



PANORAMA

Jingle with the Arts turns 21

Celebrate Christmas with Civic Dance Company **A5**

INSIDE: *Plan your holidays with list of area events* **A8**

150 jobs coming to Bishopville

Health care linen, laundry processing facility to open in early 2017

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A provider of linen and laundry processing exclusively for health care organizations plans to open a 60,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art laundry facility in Bishopville and bring 150 jobs to the area, according to information released from Lee County on Friday.

The company, Crown Health Care Laundry Services, plans to host job fairs in Bishopville and Sumter to initially fill 80 positions ranging from \$10 per hour to \$45,000 per year.

The company is expected to open the Bishopville facility in early 2017 as a \$12 million investment and plans to expand to 150 jobs within

three years.

To fill the initial and long-term hiring needs of the company, job fairs are scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Old Bishopville High School Gymnasium, 121 E. College St. in Bishopville, and Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sumter County Civic Center, 700 W. Liberty St.

Crown Health Care Laundry Services seeks employees for positions including front-line laundry, averaging \$10 per hour; class A commercial driver's license drivers, \$13 to \$16 per hour; maintenance mechanics, \$16 to \$23 per hour; and production supervisors, \$35,000 to \$45,000 per

SEE **JOBS**, PAGE A9

Cycles for Christmas gears up for 20th year

Evening Optimist Club has given away 3,300 bikes in 19 years of project

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

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Evening Optimist Club of Sumter's Cycles for Christmas project is in full swing with donations and repairs for its 20th year of donating new and used bikes to underprivileged children later this month.

Club member Tom Lawrence said Evening Optimist Club of Sumter has successfully provided more than 3,300 "like-new" bicycles to needy children since the project started 19 years ago.

Each Christmas season, members of Evening Optimist Club of Sumter, along with volunteers, refurbish used bicycles donated by people in the community.

"We have plans to give away over 200 bicycles this year," he said.

Bicycles and tricycles, new or used, can be delivered to any Sumter area fire station for the project.

Lawrence said bikes are collected all year, with a greater push for donations in November and December.

He said the children who will receive the bikes are selected based on applications provided by Sumter School District.

Lawrence said the Evening Optimist Club receives applications from teachers, guidance counselors and others in the school system who understand the needs of the children.

He said most of the repair and cleanup work for Cycles for Christmas is done in November and December, leading up to the giveaway.

SEE **BIKES**, PAGE A9



PHOTO PROVIDED

Members of University of South Carolina Sumter's Fire Ant baseball team and Palmetto Optimist Club sit on the bicycles they cleaned and repaired on Nov. 19 for the Evening Optimist Club of Sumter's 20th Cycles for Christmas project. The goal of the project is to deliver bikes to underprivileged children.

Lights, music — it's Christmas!



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

John Smigelski stands with his lighting display on Gerald Street. The display syncs to an audio soundtrack and is dedicated to firefighters, police, sheriffs, EMS and their support crews. The display will be on from 5 to 11 p.m. through Jan. 1.

Gerald Street display dedicated to 1st responders

BY IVY MOORE

ivy@theitem.com

John Smigelski loves music — and all the trappings that go with a performance. As a musician with the Bubba Band, he traveled for years playing at clubs and festivals. Once the group disbanded, he found another way to

indulge his taste for music.

Two years ago, Smigelski decided to install a light display synchronized to music in his front yard.

"I did it to sort of revitalize the neighborhood," he said.

Smigelski lives on Gerald Street, just off North Lafayette Drive.

"I started out messing around

with an off-the-shelf, residential grade unit out of New York," he said. "Then I started doing a little tweaking. I built onto it and will add on next year."

He soon added onto the "canned music" and bought more flexible equipment so he can modify the

SEE **DISPLAY**, PAGE A9

Enjoy annual display on Mockingbird Lane

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

This holiday season families can continue to enjoy a local tradition of about 30 years by viewing Charles DuBose's Christmas lights on Mockingbird Lane.

DuBose said it takes about three months to set up the light

display each year.

He said he and a few family members and friends start putting up the lights, spread across about 8 acres, in September and have everything finished by the end of November.

When asked how many decorations he has on his property, DuBose said he doesn't know.

He said two fan-favorite decorations are a nativity scene made of wood and a winter scene of Jesus looking over a church.

DuBose said his favorite decoration is one that he no longer puts on display.

SEE **LANE**, PAGE A8

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DEATHS, A13

Patricia Ann Hicks
Victoria B. Regensburg
James K. McNair
Henry Toney
Hannah J. Ballard

Deloris S. Jones
Betty Jean Lee
O'Neal Kenley
Darlene S. Brunson
Ray Jackson
James Anthony

WEATHER, A14

COOLER AND RAINY

Chilly today with strong chance of rain at times; tonight, more rain.

HIGH 51, LOW 44

INSIDE

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VOL. 122, NO. 37

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Opinion A12
Outdoors C5
Panorama A5
Reflections D3
Stocks C3
USA Today C1

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SECOND FRONT

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USC Sumter's effort focuses on scholar program

BY BRUCE MILLS
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After sending out a record number of letters this fall to high school seniors who qualify for a free two-year tuition program at the school and setting an all-time high attendance at the annual award event Tuesday, University of South Carolina Sumter hopes to grow its USC Sumter Scholars program.

The college's initiative for at least the past 10 years has offered free tuition and fees for the first two years of college to high school seniors in the top 15 percent of their graduating classes in Sumter, Clarendon, Lee and Kershaw counties.

Beginning last year, the college expanded the high school honors program to include students in Richland and Lexington counties.

With about 300 high school seniors and parents in attendance Tuesday at the annual USC Sumter Scholars Award Ceremony from the six coun-

ties, the college hopes the event will springboard to even more graduating high school seniors accepting the college's two-year, tuition-free offer.

According to Keith Britton, the college's director of admissions services, this fall the college sent 1,100 letters to seniors in the six counties who qualify for the free tuition program — its largest total ever.

To qualify, high school seniors have generally maintained at least a 3.0 GPA in a college preparatory diploma program.

Tuesday night's scholars ceremony provided more information on the program at USC Sumter that's available to the qualifying high school seniors as they weigh their choice of colleges. All students who participated also received a certificate for being a USC Sumter Scholar and a small gift from the university.

According to Britton, it was also the earliest in the academic year that USC Sumter has hosted the scholars cere-



Area high school seniors and their parents attend Tuesday night's University of South Carolina Sumter Scholars Award Ceremony on the Sumter campus.

mony and probably the best time as well.

"We wanted to reach the students and their parents earlier in the college decision-making process to help grow the program," Britton said. "Late November is probably the best time. We may stick

with it."

Some high school seniors officially signed on and committed to attend USC Sumter as a full-time freshman for 2017-18 at Tuesday's event. The deadline to accept is March 17.

Britton explained the schol-

ars program serves as basically a "tuition-waiver" for freshmen and sophomores at the school. After applying the \$2,500 LIFE Scholarship per semester, the scholars program waives the remainder of fulltime in-state tuition and a technology fee for students — a value of a little more than \$1,000 for the fall 2017 semester. The program covers everything except the cost of textbooks.

When students complete their first two years and 60 credit hours at USC Sumter, they can earn their associate degree from the school and then matriculate to a four-year campus to finish off their bachelor's degree.

They can also stay at USC Sumter for one of its three standalone traditional classroom bachelor-degree programs in business management, elementary education or early childhood education or continue on locally through one of its 14 online Palmetto College degree programs.

Deadline looms for grants, loans applications

BY KONSTANTIN VENGEROVSKY
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Less than two weeks remain for Hurricane Matthew survivors in South Carolina to register with Federal Emergency Management Agency and submit disaster loan applications to the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The last day for survivors to register for federal disaster assistance through FEMA or to file an SBA disaster loan application is Dec. 13.

Survivors can register online at DisasterAssistance.gov or by phone at (800) 621-3362, 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service or (800) 462-7585 via a teletypewriter. The toll-free lines are open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week until further notice. Multilingual operators are also available.

Disaster assistance from FEMA may include grants for homeowners or renters to help pay for temporary housing, essential home repairs, personal property replacement and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance or other sources.

The SBA offers low-interest disaster loans to businesses of all sizes (including landlords), private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters. SBA loans help fund repair or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property.

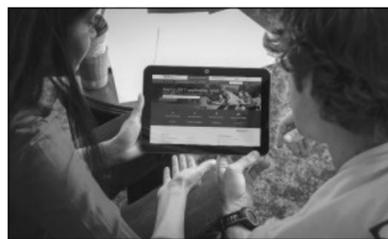
ACA health insurance remains available

BY JIM HILLEY
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The Affordable Care Act's days may be numbered, but open enrollment in the program, popularly known as "Obamacare," remains available through Jan. 31. New or existing enrollees may enroll, re-enroll or change their 2017 insurance plans at www.healthcare.gov.

"It's business as usual," said Patty Embry-Tautenham, chief spokeswoman for Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina, the only provider offering coverage through the public exchange. Embry-Tautenham said that while premiums have increased, most enrollees in South Carolina will qualify for assistance to meet the cost of premiums.

"Eight out of 10 people who sign up on the public exchange qualify for subsidies," she said.



Open enrollment in the program, popularly known as "Obamacare," remains available through Jan. 31.

Coverage can begin as soon as Jan. 1 for those who enroll or re-enroll by Dec. 15, she said. For those who enroll from Dec. 15 through Jan. 15, coverage will begin Feb. 1, and for those who enroll from Jan. 16 to Jan. 31, coverage will begin March 1, she said.

Four weeks into this year's open en-

rollment period, more than 2.1 million people have selected plans using the HealthCare.gov platform since open enrollment began on Nov. 1, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. That includes more than 500,000 new consumers and 1.6 million consumers renewing their coverage.

Enrollments for these two weeks represent an increase of 167,000 plan selections versus the third and fourth weeks of open enrollment last year, CMMS reported.

"I hear from people across the country just how much coverage matters to them, so I continue to encourage all Americans who need health insurance for 2017 to visit HealthCare.gov and check out their options," Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell said.

For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

Church seeks donations for 5th community holiday meal

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
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Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church will host its fifth annual Community Christmas Dinner on Dec. 25 and is asking for food and care package donations for more than 700 guests.

Shekia Sanders Bradford, event coordinator, said the goal is to serve 750 guests this year.

In the past, the number of guests has increased from 200 to 500, and the church has always met its goal to serve each person who stops by, she said.

"We are excited to expand and see our community come together to fellowship

on Christmas Day," she said.

And, being that this is the fifth year, the church will actually serve prepared plates to each guest instead of having a buffet style dinner, Bradford said.

"We really want to show our appreciation and gratitude by providing an elegant dinner, banquet style," she said.

For the dinner, the church is collecting turkeys, boxes of macaroni, packages of cheese, eggs, canned mixed vegetables, carrots, brown sugar, dinner rolls, Pepperidge Farm stuffing mix, tea, water bottles, carryout trays, napkins and cups.

People are also encouraged to donate deodorant,

washcloths, socks, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste for the care packages. "We want everyone to leave with something this year," she said.

All donations can be dropped off at the church, 803 S. Harvin St., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Bradford said people who donate can contact her to schedule drop off times for the weekends.

The deadline for all food and care package donations is Dec. 20.

Monetary donations will also be collected. Checks can be made out to CC Dinner.

Those who wish to volunteer are asked to serve for one hour and must sign up

by Dec. 20 with the time they wish to serve.

The dinner will be held from 12 to 3 p.m. on Christmas Day at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church M. H. Newton Family Life Center, 415 Manning Ave.

Bradford said decorations for the dinner will be provided by Simply Unique Events; music will be provided by DJ AL; and there will be live entertainment from Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

For more information, contact Shekia Sanders Bradford at (803) 847-4133 or kiabradford2010@gmail.com; or contact Napoleon Bradford at (803) 775-4032 ext. 109 or napoleonbradford@gmail.com.

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Military installation leaders highlight funding needs

BY JACK OSTEEN
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Military officials briefed state and community leaders on the effects of Base Realignment and Closure, federal government sequestration and budget cuts that could affect local military installations during a meeting Friday at University of South Carolina Alumni Center.

Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, filling in for Gov. Nikki Haley, heard briefings about the challenges and opportunities from all major installations in South Carolina, including Shaw Air Force Base.

McMaster paraphrased a friend, saying the state must be the "best

place on Earth because so many generals retire here."

Military installation leaders from Columbia, Beaufort, Sumter and Charleston, representing all major branches, each touted the importance their base has in keeping America safe.

All seven military leaders agreed that sequestration, automatic federal spending cuts to government agencies and the military, remains a top concern moving forward.

While BRAC remains a top concern, most of the military leaders felt like their base was too important in size or

mission to be considered for closing if BRAC occurs.

Col. Daniel Lasica, Shaw Air Force Base 20th Fighter Wing commander, said Shaw's 20th wing is the "core and seed wing for our nation."

He said that more than 1,000 men and women are deployed around the world out of Shaw Air Force Base, mostly in the Middle East.

Mission, airmen and family are the priorities of the Air Force, Lasica said.

Lasica referred to Sumter's motto of "Uncommon Patriotism" and how fully invested Shaw Air Force Base is

in the community, especially during times of deployment.

Even so, Lasica said those deployments challenge retention in the armed forces.

The average airman and his or her family moves six to 10 times during an Air Force career.

Lasica pointed to the local schools and how South Carolina must work to improve them.

Another sticking point with most of the base commanders was the pending law regarding the REAL ID Act, under which state identifications may not be usable to get on military bases effective Sept. 30.

A second ID would be required if the law is not changed.



MCMMASTER



LASICA

Statewide organization to present 'Status of Women in SC' report

BY BRUCE MILLS
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A nonprofit organization that helps educate and advocate for women in South Carolina has released a report on the status of women in the state, across various key data indicators, and will present its findings this week in Sumter.

The Center for Women, based in Charleston, has completed *Charting the Course for Change: A 2015 Report on the Status of Women in SC* as its first benchmark on how well the Palmetto State is doing at "moving the needle" on changing opportunities for women. The nonprofit — which published the report with the assistance of the faculty and staff of The Riley Center for Livable

Communities at the College of Charleston — will present the study from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday during a luncheon at The O'Donnell House in Sumter.



ZINSSER

The center's mission is to help women in South Carolina obtain more economic stability and achieve leadership opportunities, and the report's goal is to articulate the challenges we face as a state that limit women's economic success, according to the organization's Website (www.cawomen.org). Four broad indicator areas are used in the report to benchmark the relative status of women in the state, compared to men and

also to women in other states. The four areas are leadership, health and safety, education and economic security. Under leadership, the report measures women's board representation on publicly traded companies in the state compared to the U.S. average and also the number of women serving in the state Legislature and in other statewide elected seats compared to other states.

Related to economic security and education, median salaries for women in South Carolina are presented in comparison to men's pay, and poverty comparisons are also made. The report asserts to close the gender income gap the state must do a better job at encouraging women to enter high-wage, high-demand jobs. One strate-

gy to do this is by encouraging more girls and young women to participate in apprenticeship opportunities offered through the S.C. Technical College System and its apprenticeship arm, Apprenticeship Carolina, according to the report.

Wednesday's presentation will be made by John Zinsser of the Center for Women's speaker's bureau and also the center's Awareness and Advocacy Manager Ali Titus. The event at The O'Donnell House is being hosted by Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce.

According to the Chamber, seating is still available. The cost to attend is \$20 for Chamber members and \$25 for general admission and includes lunch. To register, visit the

Chamber's website at www.sumterchamber.com, and click on the Status of Women In South Carolina event from the front page.

According to Chamber staff, data from the study will be paired with a call to action to help the Sumter Chamber launch its Leadership for Women Conference for 2017.

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Woman charged with attempted murder after cutting friend with knife

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sumter County Sheriff's Office charged a 53-year old woman with attempted murder after she allegedly cut another woman in the leg with a knife on Thursday evening.

According to an incident report from Sumter County Sheriff's Office, Loretta Black of 6760 Richbow Road, Rembert, and the victim were hanging out and drinking at Black's residence before the incident.

The victim told officers that at some point during the evening Black became aggressive, grabbed a knife and slashed her left leg, near the knee, causing heavy bleeding. After the assault, the victim went to a neighbor who put a make-shift tourniquet on her leg.

The responding officer reported heavy bleeding from the victim's leg wound as well

as "severe bruising and swelling to her left cheek and forehead." The incident report states the victim's leg injury would require 12 to 18 stitches.

According to the report, the neighbor reported hearing Black and the victim yelling from inside his residence and told officers he overheard Black say she would "get" the victim if she returned to her property.

While interviewing Black at her residence, she told officers she wanted the victim to leave her residence and admitted to grabbing the victim and pushing her. A large knife was discovered in plain view in the living room of Black's residence and taken into evidence, the report stated.

Black was then placed under arrest and transported to Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center where she was awaiting a bond hearing.

She faces an additional charge of possession of a weapon during a violent crime.



BLACK

POLICE BLOTTER

CHARGES

Michael Favor, 39, of 607 Maney St., was arrested on Thursday and charged with public disorderly conduct and possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine after 1.1 grams of the drug were found in his pants pocket during a search. According to an incident report from Sumter Police Department, Favor was stopped by officers while riding his bicycle along Lafayette Drive without "required night equipment" early Thursday morning. The reporting officer wrote that Favor was looking around, sweating, stuttering and repeatedly putting his hands in his pockets during the stop before he attempted to flee.

Aliya McFadden, 19, of 2285 Stadium Road, was arrested on Sunday and charged with malicious injury to property and third-degree assault and battery for allegedly knocking items off shelves at a beauty supply store and pushing the store owner while in the 400 block North Guignard Drive. According to an incident report from the police department, McFadden damaged approximately \$150 in products during the incident.

Anthony T. Coursey, 49, of 3991 Country Lane, was arrested on Thursday and charged with three counts of receiving stolen goods, breach of trust with fraudulent intent and conspiracy for his alleged involvement in a chop-shop operation in the 2500 block of S.C. 261 South.

Christine M. Connor, 36, of 2586 S.C. 261 South, Wedgefield, was arrested on Thursday and charged with two counts of receiving stolen

goods; two counts of altering, defacing or destroying a vehicle identification number; and one count of conspiracy for her alleged involvement in a chop-shop operation in the 2500 block of S.C. 261 South.

Are multivitamins worth it?

Some researchers say multivitamins are a waste of money and can actually cause harm, while others claim that multivitamins are "insurance against an imperfect diet."

Some think that the more expensive it is, the better the product, while others claim that it is a waste to spend more than \$5 on a quality product.

Multivitamins are most widely used to provide the recommended amount of essential vitamins and minerals that aren't received through diet alone.

For example, many individuals don't get enough Vitamin D from food or exposure to sunlight, so taking a multivitamin that contains Vitamin D can help.

Especially as we age, our appetite changes, and we aren't eating as much food, so we may not be getting the essential nutrients we need.

In a study of more than 14,000 men age 50 and older, one group took Centrum Silver, while another took a placebo.

After 11 years, the Centrum Silver group had an 8 percent lower risk of being diagnosed with cancer.

And even for those who were diagnosed with cancer at the start of the trial, results suggested that the multivitamin helped

prevent new cancers. They were also less likely to have heart attacks, strokes or cognitive decline.

It is unknown if these results are the same for females, but studies are underway. It is also unclear if all formula types of multivitamins have similar effects, or if certain combinations of vitamins or minerals are better.

But it is suggested that taking vitamins mixed with herbs or botanicals should be avoided until information comes out about how the ingredients interact, and what the effects are.

Some multivitamin companies claim that their supplements can "support" your heart, brain, eyes, energy level or mood, but there is a complete lack of scientific evidence that these claims are true.

For example, B vitamins are claimed to help promote heart health, but multiple clinical trials have shown that B vitamins don't reduce the risk of heart attacks or strokes.

It is worth taking a multivitamin if it supplies nutrients that you may not get from food, but be sure to take the capsules.

Although you may have trouble swallowing supplements, the chewables, gummies, mints and liquids may fall short.

Many of these have been found to contain far less than the recommended levels of vitamins and minerals and are missing key nutrients that a multivitamin should contain.

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PHOTOS BY KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Santa and the Grinch are joined by several other characters who will appear in Sumter Civic Dance Company's 21st Jingle with the Arts at Patriot Hall on Friday and Saturday. More than 200 performers will appear in the show that's become a Christmas tradition in Sumter.

It's time to 'Jingle with the Arts'

21st show evokes Christmas spirit



ABOVE: The Sumter Civic Dance Company will perform to "Parade of the Toy Soldiers" in Scene 3 of Jingle with the Arts, set in Santa's Toy Shop.

RIGHT: Sumter Civic Dance Company members Mary Catherine Matthews, front, and Alazia Daniels, left, rehearse the lyrical dance "Footprints in the Sand" for Jingle with the Arts, which can be seen at Patriot Hall Friday and Saturday.



BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

It started two decades ago as an experiment, intended for one performance only, but Jingle with the Arts is now a tradition, a big Christmas extravaganza each December that commands three shows in Patriot Hall. The shows can be seen at 7 p.m. Friday and 3 and 7 p.m. Saturday.

Jingle with the Arts started with a challenge Sumter Civic Dance Company Director Andrea Freed-Levenson set for herself and her company more than 20 years ago, after she'd seen the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes' Christmas Spectacular, loved it, and came away thinking, "I believe we can do that."

"I only intended to do it one time, just to see if we could," Freed-Levenson said. So in 1996, the company and a few guest performers put on the first Jingle with the Arts, and they all loved it.

So did their audiences. "I guess we *could* do it!" she said. "Now it's not Christmas without it."

The show changes each year and is loosely based on the Rockettes' annual Christmas performance. It's got five acts, each with several musical and dance numbers, bright colors, costumes, innovative lighting and some of the area's best talent.

Freed-Levenson said the audiences will see a wide variety of dance styles, ranging from lyrical and jazz to swing and hip-hop, and they'll hear some outstanding vocal music.

Each year, she noted, the acts have the same titles, but the performances in those acts change. So do the performers, as the Sumter Civic Dance Company adds new members and new guest performers join the show.

"Only the reindeer and Riverdance are back each year, by popular demand," she said.

Scene 1 focuses on the "Shopping, Shopping" aspect of the season and has dancers from the company busily doing just that. The

Sumter Civic Dance Company will present Jingle with the Arts at 7 p.m. Friday, and 3 and 7 p.m. Saturday at Patriot Hall, 135 Haynsworth St. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. They can be purchased at Freed School of Performing Arts, 527 N. Guignard Drive. For more information, call (803) 773-2847.

Sumter High School Show Choir, directed by Ashlee Poole and choreographed by Ariel Mack, performs "Let it Ring, Let it Sing, Let it Snow" in this scene that closes with "White Christmas," appropriately leading into Scene 2, "Winter Wonderland," which features the Furman Middle School Choir, directed by Linda Beck, wondering "What Would Santa Say?" and Kaavya Karthikeyan singing "Believe."

Scene 3 takes place in "Santa's Toy Shop" with dancers from the Freed School of Gymnastics Team, the Apprentice Company, the senior company and the SHS Show Choir taking their turns as elves, Dalmatians, Pokemon characters, Raggedy Ann Dolls and more.

She added that "around 75 local dancers who auditioned for the show will perform" in the Santa's Toy Shop scene.

Scene 4 takes the audience to Santa's Man Cave, where he and the Grinch seem to have reached a Christmas detente. The two will relax as they are entertained by Santa's Reindeer, the SHS Show Choir, Visitors from



Little Miss Sumter winners



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Little Miss Teen Miss Sumter and Sumter County Pageant was held on Nov. 6. The Sumter and Sumter County winners will participate in the Little Miss Teen Miss South Carolina Pageant in July, 2017, in Hartsville. They are: Lillian Bryant, Little Miss Tiny Tot, age 4; Emmersyn Hicks, Wee Miss Sumter, ages 5 to 6; Madi Marshall, Wee Miss Sumter County, 5 to 6; Lauren Parker, Little Miss Sumter County Sweetheart, 5 to 6; Paisley Hill, Little Miss Sumter, 7 to 9; Charleston Hodge, Little Miss Sumter County, 7 to 9; Madison Lyles, Young Miss Sumter and Little Miss Sumter Sweetheart, 10 to 12; Allie Keith Coker, Young Miss Sumter County, 1- to 12; Meadow Poston, Young Miss Teen Sumter, 13 to 15; McKenzie Brooke Reed, Young Miss Teen Sumter County, 10 to 12; Connor Mouzon, Teen Miss Sumter, 16 to 19; Caroline Glover, Teen Miss Sumter County, 16 to 19.

SLT's 'A Christmas Story' might brighten your holiday season

BY JANE G. COLLINS
Special to The Sumter Item

REVIEW

Often Christmas plays involve many, many children trying to act cute. Sumter Little Theatre's current production "A Christmas Story" has children — 10 of them — and they are cute, but wonderfully, all of them have at least one shining moment on stage.

Yes, it is a Christmas play involving children. It is a story about gifts, bullies, school, family relationships, desires and, of course, Santa Claus. Even more, it is a special celebration for adults: a nostalgic opportunity to reflect on growing up, a chance to recall family history and events, and a time to reminisce about special moments as a child and as a grown-up watching your own family story unfold.

Adam Reisenauer does an admirable job with his lines and facial expressions, but he is especially endearing playing the dejected, rifle-seeking Ralphie Parker; he's often a screw-up but determined and clearly despon-

dent for his seemingly fruitless search for the Red Ryder BB gun which everyone assures him would be too dangerous because "You will shoot your eye out."

Nathan Martin, who plays younger brother Randy, adds great humor and moments of pathos. His waiting for Santa scene is especially strong. Charlotte Gallagher as Mother and Luke Hall, the Old Man, add special interest, especially with the infamous soap scene and the prize lamp sequences. Shannon Mewborn contributes extra laughter as the English teacher.

Truthfully, however, it is Braden Bunch's show from start to finish. He blends well with each little vignette, especially his conversations with Ralphie. He runs an emotional gamut: hopeful, defensive, manipulative, agonized, exuberant, gloating. Every action seems real and unrehearsed, exploding from the depths of his experiences. Although he is an ensemble player, his riv-

eting performance is just that — remarkably believable and engrossing.

Opening night the set changes were effective and the set design colorful and helpful to the timing and action of the play sequences. The car added visual fun, as did the Christmas trees and the all important prized lamp. The Christmas music alone was worth the price of admission. Eric Bultman's direction brought a naturalness to the story's many scenes.

If you like Christmas, if you ever wished for a special gift, if you ever wondered how you survived the "growing-up years," Philip Grecian's "A Christmas Story" just might brighten your holiday season.

Sumter Little Theatre, 14 Mood Ave., presents "A Christmas Story" Thursday through Sunday and Dec. 8 through 11. Thursday through Saturday shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinees begin at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students, seniors and military.

For reservations or more information, call (803) 775-2150.

Neil Diamond to celebrate career with tour

BY JOHN CARUCCI
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Neil Diamond took "Song Sung Blue" to the top of the charts, and now he promises to leave "no song unsung" when he takes the stage next year for a world tour.

The 75-year-old singer-songwriter promises to play the highlights of his discography on his upcoming "50 Year Anniversary World Tour" — including songs he wrote for the 1960s TV rock band The Monkees.

"Especially stuff from The Monkees," Diamond told The Associated Press before taking the stage at the annual lighting of the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center on Wednesday night. Diamond wrote several songs for the band, including "I'm a Believer," which has sold more than 10 million copies.

The first leg of the tour kicks off in Fresno, California, on April 7, and goes through August, including a stop in New York in June. Other stops include Atlanta, Dallas and Los Angeles.

"We play all over the United States, North America, and then we will find other places to go," he said.

The Grammy winner's hits also include "Cracklin' Rosie," "Sweet Caroline" and "Love on the Rocks." He has sold more than 125 million albums and has been inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Diamond said he feels energized when he performs for his fans. "People have been loyal and listening to you for years, so you just want to give them everything. Let it all wash over them, and make sure everybody has a great time."

group's "GI Joes and Janes."

Music is a big part of Jingle with the Arts and will be showcased in Scene 5, titled "The Reason for the Season."

This scene always ends the show with the focus on the biblical Christmas story and brings the entire cast of more than 200 on stage. Freed-Levenson said, "All three Sumter School District high school choirs — Crestwood, Lakewood, directed by Herbert Johnson, and Sumter — are singing in the show, and we've got the Furman Middle School Choir and the Lee Central High School Gospel Choir, directed by Terry Slater.

They will sing separately,

and together in the final scene, and they sound just fabulous!"

Crystal Blakeney will also sing "Mama's Angel," which she wrote, during the final scene.

Technical Director David Shoemaker has designed the light and sound, further enhancing the festive spirit of Jingle with the Arts.

"It's the holiday season," Freed-Levenson said, "and our goal is to get everyone in the Christmas mood."

That's been the company's goal for 20 years, she said.

"Some people have been to the show every year," she said, "and they deserve a different show. It's become a tradition in this town."

JINGLE

FROM PAGE A5

Afar performing a newly choreographed Riverdance and the Crestwood High School Choir, directed by Deborah Horton.

