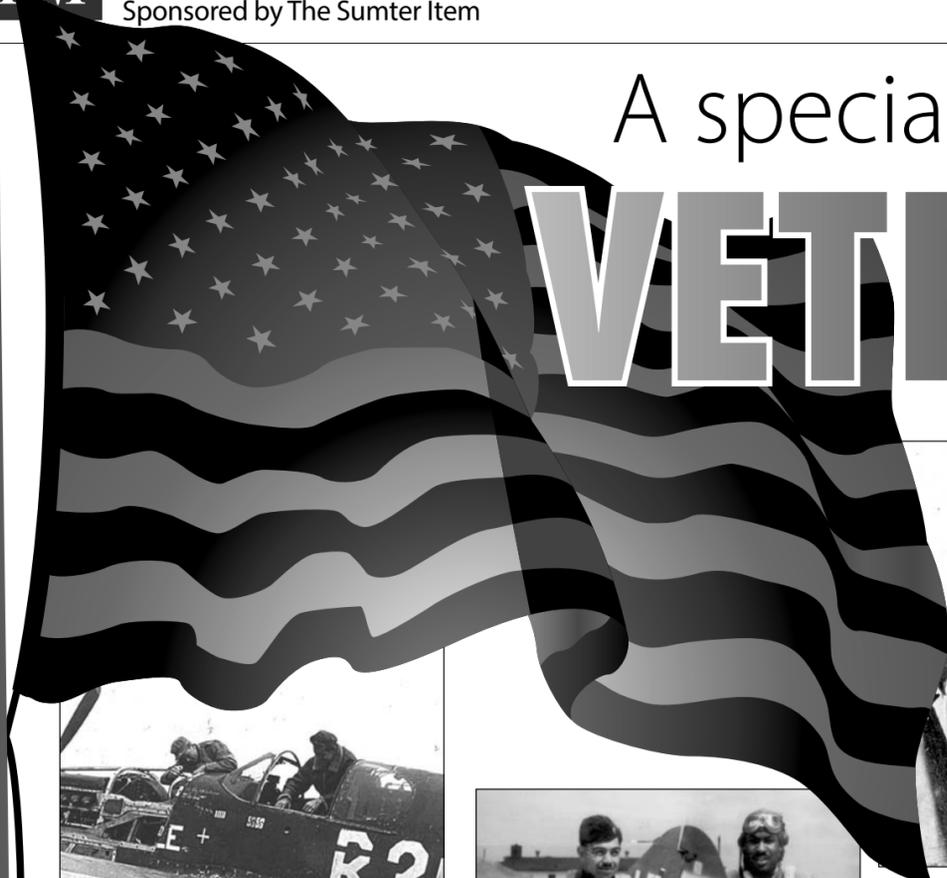


REFLECTIONS

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A special thanks to our

VETERANS



Mechanics with the Ninth Air Force during World War II



Alfred Dunn Sr., Vietnam War



Afghanistan



Marion Nesbitt, U.S. Army, Vietnam War



Willie Adger



Afghanistan



Lt. Leroy Bowman, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, World War II



Soldiers are awarded medals during World War I



Willie Lee Ashley, second row center, member of pilot group, World War II



Jessie Young of the Red Cross during World War I



Scott Veatch, U.S. Army, Persian Gulf



Jacqueline Wallace, U.S. Army, Afghanistan



Oscela E. McKaine, member of the Buffalo Soldiers



Visitors viewing photos of World War II veterans at the Sumter Military Museum



World War II



178th Field Artillery, World War II



Charles Propst, Korea



World War II



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Edmunds High School gets 1st black teacher

75 YEARS AGO — 1943
June 5 - June 11

Frank B. Jernigan, son of Mr. and Mrs. L.F. Jernigan of Sumter received his commission as second lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps upon successfully completing the officer candidate course at the anti-Aircraft Artillery school, Camp Davis, North Carolina, on June 3.



Yesteryear in Sumter
SAMMY WAY

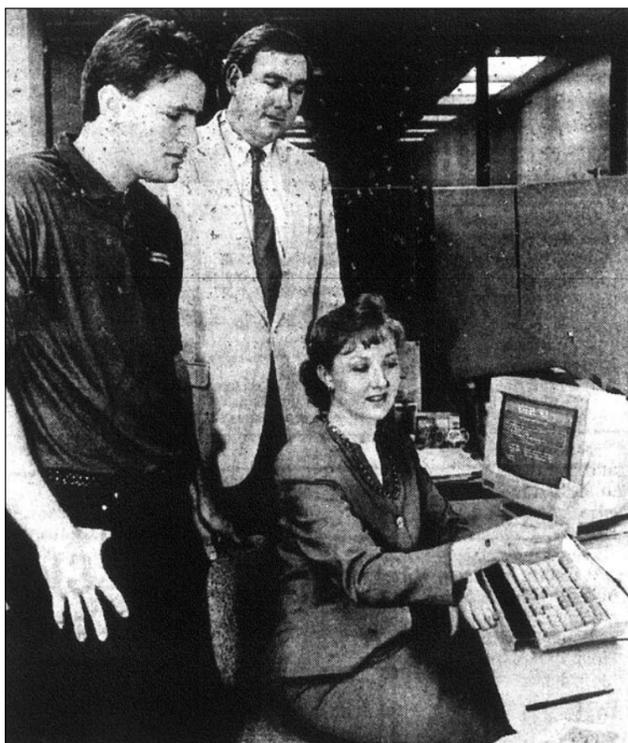
Ensign R. J. Connell, U.S. Maritime Service enrolling officer in Atlanta, Georgia, declared that the age and physical requirements for enrollment in the service have been lowered for men desiring to serve in the stewards' department aboard the ships of the American Merchant Marine. Mr. Connell stated that a headquarters directive to his office authorizing the change was received and would be put into effect immediately.

The commanding officer of Shaw Field's newest military unit is a petite blonde of 23, and, of course, the organization is a detachment from the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. She is Second Officer Martha Ann Hoyt, of Manchester, N. H., who made up her mind long ago that if there was another war she "wouldn't sit at home and knit socks, but would do something." A graduate of the University of New Hampshire, Lt. Hoyt went to work in an airplane instrument factory when there were no military jobs available to women, the WACC's were formed, and she was one of the first to apply, being inducted on July 29.

Flight Officer William W. Wolfe, and Second Lt. William K. Callison, co-pilot, of the Myrtle Beach Army Air Base, risked their lives to bring a B-26 bomber in to a crash landing at Shaw Field. After the retractable landing gear of the bomber jammed while the plane was on a routine training mission, Wolfe radioed his base for instructions. An order crackled through the air to fly to Shaw Field and attempt a crash landing. Three crew members were ordered to bail out, and co-pilot Callison was given permission to jump, but he elected to stay with the ship and help Wolfe bring the ship in. ... Wolfe flattened the plane out and pancaked on to the field and skidded to a stop with damage only to the landing gear and the underside of the fuselage. Both man walked away from the plane unhurt.

The last construction employee of the \$57,000,000 Santee-Cooper hydroelectric development will leave the project June 15, President H.F. Harza of the construction engineering company told the development board of directors. General manager R.M. Cooper simultaneously announced that a double rail bridge across the tail canal at the dam site had been completed, winding up construction.

Captain George W. Ransdell, of Carrollton, Kentucky, arrived at Shaw Field to assume the duties of post dental surgeon. Before coming to Shaw Field, Captain Ransdell



1992 — University of South Carolina Sumter student Hayne Painter, left, and Dale Bullard, assistant dean of student affairs, watch as Kathryn Bullard prepares a student development transcript for Painter.

spent nine months at Selman Field, Louisiana. Captain Ransdell was practicing dentistry before he entered the service in March 1941 and was assigned to Maxwell Field as assistant dental surgeon.

J.M. Eleazer, county agent, warns farmers to take care of their mules. Local veterinarians are receiving calls concerning these animals having heat strokes (because of the) hot weather and that the heaviest work comes at this time of the year. The best advice is to work early and late during the hottest weather, taking a longer rest at noon during the hottest hours. In addition to regular watering, take the stock out and water them in mid-morning and mid-afternoon, and be sure to give them plenty of salt all along during the hot weather, Mr. Eleazer advised.

The Navy announced 16 casualties, including 11 dead, two wounded and tree missing. This brings to a total of 23, 270 the total navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard casualties reported to the next of kin since Dec. 7, 1941. Today's list included name of Fred Elite of Mayesville.

50 YEARS AGO — 1968
Nov. 6 - Nov. 12

Lincoln High's basketball team, which has won 11 games in 16 attempts this season, appears set for a solid campaign next year. William Blyther and Joe Canty, the Bulldogs' two top scorers, are both juniors. Blyther has been scoring points at a 25 per game clip while Canty has come on strong in recent games. There's another reason for optimism in the Lincoln camp. The Bulldog Jayvees have a dazzling 13-3 record and will send up several promising talents to the varsity next season.

Bobby Richardson, retired professional baseball player and noted Christian layman, will deliver a Greater Issues Address in the Citadel Armory on Feb. 10. In a report to Gen. Hugh P. Harris, president of the Citadel, representatives of the Corps listed Richardson among the few Americans

they most wanted to hear. ... He is known among professional athletes as one of the most gifted speakers on tour in the United States.

Arthur S. Bahnmuller assumed the presidency of the Sumter Salvation Army Advisory Board at its annual meeting. He succeeds Barnes Boyle. A large turnout of civic club leaders, board members, friends of the Salvation Army and senators Henry B. Richardson and Thomasine Grayson Mason attended the dinner meeting at the Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall.

No trains are moving, and only superintendent personnel are on duty at the Seaboard Coast Line's Sumter yard, according to W.C. Brown, freight agent for the line. Members of the striking union have formed a picket line in Sumter, which is being respected by the company's other union workers. A passenger train that passed through Sumter at 7:50 a.m. three hours after the strike was called, was the last activity in the yard. It was en route from Florence to Augusta.

Whitney Bradham, a Sumter native and a 1952 graduate of Edmunds High School, has won the "Outstanding Young Educator Award," presented by the Jaycees of Dunn, North Carolina, where he is head football coach. Bradham is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Whitney Bradham of Sumter and was a member of the 1950 Sumter American Legion Junior baseball team that advanced to the sectional finals before bowing out.

City school officials disclosed today that Edmunds High School has its first black teacher. She is Mrs. Marjorie N. Penolver, an English teacher with 16 years' experience. Her last teaching assignment was in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where she headed the English Department at Edison Junior High School. Mrs. Penolver holds a bachelor of arts degree from Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, and a Master's degree from Cornell University. ... She will teach sophomore English

at Edmunds High.

College scholarships worth \$500 each will be awarded to 36 deserving high school seniors by the Belk Foundation during 1968. E.C. Stroman Sr., manager of Belk-Stroman Co. in Sumter, explained, in making the announcement that those entering college for the first time in the fall of 1968 will be eligible to compete for the scholarships. Stroman cited the increasing importance of college education, for both the individual and the community, as the reason The Belk Foundation will continue its scholarship program.

The sales force of Kneece Tractor and Truck Co. of Sumter attended a product showing of new machines that International Harvester Co. plans to introduce in 1968. Featured among the new tractors shown were: International and International Farmall 1256 Turbo, 856 and 756, all with position comfort design, believed the most important advance in operating comfort; International 656 tractor with hydrostatic drive in standard and row-crop models; and the complete line of five lawn and garden tractors in 7, 10 and 12-hp models (two with hydrostatic drive); and the new Cadet 60 riding mower. The company also showed its International 444 three-plow tractors.

25 YEARS AGO — 1992
Nov. 6 - Nov. 12

The Sumter Municipal Election Commission certified the results of the city elections at a special city council meeting and council gave final approval to several zoning matters. Councilman Miles Hodge beat Republican challenger Bill Weatherly by a vote of 1,015-877 for a second term as the Ward 4 representative. Hodge was the only council member up for re-election this year who faced opposition.

