

# the Sumter ITEM

Florida nurse: 'wash your stinking hands' A3

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894

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## 17-, 26-year-old arrested in South Sumter killing

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
adrienne@theitem.com

Two men have been charged in the Jan. 13 shooting death of Jarvis Rush, whose body was found on a grassy lot on East Newberry Street about 10:30 that morning.

Sumter County Sheriff's Office arrested Gerquell Harris, 17, and Mario Lloyd, 26, on Thursday and Friday, respectively, without incident.

Lloyd, of East Newberry Street, is charged with murder, attempted armed robbery and conspiracy; and Harris, of Olive Street, is charged with conspiracy, accessory to attempted armed robbery and obstruction of justice, according to a news release.

"This was a terrible crime, and there is no reason for it to have happened," Sheriff Anthony Dennis said.

The tireless efforts of the investigations team resulted in these arrests, he said.

"We are confident that these are the two men responsible," he said.

However, the investigation is ongoing, Dennis said, and there could be other arrests.

Harris and Lloyd are both being held in Sum-



PHOTOS PROVIDED  
Gerquell Harris, above, and Mario Lloyd, below, are seen at their first appearance hearing held Friday.



ter-Lee Regional Detention Center, where they will remain until a bond hearing at Sumter County Judicial Center scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on March 16.

## Flu deaths continue to rise rapidly in S.C.

BY KAYLA ROBINS  
kayla@theitem.com

Flu deaths across South Carolina almost doubled in one week, according to the most recent reports from state health agencies.

Between Jan. 21 and 27, the seventh week of widespread flu activity, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control reported 601 hospitalizations from the flu and 38 deaths, though eight of those deaths occurred in a previous week but were only just reported.

The age group affected the most — and most severely — continues to be those aged 65 or older. Of the 30 deaths that oc-

curred this week, 21 were in that age range, while six were 50-64 and three were 18-49.

Compared to the previous week, the number of reported hospitalizations increased by 129 (27.3 percent), and the number of reported deaths increased by six (25 percent).

In the current flu season, there have been a total of 2,365 hospitalizations and 84 deaths. Of those, 30 have been in the Midlands, 29 in the Upstate, 14 in the Lowcountry and 11 in the Pee Dee.

Palmetto Health Tuomey has not had a fatality from the flu this season, and a previously hospitalized

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## More than a call of duty



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter Police Officer Kaela Fleming sits on the steps of her Sumter home with her parents, Allena and Eddie Fleming, and their adopted children, from left to right, Nolan, Mason and Lexi. Two other siblings, not pictured, were adopted by an extended family member.

## Sumter police officer, family members partner to keep 5 siblings together

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
adrienne@theitem.com

"It all started with Mason," said Kaela Fleming, the adoptive mother of two young children. "He tested positive for five different drugs when he was born."

Kaela, an officer with Sumter Police Department, did not hesitate after receiving the call to help someone in need.

"One day I got a call at 9 p.m. to come to Hartsville the next morning," she said. "He came home the next day."

She brought Mason home from the hospital when he was two weeks old and helped him through withdrawals for the next six months.

"I think we bonded a lot more because of the struggles," she said.

Mason — the youngest of four children — and his three siblings were removed from their parents' custody on the basis that they would return to their parents if the parents changed

for the better.

"Biologically, we're second cousins," Kaela said.

The children's father — a relative — contacted Kaela and her parents and asked if they would take the children in.

Later, the Department of Social Services contacted the Flemings and asked if they would watch the children through the kinship program where children are temporarily placed with relatives or family friends, giving parents the opportunity to improve themselves.

Kaela and her parents, Eddie and Allena, provided a home for two of the children — Mason, now 2, and Lexi, 6 — because they wanted the siblings to stay together. Kaela received temporary custody of Mason, and Eddie and Allena received temporary custody of Lexi.

Mason's two older brothers, 9-year-old Eli and 4-year-old Nick, were placed together with

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### DEATHS, B5

Maurice A. Hudson  
Maurice P. Randle  
Margaret E. Benton  
Frederick Ray Allen  
Quamane L. Abraham  
Carlton A. Brooks  
Ella J. Bowman  
Alexander Martin  
Pauline D. Walker

Ann L. Wilkie Huggins  
Howard Allen  
Michael S. Cotterman Jr.  
Catherine B. Ballard  
Lidia Velasquez  
Sarah D. Aiken  
Ann L. Huggins  
Charles T. Osborne  
Jeanette O. McCoy

### WEATHER, A14

**RAINY AND MILD**  
Fairly warm today and raining, clearing toward evening.  
**HIGH 61, LOW 36**

### INSIDE

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# SECOND FRONT

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## Hospital offers heart health screenings, events

### FROM PALMETTO HEALTH TUOMEY

February is American Heart Month, and Palmetto Health is offering a series of free screenings, seminars and events led by cardiac providers with expertise in their fields.

### FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR WOMEN

Heart disease is the No. 1 cause of death for women nationally and is the second-leading cause of death for all women in South Carolina. Unfortunately, it also is the leading killer for black women in the Palmetto State, according to results from the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

According to the American Heart Association, cardiovascular disease kills twice as many women over the age of

25 as the next seven causes of death combined, including all forms of cancer. Women are much more likely to die of a heart attack than men because their heart disease often goes undiagnosed. The Women at Heart program looks to educate women so that they can take control of their lives and feel great doing it.

To help identify women who are at risk, free heart health screenings are available Thursday from 8 to 11 a.m. Registration is required along with a 12-hour fast. Call (803) 296-CARE (2273) to schedule your screening. The screenings will take place at Palmetto Health Tuomey, 129 N. Washington St., in Classrooms 1 and 2.

### FREE HEART SEMINARS

Two free heart seminars will

be offered at Sumter Opera House City Centre, 25 N. Main St., on Thursday, Feb. 15, and Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 6 to 7 p.m. with light refreshments provided.

Thursday's seminar will cover the unique symptoms of heart disease that women face and ways to reduce your risk. Tuesday's seminar will discuss how heart disease can lead to heart attack, heart rhythm problems and other life-threatening conditions. Learn the risk factors and how to prevent them.

Cameron Thomasson, NP, Rosey Gilliam, M.D., and John Rozich, M.D., will speak at seminars on various heart-related topics. Space is limited, so registration is required. Call (803) 774-CARE (2273) to reserve your spot.

### WOMEN AT HEART

This year's free Women at Heart event is Saturday, Feb. 24, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln St., in Columbia. Free transportation will be provided from Palmetto Health Tuomey, and breakfast and lunch will be provided on the bus.

"The party starts when you step onto the bus," Palmetto Health Tuomey Process Engineer Kimberly Rauschenbach said.

Women at Heart is designed to increase heart health among women in the Midlands and attracts more than 1,000 participants each year.

Keynote speakers include motivational speaker Bertice Berry, Ph.D., and Anil Yallapragada, M.D., medical di-

rector of Palmetto Health Stroke Center and neurologist at Palmetto Health-USC Neurology. Berry will help inspire women to find purpose and meaning in their lives. Yallapragada will discuss the connections between diabetes and stroke. Breakout sessions featuring Palmetto Health experts and Palmetto Health-USC Medical Group physicians will include topics on depression and stress, hypertension and healthy eating habits.

Other Women at Heart event activities include ask-the-doctor sessions, healthy cooking demonstrations, fitness activities, door prizes and more.

To register for the bus and the event, visit [PalmettoHealth.org/WomenAtHeart](http://PalmettoHealth.org/WomenAtHeart) or call (803) 774-CARE (2273).

## Manning man gets 25 years for shooting

BY SHARRON HALEY

Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — A 26-year-old Manning man was sentenced to 25 years in prison on Jan. 18 after a Clarendon County jury found him guilty of one count of attempted murder.

Jeremiah Jermaine Brandon Smith Jr. was arrested at 12:23 a.m. Christmas Day less than five days after a 21-year-old Manning man was shot in the back outside the Browntown Social Club on Holden Street in Manning.

According to reports, Manning police officers responded to a possible shooting at the club about 3 a.m. on Dec. 20. Officers said they saw a small car leaving the club at a high rate of speed when they arrived.

Individuals outside the club told officers that the car was taking the victim to the hospital. One of the officers accompanied the car to the hospital while other officers remained at the scene.

The report stated two individuals were outside the club when they heard a gunshot and saw the victim run toward a white Chevrolet Tahoe in the club's parking lot before he fell to the ground beside the vehicle.

The report said those same individuals told officers that they saw a small white car leaving the scene with a person attempting to get inside the back seat of the vehicle. The two individuals told officers they saw at least four or five males inside the white vehicle.

The jury trial was held during a term of General Sessions Court at the Clarendon County Courthouse. Smith was sentenced to 25 years in prison by Circuit Court Judge at Large D. Craig Brown, who gave Smith credit for the four months he served in jail before his sentencing.



SMITH

## A sunny afternoon at Poinsett



MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

A boy and his dog enjoy the sunshine at the lake at Poinsett State Park on a recent Saturday.

## Sword Lily Marketing joins Constant Contact Partner Program

Sword Lily Marketing LLC of Sumter has joined the Constant Contact Partner Program as a Solution Provider Partner according to a news release.

Sword Lily Marketing LLC will now be able to provide its clients access to Constant Contact's all-in-one online marketing platform and additional marketing services to help them reach current customers and find new ones through email, social, mobile and web.

"I am proud to be a partner with Constant Contact as they have been a consistent part of my marketing experience for small businesses and nonprofits for over 15 years. This is a company I have worked with as a client and am now excited to represent them as

a partner. They bring a lot of expertise to the table to help me best serve my local clients," Sword Lily Marketing CEO Nancy Lee Zimpleman said in the release.

Zimpleman has been in the communications field for more than 20 years with 17 years in the Chamber of Commerce industry, 13 of those at Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce, before spending more than three years as the communications director at Alice Drive Baptist Church. She said she is excited about leveraging her knowledge from these fields and helping businesses by providing a local source for all their marketing needs.

"Our Solution Providers are the consultants, designers, developers

and agencies that provide services tailored to the needs of small businesses and nonprofits," said Jonathan Kateman, general manager of Constant Contact. "By joining the Constant Contact Solution Provider Program, Sword Lily Marketing LLC has demonstrated its commitment to small business success by offering easy access to world-class online marketing tools and enhanced services to her clients."

For more information on Sword Lily Marketing LLC, call Zimpleman at (803) 236-4851, email [nancy@swordlily.net](mailto:nancy@swordlily.net) or visit [www.swordlily.net](http://www.swordlily.net).

For more information on Constant Contact, visit [www.constantcontact.com](http://www.constantcontact.com).

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# Trust God enough to ask for what you need

When you are a new believer and you read Jesus' words, "Ask and it will be given; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be open to you," it sounds like magic. Ask for what I want? Answers given whenever I seek? Closed doors opening? This is Jesus' invitation to pray boldly. So, you do. You ask for your husband to change. You want God to answer why someone you love got cancer. You knock on a closed door, knowing that God will so convict your Dad that he will pick up the phone and call you after a three-year silence.



Clay Smith

You wait for your husband to change. And you wait. And wait. The turmoil in your heart about why a

good person suffers doesn't go away. Your Dad's number never shows up on your phone. Then you are left with deep unease. Did Jesus not keep his promise? Did you not have enough faith? Did Jesus lie?

Bible scholars and preachers handle Jesus' promise in two ways. First, they try to explain Jesus' words are not what they seem to be. They try to limit the scope of the promise or draw in other Scripture that seems to teach us to limit our asking. The outcome of this teaching is timid prayer, anemic prayer, prayer that doesn't move a grain of sand, much less a mountain.

The second way preachers explain Jesus' words is to claim this as a faith promise. We are to ask, seek and knock, and God will give. Preachers thunder, "You have not, because you ask not!" Then they get in their Mercedes and go home. If God is not giving you the sweet life, it is because you don't ask, or you don't ask in faith.

The outcome of this teaching is foolish asking and foolish thinking. "Name it and claim it" turns God into a heavenly Amazon Prime, delivering blessings to our door.

What did Jesus mean?

When my daughter Sarah was two, she asked me to go by Sonic and get some ice cream. I told her "no." She asked again. I said "no" again. She paused, thought and then said, "Daddy, Jesus wants you to get me some ice cream."

I wonder where she learned that?

Sarah did not get ice cream that day. I wasn't being cruel. I was being wise. She needed a nap, and the sugar in the ice cream would wind her up for hours. When I told Sarah "no," she thought I was the cruelest Dad in the world.

I've told this story before as an example of our heavenly Father knowing our needs better than we know our own. That's still true. It's only recently, however, that I realize how

much Sarah trusted me. She knew her father loved her (and loves her still). Even at two, she knew I was the source of good gifts. So when she wanted ice cream, she asked her father. She trusted me enough to ask.

I think this is what Jesus is teaching us. Trust your Heavenly Father to ask, seek and knock. Trust him with raw desires of your heart. Don't try to edit your prayer to make it perfect or acceptable.

But remember asking is the first step of prayer. It starts a conversation. Asking means listening for God to speak back to you and tell you that you don't need ice cream; you need a nap. It means trusting him enough to lie and take the nap.

Ask boldly. Trust boldly. Trust your heavenly Father enough to ask.

Now, I need to decide if I need ice cream or a nap.

Clay Smith is the lead pastor of Alice Drive Baptist Church in Sumter.

## Florida ER nurse in video says people should 'wash your stinking hands'

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — A nurse's Facebook rant about the "cesspool of funky flu" in emergency room waiting areas is getting a lot of attention.

"Wash your stinking hands," Katherine Lockler says in a six-minute video that's been viewed 4.8 million times since she recorded it in frustration after a 12-hour shift during this particularly nasty flu season. The mother of four works in several emergency rooms in the Pensacola area in Florida's Panhandle.

She said 25 to 30 people often sit for hours in hospital waiting rooms as the worst cases get treated first.

"Some of them are not true emergencies, but they're waiting along with the flu right next to them. So guess what? Five flus came in, 15 flus walk out. It's great," she said sarcastically. "They'll

be back."

Lockler told the *Pensacola News Journal* her intent was not just to vent, but to offer a constructive message from a health care professional's perspective.

"The biggest problem for me was seeing people come in to visit, and not only being exposed to this awful flu virus,

but not taking the correct precautions to get themselves disinfected before going out in the world," Lockler said.

She said she's getting responses from around the world to the video she titled "After Work Thoughts." In it, she says the flu is spreading like "wild-

fire" and offers suggestions for staying healthy. She demonstrates the "magic trick" of sneezing or coughing into the crook of an arm to avoid getting germs on your hands.

Then she repeats it, in slow motion.

"My sleeve got the germs, my hands didn't," she said, holding up her hand. "It's amazing to watch how many people come through the emergency room, sneeze in their hands and — I watch — no one grabs the hand sanitizer."

Lockler shares ER horror stories, like the father who let his baby crawl on the floor and the softball coach who brought his whole team.

"If you have a team member from your softball team who is sick or injured, you do not bring the entire softball team in to check on them. Because guess what?" Lockler said.

"You just got 15 new vectors, or carriers of the flu, by them all walking in. Which I watched them all walk in last night, see their friend, and not touch the hand sanitizer. Not once!"

In fact, if you aren't sick, just stay home, she advises.

"So, don't bring your team in. Please don't bring your healthy children, especially your newborn babies, into the emergency," she said. "If you don't have what I call a true emergency, this would not be the time to come to the emergency room."



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# Understanding what is behind the 'bleaching syndrome'

BY RONALD HALL  
Michigan State University,  
The Conversation

For black Americans, skin color is a complex topic.

Whenever a black celebrity lightens his or her skin — whether it's pop star Michael Jackson, retired baseball player Sammy Sosa or rapper Nicki Minaj — they're usually greeted with widespread ridicule. Some accuse them of self-loathing, while many in the black community view it as a rejection of black identity.

Increasing numbers of mixed-race births have further complicated matters, with light-skinned blacks occasionally being accused of not being "black enough."

At the same time, *The New York Times* recently detailed the growing popularity of glutathione treatments. The antioxidant, which is administered intravenously, can deactivate the enzyme that produces darker skin pigments.

The article noted that while these treatments have become hugely popular in Asia, "it is also cropping up among certain communities in Britain and the United States," with demand "slowly growing."

As someone who has studied and written about the issue of skin color and black identity for more than 20 years, I think the rise of glutathione treatments — in addition to the growing use of various bleaching creams — reveal a taboo that black Americans are certainly aware of, but loathe to admit.

Though they might criticize lighter-skinned black people, many people of color — deep down — abhor dark skin.

## THE POWER OF FAIR SKIN

There are few places in the world where dark skin isn't stigmatized.

Many Latin American countries have laws and policies in place to prevent discrimination relative to skin color. In many Native American communities, "Red-Black Cherokees" were denied acceptance into the tribe, while those with lighter skin were welcomed.

But it is in Asia where dark skin has seen the longest and most intense level of stigma. In India, dark-skinned Dalits, for thousands of years, were viewed as "untouchables." Today, they're still stigmatized. In Japan, long before the first Europeans arrived, dark skin was stigmatized. According to Japanese tradition, a woman with fair skin compensates for "seven blemishes."

The United States has its own complicated history with skin color, primarily because "mulatto" skin — not quite black, but not quite white — often arose out of mixed-race children conceived between slaves and slave masters.

In America, these variations in complexions produced an unspoken hierarchy: Black people with lighter complexions ended up being granted some of the rights of the master class. By early 19th century, the "mulatto hypothesis" emerged, arguing that the "white blood" of light-skinned slaves made them smarter, more civilized and better looking.

It's probably no coincidence that light-skinned blacks emerged as leaders in the black community: To white power brokers, they were less threatening. Harvard's first black graduate was the fair-skinned W.E.B. Du Bois. Some of the most

prominent black politicians — from former New Orleans Mayor Ernest Morial, to former Virginia Gov. Douglas Wilder, to former President Barack Obama — have light skin.

## FAIR SKIN AND BEAUTY

In 1967, Dutch sociologist Harry Hoetink coined the term "somatic norm image" to describe why some shades of skin are favored over others.

In America, some trace the emergence of light skin as the "somatic norm image" for all modern-day races to the 1930s advertising campaign of Breck Shampoo.

To market its product, the company created the "Breck Girl." In advertisements, her fair, alabaster skin was touted as the perfect ideal of feminine beauty. Few considered the devastating effects a glamorized image of light skin might have on the self-esteem of dark-skinned Americans — in particular, women.

In a 2008 study, researchers at the University of Georgia called skin color distinction "a well-kept secret" in black communities. "The hue of one's skin," they wrote, "tends to have a psychological effect on the self-esteem of African-Americans."

Yet they also noted that existing research on the relationship between skin color and self-esteem didn't even exist. Fear of being perceived as a race traitor continues to make the topic taboo in the United States — in a way which exceeds that in places like India or Japan.

To obtain a fairer complexion, many apply bleaching creams. Some of the most popular are Olay, Natural White, Ambi Fade Cream and Clean & Clear Fairness Cream.

While these creams can work, they can be dangerous: Some contain cancer-causing ingredients. Despite the potential danger, skin bleaching cream sales have grown. By 2024, it's projected that global profits will reach \$31.2 billion.

In the U.S., sales are difficult to assess; black Americans are reluctant to admit that they bleach. For this reason, American companies will often market their creams by using abstract language, claiming that the creams will "fade," "even the tone" or "smooth out the texture" of dark skin. In this way, black people who buy the creams can avoid confronting the real reasons they feel compelled to purchase the product, while skirting

accusations of self-hate.

## THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THE 'BLEACHING SYNDROME'

After studying skin color for years, I coined the term "bleaching syndrome" to describe this phenomenon.

I published my first paper on the topic in 1994. Put simply, it argues that black Americans, Latinos and every other oppressed population will internalize the somatic norm image at the expense of their native characteristics. So even though dark skin is a feature of black Americans, light skin continues to be the ideal because it's the one preferred by the dominant group: whites.

The bleaching syndrome has three components. The first is psychological: This involves self-rejection of dark skin and other native characteristics.

Second, it's sociological, in that it influences group behavior (hence the phenomenon of black celebrities bleaching their skin).

The final aspect is physiological. The physiological is not limited to just bleaching the skin. It can also mean altering hair texture and eye color to mimic the dominant group. The rapper Lil' Kim, in addition to lightening her skin, has also changed her eye color and altered her facial features. The fact that so few in mainstream culture can even acknowledge the existence of the bleaching syndrome is a testament to how taboo the topic is.

The solution to the bleaching syndrome is political. The disdain for dark skin today is similar to disdain for kinky

hair in the 1960s. Black Americans' dislike of their natural hair was so ingrained that the first black millionaire, Madam C.J. Walker, was able to accumulate her fortune by selling hair-straightening products to black people.

"Black is Beautiful" — a slogan popularized at the tail end of the 1960s — was a political statement that sought to upend the negative associations many Americans, including many black Americans, felt toward all things black. In response, the Afro became a popular hairstyle, and black entertainers, from Sammy Davis Jr. to Lou Rawls, proudly grew out their hair, refusing to apply hair-straightening products.

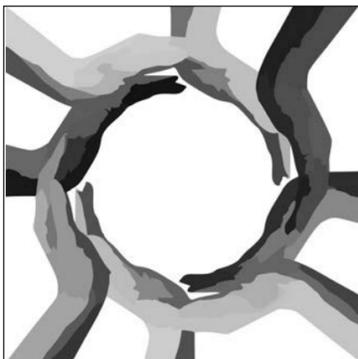
"Back to Black" — a nod to the "Black is Beautiful" campaign — is a political statement that could address the impulse many feel to bleach their dark skin. It has the potential to reverse the disdain for such skin and hence those so characterized. Even black celebrities who possess fair skin could help glamorize dark skin by repeating the slogan and paying tribute to the numerous dark-skinned beauties whose attractiveness goes seldom acknowledged: Lupita Nyong'o, Gabrielle Union and Janelle Monae.

These dark-skinned black women would qualify as beautiful by any standards — regardless of skin color.

*The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.*



HALL



## Dr. Messier & Dr. Holley Join Top-Ranked McLeod Cardiothoracic Team

The McLeod Heart and Vascular Institute welcomes Dr. Robert Messier, Jr. and Dr. Wayne Holley to the team. Dr. Messier, a board-certified Cardiothoracic Surgeon and Dr. Holley, a board-certified Thoracic Surgeon, bring experience and specialized expertise to our program. Dr. Messier and Dr. Holley join this distinguished team of surgeons Dr. Scot C. Schultz and Dr. Cary Huber in bringing top ranked heart care to our patients.

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# the Sumter ITEM PANORAMA

## SLT presents musical 'Five Guys Named Moe'

Comedy will celebrate songs of Louis Jordan

BY IVY MOORE  
Special to The Sumter Item

Sumter Little Theatre's "Five Guys Named Moe" is a musical comedy that brings together some of Sumter's most talented singers and actors in a celebration of the music of Louis Jordan and several other songwriters of the middle 20th century. The 20-plus songs in the show by Clarke Peters are classified as blues, but they're mostly upbeat, even humorous blues.

The show, which has won or been nominated for several awards, begins when NoMax, played by Brandon Graves, truly has the blues — he's dead broke, and his girlfriend has left him. The "Five Guys Named Moe" emerge from NoMax's 1930s radio to show him what he needs to do to set his life straight.

The five guys are played by Markelle Roberts as Little Moe, Hugh China as Big Moe, Don Phillips as Four-Eyed Moe, Josh Thomas as Eat Moe and William Paul Brown as No Moe.

Eric Bultman said his biggest challenge in directing the show was "assembling the right cast," which has resulted in a cohesive unit of actors, musicians and crew.

"The energy of these men is so positive," he said. "I can't remember a time when I've worked with a cast where everybody had such a great attitude. After all, we've been rehearsing at least three hours (almost) every night, and that's after they get off work."

Besides their strong singing, "these guys dance well," Bultman said.

Thomas, Roberts and Phillips are in their first show at SLT, Bultman said, while the others have worked in past shows.

China has done musicals ("The Full Monty") and drama ("Driving Miss Daisy") but said "Five Guys" is his "first purely musical show."

"It's very entertaining, and I love the singing," he said. "Paul [Brown] has been great teaching us our

William Paul Brown rehearses a solo accompanied by James Lies on piano, David Shoemaker on drums, Darren Polutta on bass, Sean Hackett on sax and Robert Berry on trumpet. The "Five Guys Named Moe" band also includes drummer Barry Simpson and Chip Scales on trombone. The musical comedy directed by Eric Bultman opens Thursday at Sumter Little Theatre.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY HAL GONZALES



IVY MOORE / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Pianist James Lies accompanies cast members of "Five Guys Named Moe" as they rehearse one of 21 songs in the musical comedy. From left, the actors are Hugh China, Josh Thomas, Markelle Roberts, Brandon Graves and William Paul Brown. The show features the music of Louis Jordan and several of his contemporaries.

vocal parts, and Eric's directing has us creating distinct personalities for our characters. We trust each other, and it's a show everyone can enjoy."

Brown is also vocal director, and Phillips, a member of the Sumter Civic Dance Company, has doubled as choreographer.

Graves, chorus teacher at Ebenezer and Hillcrest middle schools, who is in his first major role, said his "students are very excited about (his being in the play). It's opened up a good conversation about jazz."

Roberts, who was not familiar with Louis Jordan's music, said he "(likes) the way he tells a story in his music, and the script is funny. There are a lot of laughs, and I have a lot of physical comedy. Vocally it's challenging — they keep



PHOTO PROVIDED BY HAL GONZALES

Hugh China, Don Phillips and William Paul Brown rehearse a scene from "Five Guys Named Moe," a musical comedy that opens Feb. 8 at Sumter Little Theatre. The actors/singers play Big Moe, Four-Eyed Moe and No Moe in the production directed by Eric Bultman. Phillips also choreographed the show, and Brown was music director.

me at the top of my range." "Five Guys" is Thomas' "first show at SLT or ever," he said, adding that he likes it. Bultman said, "He's like he's been doing it forever."