Freed-Levenson, who still attends the Rockettes' show in New York almost every year, does most of the choreography, which is not derivative of that show, but original to the company. Erin Levenson Harms choreographed a piece titled "Labels or Love" for the Sumter Civic Apprentice Company, and Andrea Barras Govier choreographed the hip-hop

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VISA, M.C.

Laurence Manning Academy

The following students from Laurence Manning Academy will be participating in the SCISA Regional Spelling Bee in January: first grade — winner, Anson McCabe, and runner up, John Harper Livingston; second grade — winner, Cooper Newman, and runner up, Lucy McCarron; third grade — winner, Hunter Ridgeway, and runner up, Ashlyn Holmes; fourth grade — winner, Lainey Baggette, and runner up Mary Catherine Buyck; fifth grade — winner, Hugh Jones, and runner up, Cadin Ragan; sixth grade — winner, Ariyelle Wells, and runner up, Braeden Hammond; seventh grade — winner, Aarsh Patel, and runner up, Brooklin Thompson; and eighth grade — winner, Britton Morris, and runner up, Elliott Harris. — *Kim Jolly*



PHOTO PROVIDED

Students from Laurence Manning Academy will be participating in the SCISA Regional Spelling Bee in January.

Bottom row, from left, Anson McCabe, John Harper Livingston, Lucy McCarron, Ashlyn Holmes.

Middle row, from left, Lainey Baggette, Mary Catherine Buyck, Hugh Jones, Cadin Ragan

Top row, from left, Ariyelle Wells, Aarsh Patel, Brooklin Thompson, Britton Morris

Not pictured: Cooper Newman, Hunter Ridgeway, Braeden Hammond, Elliott Harris

Jones Auditorium.

The Morris College Hornets will take on Fayetteville University at 7 p.m. in Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center. — *Anika Cobb*

Thomas Sumter Academy

THANKSGIVING

Thomas Sumter celebrated Thanksgiving dinner on the Hill as families joined their students to celebrate and give thanks to God for His blessings and mercies. A total of 850 meals were served during two days. A special thank you to TSA alumni Cathy Rabon and Bubba's Diner for providing our dinner this year.

GENERAL JACS

The General Junior American Citizens, a group sponsored by the Sumter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, completed a service project recently. The fourth- and fifth-graders wrote out 713 Christmas cards which will be distributed to local veterans and to patients at Dorn VA Hospital in Columbia. Cards were donated by the members of DAR.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Thomas Sumter NJHS delivered more than 125 handmade cards and letters for veterans to the VA Hospital in Columbia thanking them for their service.

FIRE SAFETY

Thomas Sumter's second-grade students read a story called "A Trip to the Firehouse" and had the opportunity to learn more about fire safety from Sumter Fire Department. The Sumter firefighters talked to the first- and second-grade students about fire safety and allowed the students to walk around the fire truck. The students had the opportunity to see the Jaws of Life and ask questions about the different equipment on the truck.

READ WITH GAMECOCKS PROGRAM

The Lower School students participated in "Read with the Gamecocks" reading program which is an initiative to promote reading among kindergarten through fifth-grade students. Each student participating was to read every day for one week and record the number of pages read. Congratulations to the following winners for reading the most pages during the week: Mikayla Razor, 219 pages; Christian Razor, 203 pages; and LaRaya Suazo, 324 pages.

These students were each awarded free Carolina basketball tickets for their awesome reading ability. — *BJ Reed*

Sumter Christian School

The November Sumter Christian School senior spotlight is on Amanda Paige Silvey. Having attended SCS since kindergarten, she appreciates

the education she has received and persistently strives to be the best she can be while helping others. Along with staying busy with her schoolwork, she is a pet sitter and takes weekly visits to the nursing home to spend time with an elderly lady. She enjoys fishing, shopping, traveling and spending time with her friends and family. Her favorite school subject is astronomy with her favorite teacher, Bob Robinett. After graduation, she plans to attend college to pursue a career as a veterinarian. Her favorite Bible verse is John 3:16, and she considers her parents to be her mentors because they set good examples for her.

Laurance Kannon's fifth-grade class has been quite busy with projects and competitions during the last month. The class did a great job showing their understanding of Ancient Egypt while presenting their history fair projects on Nov. 18. Luella Jennings won first place with her presentation on the Great Sphinx, Gabby Melendez took second place with her presentation on King Tutankhamen, and Mia Moore received third place with her presentation on the Nile River. During November and December, fifth grade is having a reading contest with a special ice cream party for each student who reads 500 pages or more. The class has also been busy preparing for its performance of the play "Walls of Jericho" in elementary chapel on Dec. 7 at 11:35 a.m. — *Miriam Marritt*

Sumter School District

DISTRICT SCHOOLS TO PERFORM AT FANTASY OF LIGHTS

A variety of groups from Sumter School District music programs have performed or will perform at the annual Fantasy of Lights at Swan Lake-Iris Gardens in December. The Lemira Elementary School choir and percussion group entertained the crowd at the opening ceremonies on Thursday.

On Friday evening, the Alice Drive Middle and Willow Drive Elementary school choirs, under the direction of Joseph and Jessica Betfinger, respectively, performed. They were followed by the Chestnut Oaks Middle School band, directed by Evan Thompson. On Saturday night, the Ebenezer and Hillcrest Middle schools' chorus and band, under the direction of Annette Torres, started the evening entertainment. Next in line was the Shaw Heights Chorus, led by Beverly George. They were followed by director Thomas Langford's band and chorus from Mayewood Middle School. The last performance of the night featured the Lakewood Reindeer Band, under the direction of Ray Francis.

This Friday night, Dec. 9, the Oakland Primary School chorus, under the direction of Teresa Harris, will perform at 7 p.m., followed by the Pocalla Springs Elementary School

chorus, under the direction of Latonya Alston. On Saturday night, director Eva Rennick will showcase her R.E. Davis Elementary School chorus at 7 p.m., followed by Millwood Elementary School chorus, led by director Andrea Camp.

In addition to the performances at Swan Lake, the choruses, bands and other groups will perform throughout the community during the holidays. Many will have free concerts open to the public at their schools. Please check the district website at www.sumter-schools.net for a listing of performances and for links to all the schools and complete listings of all the holiday activities.

SUMTER HIGH DRAMA STUDENTS EXCEL

Sumter High School drama students recently competed at the South Carolina Theatre Association's state convention and came away with numerous awards. The students are under the direction of Kelly Melton. Will Lane brought home an All-Star Cast award for his role as Spuds Idaho in the one-act play "The Snarl." Kadielynn McDonald also received the award for her role as Ginny in "The Tangled Snarl." All-Star Cast awards were awarded to only 30 of the 400 actors who competed.

Ana Hartman, Anna Kelley, Andrew Lawrence, Kyla Kitterman, Jonathan June, Gabe Rickard and Joseph Palmer won their events in the Technical Olympics competition. In addition, the Sumter High technical crew set up and took down a complete set of nine walls, eight furniture items, two boxes of props and lighting elements in only 58 seconds.

BATES TEACHERS RECEIVE GRANTS

Six Bates Middle School teachers received seven Kids in Need grants. The Kids in Need Foundation's Teacher Grants program is dedicated to empowering educators with direct funding to conduct innovative learning experiences.

Jennifer Brunson received \$425 for Double the Dimensions. Jill Madsen got \$200 for Noble Needles. Tahara Mellette received \$165 for Rise of the Renaissance! Melissa Pollard got \$500 for The Rotating Novel. Cindy Seckel received \$250 for The Extra Degree Intergenerational Project and \$260 for Code Masters. Delores Tips received \$400 for Mi Casa Sueña.

STUDENTS ATTEND LOWCOUNTRY REGION ORCHESTRA CLINIC

Nine Sumter High School students and 10 Bates and Alice Drive middle school students participated in the Lowcountry Region Orchestra Clinic recently. The students will now prepare for All State auditions in January.

Students from Sumter High School who participated in the clinic were Michael Zhang, Caroline Toburen, Audra Chaney, Finn McGregor, Burgess Dubose, Deja Lint, Will McGregor, Margaret McMahon and Dre'onna Gadson.

From Alice Drive Middle School, the students who participated were Hayden Kirkhart, Hannah Young, Trinh Le, Irene Moxley, Molly McMahon, Fredrick Kehrler, Kai Buffalo, Madelyn Jordan and Jayden Milligan. Wesley Castleberry participated from Bates Middle School.

Orchestra directors at the schools are Michael Baier from Alice Drive Middle, Krystin Cote from Bates Middle School and Erik Hines from Sumter High School. — *Mary B. Sheridan*

Clarendon School District 1

SCOTT'S BRANCH MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL

Scott's Branch Middle High School students Jamal Carter, Dabriel Cummings, Trayon Johnson, Zhailin Johnson, Megan Payne, Terrance Pusher, Kianna Stukes, Micheal Taylor, Todd Williams and Paulette Wimberly, attended the 10th Annual Legislative Youth Conference at the Statehouse in Columbia on Nov. 14. This event included a presentation by the S.C. Manufacturers Alliance and Boeing. They discussed the future jobs and skills necessary to obtain employment in the S.C. manufac-

turing industries.

The students were separated into committees such as Agriculture and Natural Resources; Education and Public Works; Judiciary, Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs; Labor Commerce and Industry; and Ways and Means to deliberate and then vote on laws. The students had the opportunity to go through the process of deliberating and voting on six laws (Bathroom Bill, Sale or Transfer of a Firearm, Medical Marijuana Program Action and Law Enforcement: Racial Profiling and Legal Age to Drink Laws).

Sen. Kevin L. Johnson extended an invitation for the students to take a tour of the grounds and his office. This conference also included a college fair.

Bryanta Booker-Maxwell, president of the Youth Democrats of South Carolina, was the keynote speaker during lunch.

Summerton Early Childhood Center

SECC held its annual Veterans Day Breakfast on Nov. 15. The second-graders performed for the veterans. It was a great turnout. Shirley Washington, SECC teacher, who was the chairperson for this affair, is also a veteran.

Students of the Month for November 2016: Pre-K — Kurtis Davis, Lucy Smith's class; kindergarten — Kelvin Brunson, Linda Conyer's class; first grade — Kendall Ragin, Barbara Ragin's class; second grade — Majestic Hatcher, Patricia Avant's class. — *Beverly Spry*

Central Carolina Technical College

REGISTER FOR SPRING SEMESTER

Beat the holiday rush and register for spring semester at CCTC now. Classes start Jan. 9, 2017. For more information on enrollment, visit cctech.edu/how-to-enroll-5-easy-steps/, and to view the classes offered, visit cctech.edu/academics/class-schedule-search/.

VICE PRESIDENT TO SERVE AS INTERIM PRESIDENT

On Nov. 14, Central Carolina Technical College's Area Commission appointed vice president for Business Affairs Terry



BOOTH

Booth to serve as interim president. Booth has been with the college since 1990, where she worked in several positions before serving as vice president for Business Affairs. "I want to assure you that I will strive to work with the Executive Leadership Team to ensure we continue to provide the same quality services to our students and other service area constituents," Booth said. The president position is posted, and the application review process is scheduled to begin soon. — *Becky H. Rickenbaker*

Winthrop University



PHOTO PROVIDED

ROCK HILL — One of Winthrop University's Homecoming highlights was the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen during the men's basketball game on Nov. 12. Seniors TyQuan Butler of Sumter and Janay Reece of Charlotte were voted Homecoming King and Queen by their fellow students for Winthrop's 2016 Homecoming held Nov. 7-12. Butler is a social work major and a member of the Winthrop University Chorale and Chamber singers. He also is a vice president and program and research chair of the Winthrop Chapter of the NAACP, a member of Winthrop Visible, a Project Middle Ground Mentor and a Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America member. He can sing in five languages.

AREA CHRISTMAS EVENTS

- **A Christmas Story**
Sumter Little Theatre
14 Mood Avenue
Today and Dec. 8-11
(803) 775-2150 for tickets
- **Fantasy of Lights**
Swan Lake-Iris Gardens
822 W. Liberty St.
5-9 p.m. through Dec. 31
- **Santa's Village**
Swan Lake Heath Pavilion
822 W. Liberty St.
6-8 p.m., Dec. 9 and 10
- **Festival of Choirs**
Trinity Methodist Church
226 W. Liberty St., 3 p.m. today
- **Yuletide at Millford - Millford Plantation**
7320 Millford Plantation Road, Pinewood
Noon to 4 p.m. today
- **Sumter Christmas Parade**
Main Street, 2-4 p.m. today
- **Sumter Community Concert Band Christmas Concert - Patriot Hall**
135 Haynsworth St.
7 p.m. today
- **Old McCaskill's Farm Country Christmas Trunk Show**
377 Cantey Lane, Rembert
1-6 p.m. today
(803) 432-9537
- **Sumter Opera House Cinema Series - Polar Express**
21 N. Main St., Sumter
7-9 p.m., Dec. 8
- **Jingle with the Arts, Sumter Civic Dance Co. and guests - Patriot Hall**
135 Haynsworth St., Sumter
Dec. 9 and 10

- **Sumter Opera House Presents: A John Berry Christmas - The Sumter Opera House**
21 N. Main St., Sumter
7:30-9:30 p.m., Dec. 9
(803) 436-2616
 - **Living Nativity - Grace Baptist Church**
219 W. Calhoun St.
6:30 and 7:30 p.m., Dec. 9 and 10
 - **Carolina Backcountry Christmas - Sumter County Museum**
122 N. Washington St., Sumter
2-4 p.m., Dec. 10
 - **Sumter Civic Chorale Christmas Concert - Patriot Hall**
135 Haynsworth St.
4 p.m., Dec. 11
 - **Performing Arts for the Holidays Variety Show presented by South Sumter Resource Center at Patriot Hall**
135 Haynsworth St.
7 p.m., Dec. 12
Call (803) 436-2276
 - **Broadway Style Production - The Days of Christ: His Prophecy and Brith - Trinity Missionary Baptist Church**
155 Wall St.
4 p.m., Dec. 17
(803) 775-4041
 - **A Classic Christmas - Trinity Methodist Church**
226 W. Liberty St., 5 p.m., Dec. 18
(803) 775-4041
 - **Festival of Lessons and Carols - Mayesville Presbyterian Church**
109 W. Sumter St., Mayesville
6:30 p.m., Dec. 18
- If you have a public event you'd like added to this list, mail the details, as above, to ivy@theitem.com.



A portion of the DuBose family's display on Mockingbird Lane off Old Manning Road is seen. The drive-through light display is free to the public, and Santa will greet cars on weekends until Christmas Eve.

KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

LANE FROM PAGE A1

The decoration, an angel that DuBose's children picked out when he first started the light display, was stolen a few years ago, and he managed to get it back. "I won't put that one back out anymore," he said. DuBose said he has been interested in Christmas lights since he plugged in his first set of lights when he was a child. "I just like to look at pretty lights," he said. He did not say how much it

costs to run his lights annually in December, but he did say that he spent about \$1,200 just on candy last year. "It's up there," he said, referring to the cost of the annual Christmas display.

DuBose said Christmas lights have become kind of a family thing because his children also put up lights every year; although not on the same scale as him.

He said the main reason he enjoys the Christmas season is to celebrate the birth of Jesus. During the holidays, he also

dresses as Santa Claus and asks the children if they know whose birthday will be celebrated on Dec. 25.

"It's not just about Santa. I try to keep Christ in the picture," he said.

Families can find DuBose dressed as Santa on his property, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 6 to about 9 p.m.

DuBose's lights can be seen from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday through Saturday on Mockingbird Lane off of Old Manning Road. He said the lights will be on every night unless

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Sumter Elementary School Choir
Sumter Community Choir

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Please help me spread the word by telling everyone you know. And, as always, I encourage you to send me a message on [facebook.com/shoneys](https://www.facebook.com/shoneys) and twitter.com/shoneys. Share your best **#HotFudgeCakeDay** picture on December 6 and you could win a \$100 Shoney's gift card! See Official Rules at Shoneys.com.

Happy Holidays.
Very Truly Yours,

David Davoudpour

Visit us on December 6 and get a **FREE Hot Fudge Cake!**

DISPLAY FROM PAGE A1

music and light patterns. He's now doing almost everything himself.

Smigelski does it all by computer, except for building and setting up the light display. It took him about three weeks to set up his current display, the largest, with the help of his teenage neighbor and some young relatives. And that doesn't count the months of background work.

"I take January and February off to start preparing for Valentine's Day," he said. "I do something for just about every other month."

"I've got software now that allows me to create my own synchronization," he said.

Smigelski has great respect for all public safety workers, he said, and he has dedicated the display to them — "I did a voiceover, and I use blue lights to represent the police, red for firefighters and red, white and blue for the military," he said.

The Christmas display has been up since the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

"I'm old school," Smigelski said. "I think we should have Thanksgiving and then Christmas, not start Christmas before Halloween."

Speaking of Halloween, Smigelski also does a display in October.

"I have lighted, singing pumpkins," he said, "and some nights I dress up like Dracula and hand out candy. The kids love it."

He also has a 5-by-8-foot lighted American flag for Independence Day.

The largest, most elaborate display, however, is the one that's up now, Smigelski said. An automatic timer turns it on at 5 p.m. and turns it off at 11.

What do his neighbors think of it?

"I wanted to build up the neighborhood again," Smigelski said. "My neighbors all say they love it."

That could be because of the way he's got the music set up. Drive by the house and tune your car radio to 89.9 FM, and you'll hear the music, even from as far as a block and a half away.

"There are no loudspeakers in the yard disturbing the neighborhood for five hours," Smigelski said, "and on a clear night, you can look up Victory Drive from Main Street and see the lights."

Smigelski said making his own displays is still a learning process. He finds it rewarding, both as a way to indulge what he calls his "musical life" and for the reactions he gets from passersby.

"Some people come by every night," he said. "There's nothing like seeing a 5-year-old kid in the back of his grandma's truck with a big grin on his face when he sees it."

Slow down when riding by, and look for the lights and a bearded man in a Santa hat, and you may get a candy cane. If he's not there, you've got 27 more nights to look for him. The lights and music show at 5 Gerald St. will run through Jan. 1.

Lt. Gov. McMaster predicts smooth hand-over

COLUMBIA (AP) — South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is predicting a smooth transition should Gov. Nikki Haley be approved as President-elect Trump's U.N. ambassador, and he takes the state's top job.

In his first public comments since Trump tapped Haley for the job, McMaster said he knows "much work has to be done" to improve the state's schools, roads and infrastructure. The lieutenant governor stood in for Haley at

the governor's annual session with top U.S. military commanders in the state.

They asked McMaster for help in getting Congress to stand against new Pentagon budget cuts. Several also said their service members are looking for improvements in local schools attended by their children.

The officers represented the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard and South Carolina National Guard.

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JOBS FROM PAGE A1

year. The company also seeks other employees for administrative support and managerial roles. All positions include health care benefits.

"Crown Health Care Laundry represents an incredible opportunity for this community in terms of the number of jobs that will be created," said Travis Windham, chairman of Lee County Council.

"It is vital for the people of this region to attend these job fairs to demonstrate to the company that we have the employees desired to finalize this deal."

Lee County Administrator Alan Watkins said the staff of TheLINK Economic Development Alliance, as well as local government officials with the City of Bishopville and Lee County Council, have been working on this opportunity for about a year.

BIKES FROM PAGE A1

Lawrence said he works on bikes all year and has even turned his garage into a bike shop. He said most of the work is for charity, but he also repairs bikes as needed for others.

So far, Lawrence said more than 20 volunteers have helped repair the bicycles for this year's giveaway.

He said one volunteer, a local Boy Scout with Troop 86 and a student at Sumter High School, has taken dozens of bikes home and repaired them after school and on the weekends.

University of South Carolina Sumter Fire Ant baseball team and Palmetto Optimist Club have contributed the

most volunteer time so far, he said.

Evening Optimist Club of Sumter takes great pride in being known for its motto, "Friend of Youth," Lawrence said. Since the organization's charter in 1997, the club has worked diligently to serve the youth in the community, he said.

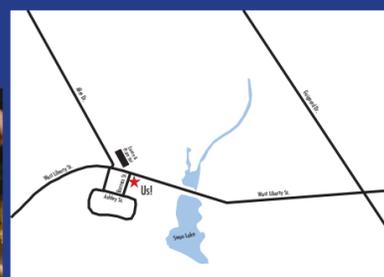
The Evening Optimist Club will host its last repair day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday at 926 Club Lane, Sumter.

Evening Optimist Club of Sumter is also accepting financial contributions to purchase bike parts and supplies for repairs. Monetary donations can be sent to Evening Optimist Club of Sumter, c/o Cycles for Christmas, P.O. Box 2883, Sumter SC 29150.



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Deliberations will continue in ex-officer's trial



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager leaves the courthouse Friday during his murder trial in Charleston.

CHARLESTON (AP) — The jury in the murder trial of a former South Carolina police officer charged with gunning down a black motorist will continue deliberating this week, despite at one point Friday appearing deadlocked by a juror who told the judge he could not “with good conscience approve a guilty verdict.”

The panel of one black and 11 white jurors has now deliberated for more than 16 hours in three days on whether to convict former North Charleston police Officer Michael Slager in the death of 50-year-old Walter Scott. They will return to the jury room Monday.

Twice on Friday the jurors told Judge Clifton Newman they had reached a stalemate. One juror sent a letter directly to the judge saying he could not “with good conscience ap-

prove a guilty verdict.” The juror added he was not about to change his mind.

But then in the courtroom, the jury foreman told the judge that he thought jurors could reach a unanimous verdict and deliberations continued. Newman did not say whether the jurors were leaning toward a conviction on murder or on voluntary manslaughter.

Slager pulled over Scott's 1990 Mercedes for a broken taillight on April 4, 2015. Scott was shot five times in the back as he fled the traffic stop. A passer-by captured the shooting on cellphone video that stunned the nation.

Slager was fired from the department and charged with murder after the video surfaced.

Jurors are considering the charge of murder, which in Slager's case could carry a

sentence of from 30 years to life in prison, and a lesser charge of voluntary manslaughter, which carries a sentence of two to five years.

The city of North Charleston reached a \$6.5 million civil settlement with Scott's family last year. After the shooting, the city also asked that the

U.S. Justice Department to review its police department policies with an eye toward how the department can improve its relationship with residents.

Slager also faces trial next year in federal court on charges of depriving Scott of his civil rights.

Fire rips through Oakland late night dance party, leaving at least 9 dead

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Fire tore through an Oakland warehouse converted into artist studios during a late night dance party, killing at least nine people, and officials said Saturday that the death toll could rise as high as 40.

Officials said people either escaped from the cluttered building or died inside, where the only way down from the second story was via a stairwell constructed entirely of wooden pallets.

“It appears that either you got out, or you got trapped inside,” said Alameda County Sheriff's Office spokesman Sgt. Ray Kelly.

Firefighters used chain saws and axes Saturday to cut through the debris of the cluttered building in a gritty neighborhood of the San Francisco Bay Area city, where the fire broke out about 11:30 p.m. Friday.

Oakland fire chief Teresa Deloche-Reed said at least another 25 people were unaccounted for in what authorities were calling the most deadly building fire in the city in recent memory. The victims were believed to be young people in their 20s, Kelly said. He said as many as 40 may have perished, and that the coroner is preparing for a “mass casualty event” that could include victims from other countries.

The warehouse was known as the “Oakland Ghost Ship.” Its website showed pictures of a bohemian, loft-like interior made of wood and cluttered with rugs, old sofas and a garage-sale like collection of pianos, paintings, turntables, statues and other items.

The website included advertisements for various electronic music parties. On Friday night, there was an event featuring musician Golden Donna's 100% Silk West Coast tour.

Panicked friends and family posted messages on the group's Facebook page trying to find out if their loved ones were among the dead. Those searching for the missing were sent to a local sheriff's office, where Dan Vega was anxiously awaiting news. He had been unable to find his younger brother or his brother's girlfriend. Vega said he was not sure if the two were at the party Friday night but that his brother likes to go to raves, and he had not been able to reach him Saturday. His girlfriend's car was still parked at a transit station in San Bruno, south of San Francisco.

Fighting tears, Dan Vega said he's frustrated authorities hadn't been able to tell him anything about his 22-year-old brother.

“I just want to go over there. I have my work boots on, I'm ready to go,” Dan Vega said.

It was not immediately clear what started the fire, but there did not appear to be sprinklers in the building, Deloche-Reed said. She said 50 to 100 people were believed to have been at the party when

the fire started, and that clutter “made it difficult for people to escape.”

The warehouse was partitioned into artist studios and was packed with furniture, mannequins, statues, lamps, and other objects and did not have a clear entry or exit path, the fire chief said.

“There is still a large portion of the building that still needs to be searched,” she

said. “There is large timber and debris that will need to be removed, and it's going to have to be removed in a slow and methodical way.”

The fire caused the building's roof to collapse, and investigators were having trouble entering parts of the warehouse to search for any remaining bodies because the structure was deemed unsafe, Deloche-Reed said.

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20 N. MAGNOLIA ST., SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA 29150 · *Founded October 15, 1894*

COMMENTARY

Boxing up history and moving it down the street

We're headed into the final stages of relocating from *The Sumter Item* offices at 20 North Magnolia St. to our new home at 36 West Liberty St.

It's quite an undertaking since we've been doing business at this location since the late 1950s.

I occupy the oldest office in the building. It once belonged to my late grandfather, Hubert Duvall Osteen, who died in 1987.



Graham Osteen

After he died, nothing really changed in his office. It became a repository of

history, and my father has over the years put a lot of his own papers and memorabilia into the cabinets on top of what was already there.

When I moved into the office in 2007, I brought 10 years worth of books and papers from my time in Hartsville, adding to a wide range of material dating back to the late 1800s.

I have a hard time throwing anything away, so I've spent this past year just going through cabinets, drawers and file folders, sorting out trash from treasure and then boxing material to be moved into the new building.

A large portion of the upstairs in our new building will be the "Sammy Way Archive and Research Center," named for our *Sumter Item* archivist and Sumter's leading historian. Sammy and I will essentially be sharing office space.

This is also where you'll find original editions of *The Sumter Item* dating back to its beginnings in 1894; decades worth of newspaper microfilm; copies of the weekly *Watchman and Southerner* — *The Sumter Item's* predecessor; our photo negative archives and a kaleidoscope of photographs, papers, books, curiosities and historically significant material we have collected over the years. I think of it as an emporium, and we look forward to sharing it with interested people

and dealing with the box of stuff you found in your grandmother's attic that you don't know what to do with. We love that stuff.

Speaking of history and the humanities, congratulations to my friend Mary Ellen (Donovan) Fuller of Alcolu, who was recently elected to a three-year board term on the South Carolina Humanities Council.

We had a story about this recently that can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2gZxBHp>.

As noted in that story, she is the daughter of the late James B. Donovan, "whose role in the trial and exchange of spies is the subject of the 2015 Steven Spielberg film "Bridge of Spies." How many people do you know whose father was portrayed by Tom Hanks?

I just completed six years of service on that board, following Bo Shaw of Sumter. Mary Ellen was instrumental in organizing the South Carolina Humanities Festival in Sumter back in 2011, and she will be a great representative of the cultural and historical interests of Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties.

If you visit the website at www.schumanities.org, you'll learn that "Humanities disciplines include history, literature, folklore, philosophy, comparative religion, archaeology, African American studies, Southern studies, linguistics, ethics, jurisprudence, political science, anthropology, international studies, art theory and criticism and Women's Studies. Our programs and activities take place in town halls, small and large museums, libraries, schools, colleges and universities — any place that people come together to share, to learn and to have enlightening conversations about our world and our place in it."

Please support the humanities in South Carolina. Given the current political and social climate in America, the humanities are more important than ever.

Graham Osteen is Editor-At-Large of The Sumter Item. He can be reached at graham@theitem.com. Follow him on Twitter @GrahamOsteen, or visit www.grahamosteen.com.



COMMENTARY

Newspapers are still a form of accountable journalism

Talk to virtually anybody in America about politics, and they'll probably agree on one thing: The mainstream media is partly responsible for the current



Christian Compton

hostile atmosphere that accompanies political discussions. A September poll from Gallup revealed that only 32 percent of Americans

describe their level of trust in the media as "a great deal" or "a fair amount."

Whether there is substantiated proof that the media in general has a political slant, the fact remains that the role of journalism has historically been an instrumental one: keeping the government in check by keeping the public up to date. When the public doesn't trust the watchdog work of the media, the political process falls into uninformed squabbling and mass sharing of sensationalized headlines rooted in false "news" stories.

After the election, many news outlets began to analyze the effect that false news stories had on Americans' perceptions of the candidates vying for the presidency. While there is no clear consensus among the experts, it does appear that fake stories at least affected the way that voters talked about the various candidates, with many repeating "quotes" that actually originated from sources that simply made them up.

The spread of lies and misinformation is a grand problem in its own right deserving of action, but it's im-

portant to acknowledge how this fits into the bigger picture about accountability in journalism. When people feel they cannot trust the mainstream media, they turn to conducting their own research. While there is nothing wrong with independently corroborating what you read in the news, it's problematic when a sizeable portion of the voting base ends up believing information from a fake "news" website that is untrue and oftentimes an outright lie.