Central Carolina Technical College officials and area county council members heralded the addition of a new building to the school's campus. The Health Science Building, at 501 N. Guignard Dr., was hailed by Tech's commission Chairman Cody Palmer as an example of financial and educational cooperation between Sumter, Clarendon, Lee and Kershaw counties.

Sumter High School head football coach Tom Lewis said during the week leading up to a show-down against arch-rival Hillcrest that the Wildcats have "the type of team that, when it gets it all together, can beat the tar out of you." Hillcrest proved him right. The Wildcats pounced on Sumter for 20 points in the first quarter and coasted to a 34-0 victory at Sumter Memorial Stadium. It was Hillcrest's first win over Sumter since 1985.

Sumter native Terry Kinard, a former Clemson All-American football player who had an eight-year career in the National Football League, will be inducted into the Clemson Hall of Fame in halftime ceremonies of the game between the Tigers and North Carolina in Death Valley. Kinard will be one of six people inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Hillcrest High School basketball star Ray Allen knows where he wants to play college basketball, only he's not tell-

ing anybody — at least not yet. Allen will announce his decision the first day of the week-long early signing period. The 6-5 guard/forward will choose between Connecticut, Alabama and Kentucky. Allen, who is leaning toward Connecticut, said he has several reasons for how he came about narrowing his choices to a Big East school and a pair of Southeastern Conference schools.

This fall, USC Sumter expanded its documentation of student accomplishments beyond those related to academics by implementing a new concept on campus — Student Development Transcripts. "For years and years, we've told our students how important it is to become involved in campus life, but at the same time, little was done to document this involvement," explained Dale Bullard, USC Sumter's assistant dean for student affairs. "Now just as the academic transcript verifies the importance of the classroom experience, the student development transcript or SDT will confirm the value of our students' development outside the classroom."

It sits far from the highway, surrounded by fields and forest. But for many businessmen, the Sumter County Airport gives them their first glimpse of the Gamecock City. That's why Leo Mansueti and the Sumter County Airport Commission are trying to upgrade the facility. In fact, work on a new \$350,000 terminal is set to begin and plans for a new navigation system are also in the works.

Sumter School District 2 will get a \$30,000 computer system to help in the personnel department, the district's superintendent said. District officials say the system will soon pay for itself. Superintendent Frank Baker announced that the new computer will store information on all of the District 2's 1,050 employees. The system will also have a payroll function that will allow the district to handle its own payroll accounts, he said. District 2's payroll is currently handled by an accounting firm in Camden.

Sheets of plywood may block but don't hide the charred remains of a once popular restaurant on North Main Street. Formerly Main Street's Bistro and Grille restaurant, the building at 35 N. Main St. was gutted in a 1990 fire that demolished the interior of the building. The restaurant had only been open for six months before the fire that burned all night destroyed it.

A long set of rules, three construction bids and a labyrinth of federal guidelines later, Sumter County may soon begin repairing the Second Mill Dam. The dam broke during heavy rains in October 1990, draining Second Mill Pond, which is located near the Elks Lodge on Liberty Street. But council may soon see the pond at the end of the stream if the Elks allow construction workers to use the lodge's property while they work on the dam. Sumter County Administrator Bill Noonan said he thinks the Elks will cooperate.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at waysammy@yahoo.com or (803) 774-1294.

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT
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MARRIAGE LICENSES

- **Brian David Staller Jr. and Megan Joyce Shellhammer**, both of Dalzell
- **William Henry Smith and Billie Jean Riley Watts** of Mayesville
- **Desmond Jermaine Stukes and Cantall Denise Shaw**
- **Travis Alan Turner and Amber Marie McFarland**
- **Gergory John Jackson Jr. and Tiletta Fabia Lyttle**
- **Jeffery Britton Hansen and Erin Hehn Gutshall**
- **Kristopher Kyle Osment and Sidney Brennan Allen** of Jonesville
- **Michael Rashad Carnegie of North Charleston and Linda Marie Wickens**
- **Bryton Lee Hughes and Mollie Lauren Harrison**, both of Dalzell
- **Willis Jonte Simmons and Sally Mae Gadson**
- **Robert Brian Sewell and Sonya Monique Boatwright**, both of Hoover, Alabama
- **Matthew McLeod Welch and Doris Elizabeth Williams**, both of Dalzell
- **Anand H. Vora and Aimee Renae Hesselring**
- **Alvin Paul Weissenstein III and Baleigh Anne Leviner**
- **Joseph Wayne Anderson of Asheville**, North Carolina, and Jennifer Pearl Barentine
- **James Thornton Bolton II and April Lynn Storey**, both of Dalzell
- **Joshua Danny Griffin and Shelby Nicole Kruger**
- **Cahrles Wayne Sandifer of Dalzell and Virginia Ann Hodge**
- **Jose Ignacio Mendoza and Adriana Avila Castillo**
- **Brantlee Evans Warren and Alison Holleigh Baird**
- **Clinton James Evans and Amanda Nichole Brogdon of Wedgefield**
- **Jason Michael Staniec and Brook Grace Welch**
- **Loquan Demonté Spann and Kalyn Danielle Stuckey**
- **Dean Alan Ratajesak and Jennifer Elizabeth Ferguson**
- **Kristopher Robert Summerlin and Alexandria Elizabeth Gibb**
- **Eric Shane Osborne and Kimberly H. Austin** of Pinewood
- **William Alexander Nicholes and Savannah Rae Roberts**
- **Chazman Antoine Wells and Tia Titi Bey**
- **Tyrone Ballard and Theresa Ann Cousar**
- **Tyler Thomas Wiman and Barbara Elizabeth Gerald**
- **Edward Eugene Johnson of Rembert and Tiffany Octavia Choice**
- **Cody James Smith and Ashley Renee Cappinger**
- **Cameron Vaughn Williams and Chelsey Elaine Johnson**, both of Dalzell
- **Tiffany Shena Quick and Amanda Ivelisse Diaz-Fernandez**
- **Robert Devon Wilson Jr. and Kierra Sharome Brown**
- **Jaden Alexandre Arrieta and Fanie Mayerly Ramirez Velasquez**
- **Earnest Peterson and Sallie Bell Shepherd**, both of Alcolu
- **Justin Wayne Sauls and Rynne Elizabeth Lenoir**
- **Christopher Paul Dugan Jr. and Carey Lea Reeves**
- **Ehrin Chase Koenig and Rebecca Frierson Marra**
- **Antonio Demone Ferguson Sr. and Kimberly Dolores Spender**, both of Wedgefield
- **Randolph Johnson and Patricia Jenkins Durant**
- **Alan Alston Lovelace and Blakely Layne Burke**
- **Eddie Monroe Arnold and Tamara Ann Moyaln**, both of Dalzell
- **Christopher Gregg Meyer and Jennifer Dawn McDuffie**
- **Raymond E. Cook Jr. of Bridgeville**, Pennsylvania, and Sara P. Austin of Columbia
- **Justin Anthony Scriven of Gable and Barbara Regina Fleming of Fayetteville**, North Carolina
- **Allan Jared Reid Brazzell and Callie Barbara Cuddy**
- **William Joseph Drose and Kayla Marie Welch**
- **Deaven Lee Lowder and Tierra Jewel Graham**
- **Jackson Ryan Gordon of Columbia and Anna-Victoria Thiessen of Clover**
- **Timothy James Jacildone and Cori Jordan Anderson of Washington, D.C.**
- **Joseph Dawson II and Bonnie Jean Brisby**, both of Dalzell
- **Morgan Maurice Green of Summerton and Cheryln Rachelle Farmer**
- **James Michael Ryan III and Fredelyn Labasbas Asturias**
- **Mike A. Reinegger of Dalzell and Janet L. Johnson of Graniteville**
- **Benjamin Louis Cooper of Dalzell and Katherine Allyn McClary of Summerton**
- **Joshua Lee Simms and Alona Onata Asuncion**
- **Lonnie Larue Reames and Betty Ann Butler**
- **Clinton Lee Cheek and Rachel Leigh Seegars**, both of Lynchburg
- **Clifton Jamal Abraham and Destiny Troyanna Burgess**
- **Stephen Megal Harvey and Brandi Lanell Schwall**
- **James Antwan Glasscho and Tiarra Kevon Boyce**
- **Thomas J. Geddings and Peggy McLeod White of Pinewood**
- **Taylor McNeil Dubose and Amy Grace Langer**
- **William Clifton Culver Jr. of Myrtle Beach and Joan Veronica Mellard**
- **Dominique Deishawn McCray and Kawana Janeka Miller**
- **Tyrone Croskey of Augusta**, Georgia, and

Gwen Lekishia China

• **Terrance Darnell Kirkland of Summerville and Malosha Devonia Perry of Moncks Corner**

BUILDING PERMITS

- **Charles M. Smith**, owner and contractor, 1680 Crowndale Drive, 72 unheated square feet, \$3,500 (addition to side of house for closet and shower, residential).
- **Rosa Lee Ford**, owner, Michael Partin dba Partin Construction, contractor, 1560 Illery Road, \$6,800 (reroof and nine windows, residential).
- **Juanita L. Neal**, owner, Rodrigo Martin Mera, contractor, 14 Anne Park, \$6,400 (roof replacement, residential).
- **Wells Fargo Bank NA**, owner, Rodrigo Martin Mera, contractor, 5080 Rogdwin Road, \$2,190 (reroof, residential).
- **Great Southern Homes Inc.**, owner and contractor, 40 Monticello Lane, 1,401 heated square feet and 339 unheated square feet, \$84,908.32 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 50 Monticello Lane, 1,401 heated square feet and 339 unheated square feet, \$85,270 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Ronald L. Huggins**, owner, Michael Benson dba Barrett Window & Door, contractor, 634 Miller Road, \$2,240 (replace 16 windows, residential); Ronald L. Huggins, owner, Michael Benson dba Barrett Window & Door, contractor, 652 Miller Road, \$2,240 (replace 16 windows, residential); Ronald L. Huggins, owner, Michael Benson dba Barrett Window & Door, contractor, 702 Miller Road, \$2,240 (replace 16 windows, residential); Ronald L. Huggins, owner, Michael Benson dba Barrett Window & Door, contractor, 704 Miller Road, \$2,240 (replace 16 windows, residential); Ronald L. Huggins, owner, Michael Benson dba Barrett Window & Door, contractor, 718 Miller Road, \$2,240 (replace 16 windows, residential); Ronald L. Huggins, owner, Michael Benson dba Barrett Window & Door, contractor, 720 Miller Road, \$2,240 (replace 16 windows, residential).
- **Patrick N. and Crystal M. Stehley**, owners, Patrick N. Stehley, contractor, 4240 Excursion Drive, Dalzell, 312 unheated square feet, \$2,000 (extend and rebuild existing deck — detached, residential).
- **Fillmore Apartments LLC**, owner, Flagship Sign Designs Inc., contractor, 1295 Broad St. (1299), \$5,000 (wall sign — One Main Financial, commercial); Fillmore Apartments LLC, owner, Flagship Sign Designs Inc., contractor, 1295 Broad St. (1299), \$1,500 (change face of freestanding sign — One Main Financial, commercial).
- **Juwayne Sanders**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 55 Ideal Circle (Lot 28) (mobile home, residential).
- **Nicole Prince**, owner, Edward Campbell, contractor, 1230 S. Pike East (Lot 66) (mobile home, residential).
- **David Stokes**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 120 Laverne Ave. (mobile home, residential).
- **Tabitha Ashley Smith**, owner, Sam Avins Construction, contractor, 3002 U.S. 15 South, \$7,464 (install vinyl siding and trim, residential).
- **Kimberly C. Geddings**, owner, William Lee dba Lee's Roofing Co., contractor, 214 Burns Drive, \$6,500 (remove / replace shingles and felt, residential).
- **Heather B. and Brian P. Feus**, owners, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 208 Wildwood Ave., \$6,725 (reroof, residential).
- **Sarah B. Mims**, owner, Welch's Quality Builders & Roofers LLC, contractor, 114 White Oak Park, \$5,985 (reshingle roof, residential).
- **John P. and Patricia G. Buckner**, owners, Culler Enterprises dba Culler Roofing, contractor, 6550 Kings Grant Way, Dalzell, \$6,837.45 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Lincoln Gadson**, owner, Home Depot USA Inc., contractor, 3770 Dorothy Lane, Gable, \$711 (replace one window size for size, residential).
- **Anna Pickens and Linda Green**, owners, Sharon D. Tindal dba Tindal Construction, contractor, 512 Dicks St., \$6,800 (foundation vents / flooring / walls / grab bars / ceiling / exhaust fan, residential).
- **Linda Davis et al**, owner, John Porter Jr. dba JP & Son Construction, contractor, 4320 U.S. 15 North, \$1,000 (patch and reshingle, residential).
- **Sharon L. Benson**, owner, John Brockington dba Brock Construction, contractor, 2255 Stadium Road, \$4,878 (replace 12 windows and wrap, residential).
- **David Colclough Dubose**, owner, John Brockington dba Brock Construction, contractor, 5305 Adrian Circle (5335), Rembert, \$2,916 (install five windows, residential).
- **Richard R. Menzing and Diana L. Menzing as trustee**, owners, Clarence J. Wilkes, contractor, 56 Ellen Drive, \$7,000 (replace roof, residential).
- **Bethel Missionary Baptist Church**, owner, Sam Avins Construction, contractor, 3249 U.S. 15 South, \$28,285 (new roof, commercial).
- **Susan Felder**, owner and contractor, 737 Wren St., \$3,100 (reroof, residential).
- **McDonalds Corp. 39/115**, owner, TNT Signs, contractor, 360 Pinewood Road, \$2,100 (change face of freestanding sign, commercial).
- **McDonalds Corp. 39/115**, owner, Superior Sign Service Inc., contractor, 360 Pinewood Road, \$20,000 (drive thru order board, commercial).
- **Archland Property I LLC**, owner, Superior Sign Service Inc., contractor, 1765 U.S. 15 South, \$20,000 (drive thru order board, commercial).
- **Chadwick M. and Carrie E. Hoshour**, owners, Homestar Solar Solutions, contractor, 931 Wisteria Way, \$43,500 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).
- **Island Investments of Sumter**, owner, Hardee Construction Co. Inc., contractor, 2505 Tahoe Drive, 4,500 unheated square feet, \$160,000 (storage building, commercial).
- **Harry Marc Patrick and Helen Jun**, owners, Jason Josey dba Josey Builders, contrac-