An electrician by day, Thomas said he listens to all kinds of music and can hear the connection of rock 'n' roll, jazz and even hip-hop to the blues.

Brown said, "What makes this show so interesting is that everyone has a distinct personality. It's not simply the songs, but they take you on the journey to rock 'n' roll and other music." He cited the connection to rap and the operatic "patter songs."

As No Moe, Brown said, "I try to move things along, try to keep the group in order."

James Lies plays piano in the six-piece band and has been accompanist for re-

hearsals. Trained as a classical musician, Lies said he first enjoyed playing jazz in SLT's "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "this year it's the blues."

As he talked, Lies played bits of music from the show, illustrating how "blues was kind of a start for 'boogie oogie oogie.' A lot of the music should be familiar," he said, "and the talent is great."

Among the songs audience members might recognize are "Don't Let the Sun Catch You Crying," "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie," "Caldonia" and "There Ain't Nobody Here but Us Chickens."

David Shoemaker, in addition to designing the set and the lighting, has put together the band, which has to be very versatile, as the music is varied. While it is the blues, some of the songs have a swing or calypso beat in addition to the ballads. There's even a little Western swing in the mix.

The band comprises Lies on piano, Sean Hackett on saxophone, Barry Simpson on drums, Chip Scales on trombone, Robert Berry on trumpet and Darren Polutta on bass.

Gwyn Waters is stage manager, Sylvia Pickett designed the costumes that evoke the '30s, and Michael Bacon is sound tech.

Bultman said, "Five Guys" is a light-hearted show the audience will appreciate. It's fun, the music is great, and it's going to be a time when people can come and have a good time."



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## Thomas Sumter Academy



PHOTO PROVIDED

Thomas Sumter Academy participated in the recent South Carolina Independent School Association Regional Spelling Bee. TSA came in third place overall. Individual winners advancing to the State SCISA Spelling Bee on Feb. 21 include: Madison Marrow (third grade); Tyler Walton (fifth grade); and Vaughn Nedderman (seventh grade).

## Laurence Manning Academy



The following students from Laurence Manning Academy participated in the SCISA Regional Spelling Bee held at Wilson Hall on Jan. 24: third grade, Shely Patel and Jill Patel; fourth grade, Ryleigh Maynard and Matthew Ragan; fifth grade, Jessica Griffith and Jenny Tran; sixth grade, Hugh Jones and Gracie Delecki; and seventh grade, Nathan Phan and Ariyelle Wells, and Dhruv Patel and Charlie McCraw. Congratulations to Shely, Hugh and Dhruv for advancing to the state competition in February.

## Clarendon School District 2

### PHOENIX CHARTER HIGH VISITS BOEING SC

Twenty-five Phoenix Charter High students visited Boeing SC on Jan. 11 and participated in the DreamLearners Education program. Temporarily transformed into Boeing teammates, five career/job areas assembled a model plane. The finance manager oversaw a \$55,000 budget that managed payroll, materials, training and research. A team of engineers decided on the design of the plane to be built. Materials management then ensured that all necessary materials reached the facility on time and undamaged so that mechanics could be proficient in assembling the aircraft. Finally, the finished product was tested by the pilots.

For two hours, students were able to dream the possibility of being an employee in one of the many job functions available at Boeing SC. — *Tonia M. Smith*

## Morris College

### SCIENCE IN ACTION WEEK

"STEM is the ONE" is the theme of Science in Action Week, Feb. 6-9, at Morris College. All events are open to the public.

#### Tuesday

• "Cyber Warfare: Our National Preparedness to Respond to the Threat" in Wilson-Booker Science Building, Room 100. Speakers are William Littleton and Shanda Johnson, SPAWAR, Atlantic, North Charleston

• Summer Research Poster Exhibits in the hallway of Wilson-Booker Science Building: Tiare Tatum and Imani Williams, Savannah State University; Lakil Mason, Furman University; Katelyn Benjamin, Furman University; and Eugene Boykin and Dominique Jenkins, Livermore National Laboratory

#### Wednesday

Classroom visitations will be held from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 4 p.m. in Wilson-Booker Science Building.

- Dr. Dwayne Nelson — computer engineer, U.S. Navy;
- Dr. Kareem Sprattling — dentist, private practice, Latta Smiles;
- Dr. Jachelle Sprattling — dentist, private practice, Latta Smiles;
- Adrienne Edge — associate director of student diversity, College of Health Professions, MUSC;
- Chris Powers — manager of recruitment and diversity education, School of Medicine, MUSC;
- Kaleigh Larson — Department of Nursing, MUSC; and
- Clarence Brown — executive director of Pre-College University

#### Thursday

An assembly program will be held at 10 a.m. in Neal-Jones Auditorium. Dr. John Bell, podiatrist, will be keynote speaker, with Dr. Dwayne Nelson, engineer and Stellar graduate, also speaking.

#### Friday in the classrooms

Student presentations on African-American scientists and mathematicians

### Notable alumnae returning for Science in Action Week

Dr. John Bell graduated magna cum laude in biology in 1996 and is a surgical podiatrist, physician and owner and CEO of Excelsior Podiatry Clinic

and owner and CEO of DJB Pharmacy in Greater West Tennessee Metropolitan Area.

Dr. Dwayne Nelson is a Morris-North Carolina A&T dual-degree (math-engineering) program graduate of 2009 and is a deputy department information officer and technical team lead of the U.S. Navy in Dahlgren, Virginia.

Dr. Kareem Sprattling is a 2001 Morris graduate in biology and has a Doctor of Dentistry from MUSC. He and his wife, Jachelle, are the dentists and owners of the Latta Smiles Dentistry Clinic in Latta. — *Anika Cobb*

## University of South Carolina Sumter

### ACHIEVE SUCCESS WITHOUT THE FINANCIAL BURDEN

Nearly 5 million Americans are in default on their federal student loan payments, the *Wall Street Journal* reported in December 2017. That is nearly double the number of Americans who were severely behind on payments four years ago. The number of borrowers who have not made a payment in at least a year grew by nearly 274,000 in the third quarter alone. According to the New York Federal Reserve, borrowers that renege on their payments are more likely to have enrolled in for-profit colleges or community colleges. They are also likely to have dropped out before they completed their programs, the *WSJ* reported.

Executive Vice President at Ameritech Financial Tom Knickerbocker said there is no reason for anyone to intentionally default on federal student loans. He pointed out that those who have "are going to have a tougher time passing an employment verification check, saving for retirement or ever buying a home." Matthew Michaels from Business Insider says personal consequences of defaulting on a loan are numerous and cumbersome. Some of the penalties defaulters face include acceleration of interest payments, loss of eligibility for deferments or a repayment plan, lack of access to additional federal student aid, restricted access on academic transcripts, garnished wages and inability to buy or sell assets.

While this negative trend impacts millions of people every year, USC Sumter students default on their loans at a much lower rate compared to others within South Carolina and around the country. USC Sumter's most recent default rate projection is less than 3 percent, while the state and national average rates are 13.2 percent and 11.5 percent respectively. This lower rate is largely due to affordable tuition and proactive counseling from staff. USC Sumter financial aid counselors work closely with students to help them budget wisely and borrow only what is needed each semester as they consider student loans.

In addition to lower default rates, USC Sumter students are achieving success at a high level. Historically, USC Sumter ranks among the top public two-year institutions in the state of South Carolina in terms of student success rates. Success rates, in addition to graduates, includes those students who transfer to another institution or continue enrollment past their third year. USC Sumter also ranks

among the top two-year colleges in the state when it comes to four-year degree completion rates.

All this shows that students who choose USC Sumter go on to secure valuable baccalaureate degrees that prepare them for successful academic and professional careers without the heavy financial burden many students face after graduation. Flexible day, night and online course schedules allow students the ability to start and finish their degree through a wide range of subjects. USC Sumter is clearly a great option for students of all backgrounds, offering excellent academic programs at an affordable cost. For more information, call (803) 775-8727 or [suadmiss@uscsumter.edu](mailto:suadmiss@uscsumter.edu). — *Misty Hatfield*

## Central Carolina Technical College

### FOUNDATION ART GALLERY ACCEPTING ART SUBMISSIONS

The Central Carolina Technical College Foundation Gallery of Art and Expression will display artwork in March 2018 from current faculty, staff and students. There is no charge to display artwork. Submissions for this event are now being accepted. To find out more information and to download the Artwork Submission Form, visit: [cctech.edu/content/uploads/Artwork-Submission-Form-Spring-2018.pdf](http://cctech.edu/content/uploads/Artwork-Submission-Form-Spring-2018.pdf)

### 6TH-ANNUAL HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER CAREER FAIR

On Monday, Central Carolina Technical College will host its sixth-annual career fair at the Health Sciences Center in downtown Sumter from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event offers Nursing, Medical Assisting, Surgical Technology, Medical Record Coding, Massage Therapy and Pharmacy Technology students, graduates and faculty a chance to meet representatives from hospitals and health care facilities to discuss career and employment opportunities. Students will also have the opportunity to meet with higher education institutions.

For more information contact CCTC's Career Services at (803) 773-6673 or email [mcduffiect@cctech.edu](mailto:mcduffiect@cctech.edu).

### UNIVERSITY TRANSFER DAY

On Tuesday, Central Carolina Technical College will hold its annual University Transfer Day. The event will run from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Building M500 on the Main Campus in Sumter. This is a great opportunity for students to meet representatives from four-year public and private colleges and universities, as well as representatives from all military branches.

For more information, call (803) 778-6600.

### CCTC FOUNDATION ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

CCTC Foundation Scholarship applications for the 2018-19 academic year are now being accepted. Deadline to apply is March 15. Consider applying if you are enrolled in at least six credit hours per semester and if you have a 2.0 grade-point average. Apply online at [cctech.edu/about/cctc-foundation/foundation-scholarships/](http://cctech.edu/about/cctc-foundation/foundation-scholarships/). — *Catherine M. Wood*

## Sumter School District

### THOMPSON CONSTRUCTION ADOPTS CROSSWELL DRIVE ELEMENTARY

A phenomenal partnership is in the making between Crosswell Drive Elementary School and Thompson Construction Group. Plans were unveiled at the school's Title I Parent Night.

"We are looking to build strong children when it comes to social and academic growth," said Principal Shawn Hagerty. "We have a lot of challenges, but our main goal is to ensure Crosswell Drive Elementary is in the top 10 percent of schools that meet state level standards within the next three to five years."

Partnerships will play a key role in making this happen. Hagerty reached out to President and CEO Greg Thompson earlier in the school year and asked him to partner with the school. Thompson, who responded immediately, served as their Principal for the Day in November where he interacted with the students, teachers and leadership team and reviewed school-level education plans. Thompson took this collaboration a step further and announced a formal schoolwide partnership with Crosswell Drive Elementary, which will entail in-depth collaboration with the teachers, students and parents.

### EATON DISTRIBUTES BOOKS TO POCALLA SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

Thanks to a grant from Eaton, the Sumter Education Foundation was able to purchase Big Universe and 5,072 books for classroom libraries at Pocalla Springs Elementary School. The books were distributed by a team from Eaton to each classroom teacher.

"On behalf of the Pocalla Springs Elementary School community, we are most grateful and appreciative of the kind donation of Eaton Corp.," Principal Laura Brown said. "Strong corporate partners and community citizens

such as Eaton directly impact our total school program and our young learners at Pocalla. We thank them for their investment in our students as we build tomorrow today and strive to make the world a better place."

The Sumter Education Foundation's 500 for 500K fundraising campaign aims to support teachers in Sumter School District in strengthening the reading proficiency of every student from preschool to high school. A large, varied and often-refreshed collection of books in the classroom improves reading performance in all subject areas. Children who spend more time reading grow into strong, proficient readers who are workforce and college ready.

### CHESTNUT OAKS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN LEADERSHIP FORUM

Thanks to the Chamber Education Committee, 39 students from Chestnut Oaks Middle School had the opportunity to participate in the Student Leadership Career Forum. At a round table discussion held at the school, local leaders identified qualities of a good employee, the importance of good financial habits, lifelong learning and educational institutions that can further students' career choices. In turn, each student will have the opportunity to visit a business to obtain a firsthand look into that actual career.

Thank you to the following participants: U.S. Army Central, Shaw Air Force Base, Allsouth Federal Credit Union, Palmetto Health Tuomey, Thompson Construction, Central Carolina and Kaydon.

### RAFTING CREEK STUDENTS EXCEL AT COMPETITION

A selected group of fifth-grade students from Rafting Creek Elementary School competed in the South Carolina MathFest competition. All students placed in individual and/or team competitions and will compete in the regional competition against 11 other states in Atlanta on March 24.

### EARLY HEAD START OPEN ENROLLMENT

Feb. 1 through March 2 is open enrollment time for Early Head Start services for the 2018-19 school year. Early Head Start services are available to pregnant women and children ages birth to 3 and their families regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or disability. Those eligible for services include expectant mothers and children up to age three who meet federal poverty income guidelines.

In order to enroll, prospective families must bring a copy of the birth certificates for both parents and child, Social Security cards and Medicaid and/or other insurance information. Income documentation for the last 12 months may include W2 forms or SSI documentation, TANF documentation, child support print-out, scholarships, grants and/or student loan documentation or foster care statement.

Parents interested in this program for the 2018-19 school year are asked to call the Crosswell Park Early Childhood Center at (803) 774-5900 to schedule an appointment for enrollment. The Crosswell Park Early Childhood Center is located at 475 Crosswell Drive in Sumter. — *Shelly Galloway*

## Wilson Hall

### SMITH AWARDED BELK SCHOLARSHIP

Senior Kate Smith was named an Irwin Belk Scholar by Wingate University in North Carolina. Worth \$108,000, the scholarship would cover two-thirds of tuition, room and board. The scholarship is awarded to incoming freshmen who have a minimum SAT score of 1300, rank in the top 10 percent of their class and have a minimum grade-point average of 3.8.

### TRISTAN NAMED PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

Senior Grace Tristan received the Presidential Scholarship from Mars Hill College in North Carolina. Valued at \$64,000, the scholarship covers one-third of tuition, room and board. The merit-based scholarship is awarded to incoming freshmen who have a high grade-point average and SAT score.

### McADAMS WINS REGION BEE

Fifth-grader Jane McAdams won the S.C. Independent School Association Regional Spelling Bee for her grade level and will advance to the state bee on Feb. 21. Seventy-two students in grades 3 through 8, representing six SCISA schools, participated in the regional bee. The bee, hosted by Wilson Hall, was coordinated by Becky Haley and moderated by Scott Warren.

### COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Wilson Hall is hosting a community open house for the parents of prospective students in 3-year-old preschool through 12th grade on Sunday, Feb. 11, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. The public is invited to learn more about Wilson Hall and its academic, athletic and extra-curricular programs from faculty members, current students and their parents. — *Sean Hoskins*

# Olympics draw Korean adoptees as South Korea confronts past

BY SALLY HO  
Associated Press

When Megan Olson lands in South Korea for the Winter Olympics next week, she'll feel something that is both surreal and vivid.

An intoxicating sense of belonging.

A deep sense of loss.

Pride, for the motherland she barely knows after being secretly adopted away.

The 33-year-old social worker from Minnesota is joining dozens of fellow South Korean adoptees who are returning to their birth country for the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang.

Many endured cultural, racial and national identity issues stemming from an international adoption phenomenon that peaked in the 1980s. Now, the once-in-a-lifetime Olympics experience will satisfy an internal pressure for some adoptees to justify being where they came from, even though it won't erase the fact that they were once sent away with shame and en masse.

"I think I really wanted to go back. It feels like it's home but at the same time, when I get there, I'm not home. I don't really know where I belong," Olson said.

The Olympics will also reconcile a part of their life journey that has been book-ended by an era of complete economic transformation for South Korea.

Much of that rise happened at the same time the small Asian country, lacking a solid social welfare system, dispersed an estimated 200,000 of its Korean-born children, according to Richard Lee, a University of Minnesota professor who studies adoptees.

The cultural diaspora reaches more than a dozen countries around the globe, including in western Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand. But for South Korea, the timing of the adoption boom coinciding with their costly 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul is still a subject of criticism among some.

No longer in the shadows of the devastating Korean War era, the country over the past half century has become a powerhouse on the world stage, thanks to its fortunes in tech, cultural reach from pop music, and famously rigorous education system.

All the while, a majority of those South Korean orphans landed in the U.S. They grew



Megan Olson, 33, and her husband, Luke Olson, sit at their home in Robbinsdale, Minnesota. After being secretly adopted away from South Korea as a baby, Megan is among the dozens of adoptees who are returning to their birth country for the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

up largely with white parents in the western world where adoption is seen as a humanitarian endeavor. Now adults, they've come of age and some have risen in the worlds of politics, fashion and entertainment.

That such orphans are now successful enough to afford an elite experience like the Olympic Games has surprised some of the locals in a patriarchal society where adoption is taboo.

Keziah Park of the International Korean Adoptee Service called it a "slap in the face" for status-driven South Koreans. The Seoul-based nonprofit since the 1990s has organized trips and birth-search pilgrimages for adoptees.

"When they left, they were orphans and they were abandoned. No could take care of them. But when they come back, it's a symbolic journey to Koreans observing them," Park said.

She added: "It really changes the mindset of Koreans. It allows Korea as a society to reflect on the choices they made."

The pressure to justify being there can also be distressing if they have already gone back to find their birth stories as a practical matter: to learn about their genetic health, or find out what happened to them as young children. And even if their adoptive families are supportive of their pilgrimage back, it can be difficult to reconcile their

identity and feelings for the country when they lack Korean family ties.

Park organized the week-long Olympics tourism trip hoping to ease that internal conflict. It will include the opening ceremony and sporting events. They're also hoping to meet Marissa Brandt, an adoptee raised in America who will play for the Korean women's hockey team.

"Although they have an intrinsic purpose to be there, they don't have anyone welcoming them to be there, so they felt it was meaningless," Park said. "That purpose to be there, the adoptees want more than you think."

More than two dozen adoptees are expected on the trip, including those now living in Norway, Denmark, Italy, France, Australia and the U.S. Olson, of Robbinsdale, Minnesota, said she thinks about going back to South Korea so often that it can wear on her husband. But each time she's there, she asks herself if it should be the last visit because it's so emotionally draining.

Olson found her birth parents a few years ago through their adoption agency in

Seoul. Their meetings have left her distraught, frustrated and unfulfilled. Olson's desperate to understand her true life story but her Korean parents appear indifferent.

She says she was adopted in 1985 as a baby but discovered that they kept a son born a year after Olson. The adoptee doesn't know why her birth parents made those choices. They've only confirmed that she's a secret they'll never tell their other children.

But this upcoming trip to South Korea will offer a welcome reprieve to Olson's heartaches.

It will be about connecting with fellow adoptees who share this profound experience that they didn't choose to have.

It will be about eating the food that's been missing their whole lives, yet tastes so much like home.

It will be about experiencing the glitz and glam of The Olympic Games, though even that is not without fraught.

"I don't know who I would cheer for. Should it be the U.S.? Should it be Korea? It's super minute but something I think about," Olson said.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

A sculptor paints a copy of the head of Hygeia, deity of health, in the Culture Ministry's Lab in Athens.

An employee of Culture Ministry places a copy at the warehouse of the Lab in Athens. A team of about 50 fine arts graduates works on a range of sculptures, from a 3-inch hare from Roman-era Macedonia to a 7-foot statue of Zeus, or Poseidon, made in the mid-5th century B.C.



# Workshop recreates ancient masterpieces

BY THANASSIS STAVRAKIS  
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — It might be the closest an artist can get to time travel: Painstakingly recreating the sculptures of Greece's ancient masters.

A group of artists working for Athens' Culture Ministry has the exclusive right to make the officially certified copies, which are meant for sale in Greek museum shops.

"The standard is very high. And every artist tries to emulate what was done by the artist in ancient times," supervisor Stelios Gavalas, a sculptor by training, told The Associated Press. "For us, it is a very big honor to have daily contact with works of the great artists of antiquity."

The team of about 50 fine arts graduates works on a range of sculptures, from a 3-inch hare from Roman-era Macedonia to a 7-foot statue of Zeus, or Poseidon, made in the mid-5th century B.C. and one of the star exhibits of the National Archaeological Museum in Athens.

All are full scale, made out of plaster in molds and painstakingly

handpainted to match the hues of the original piece, be it metal, marble, clay or even ivory. Plaster is used because it doesn't shrink while drying, unlike other materials such as resin, and allows reproductions that are completely accurate in size.

Casts are made in the museums where the originals are kept, and the ensuing molds are stored in the workshop, together with more than a thousand prototype copies, some dating from the late 19th century.

Each reproduction can take days to complete, with the mid-5th century B.C. Zeus, or Poseidon, requiring nearly two months from beginning to end, including the time required for the plaster to dry. That copy sits near the top of the price range, costing \$3,700.

For the time being, the copies can only be bought at major museums and archaeological sites. The proceeds are meant to help fund Greek archaeology and conservation projects.

Culture Minister Lydia Konioridou promised at a recent news conference that by the summer they will also be available for online purchase.

*Danny Johnson Jr.*



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# Vietnam veterans recall all-female Tet Offensive squad

BY HAU DINH  
Associated Press

HUE, Vietnam — As a 19-year-old scout and spy for the communist forces in South Vietnam, Hoang Thi No remembers the determination and spirit of her 11-member team of young women who took part in the audacious Tet Offensive that turned the tide of the Vietnam War 50 years ago.

"If we didn't fight the enemy, they would destroy us all," she said. "We were young and weren't afraid. ... Once we had a strong ideology, we could do anything."

Her unit was known as the Perfume River Squad for the river that runs through Hue, Vietnam's cultural capital and third biggest city. Four of them died in the fighting that raged through the city for most of that February; two died later in the war.

They were part of a mobilization of as many as 80,000 fighters — regular soldiers from Communist North Vietnam, guerrillas of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, known as Viet Cong, and village militia — who launched virtually simultaneous surprise attacks on more than 100 cities, towns and U.S. military bases in South Vietnam the early morning hours of Jan. 31, 1968.

Official U.S. statistics for a month of fighting put the death toll at more than 58,000 enemy combatants, 3,995 American soldiers and 4,954 allied South Vietnamese troops plus 14,300 civilians.

"Psychologically, the war turned against the Americans at that point," said Alan Dawson, at the time a 26-year-old U.S. Army journalist in South Vietnam. "That attack in the Tet Offensive was real-

ly the moment that the final outcome of the war was decided to the communist advantage."

After an initial period of chaos, U.S. and South Vietnamese forces rallied to overwhelm the communist attackers, largely through the use of superior firepower.

Had the offensive been nipped in the bud everywhere, it might have been more clearly recognized as a major military defeat for the communists. But the tenacious Vietnamese guerrillas in Hue held out for about a month, helped by the work of the Perfume River Squad.

"Our duties were to enter the city to get information of movements and important locations of the enemy," No said. "We also mobilized local people to support the revolutionary forces by stocking up food and digging secret trenches and tunnels, getting ready for the fight. When the offensive started, we guided our major forces to various top important locations to fight the U.S. Army in Hue city."

On Wednesday, No joined her comrades in Hue in marking the anniversary of the offensive with speeches and patriotic songs.

No suffers from a thyroid condition that doctors attribute to contact with Agent Orange, the herbicide that U.S. warplanes sprayed over large parts of Vietnam to try to deprive the communist forces of jungle cover.

The veterans, mostly in their 70s and 80s and some wearing their combat medals, looked happy just to get together, chatting in the hallways before the formalities, laughing as they shared wartime stories and posed for group photos taken with their smartphones. The hall where

they were meeting was about a half a mile from Hue's famous Citadel, scene of the fiercest fighting, whose walls are still pockmarked with bullet holes among the moss.

Communist military planners of the Tet Offensive had hoped their attacks would incite a popular uprising to upset the balance in what had become a very costly and increasingly conventional war since the escalation of the U.S. military presence in 1965.

They also believed that a show of strength would weaken American political will, which they were well aware was wilting under pressure from anti-war sentiment back home.

Seeking to maximize psychological impact, they targeted high-profile targets in Saigon, the South Vietnamese capital now called Ho Chi Minh City. They included the Presidential Palace, Tan Son Nhut air base and most dramatically the U.S. Embassy, where sappers penetrated the outer perimeter but were shot down before they could get to the main building.

Dawson said the Americans and South Vietnamese knew an attack was coming, but didn't understand the scope of it. "The Viet Cong, for example, smuggled weapons into Saigon by the thousands; rifles, grenades, that kind of thing, including even in mock funerals they had, and they got the weapons in coffins into Saigon."

U.S. Marines spearheaded an allied effort to clear the communists in bitter house-to-house fighting in which neither side paid much heed to the safety of civilians. Dramatic footage of the harrowing fighting dominated U.S. television coverage, with devastating political effect. In March, embattled U.S. Presi-



Veteran spy Hoang Thi No holds up a photo of the all-female "Perfume River Squad" in Hue, Vietnam.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

dent Lyndon Johnson announced he would not run for another term and put limitations on bombing as a prelude to peace talks.

The fighting dragged on for

seven more years, fueling U.S. street protests and convulsing American politics, before the North prevailed and the last Americans evacuated in 1975.

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# OPINION

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## COMMENTARY

# Resistance needs to get out of the way of prosperity

As I write this, it's Friday, Groundhog Day. Therefore, I'm using this space to pay tribute to groundhogs in the hope they will get out of their holes and bring us an early spring and get us through this endless winter. Enough with cold. Spring can't come soon enough.