While I personally disagree with the notion that everything the mainstream media reports on is false, as some people would claim, I think it's important to remind those people of the most basic, yet fundamentally accountable form of journalism that is often neglected in this day and age: the newspaper.

Ever since the internet has taken off and expanded into the homes of virtually every American, naysayers have predicted that newspapers are a dying race. "It's only a matter of time," you'll oftentimes hear them say, "before all news is digested online." In their defense, they're partly right. Since 2009, several large newspapers across the country have been forced to close. The value of shares of newspaper groups has diminished greatly. Newspapers now have lower subscription rates and bases than ever before.

However, the fact remains unchanged that newspapers have been the backbone of accountable and responsible journalism since the inception of the press. Their track record is by no means perfect — all forms of journalism are prone to mistakes and abuse — but

words printed on a page have much more permanence than words typed and posted on a webpage.

In a way, the incentive to get information right on the first publication has been diminished. This isn't to say that web-based journalism is inherently flawed. It's a great way for newspapers to publish breaking news as it happens rather than a day later. However, the task of issuing a retraction for something printed incorrectly in a newspaper is a much more taxing process than editing a webpage. Oftentimes, revisions online go without any sort of notice of edit or an editor's note.

Newspaper reporters are also locally accessible and spend lots of time building trust with sources in the community and establishing a reputation of credibility. Web-based news has this same advantage, but the extent is not as great as it is with published newspapers.

From a student's perspective, the importance of research is emphasized in state education standards. Journalism classes have traditionally oriented around the styles and rules created and maintained by the newspaper industry.

Newspapers have always been the standard for journalism, and even today in a world where the public doubts the veracity of the mainstream media and its reports, they remain the most reliable and accountable forms of journalism in spite of their flaws and shortcomings.

Christian Compton is a senior at Lakewood High School. He is editor-in-chief of the school yearbook as well as the student body president.



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Tommy Granger III helps his father, Tommy Granger, remove the Osteen Publishing Company sign from the side of the Magnolia Street building Wednesday morning in preparation for the company's move to Liberty Street next week.

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICIES

EDITORIALS represent the views of the owners of this newspaper.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by

readers of the newspaper. They should be no more than 350 words and sent via e-mail to letters@theitem.com, dropped off at The Item office, 20 N. Magnolia St. or mailed to The Item, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, along with the full name of the writer, plus an address and telephone number for verification purposes only. Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at www.theitem.com/opinion/letters_to_editor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NAACP THANKS FREEDOM FUND BANQUET SUPPORTERS

To Freedom Fund Sponsors and Supporters: On behalf of the Sumter County Branch NAACP, we would like to thank you for supporting our Annual Freedom Fund Banquet held at the Sumter County Civic Center on Nov. 4, 2016.

Your continued support allows us the opportunity to continue our work with community groups who envision colorblind societies and an end to discrimination. This also allows us the opportunity to highlight issues that foster community relations and recognize community leaders who advocate equality and diversity. It is because of you, our sponsors and supporters, that this annual event was a success.

If we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us. Again, thank you for your continued support of

the Sumter County Branch NAACP.
ELIZABETH R. KILGORE
President, Sumter Branch NAACP

BYRD CAMPAIGN EXPRESSES GRATITUDE FOR SUPPORT DURING COUNCIL RACE

Now that the campaigns for the various offices are over and the dust has, for the most part, settled down, the task of governing begins. At the local level is where important decisions translate into actions that affect our daily lives. On behalf of the Committee to Re-Elect Jimmy Byrd, we owe a debt of gratitude to all those that placed a sign, made a donation, or simply sustained the campaign with their prayers. You are the ones that truly did the heavy lifting, and we thank you for your time and effort of sending Jimmy back to county council.

STEVEN S. SCHUMPERT
Campaign Manger,
Committee to Re-Elect Jimmy Byrd

Shoppers finding it easier to shop right from their phones

NEW YORK (AP) — Shoppers buying on their phones this holiday season will see new ways stores are making it easier and faster as they try to lock in sales before people swipe to the next site.

"It's not just a shopper's tool," said Tamara Gaffney, principal analyst and director at Adobe Digital Insights, the research arm of Adobe Systems. "It's now so embedded in our existence, we don't even think about the fact that we pulled out our phone and bought things."

Mobile shopping accounted for \$4.61 billion in sales from Thanksgiving through last Monday, according to Adobe Digital Insights. Some 54 percent of visits to retailers' sites and 36 percent of sales for the five-day period came from phones and tablets.

Here are four ways smartphones are changing the way people shop:

MORE IMPULSE BUYING

Mobile shopping entices people to buy right when they're thinking about it, Gaffney said, "It's this sense of urgency." She noted that retailers that had more mobile traffic enjoyed a 30 percent increase in online revenue.

Retailers need to make it easier to find items so shoppers don't quickly move on. "They want it fast," said Peter Cobb, co-founder and executive vice president of eBags, which says mobile accounted for 43 percent of visits and 20 percent of sales for the five-day period.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which has worked to improve its app, including the browse feature, said 70 percent of Walmart.com traffic and 60 percent of

orders Thursday and Friday were driven by mobile devices.

FOCUSED ON DEALS

Even in an improving economy, shoppers are fixated on deals — and mobile phones make it easier to grab them.

Customers look to have spent nearly 3.5 percent less on average for the four-day weekend starting Thursday than a year ago, according to a survey conducted during the weekend by National Retail Federation trade group. Much of the drop had to do with the heavy discounting shoppers demand.

Retailers are shifting to a stream of discounts and alerts during the coming week via email and social media. Toys R Us is doing more flash sales, and eBags introduced a page called "Steals and Deals," highlighting items that are



AP FILE PHOTO
Tashalee Rodriguez, of Boston, uses a smartphone app while shopping at Macy's.

heavily discounted.

Market Track, which monitored nearly 1,500 products online from Thanksgiving through Cyber Monday, says stores changed prices more often than last year, and more were lowered than raised.

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA ANN HICKS

Patricia Ann Owens Hicks, age 69, beloved wife of Robert Bryan Hicks, died Friday, Dec. 2, 2016, at her residence.

Born Feb. 25, 1947, in Newport News, Virginia, she was the daughter of the late James Robert Owens and Nellie Hicks Owens. She will be remembered as a very loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend.

Mrs. Hicks enjoyed working in her yard taking care of her plants and flowers. She was an avid Clemson fan and she loved to shop. Her family remembers her as one of the greatest cooks that they have ever known. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Surviving are: a son, Christopher Damian Hicks and his longtime companion Niki Beuckman of Summerville; two daughters, Robin Kelly and Angela Wilkins and her longtime companion Charles Franks all of Sumter; four grandchildren, Amanda Wilkins, Kenzie Franks, Madison Kelly and Haley Franks; one great-granddaughter, Bella Wilkins; and two brothers, James Owens and Jonathon Owens, both of Virginia.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Tim Kelly.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Kelly Hudgins officiating. Interment will be private for the family.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday at Bullock Funeral Home.

The family's guestbook may be signed at www.bullockfuneralhome.com.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



VICTORIA B. REGENSBURG

Victoria Blair Regensburg, 78, widow of Richard A. Regensburg, died Friday, Dec. 2, 2016, at her home.

Born Feb. 15, 1938, in Whitinsville, Massachusetts, she was a daughter of the late George Blair and Anna Bureiko Blair. She retired as a Master Sergeant from the U.S. Air Force after 30 years of service. She was part of the Catholic community in Sumter.

Survivors include a sister, Brenda Sprott (Kenneth) of Whitinsville, Massachusetts; nieces, Kristine Mead (Mike) and Karen Dralaus (Dan); and a nephew, Mark Sprott.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Levy Amos for his loving care, and also to Eva Hamm, and the staff of Homestead Hospice.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home chapel, with Dr. Marvin Gobble officiating. Burial with full military honors will be in the Florence National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Sumter S.P.C.A., 1140 S. Guignard Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

JAMES K. MCNAIR

GABLE — James Kell McNair, 57, husband of Sylvia Mims McNair, died Friday, Dec. 2, 2016, at McLeod Hospital.

Born Aug. 21, 1959, in Manning, he was a son of Anne Tuttle McNair and the late John Carroll McNair. He was a member of the Young Farmers and New Harmony Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife of Gable; his mother of Gable; a daughter, Lauren McNair Baggett (Stephen) of Greenwood; a stepson, Shawn Edward Prescott of Gable; four brothers, John Carroll McNair Jr. (Jan) and Edward Tuttle McNair, both of Manning.

William Bruce McNair (Janice) and Robert Lynn McNair, both of Gable; a sister, Sarah Anne McNair LeNoir of Sumter; two grandchildren, Lincoln and Elizabeth "Elsie" Baggett; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at New Harmony Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Dr. Gordon Reed officiating. Burial will follow in DuRant-New Harmony Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Stephen Baggett Jr., Steven DuBoise, Robert Hastings, William Bruce McNair, Ryan McNair and Troy Porter.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. today at Stephens Funeral Home and at other times at the home of his mother, 11223 N. Brewington Road, Gable.

Memorials may be made to New Harmony Presbyterian Church Cemetery Fund, 1174 New Harmony Church Road, Alcolu, SC 29001.

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

HENRY TONEY

Mr. Henry "TT" Toney entered eternal rest on Dec. 3, 2016, at the Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center, Hartsville.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Toney, 57 Bradley Road, Bishopville.

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

HANNAH J. BALLARD

MANNING — Hannah Jane Graham Ballard, 67, died Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2016.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. today, at Green Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Alcolu, the Rev. Delbert Singleton Jr., pastor officiating. Burial will follow in the church yard cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her sisters, Sadie and Rosa Graham, 5-F Cambridge Court, Manning.

These services have been

entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home, LLC, Manning.

DELORIS S. JONES

SUMMERTON — Deloris Spann Jones, 55, died Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016, at Palmetto-Toumey Health. She was born June 2, 1951, in Pinewood, a daughter of Johnny Spann Sr. and the late Louise Green Spann.

The family is receiving friends at her residence, 3168 Rowe Drive, Summerton.

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

BETTY JEAN LEE

Betty Jean Peagler Lee, 78, went to be with her Lord and Savior Friday, Dec. 2, 2016, at Palmetto Health Tuomey, surrounded by family and friends.

Betty was born in Sumter to the late Edward Lee Peagler Sr. and Maude Ann Jordan Peagler. A gentle woman, Betty was truly a loving, kind soul to all she met and will be remembered to often say "Bless your heart."

She was the "neighborhood counselor," friend, and mother to many. Her best friend and faithful companion of 12 years was her poodle, "Prince."

She enjoyed bird watching, especially cardinals and blue jays. Two favorite hobbies were playing Aggravation (she usually won) and watching wrestling for hours while on the phone with her twin sister, Jonell.

She is survived by: three daughters, Patricia Lee Burkett of Sumter, Pamela Lee Gazley of Ohio, and Elizabeth "Punkin" Lee of North Carolina; a son, Donald Hubert "Buddy" Lee Jr. (Katrin) of Florida; seven grandchildren, Nicole, Stephen, and Shane Gazley, Monica Burkett, Brittney Lee, Michael and Devin Albritton; and numerous other family and friends who loved her dearly.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Donald H. Lee Sr.; a sister, Jonell Weatherly, and two brothers, James Peagler, and Edward Peagler Jr.

A graveside service will be at noon Monday in Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery, with the Rev. Michael Bowman officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home, and Monday, following the graveside service, in the fellowship hall of Green Acres Assembly of God, 537 Lewis Road.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com.

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



O'NEAL KENLEY

O'Neal Kenley was born on July 2, 1956, in Sumter to the late Willie Kenley Sr. and Susie Reed Kenley.

He departed this life on Nov. 28, 2016, in Miami.

O'Neal was educated in Sumter County schools, graduating from Sumter High School in 1974. He gained admission into Voorhees College but decided to enter the work-

force instead.

A skilled negotiator and businessman, O'Neal brought those talents to Farmers Telephone Cooperative. He later moved to Miami where he worked in the sales industry for many prominent companies, including The Coca-Cola Company.

Watching movies, court television shows and sports were some of the things he enjoyed during his leisure time. He also enjoyed traveling and long distance driving.

O'Neal wanted to be a blessing to the people he loved most. He often bought gifts for his family and friends and taught nearly a dozen of his relatives how to drive.

He leaves behind a legacy of laughter, love and happiness. His family and friends will remember him as the person most likely to help during a difficult situation. He will truly be missed, but his memory lives on in the hearts of those who knew him.

O'Neal is survived by his wife, Erica, and three children, Samantha Kenley, O'Neal Lakes and Marvin Lakes all of Miami; along with nine grandchildren; as well as four siblings, Francine Kenley of Brooklyn, New York, Johnnie Kenley and his wife, Loretta Felder-Kenley of Washington, D.C., Susie Brisbon and Patricia Kenley of Sumter; and several nieces, nephews, relatives and close friends.

O'Neal was preceded in death by his parents along with an older brother, Willie Kenley Jr.

Public viewing will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. today at Job's Mortuary.

Mr. Kenley will be placed in the church at 11 a.m. Monday until the hour of service.

Funeral service will be held at noon Monday at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, with the Rev. Marion Newton, officiating.

Interment will follow in Hillside Memorial Park.

Job's Mortuary Inc, 312 S. Main St., Sumter.

DARLENE S. BRUNSON

Darlene Sonja Brunson was born March 12, 1974, in Langston, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of Christine Lewis-Brunson and the late Wilber Brunson. She died on Friday, Nov. 25, 2016.

She was educated in the public schools of Clarendon County. She was a member of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church until her health failed.

She leaves to cherish her precious memories: two sons, Jeremiah Tindal of the home and Jerome (Wendy) Ragin of Manning; her companion Bernard Washington of the home; her mother Christine Brunson of Sumter; three step-children, Brittany Moses, Mike Reames and Renee Reames all of Sumter; three sisters; Bertie (Christopher) McKenzie and Beverly Brunson of Sumter, and Jacklen (Freddy) Wilson of Manning; a nephew she reared as her own, Tyquan McKenzie; two grandchildren, Kemari and Keandre Ragin; seven step-grandchildren; five nephews, Rashawn Lewis, Marquis Palmer, Trevon Palmer, Dayshawn McKenzie and Tyquan, four nieces; Jazlyn Cantey, Kimberly Brunson, Kenyaira Brunson, Kayla Lowery; eight uncles, five aunts and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death

by a brother, Wilford Brunson and grandparents Pearl and Isiah Lewis.

Funeral service will be held at noon Monday at the Chapel of Sumter Funeral Service Inc., with Dr. Lewis Walker Jr. officiating.

Sumter Funeral Service Inc. is in charge of arrangements. The family will receive friends at the home, 403 Highland Avenue, Sumter.

RAY JACKSON

SUMMERTON — Deacon Ray Jackson, 76, widower of Ohilian Davis Jackson, died Friday, Dec. 2, 2016, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

He was born on Jan. 10, 1940, in Manning, a son of the late Walter and Mariah Miller Jackson.

The family is receiving friends from noon to 10 p.m. daily at the home of his daughter, Jennie White, 1121 Starks Drive, Summerton.

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

JAMES ANTHONY

James Anthony, 68, affectionately known as "LJ," was called to rest on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016, at Palmetto Health Richland, Columbia.

Born on July 7, 1948, in Sumter County, he was a son of Martin V. and Jessie Mae Anthony Burroughs. He attended the public schools of Sumter County. He was employed by Sumter School District 2 until his health failed. LJ became a member of Goodwill Presbyterian Church USA at an early age.

He leaves to cherish his memories: a daughter, Margaret (Jermerly) McDowell-Williams of Lynchburg; two sisters, Rose "Wree" Burroughs and Mary Jane Burroughs, both of Florence; a stepbrother, Nathaniel (Rebecca) Burroughs of Lynchburg; one sister-in-law, Barbara Toney Burroughs of Lynchburg; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; five aunts; 17 nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Homegoing services were held Saturday at Goodwill Presbyterian Church USA, 295 N. Brick Church Road, Mayesville. The Rev. Richard Dozier, pastor, served as eulogist.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home of his sister, Mary Jane Burroughs, 518 Clyde St., apartment B, Florence.

Burial was in Goodwill Presbyterian Churchyard cemetery. These services have been entrusted to the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

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

LILY LANG

SUMMERTON — Lily Lang, 77, wife of Deacon Ernest James, died on Friday, Dec. 2, 2016, at McLeod Hospice House, Florence.

She was born on April 15, 1939, in Clarendon County, to the late Jenkins and Lillie Rhames Lang.

The family is receiving friends at the home, 1072 Wilson Ave., Summerton, SC 29148.

Services have been entrusted in the professional care of King-Fields Mortuary, Summerton, (803) 485-5039.

ACC CHAMPIONSHIP

A quarter away

Clemson leads Virginia Tech 35-21 entering final stanza in ACC title game



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clemson tight end Jordan Leggett (16) scores one of his two touchdowns in front of Virginia Tech cornerback Adonis Alexander (36) during the first half of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game on Saturday in Orlando, Fla.

From staff reports

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Clemson Tigers were leading Virginia Tech 35-21 entering the fourth quarter of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game on Saturday.

Clemson 11-1 on the sea-

son, was needing a victory to win its second straight ACC title and more importantly end a second straight berth in the College Football Playoff.

The Hokies came in with a 9-3 record.

The Tigers had a 21-14 lead entering the second

half. Virginia Tech got an interception on Clemson's first possession of the second half, starting at the Tiger 38-yard line. However, VT lost yards on the drive and had to punt.

Clemson went 89 yards in nine plays with running back Wayne Gallman scor-

ing from eight yards outs to make it 28-14.

The Tigers pushed the lead to 35-14 on a 2-yard scoring run by quarterback Deshaun Watson. The Hokies responded on the ensuing possession to make it 35-21.

SEE ACC, PAGE B6

PREP BASKETBALL

Lady Gators rebound from rout, top Sumter in rematch

BY JUSTIN DRIGGERS
justin@theitem.com

There's no blueprint to bounce back from a 45-point loss to a county rival, but the Lakewood High School varsity girls basketball team found one key component on Saturday at The Swamp.

"Intensity," head coach Demetress Adams-Ludd said.

After Monday's 72-27 blowout against Sumter, the Lady Gators turned up the intensity and their game in the rematch. Bolstered by Ki'Ari Cain's 25 points and solid free throw shooting in the final frame, LHS was able to pull away late to earn a 51-46 victory.

With the win, Lakewood improved to 2-3 on the season while Sumter fell to 1-2.

"They were focused all week," Adams-Ludd said of her team. "They understood the errors they made in that first game and they adjusted. They did a good job of fighting when Sumter made runs.

"I just think they were at home, they were comfortable, they were intense, and I don't think they wanted this community to see them have another loss like they had on Monday."

The tone of this game was different from the get-go as LHS jumped to a 13-8 lead after the first quarter and had a 10-point advantage at the break, 29-19. Cain had 15 points in the first half while most of the Lady Gamecocks' offense came from Tamerah Brown, including all eight points in the first quarter.

"We didn't start off with a lot of energy and came out flat," SHS head coach Frances Fields said. "We were down by 10 at the half. We brought the energy up in the third quarter and tied it, but didn't really convert like we needed to." "We just didn't finish."

Sumter scored the first 10 points of the third quarter to tie the game at 29-29, but Lakewood finished on an 8-2 to reclaim the lead.

The Lady Gamecocks rallied again in the fourth — taking the lead momentarily on

SEE GATORS, PAGE B2

SEC CHAMPIONSHIP

Alabama romps past Florida for SEC title

PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — This was merely an annoyance for Alabama, a chance to add another trophy to its overflowing cases. The Crimson Tide did just enough things wrong to give Nick Saban something to complain about over the next month, but in the end it was another dominating victory for the nation's top-ranked team.

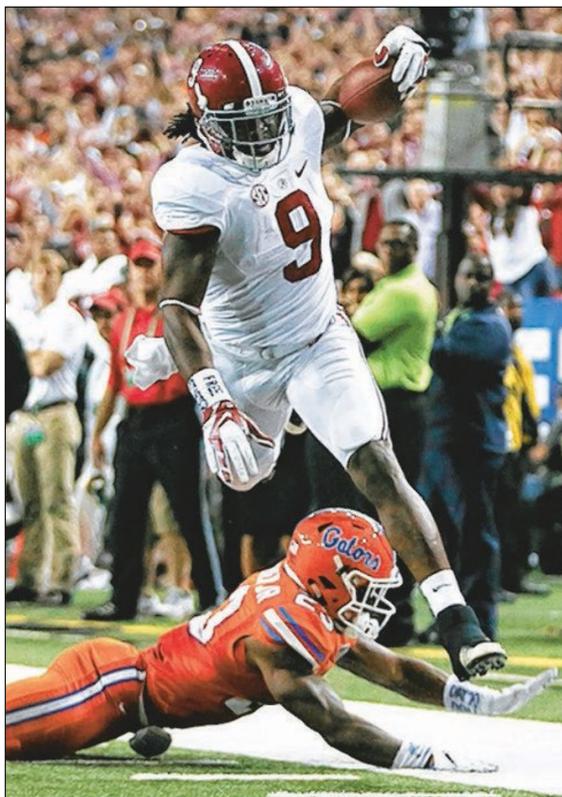
Florida coach Jim McElwain was certainly impressed after his No. 15 Gators took a 54-16 whipping in the Southeastern Conference championship game Saturday. He called it Saban's best team yet in a dynasty that shows no signs of stumbling.

"I don't see a lot of weaknesses," marveled McElwain, Saban's offensive coordinator from 2008-11. "They've really

accumulated a lot of speed at some spots where they were always big."

Alabama (13-0, No. 1 CFP) unleashed all its weapons against the overmatched Gators, scoring off an interception and a blocked punt in the first half, snuffing out their last gasp with a goal-line stand, and wearing down Florida at the end with a dominant running game.

The Tide now heads to the College Football Playoff for the third year in a row, most likely returning to Atlanta for a semifinal game on Dec. 31. Alabama will be seeking its second straight national title and its fifth crown in the last nine years. Saban already has five national titles, counting his first at LSU, and is one shy of Bear Bryant's record for the most by any coach.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alabama's Bo Scarbrough (9), who rushed for two touchdowns, hurdles Florida's Chauncey Gardner (23) during the Crimson Tide's 54-16 victory in the SEC championship game on Saturday in Atlanta.

SEE SEC, PAGE B3

FCS PLAYOFFS

Wofford knocks off Citadel in FCS playoffs

From staff reports

CHARLESTON — Wofford College advanced to the quarterfinals of the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs with a 17-3 victory over The Citadel on Saturday at Johnson Hagood Stadium.

The Citadel scored the game's first points with a field goal, but the Terriers scored 17 unanswered points in the second half to earn the victory.

Wofford advances with a 10-3 record on the season. The Citadel ends the season at 10-2.

The Terriers were led by Lorenzo Long with 92 rushing yards, while Joe Newman had 45 rushing yards and a touchdown. The Bulldogs were led by Tyler Renew with 76 rushing yards, while Dominique Allen was 11-of-22 passing.

SEE WOFFORD, PAGE B6

PREP ROUNDUP

Crestwood girls rout Lee Central

Crestwood High School defeated Lee Central 74-38 on Saturday at The Castle.

Tyana Saunders led the Lady Knights with 17 points, while Destinee Jamison had 16 and Jache Whitfield had 15.

WILSON HALL 51

NORTHSIDE CHRISTIAN 28

Courtney Clark scored 21 points to help power Wilson Hall past Northside Christian 51-28 on Friday at Nash Student Center.

Mary Daniel Stokes added seven points for the Lady Barons, who improved to 4-0 and will travel to Thomas Sumter Academy on Monday.

On Wednesday, WH kept its perfect start intact with a 49-47 overtime victory over Calhoun Academy at NSC.

Susanna Hutson led the Lady Barons with 13 points and also hit the game-winning 3-pointer at the buzzer in OT.

Stokes added 12 points, Diamond Crawford finished with 11 and Clark had 10 to give Wilson Hall four players in double figures.

TRINITY-BYRNES 51

LAURENCE MANNING 47

FLORENCE — Laurence Manning Academy lost to Trinity-Byrnes 51-47 on Saturday in the Trinity-Byrnes Tournament at the T-B gymnasium.

Lexi Bennett led the Lady Swampcats with 12 points. Olivia Coker added 11, Brooke Ward had nine and Brooke Bennett had eight.

On Friday in the T-B Tournament, Laurence Manning lost to Oakbrook Prep 61-54. Ward had 15, Sara Knight Nalley 11, Cora Downer eight and Coker seven.

MANNING 61

LAKESWOOD 57

MANNING — Lakewood High School lost to Manning 61-57 on Thursday at Thames Arena.

Ki'Ari Cain led the Lady Gators with 19 points. Lashala Harvin added 17 and Rahteisha Burgess had 14. Serena Choice grabbed 15 rebounds and scored four points.

B TEAM BASKETBALL

WILSON HALL 23

NORTHSIDE CHRISTIAN 11

Lucy Matthews scored 10 points to help lead Wilson Hall to a 23-11 victory over Northside Christian's JV team on Friday at Nash Student Center.

Camryn Bateman added eight points for the Lady Barons.

GATORS

FROM PAGE B1

Brown's 3-pointer — but the Lady Gators responded again down the stretch by hitting 10 of their 17 free throws, including eight by Cain. She also finished with six rebounds.

"We just kept our head up and kept fighting (after that first game)," Cain said. "I was just trying to push through in the fourth quarter because I knew my team needed me."

"We just kept each other up at the end, kept encouraging each other and we kept stepping up."

Lashala Harvin finished with 14 points for LHS, including 11 in the first half as it built its double-digit halftime lead. Serena Choice added four points and eight rebounds.

Brown was the lone Lady Gamecock in double figures with 17 points and had 13 rebounds. Dynasia Jackson and Latrice Lyons each added eight points with Lyons coming away with

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

MAYEWOOD 29

FURMAN 12

Trelanjia Dennis had 12 points and five steals to lead Mayewood to a 29-12 victory over Furman on Thursday at the Furman gymnasium.

April Goodman added nine points and four steals for the the Lady Vikings.

RONALD MCNAIR 49

LEE CENTRAL 10

LAKE CITY — Lee Central lost to Ronald McNair Middle School 49-10 on Thursday at the RMMS gymnasium.

Kemya Scott led the Lady Stallions with seven points.

BOYS

VARSITY BASKETBALL

LAKESWOOD 65

MANNING 50

MANNING — Grant Singleton scored 19 points to lead Lakewood to a 65-50 victory over Manning on Thursday at Thames Arena.

Davonte Pack added 10 points for the Gators, while Tyrell Still and Juwan Perdue both had nine.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

ALICE DRIVE 67

MANNING 58

MANNING — Alice Drive improved to 2-0 with a 67-58 victory over Manning Junior High School on Thursday at the Manning gymnasium.

Marcus Lane led the Hawks with 19 points, while Deanta Porter had 14. Trevonte Brunson added 12 and Jaiven Lowery-Isaac had nine.

MAYEWOOD 28

FURMAN 11

Mayewood defeated Furman 28-11 on Thursday at the Furman gymnasium behind nine points and three steals from Ray'Quan Durant.

Pherneco Myers added six points and four rebounds and Jay'Quan Wilson had six points.

LEE CENTRAL 54

RONALD MCNAIR 38

LAKE CITY — Lee Central improved to 2-0 with a 54-38 victory over Ronald McNair Middle School on Thursday at the RNMS gymnasium.

Daveon Thomas scored 49 points and grabbed 22 rebounds to lead the Stallions. Javontae Price had 12 rebounds six steals and four blocked shots.

eight rebounds as well. "We've got to come back together strong as a team and not get complacent," Fields said. "I think after that first game they got a little complacent. But they're young and every game is a learning experience."

The Lakewood boys earned a measure of redemption as well by topping the Gamecocks 51-47 in the rematch after falling in the first game.

Grant Singleton had 13 points and both Dontrea Osborne and Davonte Pack finished with 10 each as LHS improved to 2-1 overall while Sumter fell to 1-2.

In a see-saw affair, the game came down to the final moments as the Gators made the most of their free-throw opportunities down the stretch. They made 7 of 10 down the stretch, including the last four in a row.

Tylik Sibbles-Simon and Isaih Moore led the Gamecocks with 12 points each. SHS was without Jayleen Corbett, who injured his hamstring the night before.

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

5 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour/Sunshine Tour Alfred Dunhill Championship Final Round from Malelane, South Africa (GOLF).

8:25 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Liverpool vs. Bournemouth (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

9:30 a.m. — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Hamburg vs. Damstadt 98 (FOX SPORTS 1).

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

11 a.m. — PGA Golf: World Challenge Final Round from Albany, Bahamas (GOLF).

11:30 a.m. — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Eintracht Frankfurt vs. Augsburg (FOX SPORTS 1).

Noon — College Football: College Football Playoff Selection Show (ESPN).

Noon — Women's College Basketball: SEC/Big 12 Women's Challenge -- Kansas at Alabama (SEC NETWORK).

1 p.m. — PGA Golf: Hero World Challenge Final Round from Albany, Bahamas (WIS 10).

1 p.m. — NFL Football: Kansas City at Atlanta (WLTX 19).

1 p.m. — NFL Football: Detroit at New Orleans (WACH 57).

