

IN SPORTS: SHS girls enter playoffs after turnaround season B1

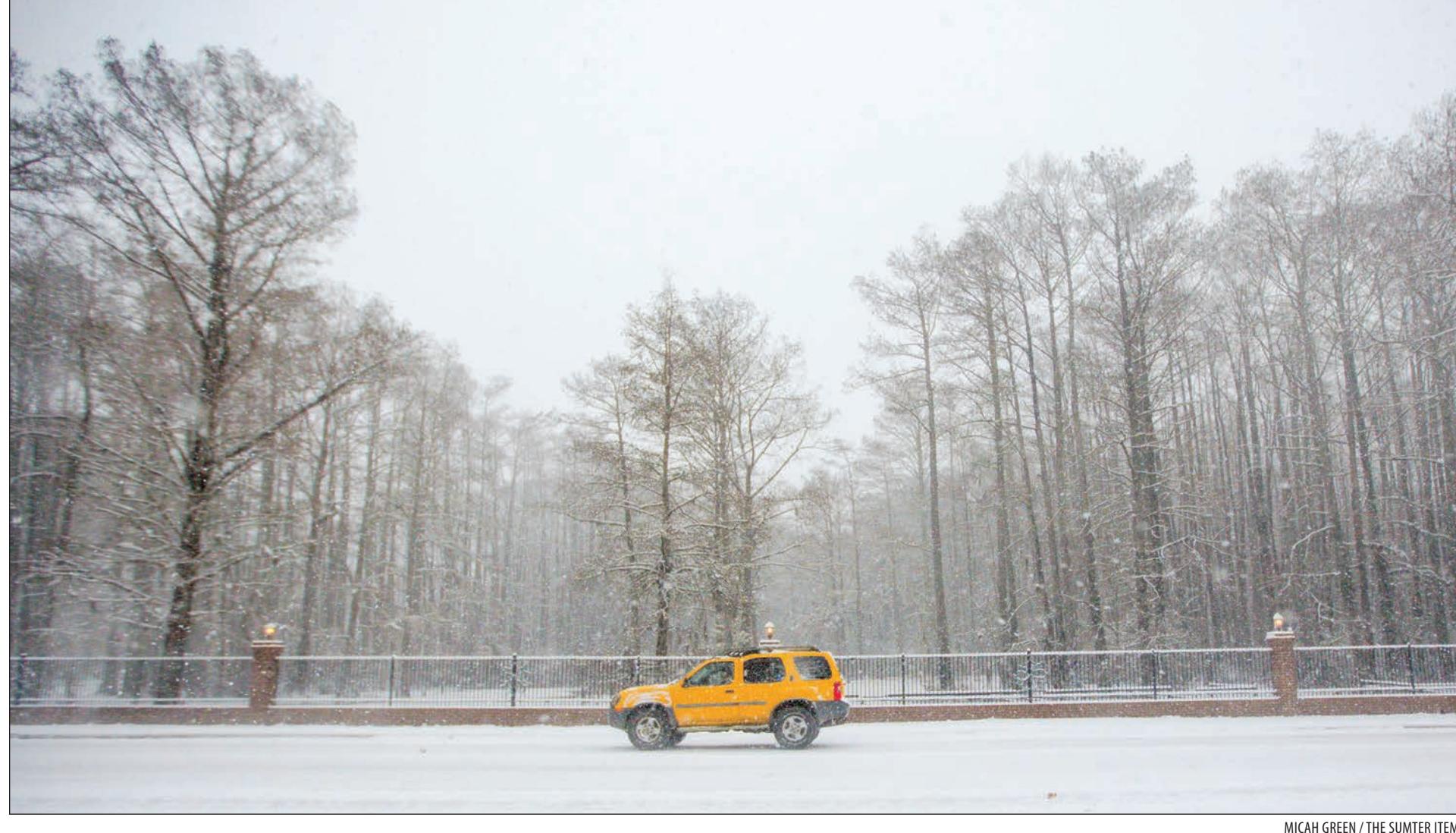
the Sumter ITEM

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Sumter sees 3rd-coldest January lows



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

A car travels down snowy West Liberty Street on Jan. 3 after a storm left several inches of snow in Sumter and surrounding areas.

Records go back to 1930; January cold temps push daily averages to 6th coldest

BY BRUCE MILLS

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We all know January was cold in Sumter. Just how cold was it?

To find out, *The Sumter Item* called the National Weather Service in Columbia to get the official numbers and look into the record books.

According to NWS Meteorologists Doug Anderson and Chris Rohrbach — and their official databases — Sumter County's average overnight low temperature for the entire month of January was 25.4 degrees. That's the third-coldest average overnight low for Sumter in January dating back to 1930, according to NWS files. January 1940 was the coldest, with an

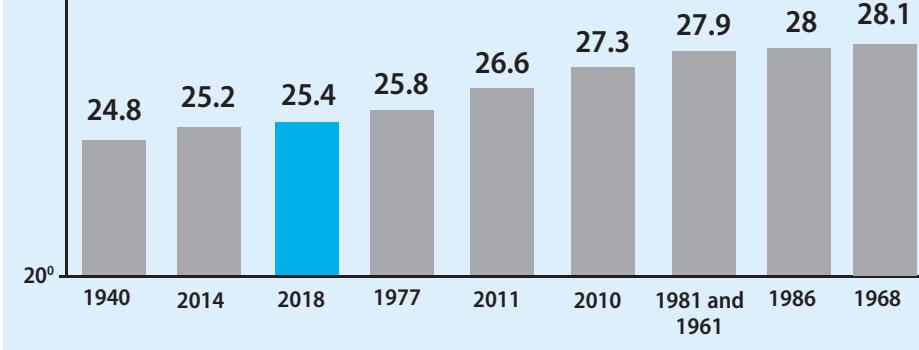
COLDEST JANUARIES ON AVERAGE

January 2018 was the sixth-coldest on average since records were kept in 1930 when taking high and low daily temperatures into account. The colder years were: 1940, 1977, 1988, 2011 and 2014.

average nightly low of 24.8 degrees, Anderson said.

The average overall daily temperature — between the lows and highs — for the 31 days of January in Sumter County was 38.6 degrees, ranking as the sixth-coldest January by that particular indicator for the county.

HOW LOW DID SUMTER GO? YEARS WITH COLDEST AVERAGE JANUARY LOW



Source: National Weather Service in Columbia. Temperatures measured in degrees Fahrenheit.

It was all driven by two stable, long-wave trough patterns over the East Coast that brought cold air down from Arctic Canada, Anderson said.

The first cold snap occurred at the

very beginning of the month, Jan. 1-7, where for seven consecutive nights the overnight low was less than 20 degrees

SEE JANUARY, PAGE A9

Manning man charged in fatal Saturday DUI

BY SHARRON HALEY

Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — A 62-year-old Manning man has been arrested on two felony charges after a wreck shortly after 6 p.m. Saturday that resulted in the death of a 77-year-old Manning man.

Anthony Lamonth Jones, the driver of a 2001 Ford four-door vehicle, was charged with felony



driving under the influence resulting in death and felony driving under the influence resulting in great bodily injury, according to Lance Cpl. Matt Southern with the South Carolina Highway Patrol.

SEE DUI, PAGE A8

Ministry helps single mother of 3 kids with \$500+ electric bill

BY BRUCE MILLS

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As winter reaches its halfway point, many Sumterites are struggling financially to put the severe weather of early January behind them, according to Kevin Howell, director of Sumter United Ministries' Crisis Relief Ministry. The ministry provides relief with resources to help heat the homes of the less fortunate, thanks to

The Sumter Item's Annual

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SEE FIRESIDE, PAGE A8

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DEATHS, B5

Lydia A. Thomas
Eddie Durant
Charles E. Holland
Willie J. Carter
Elwanda J. Barb Jackson
James Cantey
Thelma E. Blake

Deborah J. Bells
Nellie F. Benenhaley
S. Richard Morris Jr.
Gustave D. Holliday
Carl E. Pack
Rosa L. Dickey
Mary F. Hatfield

WEATHER, A14

SHOWERS TODAY
Cloudy and cooler today; showers tonight and staying cloudy
HIGH 51, LOW 40

INSIDE

2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES
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Group wants alumni in role as Morris president

BY BRUCE MILLS

bruce@theitem.com

The Rev. Ralph Carty said he considers it an honor that a local grassroots campaign has been organized for him to be considered as a candidate for the Morris College presidency.

Carty, 72, made his comments last week to *The Sumter Item* after it was made public by the leader of the campaign drive that there has been a groundswell movement for him to be added to the list of candidates for the Morris helm.

Rembert resident Carlton Washington, leader of the petition campaign, said he submitted the petition to the college board's presidential search committee in October with about 310 signatures for Carty to be considered

as a candidate. After not hearing any response from the committee to date, Washington said he sent out a letter of appeal to each of Morris' 27 board of trustees members on Thursday for them to now get involved in the process.

Carty said he's flattered by the response.

"What is so remarkable, in my perspective, is this is a movement led by a generation of folk behind me," Carty said. "Some of the leaders of this movement just graduated from Morris College a year ago. That, to me, is tremendous, and I am indeed honored by it."

A Sumter native and resident, Carty is a 1967 graduate of Morris with bachelor degrees in social stud-

ies and theology.

For the record, Carty said he didn't submit an application for the president's opening and didn't seek the position in any way. But he said if the college's board of trustees wants him to serve as president, he would do the job.

Washington said his group submitted the petition to the selection committee about one week after the application deadline, but the group strongly thinks Carty is the right person for the president's post.

He cited various challenges the college currently faces: legal health issues with a mold infestation case, declining student enrollment and financial concerns. Washington said the group thinks Carty's connection to the local community and his leadership experience make him possibly

the best candidate for the position.

Carty said, from what he understands, there has been tremendous anxiety in the movement.

"The movement has come about because they really feel it's time for an alumnist to head the college," Carty said. "An alumnist who has the interest of the school at the heart."

Carty said he thinks Morris "is a jewel in the rough" and that it can be a major partner in preparing the region's citizens for productive roles in society and also expanding the local economy.

If selected as the college's next president, Carty said he would resign from his two pastoral positions and spend the next few years dedicated to carrying out the mission and vision of the college and marketing the college more to the community.

County council to recognize honored officers

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter County Council will recognize recipients of the 2017 American Legion Public Safety Officers of the Year awards during its meeting at 6 p.m. today in County Council Chambers, third floor of Sumter County Administration Building, 13 E. Canal St.

Following the recognition, council will consider:

- Third and final reading of an ordinance to amend the county's 2017 budget to include the purchase of automated spillway gates, valued at \$281,000, for Second Mill Pond dam, and the transfer of \$500,000 from the county's hospitality fund for the construction of a veterans memorial park on Broad Street Extension adjoining Shaw Air Force Base;

- Second reading of an ordinance to amend the county zoning and development standards regarding the definitions of real estate, contractor, subdivision project and commercial project signs. A public hearing will be held prior to council's vote; and

- First reading of an ordinance to establish and create a special tax district to be known as "Boyles Pond Special Tax District."

County council will also view a presentation by representatives of TRANE Co.

Prior to its regular meeting:

- Sumter County Forfeited Land Commission will meet at 4:45 p.m. in County Council Conference Room to hold an executive session regarding four contractual matters;

- Sumter County Land Use Commission will meet at 5 p.m. in County Council Conference Room to discuss recommendations concerning the Sumter County Sign Ordinance; and

- Sumter County Internal Affairs Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. in County Council Conference Room to hold an executive session regarding possible appointments to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, Cultural Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Santee-Wateree Regional Transportation Authority, and Planning Commission.

Rembert pedestrian killed in hit and run

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

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Authorities continue to search for the driver involved in a hit-and-run that resulted in the death of a 41-year-old man in Rembert early Saturday morning.

Devin Dinkins died at the scene after he was hit by an unknown vehicle on TB Wright Road near

Scotts Branch Road at 5:14 a.m. on Feb. 10, according to Sumter County Coroner Robbie Baker and South Carolina Highway Patrol Lance Cpl. Matt Southern.

Next of kin has been notified, and an autopsy is scheduled for Monday in Newberry.

According to Southern, the unknown vehicle was traveling west on TB Wright Road when it struck

Dinkins and later fled the scene.

More information about the vehicle and incident were not available as of 12:30 p.m. Saturday.

The incident is being investigated by the SCHP Multi-disciplinary Accident Investigation Team.

Anyone with information is asked to contact highway patrol at 1-(800)768-1501 or (803) 896-9621.

St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic proceed to state competition



St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School both hosted and won one of the SCISA Regional Quiz Bowl Competitions held in South Carolina on Feb. 7. The team will proceed to the state competition on Feb. 15. From left are Dan Spivey, Social Studies teacher and Quiz Bowl coach; J. Puccinelli; D. Kirby; J. Bowman; F. Livingston; G. Barnum; and A. Reisenauer.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Clarendon receives clean audit, small surplus

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

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Clarendon County ended last year with a \$140,000 surplus in government funds and received good marks on its audit.

The county's 2017 audit report for basic financial statements was unqualified, which means clean or good, showing \$21.2 million in revenues and about \$21 million in expenditures, with a surplus of \$140,000.

However, some areas of the re-

port showed what Clarendon County Financial Director Lyndon Anthony calls "planned deficits." Those areas include the county's capital projects, E-911 fund, fire department and C-Program road projects.

For example, the county had a surplus of about \$2.8 million for its C-Program road projects at the end of 2016, which was used in 2017, Anthony said.

Anthony said the plan was always to use that surplus in the following year, 2017, knowing that the 2017 audit report would show a deficit.

The council was made aware of those expenditures.

He said a deficit is reflected in the 2017 audit because the C-Program surplus was recorded in 2016. Each of the county's audit reports only shows the revenues and expenditures during that specific year, he said.

And, while the county's assets exceeded its liabilities by \$9.2 million by the end of the fiscal year, according to the report, its net position decreased by \$2.2 million compared to the previous year.

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The Sumter Item is published five days a week except for

July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day (unless those fall on a Sunday) by Osteen Publishing Co., 36 W. Liberty St.,

Sumter, SC 29150.

Periodical postage paid at Sumter, SC 29150.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Osteen Publishing Co., 36 W. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150

Publication No. USPS 525-900

3 USC Sumter exhibits are worth viewing

BY JANE COLLINS
Special to The Sumter Item

Three exhibits at USC Sumter seemed to slip into the artistic arena but are worth the time to view. Two of them, Jackie Wukela's "People and Places" at the University Gallery and DJ "Doc" Hatcher's "Our World in Acrylics" at the Upstairs Gallery, highlight the artists' personal challenges to explore a variety of styles, techniques and mediums.

In her artistic statement, Wukela writes: "My hope is to explore the world of color and light, looking at things we see every day and recording them during a moment of magic."

She succeeds with her portraits — beautifully drawn and full color to add a sense of emotion and characterization. In both "Reggae Dancer" and "Nassau Lady," she uses colored pencil to portray faces that are more than mere portraits. They exude a sense of magical aura. "Mr. Olsen," a graphite, captures the facial features and force of the eyes. In watercolor portrait Nos. 11-15, Wukela's technique is broader. She uses quick black lines underscored by patches of bright color to bring a sense of energy and personality to men named "The Old Turk" and "Mustang Al." In "Afternoon on the Cetina VI (Yellow Boats)," she explores landscapes and the impact of color. Her series of landscapes and pictures of Venice in oil are less

A REVIEW



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Jackie Wukela's "People and Places" is on exhibit in USC Sumter's University Gallery.

vivid but emphasize her curiosity of the impact of shades of the same color and the interplay of elements against one another.

Hatcher's acrylics also reflect exploration of subject matter and technique. His "Blue Dress" is impressionistic and bright, creating the feel of yellow steam against glass to both reveal and hide the elusive female form and the hint of blue. Picture Nos. 2-4 are very "pictorial" and use a limited color range. The monochromatic "Dad Lands" effectively combines light and shade to evoke the strong sense of depth and atmosphere. His portraits are clearly drawn and seem reserved and composed. In "Beach Girl," Hatcher relies



DJ "Doc" Hatcher's "Our World in Acrylics" is on exhibit in the Upstairs Gallery at USC Sumter. "Through the Eyes of a Child" by Lynda English is on exhibit in the Umpteenth Gallery.

on brighter colors to add interest to his composition.

"Through the Eyes of a Child" by Lynda English, partner with Wukela in an art studio in Florence, presents a clear message — the concept of facing the world through the perspective of a child.