- tor, 104 Church St., 3,200 heated square feet and 800 unheated square feet, \$320,500 (rebuild house that burned / inside / new roof, residential).
- **Alfred Ross**, owner and contractor, 1180 Morris Way Drive, 400 unheated square feet, \$10,000 (detached storage shed, residential).
- **Michael J. Bachel**, owner, Cherokee Builders LLC, contractor, 970 Chesterfield Drive, 930 unheated square feet, \$14,679 (detached garage, residential).
- **Corine N. Yates**, owner, Stephon Edwards, contractor, 5655 Tally Yates Drive, Rembert, \$4,750 (residential demolition of residential dwelling, residential); Corine N. Yates, owner, Stephon Edwards, contractor, 5655 Tally Yates Drive, Rembert, \$58,600 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Crossroads Inc.**, owner, Newman Builders of Sumter LLC, contractor, 105 E. Wesmark Blvd., \$7,300 (renovations for nail salon, commercial).
- **Yvonne B. Wilkes**, owner, Ronnie Wilkes dba Wilkes Builders Inc., contractor, 709 Fawn Circle, 80 heated square feet, \$4,400 (bathroom addition, residential).
- **Richard L. and Hilda E. Fox**, owners, Sam Avins Construction, contractor, 30 Avins Court, \$6,915 (install vinyl siding and trim, residential).
- **Anthony Madden McCall and Lauren McCall**, owners, Rescomm Development LLC / Power Home Solar, contractor, 3050 Bruce Circle, \$65,000 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).
- **Louis E. and Andrea E. Blanchetti**, owners, Rescomm Development LLC / Power Home Solar, contractor, 3675 Katwallace Circle, \$44,680 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).
- **Capital Investment Properties**, owner, Global Construction and Dev Group LLC, contractor, 1250 Devonshire Drive, \$5,000 (replace windows, interior work and paint, residential).
- **Ashley N. and Jeffrey E. Werho**, owners, James Robert Byrd Jr., contractor, 1295 Dewees St., \$4,200 (six feet vinyl fence, residential).
- **Ted L. and Yvonne E. Byrd**, owners, James Robert Byrd Jr., contractor, 2780 Pintail Drive, \$2,800 (six feet vinyl fence, residential).
- **David Richardson / Lakeisha Gr**, owners, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 40 Percival Court, Wedgefield (mobile home, residential).
- **Harold R. Waynick Jr. and Gail Waynick**, owners, J. Henry McLeod Jr. dba McLeod Landscaping, contractor, 2975 Bethel Church Road, \$700 (repair front steps / replace back steps, residential).
- **Sumter Family Health Center**, owner, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 370 S. Pike West, \$223,000 (commercial demolition, commercial); Sumter Family Health Center, owner, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 370 S. Pike West, (land disturbance, commercial).
- **Agnes N. Jackson**, owner, Homestar Solar Solutions, contractor, 2830 Cains Mill Road, \$37,000 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).
- **Dillon Trace Apartments LLC**, owner, Powers Construction Co., contractor, 620 Dillon Trace, \$25,000 (remove and replace balconies, commercial); Dillon Trace Apartments LLC, owner, Powers Construction Co., contractor, 640 Dillon Trace, \$25,000 (remove and replace balconies, commercial); Dillon Trace Apartments LLC, owner, Powers Construction Co., contractor, 650 Dillon Trace, \$25,000 (remove and replace balconies, commercial); Dillon Trace Apartments LLC, owner, Powers Construction Co., contractor, 660 Dillon Trace, \$25,000 (remove and replace balconies, commercial); Dillon Trace Apartments LLC, owner, Powers Construction Co., contractor, 670 Dillon Trace, \$25,000 (remove and replace balconies, commercial); Dillon Trace Apartments LLC, owner, Powers Construction Co., contractor, 690 Dillon Trace, \$25,000 (remove and replace balconies, commercial).
- **Michael J. Bachel**, owner and contractor, 970 Chesterfield Drive, \$100 (residential demolition of storage building / carport, residential).
- **James Otis Fender**, owner, Donnie Ryan Beard dba AMB Construction, contractor, 1910 Nettles Road (1870-1900), \$7,876 (re-roof house, residential).
- **Island Investments of Sumter**, owner, Hardee Construction Co. Inc., contractor, 2505 Tahoe Drive, 10,840 heated square feet, \$457,000 (storage building and office, commercial).
- **James W. Lesesne**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 379 Mooneyhan Road (mobile home, residential).
- **Janie Lee Williams**, owner, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 3560 Old Manning Road, \$2,000 (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).
- **Polly (Reva) Hackworth (lifetime estate)**, owner, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 4001 Camden Highway, Lot 14, Dalzell, \$2,000 (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).
- **SLSCO**, owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 339 North St. (mobile home, residential); SLSCO Ltd., owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 1877 Amberwood Drive (mobile home, residential); SLSCO Ltd., owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 3560 Old Manning Road (mobile home, residential); SLSCO / C. Stewart, owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 4001 Camden Highway, Lot 14, Dalzell (mobile home, residential).
- **Maebelle Edwards (lifetime estate)**, owner, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 205 Louis Circle, Rembert, 560 unheated square feet, \$3,500 (detached storage building, residential).
- **Betty Woods et al**, owner, Michael Porcher, contractor, 18 Wright St., \$5,000 (replace shingles, residential).
- **Joyce Gamble**, owner and contractor, 303 S. Lafayette Drive, \$4,800 (facial work and paint and stucco repairs, commercial).
- **Annie B. Chaney**, owner, Cherokee Builders LLC, contractor, 975 Rebecca Cove, 160 heated square feet, \$3,293.78 (enclosed detached building, residential).
- **Gamecock City Builders LLC**, owner, Sum-

- ter Home Insulators Inc., contractor, 2990 Broad St., \$550,000 (new office building — Remax, commercial).
- **John J. and Hazel D. Walker**, owners, Advance Roofing Services, contractor, 335 Winn St., \$1,800 (roof, residential).
- **James E. Prince Jr.**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 556 Pittman Drive, \$2,800 (reroof detached building, residential); James E. Prince Jr., owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 556 Pittman Drive (main house), \$7,175 (reroof, residential).
- **Rovena W. Everett**, owner, Timothy Kelley dba Kelley Construction, contractor, 3400 Deer Track Circle, Dalzell, \$9,200 (install new shingles, residential).
- **Jeromey Wayne Altum**, owner, Avant Construction LLC, contractor, 1990 Harborview Drive, \$7,500 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Scott A. and Tammy L. Mickey**, owners, Charles D. Epting dba Taurus Construction Inc., contractor, 2840 August Drive, \$9,194.33 (reroof, residential).
- **James C. Osborne Estate**, owner, Ronnie V. Gainey dba Ronnie Gainey Roofing, contractor, 2270 Nettles Road (2264), \$6,000 (roofing, residential).
- **Leroy D. Hancock Jr. and Jere S. Hancock**, owners, Home Depot USA Inc., contractor, 2934 September Drive, \$7,700 (replace 12 windows size for size, residential).
- **Benny Compton**, owner, Cherokee Builders LLC, contractor, 2595 Maidenhair Lane, 336 unheated square feet, \$5,500 (detached storage building, residential).
- **Roberts Family Ltd Partnership**, owner, William Lee dba Lee's Roofing Co., contractor, 111 Burkett Drive, \$4,800 (remove / replace shingles and felt, residential).
- **John J. and Sharon K. Paternmaster**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 524 Benton Court, \$6,000 (reroof only, residential).
- **Lindsay Conyers Jr. and Eloise Conyers**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 3319 Wilton Drive, \$5,000 (reroof only, residential).
- **Calvin W. Christmas Sr. and Ann J. Christmas**, owners, Dawkins Service, contractor, 146 Walter Ave., \$1,000 (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).
- **Glasscock Investments LLC**, owner, Pine-wood Construction and Demolition, contractor, 840 Broad St., \$4,000 (residential demolition of old house, residential).
- **Monique P. Carciofini**, owner, Accelerate Solar, contractor, 2515 Antelope Drive, Dalzell, \$14,570 (ground mount solar panel system, residential).
- **Andrew J. Wannamaker**, owner, Home Depot USA Inc., contractor, 2625 Shallowford Road, \$7,100 (replace nine windows size for size, residential).
- **John T. and Lou Ida Smith**, owners, Shirley A. Sims, contractor, 226 E. Red Bay Road, \$2,000 (metal top and sides on existing storage shed, residential).
- **Gary K. Blakeman (trustee)**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 50 Par Court, \$13,475 (reroof, residential).
- **Andrew P. Marlowe**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 11 Garrett St., \$6,100 (reroof, residential).
- **Gusto SC Sumter (Pinewood) LLC**, owner, C Simmons Construction Inc., contractor, 341 Pinewood Road, \$50,000 (commercial demolition of Piggly Wiggly, commercial); Gusto SC Sumter (Pinewood) LLC, owner, C Simmons Construction Inc., contractor, 336 Pinewood Road, \$10,000 (commercial demolition of gas station, commercial).
- **318 Neeley LLC**, owner, Carolina Post Frame Construction LLC, contractor, 318 Neeley St., 1,387 unheated square feet, \$25,000 (freestanding post frame construction, metal roof, commercial).
- **Equity Trust Co. fbo Thomas N.**, owner, Howard Wayne Rogers, contractor, 919 Mathis St., \$14,000 (paint / repair walls / kitchen cabinets / remodel bathroom, residential).
- **Stephen Francis Gallagher**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 6470 Francis Marion Ave., Dalzell, \$7,850 (reroof, residential).
- **Eric W. and Jeanie B. McConnell**, owners, William Lee dba Lee's Roofing Co., contractor, 815 Haynsworth St., \$6,000 (remove / replace shingles and felt, residential).
- **Carter Grading & Paving Co.**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 2659 Old Field Road, \$8,820 (bus stop shelter, commercial).
- **Frederick H. Henry (lifetime estate)**, owner, Curtis Reynolds, contractor, 111 S. Salem Ave., \$10,970 (install metal roofing, residential).
- **Gainey Construction Co. LLC**, owner and contractor, 3850 Delaware Drive, Dalzell, 1,254 heated square feet and 407 unheated square feet, \$81,279 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Terry and Wendy Clark**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 2135 Kingsbury Drive, \$8,000 (reroof only, residential).
- **Reeser Family LP**, owner, David Reeser, contractor, 1034 Alice Drive, \$6,000 (replace roof shingles / replace eight windows, residential).
- **Southview Housing Inc.**, owner, Peach Orchard General Contracting LLC, contractor, 60 Hilliard Drive, \$11,700 (repairs to wall damaged by car, commercial).
- **OMK LLC**, owner, Hannah Solar LLC, contractor, 688 688 Bultman Drive, \$31,752 (roof mount solar panel system, commercial).
- **C&M Enterprises (a South Carolina partnership)**, owner, Hannah Solar LLC, contractor, 30 Wesmark Court, \$97,855 (roof mount solar panel system, commercial).
- **Tom Moore**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 101 E. Avenue North, Pinewood (mobile home, residential).
- **Matthew Ryan and Judith Parrott**, owners, Alton Douglas Nelson, contractor, 2525 U.S. 521 South, 400 unheated square feet, \$5,980 (20x20 pool shed — detached and open, residential).
- **Gloria Ann and Frank Sew Sherman**, owners, Alton Douglas Nelson, contractor, 80 Gray Fox Court, \$615 (replace two windows, residential).

Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

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

An afternoon in the woods passed too quickly

The deer was moving through the shadowy timber at about 80 yards to my left.

The binoculars confirmed that there were antlers, but I couldn't tell much about them. Too many limbs and leaves obscured my view. The buck was headed into the hardwoods behind me, and when he got behind a heavy screen of brush, I quit looking. The soft breeze was blowing my scent in that direction, and I assumed he would just keep going.



Dan Geddings

The sun was still up in the western sky, and shafts of light slanted through the gaps in the canopy around me onto the carpet of leaves and pine straw below. I was sitting in a tall ladder stand facing a big, overgrown cut-over to the west. I had a corn pile and a mineral rock at the end of a shooting lane to my right front. A slight noise to my rear caused me to turn in my seat and look down an open glade into the hardwoods behind me. The buck that I had seen earlier was rubbing a cluster of saplings with its antlers. He was only about a hundred yards away, and I used the binoculars again to get a better look.

The buck's main beams were heavy

and wide and golden colored in the afternoon sunlight. It was impossible to turn enough in the seat to be able to take a shot. I could only watch. It surprised me that the deer was exactly downwind but showed no sign of alarm. I could only assume that my scent was pulled upward and away by the warm sky. He eventually wandered on into the hardwoods and out of my sight.

The afternoon sun was warm but not hot, and the woods were beautiful and quiet. I noticed a single yellow leaf fluttering downward nearby. It was caught by the silvery thread of a spider web and hung perfectly suspended in space. Almost immediately a very large spider ran down the web and started tussling with the offending leaf, which was quickly loosened and continued its spiral to the ground below.

Soft footsteps to my right rear alerted me, and I abandoned my spider watching and started thinking deer. The footsteps were deliberate, cautious and very close. I turned my head as much as I could without shifting my body. There was a deer approaching, but I could not see it through the understory. It stopped and stood very still and quiet for a long time — then, more footsteps. Now, I could see movement.

It was a young buck, at less than 20 yards. The left main beam of its ant-

lers had no tines or points. The right beam had one point. A nice little three-point buck slipping through the woods. It never looked up at me, and I never lifted my rifle. He eased on through the woods to my front, toward the cut-over.

The time passed much too quickly, and the shafts of golden sunlight were soon gone. The light in the woods was now a soft glow. There was no longer a contrast of light and shadow.

Movement to my front caught my attention. Another deer was coming. This one was headed toward my corn pile. The binoculars showed that it was another young buck. It was a spike, with two straight antlers about four or five inches long. This deer went to the corn and crunched on a few ears, then turned toward my stand.

I put my binoculars down and watched the deer walk by at about 10 yards. It was alert and looked around the open woods carefully but never looked up and didn't know that I was there, looking down. This one too was safe — as I had no intention of shooting anything but a fully mature buck.

I sat and listened to the footsteps fade into the hardwoods behind me.

It was getting late now, and the light was fading, but I noticed movement in the open woods to my left. A

small deer was approaching at a trot. It stopped and looked around briefly, then trotted on toward the corn pile. I picked up the binos and tried to focus on the deer but had trouble finding it as it moved through the timber. When it reached the corn it stopped and put its head down.

The binoculars showed me that it was a yearling doe and that she was licking the mineral rock at my corn pile. I thought that it was unusual to see such a small deer without a grown doe nearby. When I looked back toward the open woods to my left, I saw another deer standing at an alert posture, looking directly at me in the stand. This was, of course, the grown doe. The yearling had just run ahead to the corn.

The old doe must have seen me moving around trying to focus on the yearling as it approached the corn. She didn't blow but stomped the ground several times with a front foot. It was a warning to the smaller deer — a warning that she ignored. The old doe turned and vanished into the darkening woods.

I sat and watched the yearling at the corn pile until the darkness swallowed her form, then climbed down from the stand. It had been a good afternoon in the woods.

Reach Dan Geddings at cdgeddings@gmail.com.

Hunting season in full force



PHOTO PROVIDED

This 244-pound, 10-point buck was killed Sept. 14 in Lee County by Carolyn Shipman.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Alex Goins, son of HC Goins, shot his first buck Sept. 5 at Riverside Hunt Club and also shot a hog the same afternoon before the buck. Alex is 12 years old and in seventh grade.

For more flowers this spring, multiply bulbs before planting

BY LEE REICH

The Associated Press

Wait! Before you put those tulip, daffodil, crocus and hyacinth bulbs in the ground, do you want to multiply them?

Sure, they'll multiply by themselves, but you can speed up the process.

BULB OR CORM?

Before you can multiply a bulb, you have to know if what you have in hand really is a bulb. Some so-called bulbs, such as crocus and gladiolus, are in fact corms, which are just thickened hunks of stem.

If you want crocuses to multiply prolifically, make cuttings, as you would with any stem. Each cutting needs at least one bud, or eye, best seen on a corm by removing the papery covering. Because of all this wounding and the difficulty of seeing the eyes at this time of year, perhaps you should wait until early spring to cut up crocus corms. Wounds heal most quickly then, and eyes are plumping up.

Corms can also be propagated another way, with cormels. These are baby corms, produced around the base of a corm. Plant your crocus shallower than recommended, and you'll get more cormels.

TRUE BULBS

Most other common spring bulbs are true bulbs, consisting of a foreshortened piece of stem with the bulk of the bulb made up of layers of leaves, scales or both.

As with your forsythia or rose bush, buds grow wherever leaves meet a stem. In bulbs, these buds become bulblets, which grow up to become first offsets and then bona fide bulbs themselves.

One way to multiply bulbs is to just dig them up sometime between early summer and now, and then snap off and plant out the offsets. Not having to elbow around in the dirt with their mother bulb, bulblets or other offsets lets these separated offsets grow quickly to flowering size and make more of their own bulblets and offsets.

OTHER WAYS WITH BULBS

For greater increase, make bulb cuttings of such beauties as daffodils and squill. Bulbs that you just bought or ones that you just dug up are suitable candidates. Perform this operation by slicing a bulb from top to bottom into 8 or so vertical sections, each with a piece of the base (the "stem").

Yet another way to increase the number of bulblets — especially useful with hyacinths, which are naturally shy multipliers — is with "cuttage." Turn the bulb upside down and score it through its center, dividing the base into 6 pie-shaped sections.

Alternatively, scoop out the base with a knife. Either way, you will have nipped



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This photo shows propagation of a daffodil bulb in New Paltz, New York. Scoring the bottom of the bulb with shallow knife slits coaxes it to make bulblets which, over time, swell into flowering bulbs.

out the growing point within, letting side "shoots," i.e. bulblets, grow, just like when you make any stem more bushy by nipping out its top bud.

Plant either the bulb sections, the scored bulb or the scooped bulb in a large, shallow flowerpot or seed flat and keep the potting soil moist.

After a couple of months at room temperature, bulblets can be harvested and replanted.

Lily is a bulb that lacks the papery covering of these other bulbs; a few of a lily's outer scales can be flicked off the mother bulb for rooting. Just take a few so that enough scales are left to nourish the mother bulb when you replant it. Toss the scales into a bag with some moist perlite and keep the bag at room temperature.

After 6 to 12 weeks, move the bag into the refrigerator until early spring, when you're ready to plant. Expect three to five bulblets to form at the base of each scale.

BE PATIENT

When propagating bulbs, just as when propagating any plant, patience is important.

The time for your new "bulbs" to reach flowering size depends on the kind of bulb and the method of propagation: a year for a daffodil offset, a couple of years for a crocus cormel or lily scale, three or four years for hyacinth bulblets.

Setting aside a nursery row is the best way to manage digging and keeping track of these plants. Yes, multiplying bulbs does take some trouble and time, but you end up with oodles of plants. And this parenting is fun.

**Did you kill a big buck? Kill your first deer?
Catch a big fish? Catch your first fish?**

We want to share your outdoor photos with our readers. Email your photo submissions to pressrelease@theitem.com. Please include name of person in the photo, where the catch or kill took place and any other pertinent information.

the Sumter ITEM CLASSIFIEDS

To Place Your Classified Ads, Please call

803-774-1200

OR TO PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE GO TO WWW.THE ITEM.COM/PLACEMYAD

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

11:30 a.m. the day before for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday edition.
11:30 a.m. Friday for Sunday's edition.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements

Tuesday, November 21, 2017 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Game: (SC833) LUCKY 8'S

Social Security Disability? Up to \$2,671/mo. (Based on paid-in amount.) FREE evaluation! Call Bill Gordon & Associates. 1-800-614-3945. Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broadward Co. FL., member TX/NM Bar.

Lung Cancer? And Age 60+? You And Your Family May Be Entitled To Significant Cash Award. Call 855-664-5681 for information. No Risk. No money out-of-pocket.

DENTAL INSURANCE. Call Physicians Mutual Insurance Company for details. NOT just a discount plan, REAL coverage for 350 procedures. 855-397-7030 or http://www.dental50plus.com/60 Ad#6118

Struggling with DRUGS or ALCOHOL? Addicted to PILLS? Talk to someone who cares. Call The Addiction Hope & Help Line for a free assessment. 866-604-6857

Lost & Found

Found in Mayesville, **young adult beagle**, owner call to identify 803-421-7775

BUSINESS SERVICES

Health Service/Medical

1st Care Home Health Professional & Certified Home Care Aide. Call Barola Prince 803-391-2387. Certified

Home Improvements

SBC Construction of Sumter Metal /Shingle Roofs • Porches • Concrete & Windows •Water Problems •Tree removal Call BURCH 803-720-4129

Legal Service

Attorney Timothy L. Griffith 803-607-9087, 360 W. Wesmark. Criminal, Family, Accident, Injury

Roofing

Robert's Metal Roofing 35 Yrs exp. 45 yr warranty. Financing avail. Expert installation. Long list of satisfied customers. **803-837-1549.**

All Types of Roofing & Repairs All work guaranteed. 30 yrs exp. SC Lic. Virgil Bickley 803-316-4734.

Tree Service

Tree removal, stump grinding, & pressure washing. Jenkinson Tree Service, licensed & insured. Call 803-847-8014 for a free estimate.

Ricky's Tree Service Tree removal, stump grinding, Lic & ins, free quote, 803-435-2223 or cell 803-460-8747.

WE WILL BUY YOUR CAR OUTRIGHT!