1 p.m. — Professional Golf: Asian Tour Panasonic Open India Final Round from New Delhi (GOLF).

1 p.m. — Professional Basketball: NBA Developmental League Game — Santa Cruz at Westchester (NBA TV).

1:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Elon at Georgetown (FOX SPORTS 1).

2 p.m. — Women's College Basketball: SEC/Big 12 Women's Challenge — Baylor at Tennessee (ESPN2).

2 p.m. — College Basketball: Marquette at Georgia (ESPNU).

2 p.m. — College Basketball: Radford at North Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).

2 p.m. — Women's College Basketball: SEC/Big 12 Women's Challenge — Texas Christian at Louisiana State (SEC NETWORK).

2 p.m. — College Basketball: Coppin State at Clemson (WWBD-FM 94.7, WPUB-FM 102.7).

2 p.m. — College Basketball: Florida International at South Carolina (WDXY-FM 105.9, WNKT-FM 107.5, WDXY-AM 1240).

3 p.m. — Women's College Basketball: Oral Roberts at Oklahoma (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

4 p.m. — Amateur Golf: World Long Drive Championship Finals from Thackerville, Okla. (WIS 10).

4 p.m. — NFL Football: New York Giants at Pittsburgh (WACH 57).

4 p.m. — College Basketball: BB&T Classic from Washington — George Washington vs. Florida State (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

4 p.m. — Women's College Basketball: Jimmy V Classic from Uncasville, Conn. — Texas vs. Connecticut (ESPN).

4 p.m. — College Basketball: Southeast Missouri State at Indiana (ESPN2).

4 p.m. — College Football: Bowl Selection Show (ESPNU).

5 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Tampa Bay at Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).

6 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: NCAA College Cup Final Match from San Jose, Calif. — West Virginia vs. Southern California (ESPNU).

8 p.m. — College Basketball: Bowling Green at Cincinnati (ESPNU).

8:20 p.m. — NFL Football: Carolina at Seattle (WIS 10, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).

8:55 p.m. — International Soccer: Mexican League Match — Necaxa vs. America (UNIVISION).

MONDAY

2:55 p.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Hull City vs. Middlesbrough (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

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

6:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Cal State Northridge at St. John's (FOX SPORTS 1).

7 p.m. — College Basketball: Syracuse vs. Connecticut from New York (ESPN2).

7 p.m. — College Basketball: Stetson at Iowa (ESPNU).

8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Boston at Houston (NBA TV).

8:15 p.m. — NFL Football: Indianapolis at New York Jets (ESPN, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).

8:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Dallas (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

10:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana at Golden State (NBA TV).

NFL STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST						
New England	9	2	0	.818	293	197
Miami	7	4	0	.636	249	240
Buffalo	6	5	0	.545	281	236
N.Y. Jets	3	8	0	.273	196	266
SOUTH						
Houston	6	5	0	.545	194	236
Tennessee	6	6	0	.500	308	296
Indianapolis	5	6	0	.455	270	301
Jacksonville	2	9	0	.182	214	293
NORTH						
Baltimore	6	5	0	.545	218	201
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	.545	266	222
Cincinnati	3	7	1	.318	213	245
Cleveland	0	12	0	.000	197	352
WEST						
Oakland	9	2	0	.818	307	275
Kansas City	8	3	0	.727	252	214

Denver	7	4	0	.636	266	219
San Diego	5	6	0	.455	313	291

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST						
Dallas	11	1	0	.917	333	228
N.Y. Giants	8	3	0	.727	231	213
Washington	6	4	1	.591	280	264
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	254	213
SOUTH						
Atlanta	7	4	0	.636	358	302
Tampa Bay	6	5	0	.545	249	264
New Orleans	5	6	0	.455	334	307
Carolina	4	7	0	.364	276	281
NORTH						
Detroit	7	4	0	.636	247	238
Minnesota	6	6	0	.500	233	209
Green Bay	5	6	0	.455	274	289
Chicago	2	9	0	.182	178	264
WEST						
Seattle	7	3	1	.682	224	187
Arizona	4	6	1	.409	245	228
Los Angeles	4	7	0	.364	170	236
San Francisco	1	10	0	.091	228	344

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Dallas 17, Minnesota 15

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Kansas City at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Los Angeles at New England, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Miami at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Denver at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Detroit at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Houston at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.
Tampa Bay at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Pittsburgh, 4:25 p.m.
Carolina at Seattle, 8:30 p.m.
Open: Tennessee, Cleveland

MONDAY'S GAMES

Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

Oakland at Kansas City, 8:25 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 11

Denver at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Miami, 1 p.m.
Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at Green Bay, 4:25 p.m.
Atlanta at Los Angeles, 4:25 p.m.
Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 8:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 12

Baltimore at New England, 8:30 p.m.

NBA STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION				
Toronto	13	6	.684	—
Boston	11	8	.579	2
New York	10	9	.526	3
Brooklyn	5	14	.263	8
Philadelphia	4	15	.211	9
SOUTHEAST DIVISION				
Charlotte	11	8	.579	—
Atlanta	10	10	.500	1½
Orlando	8	12	.400	3½
Miami	7	12	.368	4
Washington	6	12	.333	4½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Cleveland	13	5	.722	—
Chicago	11	7	.611	2
Milwaukee	10	8	.556	3
Detroit	11	10	.524	3½
Indiana	9	10	.474	4½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST DIVISION				
San Antonio	16	4	.800	—
Houston	13	7	.650	3
Memphis	12	8	.600	4
New Orleans	7	13	.350	9
Dallas	3	15	.167	12
NORTHWEST DIVISION				
Oklahoma City	12	8	.600	—
Utah	11	9	.550	1
Portland	10	10	.500	2
Denver	7	12	.368	4½
Minnesota	5	14	.263	6½
PACIFIC DIVISION				
Golden State	16	3	.842	—
L.A. Clippers	16	5	.762	1
L.A. Lakers	10	11	.476	7
Sacramento	7	12	.368	9
Phoenix	6	13	.316	10

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Orlando 105, Philadelphia 88
Boston 97, Sacramento 92
New York 118, Minnesota 114
Toronto 113, L.A. Lakers 80
Chicago 111, Cleveland 105
Detroit 121, Atlanta 85
L.A. Clippers 114, New Orleans 96
San Antonio 107, Washington 105
Houston 128, Denver 110

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Milwaukee 112, Brooklyn 103
Minnesota at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Utah, 9 p.m.
Miami at Portland, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Orlando at Detroit, 6 p.m.
New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

Denver at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Houston, 8 p.m.
Memphis at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Portland at Chicago, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Oklahoma running back Samaje Perine (32), who racked up 239 yards on the ground, runs through a tackle by Oklahoma State's Jordan Sterns (13) during the second half of the No. 7 Sooners' 38-20 victory on Saturday in Norman, Okla.

Oklahoma claims Big 12 title with win over Oklahoma St.

NORMAN, Okla. — Baker Mayfield passed for 288 yards and three touchdowns, and No. 7 Oklahoma defeated No. 11 Oklahoma State 38-20 on Saturday in a matchup that decided the Big 12 champion and likely guaranteed the Sooners a trip to the Sugar Bowl.

The Heisman Trophy candidate performed well throughout, despite finishing the game without top receiver Dede Westbrook, a Biletnikoff Award finalist. Westbrook caught four passes for 111 yards before being knocked out of the game on a crushing hit by Oklahoma State safety Jordan Sterns.

Oklahoma's response to Westbrook's injury was similar to way the Sooners have bounced back throughout this injury-plagued season.

"I'm just incredibly pleased with our team, their resilience through the season and in this game," Sooners coach Bob Stoops, who won his 10th conference title in 17 years, said.

Samaje Perine rambled for 239 yards on a career-high 37 carries and Joe Mixon caught a touchdown pass and busted a 79-yard touchdown run for the Sooners (10-2, 9-0 Big 12, No. 9 College Football Playoff).

Mason Rudolph completed just 11 of 25 passes for 186 yards for Oklahoma State (9-3, 7-2, No. 10 CFP). His top target for the season, James Washington, caught just two passes for 50 yards on eight targets.

(4) WASHINGTON 41

(9) COLORADO 10

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Washington's opportunistic defense and dominant run-

ning game most likely ended any debate about whether the Huskies' weak nonconference schedule would keep them out of the College Football Playoff.

Taylor Rapp returned one of his two interceptions for a touchdown and Myles Gaskin ran for 159 yards to help No. 4 Washington strengthen its case for a playoff berth with a 41-10 victory over No. 9 Colorado in the Pac-12 championship game Friday night.

With the Huskies (12-1, No. 4 CFP) only narrowly ahead of two-loss Michigan in the latest playoff rankings, there were some questions about whether could be passed by the Wolverines or even the eventual Big Ten champion for the final playoff spot because of a non-conference schedule of Rutgers, Idaho and Portland State.

But the Huskies dominated the Buffaloes (10-3, No. 8 CFP) much more thoroughly than Michigan did in September in the most convincing closing argument possible. Now they need to just wait for the final verdict to come in on Sunday before begin preparations for the playoff.

(14) WEST VIRGINIA 24

BAYLOR 21

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Skyler Howard threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score, and No. 14 West Virginia held on against Baylor on in their Big 12 regular-season finale.

After the game, West Virginia athletic director Shane Lyons announced in a statement that coach Dana Holgorsen was given a five-year contract extension to 2021. His

contract was set to expire next year.

Justin Crawford rushed for 209 yards to help the Mountaineers (10-2, 7-2) to their first 10-win regular-season since 2007. They came from 11 points down in the first half to hand Baylor (6-6, 3-6) its sixth straight loss after a 6-0 start.

Crawford's second 200-plus-yard game of the season put him at 1,168 rushing yards for the season.

TEMPLE 34

(20) NAVY 10

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Phillip Walker threw two touchdown passes, Temple's defense stuffed Navy's running game and the Owls claimed their first American Athletic Conference title with a 34-10 victory Saturday.

The conference title was the first for Temple since finishing atop the Middle American Conference in 1967.

After Temple (10-3) scored touchdowns on its first three possessions, protecting the 21-0 lead became substantially easier when No. 20 Navy (9-3, No. 19 CFP) lost standout quarterback Will Worth to a second-quarter ankle injury.

Navy coach Ken Niumatalo said Worth is done for the season, along with running backs Toneo Gulley and Darryl Bonner, both of whom left with first-half injuries.

Although the defeat took Navy out of the running for the Cotton Bowl, the Midshipmen are expected to play in the Armed Forces Bowl after facing Army next Saturday.

From wire reports

SEC

FROM PAGE B1

Challenging his players, Saban said "they have a chance to do something to create a legacy for this team. That's something they should think about, how important that is, what they are willing to do to do it. Because all the teams you play from here on out are really, really good."

The Crimson Tide bolted to a 16-9 lead in the first quarter, despite being held to minus-7 yards and no first downs. Minkah Fitzpatrick returned an interception 44 yards for a touchdown, and Josh Jacobs went 27 yards for a score with a blocked punt. A field goal was set up by another pick — one of three thrown by Florida quarterback Austin Appleby in the first half.

The Tide led 33-16 at half-time and iced the victory with scoring drives of 98 and 91 yards, sparked by a goal-line stand that finished off the last gasp by the Gators (8-4, No. 15 CFP). It was most points surrendered by Florida since a 62-24 loss to Nebraska in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl.

A 24-point underdog, the Gators marched the length of the field on their opening possession, the first touchdown given up by the Tide in more than 17 quarters. They had another long TD drive near the end of the first half to give themselves a glimmer of hope.

"It wasn't perfect," said Alabama linebacker Reu-

ben Foster, who was named the game's MVP. "We had to persevere, overcome some hard times."

The last of those hard times came when Florida drove to the Crimson Tide 1 in the third quarter. Jordan Scarlett attempted to leap over the line on third-and-goal, but he never got off the ground. Rashaan Evans, who took over after Shaun Dion Hamilton went out with a likely season-ending knee injury, blew by his blocker and slammed the running back for a 1-yard loss.

Appleby then threw incomplete in the back of the end zone on fourth down, giving the Tide all the momentum.

Alabama finished with 174 yards rushing in the second half. The bulk of the carries went to bruising sophomore Bo Scarbrough, who had two short touchdown runs and finished with 91 yards on 11 carries.

"We just wanted to do what we do best, and that's run the ball," Scarbrough said.

THE TAKEAWAY

Alabama: Freshman quarterback Jalen Hurts wasn't all that sharp, completing 11 of 20 passes for 138 yards, and the Tide will want to clean up some busted plays that led to big losses. But that's merely nitpicking. This team is the clear favorite heading into the playoff.

Florida: The Gators must address their offensive woes after another shaky performance. Developing a quarterback is McElwain's top priority.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCORES

EAST
Temple 34, Navy 10
West Virginia 24, Baylor 21

SOUTH
Alabama 54, Florida 16
Georgia Southern 28, Troy 24
Grambling St. 27, Alcorn St. 20
Louisiana-Lafayette 30, Louisiana-Monroe 3
South Alabama 35, New Mexico St. 28
W. Kentucky 58, Louisiana Tech 44

SOUTHWEST
Kansas St. 30, TCU 6
Oklahoma 38, Oklahoma St. 20

FAR WEST
Idaho 37, Georgia St. 12

FCS PLAYOFFS
Second Round
James Madison 55, New Hampshire 22
Youngstown St. 40, Jacksonville St. 24
South Dakota St. 10, Villanova 7
Sam Houston State 41, Chattanooga 36
North Dakota St. 45, San Diego 7

Eastern Washington 31, Central Arkansas 14
Wofford 17, The Citadel 3
Richmond 27, North Dakota 24

Quarterfinals
Friday, Dec. 9-Saturday, Dec. 10
North Dakota State (11-1) vs. South Dakota State (9-3), TBA
Sam Houston State (12-0) vs. James Madison (11-1), TBA
Youngstown State (10-3) vs. Wofford (10-3), TBA
Richmond (10-3) vs. Eastern Washington (11-1), TBA

DIVISION II PLAYOFFS
Quarterfinals
Shepherd 41, California (Pa.) 31
Ferris State 47, Grand Valley State 32
North Alabama 38, North Greenville 0
Northwest Missouri State 35, Harding 0
Semifinals
Saturday, Dec. 10
Shepherd (13-0) vs. Northwest Missouri State (13-0), TBA
North Alabama (10-1) vs. Ferris State (12-2), TBA

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- Les Trente Ball 12/20/16
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AUTO RACING



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dale Earnhardt Jr. should be medically cleared from his concussion in December and ready to race in the 2017 Daytona 500.

Earnhardt Jr. reflects on road to recovery

MIKE CRANSTON
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — The longer Dale Earnhardt Jr. couldn't drive because of the debilitating effects of a concussion, the more uptight he became.

The stress slowed his brain's healing process, leading to more anxiousness and lingering symptoms. It was a vicious cycle that led his doctors to issue an ultimatum: Drop everything or you won't get better.

Weeks off the grid with his fiancée not only helped him get well physically. He learned valuable lessons he hopes will make him an improved driver and person when he returns to NASCAR next season.

"When I did that I became a better version of myself," Earnhardt said. "I was a much nicer, pleasant person. Caring and thoughtful and less agitated by stress and everyday life that we all kind of deal with. We all get a little short sometimes and let things get under your skin. It showed me the person I can be."

Earnhardt spoke to reporters Friday night after accepting the award as NASCAR's most popular driver for a record 14th straight year. That despite missing the final 18 races of the season with nausea, vision and balance issues after at least the fifth concussion of his career following a June wreck.

"I was worrying about whether I was going to race again, whether I was going to get healthy again," Earnhardt said. "We were talking with my partners, my owner, my business manager, my sister and (fiancée) Amy. Every day I was in some sort of a discussion about my future. And my doctor told me I couldn't get well until I dropped all that and didn't think about it."

At first, the 42-year-old Earnhardt was incredulous. "I thought, 'How am I supposed to not think about that?"

It's the most important thing in my life,' " Earnhardt said. "He said to get healthy quicker, you've got to really quit worrying about anything that's going to draw anxiety and stress."

So that's what Earnhardt did. While his fellow competitors were racing for a series championship, Earnhardt turned off his phone, went on day trips, had no set schedule and did what he wanted.

"As soon as everybody backed off and I just disappeared for a few weeks, I immediately started improving," Earnhardt said. "With concussions, anxiety is a huge factor and can be a major problem with people trying to recover."

Treated by noted concussion expert Dr. Micky Collins of Pittsburgh, Earnhardt showed improvement. A variety of activities and tests followed and Earnhardt started feeling more like himself.

"He worked his butt off," car owner Rick Hendrick said. "People didn't see the amount of exercise and commitment he had in getting healthy again."

Earnhardt kept the media and fans informed of his status. He's been credited for his honesty about concussions but said he needed strong support to get through it. He called Amy Reimann, whom he will marry Dec. 31, the key.

"I couldn't have fixed myself without her," Earnhardt said. "I couldn't have done it just on the help of the doctors because it takes such a good support group at home."

Before the wedding, Earnhardt has a yet-to-be-announced date later this month when he'll get behind the wheel of a stock car for the first time since his last race on July 9. Earnhardt hopes to have no vision issues or pain and gain the confidence he needs to drive competitively again.

So far, Earnhardt has suffered no symptoms in a race simulator.

SPORTS ITEMS

Woods has brief run at lead; everyone chasing Matsuyama at Hero Challenge

NASSAU, Bahamas — Tiger Woods raised his right index finger in the air when he holed a long bunker shot, his fourth birdie in five



WOODS

holes that put him within two shots of the lead early in the third round Saturday of the Hero World Challenge.

He couldn't sustain it, missing too many fairways and too many putts inside 10 feet. He didn't get to the number under par that he thought would give him a chance to contend in his first tournament in 15 months.

Turns out even a good finish wouldn't have mattered — not the way Hideki Matsuyama is playing.

Matsuyama, coming off seven-shot victories in his last two tournaments, holed out for eagle with a wedge and kept his mistakes to a minimum for a 7-under 65

to build a seven-shot lead over British Open champion Henrik Stenson (66) and U.S. Open champion Dustin Johnson (72).

Woods missed three straight putts inside 10 feet and hit into the water on the 18th for a double bogey that gave him a 70, leaving him 11 shots behind.

Matsuyama was at 19-under 197, matching the 54-hole score by Bubba Watson last year at Albany. A year ago, Watson had a two-shot lead. No one is close to Matsuyama, the hottest player in golf over the last two months.

"I knew somebody was going to go low, but I thought it was going to be probably three, four guys that would post this kind of a score," Woods said. "But Hideki is just playing unbelievable golf."

PATRIOTS TIGHT END GRONKOWSKI PUT ON IR

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — New England Patriots tight

end Rob Gronkowski was placed on injured reserve after having season-ending back surgery.

Gronkowski left last week's game against the New York Jets in the first half with what was described as a herniated disk in his back. He had surgery Friday.

The 2015 All Pro played in eight games, catching 25 passes for 540 yards and three touchdowns.

BELTRAN SIGNS ONE-YEAR DEAL WITH ASTROS

A person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press that free agent slugger Carlos and the Houston Astros have reached a one-year deal for \$16 million.

Beltran, who turns 40 in April, hit a combined .295 with 29 home runs and 93 RBIs last season.

Beltran is a career .281 hitter with 421 home runs and 1,536 RBIs in 19 seasons.

From wire reports

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UCLA upends No. 1 Kentucky

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Isaac Hamilton scored 19 points, T.J. Leaf had 17 with 13 rebounds and No. 11 UCLA shot 53 percent to beat No. 1 Kentucky 97-92 on Saturday, its second upset of the top-ranked Wildcats in as many years.

The Bruins (9-0) matched their season scoring average to win this showdown of college basketball's winningest schools in their first-ever visit to Rupp Arena, and end the Wildcats' 42-game home winning streak. Kentucky (7-1) cut a 14-point second-half deficit to 95-92 on Derek Willis' 3-pointer with 8.3 seconds remaining but Bryce Alford's two free throws with 7.4 left sealed the victory.

Malik Monk had 24 points for Kentucky.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UCLA's Bryce Alford (20) shoots against Kentucky's Derek Willis (35) during the second half of the 11th-ranked Bruins' 97-92 victory over top-ranked Kentucky on Saturday in Lexington, Ky.

(2) VILLANOVA 88
SAINT JOSEPH'S 57

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Josh Hart had 16 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists for his first career triple-double to lead Villanova.

Kris Jenkins scored 20 points for the Wildcats (8-0).

Lamarr Kimble led the Hawks (3-4) with 15 points.

(4) KANSAS 89
STANFORD 74

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Frank Mason III scored 20 points and Devonte Graham added 15 for Kansas against Stanford (6-3).

Josh Jackson and Svi Mykhailiuk added 15 points apiece for the Jayhawks (7-1), who overcame 29 points and nine rebounds from the Cardinal's Reid Travis to win their 44th straight at Allen Fieldhouse.

(25) WEST VIRGINIA 66
(6) VIRGINIA 57

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Esa Ahmad hit a tie-breaking 3-pointer with 1:28 remaining and No. 25 West Virginia closed the game on an 11-2 run to end Virginia's 24-game home winning streak.

Jevon Carter led West Virginia (6-1) with 11 points and Nathan Adrian had 10.

Darius Thompson scored 14 points for Virginia (7-1).

(9) BAYLOR 76
(7) XAVIER 61

WACO, Texas — Manu Lecomte scored 24 points and

Baylor took over in the second half against Xavier (7-1).

Johnathan Motley added 17 points and eight rebounds for the Bears (8-0).

Trevon Blueitt led the Musketeers with 23 points.

(15) PURDUE 90
MOREHEAD STATE 56

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Freshman guard Carsen Edwards scored 16 points, and Purdue made 11 3-pointers in the first half.

Dakota Mathias added 14 points, and Caleb Swanigan and P.J. Thompson had 13 each for Purdue (6-2).

Miguel Dient had 11 points for Morehead (2-5).

(17) WISCONSIN 90
OKLAHOMA 70

MADISON, Wis — Nigel Hayes scored 28 points for Wisconsin in a win over Oklahoma.

Bronson Koenig, Ethan Happ and D'Mitrik Trice all scored 16 points for the Badgers (7-2).

Odomes led Oklahoma (5-2) with 17 points.

(18) BUTLER 82
CENTRAL ARKANSAS 58

INDIANAPOLIS — Kelan

Martin finished with 30 points and six rebounds, and Tyler Wideman added 10 points and 10 rebounds for Butler (8-0).

Jordan Howard led Central Arkansas (1-7) with 20 points.

PROVIDENCE 63
(21) RHODE ISLAND 60

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Kyron Cartwright had 19 points and eight assists for Providence (6-2), who beat cross-state rival Rhode Island for the seventh straight time.

Hassan Martin had 14 points and 17 rebounds for Rhode Island (5-3).

(22) SYRACUSE 77
NORTH FLORIDA 71

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Andrew White scored a season-high 26 points and Frank Howard had 10 points, a career-high 13 assists and just two turnovers to lead Syracuse (5-2) past North Florida (3-7).

Freshman Tyus Battle, inserted into the starting lineup for the first time this season, had a career-high 19 points.

From wire reports

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

- EAST**
Army 76, St. Francis Brooklyn 56
Boston College 88, Dartmouth 70
Brown 75, CCSU 58
George Washington 68, S. Florida 67
Hartford 87, Sacred Heart 79
Harvard 64, Fordham 52
La Salle 83, Bucknell 73
Lehigh 64, Robert Morris 58
Loyola (Md.) 64, Mount St. Mary's 57
NJIT 75, Mass.-Lowell 74
Old Dominion 60, Towson 58
Penn St. 72, Wright St. 50
Providence 63, Rhode Island 60
St. Bonaventure 90, Buffalo 84
Syracuse 77, North Florida 71
Temple 70, Penn 62
UCF 65, UMass 62
UMBC 98, Messiah College 59
Villanova 88, Saint Joseph's 57
Yale 59, Albany (NY) 55
- SOUTH**
Campbell 73, Colgate 71
Chattanooga 79, La.-Monroe 52
E. Kentucky 89, Marshall 80
East Carolina 69, NC Central 57

- Furman 79, Navy 46
George Mason 79, Mercer 68
Hampton 79, William & Mary 69
Howard 71, American U. 54
Illinois 64, VCU 46
James Madison 71, Longwood 59
La.-Lafayette 92, McNeese St. 72
Mississippi 85, Memphis 77
NC State 77, Boston U. 73
Southern U. 83, Florida A&M 71
Stetson 101, Florida College 69
Tennessee 81, Georgia Tech 58
The Citadel 97, SC-Upstate 92
UCLA 97, Kentucky 92
UNC-Asheville 79, Coastal Carolina 77
UNC-Wilmington 126, Pfeiffer 113
W. Carolina 58, Appalachian St. 53
Wake Forest 75, Richmond 67
West Virginia 66, Virginia 57
- MIDWEST**
Butler 82, Cent. Arkansas 58
Cent. Michigan 82, Ark.-Pine Bluff 59
Chicago St. 83, W. Illinois 76
Dayton 83, Winthrop 67

- Evansville 72, Boise St. 67
Fresno St. 78, Drake 76
IPFW 87, Miami (Ohio) 71
IUPUI 73, Ball St. 62
Kansas 89, Stanford 74
Loyola of Chicago 65, San Diego St. 59
Michigan 82, Kennesaw St. 55
Michigan St. 80, Oral Roberts 76
Missouri 59, W. Kentucky 56
Nebraska 73, South Dakota 61
Nebraska-Omaha 98, Iowa 89
Oakland 78, S. Utah 68
Ohio 79, Bryant 53
Ohio St. 70, Fairleigh Dickinson 62
Purdue 90, Morehead St. 56
S. Dakota St. 77, UMKC 68
Wisconsin 90, Oklahoma 70
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 76, Xavier 61
Texas Tech 85, Rice 84
UALR 72, Tulsa 62
- FAR WEST**
California 83, Alcorn St. 59
San Diego 80, N. Arizona 65
Wyoming 81, N. Iowa 73

AREA SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

P-15'S BRICKS

The Sumter P-15's American Legion baseball program will be placing bricks for former players at the front of Riley Park in January.

The cost is \$50 per brick. For more information, contact Post 15 athletic director Billy Lyons at (803) 968-5115.

USCS LEGENDS DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Tickets available for USC Sumter 'Legends Dinner & Silent Auction'

Tickets for the second annual University of South Carolina Sumter "Legends Dinner & Silent Auction" baseball fundraiser are available now.

The cost is \$100 per person and no charge for children 12 & under. The dinner will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 6 p.m. at the Nettles Auditori-

um. Interested parties should contact USCS head coach Tim Medlin at (803) 938-3904 or (803) 944-0612.

There will be five big cash door prizes — one for \$1,000 and four for \$500 each. There will also be a meal provided by the Bar-B-Que Hut, a cornhole tournament and a silent auction featuring local items as well as other sports-related memorabilia.

Sumter native, former University of South Carolina head coach and New York Yankee great Bobby Richardson will be the keynote speaker. Other guests include Chicago Cubs pitcher and World Series champion Carl Edwards Jr. as well as Clemson All-Americans Billy O'Dell and Billy McMillon.

U.S. BASEBALL ACADEMY SPRING TRAINING

U.S. Baseball Academy's Spring Training 2017 will be

held at the University of South Carolina Sumter's Nettles Gymnasium beginning in January.

The camps, which are open to children in grades 1-12, will be held on Jan. 7, Jan. 14, Jan. 21 and Jan. 28. USC Sumter head coach Tim Medlin will be the program director.

With the player-to-coach ratio at 7 to 1, space is limited. Students can register at www.USBASEBALLAcademy.com or by calling (866) 622-4487.

For more information, contact Medlin at (803) 938-3904 or (803) 944-0612.

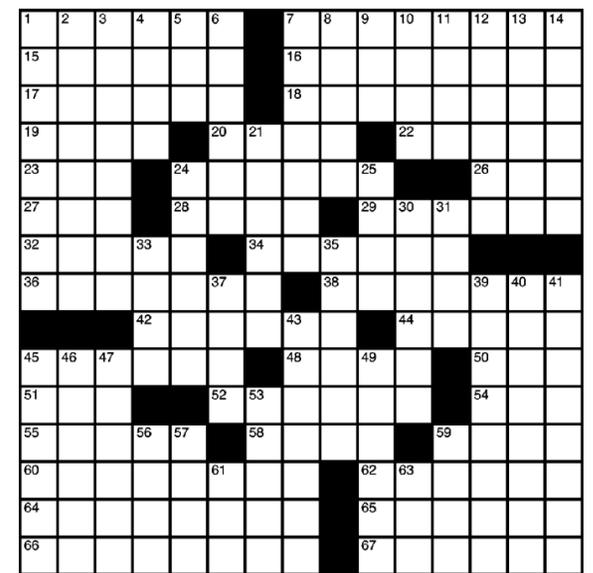
UMPIRES NEEDED

The Sumter County Recreation Department is in search of umpires for its spring youth league baseball season.

For more information, contact Glenn Button at (803) 983-9934.

SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By John Lieb

12/3/16

- ACROSS**
- 1 Major clothing chain
 - 7 Free speech inhibitor?
 - 15 Morsel
 - 16 Tufted tweeter
 - 17 Unspecific threat
 - 18 "Right you are!"
 - 19 "Women and Love" author Shere
 - 20 Tach readings
 - 22 Norwegian king during the Cold War
 - 23 Serial sequence
 - 24 Attributes
 - 26 Door opener?
 - 27 Where Martin Scorsese taught Oliver Stone: Abbr.
 - 28 Rhein tributary
 - 29 16th-century rulers
 - 32 Archaeologist, at times
 - 34 Capital of Kazakhstan
 - 36 Disdained, with "at"
 - 38 Mickey Rooney septet
 - 42 Blue on screen
 - 44 Last Supper query
 - 45 Completely overhauled
 - 48 Revival figs.
 - 50 Texter's appreciation
 - 51 I, perhaps
 - 52 Harsh
 - 54 U.N. ambassador appointed by JFK
 - 55 2008 Best New Artist Grammy winner
 - 58 Sweet sign-off
 - 59 King Ahab's father
 - 60 Different exercises performed consecutively
 - 62 Boxer Rebellion setting
 - 64 Cherish
 - 65 Shady Records co-founder
 - 66 Snakes
 - 67 Event associated with warm climates and big midday meals
 - 8 "Bullets Over Broadway" Oscar winner
 - 9 Sci-fi staples
 - 10 Recess rejoinder
 - 11 Stir up
 - 12 Katy of "High Noon"
 - 13 Sincere sign-off
 - 14 Player of Kent
 - 21 Flaunt
 - 24 Fiction's Lord Greystoke
 - 25 Pringles alternative
 - 30 Ill-conceived
 - 31 Stand for 45-Down
 - 33 First name in architecture
 - 35 Hybrid cuisine
 - 37 "Nos ___": 2000s French-Canadian drama set in a summer home
 - 39 Total assets?
 - 40 One way to connect nowadays
 - 41 Quality control process with an alphanumeric symbol
 - 43 Allots
 - 45 They involve insult comedy
 - 46 Stomach
 - 47 Superior, vis-à-vis Michigan
 - 49 Metaphors, e.g.
 - 53 Wield
 - 56 Vault
 - 57 Language that gave us "plaid"
 - 59 Tom Joad, e.g.
 - 61 Flare producer
 - 63 "Big four" record company

Friday's Puzzle Solved



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

NARDK
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

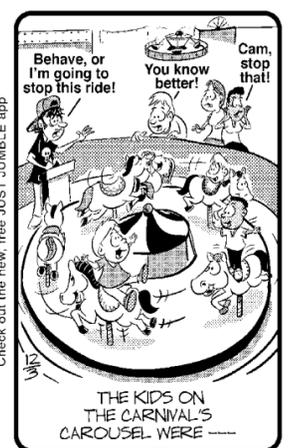
OODTU
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

WHERDS
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

AGIAUN
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []



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

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SINGE DOUSE TRUDGE LETTER
Answer: It was time to close her bakery for the day after the customers had — "DESSERTED" IT

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY:

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

THE ANSWERS TO THESE PUZZLES CAN BE FOUND ON TODAY'S DAILY PLANNER PAGE.



Virginia Tech quarterback Jerod Evans (4) is pressured by Clemson defensive end Clelin Ferrell (99) during the first half of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game on Saturday in Orlando, Fla.

ACC

FROM PAGE B1

Clemson scored touchdowns on each of its first three possessions. The Hokies won the toss and deferred to the second half and it cost them.

The Tigers went 75 yards in nine plays for the touchdown. Watson was 5-for-5 for 50 yards on the drive, and he closed it out with a 3-yard scoring run. Greg Huegel added the extra point to make it 7-0 with 11:47 left in the first quarter.

After forcing Virginia Tech to punt, Clemson started at its 17. The Tigers needed nine plays and 4:06 to drive for the score. The drive ended with Watson tossing a 21-yard touchdown pass to tight end Jordan Leggett to make it 14-0.

Virginia Tech finally broke through on its second possession. The Hokies went 77 yards in 11 plays, taking 5:06 off the clock in the process. VT took advantage of two 15-yard penalties against the Tigers and a 20-yard pass on a fake punt for 50 of the yards. Travon McMillian scored from a yard out to make it 14-7 with 51 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Tigers responded with another 75-yard drive, this time needing 10 plays. Watson threw a 10-yard scoring pass to Leggett to make it 21-7 with 11:46 left in the first half.

Virginia Tech finally forced the Tigers to punt and it used a 53-yard pass from quarterback Jerod Evans to Isiah Ford. That set up an 11-yard run by Evans to make it 21-14 with 4:09 to go.

Clemson led 21-14 at halftime. Watson was 14-for-19 for 117 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions. He rushed for 16 yards on six carries.

Leggett had three catches for 44 yards and the two TD passes. Wide receiver Artavis Scott had five catches for 36 yards.

The Hokies' Evans was 8-for-13 for 100 yards. VT only had 23 yards rushing in the first half while Clemson had 85.

WOFFORD

FROM PAGE B1

The Bulldogs had the ball first and gained six first downs to move inside the 5, but they had to settle for a 24-yard field goal to take a 3-0 lead at 7:25 in the first quarter.

In the third quarter, David Marvin tied the game with a 47-yard field goal with 8:09 on the clock.

Wofford took the lead in the fourth quarter, converting a fourth-and-one along the way as Long picked up two yards for the first down. Newman then went 36 yards on the keeper for a 10-3 lead with 10:28 left in the fourth quarter.

The Citadel had a first down, and then converted a

fourth-and-one. After another first down, a personal foul on the Terriers gave the Bulldogs first down inside the 10. A 35-yard field goal attempt with 4:23 left hit the right upright and was no good.

Wofford answered with a 43-yard run by Long, but the drive stalled and a 46-yard field goal by Marvin was no good and The Citadel took over with 2:12 left in the fourth quarter.

The Bulldogs gained a pair of first downs, but then Devin Watson picked off Allen and returned it 62 yards for a touchdown with 30 seconds left for the 17-3 final.

Wofford had 256 total yards, with 223 rushing.

The Citadel had 355 total yards, 235 rushing.

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--------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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-----------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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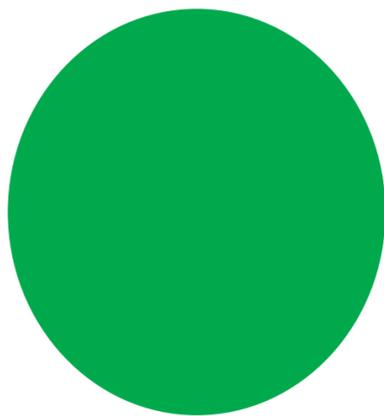
Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Card No.: _____ Exp. _____

Signature Required: _____



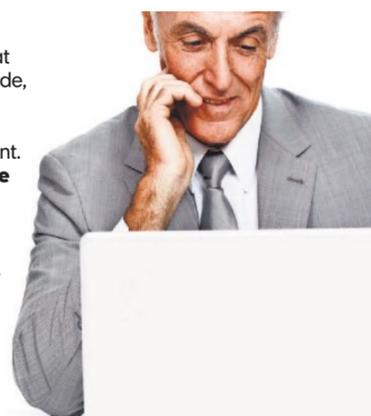
USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE

THIS WEEK

When you look at workers worldwide, some notable differences become apparent.

Americans work an average of five years longer than their global counterparts. An HSBC study of 17 countries worldwide showed Americans worked 35 years, vs. 30 years for other nations.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO



ON THE MOVE

STOCK STORIES OF THE WEEK

AMAZON

Citigroup maintained a buy rating on the online retailer on Monday but lowered its price target by \$5, citing deep discounting to compete during the holiday shopping season.



DELTA AIR LINES

The airliner banned a disruptive passenger who shouted pro-Donald Trump and anti-Hillary Clinton remarks on a flight to Allentown, Pa. On Tuesday Delta said it would give refunds to all other passengers.



GOPRO

The action-camera maker on Wednesday announced that it is shuttering its entertainment division and will lay off 200 employees. President Tony Bates also is leaving as the company focuses on its core business.



BANK OF AMERICA

The bank's shares inched higher on Thursday as the benchmark 10-year Treasury note climbed to its highest level since July 2015. Higher yields are linked to higher interest rates. Shares reached a 2016 high.



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USA SNAPSHOTS®

Payroll uptick



SOURCE: Glassdoor "Local Pay Reports" JAE YANG AND PAUL TRAP, USA TODAY

Expect some love from car dealers



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Nicole Arata | NerdWallet

Car dealers will go to great lengths to get you onto the lot. Everyone expects doughnuts or coffee in the waiting room. But what about a Samsung flat-screen TV with the purchase of a sedan? Most dealer and manufacturer perks aren't that extravagant, and freebies shouldn't be a distraction — focus on finding and buying the right car for you. Still, after you've gotten the best deal possible on your new car, it's worth asking what your dealer can throw in with your purchase.

SPECIAL PERKS

Many dealerships try to stand out from the pack with gifts or extra service for your new ride. Some perks might be offered upfront, and you might have to ask for others:

- ▶ **Service vouchers.** Many dealerships provide free oil changes, state inspections and even car washes to sweeten the deal.
- ▶ **Window tinting.** Some dealers will tint your windows for free if you ask. You can find DIY kits for less than \$100, but professional tinting can cost as much as \$800.
- ▶ **Brand swag.** Dealerships occasionally throw in free hats, mugs or tote bags with a new-car purchase. This is more common if you're buying from a luxury brand, such as Ferrari, BMW, Porsche and Tesla, which have their own fashion lines.
- ▶ **Manicures and fresh cookies.** Your dealership might deck itself out to resemble a cafe or spa, rolling out a fancy bagel spread, plush massage chairs, a putting green or a fitness center to make you feel pampered.

EXTRAVAGANT INCENTIVES

Occasionally, dealerships offer flashier — but short-lived — promotions with car purchases, such as ski-lift tickets or televisions. In 2009, Max Motors of Butler, Mo., offered a free AK-47 with every new pickup purchased. Search online for dealerships near you to find localized promotions, or search car brands' websites for manufacturer offers.

STANDARD OFFERS

You should expect these add-ons from your dealer:

- ▶ **A free tank of gas.** This has become a common courtesy for new-car purchases. If you're buying a vehicle and the tank is low or empty, ask for a gas voucher.
- ▶ **A second set of keys.** Most new cars come with two keys or two fobs for keyless entry. This is an often-overlooked convenience, as modern keys are expensive to replicate. Key fobs alone can cost up to \$300.
- ▶ **Floor mats.** They typically cost between \$20 and \$150. They're included with almost all new-car purchases.

Nicole Arata is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website. Email: narata@nerdwallet.com. NerdWallet is a USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage from around the Web. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.

Get a CLUE for red flags on homes

Database offers look into history of claims and cost to insure

Jeff Reeves

Special for USA TODAY

When purchasing a home, there are tons of things to worry about — the interest rate on your loan, property taxes and whether the kitchen has enough counter space, just to name a few.

But one big topic many buyers overlook is the cost of insuring your home and what previous claims on the property may be able to tell you about its history.

Most Americans may not know it, but there is a shared database of insurance claims known as the Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange, or CLUE, which keeps five years of history for every insured home out there. It's used by the financial industry to assess risk and determine premiums in a similar way to how banks use your credit report to set loan terms.

But a big difference is that credit reports are solely linked to the person borrowing and their behavior, while insurance history is closely aligned with the property itself, said Laura Adams, senior analyst for InsuranceQuotes.com.

"Insurance companies are not only going to evaluate you and whether you smoke and other



GETTY IMAGES

Prior claims can cost you.

factors like that, but they are also going to consider the history of the property itself," Adams said. That's because claims tend to be driven by issues other than owner behavior — including structural defects, location in the community, even the water table.

A look at the claims history of a prospective home, then, should be considered part of the overall home-inspection process. And since everyone is allowed one free report annually, it shouldn't be an unreasonable or unusual request for the seller to provide one.

"You can't pull someone else's home CLUE report, but you can request that the seller pull it," Adams said. "If you get the report and you see a lot of burglary claims or damage that seems to persist, that would be a red flag."

And even if you don't see anything big on a CLUE report that deters you from purchasing, remember that insurance companies may penalize you for the claims history of the property. That means if there have been a lot of little claims on your new home, you can expect to pay more for insurance even after the property changes hands.

"The prior owner of a property could influence the rate that you pay," Adams said. "I don't think many people realize that."

Q I am 69, and I started drawing my Social Security benefits when I was 66. My husband, who is 62, is still working. My question: Can he draw on my Social Security benefits (receiving 50%) until he is 66? Can we get the forms on the Internet?

— CAROLYN FARLOW, RENO

Robert Powell

Special for USA TODAY



A Bad news times three. First, if your husband takes spousal Social Security at 62, he doesn't get 50% of your payment, he only gets 35% because of early filing, says Andy Landis, author of *Social Security: The Inside Story: An Expert Explains Your Rights and Benefits*.

Second, Landis says if your husband files before 66 he has to file for both the spousal and his own Social Security. "That means there would be a permanent reduction in both kinds of payments," he says.

And third, since your husband is under 66, his work can reduce his Social Security even further, Landis says.

After all those cautions, your husband might still choose to file for Social Security. If so, you can get started at <https://secure.ssa.gov/iClaim/rib>.

Before you do, you might run your situation through a free adviser such as one on the Financial Engines website.

Says Landis: "Congratulations for planning ahead."

Powell is editor of *Retirement Weekly* and contributes regularly to USA TODAY, "The Wall Street Journal" and MarketWatch. Got questions? Email rpowell@allthingsretirement.com.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow Jones	S&P 500	Nasdaq	Wilshire 5000	Gold	Oil	Euro	Yen
industrial average		composite index		Ounce, Comex	Light sweet crude	Dollars per euro (week)	Yen per dollar
▲0.1% week	▼1.0% week	▼2.7% week	▼1.0% week	▼0.3% week	▲12.2% week	▲0.0068	▲0.63 week
▲6.7% month	▲4.5% month	▲2.9% month	▲5.6% month	▼10.2% month	▲14.0% month	▼0.0436 month	▲10.39 month
▲3.7% 3 months	▲0.5% 3 months	▲0.1% 3 months	▲1.1% 3 months	▼11.2% 3 months	▲16.3% 3 months	▼0.0499 3 months	▲9.73 3 months

USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE

PETE THE PLANNER

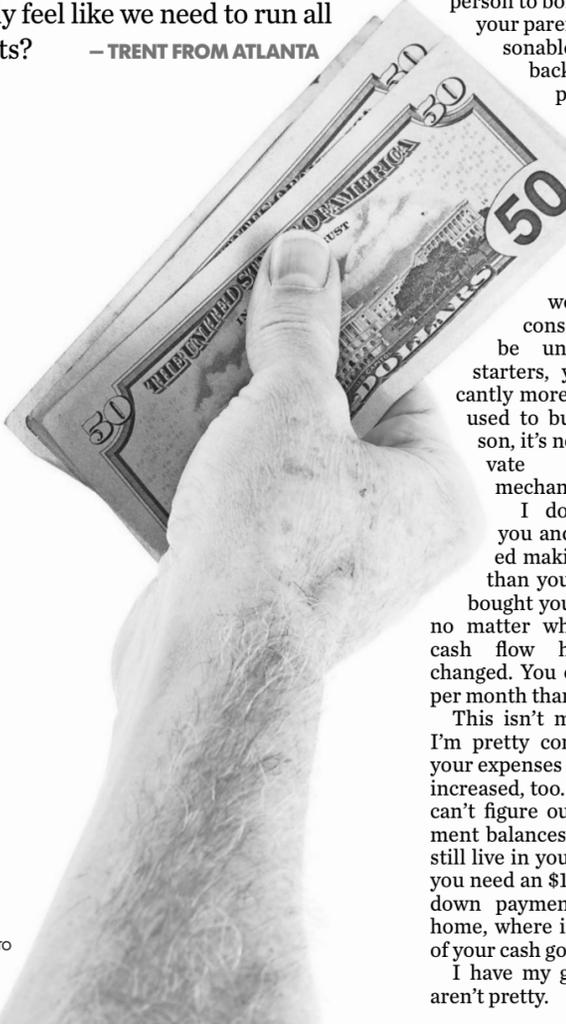
It's past time to pay off that family loan

DEAR PETE: I owe my father-in-law \$7,500 from when he helped us buy our first house six years ago. We were supposed to be making payments to him, but we never got around to it. My financial life has changed quite a bit since we borrowed the money. I make roughly \$40,000 more than I did then, and my wife makes about \$25,000 more. We've never had student loans or credit card debt. I'm in line for a sizable bonus, \$11,000 after taxes, and my wife and I want to use it to move to a bigger house. We also need to get our retirement plan balances up to where they should be. Because of this, I'm not comfortable paying back my father-in-law just yet. We haven't talked to him about this but, since we're 33 years old now, I don't really feel like we need to run all of our financial plans by our parents. Thoughts?

— TRENT FROM ATLANTA



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO



Peter Dunn
Special for
USA TODAY



If you're not saving money the way you'd like, you aren't paying down student loan debt and you aren't spending the higher amount you'd like to spend on housing just yet, then you're consuming your increased income.

If you haven't already, consider what that may look like from the outside. "Wow, Trent and Mrs. Trent must be doing really well," an observer might note. You probably eat good food, wear nice clothes, drive nice cars and vacation in lovely locales. Again, congrats on your success. By all outward appearances, you've built a wonderful lifestyle. It's just the sort of life-

Congrats. by all appearances, you've built a wonderful lifestyle, one that would aggravate a person to whom you owe \$7,500.

style which would aggravate a person to whom you owe \$7,500.

DEAR TRENT: Congratulations on your recent success. Your investor is going to be thrilled with his investment. I know I would be.

I know why you emailed me your question — it's because you already know the answer and are hoping I'll tell you the opposite. Fortunately for your father-in-law, I'm not going to disagree with you. You know it's time to pay him back, and I agree.

YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY

You certainly aren't the first person to borrow money from your parents without a reasonable plan to pay it back. Like most people before you, you did have an unreasonable plan — to pay him back when you had more money.

You're probably wondering why I consider this plan to be unreasonable. For starters, you have significantly more money than you used to but, for some reason, it's not enough to activate the payback mechanism.

I don't know when you and your wife started making \$65,000 more than you made when you bought your first house, but no matter when it was, your cash flow has significantly changed. You earn \$5,416 more per month than you used to.

This isn't my first rodeo, so I'm pretty confident in saying your expenses have significantly increased, too. But here's what I can't figure out: If your retirement balances aren't great, you still live in your first house, and you need an \$11,000 bonus for a down payment on your next home, where in the world is all of your cash going?

I have my guesses, and they aren't pretty.

QUIT STALLING ALREADY

Pay your father-in-law back today. Don't wait until you get your bonus. Write him a check for \$500 or \$1,000 today. Then pay him the balance when you get your bonus. If you don't get your bonus, pay him \$1,000 per month until he is paid back.

And if for some reason you're considering playing the "he doesn't need it, he's loaded" card, save it. His wealth has nothing to do with your debt to him. Do banks have billions of dollars? Yes. Do you still have to pay them back? Of course.

I don't think you wrote me expecting me to tell you that you're at a crossroad, but you're at a crossroad. You can either choose the path of personal responsibility, or you can choose the path which has you living it up on someone else's dime.

Start making adult financial decisions.

Peter Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host. Have a question about money for Pete the Planner? Email him at AskPete@petetheplanner.com

Exactly which credit score should you check?

Odysseas Papadimitriou | Special for USA TODAY

Let's keep it real, OK? When it comes to credit scores, numbers — namely, your three-digit score and the amount you have to pay to access it — are all that really matter. In simpler terms, it doesn't matter what type of credit score you get — whether FICO or Vantage, for instance — or where you get it, as long as the source is reputable and you receive maximum access for minimal cost. And if you don't buy into that notion, here are four fundamental reasons why seeking out a certain type of score — or ever paying for one — is a fool's errand.

1 You're looking for a needle in a haystack.

There are more than 1,000 different types of credit scores currently in use, according to Experian, and each model produces a unique result depending on which of the three major credit bureaus is supplying the underlying information. In other words, you're going to have a very hard time trying to identify the exact type of credit score a given lender will use to evaluate your application.

Further complicating matters, there's no way to tell whether a given lender runs the numbers based on more than one bureau's data. And even if you somehow learn that they do, good luck trying to determine whether they ultimately rely on an average, throw out extremes or otherwise process the information.

2 Lenders' scores are off-limits.

So let's assume that you're somehow successful in finding that needle in the haystack. What are you going to do about the fact that most sophisticated lenders modify publicly available scores with their own in-house data, creating proprietary scores that consumers can't access? There's really not much you can do.

3 Credit scores are highly correlated.

The whole idea behind checking a particular credit score is to get a better sense of whether you can get approved for a certain loan or line of credit and, if so, what terms you can expect. But that fundamental rationale is wrong.



Odysseas Papadimitriou is CEO of the personal-finance website WalletHub.

Odysseas Papadimitriou is CEO of the personal-finance website WalletHub, which offers free credit scores, full credit reports, 24/7 credit monitoring and customized money-saving advice.

Even if you manage to find the exact credit score that your lender uses, it won't give you much of an advantage over other popular scores that are probably much easier (and cheaper) to get. That's because there's more than a 90% correlation between commonly available credit scores, according to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. In other words, most credit scores are similar enough to make searching for a certain type largely a waste of time.

4 Lenders take much more into account.

Credit scores aren't the only data points that lenders consider. Most notably, these three-digit representations of financial responsibility don't directly reflect income or all existing monetary obligations, which obviously contribute to the affordability of a new loan or line of credit.

As only one piece of a larger puzzle, credit scores merely provide a rough approximation of your approvability and the terms you can expect to be offered.

Finally, it's worth noting that 44% of people haven't checked any type of credit score, even once, in the past 12 months, according to the National Foundation for Credit Counseling. So are we really in a position to be all that picky? Credit scores require regular care to flourish, and providing this tender loving is easier than ever before, with all of the free-credit-score options now available.

So start paying some attention to your score, wherever you get it, and your wallet will begin to see the efforts pay off before long.

THE WEEK AHEAD



SETH PERLMAN, AP

Fed gets one last look at service sector before hike

Paul Davidson
@Pdavidsonusat
USA TODAY

After Friday's solid jobs report, it would seem virtually nothing could derail a Federal Reserve plan to raise interest rates this month for the first time this year. Still, the last full week of economic data before the Dec. 13-14 Fed meeting could cement a rate hike, while disappointing reports at least could raise a few questions for policymakers. Highlights include releases on the health of the service sector, labor market dynamics and consumer credit.

The service sector makes up about 80% of the economy and has been its workhorse even as manufacturers have struggled amid weakness overseas, a strong dollar and the oil industry's troubles. Retailers have been buoyed by consumers benefiting from solid job and income growth and cheap gasoline. And the recovering housing market is underpinning a steady flow of construction projects. The Institute for Supply Management's (ISM) index of service sector activity retreated from a high level in October, though it continued to show solid expansion. Retail sales, however, have trended higher recently, notes Nomura economist Lewis Alexander. And strong online purchases on Cyber Monday

Construction activity has helped bolster the healthy service sector.

The service sector makes up about 80% of the economy and has been the power fueling the engine.

helped offset a lackluster Black Friday in stores. Economists expect ISM on Monday to report slightly faster growth in its service-sector index for November.

On Wednesday, the Labor Department releases its Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS), which digs beneath the monthly job growth and unemployment figures to reveal employer demand and employee movements in the labor market. Payroll gains have slowed this year, a development that most economists attribute to a low jobless rate that's providing employers with a smaller supply of available workers. But in August and September, job openings totaled about 5.5 million after hitting a record 5.8 million in July, suggesting that employer demand may have cooled, possibly because of uncertainty tied to the presidential election. The latest report will show whether that trend continued for a third straight month or openings bounced back.

The healthy job market also has allowed consumers to feel more comfortable using credit cards. Consumer credit has advanced nicely in all categories, rising \$26.8 billion in August and \$19.3 billion in September. Economists reckon the Fed will report that trend continued in October, with total consumer outstanding credit increasing \$18 billion.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the New York Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Last, Chg, and various stock symbols like ABC, DEF, GHI, etc.

Table titled 'How To Read The Market in Review' providing detailed information on stock market indices, market conditions, and a list of active stocks with their respective prices and changes.

Table titled 'The list includes the most active stocks on each exchange, as well as stocks of local interest.' containing a comprehensive list of active stocks and their market data.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of stock market data for the NASDAQ National Market, listing various technology and growth stocks.

Advertisement for Crech Roddey Watson Insurance, featuring a photo of Scott Kinder and text describing their services as an independent agency since 1916.

Table of stock market data for the NASDAQ National Market, continuing the list of active stocks.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund data, including fund names, NAV, and performance metrics.

Table of mutual fund data, continuing the list of various investment funds.

Table of mutual fund data, listing additional mutual funds and their details.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

- **James Allen Richardson of Manning and Kristen Elizabeth Atchison**
- **Luke Francis Baer and Kylie Nicole Kendrick**
- **Russell Oral Beam Jr. and Sindy Michelle Rickard**
- **Jamaar Deon Haynes and Melanie Soleil Robinson**, both of Eastover
- **Barrett Eugene Durant and Joyce Renee Robinson**
- **David Anthony Lawrence and Angela Darnell Cantey**, both of Dalzell
- **Franklin Wayne Mixon and Jennifer Lynn Taylor**
- **Montrell Demeke Antonio Bates and Christina Denyse Williams**
- **Barry Steven Pritchard and Stacie Lynn Chavis of West Columbia**
- **Darnel Bobby Boone and Jasmine Tinasha McDonald**
- **Derrick Antroy Roach and Sharron Rivers Jackson**, both of Wedgefield
- **Calahan Michael Kirkhart and Amanda Nichelle Wolfe**
- **John Earl Crider III and Diamond Teairra Flemming**
- **Gary Wayne Beaver and Kathleen Marie Ireland**
- **Henry L. Rich and Ozella Williams**
- **Davante Tyquan Wilson and Monika Mazita Pigett**
- **William Jack Uhall and Kristy Lee Pritchard**
- **Adrian Jerome Ruffin and Derian Michelle Barnes**
- **Ronald Joseph Berry Jr. and Connie Michelle White**
- **Daniel Kenneth Lee Broyles II and Maria Teresa Javier Rosedo**
- **David Levern Hinnant and Sandra Washington**
- **Heyward M. Tyburious and Shakeeda Mone' Carter**
- **Joshua Daniel Jones and Jonquil Heather Irwin**
- **Anthony Saavedra and Alexandra Allena Nassef**, both of Dalzell
- **Evan Andrew Rogerson and Rebecca Caroline Cabbage**
- **Jethroe M. Coker and Racheline O. McKenzie**, both of Wedgefield
- **Carl McLendon Spigner and Katherine Johnson Davis**
- **Eric Scott Puette and Judy Ruth Frates**, both of Manning
- **Don Mitchell Rogers and Joey Lynn Amereson**
- **Jake Powell Paschall and Nicole Alyce Bamber**, both of Shaw Air Force Base
- **Joseph Daniel Barnes and Naomi Michelle Robinson**
- **Shelton Lamont Cooper Sr. and Veronique Shavon' Ragin**, both of Wedgefield
- **Jacob Raymond Keith of Hephzibah**, Georgia, and Joye Lynn Rivers
- **Lee Edward Westerman and Jerney Raymond Evans**
- **Julius David Gainey and Laurie Varnadoc Caldwell**, both of Wedgefield
- **William Michael Turner and Martha Elizabeth Regalado**
- **Tyrone Williams and Ollethia Janay Dinkins of Dalzell**
- **William Edward Ferry and Melissa Jane Irizarry**
- **Richard Lee Phillips Jr. and Ca'see Lea Kelley**, both of Dalzell
- **Albertis Montgomery of Wedgefield and Evelyn McCain Cook**

BUILDING PERMITS

- **Lizabeth A. McIntyre**, owner, William Lee dba Lee's Roofing Co., contractor, 5925 Myrtle Beach Highway, Mayesville, \$11,000 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Pamela J. Howell (lifetime estate)**, owner, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 3550 Pinewood Road, \$7,500 (attached deck with top / no electrical, residential).
- **Betty Johnson**, owner and contractor, 1815 West Ave. South, Pinewood, 1,081 heated square feet, \$35,000 (bedroom, bathroom and living room addition, residential).
- **Mary E. King**, owner, William Wilson, contractor, 4910 McLaurin Road, Wedgefield (mobile home, residential).
- **Formosa Inc.**, owner, KG Contracting Co., contractor, 459 Broad St., \$32,000 (paving parking lot, commercial).
- **Joseph Maple III**, owner, Monroe Construction Co. LLC, contractor, 912 Jensen Road, \$4,226.48 (reroof, residential).
- **Futuremed LLC**, owner, Signs Unlimited (NC), contractor, 308 W. Wesmark Blvd., \$15,750 (wall sign — Colonial Healthcare, commercial); Futuremed LLC, owner, Signs Unlimited (NC), contractor, 308 W. Wesmark Blvd., \$22,997 (freestanding sign — Colonial Healthcare, commercial).
- **Shri Ap LLC**, owner, Crescent Construction LLC, contractor, 2510 Broad St., \$45,000 (roof replacement, commercial); Shri Ap LLC, owner, Crescent Construction LLC, contractor, 2500 Broad St. (2510), \$40,000 (roof replacement, commercial).
- **Calvin P. and Willie C. Ferguson**, owners, Caustin Holden, contractor, 7220 Stephanie Drive, Rembert (mobile home, residential).
- **David G. and Lorna D. Fitzgerald**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 20 Huron Court, 277 unheated square feet, \$5,500 (top on existing patio, residential); David G. and Lorna D. Fitzgerald, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 20 Huron Court, \$5,400 (reroof only, residential).
- **James Charles Farrar and Bonnie Farrar**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 787 Lang Jennings Drive, \$4,000 (reroof only, residential).
- **Edgar L. and Mary L. Dallery**, owners, Ronnie Wilkes dba Wilkes Builders Inc., contractor, 495 Wilson Hall Road, 252 unheated square feet, \$12,000 (addition

of attached 14x18 porch, residential).