The day I attended the gallery, the paintings were numbered, but there was no brochure listing the titles. It was a great experience because I could focus on what the child might be seeing rather than what someone tells me they are seeing. Picture No. 1 starts the exploration with a clear image. The small child is squashed between the legs

of adults from all walks of life, as reflected in their clothing. He peers out, but what does he see? Three pictures, especially the placement of Nos. 25 and 26, capture boys of differing ages exploring the marvels of the beach, each at his specific viewpoint. Another boy dressed in a snowsuit (composition No. 13) discovers snow. In picture No. 4, a girl in a red dress rests against a wall as if contemplating what will come next. In No. 20, a young girl peers through tall grass to discover what lies beyond while in No. 9, two girls sit at a window seat reading, the filtering light stressing different degrees of response. A

young boy in painting No. 8 follows the path of iridescent bubbles to wherever they may lead him. My personal favorite, however, is picture No. 7. A young boy strides along the water's edge. In the sky, a romantically colored shadow captures him with a club — a mighty warrior, like David gone to face Goliath and the rest of the world. This exhibit alone is worth your time, like a breath of fresh air and a call to get down and see the world.

These three exhibits are free and will remain at their venues until March 30. Viewing hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Palmetto Health Tuomey names Browne new operations exec

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Tim Browne has joined Palmetto Health Tuomey as the hospital's operations executive.

Browne has more than 30 years of experience in hospital leadership. He served as chief executive officer of Carolina Pines Regional

Medical Center in Hartsville and as president and chief executive officer of Loris Healthcare System.

Browne earned a Master's Degree in Health Administration from the University of South Carolina in 1983 after earning an undergraduate degree in biology in 1981. He is a Fellow in American College Healthcare Executives, a former board member of the South Carolina Hospital Association, former chairman of the Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce and a former chairman of the Mercy Hospice Board of Directors in Horry County.

He and his wife, Nancy, have a daughter, a son and a grandson.

Browne can be contacted at (803) 774-9017.

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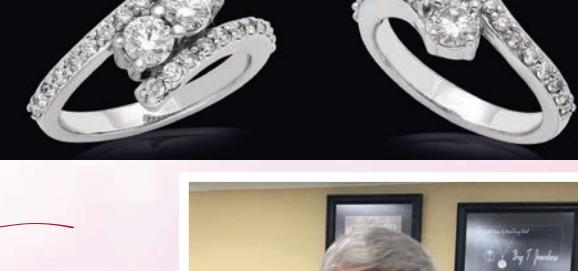


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MUSC to partner with Shriners for burn unit in new children's hospital

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

It appears a new children's hospital being built in Charleston will likely have a pediatric burn unit that uses expertise from a children's orthopaedics, spinal cord injury, cleft lip and palate and burn hospital.

The Medical University of South Carolina and Shriners Hospitals for Children have signed a letter of intent to facilitate their potential collaboration on a proposed expansion of pediatric burn services within the new MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital.

The new MUSC children's hospital is being boasted as the most advanced facility of its kind in the area, "transforming care for children and families throughout the region," according to MUSC.

MUSC reached out to Shriners to seek its burn expertise and announced the collaboration during a Darius Rucker country music concert in Charleston that was a fundraiser for the new hospital.

"The more time we spent with the Shriners leadership team, the more clearly our compatibility of vision and mission came into focus," said David J. Cole, MUSC president. "When it comes to marshaling resources to make a positive difference for children in need, the Shriners have an incredible history of impact. As a result, it was natural for MUSC to reach out to Shriners Hospitals for Children to leverage their expertise and experiences in pediatric burn care delivery."

Shriners is a network of 23 nonprofit medical facilities across North America that accepts children with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate in a family-centered environment, regardless of the patients' ability to pay.

There is a Shriners hospital as close to Sumter as Greenville, but there are currently only four locations — Boston, Massachusetts; Cincinnati, Ohio; Galveston, Texas; and Sacramento, California — that have burn care centers.

While discussions are still in the early stages — a letter of intent is used in most major business transactions as preliminary terms before negotiations begin, like an "agree to agree" document — MUSC officials said they foresee a future role and further collaboration with Shriners based on their "world-renowned reputation for excellence in caring, treatment and research related to the full range of pediatric burn injuries."

The future potential for developing a close working relationship with MUSC provides

an exciting opportunity for Shriners Hospitals for Children to perpetuate our mission and reach by treating more children in need of Shriners' specialized burn care in locations more readily accessible to those patients and their families," said Gary J. Bergenske, board of director chairman for Shriners.

MUSC, the oldest medical school in the South, educates and trains more than 3,000 students and 700 residents in six colleges — dental medicine, graduate studies, health professions, medicine, nursing and pharmacy — and has nearly 13,000 employees, including about 1,500 faculty members. The 700-bed medical center includes the nationally recognized children's hospital and a Level I trauma center, among other specialized care centers.

"MUSC burn unit clinical staff will also have the opportunity to train on site at a Shriners Hospitals for Children Burn Unit," said Patrick J. Cawley, CEO for MUSC Health and vice president for Health Affairs, University.

STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Former lawmaker avoids prison

BEAUFORT — A former South Carolina lawmaker will serve two years on probation instead of prison time after he pleaded guilty to misconduct in office.

A judge in Beaufort on Monday also ordered former Rep. Rick Quinn Jr. of Lexington to pay a \$1,000 fine and perform 500 hours of community service. He's the third Republican lawmaker convicted in a Statehouse corruption investigation.

Quinn pleaded guilty in December to a single misdemeanor charge punishable by up to a year in prison. The former House majority leader also resigned from office.

Prosecutors accused Quinn of taking \$4 million in unreported money from lobbyists. Quinn insisted his only crime was failing to report a lobbyist's payments to his father's political consulting firm. Quinn told reporters

he "never used my office for personal gain."

County employees sue over mold

SPARTANBURG — Some county employees in South Carolina are suing over illnesses they say they suffer because of mold in a courthouse.

Local media report five Spartanburg County employees have sued the county and 10 unidentified defendants because of health problems that range from eye irritation to nose bleeds, breathing problems, fatigue, memory loss, headaches and ears ringing.

The suit was filed late last week as consultants look for a place to move courthouse workers out of the building because of mold problems first discovered in August 2016.

County voters in November approved a one penny sales tax increase to pay for a new courthouse and a new city-county complex. A new facility is unlikely to be ready before 2020.

There was no immediate response to the lawsuit.

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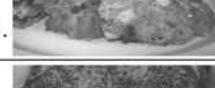
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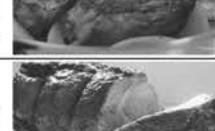
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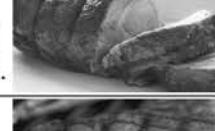
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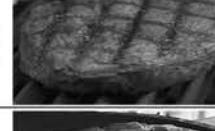
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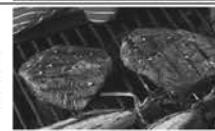
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Plan to rebuild U.S. roads relies on local dollars

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE and
MARTIN CRUTSINGER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Monday launched what he calls a “big week” for his infrastructure plan, which envisions \$1.5 trillion in spending over a decade to rebuild roads and highways. The plan would fulfill a key campaign goal but rely heavily on state and local government budgets to become a reality.

The president met with eight governors and several state and local officials at the White House later in the day to drum up support.

“This will be a big week for Infrastructure,” he tweeted. “After so stupidly spending \$7 trillion in the Middle East, it is now time to start investing in OUR Country!”

The administration’s 55-page plan is centered on using \$200 billion in federal money to leverage local and state tax dollars to fix America’s infrastructure, such as roads, highways, ports and airports.

Trump has repeatedly blamed the “crumbling” state of the nation’s roads and highways for preventing the American economy from reaching its full potential. Many in Washington think



A man works on the Southern Nevada portion of U.S. Interstate 11 near Boulder City, Nevada, in May 2017.

that Trump should have begun his term a year ago with an infrastructure push, one that could have garnered bipartisan support or, at minimum, placed Democrats in a bind for opposing a popular political measure.

But the administration chose to begin with health care, and relations with Democrats have only grown more strained during a turbulent, contentious year. The administration has pushed two previous “infrastructure weeks,” in June and August, that were sidetracked by other events.

This time, the White

House is grappling with the fallout from the departure of a senior aide after spousal abuse allegations, which has dominated the political dialogue since last week.

The massive infrastructure plan’s path through a polarized Congress isn’t clear. Congress has just dealt with two federal government shutdowns and is turning its attention to immigration.

Administration officials previewing the plan said it would feature two key components: an injection of funding for new investments to help speed up repairs of crumbling roads and

airports, as well as a streamlined permitting process that would truncate the wait time to get projects underway. Officials said the \$200 billion in federal support would come from cuts to existing programs.

Half the money would go to grants for transportation, water, flood control, cleanup at some of the country’s most polluted sites and other projects.

States, local governments and other project sponsors could use the grants — which administration officials view as incentives — for no more than 20 percent of the cost. Transit agencies generally count on the federal government for half the cost of major construction projects, and federal dollars can make up as much as 80 percent of some highway projects.

About \$50 billion would go toward rural projects — transportation, broadband, water, waste, power, flood management and ports. That is intended to address criticism from some Republican senators that the administration’s initial emphasis on public-private partnerships would do little to help rural, GOP-leaning states.

Early reaction to the proposal was divided.

Jay Timmons, president of

the National Association of Manufacturers, saluted Trump “for providing the leadership we have desperately needed to reclaim our rightful place as global leader on true 21st-century infrastructure.”

“When ports are clogged, trucks are delayed, power is down, water is shut off or the internet has a lapse, modern manufacturers’ ability to compete is threatened, and jobs are put at risk,” Timmons said. “There is no excuse for inaction, and manufacturers are committed to ensuring that America seizes this opportunity.”

But a number of Democrats and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce have pushed the administration to commit far more federal dollars, funded by tax increases, or by closing tax loopholes. And environmental groups expressed worry about its impact.

“President Trump’s infrastructure proposal is a disaster,” said Shelley Poticha, of the Natural Resources Defense Council. “It fails to offer the investment needed to bring our country into the 21st century. Even worse, his plan includes an unacceptable corporate giveaway by truncating environmental reviews.”

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Syrian militia says large number of IS foreign fighters held

BY SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT — The Syrian Kurdish militia partnering with the U.S.-led coalition to fight Islamic State militants said Monday that it is holding a "huge number" of foreign fighters in Syria and none of their home countries want them back.

The head of the People's Defense Units, or the YPG, Sipan Hemo, speaking to reporters in a conference call Monday, said more than half of those detained in the battle against IS in Syria are foreign fighters from all over the world, including Russia, Europe, China, Japan and Arab countries.

The future of those militants remains unclear and the process for bringing them to justice unsettled amid a debate, mostly in Europe, about whether they should be allowed to return home.

Hemo provided no figure for the number of detainees captured by his forces in Syria but added it was a burden to keep them.

"We suffer from the large number of Daesh detainees that we have now," Hemo said, using the Arabic acronym for IS.

Hemo said there is a "huge" number of IS foreign fighters and administrators from all over the world. Most of them are from Russia, Europe and Arab countries, he said.

Hemo said his forces have formally asked foreign governments to take their nationals to be tried at home. "Up until now, no one wants to take them back or to try them. We still have them in (local) prisons," he said. "Honestly, we also don't know what their future will be."

Hemo said many of the local fighters were forced to work or cooperate with IS because they controlled their areas. He said those local detainees will likely face regular courts and will be tried or released. "They are regular people who had to live with Daesh."

Even that is not exactly straightforward. The U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces have no international recognition and the Syrian government, which runs the local courts, doesn't have a presence in the areas liberat-

ed from IS by the U.S.-backed forces.

The SDF — with the YPG as its backbone — captured two British men last month, and U.S. officials interrogated them and identified them with biometric data and other tools. It was the most high-profile capture publicly announced. British officials said they don't want the two men, who were part of a cell that executed foreign hostages, to return home.

U.S. officials say the two men represent just a small portion of the hundreds of foreign-born IS terrorists that were captured or killed since October 2017 by the SDF.

Two French nationals, including a woman listed as a key recruiter, appeared in videos posted online last month to speak about the conditions of their detention in Syria.

Detective: Teenager said gun jam stopped school shooting carnage

ANDERSON (AP) — The teenager who shot and killed a child on a South Carolina school yard cried and apologized afterward and said it was a good thing his gun jammed before he could shoot more children, a detective testified Monday.

Anderson County Det. Ronald Wood's comments Monday came during a hearing to determine whether the teenager, who faces two murder charges in the deaths of his father and an elementary school student, will be tried as a juvenile or an adult.

The teenager was 14 years old in September 2016 when authorities say he shot his 47-year-old father at home and then drove to Townville Elementary School and started shooting at first-graders on a playground. One boy died, and a teacher and another student were wounded.

"Good thing my gun jammed or I would have shot more," Wood quoted the teenager as saying as he was put in the back of a

police vehicle.

Wood told defense attorneys that the boy's grandfather — who rushed to the school after his grandson called him to say he killed his father — told officers the teen stayed in his room all the time because his parents were drunk and he was being home-schooled because he was being bullied.

Wood testified at a hearing that started Monday to determine if the now 15-year-old boy is tried as an adult for the killings of his 47-year-old father and 6-year-old Jacob Hall at the school.

If tried as a juvenile, the boy can only stay behind bars until he is 21. If convicted of murder as an adult, he could face decades in prison.

The Associated Press is not using the defendant's name because he has not been charged as an adult, but testi-

mony at the hearing could shed some light on the chain of events that led to the shootings. The hearing could last several days.

Along with two counts of murder, the teenager is charged with three counts of attempted murder and five counts of possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime.

Calls to 911 suggest the carnage could have been worse. A teacher told the emergency operator the teen was standing just five feet from the first-graders as they tried to get back in the school but didn't fire or try to force his way inside.

"When she was trying to get all the children in, he was standing right behind the kids, and he just threw his arms up and he was saying, he gave up, he gave up," the caller said.

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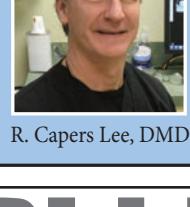
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DUI FROM PAGE A1

Clarendon County Coroner Bucky Mock said John Gorman "Jack" Eddy, who was driving a 2013 Ford four-door vehicle, died from massive trauma less than three hours after the wreck at Trident Medical Center in Charleston.

According to Southern, Jones was traveling north on Raccoon Road when the vehicle he was driving ran off the right side of the roadway within the roundabout.

Southern said Jones overcorrected and drove off the left side of the roadway, striking the concrete circle and then striking the vehicle driven by Eddy, who was traveling east on

Silver Road.

Mock said Eddy was transported to McLeod Clarendon by ambulance and then airlifted to Trident Medical Center.

Southern reported that Eddy was not wearing a seatbelt. Southern said both Jones and a male passenger in his vehicle were transported by ambulance to McLeod Clarendon.

The trooper said neither Jones nor his passenger was wearing a seatbelt.

Southern said South Carolina Highway Patrol and the Patrol's MAIT Team are continuing to investigate the wreck.

Jones is being held at Clarendon County Detention Center with a \$100,000 bond.

FIRESIDE

FROM PAGE A1

their homes, Howell said, electric heat is the most common — generally via heat pumps (central heat and air) — but there is a cost issue.

"Heat pumps are not geared to economically handle low temperatures outside beyond 20 degrees of your thermostat setting," Howell said. "During the first week of January, the lows were in the teens for a full week. Final notices for those bills have now arrived in February, and client after client continues to bring in \$300 to \$400 electric bills to the Crisis Relief Ministry."

Howell explained how a single mother of three recently came to the ministry for assistance with the final or disconnect notice on her electric bill. The woman is disabled and receives Supplemental Security Income of \$750 a month, and she was doing her best based on her means, Howell said.

"Her children are great students, and she exhibited strong parenting skills and was completely keen on her budget," Howell said. "She knew every expense, the monthly averages and how to prioritize the expenses."

According to Howell, the mother's monthly average electric bill is about \$120, and she said she had the ability to pay her current bill if it were near that average.

The woman panicked,

however, when the total due was more than \$500, reflecting the severe winter cold in January, Howell said.

"After a brief explanation of the billing practices of the electric company, we searched for a creative way to assist her," Howell said. "She was not going to be able to handle the upcoming disconnect notice when it arrived, and she would not be able to return to us again next month since electric customers can only come in once a year to the ministry."

Howell said the ministry found a way to allow her to pay her bill and still provide relief, "chipping away" at the huge balance that still remained.

"Her crisis was a direct result of the severe weather," Howell said. "She

was so grateful." Howell said he expects many people will run into similar scenarios.