Regardless of year, make or model, we will pay you good money for your current vehicle. We can give you a fair price appraisal in 15 minutes. **Call Dealer For An Appointment 855.223.5023**

Tree Service

A Notch Above Tree Care Full quality service low rates, lic./ins., free est BBB accredited 983-9721

Newman's Tree Service Tree removal, trimming, topping, view enhancement pruning, bobcat work stump grinding, Lic & insured. Call **803-316-0128**



PETS & ANIMALS

Poultry

PALMETTO CORNISH CHICKENS \$12/case (of 12) B-Grade Southern States 335 Broad St., Sumter 803-775-1204 While Supplies last!



MERCHANDISE

Auctions

ADVERTISE YOUR AUCTION in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Alanna Ritchie at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

Firewood

For Sale TONS & TONS of fire wood premium seasoned oak. U haul \$45 per pick up load, delivered 1 cord \$130. Call Collins Tree Service 803-499-2136

For Sale or Trade

HughesNet: Gen4 satellite internet is ultra-fast and secure. Plans as low as \$39.99 in select areas. Call 1-800-280-9221 now to get a \$50 Gift Card!

Exede satellite internet Affordable, high speed broadband satellite internet anywhere in the U.S. Order now and save \$100. Plans start at \$39.99/month. Call 1-800-404-1746

NEW AT&T INTERNET OFFER. \$20 and \$30/mo. plans available when you bundle. 99% Reliable 100% Affordable. HURRY, OFFER ENDS SOON. New Customers Only. CALL NOW 1-855-825-2669

Need a truckload of firewood? \$60 delivered to Sumter or Manning. Call State Tree Service at 803-773-1320.

Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-877-649-9469

DISH Network. 190+ Channels. FREE Install. FREE Hopper HD-DVR. \$49.99/month (24 mos) Add High Speed Internet - \$14.95 (where avail.) CALL Today & SAVE 25%! 1-877-542-0759

Holiday Sale at Antique Stuff Lots of new arrivals 10%-75% Collectibles, Jewelry, Furniture & More Nov.7-18 10:30-4:30 Tues-Sat 2726 Cleveland St Ellore SC Your treasure is waiting!

GOLDEN KERNEL PECAN CO.
BUYING STATION
We Sell 15 Flavors of Pecans
803-968-9432
1200C Pocalla Rd. (Next to Family Dollar)

For Sale or Trade

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. Only 4.8 pounds and FAA approved for air travel! May be covered by medicare. Call for FREE info kit: 844-597-6582

DIRECTV. Call & Switch Now Get NFL Sunday Ticket for FREE! Every Game. Every Sunday. CHOICE All-Included Package. Over 185 Channels. \$60/month (for 12 Months.) CALL 1-800-291-6954

Spectrum Triple Play. TV, Internet & Voice for \$29.99 ea. 60 MB per second speed. No contract or commitment. We buy your existing contract up to \$500! 1-800-830-1559

4 Cemetery Plots in Evergreen Cemetery \$6000 for all 4 Call 803-775-4045



EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Morris College, a private four year Liberal Arts College in Sumter, South Carolina, is seeking to fill the following position(s):

RESIDENCE HALL DIRECTOR: To supervise a residence hall and provide individual and group counseling to residents. Supervise the housekeeping and general cleaning of the residence hall. Provide assistance to residents, ensuring the building is well kept and safe for residents receiving college guests into the residence hall. Bachelor of Science degree required. Effective immediately.

RESIDENCE HALL ASSISTANT (Part-Time): To supervise and monitor a residence hall, assist residents with all aspects of the housing program, and make periodic checks of student's rooms and general areas. Effective Immediately.

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT: To work under direct supervision rendering custodial and grounds keeping services. Applicants must possess a valid South Carolina drivers license. Some weekend work required. Effective Immediately.

Submit letter of application and personal resumé to: Director of Personnel, Morris College, 100 W. College St., Sumter, SC 29150-3599. Morris College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Roper Staffing has multiple job openings in the following areas:

- Dental Medical Coder
- CSR/Collections
- Dispatchers
- Billing Specialists
- Administrative Assistants
- P/T Custodian
- Insurance (Licensed)
- Manual CNC Machinist
- Shift Supervisor
- Chemist
- CDL Driver
- CNC Operators/MAOP
- Quality/ISO Manager

APPLICATION TIMES: Monday-Wednesday from 8:30-10:00am and 1:30-3:00pm. Please call the Sumter office at 803-938-8100 to inquire about what you will need to bring with you when registering. For more detailed information on the job listings go to www.roperstaffing.com

Help Wanted Full-Time

EXPERIENCED CARPENTER WANTED Pay Based On Experience Must have your own reliable transportation Location: Sumter, SC Job Requirements: 0-2 years experience painting, flooring, drywall, cabinetry, Gut renovations, New Construction, General Carpentry, etc Please call (803)968-4718 if interested.

Contractors Wanted! The Sumter Item has newspaper routes for the following areas:
*North Main, 521, Beach Forest
*Bishopville
*Mayesville, Lynchburg, St. Charles & Elliott
Must have good dependable transportation & a phone in your home. Come by & apply at 36 W. Liberty St. or call Reda at 803-774-1257

Manning Garden is seeking a qualified maintenance technician. Successful applicants will have experience & skills in general maintenance repair. Plumbing, electrical, punch out, HVAC experience, strong work ethic and a desire to serve the customer. HVAC certified is preferred but not required. We offer an exciting work environment with competitive base salary and benefits. Please apply on-line www.ambling.com/career. Drugs don't work!

Statewide Employment

BROWN TRUCKING is looking for COMPANY DRIVERS and OWNER OPERATORS. Brown requires: CDL-A, 2 years of tractor trailer experience OTR or Regional (Multiple states) in the last 3 years, good MVR and PSP. Apply: www.driveforbrown.com. Contact Randy Harris 423-280-6206.

ADVERTISE YOUR DRIVER JOBS in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Alanna Ritchie at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.



RENTALS

Unfurnished Apartments

Senior Living Apartments for those 62+ (Rent based on income) Shiloh-Randolph Manor 125 W. Bartlette, 775-0575 Studio/1 Bedroom apartments available EHO

Huntington Place Apartments Rents from \$625 per month 1 Month free*
*13 Month lease required
Leasing office located at Ashton Mill Apartment Homes 595 Ashton Mill Drive 803-773-3600 Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5

Unfurnished Homes

3BR 1BA on 15 Shuler. Quiet neighborhood \$475/mo+dep. Call 481-9195 or 418-9444

Mobile Home Rentals

2BR 1BA SW located off 521 South. \$400 Rent & Deposit. Call 803-464-5757

Mobile Home Rentals

3BR/2BA DW, private lot, between Sumter and Manning. Clarendon Co. \$650mo+\$650dep Call **803-473-7577**

Vacation Rentals

ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE to more than 2.1 million S.C. newspaper readers. Your 25-word classified ad will appear in 101 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Call Alanna Ritchie at the South Carolina Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

Office Rentals

690 Bultman Dr 1612 Sq. Ft. Reception area w/ hdwd 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

50 Wesmark Ct. 1,177 sq ft. \$1000/mo. + \$100 CAM. Reception area, 3 office space, breakroom, 1/2 ba, file/storage room. 773-1477



REAL ESTATE

Homes for Sale

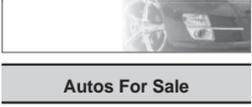
Stunning NC Mtn Views - New log cabin on nearly 2 ac. features vault. ceilings, fireplace, hdwd floors, lg. screened porch, 1/2 basement, lg. \$194,900. (828) 286-2981

Country Club Estate 3BR/2.5BA, 4 car garage, 10 miles to lake, 2,100sqft. \$174k. 803-473-8572

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

For Sale: 67' Fairlane Convertible Ford, 46' Chevy 2 door, & 87' Camaro. 803-236-6426

Miscellaneous

AIRLINE MECHANIC TRAINING - Get FAA certification. No HS Diploma or GED - We can help. Approved for military benefits. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-367-2513

LEGAL NOTICES

Bid Notices

INVITATION TO BID
The Sumter County Public Works is soliciting separate sealed bids from qualified vendors for the following project:

2017 Dirt to Pave Package 1 of Sumter County Roadway Improvements

Bids will be received until 2:00 PM., Thursday, 7 December 2017 in the Sumter County Public Works Conference Room located at 1289 North Main Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29153.

Plans and bid documents may be obtained from:

AECOM
101 Research Drive,
Columbia, SC 29203
Phone: (803)254-4400
Fax: (803)771-6676
Attn: Ms. April Mosser
(april.mosser@aecom.com)

The County of Sumter reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The County of Sumter reserves the right to waive any or all technicalities.

Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting Thursday, 30 November, 2017 at 2:00 PM at Sumter County Public Works, 1289 North Main Street, Sumter, SC 29153

Abandon Vehicle / Boat

Abandoned Boat Notice
To all persons claiming an interest in: **1985 16' Grumman - GBM 18890A585; 1965 33HP; 1965 - 33552B-E03860. Michael Williams** will apply to SCDNR for title on watercraft/outboard motor. If you have any claims to the watercraft/outboard motor, contact SCDNR at (803) 734-3858. Upon thirty days after the date of the last advertisement if no claim of interest is made and the watercraft/outboard motor has not been reported stolen, SCDNR shall issue clear title. Case No: 20171011950773.



MULTI-SELLER AUCTION
QUALIFIED SELLERS...FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS
November 14th & November 15th
Many Properties Sell ABSOLUTE! No Minimums / No Reserves!
230± Properties in 94± Offerings IN 12 STATES!
Local Property of Interest - Nov. 15, 7PM
Property # 4233
Apartment / Condominium Tract on 12.23± Acres
S/E Side of GA Highway 53
Calhoun, GA 30701
10% Buyer's Premium
JOHN DIXON & ASSOCIATES
AUCTIONS - MARKETING
GAL: 2034, FL-AB-1488, TN: 3945, NCF: 6397, AL: 1481, SC: 002815R, VA: 2908 000490; Thomas J. Tarpley, Licensed Arkansas Real Estate Broker and Auction License #1536
2 Days | 2 Auctions
November 14 & 15 at 7PM
Sale Site: Embassy Suites, 620 Chastain Rd NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144
404.662.4140 www.multi-seller.com

Field Service Tech Local Company

Requirements	Benefits
Out of state work	Paid Vacation
Valid Driver's License	Paid Holidays
Daily per diem & board provided	Paid Sick Days
Confined space entry	BCBS Health Ins.
Haz-Wop, OSHA Training	Dental, Vision, Disability, Life
Drug free environment	401 (k) with match