- **Jon K. and Charlene B. Peters**, owners, United Solar, contractor, 3010 Springdale Way, \$25,200 (roof mount solar panels, residential).
- **Johnny L. Wigfall**, owner, Carolina Carports, contractor, 285 A L G Road, Wedgefield, 420 unheated square feet, \$1,128.60 (detached metal garage, residential).
- **Robert A. Burgess Jr.**, owner, Newman Builders of Sumter LLC, contractor, 220 Dingle St., \$10,000 (replace tin on block plant shed, commercial).
- **Kathy L. Krauss and Linda Wilder**, owners, James Robert Byrd Jr., contractor, 3035 Broad St., \$3,800 (four foot chain link fence, commercial).
- **Charles H. and Debra D. Powell**, owners, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 930 Chesterfield Drive, \$5,756.25 (move walls and electrical / sheetrock, residential).
- **Charles Milton Hodgins**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 1 Glendale Court, \$9,186 (reroof, residential).
- **BPD Sumter LLC**, owner, The Sign Connection, contractor, 1177 Broad St. (B), \$1,600 (wall sign — Eye Mart, commercial).
- **Gregory J. Cox**, owner, James Miller dba James Miller Construction, contractor, 503 Sierra St., \$4,800 (new roof, residential).
- **Freddie and Jenette P. Goodley**, owners, Chris Collett dba C&C Remodeling and Repair, contractor, 112 Morgan Ave., \$3,440 (install metal roof on garage, residential).
- **Jeffery D. Lingefelt**, owner, EME Enterprises Inc., contractor, 620 Deschamps Road, 2,000 heated square feet and 600 unheated square feet, \$110,000 (new dwelling, residential).
- **City of Sumter**, owner, Thompson Turner Construction, contractor, 14 N. Main St., \$213,200 (foundation only — hotel, commercial).
- **Christine M. Hunt (lifetime estate)**, owner, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 2915 W. Brewington Road, \$7,875 (remove wall / new cabinets, residential).
- **George C. James Jr. and Dena O. James**, owners, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 597 Covington St., \$7,743.75 (remodel bathroom / new tile, residential).
- **Delores B. Johnson**, owner, The Home Depot at Home Services, contractor, 919 Ridgehill Drive, \$3,323 (replace four windows, residential).
- **Lula L. Dow**, owner, The Home Depot at Home Services, contractor, 120 Carolina Ave., \$6,252 (replace 22 square shingles and 230 lin ft drip edge, residential).
- **Sandra L. Bradford**, owner, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 23 W. Charlotte Ave., \$6,400 (reroof only, residential).
- **Carolinas Homebuilder LLC**, owner, A&A International Inc., contractor, 3173 Girard Drive, \$3,000 (six foot brick fence, residential).
- **Deborah A. Becchetti**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 15 Bland Ave., \$5,940 (reroof, residential).
- **Randolph Green**, owner, Ralph Brown, contractor, 443 Belk St. (mobile home, residential).
- **Darrell and DeeAnn Perry (trustee)**, owners, Timothy Kelley dba Kelley Construction, contractor, 6515 Hidden Haven Road, \$15,500 (install new roof, residential).
- **Louis J. Foley Jr. and Suzanna C. Foley**, owners, Triple R Construction LLC, contractor, 2455 Clematis Trail, \$4,850 (attached deck with roof, residential).
- **Douglas E. and Tamara L. Narduzzi**, owners, Herbert C. Griffin, contractor, 210 Trailwood Drive, 450 unheated square feet, \$9,500 (add screen porch on rear of house, residential).
- **Randal Wade Topp (trustee)**, owner, Servpro of Sumter, contractor, 904 Grimble Court, \$8,800 (repair fire damage / drywall / cabinets / paint / carpet — kitchen, residential).
- **Paula R. and Mary A. and Alps Hannon**, owners, Julius David Gainey dba Dream Builder, contractor, 111 Church St., \$9,200 (reroof, residential).
- **Michael A. Howard**, owner, Joshua W. Neal dba JW Neal Construction, contractor, 758 W. Liberty St., \$6,000 (repair two sections of flat roof, commercial).
- **Roland McLeod**, owner, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 1900 West Ave. South, Pinewood, 1,300 heated square feet, \$5,000 (new dwelling — modular — being moved from 1724 Bermuda St., residential).
- **City of Sumter**, owner, Andrew Systems Inc., contractor, 540 Black St., \$3,100 (replace three antennas / no changes to electrical, commercial).
- **Mark A. Fouts**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 211 Curtiswood Ave., \$6,975 (reroof, residential).
- **Goodwin Volkswagen Inc.**, owner, Murray Sign Inc., contractor, 1120 Broad St., \$4,500 (change face of pole signs — Carolina Title Loans, commercial).
- **Gustave H. Becker**, owner, John Bailey, contractor, 610 Periwinkle Court, \$800 (remove / replace shingles on storage building, residential); Gustave H. Becker, owner, John Bailey, contractor, 610 Periwinkle Court, \$5,600 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Evelyn C. Parker**, owner, James Geddings dba Geddings Construction, contractor, 615 Periwinkle Court, \$6,000 (vinyl siding, residential).
- **Heidi A. Burkett**, owner, John Bailey, contractor, 7 Creed St., \$3,700 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Tim Buddin**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 987 Winkles Road (995), 5,184 unheated square feet, \$42,500 (workshop — agricultural — tractor shed, storage, commercial).
- **Frank W. Watford**, owner, James O. Davis III dba Air Solutions, contractor, 2688 McCrays Mill Road, \$2,750 (vinyl siding, residential).
- **Hugh Allen Clements**, owner, Timothy Kelley dba Kelley Construction, contrac-

tor, 3151 Longleaf Drive, 3,700 (install new roof, residential).

- **Scott and Renee Townsend**, owners, Timothy Kelley dba Kelley Construction, contractor, 4485 Maxie St., Dalzell, \$5,400 (install new roof, residential).
- **Nancy T. Tennant**, owner, Timothy Kelley dba Kelley Construction, contractor, 857 Perry Blvd., \$4,300 (install new roof, residential).
- **Babette P. Meadows**, owner, Harrell E. Durant Jr., contractor, 48 Inglewood Drive, \$5,000 (repair and install floor system, commercial).
- **Wilkes Builders Inc.**, owner, Ronnie Wilkes dba Wilkes Builders Inc., contractor, 2898 Girard Drive, 1,800 heated square feet and 500 unheated square feet, \$116,500 (new dwelling, residential).
- **David L. and Julie C. Ardis**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 2555 Merganser Point, \$9,000 (reroof only, residential).
- **JT Holdings III LLC**, owner, Cwall Lyons dba C&L Co. Corp., contractor, 6 Barrette Drive, \$4,900 (remove / replace shingles, commercial).
- **Evelyn J. Rowland**, owner, The Home Depot at Home Services, contractor, 25 Maplewood Drive, \$2,100 (replace two windows size for size, residential).
- **Mary Frances Munn**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 11 Bland Ave., \$4,616.97 (reroof, residential).
- **Gainey Construction Co. LLC**, owner and contractor, 925 Breezybay Lane, 2,624 heated square feet and 706 unheated square feet, \$188,010 (new dwelling, residential); Gainey Construction Co. LLC, owner and contractor, 3805 Delaware Drive, Dalzell, 1,245 heated square feet and 425 unheated square feet, \$81,135 (new dwelling, residential); Gainey Construction Co. LLC, owner and contractor, 1805 Dukes Drive, 1,853 heated square feet and 430 unheated square feet, \$116,504 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Charles E. Drayton Sr.**, owner, Rescomm Development LLC / Power Home Solar, contractor, 21 Phelps St., \$27,030 (install solar panels, residential).
- **Thomas D. Turner**, owner, Signs Plus Sign Systems, contractor, 725 N. Pike West, \$8,179 (freestanding sign — Safe-lite, commercial).
- **Ronald M. and Frances Elaine Freed**, owners, Premier Homes of Sumter LLC, contractor, 3010 British Lane, 224 heated square feet, \$18,000 (sunroom addition, residential).
- **FTC Communications LLC**, owner, Ericsson Inc., contractor, 1830 Cingular Lane, \$19,000 (upgrade to T-Mobile antenna site on tower, commercial).
- **Dorothy H. Nelson (lifetime estate)**, owner, Randolph Wells dba Wells Builders, contractor, 1032 Nathaniel St., \$3,500 (reroof, residential).
- **Select-Wesmark Plaza LLC**, owner, Alltech Sign Service, contractor, 1121 Broad St., \$1,500 (wall sign — Fallas, commercial); Select-Wesmark Plaza LLC, owner, Alltech Sign Service, contractor, 1121 Broad St., \$1,000 (change face of freestanding sign — Fallas, commercial).
- **DMD Properties Inc.**, owner, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 595 W. Wesmark Blvd., \$9,800 (reroof — shingle, commercial).
- **Great Southern Homes Inc.**, owner and contractor, 3017 Girard Drive, 2,547 heated square feet and 463 unheated square feet, \$129,375.87 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 555 Curlew Circle, 2,062 heated square feet and 392 unheated square feet, \$123,653 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 565 Curlew Circle, 2,286 heated square feet and 387 unheated square feet, \$115,692 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 545 Curlew Circle, 2,205 heated square feet and 363 unheated square feet, \$105,701 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Roland McLeod**, owner, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 1900 West Ave. South, Pinewood, 175 unheated square feet, \$900 (attached deck and handicapped ramp, residential).
- **Great Southern Homes Inc.**, owner, A&A International Inc., contractor, 3017 Girard Drive, \$3,000 (six foot brick fence, residential).
- **Joseph Lowery**, owner and contractor, 5800 Mt. Sinai Church Road, Lynchburg, \$2,620 (repair roof, commercial).
- **Continental Tire Sumter LLC**, owner, Shambaugh & Son LP, contractor, 1805 U.S. 521 South, \$444,000 (installation of fire protection to protect mixing 2B and 2C and oil tank, commercial).
- **Hershell Ray and Kathy Keeton**, owners, Ken-Co Homes, contractor, 2805 Hollowtree Lane, Lynchburg (mobile home, residential).
- **Patrick and Heather L. Mitchell**, owners, James A. Dyson dba Aaron Dyson Construction, contractor, 1055 Chesterfield Drive, \$6,000 (replace shingles, residential).
- **Eddie David Scurry Jr. and Tamera Scurry**, owners, John Bailey, contractor, 3740 Horatio-Hagood Road, Rembert, 1,996 heated square feet and 1,200 unheated square feet, \$140,968 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Lois C. Hodge**, owner and contractor, 1634 U.S. 521 South, \$3,500 (reroof, residential).
- **Michael L. Stamps Jr. and Michelle Stamps**, owners, Michael L. Stamps Jr., contractor, 780 McKay Road, \$4,500 (new roof, residential).
- **Broadway Capital Investments**, owner, Porter Roofing Contractors Inc., contractor, 4 N. Washington St., \$121,180 (reroof, commercial).
- **J.M. and Ruth H. Sprott**, owners, Hunter Builders, contractor, 14 Wactor St., \$10,000 (storm damage repairs — roof and eaves, residential).
- **Palmetto Holding Co. of Sumter**, owner, Crawford Sprinkler Co. of South Carolina Inc., contractor, 740 N. Wise Drive, \$65,292 (install new dry fire sprinkler

system, commercial).

- **Dorshay A. Brown**, owner, James E. Standley, contractor, 506 Phelps St., 351 heated square feet, \$30,088 (bedroom and bathroom addition, residential).
- **Dixie Properties LLC**, owner, Michael Parker, contractor, 384 Mooneyhan Road (mobile home, residential).
- **Eric M. Greene Jr.**, owner, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 1425 Poole Road, \$2,500 (roof, residential).
- **Christ Community Church of Sumter**, owner, Sign Tek, contractor, 320 Loring Mill Road 310 (95 Keel), \$5,900 (wall sign — Christ Community Church, commercial); Christ Community Church of Sumter, owner, Sign Tek, contractor, 320 Loring Mill Road 310 (95 Keel), \$5,300 (freestanding sign — Christ Community Church, commercial).
- **Joshua Baptist Church**, owner, Hunter Builders, contractor, 5200 Live Oak Road, \$1,617,625 (church multi-purpose building, commercial).
- **Sumter Mortgage Co.**, owner, Ronnie V. Gainey dba Ronnie Gainey Roofing, contractor, 4360 Granada / 1145 N. St. Church, \$650 (roofing, residential); Sumter Mortgage Co., owner, Ronnie V. Gainey dba Ronnie Gainey Roofing, contractor, 1105 N. St. Pauls Church Road, \$650 (roofing, residential).
- **Robert S. Pettigrew Jr.**, owner, Richard H. Nelson, contractor, 303 Lee St., \$3,850 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Isabel Martinez-Quiroz**, owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 224 Hannah St. (mobile home, residential).
- **Elizabeth Dennis (lifetime estate)**, owner, John Brockington dba Brock Construction, contractor, 251 Reams Ave., \$1,607.93 (install two windows, residential).
- **Li Fa Di and Yang Hui Chai**, owners, Hui Chai Yung, contractor, 1855 Hialeah Parkway, \$2,500 (new shingles, residential).
- **Sumter Habitat for Humanity**, owner and contractor, 1215 Habitat Drive, 1,042 heated square feet and 156 unheated square feet, \$63,712 (new dwelling, residential); Sumter Habitat for Humanity, owner and contractor, 1225 Habitat Drive, 1,204 heated square feet and 145 unheated square feet, \$72,877 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Gloria J. Bateman**, owner, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 136 Conyers St., \$20,602.50 (sill repair, remove wall and install beam in attic, residential).
- **Herbert Cadell and Susan B. Keefe**, owners, Pack Construction LLC, contractor, 502 Cedarwood Drive, 378 unheated square feet, \$18,281.25 (attached screen porch, residential).
- **Sumter Bible Church by trustees**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 420 S. Pike West, \$21,375 (remove / replace shingles, commercial).
- **Rose Marie Colclough**, owner, Goines Construction LLC, contractor, 898 Club Lane, \$4,200 (remove / replace ceiling in office, dining room and kitchen, then paint, residential).
- **Earline H. Rhabb James (trustee)**, owner, Avant Construction LLC, contractor, 864 Woodcrest St., \$3,000 (repair three sheets on attached storage room and replace shingles, residential).
- **B&W Adult Medical Day Care**, owner, Sign Tek, contractor, 930 Oswego Highway, \$250 (change face of freestanding sign — Senior Care Center, commercial).
- **Mary Ann Spencer**, owner, Triple R Construction LLC, contractor, 435 N. Guignard Drive, \$2,330 (install 3x6.8 door at rear of building and jam, commercial).
- **Thomas N. Turner**, owner, Thomas Turner, contractor, 2606 Hilldale Drive, 580 heated square feet, \$10,000 (close in existing carport and add bedroom, residential).
- **William C. Frierson* and Hazel Frierson**, owners, John Porter Jr. dba JP & Son Construction, contractor, 2723 Sandhill Drive, \$3,500 (vinyl siding on existing porch, residential).
- **Jeffrey S. and Becky L. Wheeler**, owners, Homestar Solar Solutions, contractor, 2555 Circleview Drive, \$29,700 (roof mount solar system, residential).
- **Dannie and Cassie Gray**, owners, Sears Home Improvement Products Inc., contractor, 1169 Shoreland Drive, \$1,603.35 (two window replacements, residential).
- **James K. and Margaret F. Rogers**, owners, Goines Construction LLC, contractor, 1800 Pheasant Drive, \$500 (handicap ramp to front of residence, residential).
- **Duangmani Friday-Carraway**, owner, Ross Construction Co., contractor, 36 Thelma Drive, \$3,750 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Mungo Homes Inc.**, owner and contractor, 3881 Moseley Drive, 3,029 heated square feet and 641 unheated square feet, \$200,000 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Gwen McElveen**, owner, Lenn Ramsey, contractor, 50 Mere Court, \$3,500 (five foot brick and aluminum fence, residential).
- **Mary A. Ray**, owner, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvements, contractor, 3365 Delaware Drive, Dalzell, \$4,000 (reroof only, residential).
- **Woodrack Holdings LLC and Knowlt**, owner, Sam Avins Construction, contractor, 119 N. Main St., \$20,000 (commercial demolition — interior — no load bearing walls, commercial).
- **William Austin James**, owner and contractor, 3100 Pawleys Lane, 1,800 heated square feet and 780 unheated square feet, \$130,000 (new dwelling, residential).
- **Frances N. Brown**, owner and contractor, 46 Lakeside Drive, \$2,800 (roofing, residential).
- **Thomas E. Robinson* and Doris C. Robinson**, owner, Thomas E. Robinson, contractor, 660 Loring Mill Road (652), \$2,800 (roofing, residential).
- **Winfred W. and Lisa R. Merritt**, owners, Mark Nichols, contractor, 426 Dorn St., \$3,790 (replace 11 windows, residential).

Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

Call the newsroom at: (803) 774-1225 | E-mail: trevor@theitem.com

Reflecting on a long weekend

The digital thermometer in my truck alternately flashed on the screen — 29 degrees and the word “Ice.” There was definitely a nip in the air.

I was headed to our lease near Pinewood in the predawn to meet my son Clayton. He wasn't at the sign-in box when



Dan Geddings

I rolled in, but my phone twittered with a text message. He was on the way.

The truck was warm, and I sat there in the dark until the radio turned off. When I

saw headlights coming down Olivia Lane, I stepped out into the crisp, cold, frosty air. There was not yet a hint of the dawn in the eastern sky.

We stood and talked for a while about the wind and some of the stand choices. I had already decided to hunt my new private stand, or the Shotgun Stand, as I have named it.

It sits in a block of heavy timber with somewhat limited visibility, and a shotgun with slugs is all that's needed there at close range.

Clayton selected a nearby club stand that had not been hunted recently. We wished each other good luck and headed out. There was now just the faintest glow in the east.

The moon had only been a sliver of a white crescent, and even that was gone now. Stars sparkled overhead. The woods were very dark, and I used my small pen light sparingly to follow the faint path through the timber to my stand.

At the stand, I sat and listened to the roosters salute the dawn. An occasional dog bark gave further evidence of a nearby, more civilized world, one that lurked out there beyond these beautiful woods.

A soft wind out of the north blew the clouds of my steamy breath back to the rear. Leaves floated past me at an angle, softly bumping through the branches to the forest floor below. Acorns dropped to the leafy, padded ground with a dull thud.

Good light came slowly, and objects below me took on a more distinct shape. There was noise in the leaf litter. Squirrels ran across the ground and up and down the big hardwoods, looking for their break-



DAN GEDDINGS / SPECIAL TO THE ITEM

Clayton Geddings sits on a log with the bounty of a recent duck hunt.

fast. Birds called — then a strange sound from the west caught my attention.

It was very faint and sounded like rushing water or a roaring waterfall as it got closer. I recognized it as a familiar sound for this area. Blackbirds in huge flocks winging their way eastward from a giant roost in nearby Big Bay to their feeding grounds in the open agricultural fields of Sumter County.

Passing overhead in staggering numbers, chattering and chittering on their way, the sound of their calls and wing beats rolled into a continuous roar. It is unlike any other sound in nature. Soon they were gone.

Golden sunlight bathed the tops of the oaks and giant pines around me and sent shafts of light through the canopy to the understory of hollies, dogwoods and bay trees. Yellow, orange and red leaves clung to the sweet gums and maples. Leathery brown leaves still cloaked the white oaks. The pines in green shimmered in the early light.

I sat with my shotgun across my lap, waiting for a deer that never came. It was a most beautiful morning, and I was reluctant to let it end. But eventually I climbed down and headed to the truck.

Back at the sign-in box, Clayton and I decided to stay

for a while, enjoy the rest of the morning and sit in other stands for a couple of hours. Clayton went to a club stand that has been hunted heavily, early and late in the day, but not through mid-morning. I went to a stand that we had moved recently.

The frost was gone now, and the sun had warmed the land. I climbed into the tripod stand that overlooked a patch of young planted pines and a stretch of golden brown, grassy power line. It was still cool, but the warm sunlight made it hard to keep my lazy eyes open.

I leaned back, slouching in the seat, closed my eyes and let my mind wander. Thinking back to Thursday morning and our duck hunt in the flooded timber. Then Thanksgiving dinner with family. Friday, another morning in the deer stands, and an impromptu shopping trip to Simpson to buy a pistol. Saturday I went on a dog drive in the Low-country. Saw a big buck run between the next two stands. They never saw him. Had a great lunch at a neighboring hunt club.

It had been a long weekend and a very good one.

Dan Geddings is a weekly columnist for *The Sumter Item*. Email Dan at cdgeddings@gmail.com.

Upstate mobility impaired deer hunts are again a success

BY S.C. DNR

A unique partnership among private landowners, hunt clubs and S.C. Department of Natural Resources provided individuals who are severely mobility impaired an opportunity to go deer hunting again this year at some of the most well-managed and exclusive private tracts of land in the Upstate.

SCDNR handles the publicity, application and notification processes, but the private landowners that host mobility impaired hunters on their property are providing this unique opportunity. There is no application fee or other costs to participate in these hunts.

Hunt participants at these events must meet one of three, very specific criteria: Applicants must be (1) permanently confined to a wheelchair, or (2) permanently require some type of mechanical aid (walker, braces, canes, etc.) to assist them in walking or (3) have had a single or double leg amputation. Each participant can bring someone to assist them in a non-hunting capacity and almost all hunting is conducted from ground blinds except in cases where a hunt participant may have a prosthesis and can safely climb a ladder stand. During 2016, two special two-day hunts were held at 53 host sites in Cherokee, Laurens, Newberry, Spartanburg and Union counties. Participating in the hunts were 157 hunters, and they harvested 34 deer.

All hunt participants, their assistants and hosts met for bluegrass music and an outstanding barbecue lunch for the first hunt at

Tyger Ranch in Union County and for the second hunt at the Clinton National Guard Armory in Laurens County. After lunch and prior to everyone dispersing to go hunting, a number of hunt participants won some very nice door prizes that included gift certificates, rifles, shotguns and various other items.

The Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund has been the primary financial sponsor of these events since the first of these hunts in 1995. The Wounded Warrior Project and the Upstate Warrior Solution in Greenville has helped to get a number of severely mobility impaired servicemen injured in combat within Iraq or Afghanistan to attend these special events. Outdoor activities such as hunting can provide immense physical and psychological benefits to injured service people as they transition back into civilian life as well as to other individuals who as a result of an illness or accident are forced to adjust to a new lifestyle that drastically restricts their mobility.

Applications for the 2017 Upstate hunts will be available in early summer, but you can contact the Union DNR office at anytime to get your name on the mailing list for an application. Information about becoming a host is also available from the Union DNR Office. The office address is Union DNR Office, 124 Wildlife Drive, Union, SC 29379 and the telephone number is (864) 427-5140.

An application can also be downloaded in the early summer from the DNR website at www.dnr.sc.gov/hunting/mobilityhunt.



A participant in a recent trip for mobility-impaired hunters looks out across a field.

PHOTO PROVIDED

FISHING REPORTS

Information on fishing trends provided courtesy of www.AnglersHeadquarters.com, South Carolina's premier fishing report source. Customers of the Angler's Headquarters online tackle store have access to daily updates and full-length reports on its site.

DHEC Fish Consumption Advisories: www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/fish.

Freshwater Fishing Report: Santee Cooper (11/4)

Catfish: Fair to good. Captain Jim Glenn (843-825-4239) reports that good numbers of small to medium-sized catfish have been caught drifting cut baits.

Crappie: Fair to good. Captain Steve English (843-729-4044) reports that crappie have moved shallower and they can be caught on minnows fished over brush.

Bream: Fair to good. English reports that bluegill are starting to stack up on brush piles where they will take crickets and worms. Some better fish are starting to show up.

Bass: Fair. Steve Harmon reports that some nice bags have been caught recently, with topwater lures fished shallow the best pattern.

Midlands Area Lake Wateree (11/4)

Crappie: Good. Will Hinson advises that fish are still in brush along the main channel, but they have moved a bit shallower. Minnows will catch fish but Fish Stalker Jigs have been working very well.

Bass: Fair and improving. Dearth Rodgers reports that as water temperatures have dropped the bass bite on Wateree has improved. A variety of shallow water lures including topwaters, shallow-running crankbaits, spinnerbaits, worms and jigs have all been catching fish.

Lake Greenwood (11/4)

Catfish: Good. Captain Chris Simpson (864-992-2352) reports that the catfish bite is pretty stable on Lake Greenwood. Channel catfish are being caught drifting with cut herring and shad, and flatheads are being caught anchoring with live bream and perch.

White perch: Good. Simpson reports that jigging spoons are catching strong numbers of white perch mixed in with other species.

Bass: Fair to good. Stan Gunter reports that bass are making a seasonal move shallower as temperatures drop, and the fishing is picking up. Running the banks with buzzbaits, square-billed crankbaits and shakey head worms is the best pattern.

Lake Monticello (11/4)

Catfish: Fair. Simpson (864-992-2352) reports that the big fish bite is still only fair on Monticello. Anchoring with cut gizzard shad and white perch on the bottom is the best option.

Bass: Slow to fair. Andy Wicker reports that this round of cool weather should finally improve bass fishing. For now fishing topwater lures around the bank is a good option.

Lake Murray (11/2)

Catfish: Good. Simpson (864-992-2352) reports that fishing continues to improve for both channels and blue catfish, and drifting cut herring is the best way to catch fish right now.

Crappie: Fair to good. Captain Brad Taylor (803-331-1354) reports that crappie are feeding well on minnows fished over mid-depth brush.

Striped bass: Fair. Taylor reports that fish remain in a transition period. Stripper are being caught on down-lines, free-lines, and planer boards, although the pattern should change very soon.

Bass: Slow. Captain Doug Lown reports that fishing has gotten even tougher, and anglers are really struggling to catch fish. Once the turnover is completed fishing should get better.

Piedmont Area Lake Russell (10/20)

Bass: Good. Guide Jerry Kotal (706-988-0860) and Guide Wendell Wilson (706-283-3336) report that they are catching good numbers of spotted bass fishing a drop shot in mid-depth water. To target largemouth head to the backs of creeks.

Striped Bass: Good. Guide Wendell Wilson reports that fish are on the move, but some very big fish can be located and caught on herring fished on down-lines.

Crappie: Fair to good. Wilson reports that some nice crappie are being caught on minnows around mid-depth brush piles.

Catfish: Fair to good. Wilson reports that channel catfish can be caught off deeper points on cut herring.

Lake Thurmond (10/20)

Bass: Good. Buckeye Lures reports that fishing remains improved, and there are several different patterns for catching bass. Topwater lures, buzzbaits and shakey head worms will all work in the right conditions.

Striper and Hybrids: Good. Captain William Sasser (864-333-2000) reports that striper have moved into shallow water where they will take down-lines, and there is also good schooling activity taking place.

Crappie: Good. Sasser reports that nice crappie continue to be caught in about 25 feet of water around brush.

Lake Wylie (11/4)

Perch: Excellent. Captain Rodger Taylor (803-517-7828) reports that there continues to be some very good perch fishing, particularly in the evenings with small shad. Both numbers and good-sized fish are being caught.

Catfish: Good. Taylor reports that both channel and blue catfish are biting well on cut bait slow-drifted.

Bass: Slow but improving. Guide and FLW Angler Bryan New (704-421-5868) reports that fishing

remains tough, albeit improving very slightly. Some fish are being caught on crankbaits in the backs of creeks, and it's worth keeping your eyes open for schooling activity.

Mountains Area Lake Jocassee (9/23)

Trout: Slow to fair. Guide Sam Jones (864-280-9056) reports that trout fishing is still a little slow, although some fish continue to be caught. Fish are about 80-100 feet deep, and both spoons and live bait are catching fish. Some nice spotted bass have been picked up as a by-catch.

Lake Keowee (9/22)

Bass: Fair. Guide Brad Fowler reports that fishing has picked up in the last week or two, and weights in the BFL tournament last weekend were better than expected. A number of patterns are catching fish right now, with anglers fishing everything from deep water with drop shot rigs and shakey heads to buzzbaits in the shallows. Schooling activity is increasing.