"Many of our neighbors in Sumter will have similar needs in the coming weeks, and the amounts needed to satisfy final notices on bills will be much larger than average," Howell said. "People's donations to Fireside Fund spread much-needed hope in our community."

Fireside Fund was established by *The Sumter Item* in 1969 to help needy families and individuals pay heating bills or buy firewood or heating fuels to stay warm during the winter months. Since its founding, Fireside Fund has brought in more than \$1.5 million in donations from generous readers.

This winter's Fireside

Fund is dedicated to the memory of former Sumter County Sheriff Tommy Mims, who died in December 2016.

Mims joined the sheriff's office as a deputy in 1965, and after 23 years of service, he was elected sheriff in 1988. Mims served as sheriff for 16 years until his retirement in 2004.

Throughout his tenure in law enforcement, Mims was seen as a mentor and father figure to the men and women he led. He was also considered a dedicated public servant by many Sumterites.

Donations can be mailed to *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, SC 29151, or dropped off at 36 W. Liberty St.

Anyone in need of assistance with heating costs may call Sumter United Ministries at (803)

775-0757.

Donations ending the week of Monday, Feb. 12:

In honor of our Lord from Willing Workers Sunday School Class, \$15; in honor of Ladies of Faith Sunday School Class from Bobbi Broadway, \$25; in memory of Roy N. Carraway and Ingrid Newman from Louise N. Smith, \$25; in memory of Henry Richardson Jr. and Scott Rumph from Sandy Noonan, \$100; Helen Freeman, \$25; in memory of Ray and Lou Davenport from Lula June Circle/St. James Lutheran Church, \$50; Patricia Ali, \$50; Faith Sunday School Class, Grace Baptist Church, \$100.

Total anonymous this week: \$250

Total this week: \$640

Total this year: \$36,549.01

Total last year: \$48,601.18

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Stocks power higher Monday

BY MARLEY JAY
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK — Stocks powered higher Monday, sending the Dow Jones industrial average up 410 points, as the market clawed back more of its massive losses from the previous two weeks.

Apple jumped 4 percent and led a rally in technology companies, while industrial companies, banks and consumer-focused companies like retailers also rose.

Netflix and Amazon surged again as stocks that led the market higher in 2017 recovered more of the ground they lost recently. Energy companies got some relief as oil prices turned higher. All of that helped stocks build on the market's gains from late Friday.

Some market watchers say the recent bout of turbulence may not be over. Jim Paulsen, chief investment strategist for the Leuthold Group, said he thinks stocks and bonds will fall further as investors consider the likelihood that interest rates will keep rising and inflation will increase. Inflation and higher wages can cut into company profits, and higher interest rates slow down economic growth.

"The catalyst behind this bull market up until maybe the last year or so has just been the ability of this economy to grow, even if it's very sluggishly (...) without creating any negative consequences for the financial markets," he said.

Paulsen said the consumer prices report Wednesday or the February employment report due next month could both have major effects on the market.

The Standard & Poor's 500, the benchmark for many index funds, gained 36.45 points, or 1.4 percent, to 2,656. The Dow climbed 410.37 points, or 1.7 percent, to 24,601.27. It had risen as much as 574 earlier, led by big gains for Boeing and Apple.

The Nasdaq composite advanced 107.47 points, or 1.6 percent, to 6,981.96. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 13.15 points, or 0.9 percent, to 1,490.98.

It took just nine days for stocks to plunge 10 percent from their latest peak, which was reached on Jan. 26. A drop of that size is known on Wall Street as a market "correction." According to LPL Financial, it was the swiftest move from a record high to a correction in the history of the S&P 500. The index rose 1.5 percent Friday but still wound up with its worst weekly loss in more than two years.

Despite the two-day recovery, the S&P 500 is down 7.5 percent from its record high, and investors expect far more volatility in the stock market than they did two weeks ago.



Charpy's Pool Service on Liberty Street is seen during the early January snowfall.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

JANUARY FROM PAGE A1

in Sumter. That was a new record for consecutive nights in the teens or below for Sumter, according to Anderson. Another cold snap occurred

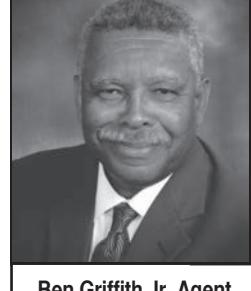
in the middle of the month.

"Sumter had two unusually cold snaps, and in both cases, stable, long-wave trough patterns set in and lasted a week or more," Anderson said.

Anderson explained with a typical

three- to five-day trough pattern, cold air doesn't generally move below the Appalachian Mountains and into South Carolina.

"That long period," he said, "helped that cold air filter up and over the mountains to reach us."



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CITIZENS PARTICIPATION PLAN/NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Communities anticipating participation in the State of South Carolina's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Economic Development Program, and the Federal HUD HOME Program must provide for participation of their citizens in the planning and implementation of CDBG, Economic Development, and HUD HOME-funded projects, in accordance with Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended through 1987. Therefore, a Citizens Participation Plan has been developed for the City of Manning for the purpose of providing the citizens of this locality with a written, detailed plan for their participation in the planning and implementation of community and economic development projects which may involve CDBG and HOME funds.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.**, the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments, on behalf of the City of Manning, will hold a Public Hearing at the City Hall, Manning, SC.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to review and solicit public comment on the afore-mentioned Citizens Participation Plan, and to solicit public input on community needs and priorities for housing, public facilities, economic development, water/sewer facilities, public safety components and job creation with a Needs Assessment Survey.

The Citizen Participation Plan is available for review at the City Hall, Manning, SC and the Santee-Lynches RCOG Office, 2525 Corporate Way, Suite 200, Sumter, SC between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Persons with questions or comments concerning the Public Hearing or the Citizen Participation Plan may contact Kyle Kelly, ECS Director, Santee-Lynches RCOG, (803) 774-1377.

The City of Manning does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or disability in the admission of, access to, or treatment regarding employment in its federally assisted programs or activities. Mary Adger and James Pringle, Manning, SC (803) 435-8477, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's HUD regulations.



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 Oil Changes _____
 Used Car Dealership _____
 Taxi / Limousine Service _____
 Towing Service _____

BUSINESS

- Accounting / Tax Prep _____
 Air & Heating Service _____
 Apartment Complex _____
 Appliance Store _____
 Antiques _____
 Architect _____
 Art Gallery _____
 Assisted Living Community _____
 Auction Company _____
 Audio Video Solutions _____
 Bail Bond Company _____
 Banquet Facilities _____
 Barber Shop _____
 Beer/Wine & Liquor Store _____
 Bookkeeper _____
 Bookstore _____
 Boutique _____
 Bridal Shop _____
 Cable/Satellite Company _____
 Car Wash _____
 Carpet / Flooring Store _____
 Carpet Cleaning _____
 Catering _____
 Cell Phone Repair _____
 Child Care Center _____
 Children's Clothing Store _____
 Children's Fitness _____
 Cigar Shop _____
 Cleaning Company (Residential) _____
 Commercial Real Estate Company _____
 Computer Store _____
 Consignment Store _____
 Countertops Company _____
 Credit Union _____
 Custom Framing _____
 Dance Studio _____
 Day Spa _____
 Decks & Porches _____
 Department Store _____
 Document Shredding & Disposal _____
 Dry Cleaners _____
 Electric/Gas Providers _____
 Event Venue _____
 Event Entertainment _____
 Family Entertainment _____
 Fence Company _____