At the moment, about all we can look forward to is the continuing comedy show in Washington known as the Democratic Party of Chucky Schumer, Nancy Pelosi, Adam Schiff and Maxine Waters and the Congressional Black Caucus that sat on their hands while President Trump was delivering his State of the Union address to the American people, all with sour expressions on their faces, as though a foul odor was in the room. Maybe it was coming from Pelosi's halitosis as she kept pursing her lips and grimacing as the Trumpster presented a positive and inspiring message to the people.

These killjoys in Congress get indigestion when tax cuts, immigration reform and the strength-

ening of our military and security of our borders is brought to the table by our president; not to mention less onerous regulations on all businesses, large and small. What's wrong with that?

Yes, the left in the country just can't stand any opportunities for growth and prosperity. Meanwhile, the American people, the forgotten middle class, are taking

matters in their own hands and running "The Gong Show" by serving notice on the so-called ruling class that those who hold political office are employees, not rulers. The American Revolution and the First Amendment took care of that long ago.

Business is good in America at this moment — wages and bonuses are

going up and optimism is high. The country is in no mood right now to go back to whatever the future was presented to us by the woeful Obama regime. America wants full participation in the looming peace and prosperity within our grasp. That's as long as the professional politicians and "The Resistance" get out of the way.



**Hubert D. Osteen Jr.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### LETTER SHOULD HAVE INCLUDED WHOLE QUOTE

It's unfortunate that the recent letter you published titled "Clyburn's Nazi comments were disgusting" fails to quote any of what U.S. Rep. Clyburn actually said, causing it to be misleading. A recent article in *The State* written by Bristow Merchant brought me up to speed on what the congressman is reported to actually have said. According to *The State's* article, U.S. Rep. Clyburn made the following remarks to CNN host Don Lemon: "I can only equate one period of time with what we experience now, and that was what was going on in Germany around 1934, right after the 1932 elections when Adolph Hitler was elected Chancellor." The words "right after the elections" are key since much worse things were yet to follow. He goes on to say "He began to do things to discredit the media, to disrupt the judicial system." But when host Lemon responded "You know that's a stark comparison," Rep. Clyburn backed off and said the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini was a better comparison and that Russian President Putin could be Hitler.

One can argue that the congressman's comments were a bit over the top, but he bravely gave voice to what many are sensing and fearing about the current administration.

When attacking someone's words in a newspaper, I think it's important to quote those words which this misleading letter fails to do. But it's the author's constitutional right to pen such a letter and your right to publish it as well as my right to comment on it.

If President Trump were to get his way and see that tougher libel laws are enacted, the letter's author and your paper could see this right eroded if not lost as did the citizens of Germany "right after the elections ..."

WILLIAM Q. BRUNSON  
*New York (formerly of Sumter)*

### DEMOCRATS BEING PAID TO SIT AND DEFY TRUMP

I find it amusing, if not downright hysterical, that the Democrats can get on TV and down-

right lie about President Trump. I guess in their simple minds, they don't understand this, they are just on a mission to downplay anything, and I mean ANYTHING that Trump tries to put forward as president. These "lawmakers" were voted for and are being paid a very nice salary just to sit and defy Trump at every turn. One of these days, maybe these people who vote Democrat will wake up and realize the people they voted for don't give one single solitary damn about their constituents. Except every other year, that is. I noticed during the State of the Union Tuesday night that the Democrats did a lot of sitting. Oh, there was a time or two "some" stood, but for the most part, they remained seated. Poor old Bernie was seen clapping. Clapping like he was in the gallery of the Masters golf tournament. Then they showed a shot of Nancy Pelosi. The woman looked so bored. She was either having denture problems, or was daydreaming about being some old heifer out in the pasture chewing her cud. Then there was old Chuck Schumer. He looked like he could have used a double dose of Ex-Lax. Kinda makes me wonder what Maxine Waters was doing, considering she thought she was too good to actually show up. She hates "fah-ty fi" with a passion, you know... All kidding aside, the Democrats showed their true colors AGAIN Tuesday night by not standing during certain mentions. You know, how the unemployment rates for African Americans being at the lowest point in 50+ years (something Obama tried for eight years, but steadily got worse), the economy being good and getting better, the stock market breaking records on an almost daily basis. All these things, and more, that Democrats DON'T want, because they would rather have you rely on the government for everything. (Oh, almost forgot this: to keep you voting Democrat, because those mean Republicans want to take away everything.) They say that Democrats belong to the old jackass party. Now I understand why.

DENNIS E. VICKERS  
*Wedgfield*



"BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT IS LOW, STOCKS AT RECORD HIGHS, WOMEN CAN DRIVE IN SAUDI ARABIA, HOUSTON ASTROS WON THEIR FIRST WORLD SERIES - AW, C'MON PEOPLE! - 'ZOOTOPIA' WON BEST ANIMATED FEATURE, CRIME IS DOWN..."

## COMMENTARY

# Can Trump sustain newfound aura of gravitas after speech?

WASHINGTON — It was a good speech.

Calm down. I said good.

Despite talking for an hour and 20 minutes, the longest speech since Bill Clinton's much-mocked 2000 stem-winder, Donald Trump's first State of the Union address did exactly what it needed to do: nothing.

It wasn't strident; it wasn't provocative; it wasn't alienating; it wasn't retributive; it wasn't divisive — except to Democrats who would have sneered in disgust even if he'd said, "I'm sorry for all the ridiculous, mean things I've said the past year."

All disclaimers and critiques aside, there's a rule known to all public speakers: People don't remember what you say; they remember how you make them feel. Only journalists, pundits, politicians, professors and speechwriters will closely examine the content of the president's speech. The rest of America, to the extent they watched the speech at all, will have gone to bed thinking, "Gosh, he was surprisingly good. Maybe there's hope after all."

Listening to post-mortems on television Wednesday morning, I was struck by the consensus that Trump sowed division in his address to the nation. I even heard words such as "horrifying" to describe certain aspects. I'm thinking: You don't know the American people.

The crux of most of the criticism was that Trump gave a speech encouraging unity while doing the opposite. By this they meant he invoked several hot-button issues, such as the "take a knee" movement and the violence of the Salvadoran gang MS-13.

Both of these references among a smattering of others were strictly gratuitous and meant, presumably, to bestir the base. But when compared with the fire and brimstone of his inaugural address, these represent relatively minor flaws. Indeed, most Americans do prefer that people show respect for the national anthem by standing, and they are fearful of the potential for violent characters to cross the border without enhanced security.

To Democratic ears, of course, Trump was fear-mongering and race-baiting, which, while not unprecedented, seems nearly as gratuitous a reaction. This was underscored when Democratic Rep. Joe Kennedy III, during his State of the Union response, intoned: "Vamos a luchar por ustedes" (We're going to fight for you).

Otherwise, it is only reasonable that the president cited laudable benchmarks — economic progress, surging markets (notwithstanding Tuesday's brief plum-

met) and greater business confidence. Noteworthy are recent stories about people who, through one retirement plan or another, are feeling friskier these days. Fidelity recently reported that the average annual return for 401(k)s hit 15.7 percent by the third quarter of 2017.

None of these tidings erase errors of Trump's first year in office or the negative effects of his often-mean-spirited rhetoric. Nor does it alter the realities of the ongoing Russia investigation or the administration's general dysfunction. Nor am I inclined to redact the many critical columns I've written.

But it was a good speech.

A more complete and fairer appraisal would note that Trump also said plenty to engage the other side of the aisle, including a \$1.5 trillion infrastructure proposal and a path to citizenship for 1.8 million immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children, also known as "Dreamers." Naturally, one of the first things to pop up Wednesday morning when you Googled "SOTU and immigration" was that David Duke praised the president for his line, "Americans are dreamers, too." Please. Who cares what David Duke thinks or says?

And by the way, Trump didn't begin his day Wednesday by tweeting. Wait. Let me rephrase that: THE PRESIDENT DIDN'T TWEET!!! OMG!

Not to jump the gun — or the shark — but, prematurely speaking, it would seem that Trump has turned a corner. Overall, his address to Congress was conciliatory in tone; his morning after was free of the usual rant aimed at someone he doesn't like; and his speech, for all the harumphing in the usual corners, made no matters worse.

It's a low bar, I'll concede, but in a word, he seemed "normal." Is this a new Trump? Can he sustain Tuesday night's aura of gravitas? Can he just-not-be-weird for a while? As in, no more taunting North Korea, no more slamming critics, no more "fake news," and for pity's sake, no more strategic firings. If I may suggest a mantra: I will not fire Robert Mueller; I will not fire Robert Mueller; I will not fire Robert Mueller.

My fingers keep stabbing the keyboard to write: *Don't hold your breath.* But a more productive observation is to say what is, in fact, true: It was a good speech, Mr. President. Congratulations. You made us feel less crazed. And that, too, is good.

Kathleen Parker's email address is [kathleenparker@washpost.com](mailto:kathleenparker@washpost.com).

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**Kathleen Parker**

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PHOTOS BY MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM  
**ABOVE:** Kaela Fleming takes her son, Mason, out of his high chair. Kaela adopted Mason and his sibling Nolan.

**LEFT:** Siblings Nolan, 1, Lexi, 6, and Mason, 2, were adopted after they were removed from the custody of their biological parents about two years ago. Lexi was adopted by Kaela's parents, Eddie and Allena Fleming.

## ADOPTION FROM PAGE A1

another family member in South Carolina.

About one year into the kinship program, the Flemings decided to foster the children with the intention to adopt because their parents did not comply with DSS rules.

"How can you say no to that," Allena said, "after a year of loving them."

It would have been hard to raise them from when they were very little and then give them to someone else, Kaela said. And to move Mason would mean to take him away from everything he knew, she said.

During the foster-to-adopt process, the Flemings found out the children's mother was pregnant with her fifth child, Nolan, who was also taken in by Kaela.

He tested positive for four drugs when he was born, she said.

Though she hadn't made concrete plans for herself at this age, 31, Kaela is happy with how everything has turned out.

"I go with what is presented at the moment," she said. "If I had a set plan, I might not have had the opportunity to take them in."

Like her fellow officers, Kaela works 12-hour shifts and alternates between working nights all while raising two young children as a single mother.

"We're proud of Kaela," Allena said about her daughter taking on the added responsibility along with her oath to protect and serve.

For a while, the Flemings all lived together until Kaela and the boys moved into a place of their own a few weeks ago.

The children still see each other

during the day when Eddie and Allena watch the boys while Kaela is at work.

"They're together every single day," Allena said.

Though it was a victory to keep the children together, the first year or so together was a bit difficult because the children were not in good condition when they were removed from their parents' care.

Mason and Nolan went through withdrawals, and Lexi was malnourished and had behavioral issues, Kaela said.

Lexi — who began staying with the Flemings at the age of 3 — couldn't be in a restaurant for more than 15 minutes before she had to be taken outside, Allena said.

She was so far behind that she needed assistance through school and DSS programs for her behavior and speech, Eddie said. Being in a secure home really helped Lexi to blossom, he said.

Now Lexi is in 5K, loves school and is doing very well, Allena said.

Life for Allena and Eddie was also changed because they had to readjust to raising a small child after living in an empty nest for years.

"We went from grandparents to parents all over again," Allena said. She and her husband have three grandsons.

After child-proofing the house and getting back in the mindset of raising an elementary school student, Eddie and Allena said they are still satisfied with their decision.

"It's been a blessing," Allena said, "and we always know we're doing the right thing."



Eddie Fleming lifts his grandson, Nolan, who was adopted by his daughter, Kaela.

## FLU FROM PAGE A1

infant has been released, said Katie Geer, communications coordinator for the hospital.

DHEC has recorded 17,894 cases of the flu — 17,526 positive rapid antigen detection tests and 368 lab-confirmed tests — reported from 46 counties in South Carolina. Sumter County has had 158.

That marks a 25.4 percent increase in the additional 3,621 cases from the previous week.

There have been 59,425 cases of the flu in the state this season. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's July 1, 2017 population estimate, that is 1.2 percent of the state's 5 million-plus population.

South Carolina is seeing 15.45 percent of visits to sentinel providers are for an influenza-like illness. The baseline is 3.13 percent, according to DHEC.

"The majority of our schools have reported an increase in absences due to illnesses, but no schools in Sumter School District have been closed due to the flu," said Shelly Galloway, spokeswoman for the public school system.

Schools are required to notify DHEC when either 10 percent or more of the total student enrollment is absent on a given day "for reasons not otherwise specified," meaning the absence is not attributed to vacation, a sporting event, inclement

weather, etc., or 20 percent or more students are absent or sent home on a given day "in a cohort," meaning one classroom, sports team or other epidemiologically linked group, because of the flu.

Galloway said on Thursday that three schools reported they reached a total of 10 percent, and two reported a cohort that reached 20 percent.

She said schools reaching that level — all elementary schools — are not all attributed to the flu and that the DHEC notification is simply the first step in the process. Now they will look into the reasons for the absences. Attendance numbers fluctuate daily, and while the district is monitoring each school, there is no indication yet they need to be closed.

"Schools will only be closed due to a recommendation by DHEC when the illness reaches a status of pandemic," Galloway said.

Galloway said parents are given information at the beginning of the school year telling them not to send their children to school if they have an influenza-like illness — a temperature of 100 degrees or more with a cough and/or sore throat for which there is no other cause.

"Our schools are disinfected daily according to guidelines from the [Centers for Disease Control]," she said.

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## 2018 Initial Sermon Calendar

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Sis. Cheryl Graham





Sis. Sylestine Simmons

**Wednesday, February 14th**



Sis. Maria Newton-Ta'Bon





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- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY

- Charity Event \_\_\_\_\_
- Church \_\_\_\_\_
- Civic Club \_\_\_\_\_
- Community Event \_\_\_\_\_
- Library \_\_\_\_\_
- Networking Group \_\_\_\_\_
- Non-Profit Organization \_\_\_\_\_
- Park \_\_\_\_\_
- Place for Kids to Have Fun \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_
- Sports Leagues \_\_\_\_\_
- Summer Camp \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_
- Photographer \_\_\_\_\_
- Plumber \_\_\_\_\_
- Private Investigator \_\_\_\_\_
- Real Estate Agent \_\_\_\_\_
- Real Estate Closing Attorney \_\_\_\_\_
- Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_
- Wedding Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION BALLOT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off or mail to:  
 ATTN: BALLOTS  
 PO Box 1677  
 36 W. Liberty Street  
 Sumter, SC 29151

## THE BIGGEST. BEST OF. EVER.

The Scoop on BEST OF SUMTER 2018:

1. VOTE DAILY at [TheItem.com/BestOf](http://TheItem.com/BestOf) OR vote through your print ballot. Deadline for voting is February 28.
2. Winners with the most votes will be announced in The Sumter Item's glossy BEST OF SUMTER magazine in April.
3. Winners will receive a BEST OF SUMTER window cling and framed photo recognition.
4. Winners will be invited to attend a BEST OF SUMTER event!

To promote your favorite business throughout the contest, contact your Item sales representative or [marketing@theitem.com](mailto:marketing@theitem.com).

FYI

**Palmetto Health Tuomey Hospice is in need of volunteers.** A volunteer application can be found online at [www.palmettohealth.org/giving/volunteer-programs/homecare-and-hospicevolunteers](http://www.palmettohealth.org/giving/volunteer-programs/homecare-and-hospicevolunteers). Volunteers are needed for both direct patient care and administrative duties. Call Karen Johnson, Palmetto Health Tuomey Hospice volunteer coordinator, at (803) 773-4663.

**Make-A-Wish South Carolina is seeking volunteers** to help make wishes come true for children across the state. Bilingual volunteers are especially needed. Interest webinars are offered at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. Preregistration is required. Contact Brennan Brown at [bbrown@sc.wish.org](mailto:bbrown@sc.wish.org) or (864) 250-0702 extension 112 to register or begin the application process.

**Hospice Care of Sumter LLC is in need of volunteers** in Sumter and surrounding counties. Opportunities available for you to use your time and talents to be of assistance include reading, musical talents, companionship, light housekeeping, etc. Call (803) 883-5606 or [hospicecareofsumter@yahoo.com](mailto:hospicecareofsumter@yahoo.com).

**Agape Hospice is in need of volunteers.** Whether your passion is baking, knitting, reading, singing, etc., Agape Hospice can find a place for you. Contact Thandi Blanding at (803) 774-1075, (803) 260-3876 or [tblanding@agapsenior.com](mailto:tblanding@agapsenior.com).

**ROAD TO RECOVERY is in need of volunteers** in the Sumter area. The program provides cancer patients with transportation to and from treatments. Call the American Cancer Society at (803) 750-1693.

PUBLIC AGENDA

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS BOARD MEETING**  
Monday, 5:30 p.m., Sumter Sheriff's Office conference room

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

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

**TOWN OF LYNCHBURG PLANNING COMMISSION**  
Wednesday, 4 p.m., town hall

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): You'll convince others to participate in

going over budget. Overspending to keep up with someone else will lead to debt and stress.

causes and concerns you believe in. Honesty and sincerity will make an impression on someone in a position to help you turn your ideas and plans into a reality. Love is highlighted.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Plan to have fun with the people you enjoy most. Don't feel like you have to pay for others. Make suggestions that are affordable to everyone you want to hang out with. Personal improvements or updates look promising.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Observation will be in your best interest. Learn from what you see and hear, and you'll figure out the best way to use your experience to help you overcome uncertainty or confusion. Take care of responsibilities quickly and you'll dismiss complaints.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Intuitive intelligence will be required if you don't want to make a mistake or misjudge a situation. Listen carefully and share your thoughts and feelings openly, and you will find a solution to whatever obstacle comes your way.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Look for an opportunity that will help you move in a direction that gives you a better chance to excel. Consider new ways to use your skills that are more conducive to the current trends. Personal improvements are encouraged.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): High energy and a will to win will lead to success. Don't let negativity throw you off course or cause you to doubt your capabilities. Love and romance are encouraged and will improve your day.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You will accomplish the most if you're organized. Preparation and listening to what others have to contribute will make your life easier. Don't let stubbornness stand between you and victory. Expand your mind, interests and friendships.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have a difficult time making up your mind when it comes to emotional matters. Don't limit what you can do because you are rigid or walk away from someone special because you're unwilling to compromise.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): A day trip with someone you love will give you a chance to discuss your future plans and to make decisions regarding the best way to alter your personal lives in order to save time and money. Romance is highlighted.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your personal life and friendships in perspective. Walk away from persuasive people who are tempting you to get involved in situations that aren't in your best interest. Focus on personal growth and romance.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Personal gains and improvements are highlighted. Getting what you want for the right price will be far more satisfying than paying top dollar or

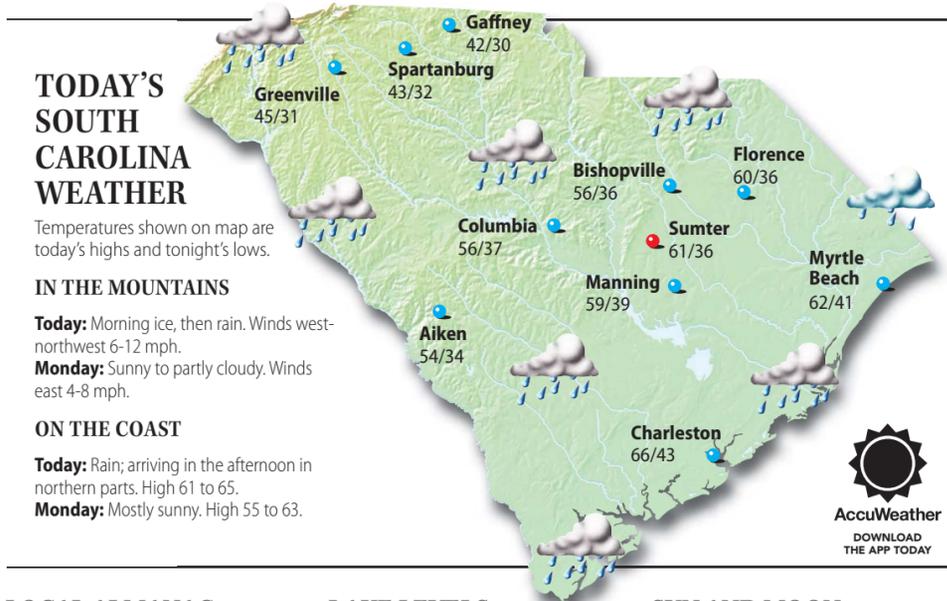
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Watch what others do and consider whether you want to get involved. Time is on your side, so don't feel the need to make a hasty decision even if someone is pressuring you to do so.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
61°	36°	57° / 30°	65° / 45°	70° / 50°	59° / 34°
Chance of rain: 100%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 60%
SSE 7-14 mph	WNW 4-8 mph	N 4-8 mph	SSE 4-8 mph	S 8-16 mph	NNE 7-14 mph



TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

**Today:** Morning ice, then rain. Winds west-northwest 6-12 mph.

**Monday:** Sunny to partly cloudy. Winds east 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

**Today:** Rain; arriving in the afternoon in northern parts. High 61 to 65.

**Monday:** Mostly sunny. High 55 to 63.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

**Temperature**

High	43°
Low	28°
Normal high	56°
Normal low	33°
Record high	80° in 1989
Record low	19° in 1977

**Precipitation**

24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date	0.08"
Normal month to date	0.36"
Year to date	2.12"
Last year to date	4.65"
Normal year to date	4.30"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	354.84	+0.20
Marion	76.8	74.28	+0.20
Moultrie	75.5	74.08	none
Wateree	100	97.10	-0.28

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	9.23	+0.21
Congaree River	19	3.80	none
Lynches River	14	8.09	+0.32
Saluda River	14	3.57	-0.01
Up. Santee River	80	78.24	-0.59
Wateree River	24	12.05	-0.19

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise 7:17 a.m. Sunset 5:55 p.m.  
Moonrise 10:37 p.m. Moonset 10:06 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Feb. 7	Feb. 15	Feb. 23	Mar. 1

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	12:00 p.m.	3.2	6:27 a.m.	-0.6
	---	---	6:55 p.m.	-0.4
Mon.	12:35 a.m.	3.0	7:19 a.m.	-0.2
	12:47 p.m.	2.9	7:43 p.m.	-0.1

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	54/34/r	51/36/s
Chicago	27/3/sn	21/6/sn
Dallas	71/38/pc	61/55/pc
Detroit	36/7/sn	23/15/pc
Houston	71/54/c	63/59/c
Los Angeles	81/56/s	74/54/pc
New Orleans	72/48/r	64/55/pc
New York	45/32/r	36/25/s
Orlando	79/60/t	73/53/pc
Philadelphia	46/30/r	35/23/s
Phoenix	81/53/s	80/53/s
San Francisco	70/51/pc	66/51/s
Wash., DC	42/30/r	37/26/s

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	49/27/r	44/28/pc	Florence	60/36/r	53/28/s
Athens	48/34/r	55/30/s	Gainesville	71/52/t	70/43/s
Augusta	58/36/r	58/31/s	Gastonia	44/31/r	50/27/s
Beaufort	65/43/r	63/42/s	Goldensboro	62/37/r	52/26/s
Cape Hatteras	58/44/r	45/34/s	Goose Creek	65/43/r	59/37/s
Charleston	66/43/r	60/39/s	Greensboro	41/28/r	42/25/s
Charlotte	44/31/r	49/27/s	Greenville	45/31/r	50/30/s
Clemson	46/33/r	51/32/s	Hickory	42/33/r	45/26/s
Columbia	56/37/r	56/31/s	Hilton Head	63/45/r	59/42/s
Darlington	57/36/r	52/27/s	Jacksonville, FL	73/50/t	66/45/s
Elizabeth City	60/38/r	46/29/s	La Grange	59/36/r	56/33/s
Elizabethtown	60/39/r	51/27/s	Macon	61/38/r	58/33/s
Fayetteville	59/35/r	50/26/s	Marietta	53/31/r	51/32/s
Marion	45/28/r	46/25/pc			
Mt. Pleasant	65/45/r	59/40/s			
Myrtle Beach	62/41/r	55/36/s			
Orangeburg	59/39/r	56/33/s			
Port Royal	64/46/r	60/43/s			
Raleigh	52/31/r	45/25/s			
Rock Hill	45/31/r	50/27/s			
Rockingham	52/34/r	49/24/s			
Savannah	68/43/r	64/42/s			
Spartanburg	43/32/r	50/30/s			
Summerville	64/42/r	58/35/s			
Wilmington	63/40/r	54/30/s			
Winston-Salem	41/31/r	43/27/s			

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

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

**THINK A HEAD: Explained at 128**  
Across  
By Gail Grabowski

**ACROSS**  
1 Public persona  
6 Purported UFO fliers  
9 Boxer's garb  
13 Flower part  
18 Take a break  
19 Monotonous routine  
20 Novelist Wharton  
22 Spiritually enlighten  
23 Pop music superstar  
25 "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" singer  
27 Gotten illegally  
28 Arctic ice sheets  
30 Well-used pencil  
31 Flock mom  
32 Prefix meaning "outer"  
34 Pension law acronym  
36 Director Kazan  
38 Hole-punching tool

41 Capote nickname  
42 Australian-born media mogul  
47 Floral garland  
48 Make one's move  
50 Radial on a Rolls  
51 The \_\_\_ Lama  
52 Mythical wife of Hades  
57 Desert caravan stops  
60 Square-corner shape  
61 Elbowroom  
62 Antidrug cop  
64 Rolled sandwich  
65 The Big Easy, familiarly  
66 Source of metal  
68 Where surfers shop  
70 Ship-in-a-bottle builder, e.g.  
72 The Little Prince author  
78 Peanuts, so to speak  
79 Swiss mathematician

80 Word of support  
81 Crafts website  
82 Home of an Ibsen Museum  
85 Traditional Indian wedding dress  
86 Admission of defeat  
90 Gov. Cuomo's domain  
91 Manipulate, as bread dough  
92 Renaissance astronomer  
95 Linen fabric  
97 Talk like Daffy Duck  
100 \_\_\_-pitch softball  
101 Sewn edge  
102 Patron saint of California  
107 Family nickname  
109 Suffix for verb  
110 Reason d'  
111 Fall behind  
112 Vertical transportation giant  
114 Mule's sire  
117 '50s phone feature  
119 Venomous snake  
121 Fill a hotel closet

125 Israeli Peace Nobel  
128 A head, and an alternate puzzle title  
130 Author of legal thrillers  
131 Nocturnal noise  
132 Animal enclosure  
133 Hoist  
134 Stew ingredient  
135 Thomas Hardy heroine  
136 Lets pass  
137 Cabinet department

**DOWN**  
1 Annoys  
2 Possible ravioli filling  
3 Choral part  
4 Country singer  
5 Common likely  
6 Miscalculate  
7 Stomping ground  
8 Salon appliance  
9 Proof of purchase  
10 Extended adventure  
11 Recycling receptacle  
12 Timetable listings: Abbr.  
13 Pelicans and petrels  
14 End of USC's URL  
15 Water carrier  
16 Not many  
17 Stringed instrument of old  
21 Boxing spectator's shout  
24 Box in  
26 Remarkable thing  
29 Tulsa sch.  
33 Response to a sting  
35 Directional symbol  
37 Org. producing flossing videos  
38 Chalet backdrop  
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CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 2/4/18

43 Show sadness, with "up"  
44 Bullfight chant  
45 Square dance figure  
46 Two-Oscar Swank  
49 In great shape  
53 Toon dog, familiarly  
54 Chill-inducing  
55 Roster entry  
56 Wipe clean  
58 Aforementioned  
59 Strong adhesive  
63 Santa \_\_\_  
65 Kathmandu native  
67 Ill-fated energy giant  
69 Pastel purple  
71 Scheduled to arrive  
72 Will Smith, in Men in Black

73 "I'd prefer someone else"  
74 Add as an extra  
75 Latin being  
76 Infamous employer  
77 Getaways  
83 Composer  
84 Keats or Shelley  
87 Cuatro doubled  
88 Files litigation  
89 Edward's adoptive mother in Twilight  
91 Muffled  
93 Giggling Muppet  
94 Dislodge with a hoe  
96 Tell it like it isn't  
98 Data-sharing computers  
99 Commends

103 Shillelagh land  
104 Harvests  
105 Fabric flaw  
106 Syrian city  
108 66 Across extractor  
113 Dieter of rhyme  
114 Regarding  
115 Steer clear of  
116 Apple Watch assistant  
118 Provided short-term  
120 Unpleasant aroma  
122 It's west of the Pacific  
123 Amount to  
124 Limb bender  
126 Sound on MacDonald's farm  
127 Sushi bar eggs  
129 Colleagues of MDS

ERISA (34 Across), short for the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, establishes minimum standards for private pension plans. ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY (72 Across) was an eminent aviator before he published The Little Prince in 1943. The LYRE (17 Down) is the oldest known stringed instrument; lyres over 4,500 years old were found in Iraq circa 1930.

SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

**CROSSWORD**

S	H	E	A	F	S	A	Q	I	U	B	E	R		
H	U	D	D	L	E	B	A	S	S	N	O	T	E	
O	R	D	A	I	N	A	N	T	I	D	O	T	E	
O	L	M	P	I	C	A	T	H	L	E	T	E		
			S	P	O	T	A	M	E	R				
A	C	H	I	R	E	S	U	N	B	E	L	T		
C	H	A	I	N	S	A	W	S	T	O	G	I	E	
C	L	I	N	G	M	I	A	M	S	D	O	S		
T	O	R	A	H	S	T	R	E	A	S	O	N	S	
S	E	Y	M	O	U	R	R	A	J	N	S	A		
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SUDOKU

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

JUMBLE

ANNEX DIRTY LAPTOP MURMUR  
When the giant animals argued over bamboo, the result was — "PANDA-MONIUM"

**SUPER BOWL 52**

# Destiny versus dynasty

## Eagles have the right formula to pull off upset

**BY ROB MAADDI**  
The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — The best formula for success against the New England Patriots is to keep Tom Brady on the sideline and harass him when he's on the field.

That's not a news flash. But the good news for Eagles fans and everyone rooting against Brady, Bill Belichick and the Patriots in Sunday's Super Bowl is that Philadelphia has the ingredients to do it.

The Eagles (15-3) have a multidimensional, ball-control offense capa-

ble of chewing the clock and forcing No. 12 to be a spectator.

Jay Ajayi, former Patriots running back LeGarrette Blount and Corey Clement led the NFL's third-best rushing offense and the Eagles were first in time of possession.

"You have to stay patient and diligent there," Eagles coach Doug Pederson said. "That's something we've been able to do all season long. It's something we stay committed to."

This isn't an old-school, ground-and-pound offense, either.

SEE **EAGLES**, PAGE B6

## Brady and numbers point to another Patriots win

**BY KYLE HIGHTOWER**  
The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — Even if numbers occasionally lie, most of them indicate the New England Patriots are in great position to hoist a sixth Lombardi Trophy.

The reasons begin in the only place they could: with Tom Brady.

Yes, at 40 years old Brady would be the oldest quarterback to win a Super Bowl if the Patriots beat the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday. He would dethrone Peyton Manning, who won at age 39 with the Denver

Broncos to cap the 2015 season.

Brady has put up numbers in his 18th season unmatched by any player in NFL history. He led the league with 4,577 yards passing during the regular season and his five touchdown passes are tied for the most in the playoffs.

Brady's seven Super Bowl appearances are as many as the entire Eagles roster. He's faced a myriad of difficult scenarios in the championship game, including last year's 25-point hole the Patriots dug out of to beat the Falcons.

Brady won that one without tight end Rob Gronkowski, who will be in

**PREP BASKETBALL**

# Gators defend Swamp

## Lakewood pulls off 58-51 overtime win over Knights

**BY EDDIE LITAKER**  
Special to The Sumter Item

With the television cameras of WACH FOX 57 rolling live from The Swamp on Friday and a packed gymnasium that was rocking all night, the varsity boys basketball teams from Lakewood and Crestwood high schools both brought their "A" games in what could be termed an instant classic in the rivalry's history.

It was a game of big runs for both sides that included two ties and nine lead changes before the Knights, still searching for their first Region VI-4A win of the season, took the game to overtime with a Kwaleek Jones three.

Just when it seemed Crestwood had some momentum heading into the extra 4-minute period, Lakewood took charge in OT and managed to finally subdue their Sumter School District rivals 58-51, staying in the driver's seat



Lakewood's Grant Singleton (5) tries to put up a shot over Crestwood's Jared Washington (24) during the Gators' 58-51 overtime win on Friday at The Swamp.

in the race for the region title. The result left the Gators at 14-9 overall and 5-1 in region play while

the Knights fell to 4-17 and 0-7. Both coaches agreed that the TV cameras and raucous atmosphere amped up

the playing level on both sides.

SEE **GATORS**, PAGE B3

**PREP BASKETBALL**

# Big first quarter helps Lady Knights top Lakewood 53-33

**BY DENNIS BRUNSON**  
dennis@theitem.com

The Crestwood High School varsity girls basketball team pitched a shutout in the first quarter of its game against Sumter School District rival Lakewood on Friday at The Swamp.

The Lady Knights dominated with a 16-0 first quarter. After that though, the game leveled out. LHS was never able to pull any closer than 11 points, but never trailed by more than 20. That would be the final score as CHS won on a 53-33 victory.

Crestwood improved to 17-3 on the season and 6-1 in Region VI-4A. The Lady Gators dropped to 8-9 and 2-4.

The Lady Knights, coming off a 65-63 loss to Hartsville in which they allowed 46 second-half points, swarmed over Lakewood defensively in the first quarter. There was a rea-

son for that. "We really put a lot of emphasis on defense in practice (on Wednesday and Thursday)," said first-year CHS head coach Larry Crosby. "We needed to play better on defense, and this gave us an opportunity to get better."

Destinee Jamison had six points and Jah'Che Whitfield five for Crestwood in the opening quarter.

During a timeout near the end of the first quarter, LHS head coach Demetress Adams-Ludd could be seen talking passionately to her squad.

"I just challenged them to push themselves, give a better effort and play harder," Adams-Ludd said. "We missed some shots and had some turnovers, and you have to give Crestwood credit for being the team it is. We knew we could play better though."

SEE **KNIGHTS**, PAGE B3



Crestwood's Destinee Jamison (3) puts up a shot during the Lady Knights' 53-33 victory over Lakewood on Friday at The Swamp. Jamison led all scorers with 19 points.



TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

Crestwood's Jah'Che Whitfield goes to the basket for two of her 14 points during the Lady Knights' 53-33 victory over Lakewood on Friday at The Swamp.

## KNIGHTS FROM PAGE B1

The Lady Gators got their first points at the 7:49 mark of the second quarter on a Valencia Croom layup. They got only two other field goals — one from Rahteisha Burgess and another from Treasure Smalls — but hit seven of eight free throws to make it 26-13 at halftime.

“We got in a little bit of foul trouble there in the second quarter,” Crosby said. “We didn’t let up in what we were doing defensively. We had three starters with two fouls and (Lakewood) was able to get some baskets.”

LHS got as close as it would get when Zaria Stephens scored the first basket of the second half to make it 26-15. It would later have a couple of opportunities to pull within 10, but was unable to capitalize.

“That was a little frustrat-

ing,” Adams-Ludd said. “I think that was our youth coming out there. Our girls played hard and gave themselves a chance, but we couldn’t capitalize.”

Crestwood led 41-26 after three quarters and Lakewood never got closer than 13 in the fourth quarter.

Jamison led the Lady Knights with 19 points. Whitfield had 14 and Monijah Lewis had nine.

Burgess led the Lady Gators with 10. Ki’Ari Cain had six.

Crestwood can clinch at least a share of first place in the region with a win over Darlington at home on Tuesday. Lakewood has two road games next week, playing at Lugoff-Elgin on Tuesday and at Darlington on Thursday in a game that was postponed in January due to snow.

## GATORS

FROM PAGE B1

“I told the guys before the game started what kind of atmosphere it was going to be,” said Crestwood head coach Tony Wilson, whose team closes out its season Tuesday at Darlington. “It was like we were on ESPN when I saw the cameras and I saw how electric the crowd was. I told the guys all week that we’ve just got to come out here and play our game, execute what we’ve been practicing and I think we’ll be fine. But I take my hat off to Lakewood, a top team, and I knew that Lakewood was going to come with pressure and they did a good job.”

“I really think that everybody got their money’s worth, anybody that watched it,” said Lakewood head coach Bryan Brown, whose team travels to Lugoff-Elgin Tuesday before closing regular-season play with a make-up game at Darlington next Friday. “It was a great, awesome atmosphere, loud, it kind of reminded me of the old days. It was just an unbelievable atmosphere, and our guys just really persevered through it. It was tough, it was a real tough environment. I didn’t expect them (Crestwood) to play the way that they did, but they did and I think that team has gotten better. My hat goes off to Coach Wilson and his team. Those guys played well tonight, which is what should happen when you’re playing in a rivalry game.”

It was 2-man game for the first 4:42 as Crestwood’s Jones outscored Lakewood’s Ahkeem Lawson 7-6 before Javarius Bradley hit a three to give the Gators their first lead of the game. Jared Washington answered with a bucket to put the Knights back on top, and Crestwood would lead 16-13 heading to the second quarter.

The lead was 18-13 after another Washington basket

to open the second. Lakewood then found the range from beyond the arc as Quentin Hodge drained two threes and Terrell Houston followed with a third consecutive trey, setting off a 16-0 Gator run that included another trey from Grant Singleton. Carl Benjamin connected on a three with 1:25 to go in the half, ending Crestwood’s 6:20 scoring drought and pulling the Knights within eight, 29-21, at the break.

After Lakewood dominated the second quarter, it was Crestwood’s turn in the third as the Knights went on a 15-5 run after a Singleton basket to open the quarter. Bradley scored 10 of his 13 points during the run, including two threes, one of which tied the score, 36-36, with 28 seconds to go. Houston would connect for a three at the buzzer to put Lakewood back up, 39-36, heading to the final quarter of regulation play.

“They came back strong on us,” Brown said. “Usually when you’re in games like this, that third quarter you’re supposed to try to put a team away and we didn’t do it. We had a couple of missed assignments on defense and gave them a couple of easy baskets. They hit a couple of threes in that run and then we ran a little 1-3-1. When we run that defense, of course, we know that we give up 3-pointers. That’s one of the soft spots in it, and they just were able to hit them.”

The fourth period was an edge of your seat nailbiter throughout, with one tie and six lead changes. The lead changed hands on five consecutive possessions before Singleton, in the midst of a personal 12-0 run that carried into overtime, hit two free throws with 18 seconds to go. Singleton, who had gotten a key block just before being fouled, went for a steal with eight seconds to go, but was whistled for his

first foul. Crestwood got an inbound after the foul and managed to find Jones for the game-tying three at the buzzer.

“When they hit that three, I’m going to be honest, I think I made a bad call on that at the end,” Brown said. “We should have been in man-to-man, we were in two. I just wasn’t thinking it was a three. It was a tough call. Great shot by them, I think it was guarded, it’s just that he knocked the shot down. They hit shots tonight. I think that’s the best that they’ve probably played all year, and that’s good. That says that their team has gotten better over the year.”

Both coaches praised the play of Singleton, who led all scorers with 22 points, including two threes and 8 for 8 free-throw shooting. All of Singleton’s free throws came in the fourth quarter and overtime, when the game was truly hanging in the balance.

“He did what we need him to do,” Brown said. “He’s the player that we need to step up. He’s a senior, he’s our best player, he’s our best scorer and we just lean on and depend on him to do that for us in games like this.”

“Grant stepped up for them tonight,” Wilson said. “He got a big block when Nyjeil (Lindsay) went to take the three. He got a big blocked shot, and I feel that Nyjeil would have knocked that shot down. I was proud of the way my guys played tonight, and I told them they’ve got nothing to hang their heads down about. They took a top team like Lakewood to overtime, and the game could have gone either way. I think we sputtered offensively at times but I was so proud of the way that they fought tonight.”

Houston added 14 and Lawson chipped in 11 for Lakewood while Jones joined Bradley with 13 points to pace Crestwood.

## SCOREBOARD

### TV, RADIO

#### TODAY

**8 a.m.** — International Tennis: Davis Cup Match Rubbers 4 and 5 — Serbia vs. United States (TENNIS).  
**9:10 a.m.** — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Newcastle vs. Crystal Palace (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

**9:30 a.m.** — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Eintracht Frankfurt vs. Augsburg (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**11:25 a.m.** — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Liverpool vs. Tottenham (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

**11:50 a.m.** — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Hannover 96 vs. Hamburg (FOX SPORTS 2).  
**Noon** — College Basketball: Seton Hall at Villanova (WACH 57).

**Noon** — College Basketball: Colgate at Navy (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

**Noon** — College Basketball: Georgia Tech at Boston College (ESPN2).

**Noon** — College Basketball: Illinois at Ohio State (FOX SPORTS 1).

**Noon** — Women’s College Basketball: Louisiana State at Kentucky (SEC NETWORK).

**1 p.m.** — College Basketball: Wisconsin at Maryland (WLTX 19).

**1 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Notre Dame at Duke (ESPN2).

**1 p.m.** — NHL Hockey: San Jose at Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).

**1 p.m.** — PGA Golf: Phoenix Open Final Round from Scottsdale, Ariz. (GOLF).

**2 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Oklahoma City (WOL 25).

**2 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Virginia Commonwealth at Dayton (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

**2 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Tennessee at Vanderbilt (ESPN).

**2 p.m.** — Professional Basketball: Euroleague Game — Real Madrid vs. CSKA Moscow (NBA TV).

**2 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Arkansas at Alabama (SEC NETWORK).

**2:30 p.m.** — International Tennis: Davis Cup First-Round Match Day 3 Singles from Marbella, Spain — Spain vs. Great Britain (TENNIS).

**3 p.m.** — PGA Golf: Phoenix Open Final Round from Scottsdale, Ariz. (WLTX 19).

**3 p.m.** — College Basketball: Temple at Tulane (ESPN2).

**3 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Stanford at Oregon (ESPN2).

**3 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Phoenix (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

**4 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: George Mason at St. Joseph’s (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

**4 p.m.** — Women’s College Gymnastics: Oklahoma at UCLA (ESPN).

**4 p.m.** — College Basketball: Arizona State at Washington State (ESPN).

**4 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Auburn at Texas A&M (SEC NETWORK).

**6 p.m.** — NFL Football: Super Bowl LII from Minneapolis — Philadelphia vs. New England (WIS 10, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).

#### MONDAY

**11 a.m.** — Professional Tennis: Ladies European Tour Australian Ladies Masters Third Round from Benowa, Queensland (GOLF).

**1 p.m.** — Professional Tennis: Sofia Open Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).

**3 p.m.** — Professional Tennis: Sofia Open Early-Round Matches and Ecuador Open Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).

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

**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: Bucknell at Lehigh (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

**7 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: South Carolina at Mississippi State (ESPN2, WNKT-FM 107.5).

**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: Hampton at North Carolina Central (ESPN).

**7 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Texas at West Virginia (FOX SPORTS 1).

**7 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Portland at Detroit (NBA TV).

**7 p.m.** — Women’s College Basketball: Florida at Missouri (SEC NETWORK).

**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: West Virginia at Oklahoma (ESPN).

**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Southern at Jackson State (ESPN).

**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Oklahoma at Baylor (FOX SPORTS 1).

**9 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Denver (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

**10:30 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Dallas at Los Angeles Clippers (NBA TV).

## PREP SCHEDULE

#### MONDAY

#### Varsity Basketball

East Clarendon at Green Sea-Floyds, 6 p.m.  
Grace Christian at Sumter Christian (Boys Only), 5 p.m.

#### Varsity and JV Basketball

Timberland at Manning, 4:30 p.m.  
C.E. Murray at Scott’s Branch, 4:30 p.m.

#### Junior Varsity Basketball

Crestwood at Darlington, 6 p.m.  
Lugoff-Elgin at Lakewood, 6 p.m.  
Lee Central at Andrew Jackson, 6 p.m.  
Green Sea-Floyds at East Clarendon, 5:30 p.m.

#### Middle School Basketball

Sumter Middle School Conference Girls Tournament  
Alice Drive at Furman, 5 p.m.  
Bates at Chestnut Oaks, 5 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

#### Varsity Basketball

Darlington at Crestwood, 6 p.m.  
Lakewood at Lugoff-Elgin, 6 p.m.  
Andrew Jackson at Lee Central, 6 p.m.

#### Varsity and JV Basketball

Carolina Forest at Sumter (Boys Only), 6 p.m.  
Sumter at Carolina Forest (Girls Only), 6 p.m.  
Laurence Manning at Cardinal Newman, 4 p.m.  
Thomas Sumter at Calhoun, 4 p.m.  
Palmetto Christian at Robert E. Lee, 4 p.m.

#### B Team Basketball

Orangeburg Prep at Thomas Sumter, 5 p.m.

#### Middle School Basketball

Sumter Middle School Conference Boys Tournament  
Mayewood at Alice Drive, 5 p.m.  
Manning at Chestnut Oaks, 5 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

#### Varsity Basketball

Hannah-Pamplico at East Clarendon, 6 p.m.

#### Varsity and JV Basketball

Hanahan at Manning, 4:30 p.m.  
Heathwood Hall at Wilson Hall, 4 p.m.

#### Junior Varsity Basketball

East Clarendon at Hannah-Pamplico, 5:30 p.m.

#### B Team Basketball

Robert E. Lee at Thomas Sumter, 5 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

#### Varsity Basketball

Lakewood at Darlington, 6 p.m.

#### Varsity and JV Basketball

Sumter at West Florence (Boys Only), 6 p.m.  
West Florence at Sumter (Girls Only), 6 p.m.

#### Junior Varsity Basketball

Wilson Hall at Laurence Manning, 6 p.m.

#### B Team Basketball

Thomas Sumter at Northside Christian, 5 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

#### Varsity Basketball

Wilson Hall at Laurence Manning, 6 p.m.

#### Varsity and JV Basketball

Robert E. Lee at Thomas Sumter, 4 p.m.

#### SATURDAY

#### Middle School Basketball

Sumter Middle School Conference Tournament  
Championship Games  
At Lakewood High School  
Girls, noon  
Boys, 1:30 p.m.

## NFL PLAYOFFS

#### DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday, Jan. 13  
Philadelphia 15, Atlanta 10  
New England 35, Tennessee 14  
Sunday, Jan. 14  
Jacksonville 45, Pittsburgh 42  
Minnesota 29, New Orleans 24

#### CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, Jan. 21  
AFC  
New England 24, Jacksonville 20  
NFC  
Philadelphia 38, Minnesota 7

#### PRO BOWL

Sunday, Jan. 28  
At Orlando, Fla.  
AFC 24, NFC 23

#### SUPER BOWL

Sunday, Feb. 4

At Minneapolis  
New England vs. Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

## NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	38	15	.717	—
Toronto	35	16	.686	2
Philadelphia	25	24	.510	11
New York	23	30	.434	15
Brooklyn	19	34	.358	19

##### Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	29	22	.569	—
Miami	29	23	.558	½
Charlotte	22	29	.431	7
Orlando	15	35	.300	13½
Atlanta	15	37	.288	14½

##### Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	30	20	.600	—
Milwaukee	28	23	.549	2½
Indiana	29	24	.547	2½
Detroit	24	26	.480	6
Chicago	18	34	.346	13

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	37	13	.740	—
San Antonio	34	20	.630	5
New Orleans	28	23	.549	9½
Memphis	18	33	.353	19½
Dallas	16	36	.308	22

##### Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	33	22	.600	—
Oklahoma City	30	23	.566	2
Portland	29	23	.558	2½
Denver	27	25	.519	4½
Utah	23	28	.451	8

##### Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	41	11	.788	—
L.A. Clippers	26	25	.510	14½
L.A. Lakers	20	31	.392	20½
Phoenix	18	35	.340	23½
Sacramento	16	35	.314	24½

#### FRIDAY

Charlotte 133, Indiana 126  
Boston 119, Atlanta 110  
L.A. Lakers 102, Brooklyn 99  
Toronto 130, Portland 105  
Milwaukee 92, New York 90  
Philadelphia 103, Miami 97  
New Orleans 114, Oklahoma City 100  
Utah 129, Phoenix 97  
Golden State 119, Sacramento 104

#### SATURDAY

L.A. Clippers 113, Chicago 103  
Miami at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Indiana, 7 p.m.  
Washington at Orlando, 7 p.m.  
Houston at Cleveland, 8:30 p.m.  
Golden State at Denver, 9 p.m.  
New Orleans at Minnesota, 9 p.m.  
Utah at San Antonio, 9 p.m.  
Dallas at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

#### TODAY

Atlanta at New York, 12 p.m.  
Memphis at Toronto, 12 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Brooklyn, 12 p.m.  
Portland at Boston, 12 p.m.  
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 2 p.m.  
Charlotte at Phoenix, 3 p.m.

#### MONDAY

Portland at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Washington at Indiana, 7 p.m.  
Orlando at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
Utah at New Orleans, 8 p.m.  
Charlotte at Denver, 9 p.m.  
Chicago at Sacramento, 10 p.m.  
Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

Cleveland at Orlando, 7 p.m.  
Boston at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.  
Houston at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.  
Memphis at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Milwaukee at New York, 7:30 p.m.

Washington at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.  
Oklahoma City at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.  
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

## NHL STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	51	35	13	3	73	183	132
Boston	49	30	11	8	68	160	120
Toronto	53	30	18	5	65	171	146
Detroit	50	21					

BOYS AREA ROUNDUP

# LMA, Clarendon Hall clinch region titles

ORANGEBURG — Laurence Manning Academy's varsity boys basketball team secured the SCISA Region II-3A regular-season title with a 55-33 victory over Orangeburg Prep on Friday at the OP gymnasium.

The Swampcats, who improved to 16-5 on the season and 5-0 in region play, were led by Jerrel Kelly with 14 points. Grayson Dennis added 12 and Wyatt Rowland and Taylor Lee both had six.

**CLARENDON HALL 89  
PATRICK HENRY 75**

SUMMERTON — Clarendon Hall wrapped up the SCISA Region III-1A regular-season title with an 89-75 victory over Patrick Henry on Friday at the CH gymnasium.

Zyan Gilmore led the Saints, who improved to 13-4 overall and 10-2 in the region, with 44 points. He connected on eight 3-point shots.

Tyrese Mitchum had a double-double of 18 points and 10 rebounds. Dylan Way had 12 points and Kylic Horton had 11.

**SUMTER 56  
SOCASTEE 54**

MYRTLE BEACH — Sumter High School improved to 7-1 in Region VI-5A with a 56-54 victory over Socastee on Friday at the Socastee gymnasium.

The Gamecocks, who are 14-7 overall, were led in scoring by Tyree Smalls with 20. Calvin Felder added 10, Omar Croskey had eight and Zykiem Jackson had seven.

**SUMTER  
Jackson 7, Smalls 20, Moore 3, Johnson 6, Felder 10, Croskey 8, Watts 2.**

**SOCASTEE  
Collins 4, Williams 17, Generette 2, Hemingway 8, Wright 14, Gardner 9.**

**LEE CENTRAL 80  
CHERAW 67**

CHERAW — Lee Central High School remained undefeated in Region IV-2A with an 80-67 victory over Cheraw on Friday at the CHS gymnasium.

Deaquan Thomas and DaVeon Thomas led the Stallions, who improved to 16-2 overall and 11-0 in region play, with 18 points apiece. DeMarcus Smith had a double-double of 14 points and 10 rebounds.