Lake Hartwell (11/4)

Striped and Hybrid Bass: Fair. Guide Chip Hamilton (864-304-9011) and Captain Bill Plumley (864-287-2120) report that striper fishing is still a little tough and fish remain pretty deep. Fish can be caught on down-lines and there is also sporadic schooling activity.

Catfish: Fair. Captain Bill Plumley reports that channel catfish are still scattered out in fairly deep water and they will eat dip baits, cut bait, worms and more.

Bass: Slow. Fowler reports that bass fishing is still tough as water conditions have declined. Tournament weights are very low, but some random fish are being caught shallow on soft plastics, spinnerbaits and other lures.

Crappie: Slow. Plumley reports that crappie fishing is slow but the best bet is fishing around deep brush or at night around lighted bridges.

South Carolina freshwater recreational fishing regulations: (Pdf file): www.dnr.sc.gov/regis/pdf/freshfishing.pdf

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EJ'S Variety store now open at 741 Bultman Dr. in Colony Square. New clothes, shoes, misc, at thrift store price. **Open Wed.-Sat. 9-5.**



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Call 803-840-4523.

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Seeking Christian woman to move in & care for an elderly woman. Must have references. Serious inquires only. **MOVE IN ONLY.** Call 803-983-9875.

In Memory

In Loving Memory



Lawrence W. Green, Sr.
My dearest Lawrence,
A year has passed and we have missed you so much. It's been a long hard road since you've been gone. I'll tell you all about it when I see you again. Sadly missed forever in our hearts.
Your loving wife Gardenia, Children: Lawrence Jr., Tammy and Bruce. A special grandson Kasime, grandchildren and great grandchildren.
We will love you forever.

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STATE TREE SERVICE Worker's Comp & General liability insurance. Top quality service, lowest prices. 803-494-5175 or 803-491-5154 www.statetree.net

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Chihuahua for sale, with papers. 172 Curtiswood Dr. Thurs.-Sun. 803-883-5360

Jack Russel puppies, AKC registered, \$400ea. Call 803-494-3473 or 803-464-0214 call from 11-3

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Green upholstered lounge chair, \$200. Oak roll top desk, good condition \$150. Call 803-340-1039 or 803-316-0844

New & used Heat pumps & A/C. Will install/repair. Call 803-968-9549 or 843-992-2364

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EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Maintenance Worker/ Meter Reader

Local company seeks full time individual to perform outside maintenance duties to include meter reading. Company will provide training to qualified individuals. Company provides paid employee benefits, holidays. All applicants considered but must have valid driver's license and be able to pass background check. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and past salary history to Box 456 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

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Help Wanted Full-Time

Wayman Chapel AME Church seeking a qualified organist/music director. Resumes & Ref should be sent to waymanchapel@fmc-i.net or Wayman Chapel AME 160 N Kings Hwy., Sumter, SC 29154 by 12/16/16 Attn: Dr. R O Miott or Rev. Dr. Dennis Broughton, JR.

Sweetwater Creek Honey farm, LLC, Winston, GA, needs 2 temporary (01/15/17-11/15/17) Beekeepers. Assist in all aspects of commercial beekeeping. Split & maintain hives beehives. Harvest & extract honey. Transport hives as necessary. Cut & assemble bee equipment. Build/repair hives. Feed/medicate bees. Sanitize plant & perform general farm maintenance work. 3 months exp. Able to: provide references to verify exp., no fear/allergies to bees/pollen, and lift up to 50 lbs repetitively. \$10.59 p/h. Applicants may be offered higher than the advertised wage rate due to experience or merit. Hours above 40 per week may be offered, but are not guaranteed. Free tools, transport & housing if not within reasonable transport to job site. 3/4ths guaranteed. Transport & subsistence expenses to work sites paid at 50% of the contract. Apply at nearest GA Job Service office, phone: (770) 920-4104, refer to job order #827548779.

Seeking an Exp HVAC installer. Needs to be experienced with duct fabrication and installation of duct work with residential and some light commercial equipment. Salary based upon experience, up to \$20/hour. Paid vacation and benefits. Call Lowery Heating and Air 803-778-2942 Mon-Fri 8am-5pm.

Roper Staffing is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- Laser Machine Operator
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- CNC Programmer/Machinist
- CMA (Certified Medical Assistant)
- Accounting Specialist (Med)
- Medical Front Desk/ Receptionist
- Recruiter (Manufacturing)
- Quality Control
- Financial Analyst (Ind)
- Inside/Outside Sales -Industrial
- Machine Operators
- Electrical Assemblers
- Cashier/Clerk (Property Mng. Exp)

APPLICATION TIMES: Monday-Wednesday from 8:30-10:00am and 1:30-3:00pm. Please call the Sumter office at 803-938-8100 to inquire about what you will need to bring with you when registering. For more detailed information on the job listings go to www.roperstaffing.com

Oisten Staffing has moved to 57 W. Wesmark Blvd., and is recruiting for positions at Sonoco Products in Hartsville, SC. These position host hire on opportunity after a 90-day evaluation. As a Mill associate you will be responsible for completing a variety of tasks within a manufacturing environment. **Responsibilities for this position include:** Lifting heavy objects up to 50 lbs, Work in fast pace environment, Stand long hours working in a non-climate control environment, Completed Work Keys- Locating Information and Reading for Information. **Pay for this position** is \$14.73/hr plus overtime as needed. This is a temporary-to-hire opportunity with one of the most desirable companies to work for! Stop by our new office today with your resume and work keys for immediate consideration.

Trucking Opportunities

Immediate Opening
THE ITEM is in need of a part time truck driver / dock worker. Exp. preferred. Must have clean driving record & dependable. Apply in person to:
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Sumter SC

Drivers: Regional & OTR. New Pay Package for Company & O/OP's. Excellent Home Time & Benefits. Newer Trucks. Lease Purchase, Sign and Drive. Robin: 55-204-6535

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Rooms for Rent

Rooms for rent in spacious home. Call 803-404-4662 for details.

Unfurnished Apartments

Huntington Place Apartments Rents from \$625 per month 1/2 Month free* *13 Month lease required Powers Properties 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

Unfurnished Homes

3BR 1BA House on Burgess Ct. C/H/A \$545 Mo. 803-983-5691

1919 W. Oakland Ave. 3BR/1.5BA for rent Appls included, \$800/mo + \$800/dep. 803-651-8198.

2BR 2BA in Tudor Place. Nice screened in porch & garage. \$800 /mo + dep. Call 775-1580

3BR 2BA Rent to Own, Dwn pymt required, Avail. Immediately. Call 803-229-2814 or 803-507-9414

Beautiful 3BR 2BA Home, Large lot with fenced yards, Carport attached, 4246 Whitney St. \$600 + Dep. Call 843-645-9400

Mobile Home Rentals

3BR, 2BA, all appliances, Sumter area. Section 8 accepted. 469-6978.

Mobile Home Rentals

2, 3 & 4 Bedroom for rent, Cherryvale & Dogwood Area \$250 & up. (803) 651-9926

Oaklawn MHP: 2 BR M.H.'s, water/sewer/garbage pk-up incld. RV parking avail. Call 803-494-8350

495 Pioneer(off 15 S) 2BR/2BA, frig. & stove. C/H/A \$480 mo & \$480 dep. 803-651-8198.

Scenic Lake MHP 2 Bedroom 2 bath , No pets. Call between 9am - 5 pm 803-499-1500

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STATEBURG COURTYARD

2 & 3 Br, Sec. 8
803-494-4015

Homes for Sale

420 Boots Branch Rd, Sumter 3BR 2BA Brick House located on a large lot. C/H/A \$65,000 Call 803 481-7903



22 Gerald St. 2bd/1B, living room, dining room, kitchen. Asking 33,500 as is. Call 803-883-8550

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6 ac. MH site, \$23,500 or 11 ac, or 22 ac. on Shilo Raccoon Rd. Owner fin. Call 843-231-1111

TRANSPORTATION

Autos For Sale

2003 Pontiac Sunfire, very good condition, excellent on gas, clean inside & out, 130k. Asking \$2800 OBO Call 803-486-9254

LEGAL NOTICES

Bid Notices

SOLICITATION FOR TRANSPORTATION

Competitive bids are being requested for curb to curb transportation services which start January 1, 2017 in Sumter County. Additionally transportation providers must agree to meet necessary state and federal requirements, assurances, and drug and alcohol certification/testing.

The purpose of this solicitation is to acquire Transportation Services to senior centers in Sumter County and for Medical Transportation for older adult clients 60 years and older in Sumter County.

Those interested in submitting a bid can go to www.sumterseniorservices.org and click the "Solicitation for Transportation" link.

Deadline for submission of Bid is December 29, 2016, 3:00 PM. All questions or request for information must be submitted via e-mail to Dana Strook, Executive Director, at dstrook@sumterseniorservices.org, or in writing to PO Box 832, Sumter, South Carolina 29151. All questions must be received by December 15, 2016. After all questions have been received, written response will be emailed to all potential offers within 10 days. Bid Opening is December 29, 2016 at 3:45PM. Bid will be awarded by December 30, 2016. Award will be posted at 119 South Sumter Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29150 and bidders will be notified in writing of final decision.



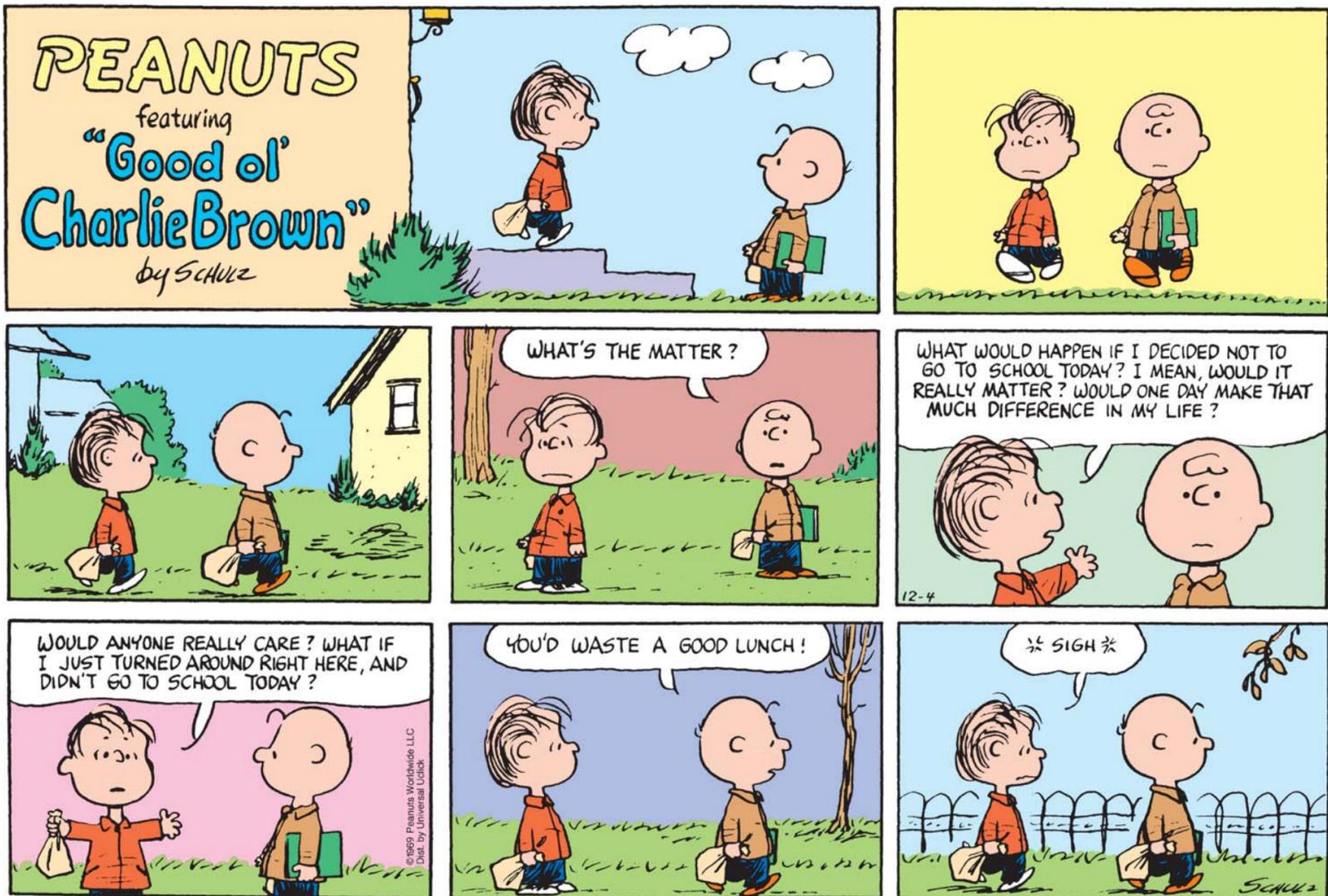
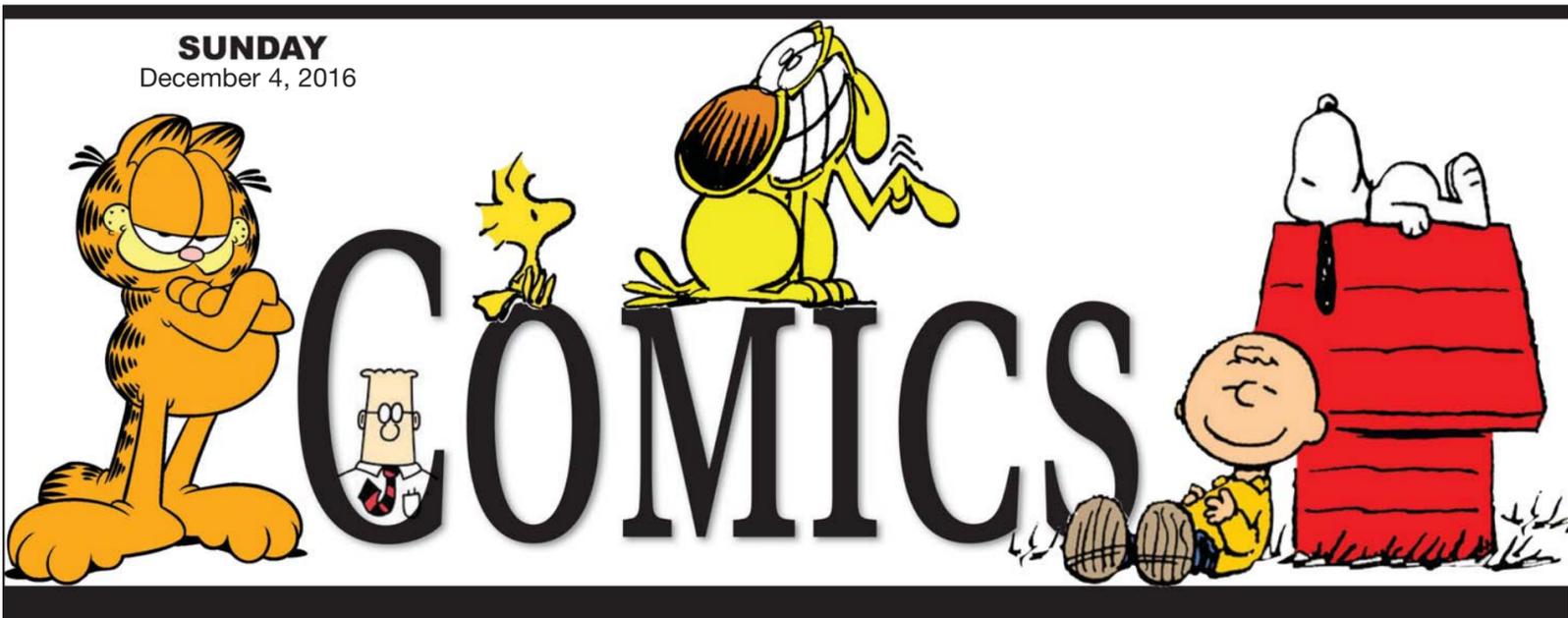
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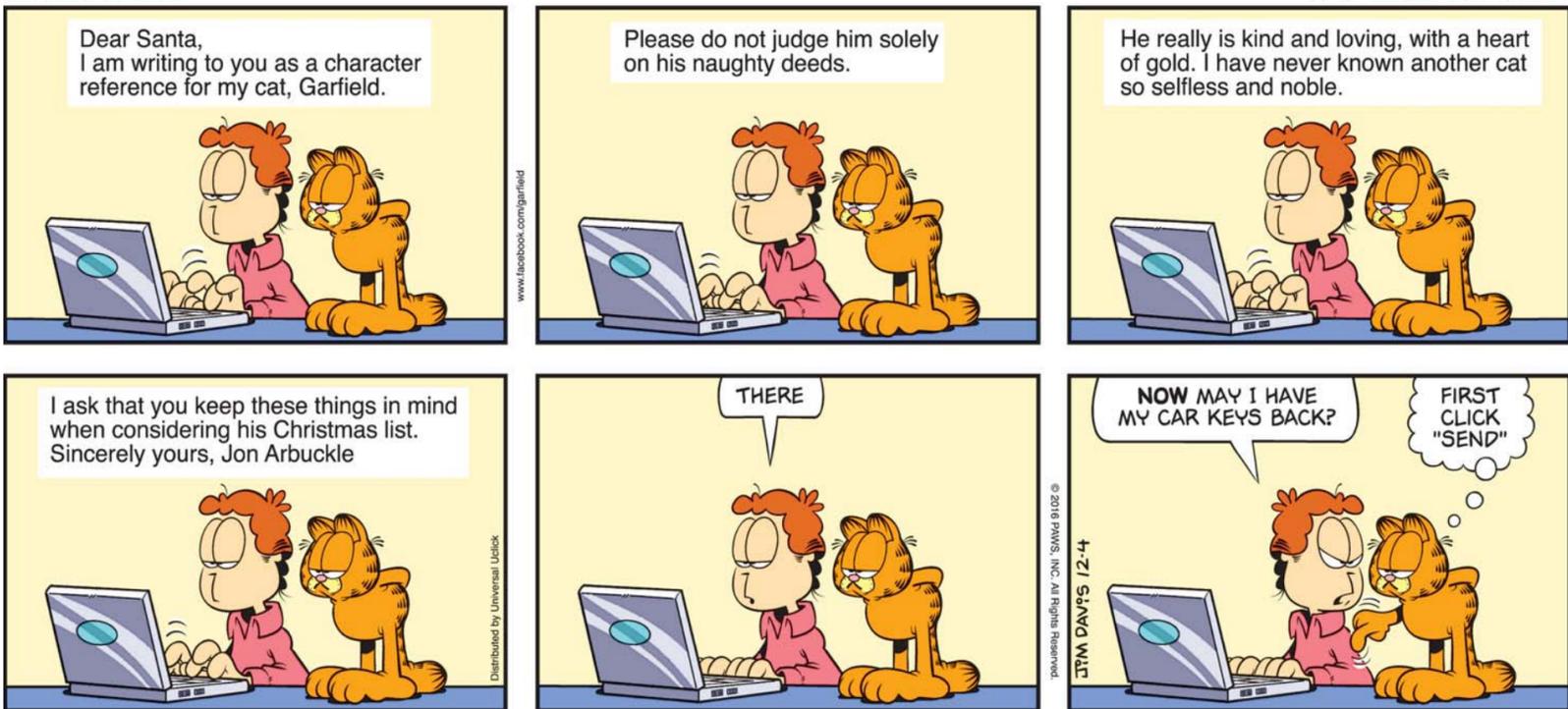
CALL 803-774-1258
Customer Service Dept. Hours Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm

the Sumter ITEM 20 N. Magnolia Street 803-774-1258



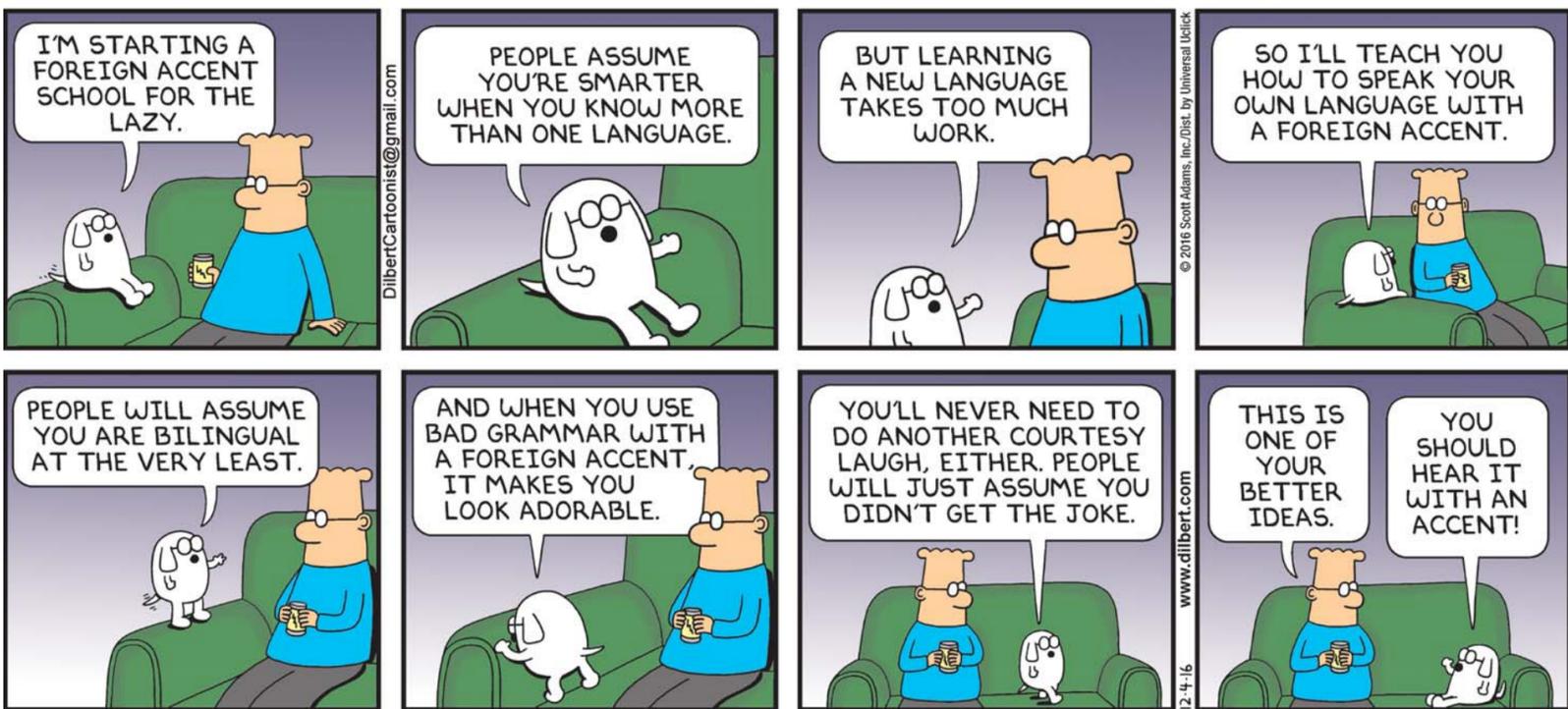
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



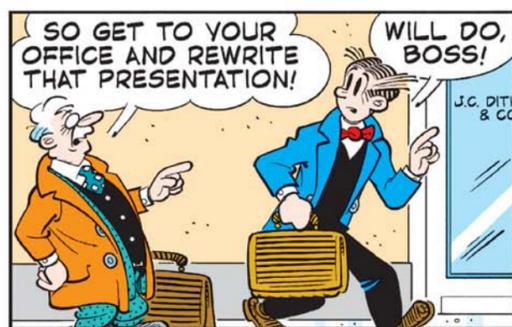
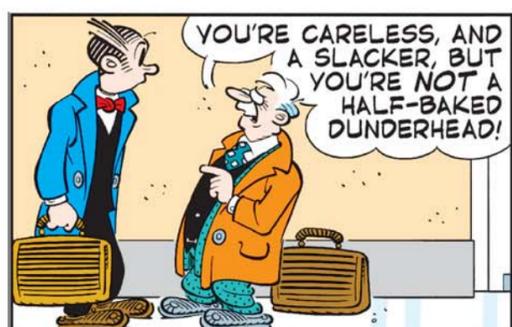
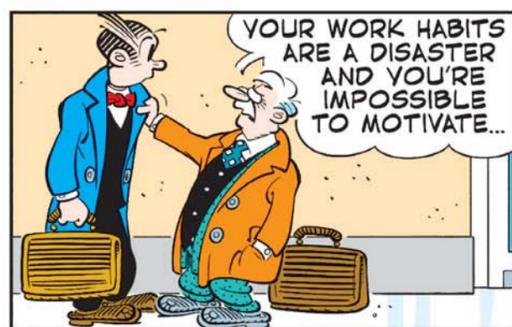
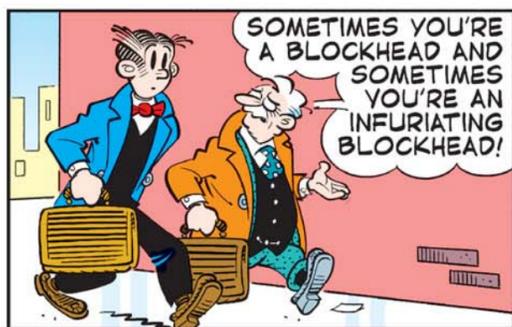
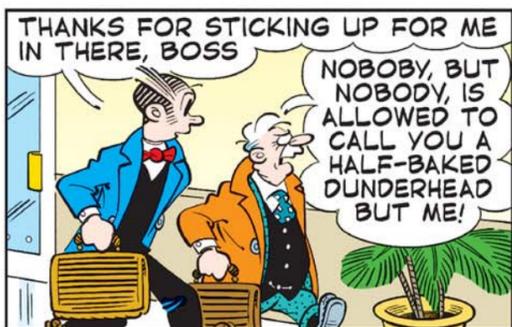
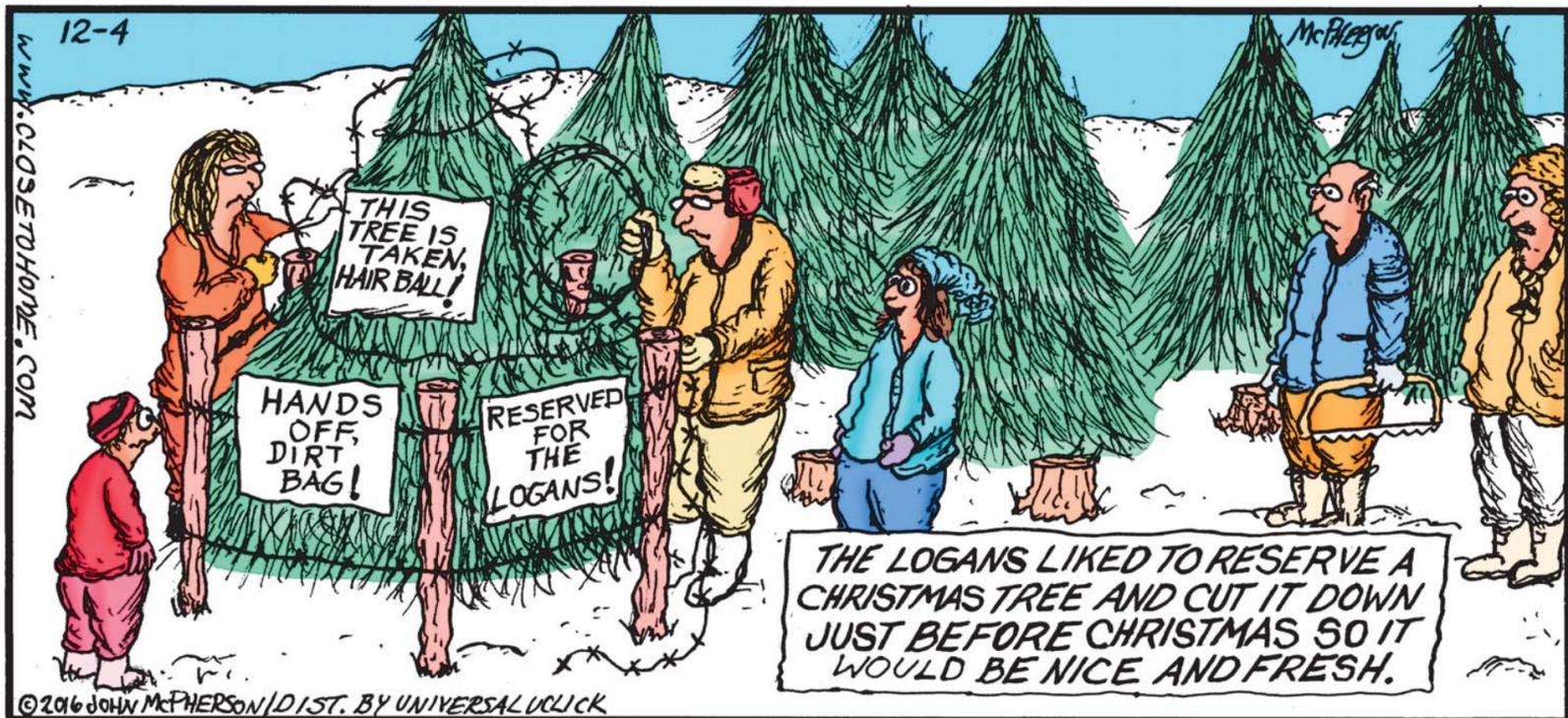
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