Send resume' to: STC PO Box 1060 • Sumter, SC 29150

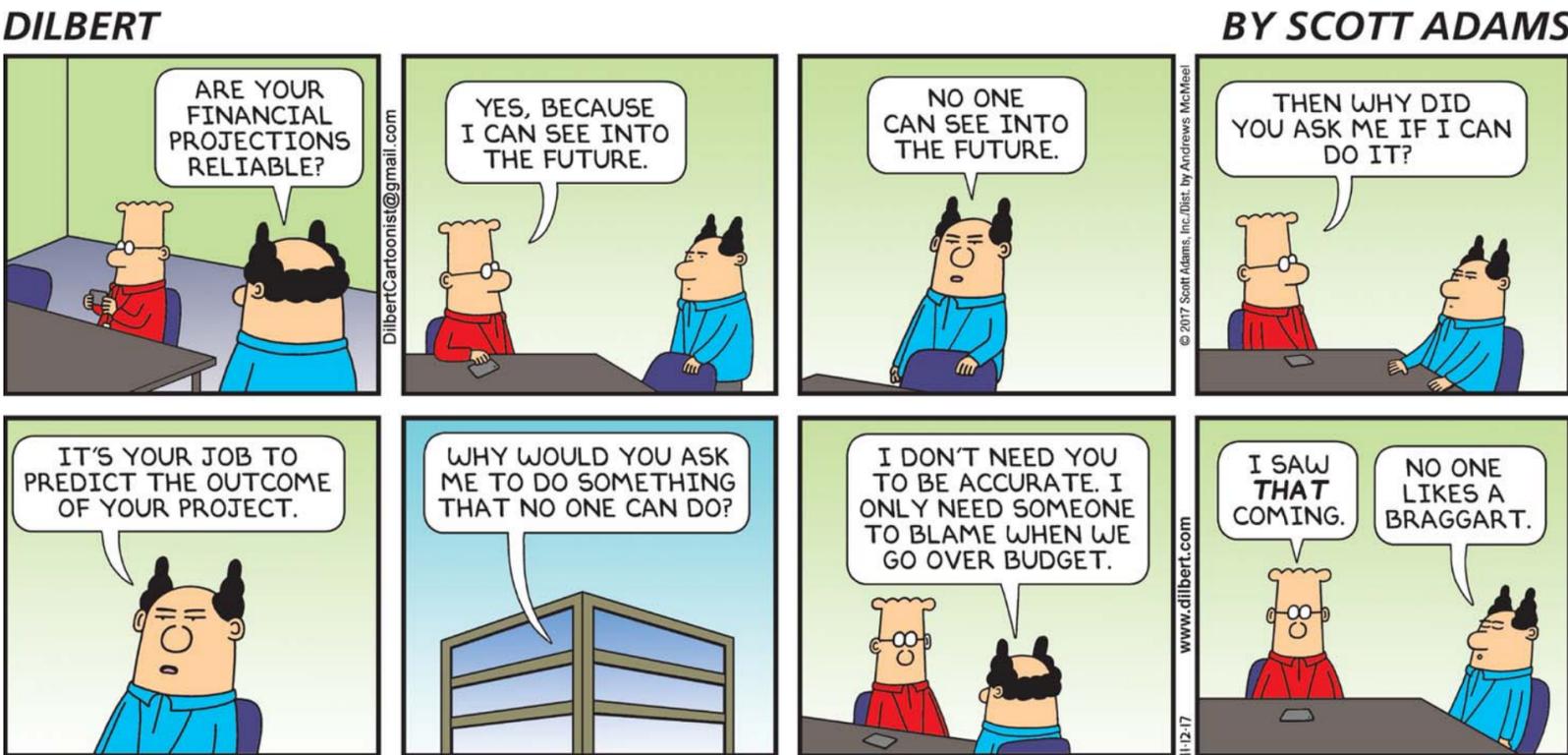
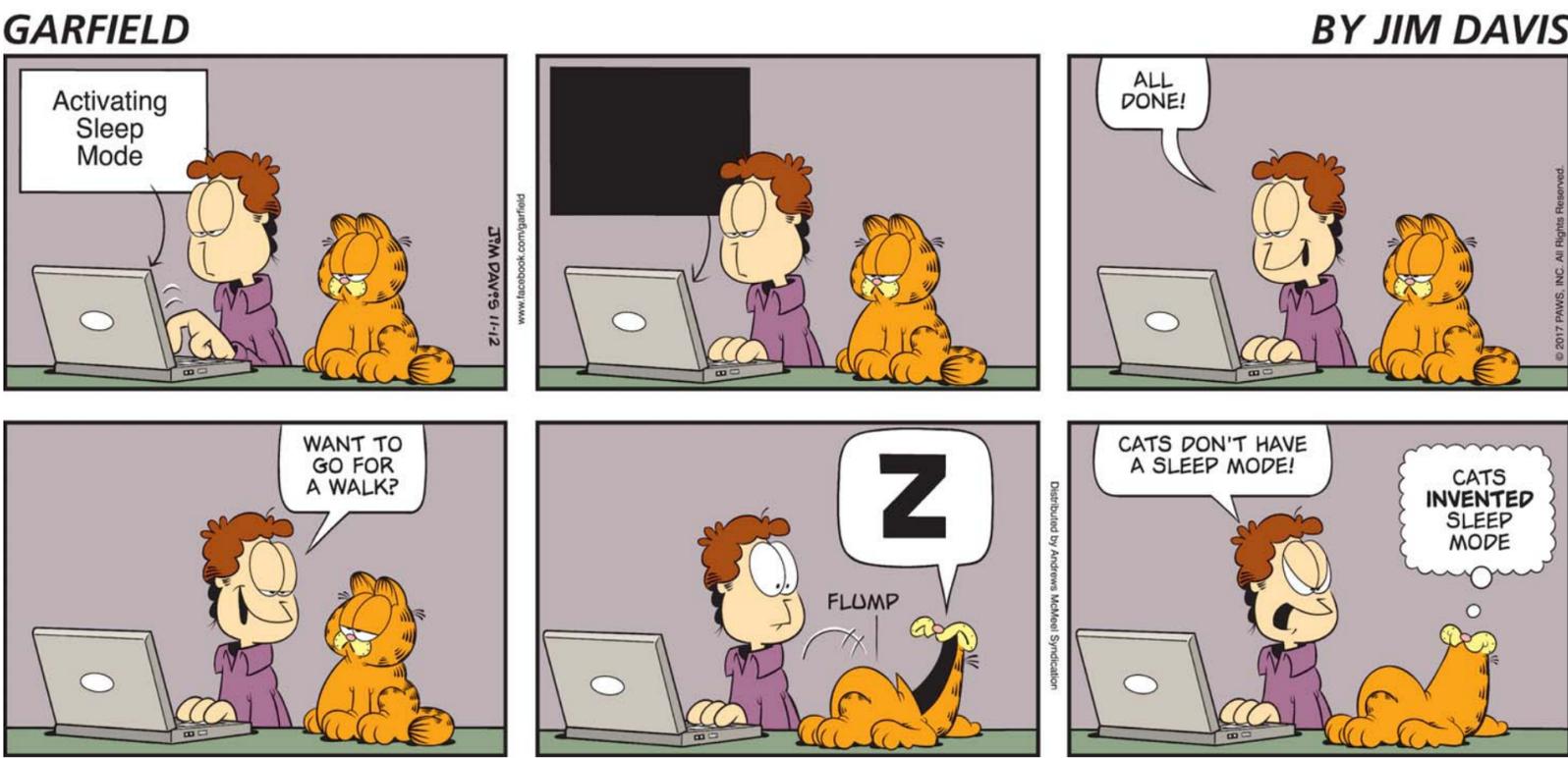
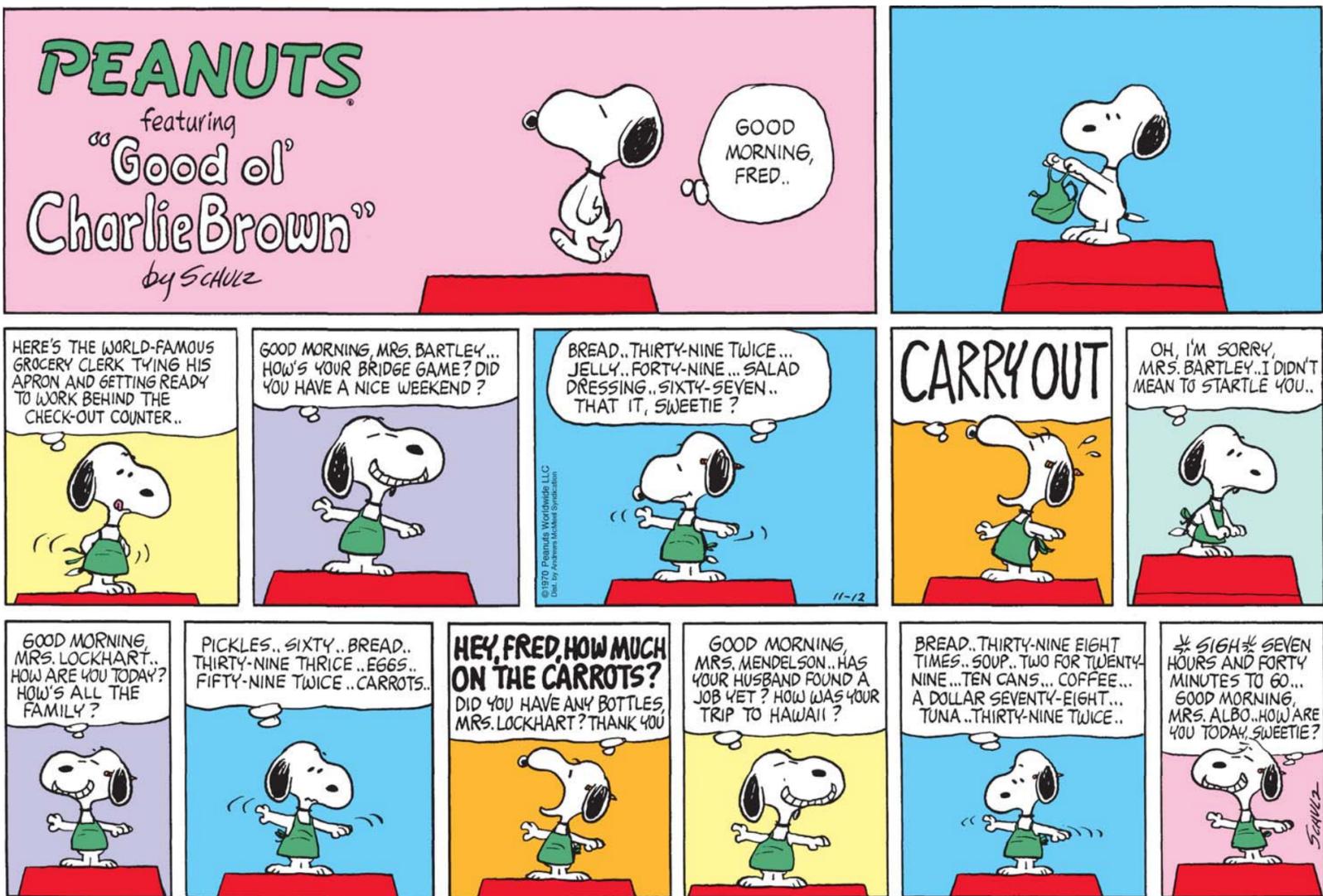
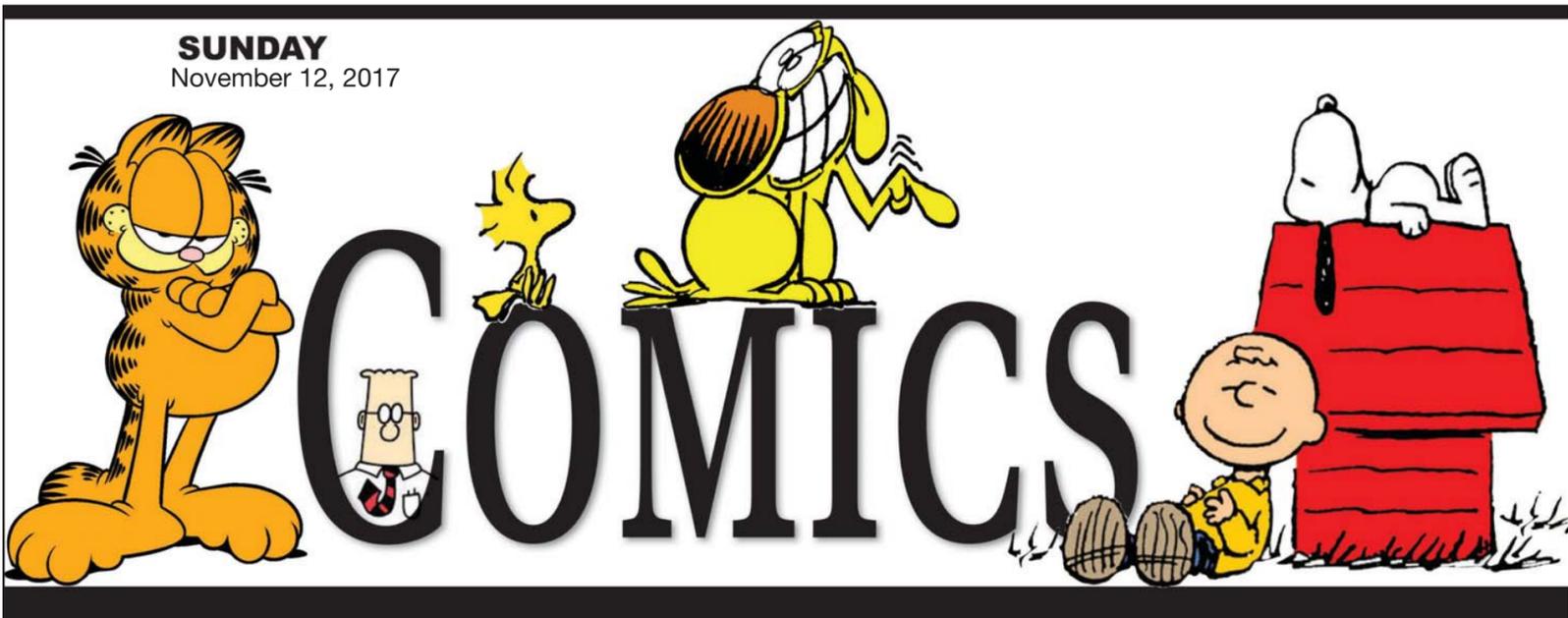
the Sumter ITEM
A2 | TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017 THE SUMTER ITEM
CONTRACTORS WANTED!*
For Routes in Our Delivery Area
Great for person looking for extra income. If you have good dependable transportation and a phone in your home and a desire to earn a good extra income...
COME BY & APPLY AT 36 W. Liberty Street Sumter, SC
***PRN CONTRACTORS AS NEEDED.**