**BETHUNE-BOWMAN 72  
SCOTT'S BRANCH 40**

BOWMAN — Scott's Branch lost to Bethune-Bowman 72-40 on Friday at the B-B gymnasium.

Treyshawn Moore led the Eagles with 10 points. Levontae Fleming added seven and Daezhon Dingle had six.

Roderick Pam led Bethune with 24 and Baxton Wedgeworth had 14.

**SCOTT'S BRANCH**

Dingle 6, Fleming 7, Moore 10, Weeks 3, Oliver 2, Thompson 2.

**BETHUNE-BOWMAN  
Pam 24, Wedgeworth 14, Green 3, J. Brown 4, Johnson 9, Richburg 5, Nichols 1, King 3, Linder 7, W. Brown 2.**

**EAST CLARENDON 49  
LAKE VIEW 47**

LAKE VIEW — East Clarendon outscored Lake View 16-10 in the fourth quarter to pick up a 49-47 victory on Friday at the LV gymnasium.

Jalen Bryant led the Wolverines, who improved to 8-10 overall and 5-3 in Region VI-1A, with 14 points. Tyjhai Calvin had 13 and Travon Fullard had eight.

On Tuesday in Turbeville, EC lost to Creek Bridge 43-42. Bryant led the East Clarendon with 20. Jordan Brown added nine.

**JV BASKETBALL**

**LAURENCE MANNING 37  
ORANGEBURG PREP 25**

ORANGEBURG — Kyle Horton scored 15 points to lead Laurence Manning to a 37-25 victory over Orangeburg Prep on Friday at the OP gymnasium.

Trey Sharpe added nine and Denzell Sigler had eight.

**PATRICK HENRY 30  
CLARENDON HALL 20**

SUMMERTON — Clarendon Hall

lost to Patrick Henry 30-20 on Friday at the CH gymnasium.

Nathan Carlisle led the Saints with eight points. Jonathan McIntosh grabbed seven rebounds.

**MS BASKETBALL**

**LEE CENTRAL 47  
SCOTT'S BRANCH 46**

SUMMERTON — Scott's Branch lost to Lee Central 47-46 on Wednesday at the SB gymnasium.

Randy Gibson led the Eagles with 16 points. Tariq Coard and Terrence Pusher both had nine and Zakee Rendell and Shaheem Ballard both had six.

On Tuesday in Bishopville, Scott's Branch lost to Lee Central 50-43. Gibson led the Eagles with 15 points. Coard had 10 and Rendell had eight.

**B TEAM BASKETBALL**

**LAURENCE MANNING 34  
TRINITY-BYRNES 24**

MANNING — Laurence Manning improved to 8-2 with a 34-24 victory over Trinity-Byrnes on Saturday at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

Bryce Acord led LMA with 10 points. Brandon King had eight and Coleman Yates seven.

*From staff reports*

GIRLS AREA ROUNDUP

# Martin's 19 lifts Lady Generals past Palmetto Christian 37-32

MT. PLEASANT — Caetlyn Martin scored 19 points to lead Thomas Sumter Academy's varsity girls basketball team to a 37-32 victory over Palmetto Christian on Friday at the PC gymnasium.

The victory pulled the Lady Generals into a tie for first place in SCISA Region II-2A with Palmetto Christian. TSA is 13-7 overall and 7-1 in region play. PC is 6-1 in region play.

Aubrey Stoddard had 12 points and four assists for Thomas Sumter. Josie Reed had four points and four assists, Taja Hunley had 16 rebounds and Carmen Silvester had eight rebounds and four assists.

**SUMTER 42  
SOCASTEE 32**

MYRTLE BEACH — Sumter High School outscored Socastee 16-5 in the fourth quarter in a 42-32 varsity girls basketball victory on Friday at the Socastee gymnasium.

Nina Edlow and Layken Cox led the Lady Gamecocks, who improved to 14-5 on the season and 6-2 in Region VI-5A, with nine points apiece. Dynazia Jackson had eight and Tamerah Brown seven.

**SUMTER  
Wells 1, Jackson 8, Brown 7, Edlow 9, Lyons 5, Jones 3, Cox 9.**

**SOCASTEE  
Galindez 10, Leinbach 3, Altman 8, Roberts 7, Jones 4.**

**LEE CENTRAL 59  
CHERAW 26**

CHERAW — Lee Central improved to 8-3 in Region IV-2A with a 59-26 victory over Cheraw on Friday at the CHS gymnasium.

A'Yannah Lucas had a double-double of 15 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Lady Stallions. She also had five assists.

Robionne Myers added 14

points and nine rebounds, Keoniyah Dennis had 10 points and Ariel Robinson had eight points and 11 rebounds.

**LAKE VIEW 62  
EAST CLARENDON 57**

LAKE VIEW — Top-ranked East Clarendon High School was outscored by Lake View 28-11 in the fourth quarter and dropped a 62-57 decision on Friday at the LV gymnasium.

EC led 46-34 entering the final quarter.

Talaysia Cooper led the Lady Wolverines with 17 points. Valencia Garris had 13, Gracen Watts 11 and Caitlin Timmons 10.

**EAST CLARENDON  
Cooper 17, Timmons 10, Whack 2, Watts 11, Floyd 2, Garris 13, Anderson 2.**

**LAKE VIEW  
M. Wheeler 6, McNeil 5, T. Wheeler 8, McDaniel 18, Page 2, Waters 21, Blue 2.**

**PATRICK HENRY 65  
CLARENDON HALL 22**

SUMMERTON — Clarendon Hall lost to Patrick Henry 65-22 on Friday at the CH gymnasium.

Whitney Avins led the Lady Saints with 14 points.

**JV BASKETBALL**

**THOMAS SUMTER 19  
PALMETTO CHRISTIAN 12**

MT. PLEASANT — Thomas Sumter Academy improved to 11-4 with a 19-12 victory over Palmetto Christian on Friday at the PC gymnasium.

Lindsay Daniel led TSA with seven points and eight rebounds. Maci Willetts grabbed six rebounds.

**ORANGEBURG PREP 40  
LAURENCE MANNING 33**

ORANGEBURG — Laurence Manning Academy fell to 9-4 with a 40-33 loss to Orangeburg Prep on Friday at the OP gymnasium.

Breanna Boykin led LMA with 15 points. Carrie Ricken-

baker had eight and Audrey Bennett had six.

**SCOTT'S BRANCH 16  
BETHUNE-BOWMAN 15**

BOWMAN — Scott's Branch defeated Bethune-Bowman 16-15 on Friday at the B-B gymnasium.

Keonna Felder led the Eagles with 11 points.

**CRESTWOOD 34  
LAKEWOOD 7**

Crestwood High School defeated Lakewood 34-7 on

Thursday at The Castle.

Jada Stokes led the Lady Knights with eight points.

**PATRICK HENRY 29  
CLARENDON HALL 25**

SUMMERTON — Clarendon Hall lost to Patrick Henry 29-25 on Friday at the CH gymnasium.

Amberly Way led the Lady Saints with eight points. Hannah Johndrow added six.

*From staff reports*

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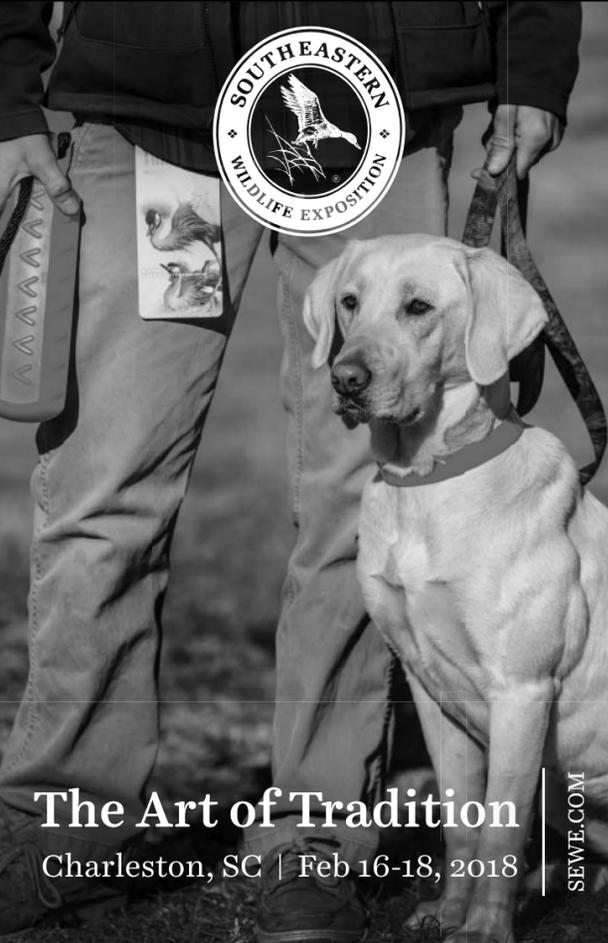
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**MAURICE A. HUDSON**

HOPKINS — Maurice Albert “Chief” Hudson, age 87, beloved husband of the late Geraldine R. Hudson, left this world on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, to complete the circle and join the rest of his family.

Maurice was retired from the U.S. Air Force after attaining the rank of chief master sergeant. He was a longtime resident of Sumter, where he served as a loan officer and the resident Santa for Safe Federal Credit Union. He also enjoyed many years as a weather net reporter for WIS-TV10. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church of Sumter.

He is survived by his son-in-law, Vince Marchese; and four grandchildren, Julie Marchese, Chad Marchese, Marie Branton and Dustin Branton.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his two loving daughters, Sue Marchese and Beverly Branton; and two grandsons, Christopher and Nathan Marchese.

Maurice was blessed with many caregivers over the years, most notably, Angela Flood and Val Parham.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday at the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

The family will receive friends on Monday one hour prior to the service from noon to 1 p.m. at Bullock Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 128 Stonemark Lane, Columbia, SC 29210.

You may go to [www.bullockfuneralhome.com](http://www.bullockfuneralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**MAURICE P. RANDLE**

Maurice Perry Randle, age 87, died on Friday, Feb. 2, 2018 at his residence.

Born in Greenwood to Maurice Bozeman Randle and Nelle Perry Randle, he was reared by his aunt, Grace Randle, in Sumter. He graduated from Edmunds High School and attended Presbyterian College where he was a member of Kappa Alpha Fraternity. He served as a first lieutenant at Fort Smith, Arkansas. After the army, he began his career in the municipal water works business with his father as a salesman for Cities Supply Company, eventually owning the company and growing it to a total of three locations. He went on to invent the “Stretchbox” and founded Aqua Pioneer Corporation.

He was a life member of the American Water Works Association as well as serving on the advisory boards and councils of Dresser Manufacturing Company from 1978-1980, Rockwell International CO Municipal and Utility Division, John – Mansville Pipe Company and the Community Board of NBSC, continuing as emeritus status in his retirement. He was awarded the USA Design Award for corporate graphic design.

He was a golf enthusiast and enjoyed boating. One of his proudest moments was piloting the High Cotton II to win the 11th Annual Georgetown Blue Marline Tournament with his crew.

He is survived by his wife, Emily Asbill Randle; daughters, Laura Gainey Hancock

(Sterling) of Graniteville, and Melissa Primm (Tom) of Carolina Beach, North Carolina; granddaughter, Emily Gainey Brazier (Chad) of North Augusta; and special friends, Gene Osteen and Brenda Pack.

The family will receive friends on Monday, Feb. 5, 2018 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Bullock Funeral Home, 1190 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150.

Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Wilson Hall School, 520 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150 or to the charity of one's choice.

You may go to [www.bullockfuneralhome.com](http://www.bullockfuneralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**MARGARET E. BENTON**

Margaret E. Benton, best known as Greta, age 90, beloved wife of the late G.A. Benton, died on Friday, Feb. 2, 2018, at NHC Healthcare of Sumter.

A graveside service will be held at noon on Monday at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Florence.

You may go to [www.bullockfuneralhome.com](http://www.bullockfuneralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**FREDERICK RAY ALLEN**

Frederick Ray “Mr. T.” Allen, 83, passed away on Jan. 31, 2018.

Ray was preceded in death by his wife, Reba J. (Willis) Allen; and his brother, Arthur D. Allen.

He was born on Sept. 7, 1934, in Madisonville, Tennessee. He was a retired veteran of both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force. Following military service, he also retired from Prudential Insurance Co. He had been a resident of Shaw Air Force Base / Sumter for 37 years prior to moving to North Carolina.

Survivors include his twin sister, Alice Willis; four sons, Michael Allen, Scott Allen, Keith Allen and Mark Allen; 10 grandchildren; and a growing family of great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday at the Refinery Church in Mint Hill, North Carolina. Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Mountain Home National Cemetery in Mountain Home, Tennessee, with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, please consider Disabled American Veterans, [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

Gaskin Funeral Services, Matthews, North Carolina, is serving the family, where online condolences may be offered at [www.gaskinservices.com](http://www.gaskinservices.com).

**QUAMANE L. ABRAHAM**

Quamane Lante Abraham, 28, died on Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

He was born on Oct. 23, 1989, in Manning, a son of Robert Reardon and the late Lenorie Abraham.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his father, 7678 Moses Dingle Road, Manning.

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

**CARLTON A. BROOKS**

Viewing for Carlton Anthony Brooks, 49, of Rembert, will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. today at Collins Funeral Home.

Funeral service will be held

on Wednesday in Buffalo, New York.

He died on Monday, Jan. 27, 2018.

Collins Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

**ELLA J. BOWMAN**

Ella Johnson Bowman, 95, died on Sunday, Jan. 28, 2018, in Sumter.

She was born on May 16, 1922, in Manning, a daughter of the late Melvin and Pattie McEleven Johnson.

Funeral services for Mrs. Bowman will be held at 1:30 p.m. today at Fourth Cross-road Baptist Church, Manning, with the Rev. GK Carter, pastor, officiating, and the Rev. Jack Morant and Evangelis Elizabeth Morant assisting. Burial will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Leslie and Elizabeth Hayward, 825 W. Huggins St., Manning.

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

**ALEXANDER MARTIN**

MANNING — Alexander Martin, 78, widower of Theola Witherspoon Martin, died on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018.

He was a son of the late James Ernest Martin and Victoria Thames Martin.

Funeral services for Mr. Martin will be held at noon on Monday at Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church, Manning, with the Rev. Terry Johnson, pastor, officiating, Pastor Anna Lawson presiding and Apostle Marlene Jefferies, Elder Leroy Dingle, Pastor Ashley B. Vaughn and Evangelist Sharon Mellette assisting. Burial will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his sister, Ella Mae Martin, 301 Hopkins St., Manning. These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

Funeral services for Mr. Martin will be held at noon on Monday at Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church, Manning, with the Rev. Terry Johnson, pastor, officiating, Pastor Anna Lawson presiding and Apostle Marlene Jefferies, Elder Leroy Dingle, Pastor Ashley B. Vaughn and Evangelist Sharon Mellette assisting. Burial will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his sister, Ella Mae Martin, 301 Hopkins St., Manning.

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

Funeral services for Mr. Martin will be held at noon on Monday at Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church, Manning, with the Rev. Terry Johnson, pastor, officiating, Pastor Anna Lawson presiding and Apostle Marlene Jefferies, Elder Leroy Dingle, Pastor Ashley B. Vaughn and Evangelist Sharon Mellette assisting. Burial will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

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The family is receiving friends at the home of his sister, Ella Mae Martin, 301 Hopkins St., Manning.

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

Robert Cotterman of California; paternal grandfather, Royal Cotterman of Sidney, Ohio; aunts, Cathy Price of Sumter and Darlene Harmon of Virginia; an uncle, Danny Price of Delaware; and two aunts and two uncles of Ohio.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother, Sarah Cotterman; and maternal grandparents, Daniel L. Price Jr. and Elene Jones Price.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday at Sumter Cemetery with the Rev. Billy Brewer officiating.

The family will receive friends at the home.

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

**CATHERINE B. BALLARD**

Catherine Blanding Ballard, also referred to lovingly as “Donkey,” was born on June 8, 1927, in Alcolu, to the late Flander and Bessie Schrode Blanding. Catherine came from a family of 10 siblings. She was the “baby girl” and the last of her siblings. The Blandings were proud people; they were spiritual, loving, kind, empathetic, and took pride in the fact that they were a part of the Southern families that owned their property. Catherine attended Lincoln High School.

Mother spent her final days with her daughter, Lorand, and son-in-law, Ralph, and these were cherished moments. Mother was surrounded by her loved ones when God called her home on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, at 7:17 p.m.

She was the wife of the late Ishmel Tiller Ballard.

Catherine is survived by her loving children, Regina Mack, Diane Wimbush, Lorand B. Kenon, Sylvia Stewart, Thomasina Green and Eugene Ballard; 30 grandchildren; 95 great-grandchildren; and 39 great-great-grandchildren.

Catherine was preceded in death by seven children, Vera Ann Ballard, Jackie Mason Lawyer, Ishmel Ballard Jr., Larry Donell Ballard, John Calvin Ballard, Bodilly Ballard and Peter Rooster Ballard; and nine siblings, Jessie Blanding, Emma Nelson, Louise Mack, Liza Stokes, Nora Ayers, Richard Blanding, Tucker Blanding, Flander Blanding Jr. and Peter Rooster Blanding.

Public viewing was held on Friday at Job's Mortuary.

Mrs. Ballard was placed in the church at 10 a.m. on Saturday for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, 805 S. Harvin St., Sumter. Pastor Marion Newton officiated. Interment followed at Greenhill Baptist Church Cemetery, Alcolu.

The family will receive friends at 120 Rosecliff Circle, Columbia, SC 29061.

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

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

**LIDIA VELASQUEZ**

Lidia Velasquez, 17, died Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018.

Born Oct. 3, 2000, in Manning, she was a daughter of Angelina Velasquez. She was a member of New Start Community Church of the Nazarene. She was a member of the junior Class at Sumter High School.

Survivors include her mother of Sumter and five brothers.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday at New Start Community Church of the Nazarene cemetery with the Rev. Leonardo Cortez officiating. Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

**SARAH D. AIKEN**

BISHOPVILLE — Mrs. Sarah Durant Aiken, formerly of Elliott, entered eternal rest on Friday, Feb. 2, 2018 at Saluda Nursing Facility, Saluda. The family is receiving friends at 1559 Elliott Hwy., Bishopville.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Wilson Funeral Home 403/407 S. Main Street, Bishopville.

**ANN L. HUGGINS**

Ann L. Wilkie Huggins, age 85, beloved wife of the late Richard Huggins, died on Friday, Feb. 2, 2018 at her residence.

Born in Sumter, she was the daughter of the late George Thomas Wilkie and Eva L. Shirah Wilkie. Ann was a nurse and worked for National Health Care. She was a member of the Eastern Star for 35 years and a member of the Sumter Baptist Temple.

Surviving are one son, Ricky Huggins (Andra); daughter-in-law, Debbie Huggins; one brother, Joe Wilkie (Betty); one sister, Mary Cave (Jerry); seven grandchildren, Sherry Jacks (Jamie), Kathy Galloway (Bruce), Tracy Morgan (Lee), Rick Huggins, Chris Huggins (Ty), Ashley Stark (Harry) and T.J. Huggins; numerous great and great-great grandchildren and very special nieces, Wendy McDonald (Scott), Julie Hope and Cheryl Talbott (Mike).

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Vernie Huggins, and a brother, John Wendell Wilkie.

A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018 at 2 p.m. in the Sumter Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the home of her son, Ricky Huggins, 1546 Florence Hwy., Sumter.

Memorials may be made to Sumter Baptist Temple, 2295 Harper St., Sumter, SC 29153.

You may go to [www.bullockfuneralhome.com](http://www.bullockfuneralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**CHARLES T. OSBORNE**

Turbeville – Teddy “Frog” Osborne age 63 died Friday, Feb. 2, 2018 in a Florence hospital after an illness.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, 2018 at Floyd Funeral Home Chapel with burial in Barri-neau Pentecostal Holiness Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Born in Florence County, he was a son of the late William Charles “Bill” Osborne and Vauda Gowdy Osborne.

Surviving are a sister, Shirley (Ernie) Scurry of Turbeville; and William Randy Osborne of Turbeville; a special friend, Kim Sheldon. “Teddy” had many animals that he loved very much.

The family would especially like to thank Kristen and the fifth- and seventh-floor nursing staff at McLeod Regional Medical Center for the loving care that they gave to Teddy.

Memorials may be made to Second Chance Animal Shelter, 5079 Alex Harvin Hwy., Manning, SC 29102.

Online condolences may be made at [www.floydfuneral.com](http://www.floydfuneral.com).

**JEANETTE O. MCCOY**

Jeanette Oxendine McCoy, 87, died Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018 at McElveen Manor.

Services will be announced by the Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad Street, Sumter (803) 775-9386.



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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philadelphia wide receiver Alshon Jeffery will be a top target for the Eagles when they face the New England Patriots today in the Super Bowl. Jeffery could be going up against former South Carolina teammate Stephon Gilmore.

## EAGLES FROM PAGE B1

The Eagles have a versatile passing attack with several receivers who create matchup problems. Carson Wentz threw for 3,296 yards and 33 touchdown passes before he tore his ACL in Week 14 and Nick Foles has eight TD passes, including playoffs.

Foles proved in the NFC championship game he can make quick-strike plays with three passes of 40-plus yards against the league's top-ranked defense. Two of those were TD tosses of 53 yards to Alshon Jeffery and 41 yards to Torrey Smith.

Pro Bowl tight end Zach Ertz and slot receiver Nelson Agholor are other options. Tight end Trey Burton, who also lines up at fullback in certain short-yardage situations, had five TD catches this season.

"You can't just stop one guy," Patriots safety Devin McCourty said. "You can't go out there and say, 'if we just limit Jeffery or if we just limit Ertz that won't matter.' They have a lot of different guys out there that can beat you."

Foles has been adept at making the right calls on run-pass option plays, making it even more difficult for defenses facing Philadelphia.

"It's hard because you have to defend every inch of the field," McCourty said. "Each guy has to do their job on the play. We can't have guys doing things that don't fit the defense."

On the opposite side of the ball, defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz has an aggressive unit. Nobody runs on Philadelphia's defense. It was No. 1 against the run

and didn't allow a 100-yard rusher until Ezekiel Elliott had 103 in Week 17 against backups and third-stringers.

The Patriots (15-3) rely mainly on Brady's arm, even though Dion Lewis had 896 yards rushing and James White was a Super Bowl hero last year. But Brady can't throw if he doesn't have time and the Eagles have a dominant front four led by Fletcher Cox and Brandon Graham.

The line often generates enough pressure that Schwartz doesn't have to blitz much and there's enough depth with Chris Long, Vinny Curry, Tim Jernigan and Beau Allen that guys stay fresh in the fourth quarter.

Safety Malcolm Jenkins is a physical presence in the secondary and cornerbacks Ronald Darby and Jalen Mills are solid cover guys.

"They have a great defense," Brady said. "It's as good any we've faced all year. They have a great scheme that mixes in well with their coverages."

If the game comes down to a field goal, rookie kicker Jake Elliott has a strong leg. He kicked a 61-yarder at the end of regulation to beat the Giants in Week 3 and is 6 of 7 from beyond 50 yards.

The Eagles shouldn't be tight and they're not intimidated by the Patriots. They're a loose, relaxed group that has embraced their underdog role throughout the playoffs and overcame injuries to several key players.

"Greatest quarterback of all time, but that doesn't mean that he's unbeatable," Jenkins said of Brady. "We're not worried. We match up well."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New England cornerback Stephon Gilmore and the Patriots will be meeting Philadelphia in the Super Bowl today.

## PATRIOTS FROM PAGE B1

uniform after being cleared late this week.

Close games have been no problem, for Brady and coach Bill Belichick either. The total difference in scoring in those seven games is 12 points: Patriots 169, opponents 157.

You want to talk about comebacks? No player in the Super Bowl era has more fourth-quarter comebacks in the playoffs in his career than Brady's eight. It's probably why Brady chuckled this week when he was again asked about how long he wanted to keep playing.

"Why does everyone want me to retire so bad?" Brady said. "I don't get it. I'm having fun. The team's doing good. I know I'm a little bit older than most of the guys, but I'm really enjoying it. ... I'm not thinking about retirement. I'm thinking about the Super Bowl and trying to win the most important game of the year."

As big as the Brady factor is, he's not the only advantage New England has.

The Patriots lost go-to receiver Julian Edelman in the preseason to a knee injury and linebacker Dont'a Hightower to a season-ending shoulder injury in October. After some early-season struggles, Belichick found a way to plug the holes, with contributions from several previously unheralded players like Trey Flowers, Kyle Van Noy, Lawrence Guy and Ricky Jean Francois.

New England has also gotten a strong season from receiver Brandin Cook after acquiring him from New Orleans this offseason. He posted his third straight 1,000-yard receiving season (1,082) and was second on the team in receiving yards behind only Gronkowski (1,084). Running back Dion Lewis has also found new life just two seasons removed from a knee injury. He led the team with 896 yards rushing and six rushing touchdowns.

It's underlined the football savvy of Belichick, who with a sixth Super Bowl victory would pass Vince Lombardi and tie George Halas and Curly Lambeau for most NFL championships by a coach.

Belichick will be taking part in his 11th Super Bowl as a head coach or assistant, the most among any coach in NFL history. That amounts to 21.2 percent of all Super Bowls in league history and 34.4 percent of all Super Bowls since his first appearance as the Giants defensive coordinator in 1986.

Though there have been reports of alleged friction this season between Belichick, Brady and team owner Robert Kraft, it's clear they are on the same page when it comes to the pursuit of championships.

"It changes every year. The venues are different, the teams are different, the matchups are different, and the road the team has traveled to get here is different, as is the road your opponent has traveled," Belichick said. "Each one is unique. Each one's special."