Financial Advisor _____

Financial Institution / Bank _____

Fitness Center / Gym _____

Fitness Retail Store _____

Flea Market _____

Floral Arrangements _____

Funeral Home _____

Furniture Store _____

Garage Doors _____

Gas Station _____

Glass & Mirror _____

Golf Course _____

Gourmet Gift Shop _____

Grading & Hauling _____

Grocery Store _____

Guns & Firearms Dealer _____

Gutter Maintenance _____

Hair Salon _____

Hardware Store _____

Health & Beauty _____

Health Care Insurance _____

Hearing Aid Company _____

Hobby Shop _____

Home Accents Company _____

Home Security _____

Hotel _____

Insurance Company _____

Interior Decorating Company _____

Investment Company _____

Irrigation Company _____

Jewelry Store _____

Junk Removal Service _____

Landscaping _____

Lighting & Fan Store _____

Live Theatre _____

Local Cellular Company _____

Local Produce Farm _____

Lumber Yard _____

Manufacturing Plant _____

Manufactured House Dealer _____

Martial Arts _____

Massage _____

Mattress Store _____

Men's Clothing Store _____

Mortgage Lender _____

Moving Company _____

Music Store _____

Nail Salon _____

Nightclub _____

Nursery _____

Nursing Home _____

Paint Store _____

Painters _____

Party Rentals _____

Party Supply Store _____

Paving Company _____

Pawn Shop _____

Pest Control _____

Pet Daycare Center _____

Pet Hospital _____

Pet Store _____

Pharmacy _____

Pilates / Yoga Studio _____

Pool Company _____

Pressure Washing Company _____

Printing & Graphics Company _____

Property Management Company _____

Real Estate Company _____

Retail Wine Shop _____

Roofing Company _____

Security Company _____

Self Storage Facility _____

Senior Care _____

Septic Tanks _____

Shoe Store _____

Shopping Mall _____

Sporting Goods _____

Tanning Salon _____

Tattoo Studio _____

Temp Agency _____

Tire Store _____

Tool/Equipment Rental Store _____

Travel Agency _____

Tree Service _____

Tutoring Center _____

Tuxedo Rental _____

Vape Store _____

Web Design Company _____

Wig Store _____

Window Cleaning _____

Window Company _____

Women's Clothing Store _____

Window Tinting _____

Sandwiches _____

Seafood _____

Sports Bar _____

Steak _____

Sushi _____

Sweet Tea _____

Takeout _____

Tex-Mex _____

Wings _____

MEDICAL

Audiologist _____

Cardiologist _____

Children's Dentist _____

Chiropractor _____

Cosmetic Surgeon _____

Dentistry / Cosmetic Dentistry _____

Dermatologist _____

Ear, Nose, and Throat _____

Endodontics _____

Family Practice _____

Hearing Aid Center _____

Home Health _____

Hospice Care _____

Hospital _____

In-Home Health _____

Imaging Services _____

Internal Medicine _____

Laser / Skin Care _____

Lasik Surgery _____

Medical Center _____

Obstetrics & Gynecology _____

Occupational Therapist _____

Optometrist _____

Oral Surgeon _____

Orthodontics _____

Orthopedist _____

Outpatient Surgery _____

Pediatrics _____

Periodontics _____

Physical Therapist _____

Podiatrist _____

Prosthetics Company _____

Urgent Care _____

Vein Specialists _____

EDUCATION

Preschool _____

Elementary School _____

Middle School _____

High School _____

Private School _____

School Teacher _____

School Administrator _____

Technical College _____

College/University _____

FOOD & BEVERAGE

American _____

Asian _____

Bar _____

Barbeque _____

Breakfast _____

Brunch _____

Buffet _____

Burger _____

Cake & Desserts _____

Coffee Shop _____

Country Cooking _____

Deli _____

Family Restaurant _____

Fast Food _____

Frozen Yogurt _____

Happy Hour _____

Health Food _____

Hot Dog _____

Ice Cream Store _____

Italian _____

Mexican _____

Pizza Delivery _____

Gourmet Pizza _____

Romantic Restaurant _____

PROFESSIONALS

Bankruptcy Attorney _____

Bartender _____

Chef _____

Civil Attorney _____

Contractor / Remodeler _____

Counselor _____

Consultant _____

Criminal Attorney _____

Electrical Contractor _____

Estate Planning Attorney _____

Family Law Attorney _____

Insurance Agent _____

Personal Injury Lawyer _____

Personal Trainer _____

Pet Groomer _____

Pet Trainer _____

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|----------------|----|-----|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|---------------|-------|
| LOCAL CHANNELS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WIS | 10 | 3 | 10 | WIS News 10 at 7 (N) | Entertainment Tonight (N) | 2018 Winter Olympics Figure Skating, Alpine Skiing, Snowboarding. Figure skating (pairs' short); alpine skiing (women's slalom); snowboarding (men's halfpipe). (N) (Live) | | | | | WIS News 10 at 11 (N) | 2018 Olympics | |
| WLTX | 19 | 9 | 9 | News 19 at 7pm (N) | Inside Edition (N) | NCIS "Skeleton Crew" Investigating a sailor's kidnapping. (DVS) | Bull "The Illusion of Control" A celebrity sues Bull. | NCIS: New Orleans "Rogue Nation" The team must secretly work a case. (DVS) | News 19 at 11pm (N) | (:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert "Ricky Gervais; Matt Czuchry; Jon Bon Jovi" Ricky Gervais; Matt Czuchry. | | | |
| WOLO | 25 | 5 | 12 | Wheel of Fortune "Walt Disney World Orlando" (N) | Jeopardy! (N) | The Bachelor Winter Games (Series Premiere) The singles move into the villa. (N) | | 20/20 "Lights, Camera, Romance" Behind-the-scenes from romantic movies. (N) | ABC Columbia News at 11 (N) | (:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live | | | |
| WRJA | 27 | 11 | 14 | Making It Grow Amanda McNulty and master gardeners answer viewers' questions. (N) | We'll Meet Again "Heroes of 9/11" Lives intersect on Sept. 11. (N) | American Experience "The Bombing of Wall Street" The bombing in the Financial District. (N) (DVS) | | Frontline "The Gang Crackdown" Killings linked to the MS-13 gang. (N) | Amanpour on PBS (N) | BBC World News | NHK Newsline | | |
| WACH | 57 | 6 | 6 | The Big Bang Theory "The Weekend Vortex" | The Big Bang Theory | Lethal Weapon "Fork-Getta-Bout It" Riggs and Murtaugh investigate the mob. (DVS) | LA to Vegas A passenger is suspected of infidelity. | The Mick Mickey is overly invested in a project. | WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live) | Sports Zone | DailyMailTV (N) | TMZ (N) | |
| WKTC | 63 | 4 | 22 | Last Man Standing "Bad Hair Day" | Last Man Standing Mandy and Eve have a secret. | The Flash "Don't Run" Amunet kidnaps and threatens Caitlin. | Black Lightning Jefferson investigates his dad's murder. (N) | The X-Files "Tunguska" A smuggler deals in deadly cargo. (Part 1 of 2) | The X-Files "Terma" The agents investigate a smuggler. (Part 2 of 2) | | The Game "Spin Control" An elevator brawl. | | |
| CABLE CHANNELS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A&E | 46 | 130 | Intervention Preparing for Toni's intervention. | Intervention Angela quits heroin cold turkey. | Intervention Angela struggles to stay clean. (N) | Undercover High The participants focus on sex education. | (:03) Intervention Preparing for Toni's intervention. | (12:03) Intervention | | | | | |
| AMC | 48 | 180 | (5:30) ** "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days" (2003) Kate Hudson. Premiere. | *** "Pretty Woman" (1990, Romance-Comedy) Richard Gere, Julia Roberts, Ralph Bellamy. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort. | *** "Pretty Woman" (1990, Romance-Comedy) Richard Gere, Julia Roberts. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort. | | | | | | | | |
| ANPL | 41 | 100 | River Monsters | River Monsters "Canadian Horror" | River Monsters Searching for the goonch in the foothills of the Himalayas. | River Monsters "Piranha" | River Monsters | | | | | | |
| BET | 61 | 162 | (4:55) ** "Barber-shop," (:28) ** "The Single Moms Club" (2014, Comedy-Drama) Nia Long, Amy Smart, Cocoa Brown. Single mothers from different backgrounds form a support group. | | The Quad "I Am Not Your Negro" Eva's arrest video sets off a firestorm. | The Quad "I Am Not Your Negro" Eva's arrest video sets off a firestorm. | (12:03) Martin "Xpress Yourself" | | | | | | |
| BRAVO | 47 | 181 | The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills A wine glass creates conflict. | The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills "Social Edition" (N) | The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills The ladies descend upon New York. (N) | Bethenny & Fredrik Housewives/NYC | Watch What Happens Live | The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills The ladies descend upon New York. | | | | | |
| CNBC | 35 | 84 | 2018 Winter Olympics | Shark Tank A new dating app. | Shark Tank | Shark Tank Stylish baby shoes. | Shark Tank | Shark Tank | | | | | |
| CNN | 3 | 80 | Erin Burnett OutFront (N) | Anderson Cooper 360 (N) | Anderson Cooper 360 (N) | CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N) | CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N) | Anderson Cooper | | | | | |
| COM | 57 | 136 | The Office "Training Day" | Drunk History Drunk History "Heroines" | Drunk History "New Mexico" "Game Changers" | Drunk History "Sex" (N) "The Love Boat" | The Daily Show With Trevor Noah | The Opposition w/ Jordan Klepper "Dream Team" | (12:01) The Office | | | | |
| DISN | 18 | 200 | "Cloud 9" (2014, Drama) Dove Cameron, Luke Benward. Two snowboarders inspire each other. | (:40) Stuck in the Middle | (:10) Bizaardvark | (:35) Raven's Home Gravity Falls | Andi Mack | Stuck in the Middle | Bizaardvark | | | | |
| DSC | 42 | 103 | Moonshiners | Moonshiners: Outlaw Cuts (N) | Moonshiners "From the Flames" (N) | (:05) Moonshiners "The Huntsman" (N) | (:05) Moonshiners "From the Flames" | Moonshiners | | | | | |
| ESPN | 26 | 35 | College Basketball Oklahoma at Texas Tech. (N) (Live) | College Basketball Virginia at Miami. From Watsco Center in Coral Gables, Fla. | | | SportsCenter (N) (Live) | SportsCenter (N) | | | | | |
| ESPN2 | 27 | 39 | College Basketball Kansas at Iowa State. From Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa. | College Basketball Michigan State at Minnesota. (N) (Live) | | | Basketball | NFL Live | | | | | |
| FOOD | 40 | 109 | Chopped | Chopped "Better Duck Next Time" | Chopped "Chinese New Year" | Chopped (N) | Chopped "Chocolate Rush!" | Chopped | | | | | |
| FOXN | 37 | 90 | The Story With Martha MacCallum (N) | Tucker Carlson Tonight (N) | Hannity (N) | The Ingraham Angle (N) | Fox News at Night (N) | Tucker Carlson | | | | | |
| FREE | 20 | 131 | (5:30) *** "Dirty Dancing" (1987) Jennifer Grey, Patrick Swayze. | The Fosters "Mother's Day" Stef's mother comes to visit. (N) | (:01) * "The Waterboy" (1998, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Kathy Bates, Henry Winkler. A simpleton's angry outbursts lead to gridiron glory. | (:01) * "The Waterboy" (1998, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Kathy Bates, Henry Winkler. A simpleton's angry outbursts lead to gridiron glory. | The 700 Club | ★ "Ghosts of Girlfriends Past" | | | | | |
| FSS | 21 | 47 | Power of Sports | Hawks Pregame | NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Milwaukee Bucks. From BMO Harris Bradley Center in Milwaukee. | Hawks Postgame | NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Milwaukee Bucks. | | | | | | |
| HALL | 52 | 183 | Full House | Full House "Nerd for a Day" | Full House "Granny Tanny" | The Middle A prank battle. | The Middle "Hungry Games" | The Golden Girls | | | | | |
| HGTV | 39 | 112 | Fixer Upper | Fixer Upper | Fixer Upper (N) | Restored Fords | House Hunters (N) | House Hunters | | | | | |
| HIST | 45 | 110 | Forged in Fire: Cutting Deeper A complex Damascus pattern. (N) | | The Curse of Oak Island (N) | (:03) Hunting Hitler (N) (DVS) | (:03) The Curse of Oak Island | Fixer Upper | | | | | |
| ION | 13 | 18 | Criminal Minds "What Fresh Hell?" A girl is abducted in broad daylight. | Criminal Minds "Poison" Small-town residents poisoned. | Criminal Minds "Riding the Lightning" The team interviews serial killers. | Criminal Minds "Unfinished Business" The unsolved case of a serial killer. | Private Eyes "The Code" A hockey player has a heart attack. | Forged in Fire | | | | | |
| LIFE | 50 | 145 | Grey's Anatomy "Goodbye" Hospital staff grieves for George. | ★★ "Easy A" (2010, Comedy) Emma Stone, Penn Badgley, Amanda Bynes. A high school student uses the rumor mill to her advantage. | (:02) * "What Happens in Vegas" (2008, Romance-Comedy) Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher. Two strangers awake together and find they are married. | (:02) * "What Happens in Vegas" (2008, Romance-Comedy) Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher. Two strangers awake together and find they are married. | (12:01) ★★ "Easy A" (2010) | | | | | | |
| MSNBC | 36 | 92 | Hardball With Chris Matthews (N) | All In With Chris Hayes (N) | The Rachel Maddow Show (N) | The Last Word | The 11th Hour With Brian Williams (N) | Rachel Maddow | | | | | |
| NICK | 16 | 210 | Hunter Street (N) | SpongeBob | * "The Nut Job" (2014, Children's) Voices of Will Arnett. Premiere. | Full House | Friends | Friends | | | | | |
| SPIKE | 64 | 153 | (:06) Friends | (:44) Friends | (:22) Friends | Ink Master "Chin Up" (N) | ★★ "Beetlejuice" (1988) Michael Keaton. | | | | | | |
| SYFY | 58 | 152 | Futurama "The Series Has Landed" | Futurama "I, Roommate" | Futurama "Fear of a Bot Planet" | Futurama "A Fishful of Dollars" | Futurama "Hell Is Piece of Garbage" Other Robots" | Futurama "A Flight to Remember" Futurama "Mars University" | | | | | |
| TBS | 24 | 156 | The Big Bang Theory | The Big Bang Theory | The Big Bang Theory | The Big Bang Theory | The Detour "The Goal" (N) | The Detour "The Goal" | | | | | |
| TCM | 49 | 186 | (6:00) **** "Babette's Feast" (1987) Stéphanie Audran, Jarl Kulle. | **** "La Strada" (1954, Drama) Anthony Quinn, Giulietta Masina, Richard Basehart. A wandering强盗 is goaded into killing an acrobat. | **** "Mon Oncle" (1958, Comedy) Jacques Tati, Jean-Pierre Zola, Alain Beaufort. A simple man is confused by his in-law's modern gadgetry. | | | (12:15) **** "Antonia's Line" | | | | | |
| TLC | 43 | 157 | My Big Fat Fabulous Life (N) | My Big Fat Fabulous Life (N) | (:03) I Am Jazz (N) | (:06) Seeking Sister Wife | (:06) My Big Fat Fabulous Life | (12:06) I Am Jazz | | | | | |
| TNT | 23 | 158 | (5:45) ** "San Andreas" (2015, Action) Dwayne Johnson. (DVS) | NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Oklahoma City Thunder. From Chesapeake Energy Arena in Oklahoma City. (N Subject to Blackout) (Live) | NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Denver Nuggets. From the Pepsi Center in Denver. (N Subject to Blackout) (Live) | | | | | | | | |
| TRUTV | 38 | 129 | Impractical Jokers | Impractical Jokers | Impractical Jokers | Hack My Life (N) | Inside Hacks | Impractical Jokers | | | | | |
| TV LAND | 55 | 161 | M*A*S*H | Love-Raymond | Love-Raymond | Mom | Mom | King of Queens | | | | | |
| USA | 25 | 132 | NCIS "Past, Present and Future" Tony is determined to find Ziva. | WWE SmackDown! Champion AJ Styles next step after learning he will defend his title in a Triple Threat match. (N) (Live) | Modern Family (DVS) | Modern Family "Double-Click" | Modern Family "A Stereotypical Day" | Chrisley Knows Best | | | | | |
| WE | 68 | 166 | Law & Order "Sonata for Solo Organ" | Law & Order "The Blue Wall" | Law & Order "Confession" | Law & Order "Wages of Love" | Law & Order "Aria" | Law & Order | | | | | |
| WGNA | 8 | 172 | M*A*S*H | *** "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" (2008, Romance-Comedy) Jason Segel, Kristen Bell. | Bellevue The case is near being solved. | Cops | Cops | Cops | | | | | |

Looking back at 'The Bombing of Wall Street' on PBS

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Winter may seem pretty while watching the Olympics, but for those of us still shoveling snow, it's getting decidedly old.

So, it's smart of HGTV to schedule a "Fixer-Upper" (9 p.m., TV-G) in mid-February dedicated to planning an expansive garden. But since this is the province of the camera-friendly Chip and Joanna Gaines, it won't be just any pea patch.

Look for a perfectly constructed garden big enough to contain fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers, as well as a chicken coop, a chicken run and a garden shed as big as a cottage.

Beyond mere function, the shed will feature a combination of antique doors, cedar shingles and a stone fireplace in order to keep the look in sync with an older home.

Look for shenanigans from Chip and flirtatious glances from Joanna and more proof that networks like HGTV have moved beyond instructional how-to series to present documentary-style variations on family sitcoms, complete with product placements.

ABC counters the Olympic Games with the two-hour special "The Bachelor Winter Games" (8 p.m., TV-14). It features a reunion of 25 contestants from past installments of "The Bachelor" and "The Bachelorette." Trista and Ryan Sutter are treated like franchise royal

ty, Chris Harrison hosts and country singer Ruthie Collins performs. This all takes place over four episodes in Manchester, Vermont. Help yourself.

Fear of terrorism and the demonization of immigrant groups are just some of the themes from nearly a century ago explored on the "American Experience" (9 p.m., PBS, TV-PG) installment "The Bombing of Wall Street."

On Sept. 16, 1920, dynamite exploded outside the offices of J.P. Morgan, killing 38 people and turning the financial district into a war zone. While the crime was never solved, it helped galvanize federal efforts to systematize files on dangerous radicals, an effort undertaken by an ambitious young man named J. Edgar Hoover.

"Bombing" explores the fears of foreign extremists, communists and anarchists stemming from World War I and the Russian Revolution and the deep suspicions of foreign-born Russian and Italian immigrants.

For reasons unknown, earlier acts of terror, including the assassinations of the president of France in 1894 and U.S. President William McKinley in 1901 are ignored, even though both were killed by anarchists. But "Bombing" clocks in at less than an hour, so there's only so much history you can include.

On the eve of Valentine's Day, "20/20" (10 p.m., ABC) celebrates romantic films, and interviews stars who appeared in



A crowd gathers following the explosion on Wall Street on Sept. 16, 1920. The "American Experience" installment "The Bombing of Wall Street" airs at 9 p.m. today on PBS.

some memorable scenes, including Katherine Heigl, from "27 Dresses"; Nia Vardalos and Andrea Martin from "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"; and Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan from the "Fifty Shades" films. Not sure if I'd file "Fifty Shades" under romance, though.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

• 2018 Winter Olympics coverage (8 p.m., NBC) includes figure skating, alpine skiing and snowboarding, as well as more figure skating (7 p.m., NBCSN).

• A man searches for a stranger who came to his aid

on the streets of New York on 9/11 on "We'll Meet Again" (8 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings).

• A celebrity client seeks redress on "Bull" (9 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

• Pride's team pulls an end-run on "NCIS: New Orleans" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).

• "Frontline" (10 p.m., PBS, check local listings) looks at the crackdown on gangs, particularly MS-13, often cited by the

president in his remarks about the dangers of unsecured borders.

• Annie remains doubtful as clues about Jesse emerge on "Bellevue" (10 p.m., WGN, TV-MA).

SERIES NOTES

Snow daze on "NCIS" (8 p.m., CBS, r, TV-PG) * Hospitals can be murder on "Lethal Weapon" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * Katie Sackhoff guest-stars on "The Flash" (8 p.m., CW, r, TV-PG) * Adultery at 20,000 feet on "LA to Vegas" (9 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * A mystery caller has a lead on Jefferson's father's killer on "Black Lightning" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14) * Too much homework on "The Mick" (9:30 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14).

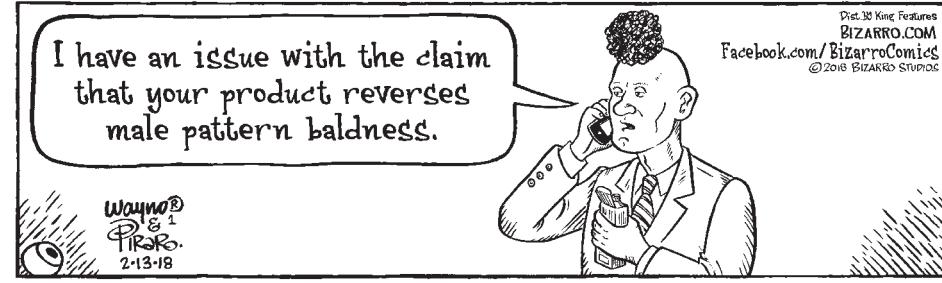
LATE NIGHT

Jean-Claude Van Damme, Barkhad Abdi and Dina Hashem appear on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS, r) * Ricky Gervais, Matt Czuchry and Bon Jovi are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Armie Hammer, Juno Temple, Charlie Puth and Kelly Clarkson appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a

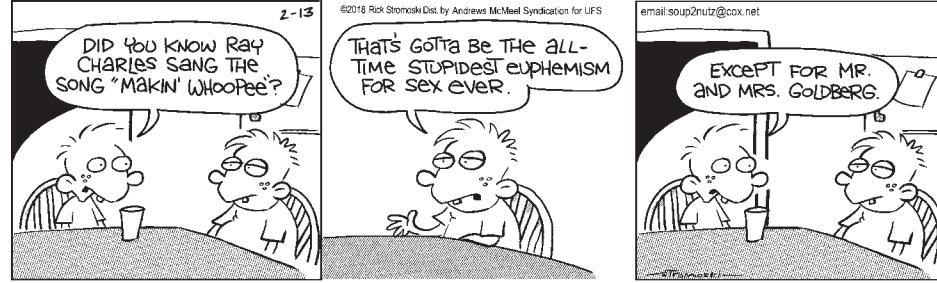
COMICS

THE SUMTER ITEM

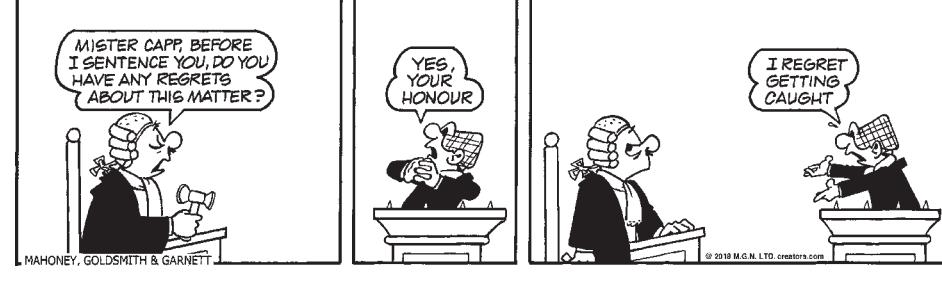
BIZARRO



SOUP TO NUTZ



ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



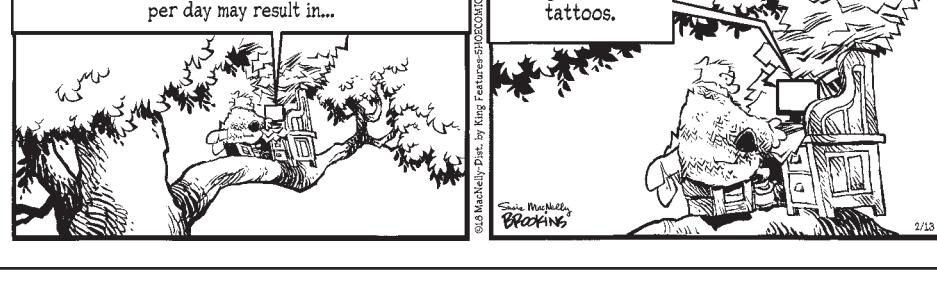
DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Wife loses desire for physical intimacy with husband



DEAR ABBY — I'm not attracted to my husband. I love him and don't want to live without him, but I do not want to be physically intimate with him. I know it is unfair to him, and I have tried everything from antidepressants to meditation to diet, but nothing works.

I used to have a high libido, but I haven't wanted to have sex with him in years. We do it maybe two or three times a month because I force myself to, but it is unpleasant for me. He doesn't

want to guilt me into sex and hates that I force myself, but he has a very high libido. We are in our mid-20s and I know this is killing him — and us. I am attracted to some (but very few) others — just not to him. I have always been more emotionally attracted to women than men, but I don't think that is it. I need help before our marriage starts to crumble.

Avoiding it
in South Carolina

DEAR AVOIDING IT — I can't wave a magic wand and make you more physically attracted to your husband. I can suggest that the most sensitive sexual organ in a woman's body resides between her ears.