Thanksgiving Deadlines
CLASSIFIED IN-LINE ADVERTISING
Edition Deadline
Tues., November 21 Mon., November 20 at 11:30pm
Wed., November 22 Tues., November 21 at 9:30am
Fri., November 24 Tues., November 21 at 11:30pm
Sun., November 26 Wed., November 22 at 9:30pm

Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

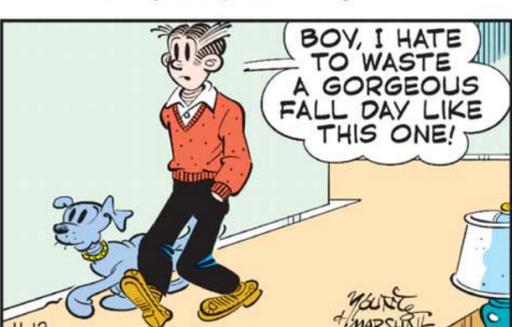
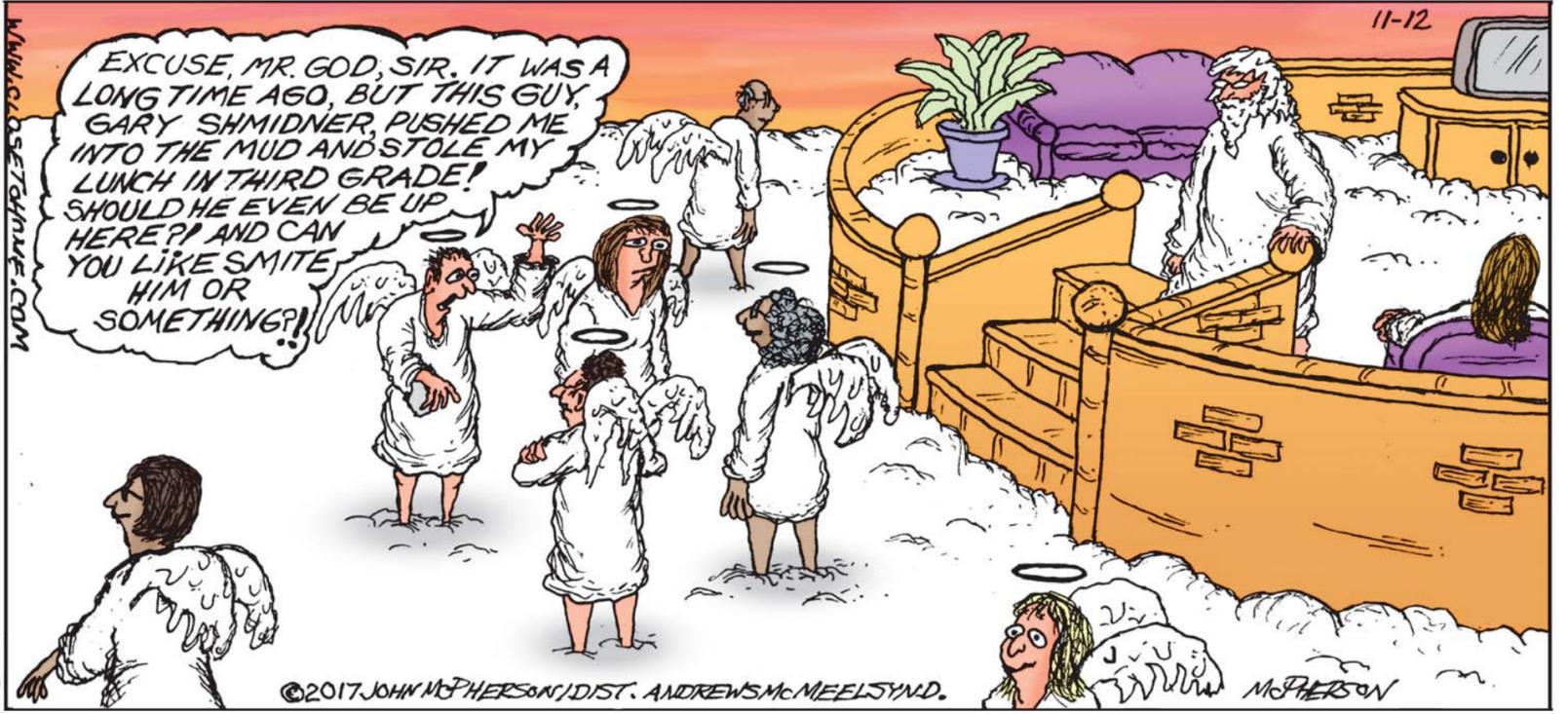
NO PROOF DEADLINES
Deadline is 24 hours earlier if proof is required
Business office will be closed November 23 and 24, 2017.
We will reopen November 27.

the Sumter ITEM
36 W. Liberty Street • Sumter, SC 29150
803-774-1200



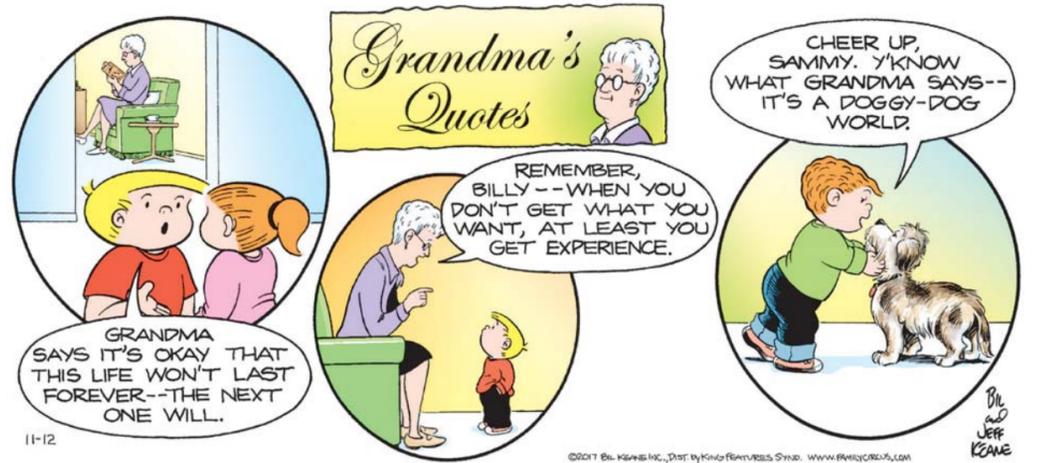
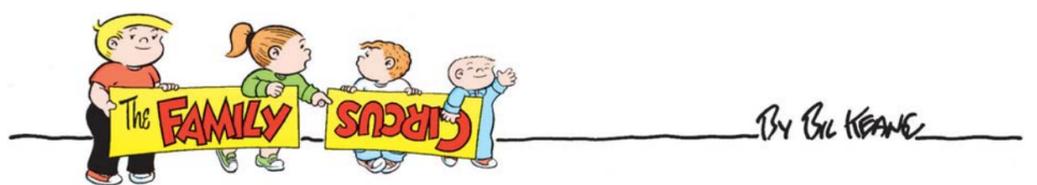
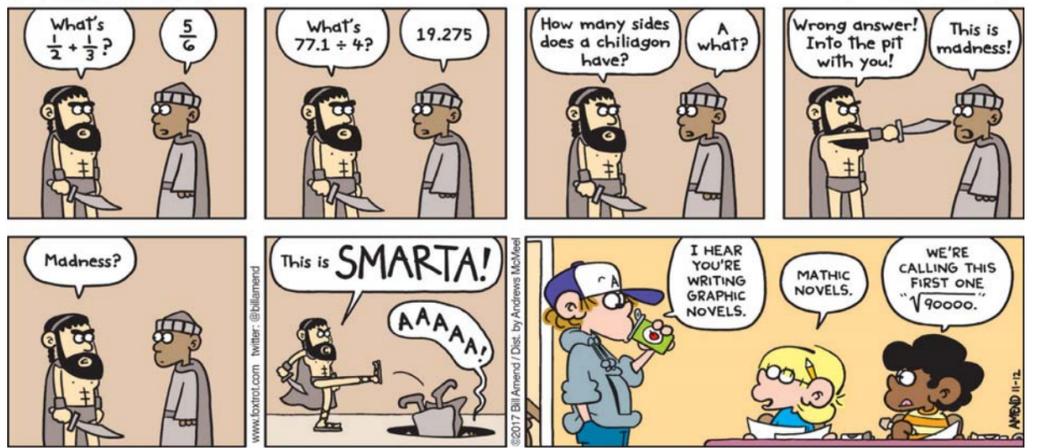
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



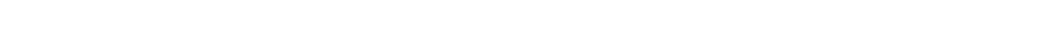
FoxTrot

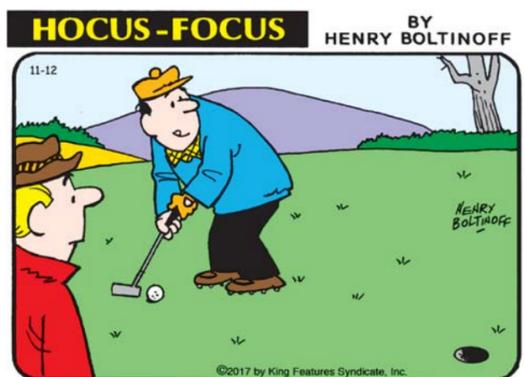
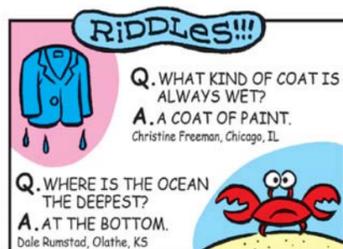
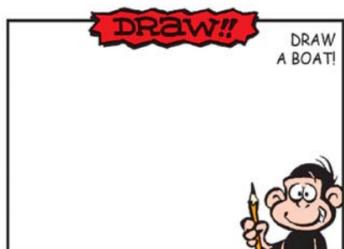
by Bill Amend



