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PANORAMA

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Lee business will add 20 jobs

Bishopville plant to make \$1M investment, hires by next year

BY BRUCE MILLS

bruce@theitem.com

A metal-finish coatings business in Lee County is growing and expanding its operations.

Carolina Metal Finishing, a leader in powder and custom metal finishing for industrial sprinkler heads and other fire protection service fixtures, will be adding 20 jobs by the beginning of next year. Plant



Manager John Gibart said Tuesday.

The plant, at 547 S. Main St.

in Bishopville, will also be making a \$1 million capital investment in a new building at its site. Gibart said the company plans to break ground on the new building next month and move in by the end of this year.

The company's metal-finish coatings are used for additional protection and durability for the fire protection service

products. Those products are then used in industrial and commercial buildings, such as a manufacturing plant or a hotel, according to Brian Rauschenbach, economic development project manager with TheLINK, which serves Sumter and Lee counties.

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SEE JOBS, PAGE A5

District names new CFO, 2 new principals

Lakewood head, finance lead have ties to Sumter

BY BRUCE MILLS

bruce@theitem.com

Sumter School District has two new school principals and a new chief financial officer, and a couple of them have Sumter connections.

District spokeswoman Shelly Galloway released the administrative personnel information late Monday after it took two rounds of votes last week for the district's board of trustees to agree on the three new positions.

Sumter native Cedric McKnight will be returning to his alma mater as Lakewood High School's new principal. McKnight was a 2001 graduate of Lakewood.

He said he began his career in public education in 2009 as a social studies teacher at Conway Middle School in Horry County. He moved into administration at Blythewood High School in Richland School District 2 in 2013, serving under Sumter's current interim superintendent, Debbie Hamm. Hamm was previously Richland District 2's superintendent.

For the last two years, McKnight has been an assistant principal at Blythewood.

He said he's overjoyed with the opportunity to come back home.

"I'm excited," McKnight said, "and I can't even put it into words how excited I am to get there and get to work and do some great things at Lakewood."

McKnight will also begin his post in

SEE NEW FACES, PAGE A5

Palmetto Heart opens clinic in Sumter

Advanced heart failure patients will be able to get comprehensive care

BY BERTRAM RANTIN

For Palmetto Heart
Special to The Sumter Item

Sumter residents and those in surrounding communities now

have a new avenue for skilled cardiac care. Palmetto Heart opened its Advanced Heart Health Center on Monday.

Located at 115 N. Sumter St., Suite 410, in Medical Office Building One on the Palmetto Health Tomomey campus, the clinic will serve patients with advanced heart failure and will be staffed by a specialty medical team trained in advanced heart failure care.

"It's challenging sometimes for patients to travel back and forth for long distances for their heart failure care," said Patrick J. McCann, M.D., a Palmetto Heart cardiologist who will lead the center with Shannon W. Cribb, APRN, a cardiac family nurse practitioner. "The (Sumter) community now has sub-specialty care for heart failure."

SEE CLINIC, PAGE A5



PHOTO PROVIDED
Patrick J. McCann, M.D., a Palmetto Heart cardiologist, will lead the newly opened Advanced Heart Health Center with Shannon W. Cribb, APRN, a cardiac family nurse practitioner.

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DEATHS, B6

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WEATHER, A8

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INSIDE

3 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES
VOL. 123, NO. 173

Classifieds B7
Comics C2
Food C1
Opinion A7
Panorama C1
Television C3



SECOND FRONT

Call: (803) 774-1226 | E-mail: pressrelease@theitem.com

Man sentenced to 235 months for firearm, drug convictions

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

A 35-year-old Sumter man was sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison after he was convicted of selling firearms and drugs in Sumter County in April and May of 2017.

Leandre Budden was sentenced to 235 months' incarceration by Sen. United States District Judge Joseph F. Anderson after Budden was convicted of being a felon in possession of firearms, and possession of cocaine and crack cocaine with the intent to distribute.

Under federal law, Budden was prohibited from possessing firearms at the time the crimes were committed because of prior convictions in another state for armed robbery, possession with intent to distribute marijuana, grand larceny and burglary, states a release from the United States Attorney District of South Carolina office.

Budden was prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state and local Project CeaseFire initiative which aggressively prosecutes firearm cases.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

Absentee voting opens today; last day is Monday

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

In-house, electronic absentee voting for the primary runoffs will open at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. today in Sumter County Voter Registration and Election office, Room 114, first floor of the historic Sumter County Courthouse, 141 N. Main St.

Absentee voting — which is only available in the voter registration and election office — will open at 8:30 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Monday.