## SUPER BOWL 52 DEPTH CHARTS

### New England Patriots

**OFFENSE**  
WR — 14 Brandin Cooks, 80 Danny Amendola, 18 Matthew Slater, 17 Bernard Reedy  
LT — 77 Nate Solder, 68 LaAdrian Waddle  
LG — 62 Joe Thuney, 74 Cole Croston  
C — 60 David Andrews, 75 Ted Karras  
RG — 69 Shaq Mason, 75 Ted Karras  
RT — 71 Cameron Fleming, 68 LaAdrian Waddle  
TE — 87 Rob Gronkowski, 83 Dwayne Allen, 47 Jacob Hollister  
WR — 15 Chris Hogan, 13 Phillip Dorsett, 85 Kenny Britt  
QB — 12 Tom Brady, 2 Brian Hoyer  
RB — 33 Dion Lewis, 34 Rex Burkhead, 46 James Develin  
RB — 28 James White, 35 Mike Gillislee, 38 Brandon Bolden

**DEFENSE**  
LDE — 55 Eric Lee, 91 Deatrich Wise, 92 Geno Grissom

DT — 93 Lawrence Guy, 97 Alan Branch  
DT — 21 Malcom Brown, 94 Ricky Jean Francois  
RDE — 98 Trey Flowers, 70 Adam Butler  
LB — 53 Kyle Van Noy, 59 Marquis Flowers, 50 Nicholas Grigsby  
LB — 52 Elandon Roberts, 45 David Harris, 92 James Harrison  
RCB — 24 Stephon Gilmore, 25 Eric Rowe  
LCB — 21 Malcolm Butler, 29 Johnson Bademosi  
S — 23 Patrick Chung, 37 Jordan Richards  
S — 32 Devin McCourty, 36 Brandon King  
S — 30 Duron Harmon

**SPECIAL TEAMS**  
K — 3 Stephen Gostkowski  
P — 6 Ryan Allen  
H — 6 Ryan Allen  
PR — 80 Danny Amendola, 23 Patrick Chung  
KR — 33 Dion Lewis, 18 Matthew Slater, 80 Danny Amendola  
LS — 49 Joe Cardona

### Philadelphia Eagles

**OFFENSE**  
WR — 17 Alshon Jeffery, 14 Marcus Johnson  
LT — 71 Halapoulivaati Vaitai, 66 Will Beatty  
LG — 61 Stefen Wisniewski, 67 Chance Warmack  
C — 62 Jason Kelce, 61 Stefen Wisniewski  
RG — 79 Brandon Brooks, 73 Isaac Seumalo  
RT — 65 Lane Johnson, 73 Isaac Seumalo  
TE — 86 Zach Ertz, 87 Brent Celek, 88 Trey Burton  
WR — 13 Nelson Agholor, 10 Mack Hollins  
WR — 82 Torrey Smith, 10 Mack Hollins, 18 Shelton Gibson  
RB — 30 LeGarrette Blount, 36 Jay Ajayi, 28 Wendell Smallwood, 30 Corey Clement, 38 Kenjon Barner  
QB — 9 Nick Foles, 7 Nate Sudfeld

**DEFENSE**  
DE — 75 Vinny Curry, 96 Derek Barnett, 51 Steven Means

DT — 93 Tim Jernigan, 94 Beau Allen  
DT — 91 Fletcher Cox, 97 Destiny Vaeao, 98 Elijah Qualls  
DE — 55 Brandon Graham, 56 Chris Long, 50 Bryan Braman  
OLB — 95 Mychal Kendricks, 54 Kamu Grugier-Hill, 47 Nathan Gerry  
MLB — 57 Dannell Ellerbe  
OLB — 53 Nigel Bradham, 52 Najee Goode  
CB — 31 Jalen Mills, 21 Patrick Robinson, 22 Sidney Jones  
CB — 41 Ronald Darby, 32 Rasul Douglas, 26 Jaylen Watkins  
S — 23 Rodney McLeod, 24 Corey Graham  
S — 27 Malcolm Jenkins, 26 Jaylen Watkins

**SPECIAL TEAMS**  
P — 8 Donnie Jones  
K — 4 Jake Elliott  
H — 8 Donnie Jones  
PR — 38 Kenjon Barner, 82 Torrey Smith  
KR — 38 Kenjon Barner, 30 Corey Clement, 28 Wendell Smallwood  
LS — 45 Rick Lovato

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THE BIG GAME ON SUNDAY

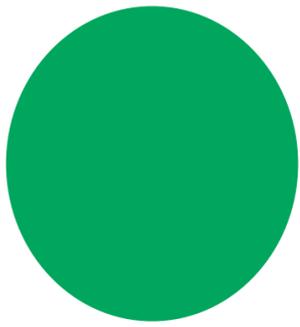
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# USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE



## THIS WEEK

- The average FICO credit score of an approved personal loan applicant was **741**.
- **23.88%** of all personal loan applicants were approved, setting the denial rate at 76.12%.
- The average funded personal loan amount was **\$21,644**, while the average interest rate on a personal loan was 14.54%.

SOURCE LendEDU's *The States of Personal Loans in 2018*

## ON THE MOVE

Stock stories of the week

### AUTONATION

**AutoNation** The automotive retailer's CEO said the firm no longer refuses to hire job applicants who test positive for marijuana in drug screenings. It still bars other illegal drugs.



### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

**Harley-Davidson** The motorcycle maker has been suffering a deepening slump in U.S. motorcycle demand and will close/consolidate its factories and eliminate about 260 jobs.



### VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS

**Verizon** The telecommunications company reportedly dropped its plans to sell phones by Huawei Technologies under pressure from the U.S. government.



### 21ST CENTURY FOX

The mass media company signed a five-year contract for the rights to "Thursday Night Football" even though NFL TV ratings have fallen for two consecutive years.



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## USA SNAPSHOTS®

**25%**

of couples wish they'd spent more money on their videographer at the wedding.

SOURCE Zola survey of 750 newly engaged and newlywed couples  
JAE YANG, VERONICA BRAVO/USA TODAY



# Lure all the buyers to your home

Buyers often make their decision as they are coming up the front walk or walking through the front door.  
ARTAZUM, LLC

**Marilyn Lewis** NerdWallet

If you're planning to sell a home this spring, prepare now for the crucial (and fun) job of luring home shoppers. Homes that look loved and well-maintained get more attention — and first impressions matter. ■ These six quick, budget-minded projects will help boost your home's curb appeal. Each takes a weekend at most, and starting early gives you time to prepare for your sale.

### Pressure-wash the siding

A home shines bright after you've sluiced away grit, dead bugs and cobwebs. Pick a setting powerful enough to blast mold and sludge but not so strong it lifts paint or splinters wood.

■ **Budget:** Renting a gas-powered pressure washer, about \$80 a day

### Primp the porch

Did you realize your home's entry is a test? "If they can't keep up the outside of the house, what are they hiding on the inside?" Pat Vredevoogd

Combs, a former National Association of Realtors president based in Grand Rapids, Mich., says she hears from buyers when confronted with dingy or messy home entries. Clean up your porch by removing household clutter and adding a pot of flowers or greenery.

■ **Budget:** Resin planter, \$10; plants and potting soil, \$40

### Clean exterior windows

Use an exterior window cleaning product that attaches to a hose, says Danny Watson, home and garden expert at The Home Depot. Shoot the solution

on exterior glass, followed by a spray of clean water. Let it dry or squeegee it.

■ **Budget:** Cleaner, \$10; squeegee, \$5

### Repaint the front door

Watson says a premium one-coat exterior house paint pays off in time and effort saved, because it needs no priming. A semi-gloss finish lets you wipe off smudges. Avoid high-gloss paint, which reveals imperfections.

■ **Budget:** Gallon of paint, about \$35

### Update house numbers

New numbers are eye-catching. Go big, at least 5 inches tall, Watson says.

■ **Budget:** Four numbers, \$30

### Clean or replace porch lights

Consider a contemporary finish, such as black, brushed nickel or oiled brass. On a budget? Watson likes using restoring wipes to renew oxidized, faded or dirty metal, resin and hard surfaces.

■ **Budget:** New fixture \$30 and up; wipes \$20

# 4 ways to get your tax refund faster

**Maurie Backman**  
The Motley Fool

If you're like the average American, you'll probably get a tax refund this year. In 2017, the typical refund hovered between \$2,700 and \$2,800, consistent with previous years. Here are four ways to snag that refund faster.

■ **File your return early:** Though taxes aren't due this year until April 17, the Internal Revenue Service began accepting returns Jan. 29. Therefore, the sooner you submit your return, the sooner you'll get your hands on your money. Keep in mind, however, you may not have the option to move so quickly. If, come late January, you find you're still missing certain tax forms,

you're better off waiting on that information than guessing at it and filing an erroneous return.

■ **File electronically:** If you're the old school type, you may be inclined to whip out your calculator and sit down to file a paper return. But if your goal is to get your refund as quickly as possible, then it pays to file electronically instead. The IRS reports that it usually takes 21 days to issue refunds for electronic returns, versus six to eight weeks for paper ones. Furthermore, filing electronically can significantly reduce your likelihood of making an error, thus delaying your refund even more.

■ **Sign up for direct deposit:** Some people like the idea of receiving a physical refund check in the mail. But if

you're eager to get your money, sign up for direct deposit. The IRS says while it can take up to five days after a refund is sent for it to show up in your account, a check can take several weeks.

■ **Check your tax return for errors:** One of the easiest ways to slow down your refund is to make a mistake on your tax return, whether it's omitting key information, entering your Social Security number incorrectly or neglecting to sign it. Before you submit your return, review it carefully. The more accurate your return, the sooner you can expect that refund to come your way.

*The Motley Fool is a USA TODAY content partner offering financial news, analysis and commentary. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.*

## MARKET ROUNDUP

<b>Dow Jones</b> industrial average ▼4.1% week ▲2.4% month   ▲8.4% 3 months	<b>S&amp;P 500</b> ▼3.9% week ▲1.8% month   ▲6.7% 3 months	<b>Nasdaq</b> composite index ▼3.5% week ▲2.5% month   ▲7.0% 3 months	<b>Wilshire 5000</b> ▼3.8% week ▲1.5% month   ▲6.5% 3 months	<b>Gold</b> Ounce, Comex ▼1.4% week ▲1.2% month   ▲5.1% 3 months	<b>Oil</b> Light sweet crude ▼1.0% week ▲6.2% month   ▲17.6% 3 months	<b>Euro</b> Dollar per euro ▲0.0028 week ▲0.0043 month   ▲0.0843 3 months	<b>Yen</b> Yen per dollar ▲1.62 week ▼2.24 month   ▼3.88 3 months
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## PERSONAL FINANCE

# I'm debt-free! ... Now what?

**Dear Pete:** I regularly read your investment advice columns, and I have started to implement lots of things you have suggested which have made me completely debt-free. Just need some financial advice — I have about \$240,000 in my checking account apart from my other savings. What's the best way to invest this \$240,000? I am not interested in buying a home.

— M, Seattle



The first place to start is to define the end purpose of your \$240,000.

ISTOCK IMAGE



**Peter Dunn**  
Columnist  
USA TODAY

**Dear M:** Asking for your account number would be a weird way to start this column, wouldn't it? Congrats on increasing your net worth by eliminating your debts. Also, congrats on accumulating \$240,000 to help you increase your net worth. You've been doing quite a bit of heavy lifting to get your net worth to increase. You're wise to consider putting some money to work, too.

## Give money a job

I don't know whether this will terrify you or give you some sort of strange confidence, but I'm going to give you the same advice

I would give someone who had \$240 to invest. The first place to start is to define the end purpose.

The temptation might be to come back with "the future", but that answer doesn't fly with me. That's akin to answering a vacation destination inquiry with "outside of my house." Determining the eventual use for money can also help you determine when, why, how and with whom. Is the money for someone's education? Early retirement? To start a fax machine resale business?

You're not alone if you haven't defined likely purposes. Anecdotally, most people don't assign their money a job. This step is often skipped under the guise of flexibility. "I don't know what the money is for, it's just for whatever pops up," you might think to yourself. That's a fine sentiment, but you can't allow yourself to stop there. You must have a specific purpose for your money.

If the plan is to use the money in two years, then your investment choice is different than if you wanted to use the money in 30 years. Additionally, if you're 35 years old, I'd give you different advice than I would a person who is 65.

So far, you've walked into a diner and shouted "I'm hungry." For what? Everyone involved needs more information. Once you've determined possible purposes for your \$240,000, you need to

evaluate some of your other circumstances — such as your ability to replicate mass income accumulation, your tolerance for principal fluctuation and your need for particular rates of return.

## Risk vs. inflation

Maybe you don't need to invest your \$240,000. You could possibly be earning the exact rate of return you need in order to accomplish your financial goals. I'm a firm believer in not taking more risk than necessary, and maybe, just maybe, you're accomplishing your goals by sitting on top of your money like an expectant hen.

The problem is that it's unlikely your \$240,000 is keeping pace with inflation, generally a pretty good sign you're doing things incorrectly. While you're currently dodging market risk, you are exposed to inflation risk. In other words, your money is on a road to losing buying power. Bread, clothes, cars and cheese will increase in price, and you'll be able to purchase less because the rate of return you're earning on your money is less than the rate in which these products are increasing in price. This might be the reason you emailed me.

## Get professional advice

Your next step should be to ask your trusted friends and family whether they have a financial adviser they could recommend. Set an appointment with at least three of these advisers, and let them know of your desire to invest \$240,000. If they don't ask you when you'll need the money, your tolerance for risk, how you accumulated the money, your previous experience investing, your tax concerns, your age, your ability to accumulate more money and about 10 other questions, cross them off the list. When you don't have plans for your investment money and a potential adviser doesn't help you to determine a plan for your money prior to pitching specific investments, you're asking to get fleeced.

I know how badly you wanted me to give you the name of a company, an investment or a type of financial product, but there are nearly as many ifs as you have dollars.

Now, about that account number ...

Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host. Have a question? Email him at [AskPete@petetheplanner.com](mailto:AskPete@petetheplanner.com)

## DIGITAL DOLLARS

# Unlimited data looks like it's here to stay

If you don't like big four, try third-party resellers

**Rob Pegoraro**  
Special to USA TODAY

Almost a year ago, the sudden pivot by AT&T and Verizon to sell unlimited-data deals such as those offered by Sprint and T-Mobile might have looked like a soon-to-be-regretted bout of marketing excess.

But none of these carriers have walked back these unmetered-data deals. And although one third-party study found that AT&T and Verizon's networks had slowed under the stress of new unlimited-data subscribers, OpenSignal's latest results show America's two largest carriers have rebounded.

But these more generous offerings remain on the expensive side — and most also feature fine-print restrictions on streaming video resolution and the speed of a phone's mobile hot spot function. You should still consider cheaper options that will probably leave you with data to spare.

(You can easily check your monthly data use in Android in the Settings app, but Apple's data gauge tracks your usage from when you first got an iPhone, making it useless in practice. Check your bill instead.)

■ AT&T's limited-data deals have gotten less attractive than they were six months ago, thanks to the carrier closing a 3 gigabyte option that cost \$60 for one smartphone. Now, if you need more than 1GB you'll have to pay at least \$70 for 5GB on one smartphone, after a \$10 autopay credit. But that still beats AT&T's Unlimited LTE, \$90 after a half-as-generous \$5 autopay discount.

■ Sprint continues to offer only one limited-data subscription, a \$40 for 2GB deal. But its \$60 unlimited rate is still the cheapest among the big four and, unlike at its competitors, includes HD video streaming and a generous 10GB mobile hot spot allowance.

■ T-Mobile is least flexible of the four carriers: If you don't want unlimited data and you're not on an older plan, you'll have to switch to one of its prepaid plans or take your business elsewhere. While the \$70 (taxes and fees included) T-Mobile One rate compares well with AT&T and Verizon, that plan limits mobile hotspot use to 3G speeds and caps video streaming at a DVD-grade resolution; removing those limits adds \$10 to your bill.

■ Verizon's Go Unlimited plan, \$75 after a \$5 autopay credit, imposes the tightest restrictions: Video streams at DVD resolution and mobile hot spot speeds top out at a punitive 600 kbps. (VzW's Beyond Unlimited, \$10 more, lifts those limits.) The \$55 5GB single-line deal (after a \$5 autopay credit) that you'll see at its site after selecting a phone can be a much better value.

In all of these cases, you may also want to look at the carriers' prepaid brands and at the cheaper offerings of such third-party resellers as Consumer Cellular, Google Project Fi, Republic Wireless and Ting — the four highest-ranked services in *Consumer Reports'* latest reader survey.

Consumer Cellular, Fi and Ting have become better deals in the last six months thanks to their own price shifts. For example, 5GB of data and unlimited calling and texting now run \$50 at Consumer (which will put you on either AT&T or T-Mobile's network) and \$40 at Republic (which uses Sprint and T-Mobile). At Fi, a reseller of Sprint, T-Mobile and US Cellular that requires a subset of Android phones, a new bill protection feature means unlimited data costs \$80 for one smartphone.

(Disclosure: I also write for *Yahoo Finance*, a subsidiary of Verizon's media division Oath.)

Pegoraro is a tech writer based out of Washington, D.C. To submit a tech question, email Rob at [rob@robpegoraro.com](mailto:rob@robpegoraro.com). Follow him on Twitter at @RobPegoraro.

## THE WEEK AHEAD



Wall Street expects consumers' use of credit cards to show continued health. AP

# Economic data focus turns to job openings, consumers' credit use

**Adam Shell**  
USA TODAY

Wall Street will eye fresh numbers beginning Monday tied to the services segment of the economy, job openings and consumer credit-card use.

The economic agenda is lighter next week, with the focus shifting away from Friday's upbeat January data on job growth to the first look at how the non-manufacturing segment of the economy fared in the month.

Investors will also get a final look at Americans' credit usage and the number of available jobs available at the nation's employers in December.

The first key number is set for release **Monday**, when the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) releases its non-manufacturing survey for January. It is expected to show a slight uptick in the health of the nation's services part of the economy. Wall Street analysts expect a survey reading of 56.5, a tad above 56 in December. Anything above 50 signifies growth.

On **Tuesday**, investors will be watching the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, known as the JOLTS report, for December in hopes of avoiding a third consecutive month of declines. In November, jobs openings fell to 5.88 million, down from 5.93 million in October and 6.18 million in

September, Nomura Securities says.

On **Wednesday**, Wall Street expects consumers' use of credit cards to show continued health in December, although below the \$28 billion in credit they took on in November. Analysts are forecasting credit of \$19.7 billion, boosted by a healthy consumer benefiting from a positive job market and stock market.

"Rising household financial gains combined with healthy labor market conditions should support another robust increase in consumer credit in December," Lewis Alexander, economist at Nomura, said in a research note.

More data related to the job market is set for release **Thursday** when the weekly report on the number of Americans filing for first-time unemployment benefits is released. In the most recent week, the number of claims ticked down to 230,000, which was below the 235,000 analysts had forecast.

Following Friday's strong jobs report, when a better-than-expected 200,000 jobs were created in January, more good labor data is expected. "Our view," Alexander says, "is that the labor market will strengthen further this year."

Overall, he sees the current strong economic trends in the U.S. to continue. "We expect fiscal policy, financial conditions and firming global outlook to support strong economic growth of 2.7% in 2018," Alexander noted.

# REFLECTIONS



LEFT: Snapped trees are seen in Horatio after the storm passed through the area in 1924.

MIDDLE: A school is seen heavily damaged in Horatio after the tornado.

RIGHT: The tornado led to a path of damage through Wateree Swamp.

## Storm of 1924 caused extensive damage in area

Reflections returns to April 1924 and recalls one of Sumter's worst natural disasters.

Citizens who remembered this incident refer to it as one of Sumter County's most deadly and expensive weather disasters before Hurricane Hugo.

The tornado created by the storm of '24 accounted for 20 deaths in Sumter County, and estimates also place the death toll in the state at 79 with several hundred injured and property damage in the millions. The information and photos used to prepare this article were taken from *The Item* archives and from personal interviews.



**Sammy Way**  
REFLECTIONS

Weather reports state that this "death-dealing and property-destroying tornado" swept across the northwestern section of Sumter, starting in Horatio on the Wateree River and concluding in Mechanicsville, near the Lee County line.

The destruction of farm houses, tenant houses, barns, farm machinery, livestock and a large amount of woodlands was attributed to the storm. "At Horatio, the large plantation of Mr. C. J. Jackson, who was in the dwelling when the storm struck, escaped without injury although the house was completely demolished." Sadly, eight of the tenants living on the property were killed and several more were injured. On the adjoining estate owned by Rev. Friday Kershaw, three persons were killed (including his nephew).

The storm continued to wreak havoc as it traveled from Horatio to Ballard's Hill. Between Ballard's Hill and Gaillard's Cross Roads, several homes were destroyed, and numerous people received injuries. The

roof was torn off the large home of Mrs. Burrows Colclough. The storm trekked to Rembert Hall, which had stood for a century, doing serious damage to the Aman estate occupied by Mr. T. G. DuBose. The building, because of its sturdy construction, was able to withstand the brunt of the storm; however, it and the surrounding buildings suffered extensive damage. "The home of Mr. H. C. DuBose was wrecked; both Mr. and Mrs. DuBose were injured."

Arriving in Mechanicsville, the storm damaged the estates of Mr. T. H. Clarke and Dr. F. K. Holman. From Mechanicsville, the storm roared through the swamp into Lee and Florence counties where it did considerable damage to the community of Wisacky.

While in Mechanicsville the twister destroyed Mr. Mark Reynolds' "Little Fork" farm along with two tenant houses and two barns. "One home occupied by a family with nine children miraculously escaped major harm." One of the horses in a stable was blown across the field, and numerous pigs, chickens and turkeys unfortunately were killed.

First aid was administered to the injured by a surgeon from Sumter who came out in the night and crossed the swamp on foot to render assistance to all he encountered.

"Destruction of life and property by the storm, which swept over parts of 13 counties of South Carolina on April 30, exceeded in large amount the estimates made soon after visitation.

According to information provided following a meeting of the state finance committee appointed by the state advisory board of the Red Cross, the finance committee estimated that \$250,000 would be needed



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

Damage to the DuBose Siding area is seen after a tornado struck Sumter in April 1924.

for rehabilitation purposes. "The survey showed that 79 persons were killed, 771 were injured, 380 homes were destroyed and 672 families were affected. The total number of persons made homeless by the

storm was 3,360."

I. C. Strauss of Sumter, a member of the finance committee, estimated the damage suffered in the county at \$250,000. Anderson County representatives estimated the damage in that coun-

ty at \$1,500,000, the damage in Richland County was estimated at \$250,000. Thirteen South Carolina counties all told were affected seriously by the storm. The total loss in 13 counties would reach \$10,000,000."



C. J. Jackson's barnyard is seen in Horatio after being damaged in the April 1924 tornado that tore through Sumter County.

## Food shipped to Charleston; Lee residents work on plan

75 YEARS AGO — 1943

Aug. 29 – Sept. 4

• The Yellow Cab Co. of Sumter has received a letter of thanks from Maj. William A. Bell, as executive officer at the Headquarters Boston Port of Embarkation, for 20,000 Camel cigarettes which were contributed by the firm to the servicemen stationed overseas. According to the letter the distribution of the cigarettes has already been made to the men overseas.

• Sixty-one workers who have aided at the Ration Board have put in a total of 256 hours' time from July 28 to Aug. 27, a member of the board said this morning.



Yesteryear  
in Sumter

SAMMY WAY

• Congressman John L. McMillian of the Sixth South Carolina district was among

81 persons enlisting yesterday in an emergency crop corps which plans to pick cotton Sept. 9 and donate its pay to a worthy war activity. Others joining on the first day of the campaign included the Question Mark club, Florence High School football squad and members of several service clubs.

• The city's contract with the Vulcan De-Tinning Co. for the detinning of cans has been extended through Dec. 31 of this year, it was announced by City Manager J. A. Raffield. Mr. Raffield urged housewives to put their washed and flattened tin cans in a separate box on the street with their garbage. These will be picked up by the garbage trucks on their rounds. Four car loads of tin cans have been shipped from Sumter in the last year, it was reported, and there is nearly a full car load left to be sent off.

• Word has been received by Mrs. J. H. Dennis that her son, Staff Sgt. Laurie A. Dennis, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for extraordinary service beyond the normal line of duty. Sgt. Dennis is with the U.S. Army in North Africa, where he has been stationed for about six months with the ordinance section of A. D. E. Headquarters. A graduate of Sumter High School, Sgt. Dennis was ordered to Concord, N.C., prior to entering the service 18 months ago.

• The War Department said the Provost Marshal's office had authorized the use of prisoners of war to harvest crops in the Georgia and South Carolina area.

• Cpl. Henry Mills, formerly of Sumter, is back from overseas duty after spending five-and-a-half months on Guadalcanal. He was one of the first Marines to land at Guadalcanal, and he was in combat with the Japanese in various parts of the Solomon Islands. Now at the Naval hospital at New River, N.C., Cpl. Mills is taking treatments for malaria fever.

• Rice, grits and cornmeal to meet a threatened shortage in the Charleston area are now en route to the office of Sen. Maybank, D-SC, announced today. Maybank's office was informed by Corrington Gill, director of the president's committee on congested areas, that 400,000 pounds of rice, four cars of grits and two cars of cornmeal were being rushed to Charleston.

• Naval Cadet Henry H. Workman, of Sumter, has reported to the U. S. Navy Pre-flight School here for three months of intensive physical toughening and instruction in advanced ground school subjects. Upon successful completion of the course, he will be transferred to a Naval air station to begin progressive flight training preparatory to joining a combat unit. Workman completed Naval Flight



1968 — Base mapping, the first phase of comprehensive planning studies of Sumter County, is charted by, from left, Ed Gussio and Don Johnson, planning director and technician, respectively, and James Nettles, chairman of the County Planning Board.