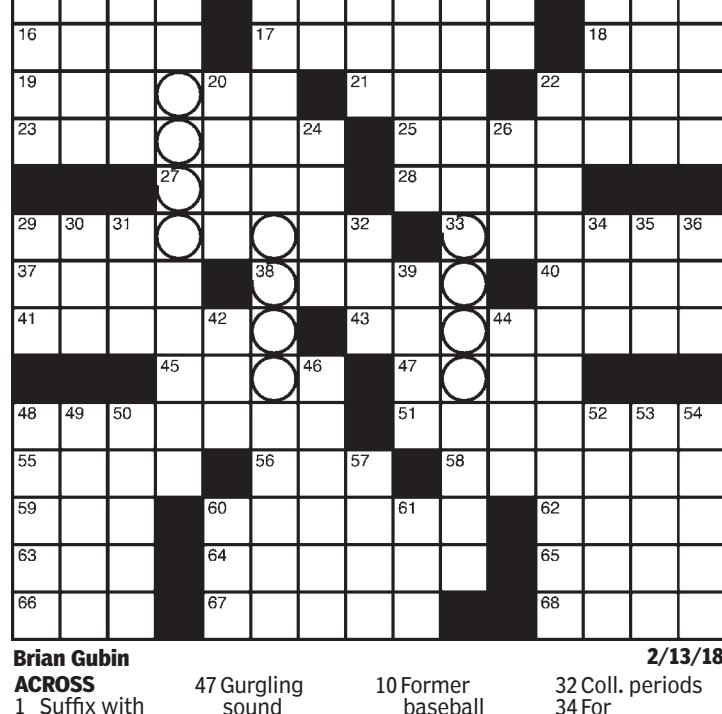
However, I am not qualified to diagnose whether

your problem may be of a physical nature. That's why I'm advising you to ask your doctor to perform a thorough physical examination. If he or she finds nothing amiss, ask the doctor — or your health insurance company — to refer you to a licensed mental health professional who can help you figure out what's going on.

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.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Brian Gubin

ACROSS

- 1 Suffix with silver or glass
- 5 1980 Dom DeLuise film
- 10 Cry noisily
- 13 Acme
- 14 This evening, on marquees
- 15 Actress Longoria
- 16 Fiction's opposite
- 17 Drag race racer
- 18 Women's
- 19 Trick-taking game
- 21 "Stay With Me" singer Smith
- 22 Frank Lloyd Wright house built around multiple cascades, and what's literally found in this puzzle's circles
- 23 Fixes
- 25 Does harm to
- 27 Prefix with gram or graph
- 28 Earth sci.
- 29 World's largest cognac producer
- 33 Cry of distress
- 37 Economist Greenspan
- 38 Marilyn Monroe's first name at birth
- 40 Pakistan neighbor
- 41 Game piece with pips
- 43 Refused
- 45 Former House leader Gingrich
- 47 Gurgling sound
- 48 BBC TV series about cars
- 51 "You don't have to tell me"
- 55 Kia subcompacts
- 56 '60s-'80s Red Sox nickname
- 58 Makes happy
- 59 Raised railroads
- 60 Really tired
- 62 President before Wilson
- 63 Nintendo's Super
- 64 Steam shovel scoop
- 65 The "E" in the HOMES mnemonic
- 66 Dr. with Grammys
- 67 Jouster's horse
- 68 Ceremony
- 70 It ebbs and flows
- 71 "We're trapped in here!"
- 72 Ebbs and flows
- 73 Frank Lloyd Wright house built around multiple cascades, and what's literally found in this puzzle's circles
- 74 "Meh"
- 75 "The Simpsons" beer server
- 76 Fooled
- 77 "Xanadu" gp.
- 78 '60s war zone
- 79 Kit Kat layer
- 80 Quickly
- 81 Brief summary
- 82 Baseball overtime
- 83 Egg yung
- 84 Carpenter insects
- 85 Rant
- 86 Bellyache
- 87 Multivitamin ref. work
- 88 "Once upon a time"
- 89 "All the world's a stage"
- 90 "I pad"
- 91 "Semper fidelis"
- 92 "Continent al navy"
- 93 "Geno nee"
- 94 "Memorial day"
- 95 "Ply unrest eats"
- 96 "Once allie"
- 97 "Abraham lincoln"
- 98 "Tilde connived"
- 99 "Ayress invaders"

2 Coll. periods

34 For

35 Gym cushion

36 Musical Brian

39 Nativity trio

42 Formerly, in bridal announcements

44 Two-part

46 Hypnotic state

48 General tendency

49 Refueling ship

50 Old West outlaw chasers

52 Video game pioneer

53 Equip anew

54 Cosmetician Lauder

57 "The Wizard of Oz" farmhand

60 Sound units, briefly

61 Mil. roadside hazard

Previous Puzzle Solved



JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME

By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

YTAFT

SDERS

DPERAA

TAVCIE

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app!

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THE COUPLE ONCE HAPPILY SAILED TOGETHER, BUT, OVER TIME, THEY ---

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: POUND SHYLY POLICE BREEZY
Answer: The helicopter pilot who became a chef was a — CHOPPER

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY:

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

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

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N.G. Osteen 1843-1936
THE WATCHMAN AND SOUTHERNH.G. Osteen 1870-1955
FOUNDER, THE ITEMH.D. Osteen 1904-1987
THE ITEMMargaret W. Osteen 1908-1996
THE ITEM

OPINION

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

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COMMENTARY

Gentry liberals own the Democratic party

Amid the brouhaha about the Nunes memo and immigration, an item from Greg Hinz of Crain's Chicago Business caught my eye. Demographers crunching census data estimate that Chicago's black population fell to 842,000, while its white non-Hispanic population increased to 867,000. National political significance: In our three largest cities — New York, Los Angeles and Chicago — gentry liberals have become the dominant political demographic.

That's consistent with election results. Gentry liberals — the term is urban analyst Joel Kotkin's — are the political base of those cities' mayors, Bill de Blasio, Eric Garcetti and Rahm Emanuel. That's something new in American politics. Modest-income Jews used to be the key group in New York. White married homeowners were it in Los Angeles. "Bungalow ward" ethnics dominated in Chicago. In time, they faced challenges from candidates with nonwhite political bases — blacks, Puerto Ricans and Dominicans in New York, Mexicans in Los Angeles and blacks and Hispanics in Chicago. Now gentry liberals are on top.

This reflects demographic change. Blacks have been moving from central cities to suburbs and the South. Mexican immigrant inflow largely shut down circa 2008.

Affluent professionals and single college graduates have colonized — gentrified — neighborhoods such as Park Slope, Silver Lake and Wicker Park, with bedraggled but potentially attractive housing stock convenient to downtowns.

The trend is visible elsewhere — not only in San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, but also in Washington, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and even Cleveland and Detroit. It's widespread and strategic enough to be changing the face of the Democratic Party.

There's irony in this. Gentry liberals have produced the metropolitan areas with the highest income inequality in the nation. They decry gentrification — and the accompanying movement of low-income blacks and Hispanics out of their neighborhoods — even as they cause it.

They sing hymns to diversity even as they revel in the pleasures of communities where almost everybody believes and consumes exactly the same things — and votes Democratic.

Gentrification thus inevitably reshapes the Democratic Party, which, from its beginnings in 1832, has been a series of coalitions of people regarded as somehow unusual Americans but who, taken together, are a national majority.

Consider two of Democrats' priorities during the presidency of Barack Obama, who has lived all his adult life in gentrified neighborhoods: increased taxes on high earners, which gentry

liberals are happy to pay (if they weren't, they would have joined other affluent folk moving to Florida and Texas), and an infrastructure bill that was, as the American Enterprise Institute's Christina Hoff Sommers documented in The Weekly Standard, titled and tailored at the behest of feminists to invoke higher pay for teachers and nurses rather than new jobs for "burly men."

Similarly, then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi pushed through passage of cap-and-trade legislation, a priority of her fellow Bay Area gentry liberals, which predictably cost Democrats multiple Rust Belt House seats.

This year, New York's Andrew Cuomo and

California's Jerry Brown have been bellowing against the Republican tax reform for eliminating most of the deduction for state and local taxes. But that provision has virtually no impact on people who aren't in high-tax states and don't make over \$100,000 a year — i.e., who aren't gentry liberals. First constituencies first.

And whom are Democrats eyeing as possible 2020 presidential nominees? Identity politics, a favorite talking point of gentry liberals, have them focusing mainly on women and minorities — e.g., Kirsten Gillibrand, who met her husband while working in Manhattan; Elizabeth Warren of Cambridge, Massachusetts; Cory Booker, raised in Harrington Park, New Jersey; and Kamala Harris, who is from San Francisco.

Not often mentioned is Sen. Sherrod Brown, who has won nine elections for national office in the classic swing state of Ohio. Brown has been a consistent critic of trade agreements, an issue that strikes gentry liberals as vulgar. Similar repugnance may explain the disinterest in Sens. Mark Warner, whose early victories were won by appealing to rural Virginians, and Michael Bennet, whose record as Denver school superintendent was not in lockstep with teachers' unions. Gentry liberals may seek to appease other party constituencies, including blacks and Hispanics, but they insist on their own priorities.

Dominating the party is one thing; producing candidates and issues with appeal to the broader national electorate is another.

Gentry liberals have the microphone and the money to dominate the Democratic Party.

Whether they can overcome their snobbish disdain and bitter contempt for those beyond their comfortable enclaves and come up with a winning national strategy is unclear.

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



Michael Barone

**COMMENTARY**

SCANA needs to sell assets to pay off its nuclear debt

SCANA's board of directors has historically announced their first-quarter dividend payment to shareholders each year on or about Feb. 20. This means that in about a week, they will probably announce plans to funnel to their shareholders 78 percent of the revenues (\$87.5 million) they were permitted to collect from you under the Base Load Review Act in the 90 days

since they last declared dividends in October.

A quick primer on dividends: Paying dividends to shareholders is a completely voluntary act by a company. SCANA can do whatever it wants with its money: pay dividends, paint the executive lunch room, contribute to lawmakers' campaigns, hire lobbyists, give refunds to customers, etc. Sky's the limit!

Lots of great and not-so-great companies don't pay any dividends. Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway is one of the former. Dividends are a way to encourage investment in slower-growing companies (like an electric utility) versus faster-growing companies (like Google or Facebook). They are a way to share the bounty of excess returns (returns in excess of the cost of creating those returns: cost of capital, goods and labor) with shareholders.

The math looks like this: SCANA collects

\$1,230,000 a day in BLRA revenues from you. It pays out \$970,000 a day in dividends to its lucky shareholders. So that leaves \$260,000 a day it uses for other corporate purposes (some of which are listed above). SCANA says it needs this \$260,000 per diem or it will go bankrupt, ostensibly because it won't be able to pay interest charges on its debt.

Mismanaged companies cannot pay dividends — for long.

There is insurmountable, widely reported evidence in this newspaper and others that SCANA executives hid qualified, critical third-party analysis of how bad things were going at V.C. Summer from its regulators. For years. Time after time, it made decisions that represent the height of imprudent-ness. For this, Wall Street praised it.

The simple, ugly fact is that SCANA is gouging its customers solely to fund its dividend and support the price of its stock. It is rewarding its shareholders in spite of management non-performance. "Oh," you say, "Westinghouse dropped the ball and the AP1000 reactors never had a chance since their drawings were not complete. And besides unlicensed engineers were approving drawings and generally mucking things up for everybody."

"Oh," I say ... then how

can the Chinese possibly

be loading fuel into their

four AP1000s as you read

this? I am sure they will

be blamed for stealing or

bribing Westinghouse for

the "real" plans to build

the reactors. The reality

is that really, really bad things happen to non-performing executives in China. In the U.S., not so much. I actually met with SCANA's Steve Byrne, Jeff Archie, Ron Dollens and the rest of their team (all good guys — you'd want to grab lunch or a beer with any of them) in 2012 just before they left to tour the Chinese AP1000s. I wonder what they learned?

The \$87.5 million question is this: is SCANA's board so shameless that it will once again shower its shareholders with a dividend that is completely funded by revenues from a bungled project? Maybe you can speak with its chairman Maybank Hagood just down the road in North Charleston. He won't take my call, but maybe he will take yours: (800) 922-2287.

The path forward should be: sell off non-core assets (i.e. natural gas distribution operations in North Carolina and Georgia, a fancy HQ in Cayce complete with fake rock-strewn streams, Pine Island and other peripheral property) to pay off the nuclear debt.

SCANA would become a smaller, less-indebted, non-dividend-paying company. One that wouldn't be able to afford to charter a plane for a celebratory flight up to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in D.C. to get a piece of paper when a postage stamp would suffice. But still a South Carolina company.

Grainger McKoy Jr. is a serial entrepreneur living with his wife and son in Pawleys Island.

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICIES

EDITORIALS represent the views of the owners of this newspaper.

COLUMNS AND COMMENTARY are the personal opinion of the writer whose byline appears. Columns from readers should be typed, double-spaced and no more than 850 words. Send them to *The Sumter Item*, Opinion Pages, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, or email to letters@theitem.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by readers

of the newspaper. They should be no more than 350 words and sent via e-mail to letters@theitem.com, dropped off at *The Sumter Item* office, 36 W. Liberty St. or mailed to *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, along with the full name of the writer, plus an address and telephone number for verification purposes only. Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at www.theitem.com.

AROUND TOWN

The American Red Cross is issuing an urgent call for blood and platelet donors. Severe winter weather has more than doubled the number of cancelled blood drives and the resulting blood and platelet donation shortfall. In South Carolina, winter weather conditions during the month of January have led to 25 blood drives being cancelled. Schedule your donation appointment by using the free Blood Donor App, by visiting www.redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Help save a life by participating in one of the following American Red Cross blood donation opportunities: 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, YMCA of Sumter, 510 Miller Road; and 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, Lakewood High School, 350 Old Manning Road.

Free income tax filing services and FAFSA application assistance will be provided on a walk-in basis from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays beginning Feb. 3 at 640 Broad St. (the Anything Paper building). Services include e-file and direct deposit 2017 tax year and processing taxes from three years back (2016, 2015 and 2014). Call (803) 883-5483 for information.

The Sumter AARP Tax-Aide Foundation will offer free tax assistance and preparation on a first come, first served basis on Mondays and Wednesdays through April 17 at the Lincoln Historical Center (former home of the Shepherd's Center), 26 Council St. On Saturday, Feb. 17, assistance will be available on an appointment basis only. Call Lula King at (803) 316-0772 for information.

The Sumter Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at Shiloh-Randolph Manor, 125 W. Bartlette St. Rebecca Sears, director, Retired and

Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Sumter Senior Services, will speak. Contact Debra Carty, chapter president, at (803) 775-5792 or debra.carty@frontier.com.

The General George L. Mabry Jr. Chapter 817 Military Order of the Purple Heart will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15, at the 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.

Sumter High School Class of 1978 will hold a 40th class reunion planning meeting at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 18, at the Sumter County Library, 111 N. Harvin St. All classmates are encouraged to attend. For additional information regarding the meeting or the Oct. 12 class reunion, visit Sumter High Class of 1978 on Facebook or email sumterhigh1978@gmail.com.

The Sumter Branch NAACP will hold a community meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22, at Rafting Creek Community Center, 4050 N. Kings Highway, Rembert, regarding the potential permanent closing of Rafting Creek Elementary School.

The Sumter Litter Alliance will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26, at the Swan Lake Visitors Center. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the mission of the group, to address concerns from the public, and to invite attendees to get involved with their efforts.

The 18th Annual Cavalier Pride Auction will be held on Saturday, March 17, at Robert E. Lee Academy in Bishopville. Food will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. Bidding will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the first table closing at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door.

PUBLIC AGENDA

LEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 9 a.m., council chambers

SUMTER HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, Feb. 13, noon,

Sunset Country Club

SUMTER COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m., library

LYNCHBURG TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6 p.m., Teen Center on Magnolia Street, Lynchburg

SUMMERTON TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6 p.m., town hall

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6 p.m., Sumter County Council Chambers

PINEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6:30 p.m., town hall

TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6:30 p.m., town hall

MAYESVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m., town hall

CLARENDRON SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

Thursday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., district office, Turbeville

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional matters will escalate quickly,

requiring you to think fast to counter any problems. Remain calm and refuse to let anyone pressure you into something you feel isn't in your best interest. Focus on positive accomplishments.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make a concerted effort to do things for the benefit of everyone, including you. The more versatile your actions are, the easier it will be to convince others to help you reach your goal. Offer peace, not pressure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A business trip or meeting will bring about new ideas and positive changes. Don't sit back when you can be instrumental in the way things move forward. Your input will prove that you are ready to take on more responsibilities.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take a closer look at your personal finances. Emotional spending should be monitored carefully. Question every purchase and the motives you have for spending money. Use your skills and talents to come up with ideas that don't cost money.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Nurture the relationships that are healthy and helpful and reconsider your connection to those who promote reckless spending or irresponsible behavior. Positive personal changes should be your top priority.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Live within your means and only promise what you know you can deliver. Too much of anything will lead to trouble. Keep your life

simple and your plans moderate. Offer love and affection instead of trying to buy favors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Shy away from people who are too conservative or not able to grasp what you are trying to accomplish. It's best not to present what you are working toward until you have a finished product that will hold up under scrutiny.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Refuse to let your emotions or insecurities take over. Put your ego aside and be willing to go the distance for someone you love. What you have to offer will be worth more than you can imagine. The end result will be surprisingly good.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Embrace what life has to offer.