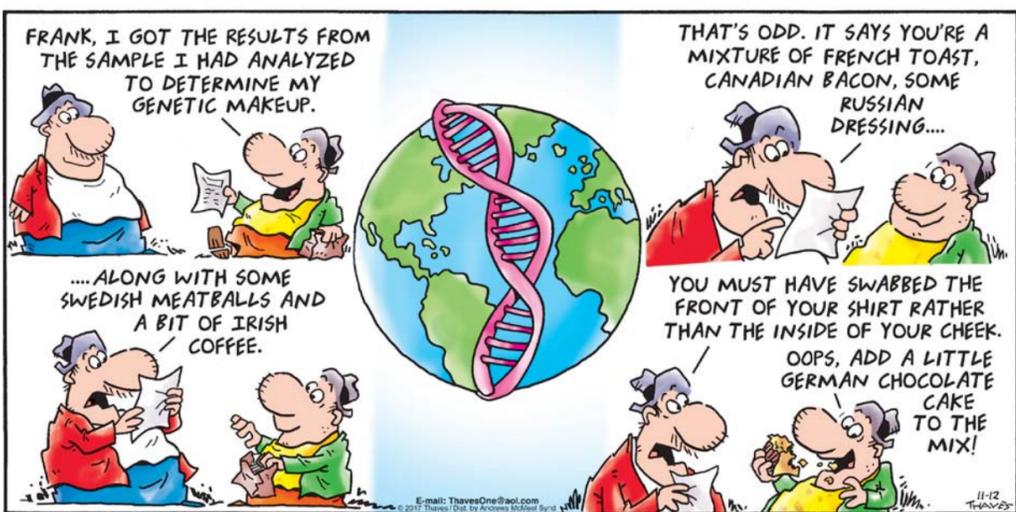
SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

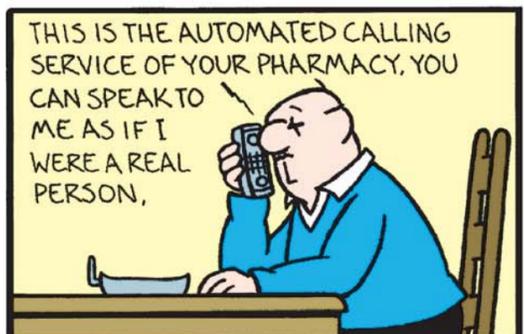
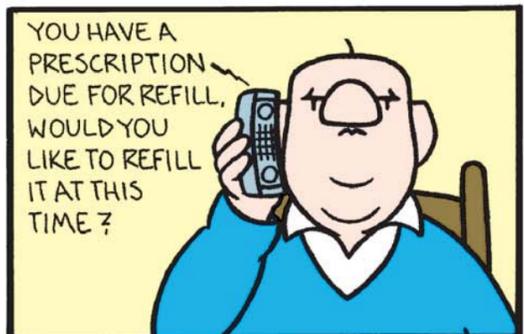




FRANK AND ERNEST



THE BORN LOSER

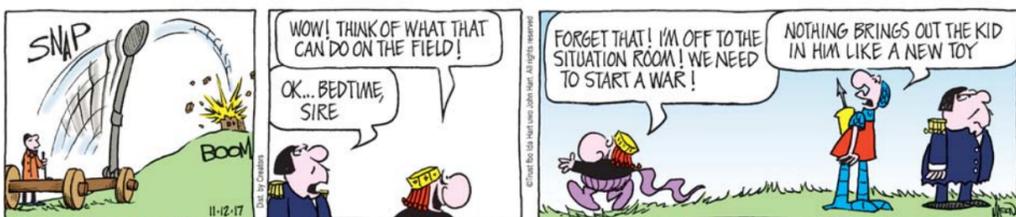


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS



WIZARD OF ID

by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

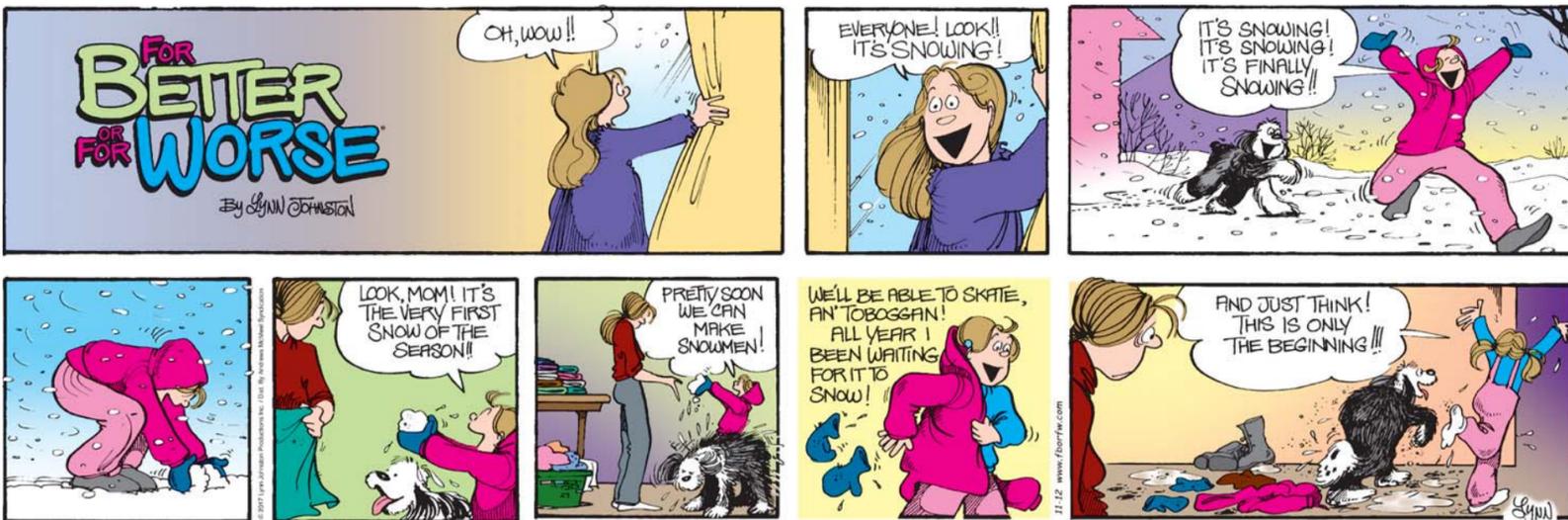
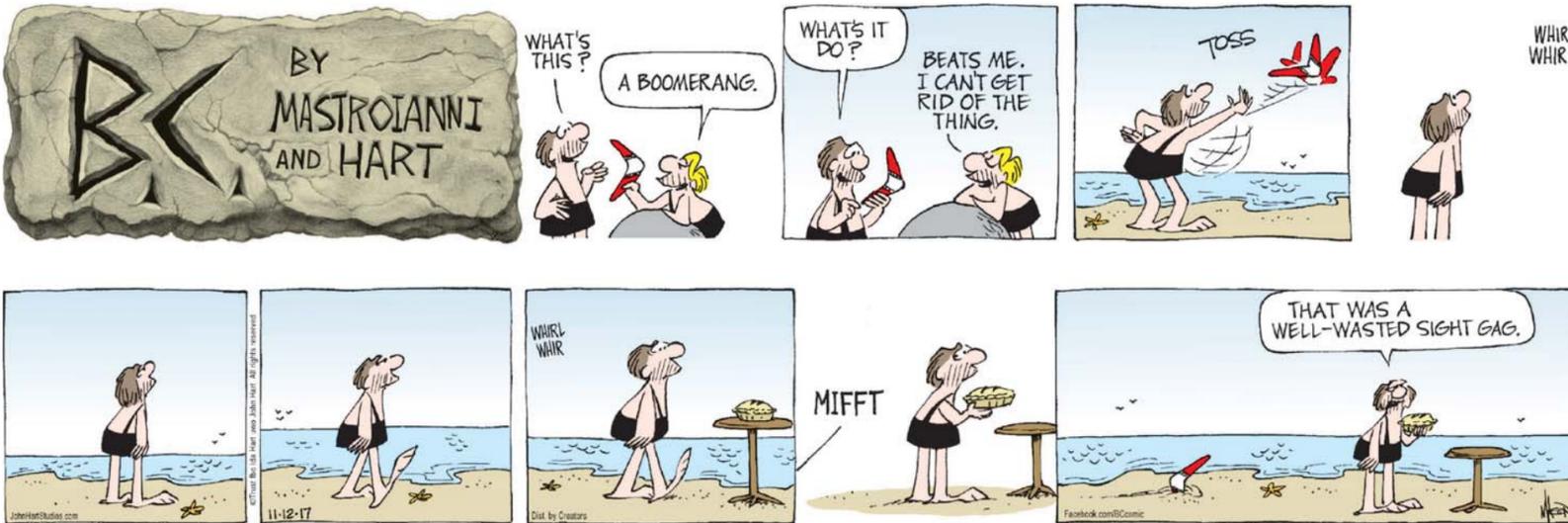
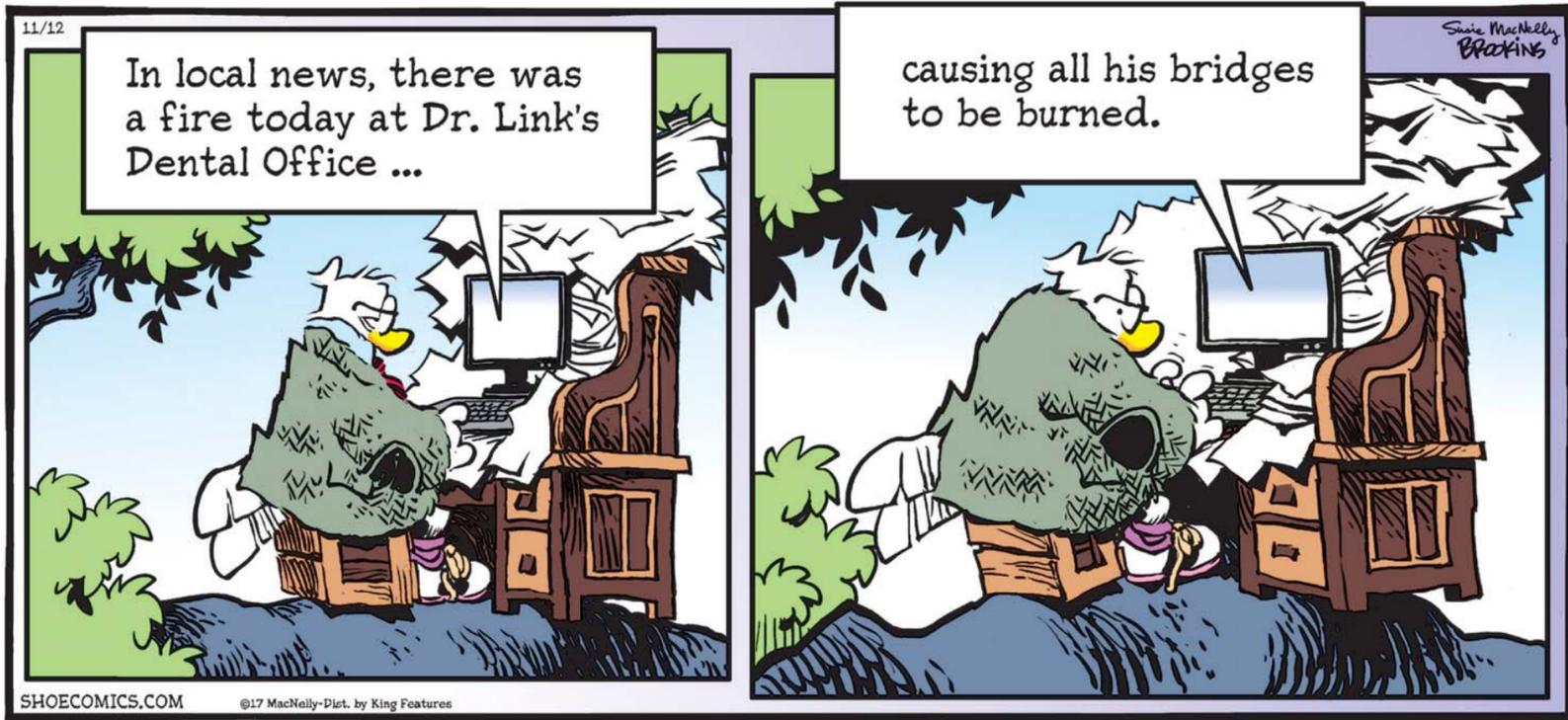


GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