Preparatory School at Columbia and was transferred from the CAA War Training Service School at Miami, Florida.

• The War Food Administration was reported today to have approved the furloughing of soldiers to harvest peanuts in South Carolina for oil. Chairman Fulmer, D-SC, of the House agriculture committee made the statement and added that whether the men will be released for this work now awaits action by Paul V. McNutt, war manpower director, and the Secretary of War. Fulmer received a telegram from D. W. Watkins, director of the South Carolina extension service, saying that "every day of delay means a loss of peanuts for oil."

• South Carolina's highway system ailing from the lack of attention is going to get a shot in the arm with the federal government providing the elixir. Many of the state's roads have suffered from the abnormally heavy traffic, but aside from minor repairs, the state had to obtain the consent of the federal government before any major highway construction could be undertaken. C. R. McMillian, state highway engineer, said the federal government was not only approving repairs and construction of strategic roads, but also would supply funds for the work. Bids will be opened Sept. 14 on the surfacing of slightly more than 5 miles of U. S. 76 between Sumter and Shaw Field. The work will be paid for in its entirety by the federal government, but the construction will be supervised by the state highway department which called for bids. When war was declared normal highway construction in the state stopped. Work on rebuilding route 76 was underway at the time. The highway had been straightened, and curves had been repaved. However, the straight section between the air field and Sumter had not been improved.

50 YEARS AGO — 1968

April 29 – May 5

• Bill Lesesne, head JV football coach and golf coach at Edmunds High School, will conclude six years of service to Sumter High School when he leaves his post in June to take over the job of director of admissions at Erskine College in Due West. A graduate of Dixie High School where he was an All-State half-back and of Erskine, Lesesne came to Sumter in the fall of 1962. Since that time he's held down many duties in the Gamecocks' athletic system while also teaching history. His JV football team of last fall finished the campaign with a perfect 9-0 record while his golf team owns an 8-4 mark.

• The public was reminded the dedication of the Sumter County Library was scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, at 11 a.m. The ceremony is planned to take place in front of the main entrance to the build-

ing, but in the event of bad weather the observance will be held in the Adult Services Section of the library. A simple dignified ceremony is planned. Musical selections will be furnished by the School District Two All-District Band. Harry Wilkinson representing the Downtown Sumter Improvement Association will serve as master of ceremonies.

• Roy James will assume the reins of the Sumter City government, backed by a complete slate of "city officials" as student mayor Wednesday in observance of Youth Government Day. The student officials, elected by Edmunds High School seniors, will meet with their counterparts to train for their Wednesday duties. In two cases, the students will find themselves filling in for their fathers, as Claudia Wright takes over as superintendent of parks and recreation from Sim Wright and as Ginny Gussio assumes planning director duties from Ed Gussio.

• The U.S. House of Armed Services Committee approved the purchase of 61 acres of land north of Shaw Air Force Base which will be used for 300 housing units. Announcement of the approval was made from Washington by chairman L. Mendal Rivers (D.S.C.) Approved was a land cost of \$94,320. The property is adjacent to existing housing units on the north portion of the base.

• Planning studies that will mirror Sumter County's present character and lay the foundation for future studies, delving into patterns of growth and development, will be undertaken within the next two weeks, according to Ed Gussio, planning director. The studies to be made by Barbour-Cooper & Associates of Asheville, N.C. and the local planning staff are financed through a \$43,942 federal grant from the Urban Renewal Administration of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and a one-third matching donation from the county.

• It may be said that the Carolinas are Ford country, but Junior Johnson and his Chevelle are out to prove otherwise if the past weekend of dirt track racing is any indication. A light rain fell some 45 minutes prior to the opening heat race for the jalopies during warm-up for all drivers and provided the needed moisture to make a fast track for time trials. The record set during the time trials for the season opener of 20.4 seconds fell under the heavy foot of Junior Johnson in his '67 Chevelle as he nailed down the pole position with a 19.7.

• Paul Hahn, one of golf's greatest showmen and recently returned from entertaining the GIs in Vietnam, will present his full one-hour routine at Shaw Air Force Base on May 7. Hahn will appear under the sponsorship of the P. Ballentine & Sons brewing

company of Newark, N.J.

• Lincoln's Bulldogs defeated Jackson of Camden, 13-3, but split a double-header with Barr Street the day before and knocked Coach Walter Washington's gang out of the running for a shot at the lower state championship. The Bulldogs finished the season with a 10-3 overall record and a conference mark of 7-3, one game behind loop champion Webber. In the game against Jackson William, Blyther went all the way on the mound for Lincoln to record his first triumph of the year. Blyther allowed only five hits and fanned nine during the victory.

• C. E. Owens III of Atlanta, a Sumter native, has been named new headmaster at Thomas Sumter Academy, replacing W. W. Wannamaker III, who resigned. School trustees in a statement stated Wannamaker resigned as headmaster because of outside business duties but would continue to teach classes in mathematics and science.

• The Hi-News staff won the SCSA convention at the University of South Carolina. Susan Bryan is assistant feature editor and winner of first place in the feature division; Martha Stoddard is editor-in-chief; Mary Lou Barnes, feature editor; Tom Saunders, sports editor; Barry Heddon, news editor; and Charles Cann, advertising manager.

• AIC David T. Wehner of the 363rd Field Maintenance Squadron has been named Base Airman of the Month. A metal processing specialist with the unit's welding shop, Airman Wehner performs arc, heliarc and gas welding on various aircraft parts. A native of Midland Park, N.J., Airman Wehner entered the Air Force in 1966. He completed Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB, Texas, and came to Shaw as a bypass specialist in the metal processing field.

25 YEARS AGO — 1993

Jan. 29 – Feb. 4

• Lee County residents were asked to close their eyes, pretend they'd been away from the county for 10 years and had suddenly come back. What would the county look like? About 50 residents worked in five groups at Bishopville's Opera House to plan for the county's long-term economic growth during a community meeting to establish goals for growth. They described a Lee County of the future, with better schools, more businesses, a larger population, more jobs, fine restaurants and an airport for larger planes.

• Hillcrest took a major step toward winning the Region IV-4A title by defeating Richland Northeast 73-63 at the Cavaliers' gym. The Wildcats, undefeated in the region with an 8-0 mark, are two games ahead of Irmo and Lower Richland in the standings and have but two games left on the road. The victory over RNE was the first of the road games on the second rotation of the schedule and the battles with the Yellow Jackets and the Diamonds are at Hillcrest.

• A Sumter County resident who first pushed for the incorporation of an area surrounding Shaw Air Force Base in 1991 is doing it again — and this time he says he's determined to take the process further than it's ever gone before. Cherryvale resident Mike Hinkle organized a meeting at Oakland Elementary School and said the incorporation is needed to stop the city of Sumter from annexing the area around Shaw — annexation, he says, would raise residents' taxes without offering them additional services or protection from unwanted development, or "urbanization."

• Upgrading the state's forest fire prevention capabili-

ties is the top priority of a Sumter native who was recently appointed state forester. James Hugh Ryan, a 1957 graduate of Edmunds High School, was appointed head of the state Forestry Commission this month. He replaces former State Forester Robert Gould, who retired. Prior to his appointment by the state Forestry Commission, Ryan was deputy state forester. Ryan oversees 600 employees and a \$30 million annual budget. In addition to fire control, which was the original mission of the Forestry Commission, Ryan said the commission now oversees forest and environment management.

• A guaranteed \$100 million wouldn't be enough to cover the cost of a possible "major accident" at the Laidlaw hazardous-waste landfill in Sumter County, a state Department of Health and Environmental Control official said. But such an accident is so unlikely that DHEC, when it decided in October to make Laidlaw guarantee that \$100 million, didn't consider any cost estimates for cleaning up a major spill, said Lewis Shaw.

• Sumter High's Lady Gamecocks slowly pulled away to a 45-34 win over Fairfield Central at the Lady Griffins' gymnasium. SHS led 10-5 after one quarter and increased it to 20-11 at halftime. Sumter opened the lead to 35-22 after three quarters. Tina Williams led the Lady Gamecocks, who improved to 14-6 overall and 6-2 in Region IV-4A, with 15 points.

• The man who heads up economic development for the Sumter County Development Board will become president and chief executive officer of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce. Jim Alexander, general manager for economic development, will take over the Chamber's reins from retiring president and CEO Phil Ballinger, who last year announced he would retire at the end of March.

• Willie Baxter's goal is to improve his game and he wants his team to aim in that direction as well. "I like to work on my game," said the senior forward for Manning High's basketball team. "I would like to improve my game, play better defense and shoot the ball better." But the Monarchs, now 3-2 in the region, are struggling. My advice to some of the younger players is to not give up. They should look at our record and get motivated.

• Limestone raced out to a 16-point halftime lead and cruised to a 92-75 win over Morris College in men's college basketball action Monday at the Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center. Limestone, which led 47-31 at halftime, was led in scoring by Kenny Murray with 24 points. Donald Mims had 22 points, and Elec Browning added 10. Willie Davis, coming off a 41-point performance against Clafflin, led the Hornets with 31 points. Cojo Cobb added 12 for 2-16 Morris.

• Seven sighs of relief emanated from the Sumter High coaches' conference room. With television cameras rolling and flash bulbs flashing, Sumter High head football coach Tom Lewis watched seven of his players sign letters of intent to play college football, signaling the end of another hectic recruiting season. Four of the seven will be members of NCAA Division I programs.

• Rep. E.B. "Mac" McLeod Jr., D-Pinewood, said this morning he will file legislation today that would combine Sumter County's election commission and voter registration board in an effort to prevent more Election Day confusion. Both the state House and Senate must approve the bill — and the governor would have to sign it — before the boards could be combined.

# Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

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

## A work day in the Lowcountry

The streets of Sumter were deserted and eerily quiet. Street lights stood out like beacons in the predawn darkness, and very few cars were on the roads. It was early Saturday morning in late January, and I was headed out of town to the Lowcountry.

I've been hunting the Lowcountry for more than 20 years. I first joined a club near Walterboro with my friend Jim Gowan to take advantage of the early opening of the turkey season. Since then I've hunted Allendale and Orangeburg County land and joined a small club in Bamberg County.

The Bamberg County club offered the best turkey hunting that I have ever known, but the club eventually dissolved, and I had to move on.

I found a new place in Colleton County five years ago. The members hail from all over South Carolina, and three are from North Carolina. There is a big club house on the bank of the Edisto River and thousands of acres of land and water to hunt and fish.

The club is primarily a dog hunting club, but still hunting is also allowed. There is a good population of wild turkeys and not many turkey hunters.

Roughly half of the land is owned by individual property owners, and the other half is owned by a timber company. When I joined this hunting club it was all big timber, but the timber company ownership has changed twice, and they have cut almost all of their



Hunt club members gather at the clubhouse for the first work day of the year.

PHOTO PROVIDED

acreage. None of the private land timber has been cut.

The hurricane last year knocked down a good many hardwood trees, and we had trimmed back the ones that blocked the roads, but additional work was needed on those blowdown trees.

Members are required to attend at least five work days a year or pay a \$50 fine for each day missed. Work days are scheduled throughout the off season. Our first work day of the year in Jan-

uary is usually focused on cutting firewood for the clubhouse.

Jim Hagan was standing in the clubhouse yard when I pulled in. He smiled and waved when I stepped out of the truck. I noticed a curl of smoke from the chimney. He, Doug Wilson and Larry Robinson had driven down from North Carolina the evening before. They had a nice fire going in the wood stove and a pot of coffee on the table.

Jim and I stood in the yard talking and greeting other members as they drove in. Soon we had a pretty good crowd gathered. We divided into two groups with chain saws and log splitters. Just as our group was pulling out of the clubhouse yard, I saw Mister Ruple pull in. I stopped, got out of my truck and went over to greet him. Marion Ruple is 95 years old, and here he was at our first work day of the year.

We talked about the fishing, the cold weather and our families. I could have lingered and talked more, but I needed to catch up with my work group. They had headed out to Ridge Road to cut up a big red oak that had uprooted and fell across the road.

Ridge Road is a gated timber company road shared by our club, Ridge club and Circle club. Our properties all join on this road. Someone had cut the limbs from the road, but the huge trunk of the tree was still there.

We cut the big tree into more manageable sections and ran those sections through the splitter. The wood was split into smaller pieces generally referred to as "stove wood." We loaded the split wood onto a trailer and a pickup truck. When the big oak was finally cleaned up we hauled the wood back to the clubhouse and unloaded it under the wood shed out back. The other crew pulled in with their wood just as we were finishing. We have enough stove wood now to last us through the year. We were done by midday.

We made plans for our next work day in February and said our goodbyes and headed out. I still had one more small task that I needed to do.

I took a game camera over to one of the areas where I like to hunt turkeys. I set the camera on a pine tree overlooking a field and woods road. Turkeys will walk the road into the field, and I want to see them. I'm getting in the turkey hunting mode. It's only a few weeks away.

I'll check my camera on the next work day. I can't wait.

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

## Bass caught at Pack's Landing



PHOTO PROVIDED

Johnny and John Martin McLeod show some big bass that they caught recently fishing out of Pack's Landing.

## Rain gutters cause many home drainage problems

BY DEAN FOSDICK  
The Associated Press

The person who coined the phrase "saving for a rainy day" must have been a property owner with home drainage problems.

The financial costs of poor drainage can be substantial and the human health costs significant, too.

Prevention is important, and many clues exist for predicting trouble, says Ryan Larsen, a civil engineer with NDS Inc., a manufacturer of drainage products in Woodland Hills, California.

"Low spots in the landscape can be hard to see, but areas where the ground is wet for long periods of time after it rains or the sprinklers run are locations where water is collecting," Larsen said.

Discoloration and mold growth on a home's foundation, and places where stucco, siding or paint easily fall off a house are indications that water is pooling, he said. "You should suspect water is getting into your home if you detect damp or musty smells in your basement or crawl space," he said.

Most homes have some kind of drainage problem, and most often the damage comes from rain gutters, Larsen said.

"Because a lot of homes have gutter downspouts that lead straight to the ground, you've got all this water coming off the roof and pouring to just one point, where it can collect against a home's foundation and flood landscapes and planter areas," he said. "Fortunately, gutter problems are also the easiest to fix with a downspout extender."

The financial costs of poor drainage can add up. Outlays for drying basements can range from \$1,000 to \$10,000, according to the U.S. National Flood In-

urance Program. Repairing foundation damage can cost anywhere from \$3,500 to \$25,000, the National Association of Realtors says.

The human health costs of poor drainage on properties also can be sizeable, Larsen said. "Poorly drained runoff from roofs can enter basements or flow inside homes through foundational cracks or leaks where it can warp floorboards and turn finished rooms into mildewy and moldy messes that can attract insects and rodents."

Inadequate drainage also cracks foundations, creates standing water that ruins yards and gardens and allows breeding spots for disease-carrying mosquitoes.

"Soggy, poorly graded ground spells certain doom for lawns, shrubs, plants and gardens," Larsen said.

Three of the most common solutions for drainage problems are catch basins, pop-up emitters and French drains.

Catch basins trap sediment and contaminants beneath downspouts for drainage to safer locations. Pop-up emitters are connected to underground drainage pipes and channeled away from structures. The pop-up tops allow water to drain when full but remain closed when empty to keep out rodents and debris. French drains are gravel-filled trenches that direct storm water away from specific areas. They collect water over their entire length, rather than from one particular spot.

With water drainage problems, though, come opportunities, said Monica Day, a water resources educator with Michigan State University Extension.

"Be creative," Day said. "There are positive ways of dealing with too much water. Keep it in the soil but where it's not damaging anything. Let (ornamental) plants grow there to filter out the water and retain it."

**Did you kill a big buck? Kill your first deer? Catch a big fish? Catch your first fish?**

We want to share your outdoor photos with our readers. Email your photo submissions to [pressrelease@theitem.com](mailto:pressrelease@theitem.com). Please include name of person in the photo, where the catch or kill took place and any other pertinent information.

# the Sumter ITEM CLASSIFIEDS

To Place Your Classified Ads, Please call

# 803-774-1200

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### In Memory



**In Loving Memory**  
**Wilbur Witherspoon Sr**  
2/4/36-10/27/16  
Happy 82nd Birthday!  
Steps of a great man is order by the Lord  
Lovingly Cherished, *Mattie Mack Witherspoon, Children, Grandchildren, Children's Children & Family*

#### Card of Thanks



The family of the late **Cleveland Chambers, Jr.** would like to sincerely thank you for the kind expression of sympathy conveyed during our recent time of bereavement. Your cards, flowers and other kind expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. *The Chambers Family*

### BUSINESS SERVICES

#### Home Improvements

**SBC Construction of Sumter**  
Metal /Shingle Roofs • Porches • Concrete & Windows  
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Call **BURCH** 803-720-4129

#### Legal Service

**Attorney Timothy L. Griffith**  
803-607-9087, 360 W. Wesmark.  
Criminal, Family, Accident, Injury

#### Roofing

**Robert's Metal Roofing**  
35 Yrs exp. 45 yr warranty. Financing avail. Expert installation. Long list of satisfied customers. **803-837-1549.**

**All Types of Roofing & Repairs** All work guaranteed. 30 yrs exp. SC lic. Virgil Bickley 803-316-4734.

#### Tree Service

**Ricky's Tree Service** Tree removal, stump grinding, Lic & ins, free quote, 803-435-2223 or cell 803-460-8747.

**Newman's Tree Service** Tree removal, trimming, topping, view enhancement pruning, bobcat work stump grinding, Lic & insured. Call **803-316-0128**

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### PETS & ANIMALS

#### Dogs

**AKC Lab puppies** for sale \$500 \$250 Deposit Ready for pick up 02/24/18 Contact: Alva Ridgeway 803-428-4732

### MERCHANDISE

#### Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

**American Legion Flea Mkt.**  
**Vendors Wanted Mar 9 & 10 8-2**  
**Liberty & Artillery Dr.**  
Call Ed: 803-464-7643

#### For Sale or Trade

**New & used Heat pumps & A/C.**  
Will install/repair. Call 803-968-9549 or 843-992-2364

**4 Cemetery Plots** in Evergreen Cemetery \$6000 for all 4 OBO Call 803-775-4045

### EMPLOYMENT

#### Help Wanted Full-Time

**Roper Staffing** has the following openings:

- Billing Specialist
- Collections CSR
- CSR/Accounting
- Property Mngmt Asst.
- CMA (Certified Medical Asst.)
- Medical Admin Asst.
- Industrial HR Mngr.
- Cost Accountant
- Quality Technicians
- Manual CNC Machinist
- Exp. Welders (Fit)
- Warehouse Supervisor
- CNC Operators/MAOPs
- Lead Industrial Maintenance
- Industrial Spray Painters- Lead
- Welder/Fabricator
- Electrical Assembly
- CDL A Driver
- Chemical Logistics Handler

**APPLICATION TIMES:** Monday-Wednesday from 8:30-10:00am and 1:30-3:00pm. Please call the Sumter office at 803-938-8100 to inquire about what you will need to bring with you when registering. For more detailed information on the job listings go to [www.ropersstaffing.com](http://www.ropersstaffing.com)

#### EXPERIENCED HVAC INSTALLER/TECHNICIAN WANTED

Pay Based on Experience  
Must have your own reliable transportation **Location:** Sumter, SC **Job Requirements:** 2+ years' experience installing new HVAC systems, preventative and general maintenance servicing systems, installing duct work, extensive troubleshooting, and HVAC knowledge. Please call (803)968-4718 if interested.

**Looking for a certified** mechanic to work on Class A tractors and trailers. Certified in annual inspections, tires and brake work. If interested call 803-473-6553.

**Nesbitt Transportation** is now hiring Class A CDL Drivers. Must be 23 yrs old and have 2 yrs experience. Home nights and weekends. Call 843-621-0943 or 843-659-8254

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

**Experienced Cashiers, Servers & Grill cook** needed. Must be available to work all shifts. Please call Cindy at 803-481-6495 for more info.

#### Help Wanted Full-Time

**Need daycare workers for local daycare.** Please resume to P-481 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

**Help Wanted** from Manning, SC. Live in care giver needed for elderly woman. For more info please contact 267-442-8603 or 267-608-7952

**Law office** seeks employee for Secretarial position requiring efficient typing, dictaphone, computer and office skills. Send resume to Box 338 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

#### Help Wanted Part-Time

**Camp Bob Cooper** (Clemson University Youth Learning Institute), Summerton, SC is now hiring for Part-Time Food Service Workers, no more than 28 hours per week, shifts vary, some weekends. Must have a valid ID, reliable transportation, and be able to pass a background check. Please Call: 803-478-2105 Clemson University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**Exp. Trailer switcher** needed in Sumter to move trailers in yard. Do washouts & minor repairs. Thurs., Fri. & Sun. 7 am - 5 pm. Must have 2 yrs exp. CDL & clean driving record. 803-938-2708 M-F 9am-3pm lv msg.

#### Trucking Opportunities

**Burch's Landscaping P/T & F/T** Triaxle Dump Truck Operator Wanted. Clean CDL & Experience a must! Retirees welcome. Box 467 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

#### Truck / Trailer Service Technician / Welder

Immediate opening for a general service technician to perform general maintenance and PM services. Experience with general repair, brakes, lights along with welding/fabricating experience preferred. Benefit package includes medical, dental, life, prescription and 401K plan available. Company supplied uniforms and accrued PTO time. Applicants can apply in person at Freehold Cartage 132 Myrtle Beach Hwy Sumter, SC 29153 or call 803-773-2611 ext 25. Resumes can be mailed to [tkrigbaum@freeholdcartage.com](mailto:tkrigbaum@freeholdcartage.com). Hourly rate commensurate with experience.

#### Medical Help Wanted

**Medical office** seeking medical assistant for fast paced office. Fax resume to 803-905-3282

**Pediatric office** with FT/PT opening for receptionist, Requires EHR/Computer experience, and good communication skills. Bring in or mail resume with salary requirements to: 380 W. Wesmark Blvd. Bldg. B, Sumter, SC 29150

### RENTALS

#### Unfurnished Apartments

**2BR Apts.** LR, kitchen w/ all new appliances. Dining Room, Washer/Dryer. Parking Space. C/H/A Section 8 friendly. \$500 & \$600 Per month. Call 803-236-0948

**Huntington Place Apartments**  
**Rents from \$625 per month**  
**1 Month free\***  
**\*13 Month lease required**  
**Leasing office located at**  
**Ashton Mill Apartment Homes**  
**595 Ashton Mill Drive**  
**803-773-3600**  
**Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5**

**Senior Living Apartments for those 62+ (Rent based on income)**  
Shiloh-Randolph Manor  
125 W. Bartlette.  
775-0575  
Studio/1 Bedroom apartments available  
EHO

#### Mobile Home Rentals

**American MHP, 2 & 3/BR,** lot rentals, water/sewer/garbage pickup inc'd. Sec. 8 ok. 803-494-4300.

**Scenic Lake 2 & 3BR 2BA No pets,** Section 8 accepted. 499-1500 or 469-6978 btwn 9am-5pm

**Country Living DW 3BR 2BA** on a Pond \$750 Mo + Deposit. References required. Call 803 469-9353

### REAL ESTATE

#### Land & Lots for Sale

**1-5 Acre lots** (or more). 15,000 per acre. Peaceful quiet country living just outside Sumter. Located on London road. From Plowden Mill, about 2 tenths down on the right from David-803-223-1164.

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#### Boats / Motors

**2013 Gator Trax** 18 x 54 center console, loaded with options, \$18,500 Call 803-491-4071



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### Southview

60 Hilliard Drive • Sumter, S.C. 29150  
For application or information, please call **803-934-1449**  
**TTY 800-735-8583**

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Shaw Air Force Base  
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
6:30 p.m., Feb. 6, 2018,  
New Beginning Banquet Facility  
1335 SC Highway 441, Sumter  
(.3 miles north of US Highway 378)

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. – Shaw is hosting a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 6, 2018, at the New Beginning Banquet Facility, 1335 SC Highway 441, and invites the public to attend and participate. Shaw is conducting an ongoing series of environmental activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, a federal law enacted in 1980 to require the investigation and cleanup of old, contaminated sites throughout the country. These initiatives are within the guidelines of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976.

The meeting is of Shaw's Restoration Advisory Board. The board provides a forum through which the base, our neighbors and regulatory agencies can work together in an atmosphere that encourages transparency, discussion, and exchange of information on current and future environmental cleanup programs here.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow the community the opportunity to view detailed information about ongoing Shaw's environmental cleanup activities and to discuss specific questions and answers with the Shaw Environmental Restoration Team on a face-to-face basis.

Your United States Air Force is totally committed to a clean and safe environment. For further information, please contact the 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, (803) 895-2019.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### Vans / Trucks / Buses

**2006 Fleetwood Bounder,** diesel, 38 ft. Totally furnished & appliances. 20,000 mi. Asking \$55,000. Call 843-380-1193.

#### Autos For Sale

**2006 Hyundai Elantra** Very good cdtm, 130K mi. drives excellent \$3200 OBO 803-486-9254

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#### Legal Notice

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#### Beer & Wine License

**Notice Of Application**  
Notice is hereby given that **Kanifanath Krupa, LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and **OFF** premises consumption of **Beer & Wine** at **428 Suite B Boulevard Road, Sumter, SC 29153**. To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **February 6, 2018**. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same 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 address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

#### Beer & Wine License

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 address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

**Notice Of Application**  
Notice is hereby given that **Adolfina Toledo DBA Tienda Mexican Y Taquera Cecilia's** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale **ON** premises consumption of **Beer** at **207 Commerce St. Manning, SC 29102**. To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **February 19th, 2018**. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same 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 address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

**Notice Of Application**  
Notice is hereby given that **Kanifanath Krupa, LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and **OFF** premises consumption of **Liquor** at **428 Suite A Boulevard Road, Sumter, SC 29153**. To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **February 6, 2018**. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same 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 address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.