Participate and take pride in what you know and do well. Your steady pace forward will send a message to anyone who doubts you. Think big, but stick to what works best.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Emotional impulses must be monitored carefully. Jumping into action or saying something risky or impractical will lead to hardship. Exercise caution, willpower and patience when dealing with friends and relatives.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Get involved in something that will help you bring about self-improvements. An exercise routine or activity that will fine-tune your mind and body will not go unnoticed. Romance is in the stars and will encourage personal stability.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep your projects small and doable. If you expand too quickly or let someone interfere, you will not reach your target or receive the credit you deserve for your hard work and contributions.

DAILY PLANNER

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

| TODAY | TONIGHT | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | |
| Cloudy, cooler; a p.m. shower | A shower early; cloudy | Cloudy | Cloudy | Cloudy | Low clouds and cooler |
| 51° | 40° | 64° / 57° | 80° / 62° | 79° / 50° | 59° / 39° |
| Chance of rain: 55% | Chance of rain: 40% | Chance of rain: 10% | Chance of rain: 10% | Chance of rain: 25% | Chance of rain: 25% |
| NE 7-14 mph | NE 4-8 mph | ESE 3-6 mph | WSW 8-16 mph | WSW 10-20 mph | NE 6-12 mph |

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Cooler with a shower. Winds east-northeast 6-12 mph.

Wednesday: Milder with a shower. Winds south-southwest 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Cloudy and cooler. High 53 to 61.

Wednesday: Cloudy with a shower in spots in the afternoon. High 61 to 66.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| High | 74° |
| Low | 61° |
| Normal high | 58° |
| Normal low | 34° |
| Record high | 79° in 2017 |
| Record low | 4° in 1973 |

Precipitation

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest. | trace |
| Month to date | 0.60" |
| Normal month to date | 1.42" |
| Year to date | 2.64" |
| Last year to date | 4.96" |
| Normal year to date | 5.36" |

LAKE LEVELS

Lake Full pool 7 a.m. 24-hr

| Lake | Full pool | 7 a.m. yest. | 24-hr chg |
|----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Murray | 360 | 356.35 | +0.18 |
| Marion | 76.8 | 74.92 | +0.12 |
| Moultrie | 75.5 | 74.01 | -0.16 |
| Wateree | 100 | 97.39 | +0.20 |

RIVER STAGES

River Flood stage 7 a.m. 24-hr

| River | Flood stage | 7 a.m. yest. | 24-hr chg |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| Black River | 12 | 8.80 | -0.02 |
| Congaree River | 19 | 6.18 | -0.02 |
| Lynches River | 14 | 8.66 | +0.43 |
| Saluda River | 14 | 7.27 | +0.13 |
| Up. Santee River | 80 | 80.88 | +0.21 |
| Wateree River | 24 | 16.01 | -0.05 |

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise 7:09 a.m. Sunset 6:04 p.m.

Moonrise 5:41 a.m. Moonset 4:15 p.m.

New Feb. 15 First Feb. 23 Full Mar. 1 Last Mar. 9



TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

| | High | Ht. | Low | Ht. |
|-------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| Today | 7:33 a.m. | 3.0 | 1:41 a.m. | |

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Robert E. Lee's Odom signs with Newberry College

BY DENNIS BRUNSON

dennis@theitem.com

BISHOPVILLE — Kaitlyn Odom did not begin to play volleyball until she was in the sixth grade. And when she did take up the sport, it wasn't necessarily because she had an overwhelming desire to do

so. It came about more at the behest of a friend.

"I had a friend (Mary Kathryn Mozingo) who was playing, and she asked me if I wanted to play volleyball," Odom said. "I decided I want-



ODOM

ed to, and volleyball became a passion for me."

And now Odom, who played for Robert E. Lee Academy, will get an opportunity to do so at the collegiate level. She signed with Newberry College last Wednesday on National Signing Day.

"I'm really excited to have the opportunity to play at the collegiate level," Odom said. "I've always wanted to be able to play volleyball in college."

Lady Cavaliers head coach Donna Gooding said it isn't hard to figure out why Odom is getting the chance to move on to the next level.

"She's one of the hardest working players I've ever coached, and I've been coaching a long time," Gooding said. "I told a college coach that I was willing to put my neck out on the line because of how hard she works. She is

SEE ODOM, PAGE B4

PREP BASKETBALL

A reversal of roles

SHS girls enter playoffs ranked after going just 3-18 last season

BY DENNIS BRUNSON

dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter High School varsity girls basketball team went 3-18 last season and just prior to the start of preseason practice head coach Frances Fields resigned for personal reasons.

Fast forward a few months and the Lady Gamecocks completed a 15-6 regular season, finished second in Region VI-5A to earn a first-round home game in the 5A state playoffs, and they are ranked No. 10 in the final South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association poll released on Monday.

"We're extremely happy with the season we've had," said SHS interim head coach Jeff Schaffer, who came over as an assistant on the boys varsity, but had a long tenure as the girls head coach on a previous occasion. "They've been eager to learn and they really bought into what we're trying to do."

"Anything now is really icing on the cake," he added, "but we want to go as far as we can."

Sumter opens the playoffs today against White Knoll at 7 p.m. at the SHS gymnasium. WK is 9-12 on the season and finished fifth in Region V.

"One thing I've noticed looking at them on film is they give you full-court man-to-man (defense) for 32 minutes," Schaffer said of the Lady Wolves. "We've done a good job of late of handling other teams' pressure like that. We did a really good job with Conway on Saturday (in a 60-46 victory in Florence in a special game to determine second place and the home game that goes with it)."

White Knoll is led Yamiah Johnson. She is averaging well over 20 points a contest, while no one else on the roster is close to double figures.

"She can do everything for them," Schaffer said. "She can shoot from the outside, and she really strong rebounding. She can cause some matchup problems for us. I've heard she might not be able to play (due to injury), but we're preparing like she is."

The Lady Gamecocks are the exact



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Nina Edlow, left, and the rest of the Lady Gamecocks will open the 5A state playoffs at home today against White Knoll beginning at 7 p.m. SHS went from a 3-18 team last year with a coaching change just before the start of preseason practice to a 15-6 record and a No. 10 ranking in the final South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association 5A poll.

opposite. They don't have one player scoring in double figures, but six who are averaging between 9.6 points and 6.5 points a contest.

Tamerah Brown leads the way with a 9.6 average. She is followed by Nina Edlow at 9.3, Layken Cox at 8.0, Carnasia Wells at 6.9, Latrice Lyons at 6.7 and Dynasia Jackson at 6.5. For good measure, Kiara Jones is averaging 4.3.

"I really think it is an advantage for us," Schaffer said of having several different player capable of putting up double figures on any given night. "The more points you have spread

SEE SHS, PAGE B4

LOCAL PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

TODAY

Girls

5A

White Knoll at Sumter, 7 p.m.

4A

Dreher at Crestwood, 7 p.m.

Lakewood at Lower Richland, 7 p.m.

2A

Lee Central at Saluda, 7 p.m.

Boys

3A

Bluffton at Manning, 7 p.m.

1A

St. John's at East Clarendon, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Boys

5A

Goose Creek at Sumter, 7 p.m.

4A

Dreher at Lakewood, 7 p.m.

2A

Eau Claire at Lee Central, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

Girls

1A

Military Magnet (4) or Cross (3) at East Clarendon, 7 p.m.

Hannah-Pamplico (3) or Baptist Hill (3) at Scott's Branch, 7 p.m.

CLEMSON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tigers up to No. 11 in AP poll

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

The Clemson men's basketball team moved to the cusp of The Associated Press top 10 on Monday, moving up five spots to No. 11.

The Tigers, who are 20-4 on the season and in second place in the Atlantic Coast Conference with a 9-3 mark, took advantage of a topsy-turvy week in college basketball. Clemson played just one game last week and blasted Pittsburgh 72-48.

Clemson jumped past Duke, Kansas, St. Mary's (Calif.), Arizona and Tennessee.

The Tigers moved up three spots in the USA Today poll, going from 15th to 12th.



Clemson's David Skara (24) and Mark Donnal (5) both block the shot of Pittsburgh's Terrell Brown during the Tigers' 72-48 victory on Thursday in Clemson. The Tigers moved up to No. 11 in The Associated Press Top 25 poll released on Monday.

SEE CLEMSON, PAGE B2

NASCAR

Alex Bowman puts No. 88 on the pole at Daytona

BY JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Alex Bowman put a familiar car atop the Daytona 500 leaderboard.

Bowman won the pole for

"The Great

American Race"

in his debut as

the driver of the No. 88 Chevrolet,

piloted until

last season by

NASCAR rock

star Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Six of

Earnhardt's 17 career victories

at Daytona International

Speedway came in that car,

including one of his Daytona

500 victories.

Earnhardt was a seven-

time pole winner at Daytona,

too.

Now retired, the empty

seat in the No. 88 went to

Bowman, and he wasted little

time making the Camaro his

own. Bowman turned a lap at 195.644 mph Sunday to earn the top starting spot for the Daytona 500.

"I think it's still a little surreal," said Bowman, who will race in his second Daytona 500.

"It's a dream come true just to drive for Hendrick Motorsports," Bowman said. "I never would have thought it would happen after the path my career took."

Denny Hamlin, the 2016 winner, qualified second in a Toyota for Joe Gibbs Racing with a lap at 195.092. Only the top two cars locked in spots for next Sunday's season-opening race in this round of qualifying. The remainder of the field will be set by a pair of qualifying races Thursday.

Bowman was a driver struggling to piece together a schedule when Earnhardt was injured in 2016. Earn-

SEE BOWMAN, PAGE B4

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

5 a.m. - Professional Tennis: ABN Amro World Tennis Tournament Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).
11:50 a.m. - International Soccer: UEFA Europa League Round-of-16 First Leg Match - CSKA Moscow vs. Crvena Zvezda (FOX SPORTS 2).
1 p.m. - Professional Tennis: ABN Amro World Tennis Tournament Early-Round Matches and New York Open Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).
2:30 p.m. - International Soccer: UEFA Champions League Round-of-16 First Leg Match - Tottenham vs. Juventus (FOX SPORTS 1).
2:30 p.m. - International Soccer: UEFA Champions League Round-of-16 First Leg Match - Manchester City vs. Basel (FOX SPORTS 2).
6 p.m. - Professional Tennis: ABN Amro World Tennis Tournament Early-Round Matches and New York Open Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).

6:05 p.m. - Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Georgetown at Butler (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Oklahoma at Texas Tech (ESPN).
7 p.m. - College Basketball: Boston College at Pittsburgh (ESPNEWS).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Kansas at Iowa State (ESPN2).
7 p.m. - College Basketball: Texas A&M at Missouri (ESPNU).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Arkansas at Mississippi (SEC NETWORK).
7 p.m. - NHL Hockey: Los Angeles at Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).

8 p.m. - College Basketball: Bemidji State at Creighton (FOX SPORTS 2).
8 p.m. - Women's College Basketball: Baylor at Oklahoma State (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

8 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Cleveland at Oklahoma City (TNT).
8:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Richmond at Rhode Island (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

9 p.m. - College Basketball: Virginia at Miami (ESPN).
9 p.m. - College Basketball: Michigan State at Minnesota (ESPN2).

9 p.m. - College Basketball: South Carolina at Tennessee (ESPNU, WDXY-FM 105.9, WNKT-FM 107.5, WDXY-AM 1240).
9 p.m. - College Basketball: Louisiana State at Alabama (SEC NETWORK).

10:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: San Antonio at Denver (TNT).
5 a.m. - Professional Tennis: ABN Amro World Tennis Tournament Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|--------------|----|----|------|----|
| Toronto | 39 | 16 | .709 | - |
| Boston | 40 | 18 | .690 | ½ |
| Philadelphia | 28 | 25 | .528 | 10 |
| New York | 23 | 34 | .404 | 17 |
| Brooklyn | 19 | 38 | .333 | 21 |

Southeast Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Washington | 32 | 24 | .571 | - |
| Miami | 30 | 26 | .536 | 2 |
| Charlotte | 23 | 33 | .411 | 9 |
| Orlando | 18 | 37 | .327 | 13½ |
| Atlanta | 18 | 39 | .316 | 14½ |

Central Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|----|
| Cleveland | 33 | 22 | .600 | - |
| Milwaukee | 31 | 24 | .564 | 2 |
| Indiana | 32 | 25 | .561 | 2 |
| Detroit | 27 | 28 | .491 | 6 |
| Chicago | 19 | 36 | .345 | 14 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-------------|----|----|------|----|
| Houston | 42 | 13 | .764 | - |
| San Antonio | 35 | 22 | .614 | 8 |
| New Orleans | 29 | 26 | .527 | 13 |
| Memphis | 18 | 37 | .327 | 24 |
| Dallas | 18 | 39 | .316 | 25 |

Northwest Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|----|
| Minnesota | 35 | 24 | .593 | - |
| Oklahoma City | 32 | 25 | .561 | 2 |
| Portland | 31 | 26 | .544 | 3 |
| Denver | 30 | 26 | .536 | 3½ |
| Utah | 28 | 28 | .500 | 5½ |

Pacific Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Golden State | 43 | 13 | .768 | - |
| L.A. Clippers | 28 | 26 | .519 | 14 |
| L.A. Lakers | 23 | 32 | .418 | 19½ |
| Phoenix | 18 | 39 | .316 | 25½ |
| Sacramento | 17 | 38 | .309 | 25½ |

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Toronto 123, Charlotte 103
 Atlanta 118, Detroit 115
 Cleveland 121, Boston 99
 Indiana 121, New York 113
 Houston 104, Dallas 97
 Minnesota 111, Sacramento 106
 Oklahoma City 110, Memphis 92
 Utah 115, Portland 96

TODAY'S GAMES

Miami at Toronto, 7 p.m.
 Atlanta at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
 Cleveland at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
 Houston at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Sacramento at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
 San Antonio at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Atlanta at Detroit, 7 p.m.
 Charlotte at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 Miami at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
 Indiana at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
 Washington at New York, 7:30 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Boston, 8 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at Memphis, 8 p.m.
 Sacramento at Houston, 8 p.m.
 Toronto at Chicago, 8 p.m.
 Phoenix at Utah, 9 p.m.
 Golden State at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Denver at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 9 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Tampa Bay | 55 | 38 | 14 | 3 | 75 | 198 | 145 |
| Boston | 54 | 34 | 12 | 8 | 76 | 180 | 131 |
| Toronto | 57 | 33 | 19 | 5 | 71 | 188 | 159 |
| Detroit | 54 | 22 | 23 | 9 | 53 | 147 | 165 |
| Florida | 52 | 23 | 23 | 6 | 52 | 147 | 167 |
| Montreal | 55 | 22 | 26 | 7 | 51 | 144 | 172 |
| Ottawa | 54 | 19 | 26 | 9 | 47 | 144 | 188 |
| Buffalo | 56 | 16 | 30 | 10 | 42 | 132 | 185 |

Metropolitan Division

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Washington | 55 | 32 | 17 | 6 | 70 | 173 | 161 |
| Pittsburgh | 57 | 31 | 22 | 4 | 66 | 176 | 171 |
| Philadelphia | 56 | 28 | 19 | 9 | 65 | 165 | 162 |
| New Jersey | 55 | 27 | 20 | 8 | 62 | 163 | 170 |
| Carolina | 56 | 26 | 21 | 9 | 61 | 151 | 166 |
| Columbus | 55 | 28 | 23 | 4 | 60 | 147 | 155 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 57 | 27 | 24 | 6 | 60 | 193 | 210 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 56 | 27 | 24 | 5 | 59 | 164 | 172 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Nashville | 54 | 33 | 12 | 9 | 75 | 169 | 140 |
| Winnipeg | 56 | 32 | 15 | 9 | 73 | 179 | 151 |
| St. Louis | 58 | 34 | 21 | 3 | 71 | 167 | 147 |
| Dallas | 57 | 33 | 20 | 4 | 70 | 175 | 151 |
| Minnesota | 55 | 30 | 19 | 6 | 66 | 165 | 156 |
| Colorado | 55 | 30 | 21 | 4 | 64 | 174 | 163 |
| Chicago | 55 | 24 | 23 | 8 | 56 | 157 | 155 |

Pacific Division

NASCAR

Keselowski leads Team Penske sweep at Daytona

BY JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Brad Keselowski opened Speedweeks, before he turned a single lap, as the 7-1 favorite to win the Daytona 500.