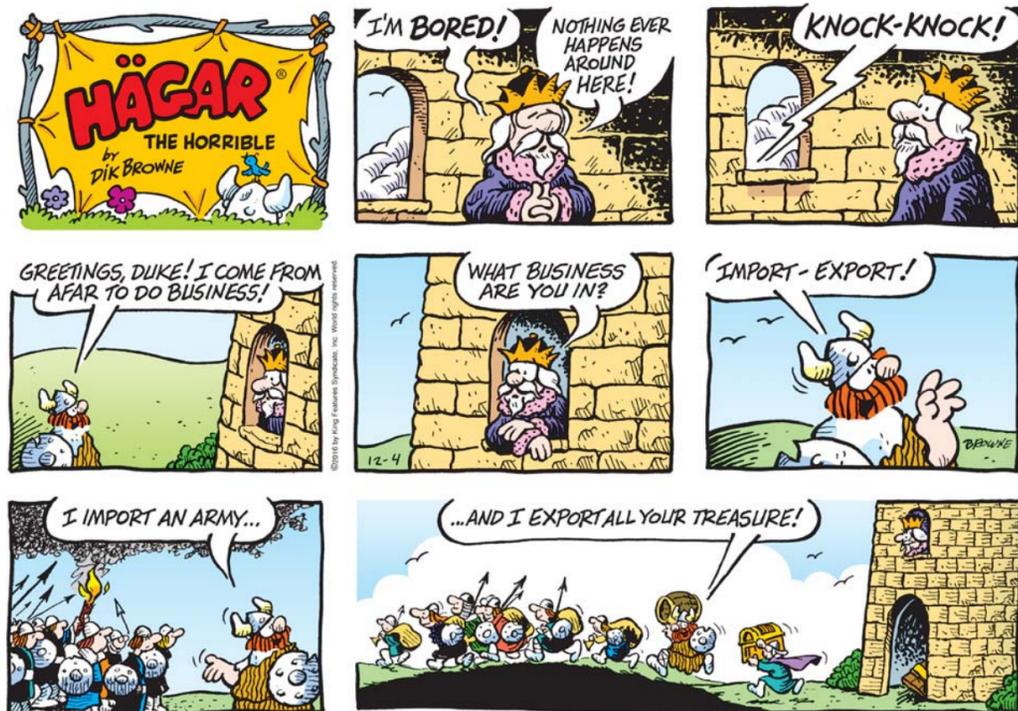
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE





REFLECTIONS

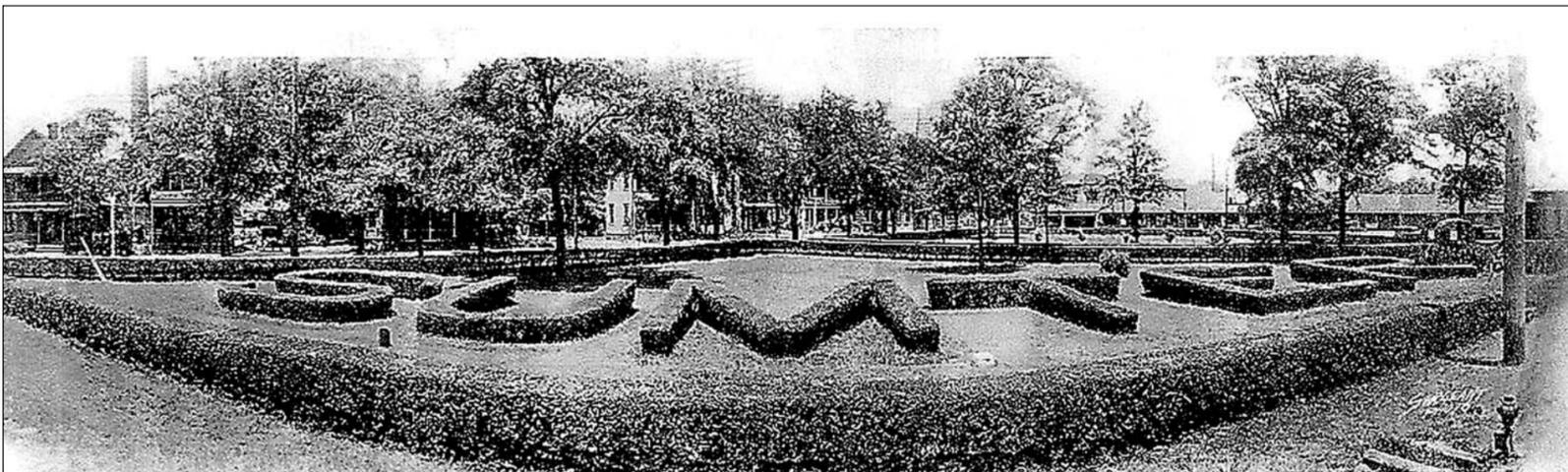
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As part of the 1906 renovations of Sumter's railway station, lights were placed on the umbrella shed.



Eighteen lights were also placed around the exterior of the depot.

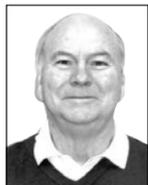


Ladies from the Sumter Civic League planted shrubbery and created a beautiful park at the depot in 1907.

Sumter's railway station undergoes landscape renovations

The Sumter community made numerous efforts to beautify the railway station located parallel to Telephone and Harvin streets. The station was one of the busiest locations in the community, thus it attracted attention from numerous residents concerning its appearance and functionality. Research on this facility specifically mentions the Atlantic Coast Line and Col. Thomas Wilson as being very concerned with the appearance of the grounds and surroundings of the depot.

An article appearing in *The Sumter Daily Item* on Jan. 1, 1906, noted that "the Atlantic Coast Line passenger depot would soon be well provided with electric lights in all of the waiting rooms, etc., and outside in the station yard there will be lights in front and back of the depot and between each post of the umbrella shed." Further improvements were suggested by Capt. George Bruner, road-master in charge of the Sumter yard who requested that "14 lights be placed in the depot and 18



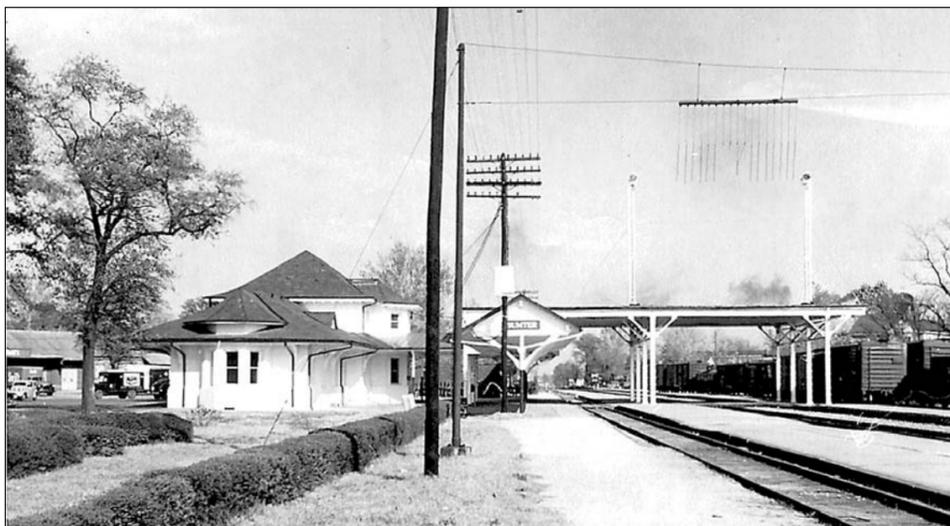
Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS



CAPT. THOMAS WILSON

around the depot and under the shed, which if allowed ... would light up the depot and grounds." The building, it was noted, was currently being wired for electric lights.

around the depot and under the shed, which if allowed ... would light up the depot and grounds." The building, it was noted, was currently being wired for electric lights.



This view shows the station after the beautification project was completed.

The station master pointed out that "coal clinkers were placed around the passenger depot and on the yard, while a little rough at first would make a good pavement as soon as they were rolled by the city's big roller, which the Atlantic Coast Line had borrowed for that purpose." The intent was to create a smooth, hard, dry area where passengers could walk during wet weather.

In March of 1907 it was noted by the railroad presidents, of which Capt. Thomas Wilson was president, that his long-cherished wish to have the grounds around the depot turned into a park should be honored. "Wilson urged city council to take over the spacious grounds around the depot, and beautify them by planting flowers and shrubbery." Wilson also noted that "if the city council would consent to this arrangement, and would make an appropriation for this purpose, it would be safe to say that the grounds are beautified. A beautiful, flowered and well-kept park at the depot would be a considerable attraction to thousands of passengers going through on the many trains each day and would incidentally be a good advertisement for Sumter."

in the future of Sumter, or who takes any greater pride in Sumter than Capt. Thomas Wilson, and he, when abroad or at home, is a veritable traveling advertising medium for Sumter, by the way he talks for the Gamecock City." He is committed to building a handsome residence on Broad Street and moving his family to the Sumter community.

The railway station remained an integral part of the Sumter community until the rail industry was replaced by other means of transportation utilized by people and industry. The station was removed from its location adjacent to Telephone Street in 1971.

Information concerning the beautification and upgrading of the Sumter Depot was obtained from The Sumter Item archives.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at waysammy@yahoo.com.



Concrete platforms and walkways were added to the depot to improve passenger comfort.



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YESTERYEAR

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Farmers plant kudzu to stop erosion; Sumter advances to championship

75 YEARS AGO - 1942

April 21-27

Mrs. D. G. F. Bultman, chairman of the Red Cross Home Nursing classes, noted that classes were formed Monday and are still open for registration. Those wishing to join can meet with a class at the corner of Bartlette and



Sumter streets. These courses are necessary for the community, Mrs. Bultman pointed out, because in case of epidemics there would be a shortage of nurses.

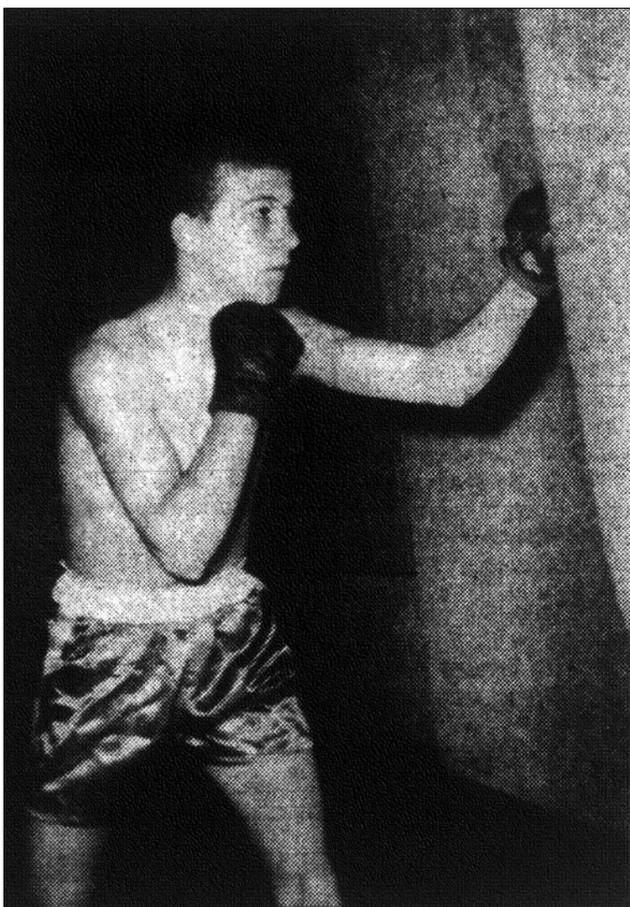
Sumter County farmers who are cooperating with the Lynchess River Soil Conservation District are completing the planting of more than 100,000 kudzu plants states J.A. Jordan, work unit technician. This number of plants will plant more than 200 acres of steep, rough, hilly and severely eroded land. However, a great portion of this acreage will be planted on unproductive, poor and sandy lands with more gentle slopes and in waterways into which terraces will empty surplus water from the fields. Aside from the soil conserving values of this perennial crop, the farmers will harvest excellent hay and grazing in a few years. Also, it is learned that several of the farmers are planting unproductive land to this crop with the plan of following the kudzu with corn.

• A hen on the farm of Charles Mooneyhan on the Manning Road has contributed her share toward victory in the war. She laid an egg with a perfect V on the end of it. The egg was brought to the Item office.

• The following was a list of places in Sumter County where the fourth registration of men between the ages of 45 and 65 would take place. Edmunds High School Lincoln High School, the County Courthouse, Morris College, Central Repair Shop CCC Camp, Shaw Field, Pinewood High School, Hillcrest High School and Mayewood High School. Sherwood High School, Wedgefield High School Brogdon Memorial School, Goodwill School, High Hills School, Live Oak School, Providence School, Oswego School, WPA Camp No.25 and WPA Camp No. 38.

• John J. Riley, councilman for the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, left to attend a meeting in Chicago April 27, of the National Council of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

• "The "Sumter Flash," publication of the Sumter city schools, was well represented at the recent convention of the South Carolina Scholastic Press Association in Florence. On Thursday, Miss Bryan, sponsor of the paper, took part in the program. On Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. Ed W. Hardin took Ed Hartin Jr., Gus Middleton, Nancy Phifer and Miss Bryan to Florence to attend the press banquet at the Boy's Industrial School



ABOVE: 1942 — Nine members of the Nurse's Aide class of the Sumter chapter of the American Red Cross were capped in a ceremony at the Tuomey Hospital nurses' home. Pictured with Charles H. Dabbs, superintendent of the hospital, and Mrs. J.R. Dunn, their instructor, are, front row, from left: Mrs. J.A. Shearer, Mrs. Frank L. Hill, Mr. Dabbs, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Larry Montague, Mrs. Hugh Stoddard; back row: Mrs. J.S. Black, Mrs. J.A. Sellars, Mrs. John M. Chatfield, Mrs. Marion Curits and Mrs. Marion Moise.

LEFT: 1967 — A boxer expected to see action in the Optimist-sponsored boxing show is Robbie Leviner, a 17-year-old, 112-pounder, shown here punishing a punching bag.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

and brought back the two first prizes offered to grammar grade papers. One silver cup was for the improvement contest and the other one was for general merit. Gus Middleton is editor-in-chief of the Sumter Flash and Ed Hartin Jr., and Nancy Phifer are reporters.

• Arthur H. Wilder, son of Mrs. James Wilder and the late Arthur H. Wilder, has announced his candidacy for the house of representatives. He is a law student at the University of South Carolina and holds an A.B. degree from that school Wilder is a graduate of Sumter High School and since entering the University has taken part in student forensic activities. Wilder's grandfather was the late James Diggs Wilder, county auditor. He is a nephew of the late E.R. Wilder, Clerk of Court.

50 YEARS AGO - 1967

Feb. 20-26

The public of Sumter County is being asked to donate used goods that might aid families whose homes and belongings have been destroyed by recent fires. The appeal was issued by Mack Pruett, director of the Sumter County Department of Public Welfare. Pruett says recent fires have exhausted the supplies of the Welfare Department and Salvation Army.

• Mayor Robert E. Graham has proclaimed "Sertoma's Freedom Week" in a ceremony at City Hall. Graham was presented a framed copy of the Declaration of Independence by Sumter Sertoma Club President Billy Betchman following the signing of the proclamation. The Sertoma Club of Sumter will present individual copies of the Declaration of Independence to students of the fifth grade this week as part of its Freedom Week program.

• Outstanding county students and teachers were recognized in ceremonies held last night. They were honored

as part of the Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program, sponsored statewide by the South Carolina State Chamber of Commerce and in the Sumter County school system area by the Sumter Chamber of Commerce. Designation of STAR students is based on top ranking scores made on the College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test and scholastic averages during the first semester senior year. County STAR students and teachers are: James W. Kronberg and Mrs. Harriet Kirven, Edmunds; Thomas P. Jones and S.M. Nabers, Furman; Richard O. Ransbottom and Mrs. Alice James, Hillcrest; and Wesley F. Player and Mrs. Catherine Copeland, Mayewood. Kronberg was designated as the outstanding STAR student in Sumter County.

• A grant of \$12,000 a year for the next three years has been allocated to Sumter Senior Citizens Center, to be set up at Birnie Center. The official announcement will be made by Gov. Robert McNair. Mrs. Pearl Brinson, Birnie director, will be in charge of the project, with Mrs. C.E. Hinson serving as program director. The multi-purpose senior citizens project is designed to provide educational, recreational, cultural and leisure time programs for aged citizens of the county. Harry Bryan, a Sumter native, is state director of the program.

• Tech. Sgt. Robert M. Jackson, son of Mrs. Amberlee Jackson of Sumter, has been decorated with the U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal at Phan Rang AB, Vietnam. Sgt. Jackson was awarded the medal for meritorious service as a supply inventory supervisor at Hunter AFB, Ga.

• Every golfer's dream became reality for Maj. Gen Lawrence F. Tanberg when his high arching tee shot hit the 149-yard 18th green and rolled straight into the cup for an ace. Playing in a foursome, the Ninth Air Force vice-commander hit a perfect seven-

iron over the yawning sand traps to within 13 inches of the flag.

• Larry Chewning, senior class president, has recently been named King Teen at Edmunds High School. Several boys were nominated by the senior class, but the final decision was made by the faculty. King Teens of South Carolina are sponsored by Wofford College. Seventy-five outstanding senior boys will travel to Wofford in Spartanburg, and from these 75 semifinalists, the Wofford College Committee on Financial aid will select four finalists who will receive a \$4,000 scholarship to Wofford College.

• Mrs. Myrtis Logan, a Sumter woman who compiled an outstanding record in education, mental health and other community activities, was presented the Sertoma Club's Service to Mankind Award. The presentation was made by Ansel Owens.

25 YEARS AGO - 1991

Nov. 21-27

Tom Lewis might be fighting over-confidence as Sumter High School prepares to take on a team it defeated 24-10 earlier this year in the second round of the 4A Division 1 playoffs. The Gamecocks piled up 277 rushing yards and 18 first downs in that game while limiting the opposition to 200 total yards. And they did it with star quarterback Wally Richardson nursing a sore shoulder on the bench. Sumter will be meeting Summerville at Memorial Stadium.

• Chris Rantin is no doubt a full-bodied, muscular young man. He just may be looking spent though; the Manning High School fullback has run the full gamut of emotions in the last week. This time a week ago Rantin was certain he would be playing football in the second round of the 3A state playoffs tonight. Those thoughts were dashed when the undefeated Monarchs were upset 14-13 by Keenan. On Monday the senior found out that he had been named to

the South Carolina Shrine Bowl team.

• Summerville stifled Wally Richardson and Co. and even poked some holes into Sumter High School's vaunted defense. But the Green Wave didn't roll out of Memorial Stadium with a victory Friday night. Thanks to some big plays by Martin Burns and a 91-yard kickoff return by Stacey Reardon, the Gamecocks, ranked No. 1 in the state and ninth in the nation by USA Today, managed a 21-12 victory over the visiting Green Wave to advance to the lower state finals.

• Students crowded the home team's locker room and tested the contoured, plastic benches as they took part in the first public tour of Morris College's new gymnasium. Director of Support Services and Personnel Roy Graham and Athletic Director Clarence Houck led students and school officials around the spacious Garrick Boykin Human Development Center as a prelude to the Thanksgiving Rally, the first event to be held in the facility.

• Sumter City Council candidates Bob A. Galiano and George Kurzenberger will meet in a runoff election after failing to secure enough votes to clinch nomination in the Republican Party Primary. None of the four Republicans in the race to fill the vacant Ward 5 Sumter City Council seat received a majority of the votes cast Tuesday. Galiano fell eight votes short of the total he needed to avoid a runoff with runner-up Kurzenberger.

• Former Sumter County Sheriff Hazel F. Reeves died Nov. 27, 1991, at his home. He was 60. Born in Kershaw County, he was a son of Anne Catoe Reeves and the late Heyward Lloyd Reeves. Mr. Reeves was an Air Force veteran of the Korean War. He was a state Highway Patrolman for 28 years.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at waysammy@yahoo.com or (803) 774-1294.

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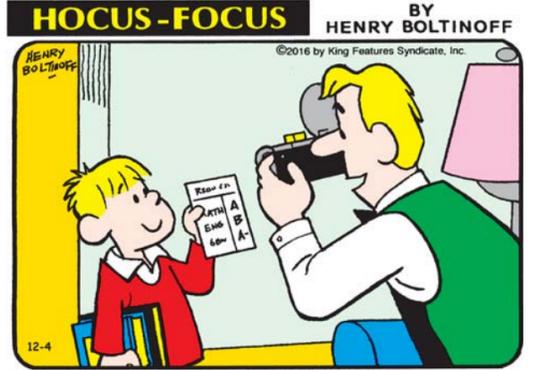
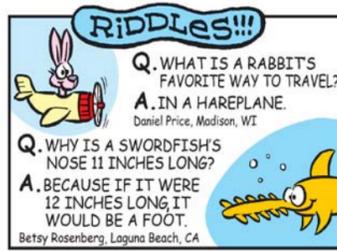
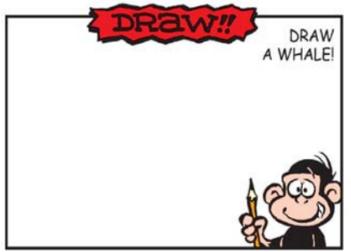
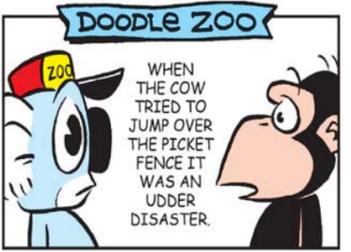
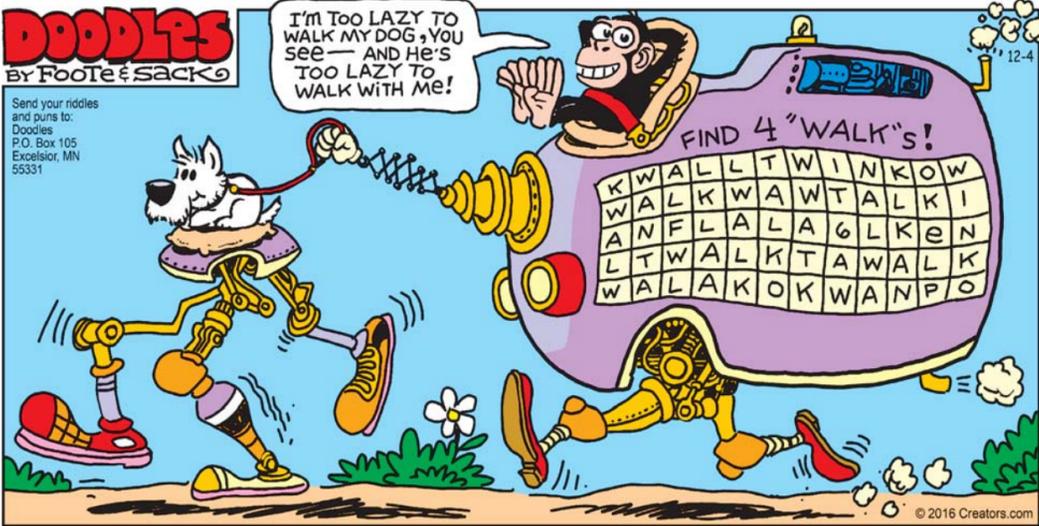
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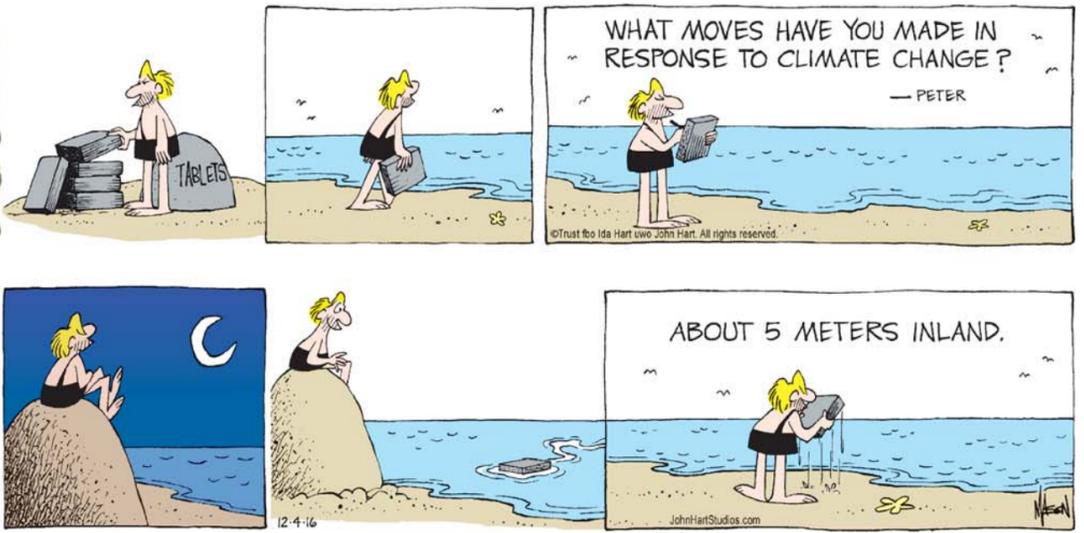
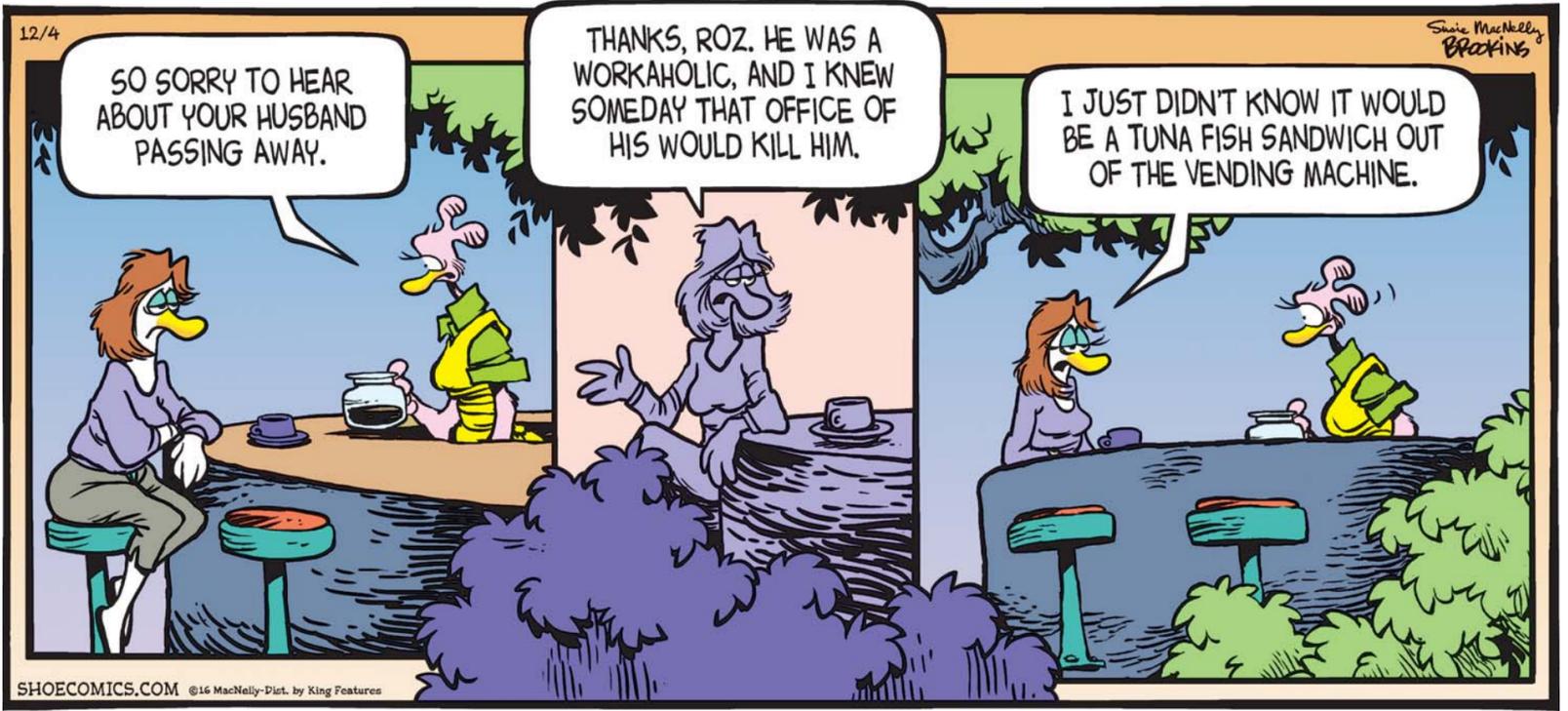
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