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## OAKLAND PLANTATION APARTMENTS

5501 Edgehill Road  
Sumter, South Carolina, 29154  
803-499-2157

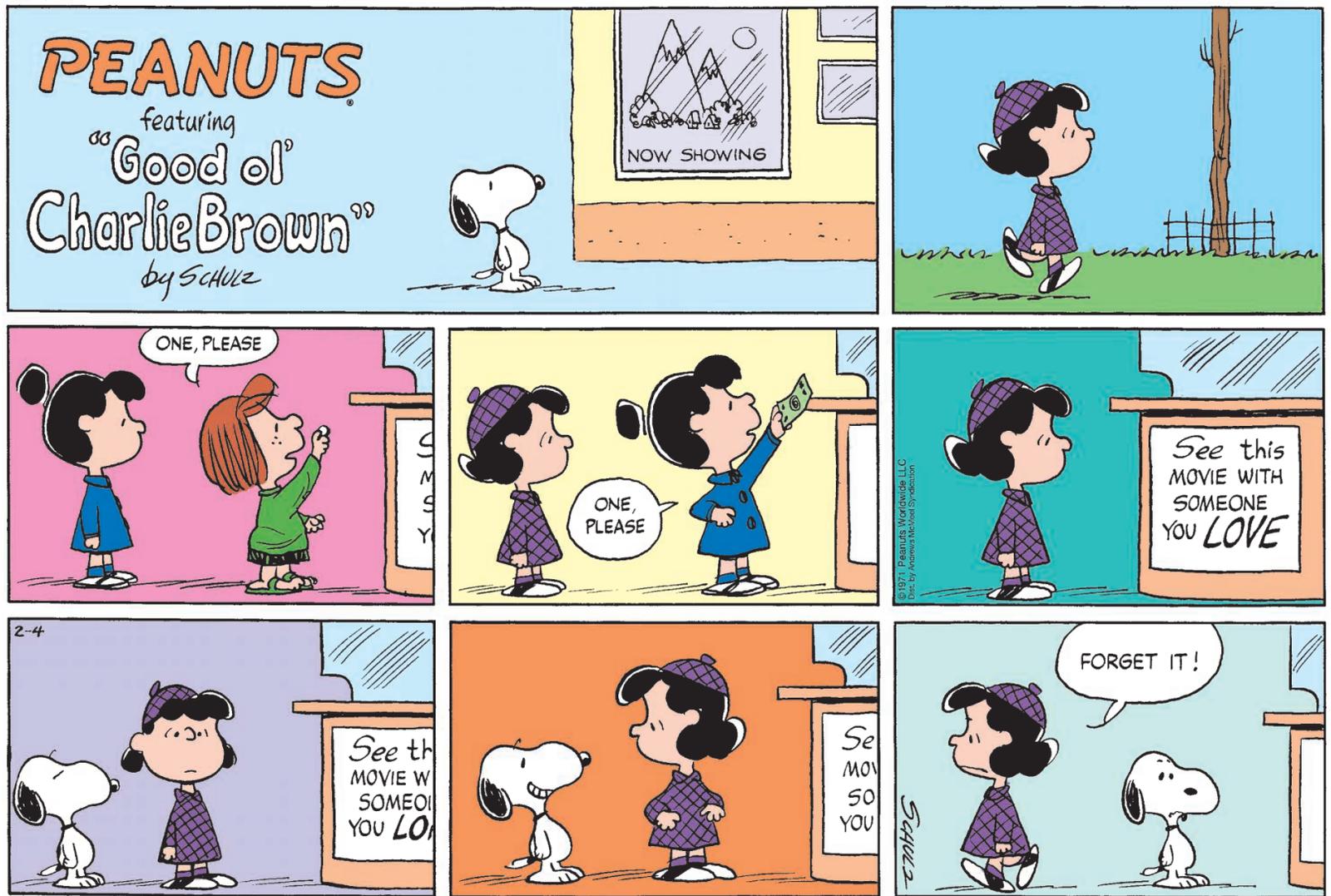
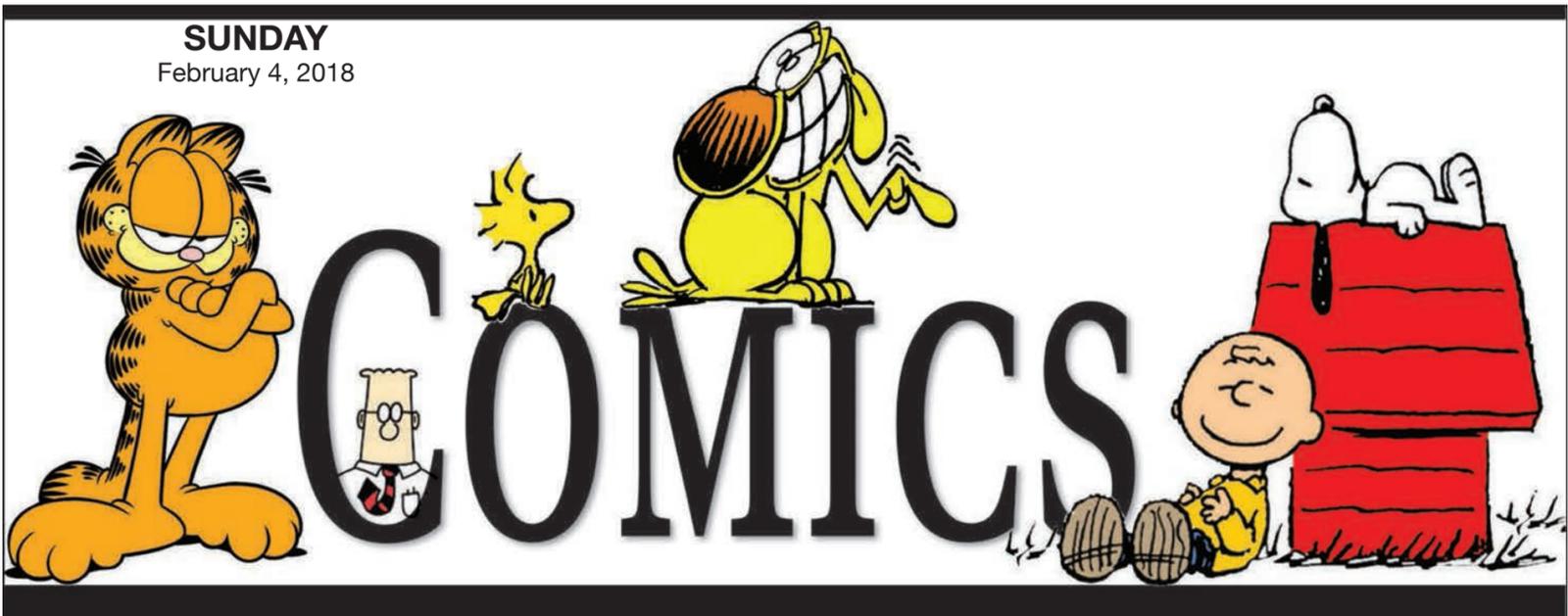
Applications Accepted At The Site Office  
Monday Through Friday  
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

### 1, 2, & 3 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Central Heat/Air  
Stove/Refrigerator/Blinds  
Laundry Facility On Site  
Playground  
Smoke Free Community

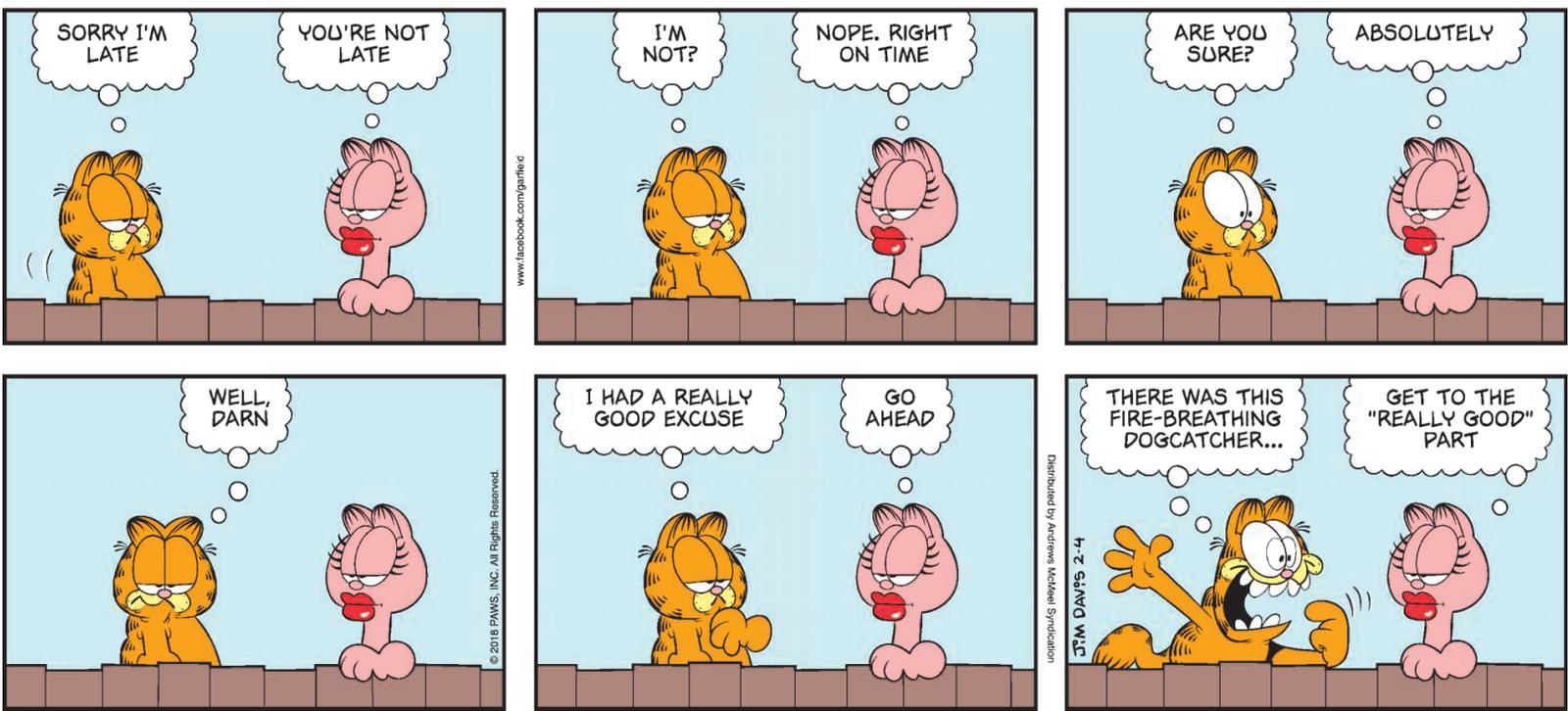
Housing Choice Vouchers Accepted

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.  
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REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS



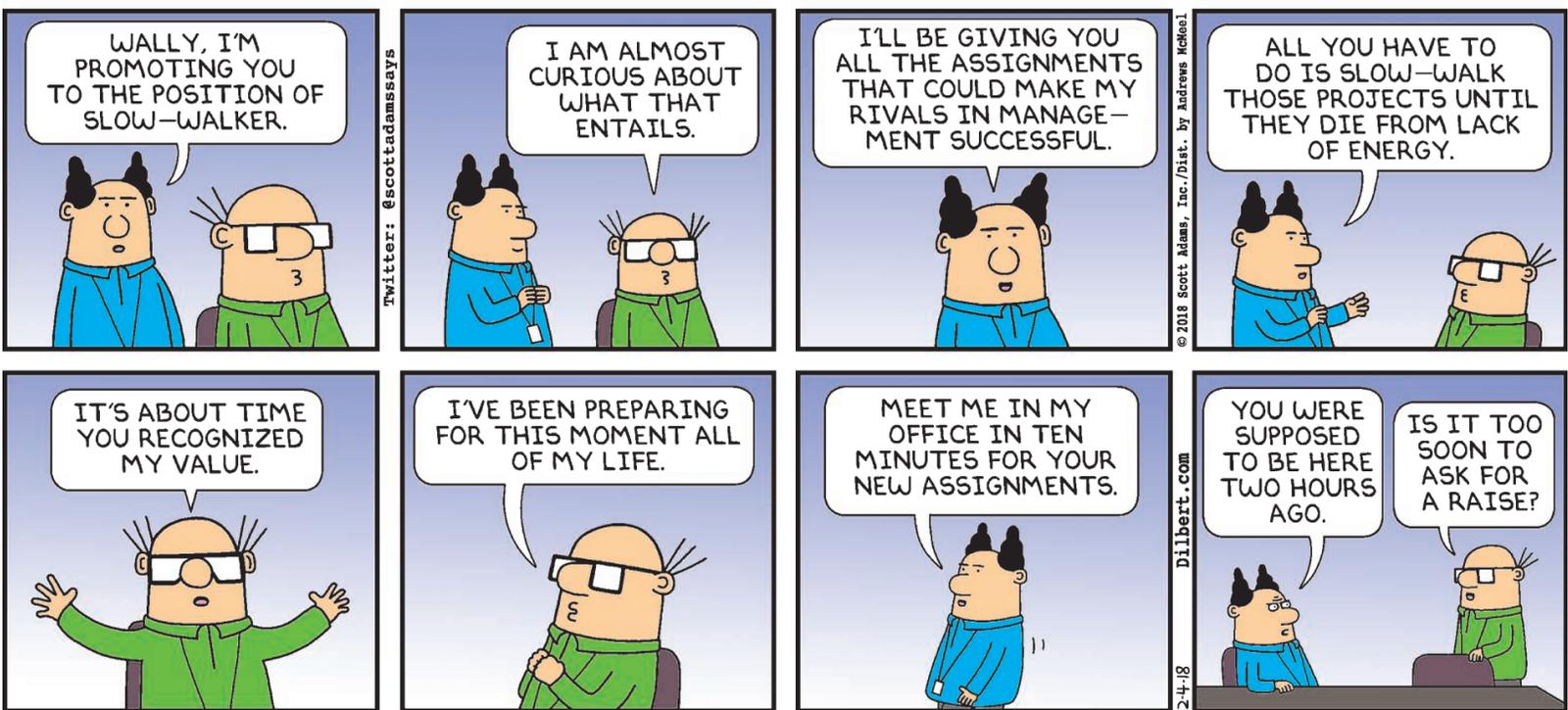
**GARFIELD**

BY JIM DAVIS



**DILBERT**

BY SCOTT ADAMS



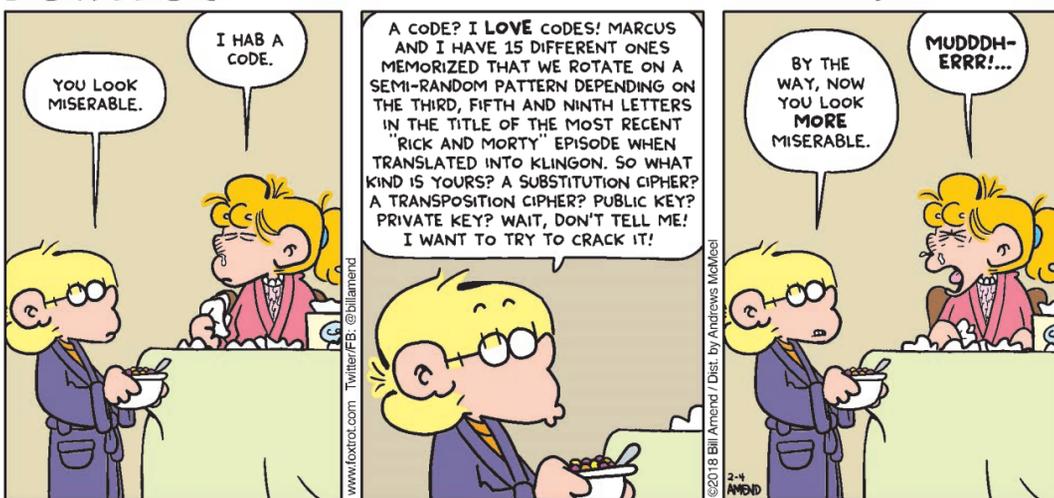
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



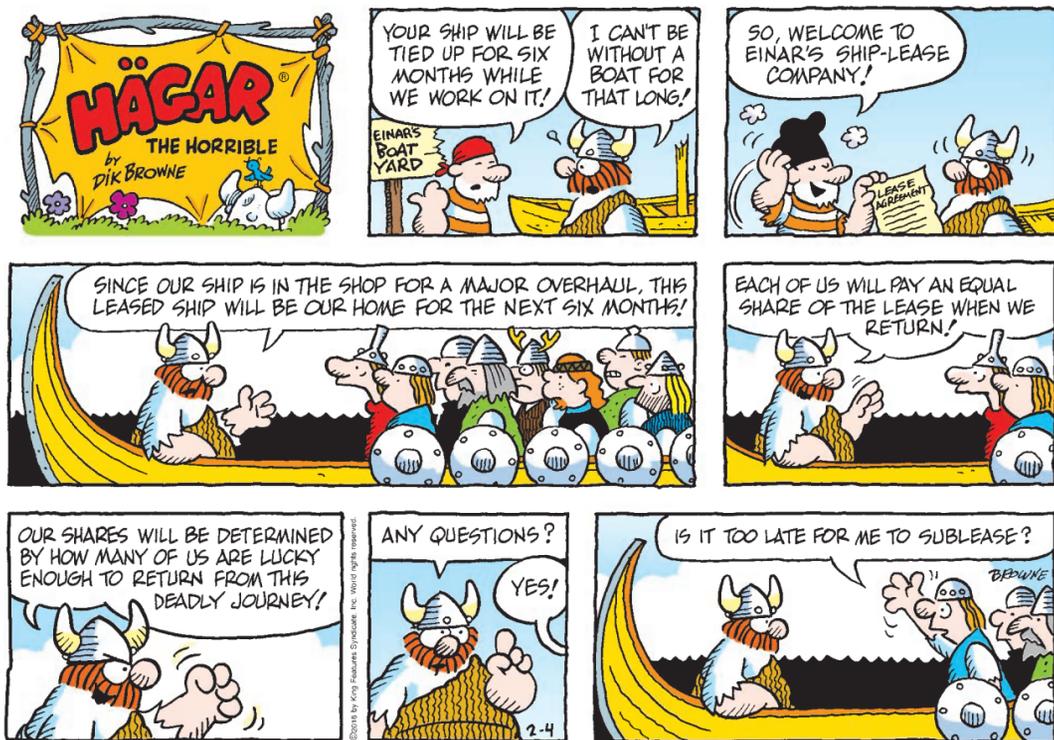
FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



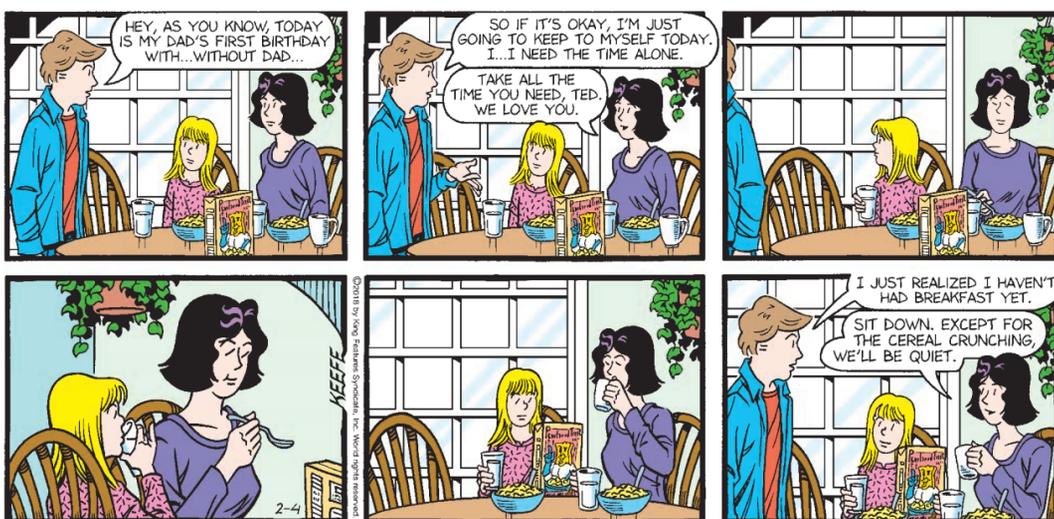
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



**DOODLES**  
By Foote & Sacko

WE'RE LATE FOR CLASS AND THAT'S NOT COOL!  
HELP US FIND OUR WAY BACK TO SCHOOL!

Send your riddles and puns to:  
Doodles, P.O. Box 105  
Excelsior, MN 55331

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**Doodle Zoo**

THANKS FOR EXPLAINING THE WORD "MANY" TO ME... IT MEANS A LOT.

**Draw!!**

DRAW YOUR FAVORITE BOOK!

**Riddles!!!**

Q. WHAT IS THE LONGEST WORD IN THE DICTIONARY?  
A. "SMILES," BECAUSE THERE'S A MILE BETWEEN EACH S.  
Shane Pearson, Baltimore, MD

Q. WHAT KIND OF KEYS CAN'T OPEN DOORS?  
A. MONKEYS  
Britney Bosch, Medina, MN

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTHOFF

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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Bow is moved. 2. Pizza box is smaller. 3. Cloud is moved. 4. Window is shorter. 5. Leg is shorter. 6. Leg is moved.

**FRANK AND ERNEST**

WE'VE HAD TWO WEEKS BETWEEN THE CONFERENCE FINALS AND THE BIG GAME.

WITH TIME FOR INJURIES TO HEAL, WE'RE PHYSICALLY READY FOR A PEAK PERFORMANCE.

WE WATCHED HOUR AFTER HOUR OF VIDEO.

THEN SPENT LONG DAYS ON THE PRACTICE FIELD SO WE'LL FUNCTION AS A TEAM AND NOT A COLLECTION OF INDIVIDUALS.

AND ONCE WE FINALLY FINISH PREPARING FOR THE TOUCHDOWN CELEBRATIONS, WE MIGHT HAVE AN HOUR OR TWO TO PRACTICE FOOTBALL.

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**THE BORN LOSER**

by Art & Chip Sansom

WE ARE CURRENTLY BEING HAMMERED BY AN ARCTIC COLD FRONT...

**MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM** BY MIKE PETERS

GRIMM, MAYBE IT'S TOO COLD TO BE GOING FOR A WALK TODAY

LET'S JUST GO BACK HOME AND GET WARM, OK, GRIMM? GRIMM?

... I'LL TAKE THAT AS A "YES"

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OUR TEMPERATURES OVERNIGHT WILL BE IN THE LOW TEENS...

BUT IT WILL FEEL EVEN COLDER, WITH THE HIGH WINDS WE ARE EXPERIENCING...

**WIZARD OF ID** by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

YOUR HONOR, CHOOSE WHICH FOOTBALL PLAYER YOU'D LIKE TO STAND NEXT TO YOU

PICK THE SHORTEST GUY THEY GOT

WELCOME TO THE STADIUM OF ID

AND NOW, YOUR BELOVED KING, WITH THE HONORARY KICKOFF!

HOORAY! WOOOO! YAAAAAY WOOOOO!

IT WAS A ONCE IN A LIFETIME SHOT. I TOOK IT

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THIS BITTER COLD WILL EVEN AFFECT YOU WHEN YOU ARE INDOORS...

DON'T BE SURPRISED IF YOU HEAR CREAKS, CRACKS, GROANS AND OTHER ABNORMAL NOISES TONIGHT!

**GET FUZZY** BY DARBY CONLEY

I KNEW IT! THEY CHANGED MY TREAT RECIPE!

CAT'S OUT OF THE BAG, EH?

EXCUSE YOU? CATS IN A BAG?

IT'S AN EXPRESSION.

CORRECTION: IT'S AN AGGRESSION. I AM NOW OFFICIALLY TRIGGERED.

NO, I KNOW A MALAMUTE NAMED TRIGGER. IF YOU GOT TRIGGERED THERE'D BE NOTHING LEFT OF YOU, HA HA!

...DID YOU JUST ASSUME MY INFERIORITY... TO A DOG?

WHAT PART OF MALAMUTE DID YOU NOT UNDERSTAND?

THEY USE MALAMUTES FOR PROTECTION FROM THOSE HUGE, WHITE POLAR THINGS IN ALASKA... WAMPAS?

WAMPAS DON'T EXIST.

OK, THEN. SEE HOW TOUGH MALAMUTES ARE?

NOW I'M... WHAT'S BEYOND TRIGGERED? I'M DETONATED.

JUST BE GLAD YOU'RE NOT MALAMUTED.

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HOW DID THEY KNOW YOUR MOTHER WAS VISITING?

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SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY

2/4

Use the following in a sentence: "Hoosier"

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BY MASTROIANNI AND HART

THERE GO OUR FEARLESS HUNTERS...

WHO'S READY FOR ROCK SOUP?

RUFFLE RUFFLE

LEAP

RUFFLE RUFFLE

LEAP

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Lynn Johnston

UMPH?

...THEY DON'T COME FOR THE GARBAGE TILL TOMORROW.

JOHN? I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT...

DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

I'M THINKING OF WEARING SOMETHING DIFFERENT TO CHURCH TODAY!

THE SHIRT AND PANTS I PICKED OUT CLASHED.

WITH EACH OTHER?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO WEAR SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

NO... WITH YOUR MOTHER.

Mort Walker's beetle bailey

HO-HUM! TIME FOR BED

I GOTTA CLEAN OUT MY BED!

HMMM... SOME POTATO CHIPS

A PRETZEL!

SOME POTATO STICKS!

WOW! GRAND ESTATES 2008 MERLOT!!

EVERYONE SHOULD CLEAN OUT THEIR BED NOW AND THEN!

GREG + MORT WALKER