Now that he has the first victory of the season, Keselowski is shaping up to be a safe bet.

Keselowski led a 1-2 Team Penske sweep Sunday in the exhibition The Clash at Daytona International Speedway. The race marks the opening of Speedweeks and is the first chance for teams to show their offseason work.

"I have never won anything here during Speedweeks and I feel like I have choked them away to be quite honest," Keselowski said in victory lane. "You need one to break through. Hopefully, this is our breakthrough."

Indeed, Keselowski is one of the best restrictor-plate racers in NASCAR. Although he's a five-time winner at Talladega in Alabama, his lone victory at Daytona International Speedway was in the 2016 summer race.

When it comes to Speedweeks — The Clash, the Thursday twin qualifying races, and finally the season-opening Daytona 500 next Sunday — Keselowski always came up empty. His best finish in the Daytona 500 was third in 2013, and he finished fourth a year earlier. In his prior appearances in the all-star Clash, Keselowski finished inside the top-nine in four of his five races.

"It was a good day, a great start to Speedweeks, and now there's two more to go," Keselowski said.

The 17-car field is set by a draw and Keselowski started last. He had 75 laps to race his way to the front, which was easy enough for the three-car Penske contingent. Keselowski had the race in control as the Penske drivers closed in on the checkered flag.

He had a piece of garbage stuck to the front of his Ford, and that appeared to be his only challenge.

"I was worried about the (competi-

tors) but the car was way overheating there at the end and I was more worried about it blowing up than anything else," he said.

Ryan Blaney pulled out of line from behind Keselowski on the final lap in an attempt to beat his teammate, but he was left alone in the bottom lane and faded into traffic. Joey Logano didn't have enough help to mount a challenge on Keselowski and had to settle for second.

"It is fun when you are up there running and you don't know what is going to happen," Logano said. "The suspense keeps building as you are running single-file: three to go, two to go, here comes the white flag — when do you make the move? Do you make a move? Sometimes you make and it is never the right thing."

"You are waiting to see what everyone else is going to do and you are thinking about the type of people they are and what the possible moves are they will make. Then as soon as we hit the white flag Blaney was able to go to the bottom, I had to stay on top because I would have gotten passed."

Kyle Larson made contact with Jimmie Johnson on the final lap to trigger an accident that allowed Keselowski an easier route to victory lane.

Blaney faded to fourth, behind defending Daytona 500 winner Kurt Busch, as Ford drivers took the top four spots. It was a nice rebound from qualifying earlier Sunday when the fastest Ford driver was Kevin Harvick at eighth.

In a race that means nothing beyond an early glimpse of who might contend in the Daytona 500, Blaney was disappointed with his finish.

"I thought we were in a good spot. Even though Brad is one of the best at doing this, I thought we had a good chance at it," Blaney said. "I probably didn't pull out at a very good time. I thought it was enough, but I got hung out."

"I should know better than that. I need to learn from that."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brad Keselowski celebrates in victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Clash auto race at Daytona International Speedway on Sunday.

'Grandpa' Johnson determined to win 8th NASCAR championship

BY DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jimmie Johnson has never hitched a ride for an afternoon on a champion's float that snakes down closed city streets.

The professional sports teams bask in the celebration of hundreds of thousands of fans screaming in adulation and spraying beer from sidewalks in a frenzy as confetti flies from the sky.

Johnson's top reward for winning it all, a rally once at one of his sponsor's stores a few miles away from his California hometown.

The NASCAR champion traditionally gets a party in victory lane at the season finale and throws a bash at the postseason banquet.

It's all good fun, but even a seven-time champion wouldn't mind a parade.

"I have to admit, that would be a nice add to the NASCAR champions schedule," Johnson said. "It would be really cool."

Johnson, a regular visitor to the White House when he reigned as NASCAR's champ, had already initiated his own champion's tradition a few years back.

Inspired by a chat with NASCAR official Mike Helton and the presidential tradition of leaving a handwritten letter to the successor, Johnson started a champion's journal.

His first entry was a December 2011 letter to series champion Tony Stewart. Johnson followed championship seasons with notes for Kevin Harvick and 2017 champ Martin Truex Jr., and the keepsake is handed off at the banquet.

"There seems to be a thread when it comes back to me about me having more entries than anyone else," Johnson said with a laugh outside his motorhome. "That kind of finds its way in each time I get it back."

The journal is thick enough for quite a few more lines of teasing, well wishes and advice left to be composed. But the question looms for the 42-year-old Johnson, can he still fill the blank pages left as he comes off the worst season of his career?

Or, is the handwriting on the wall that a new crop of stars is



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jimmie Johnson, left, talks with crew chief Chad Knaus in their garage during a NASCAR auto racing practice session at Daytona International Speedway on Saturday. Johnson is going after his eighth cup title of this year.

ready to deny Johnson another title for as many years as he has left?

Believe that at your own risk.

"I signed up for three more years and I feel like I have the team and the ability to win all three of them," Johnson said. "We won five in a row and I want to believe in three in a row."

Johnson was never really a serious contender in 2017 to push past Dale Earnhardt and Richard Petty and win his record eighth NASCAR crown. He won three races (but none after June), had a career-worst four top-fives and finished 10th in the standings.

There are about 30 other drivers in the Daytona 500 field who would love to craft that kind of season. At Hendrick Motorsports, long the class organization of NASCAR, Johnson and crew chief Chad Knaus were considered underachievers with the No. 48 Chevrolet.

The Chevy ran slower in the

second half of the season, and the team could never click and go on their traditional late-season surge; consider he won three of the final seven races in '16 to clinch his seventh championship.

"That was the first time at Hendrick that I've had that happen," Johnson said. "I couldn't have asked anything more from anybody on the team. Everybody was all in. That's where the frustration comes from."

The struggles did nothing to deter the Hendrick lifer from signing a three-year contract extension that should keep him with the team through 2020. Johnson, whose 83 wins are tied for sixth on the NASCAR career Cup series list, was already the top dog at Hendrick.

Now, he's the oldest dog on the Hendrick block, trying to teach his three 20-something teammates new tricks.

Daytona 500 pole-sitter Alex Bowman is 24. Cup rookie William Byron is 20.

Chase Elliott is 22.

The trio's combined Cup wins: 0.

But the nicknames for the two-time Daytona 500 winner are adding up.

"We call him Grandpa every now and then," Bowman said.

"I would say Uncle Jimmie," Elliott said.

For a stately veteran, Johnson can still show the younguns a good time. Johnson, a ski junkie in Aspen, Colorado, hit the slopes with Elliott before they hit the town for a couple of nights.

"I even heard him say, 'Wow this is what 40 looks like. Not bad,'" Johnson said. "I guess we can still have enough fun for a 22-year-old and make it cool."

Johnson tweeted a photo of himself from behind the wheel of his family car with Bowman and Byron tagging along in car seats.

Johnson, though, is steadfast that he will do his part to shape the next generation of Hendrick stars into regular challengers for checkered flags. He invites teammates into the hauler for chats, talks game plans with the other crew chiefs, and the fitness freak has even suggested healthy diet tips.

"Jimmie loves that role, and I think these guys will tell you he's there," team owner Rick Hendrick said.

Bowman must be listening: He won the Daytona 500 pole.

Retired four-time champion Jeff Gordon is still a trusted adviser at HMS and Hendrick said he was having as much fun as he had in years with an injection of youth into the organization.

If 2017's transition season led to stagnation across the lineup, Hendrick's focus this season on returning the team to championship form has Johnson fired up.

"I've never seen him more committed than he is right now," Hendrick said.

Johnson's outside interests — including an ownership stake in a taco shop and a speakeasy; bike rides and marathons; and a blossoming interest in the NFL's Carolina Panthers ("I'd love to have a shot at it. But I don't think I can stretch the capital they need.") — have never affected his race preparation each weekend.

Johnson's championship crew chief Chad Knaus' deal is up at the end of the season, though Hendrick said he would work on an extension. Knaus is connected with Johnson in much the same way as Pat Riley and Magic Johnson or Joe Torre and Derek Jeter. One calls the shots and the other leads them to glory — and Johnson wants to keep the tag team intact.

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AREA ROUNDUP / SPORTS ITEMS

USC Sumter splits season-opening doubleheader with Pitt

GREENVILLE, N.C. – The University of South Carolina Sumter baseball team split its season-opening doubleheader with Pitt Community College on Friday.

The Fire Ants won the opener 2-1 before blowing a 3-0 lead in the nightcap and losing 4-3.

Saturday's doubleheader was cancelled due to rain.

In Game 1, Blake Robinson scattered five hits over 5 2/3 shutout innings. Robinson had four strikeouts and didn't walk a batter.

Lenny Gonzalez led the offense, going 2-for-3 with two runs batted in. He put USCS into the lead for good with a solo home run.

In the second game, Pitt scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth and two in the seventh to pull off the comeback victory.

Lindsey Robinson pitched 5-plus innings, getting a no-decision while allowing two runs. Matt Deans took the loss by giving up two runs in the

seventh.

The Fire Ants had just three hits in the contest, one of them a 2-run homer by Neil Taylor.

USC Sumter plays host to Harford Community College in a pair of doubleheaders at Riley park this weekend. The teams play at 1 p.m. on Saturday and start the Sunday twinbill at 10 a.m.

LEE CENTRAL 46
SCOTT'S BRANCH 42

BISHOPVILLE – Scott's Branch Middle School lost to Lee Central 46-42 in the Upper Pee Dee Conference boys basketball tournament championship game at the LC gymnasium.

Tariq Coard led SB with 22 points. Randy Gibson added 12.

COLTS HIRE EAGLES' REICH

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts' second choice for head coach could turn out to be even better than the first. And Frank Reich has the

Super Bowl championship gear to prove it.

Five days after New England Patriots offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels reneged on a deal to take the Colts' job, Ballard hired Reich, the man who outwitted McDaniels last week and helped lead the Philadelphia Eagles to their first NFL title since 1960.

Terms of the deal were not immediately available, but Reich is expected to be introduced at a news conference today. Colts officials posted a photo of Reich signing the deal on the team's website.

The move ends a search that spanned 41 days, included two coaching announcements and the embarrassment of McDaniels changing his mind Tuesday night just eight hours after telling the Colts he'd take the job.

CELTICS RETIRE PIERCE'S NUMBER

BOSTON — Paul Pierce used to walk onto the court at TD Garden and imagine seeing his number hanging

from the rafters.

"The Truth" doesn't have to dream about that day anymore.

The Celtics retired Pierce's No. 34 following the Celtics' 121-99 loss to the Cleveland Cavaliers. He became the 23rd person in franchise history to have his number or name enshrined by the Celtics organization.

The honor capped a 19-year career for Pierce, who was named NBA Finals MVP in 2008 when the Celtics captured their 17th championship.

After the game, Pierce, clad in a green plaid blazer, entered the court via the newly named Paul Pierce Players' Tunnel. The team said the tunnel, featuring Pierce's signature, will serve as a reminder to current and future players of what "being a Celtic" means.

When his jersey was raised, Pierce was serenaded with chants of "Thank You, Paul Pierce!"

From staff, wire reports

ODOM FROM PAGE B1

going to put in the time because she wants it.

"Kaitlyn is going to do what it takes to get better."

Gooding said Odom has always been a strong hitter at the net, but she made tremendous strides defensively between her junior and senior seasons.

"Kaitlyn really played great defense for us this year," said Gooding, who led REL to a third-place finish in SCISA Region II-2A. "She worked very hard over the summer to improve in that area."

Odom visited Newberry in November and said it just felt like the right fit for her.

"It's like the small school that I come from here at Robert E. Lee," said Odom, who helped lead the Lady Cavs to a 2-2 performance in the 2A state tournament. "It's a

beautiful campus and I fell in love with it."

Another big selling point is that Odom wants to study forensics, in which Newberry offers a major.

Odom started playing volleyball at REL as an eighth-grader on the junior varsity team. She made the varsity as a sophomore.

"Around my 10th grade year is when I really started focusing on working so I could get the chance to play in college," Odom said.

Odom goes to a Newberry program that is without a head coach at the moment. Callie Youngman resigned the post in November after two years at the helm.

The Wolves were 9-18 last season and finished 5-15 in the South Atlantic Conference, an NCAA Division II school. They missed out on the conference tournament.

PRO GOLF

Potter writes his own script at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Ted Potter Jr. beat three of the biggest names on the PGA Tour at one of the most famous golf courses in America, and then his day got even better.

Walking out to the 18th green for the trophy presentation at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, he stopped to chat with Clint Eastwood.

"It was pretty awesome to meet him out there today," Potter said. "Big fan of a lot of his movies he's done, and it was just incredible to meet him, too."

In some respects, Potter starred in his own show with an ending not many imagined.

He turned pro out of high school and groomed his game on the mini-tours, sometimes earning barely enough money to pay for a week's worth of food and gas. When he first got onto the Web.com Tour, he missed the cut in all 24 tournaments he

played. Two years after he broke through on the PGA Tour by winning the Greenbrier Classic, he broke his right ankle stepping off a curb and sat out for two years.

The injury was so severe he had two surgeries — one to insert two plates and 12 screws, the other to remove all that hardware.

He played in the final group Sunday with Dustin Johnson, coming up on a full year at No. 1 in the world. Potter was No. 246.

Potter overcame a three-putt bogey on the opening hole by not dropping a shot the rest of the way. He closed with a 3-under 69 and left the mistakes to everyone else, a cast of challengers that included Johnson, Phil Mickelson and Jason Day. They all finished second, along with Chez Reavie.

Hollywood stuff, for sure.

"I'm so happy right now to get it done today, especially against

the world No. 1, playing with him today," Potter said. "The win here at Pebble is just unbelievable."

There is nothing fancy about Potter's game or how he won for the second time in his career.

He birdied both the par 5s on the front. He chipped in for birdie behind the seventh green, which gave him a two-shot lead. And then he was never out of position the rest of the way, knowing he had the lead and that someone would have to catch him.

Mickelson made a late charge with three birdies in a four-hole stretch through the 17th hole. But trying to make eagle on the 18th for a chance at winning, Lefty came up just right of the green and into a bunker, leading to par and a 67.

It was his best finish since that duel at Royal Troon with Henrik Stenson in the British Open in 2016.

SHS FROM PAGE B1

around like that, the better it is for you. It makes it hard for teams to scout you because they don't know where the points might be coming from."

Cox leads in rebounding at 8.5. Brown is next at 5.8 followed by Jackson at 4.8, Edlow at 4.0 and Jones at 3.9. Brown is the assist leader at 3.2 and Wells averages 2.4.

Sumter is one of seven local teams entering the playoffs as a ranked team. The Sumter boys are ranked fourth and the Crestwood girls are fifth in the 4A poll. Lakewood re-entered the 4A boys poll at No. 8. The Manning girls were tied for 10th heading in the 3A poll heading into their first-round game on Monday, while the Lee Central boys are third in the 2A poll and the East Clarendon girls are No. 1 in the 1A poll.

The Sumter boys will play host to Goose Creek in the first round on Wednesday. The Gamecocks are 16-6 while Goose Creek is 12-10.

The Crestwood girls will open today against Dreher. The Lady Knights are 18-3, while Dreher is 8-13. The Lakewood girls also play today in the 4A playoffs at Lower Richland. The Lady Gators are 9-10 and LR is 14-9.

The Lakewood boys will be at home on Wednesday against Dreher. The Gators are 16-9 and Dreher is 9-13.

The Lee Central boys will play host to Eau Claire on Wednesday. The Stallions are 20-3, while EC is 11-12.

The Lee Central girls play at Saluda today. The Lady Stallions are 8-11, while Saluda is 16-5.

The Manning boys will play host to Bluffton today in the 3A playoffs. The Monarchs are 16-6, while Bluffton is 15-8.

The East Clarendon boys will be at home against St. John's today in the 1A playoffs. EC is 9-11 and SJ is 12-11.

BOYS

5A

1. Blythewood
2. Dorman
3. Wade Hampton
4. Sumter
5. Conway
6. Nation Ford
7. West Ashley
8. Westside
9. Gaffney
10. Irmo
- 4A
1. Wilson
2. Greenville
3. Aiken
4. Berkeley
5. Westwood
6. A.C. Flora
7. Ridge View
8. Lakewood
9. Travelers Rest
10. Orangeburg-Wilkinson/Hartsville
- 3A
1. Southside
2. Ridgeland-Hardeeville
3. Loris
4. Newberry

5. Camden

6. Wade Hampton

7. Swansboro

8. Walhalla

9. Bishop England

10. Chester

2A

1. Gray Collegiate

2. Carvers Bay

3. Lee Central

4. Keenan

5. Calhoun County

6. Landrum

7. Greenville Tech

8. Silver Bluff

9. Marion

10. Central

1A

1. Hemingway

2. High Point Academy

3. Great Falls

4. Hunter-Kinard-Tyler

5. Ridge Spring-Monetta

6. Lewisville

7. Williston-Elko

8. McCormick

9. McBee

10. Lowcountry Leadership

GIRLS

5A

1. Spring Valley

2. Goose Creek

3. Woodmont

4. Rock Hill

5. Wade Hampton

6. Carolina Forest

7. Greenwood

8. Fort Dorchester

9. Nation Ford

10. Sumter

4A

1. North Augusta

2. Myrtle Beach

3. Richland Northeast

4. Westwood

5. Crestwood

6. Wilson

7. Orangeburg-Wilkinson

8. Greer

9. Stall

10. Greenville

3A

1. Newberry

2. Ridgeland-Hardeeville

3. Pendleton

4. Bishop England

5. Swansea

6. Dillon

7. Berea

8. Fairfield Central

9. Emerald

10. Battery Creek/Manning

2A

1. Marion

2. Christ Church

3. Mullins

4. Keenan

5. Batesburg-Leesville

6. Saluda

7. Andrew Jackson

8. Barnwell

9. Southside Christian

10. Landrum

1A

1. East Clarendon

2. Blackville-Hilda

3. Green Sea-Floyds

4. Ridge Spring-Monetta

BOWMAN

FROM PAGE B1

hardt missed the second half of that season with a concussion, and Bowman was tabbed to fill in for 10 of those races.

The 24-year-old Arizona native impressed Rick Hendrick enough that when Earnhardt said he would retire at the end of 2017, Bowman got the job.

He made his boss proud, too, with the pole-winning run. Hendrick is now tied with Harry Ranier for the record of most consecutive Daytona 500 poles at four. Jeff Gordon won the pole in 2015, Chase Elliott won it the past two seasons and now Bowman has the honor.

Bowman downplayed his role. "I just held the steering wheel. It's Daytona," he said.

Indeed, pole qualifying is a display of horsepower and there's no doubt that Hendrick Motorsports has it for "The Great American Race." Hendrick put Chevrolet on the pole for the sixth consecutive year.

Seven-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson was third fastest, rookie William Byron was fifth and Elliott was 10th in Hendrick engines. The driver simply turns the laps on qualifying day, and the fastest cars climb to the top.

"We knew we were going for the pole, that's what we're here to do," Bowman said. "I was a little nervous for that sec-

ond round, but we took off well on pit road and did everything I could do. This really came down to the crew, everybody works so hard."

Earnhardt tweeted congratulations to his replacement, who also won a Cup pole while filling in for Earnhardt in 2016. Bowman raced just three times on the national level last season, two Xfinity Series races and one in the Truck Series, and filled his time using a simulator as he waited for Earnhardt to retire.

Hamlin was thrilled to have earned such a strong starting spot at second.

"I realistically set my expectations and would have been happy with 18th," Hamlin said. "This came out of the blue for me and is a great opportunity for me

to win a second Daytona 500."

The Toyotas were fast, though, and all four JGR entries were in the top seven Sunday. Kyle Busch was fourth, Erik Jones sixth and Daniel Suarez seventh.

Defending NASCAR champion Martin Truex Jr., also a Toyota driver, was 26th and searching for the same speed the Gibbs cars displayed.

"Speed-wise we've been off a bit here," Truex said. "I don't know, new rules package and all, we're just trying to figure that out. There's not a whole lot you can do when you get down here. You kind of got what you got. We're going to hope that our car handles really good and we can out drive them in race trim."

OBITUARIES

LYDIA A. THOMAS

Lydia Anna Dodd Thomas, 54, wife of Robert John Thomas, died Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018, at McLeod Hospice House.

Born Feb. 6, 1964, in Atlanta, she is the daughter of the Rev. John R. Dodd Jr. and Frances

Harrison. She was a U.S. mail carrier for the last 14 years in Pennsylvania and Sumter. She was a member of Sardinia Presbyterian Church, Sumter Digital Camera Club, 4H Club, American Dairy Goat Association and various other clubs and organizations in the Sumter area.

She is survived by her husband of six years; her father, the Rev. John R. Dodd Jr.; and stepmother, Jeanette Dodd; four sons, Cassidy Paine, Thomas Kyle, Christopher Kyle and Jonathon Kyle, all of Bangor, Pennsylvania; two daughters, Desiree Kyle of Bangor and Hannah Kyle of Sumter; three grandchildren, Emma Kyle, Luke Kyle and soon-to-be Lily Rose Gullotta; a brother, Robert Dodd of Newton, New Jersey; and a nephew, Daniel Dodd of Sumter.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Daniel Dodd, John Dodd and David Dodd.

A memorial service will be at noon on Saturday at Sardinia Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Robert Jolly officiating.

Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Saturday at Sardinia Presbyterian Church.

Memorials may be made to Sardinia Presbyterian Church, 1386 Garland Road, New Zion, SC 29111.

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

EDDIE DURANT

ALCOLU — Eddie Durant, 48, died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018, a son of the late James R. Durant and Elsie Mae Pendergrass Durant.

Funeral services for Mr. Durant will be held at 11 a.m. today at Hayes F. Samuels Sr. Memorial Chapel, 114 North St., Manning. Burial will follow in Harmony Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Alcolu.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Frank James and Lillian Durant, 2520 Alderman Camp Road, Alcolu.

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

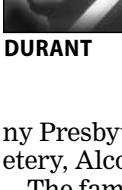
CHARLES E. HOLLAND

Charles Edward Holland, 84, died Sunday Feb. 11, 2018, at his home surrounded by his family.

Born in Sumter on June 24, 1933, he was the son of late Hoyt Holland Sr. and Cora Lee Brown Holland. He was a member of Gateway Baptist Church in Sumter.

Charles served in the United States Army from 1959 to 1962, serving as a military policeman at the U.S. Embassy in Paris, France. He then went on to serve the Sumter community as a firefighter with

HOLLAND



DURANT

the City of Sumter Fire Department from 1962 to 1991, retiring as assistant fire chief.

Charles' passion was, for anyone who knew him well, the volunteer work he did with the Southern Baptist Association Missions Program. He served in the mission field from 1985 to 2003, assisting missionaries from 14 different countries.

Other notable memories that will come to mind when people think of Charles Holland would be the times he served as a Boy Scout leader in the 1950s, the Jesus sticks he made for missions work, the dulcimers he made and played, the harmonica he would always have handy to play a tune or two, the pack of gum he always had to give to kids and the song he was always singing, "Swing Low – Sweet Chariot."

Survivors include three daughters, Virginia (Ginny) Holland-Yonson (Pete Hulon) of Sumter, Robin Holland-Wells (Gary Phillips) of North Myrtle Beach and April Holland-Reed (Jason) of Dunellen, Florida; one son, Charles (Chad) Edward Holland Jr. of Sumter; 11 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; seven half-brothers and sisters; numerous nieces and nephews; and his ex-wife and caregiver, Rita Riles Dunlap.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Hoyt Holland Jr., and a sister, Mattie Louise Holland Richardson.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday in Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Charles Ahtonen officiating. Burial with military honors will be in Sumter Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be five of his grandsons, Travis Yonson, Kevin Yonson, Jamie Brunson, Justin Brunson and Eric Holloman, and a close family friend, Robbie Croft.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to the Southern Baptist Association Missions.

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

WILLIE J. CARTER

Funeral services for Willie James Carter will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Unionville AME Church, 1330 Swimming Pen Road,

Mayesville, SC 29104, with the Rev. Allen Webb officiating. Interment will follow at Fort Jackson National Cemetery, Columbia.

The public may view from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Palmer Memorial Chapel, 304 S. Main St., Sumter.

Willie James Carter, 61, transitioned on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018, at New Llano, Bernon Parish, Louisiana. Born in Bishopville, he was a son of Victoria C. Carter and the late Wille James Parrot. He was a graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School in the Class of 1974.

Mr. Carter served our country in the U.S. Army for 26 years and was employed as lead heavy mobile mechanic until his retirement in 2000. He was a member of Unionville AME Church and later became a member of First Baptist Church of New Llano, Louisiana, where he served as a deacon for the last 14 years.

Surviving are three daughters, Frandigo Evans of Camden, Myheshia Reeves of Greensboro, North Carolina,



CARTER

and Melissa Fortune of Pamplico; three sons, Micheal (Carmen) Lindsey of New Llano, Louisiana, Dor'Konyia (Marquitta) Smith of Leesville, Louisiana, and Ramon Smith of Houston, Texas; his mother, Victoria C. Carter of Bishopville; six sisters, Roger Mae Wheeler of Mayesville, Bina Ruth (Fermon) Ross of Latta, Ernestine Carter of Bishopville, Diane P. (Troy) Davis of Columbia, Carolyn (Anthony) Brown of Florence and Cicely James of Darlington; four brothers — twin brother, Willie Lee Carter of Mayesville, James R. Parrott of Lynchburg, Edward (Darlene) Brown of Fayetteville, North Carolina, and Wendell (Raynetta) Brown of Timmonsville; and a host of other relatives.

Condolences may be found on his tribute page at www.PalmerMemorialChapel.com.

Professional services rendered by Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc.

ELWANDA J. BARB JACKSON

Elwanda Joy Barb Jackson, 91, wife of the late Richard Keith Jackson Sr., died Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018, at her residence.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time and will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.

Survivors include stepchildren, Margaret Ashbaugh and Susan Barfield, both of Olantha, and Johnny Harper Jr. of Manning; five grandchildren; a special niece, Rose Morris; caregiver, Randall Welch; and a number of great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise Kennedy Morris and Frances W. Harper Morris, passed away Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey in Sumter.

Born Jan. 31, 1929, in Clarendon County, he was a son of the late Sidney Richard Morris Sr. and the late Josephine Holladay Morris. He was a charter member and founder of Freedom Worship Pentecostal Holiness Church and retired from Sumter County Public Works.

Survivors include stepchildren, Margaret Ashbaugh and Susan Barfield, both of Olantha, and Johnny Harper Jr. of Manning; five grandchildren; a special niece, Rose Morris; caregiver, Randall Welch; and a number of great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise Kennedy Morris and Frances W. Harper Morris, passed away Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey in Sumter.

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the Sumter ITEM

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Beer & Wine License

be denied; (3) that the person
protesting is willing to attend a
hearing if one is requested by the
applicant; (4) that the person
protesting resides in the same
county where the proposed place of
business is located or within five
miles of the business; and (5) the
name of the applicant and the
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licensed. Protests must be mailed to:
S.C. Department of Revenue, ATTN:
ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South
Carolina 29214; or Faxed to: (803)
896-0110.

Bid Notices

INVITATION TO BID

The Sumter County Public Works is
soliciting separate sealed bids from
qualified vendors for the following
projects:

**PAVING OF PAIGE DRIVE,
ZACHARY ROAD, JENNIFER
COURT, REGENCY COURT,
SHEFFIELD COURT, LEEDS
COURT, THATCHER COURT,
INVERNESS COURT, ANTRIM
COURT, BRIGHTON COURT,
SHETLAND STREET, PEACOCK
DRIVE, KILLDEE DRIVE,
WHIPPOORWILL DRIVE AND
SWALLOW DRIVE.**

Bids will be received until **2:00 P.M.**
Thursday, March 1, 2018 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:

Sumter County Public Works
1289 North Main Street
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Email: khyatt@sumtercountysc.org
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AECOM
101 Research Drive
Columbia, SC 29203
Email: kenneth.johnson@aecom.com
Phone: (803) 254-4400

Any written questions should be
emailed to kenneth.johnson@aecom.com no later than Tuesday
February 23, 2018 at 4:00 pm.

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, February 15, 2018
@ 2:00 pm
Meet at County Public Works' office -
1289 North Main Street

Summons & Notice

**TO: Tahmir Benjamin
525 East Calhoun St. Apt. 35.
Sumter, SC 29150**
Sumter County, South Carolina

NOTICE

A petition has been filed asking the
Court to put an end to all rights you
have to your child J.P., born August
30, 2016, putative father of the child
is Tahmir Benjamin. The Court has
set a hearing to consider ending your
rights to your child. That hearing
will be held on **March 27, 2018** at
10:00 A.M. at the Lackawanna County
Family Court Center, Second Floor,
200 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA
18503. If you do not appear at this
hearing, the Court may decide that
you are not interested in retaining
your rights to your child and your
failure to appear may affect the
Court's decision on whether to end
your rights to your child. You are
warned that even if you fail to
appear at the scheduled hearing,
the hearing will go on without you and
your rights to your children may be
ended by the Court without your
being present. You have a right to be
represented at the hearing by a
lawyer.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER
TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF
YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR
CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR
TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET
FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT
WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL
HELP.

**Northern Pennsylvania Legal
Services, Inc.**

33 North Main Street, Suite 200
Pittston, PA 18640
(570) 299-4100

**Estate Notice
Sumter County**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

Persons having claim against the
following estates are required to deliver
or mail their claims to the indicated
Personal Representatives, appointed to
administer these estates, and to file their
claims on Form #371PC with the Probate
Court of Sumter County Courthouse, N.
Main Street, Sumter, SC, 29150, on or
before the date that is eight months after
the date of the first publication of this
Notice to Creditors, (unless previously
barred by operation of Section 62-3-803),
or such persons shall be forever barred
as to heir claims. All claims are required
to be presented in written statements,
indicating the name and the address
of the claimant, the basis of the claim,
the amount claimed, the date when the
claim will become due, the nature of any
uncertainty as to the amount claimed and
the date when due, and a description of
any security as to the claim.

**Estate:/Richard Anthony
Wilson #2018ES4300054**

Personal Representative
Larry R. Harrelson
C/O J. Cabot Seth
PO Box 1268
Sumter, SC 29151

**Estate:/Edward H. McDowell,
Sr. #2018ES4300055**

Personal Representative
Edward H. McDowell, Jr.
C/O Garryl Deas
Attorney at Law
PO Box 1211
Sumter, SC 29151

**Estate:/Frances D. Richardson
#2018ES4300047**

Personal Representative
David Richardson
12 Mitchelle Street
Sumter, SC 29150

**Estate:/Joseph George Wilt
#2018ES4300086**

Personal Representative
Myra Wilt
2061 Charleston Avenue
Sumter, SC 29154

**Estate:/Mary C. Bradley
#2018ES4300068**

Personal Representative
Kathryn B. Martin
10 Lesesne Drive
Sumter, SC 29150

**Estate:/Olivia B. Johnson
#2018ES4300041**

Personal Representative
Trisha N. Johnson
1203 Manning Road
Sumter, SC 29150

**Estate:/Betty Jean Smith
Bethel #2018ES4300034**

Personal Representative
Connie E. Butler
657 Sierra Street
Sumter, SC 29154

**Estate:/William J. Green
#2018ES4300071**

Personal Representative
Elizabeth M. Green
2223 Garrison Street
Sumter, SC 29154

**Estate:/William Todd Mayberry
#2018ES4300045**

Personal Representative
Sheila D. Mayberry
5955 Squaw Valley Road
Wedgefield, SC 29168

**Estate:/Nora Ann Wilson Davis
#2018ES4300053**

Personal Representative
Melissa A. Davis
C/O Marvin E. McMillan, Jr.
Attorney at Law
305 N. Main Street
Sumter, SC 29150

**Estate:/Ross S. McKenzie, Sr.
#2018ES4300076**

Personal Representative
R. Scott McKenzie, Jr.
35 Seagrass Lane
Isle of Palms, SC 29451

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**Estate:/Joseph Daniel Cook
#2018ES4300058**

Personal Representative
Karen Cook
4790 Solstice Drive
Dalzell, SC 29040

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**Estate:/Joseph Daniel Cook
#2018ES4300058**

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