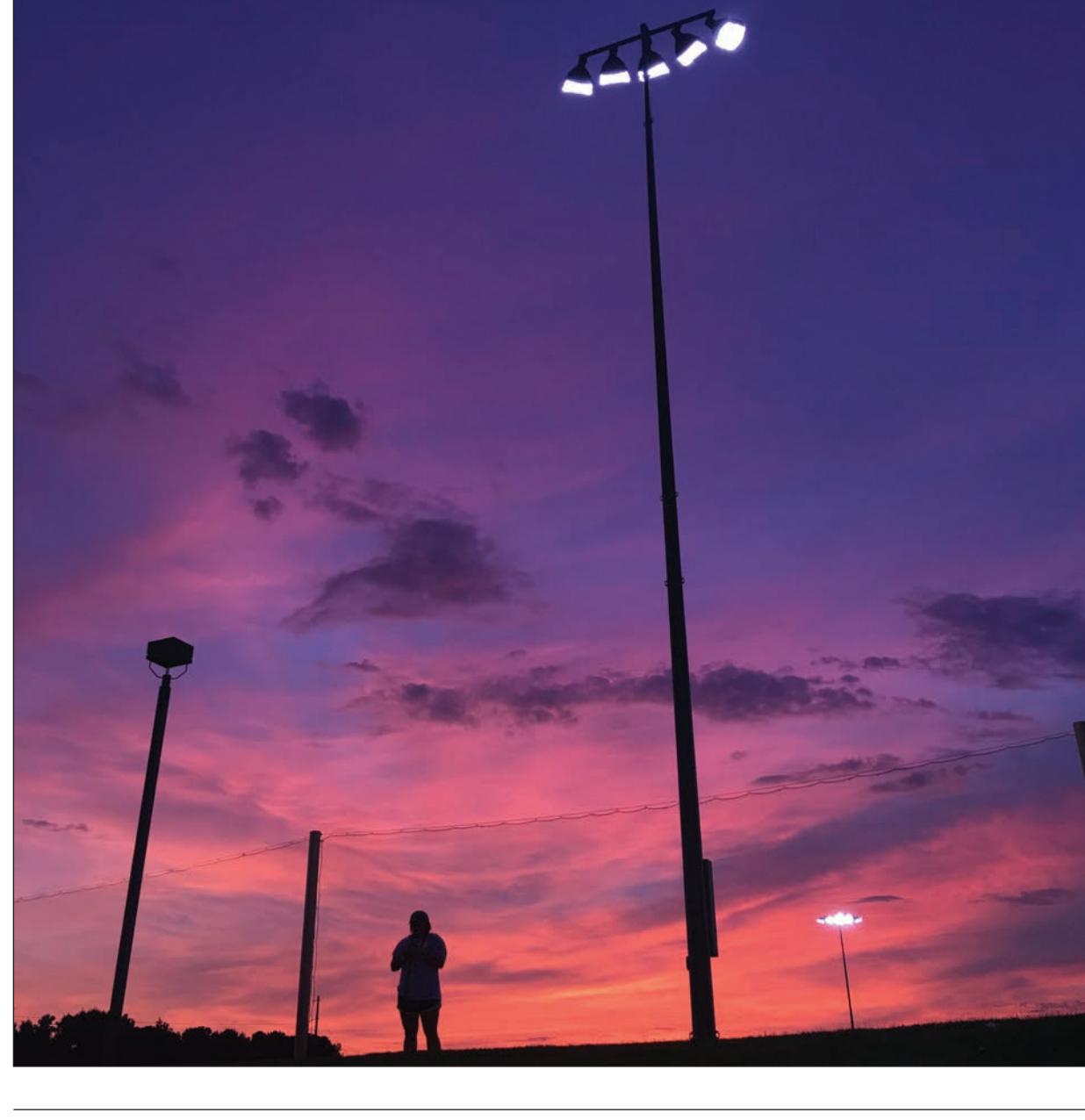
Monday is the final day for absentee voting.

The deadline to apply for absentee by mail ballot is 5 p.m. on Friday, June 22. All absentee by mail ballots must be returned to the voter registration and election office by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26.

All polling stations for the runoff election will open at 7 a.m. on Tuesday and close at 7 p.m.

Those who voted in the Republican primary and those who did not vote at all during the primary election are the only voters eligible to participate in the runoff election on Tuesday.

To request an absentee by mail ballot or for more information, call Sumter County Voter Registration and Election Office at (803) 436-2310.



Don't let the sun go down on me ...

The sun sets over the baseball and softball fields at Patriot Park on Monday evening.

CHRIS MOORE / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Racing across the skies

Lakewood High School alumna participating in cross-country air race

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

adrienne@theitem.com

Thousands of students wrapped up another school year after spending hundreds of hours in the classroom across the country.

This summer, one Sumter native will finish her secondary education after racking up hundreds of air miles while competing in a cross-country airplane race that showcases the aeronautical skills of female pilots.

Jo Brandel, 22, is one of 121 female pilots from 35 states and five countries flying more than 2,600 miles across the United States in the 42nd Air Race Classic this week.

The race began on Tuesday in Sweetwater, Texas, and ends in Fryeburg, Maine, on Friday.

Brandel, a Lakewood High School graduate, is flying as the co-pilot of one of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's three teams, the Riddle Racer Gold Team, representing the college's Daytona Beach campus in Florida.

"Growing up next to Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina, the roar of F-16s inspired me to make the sky my home from a young age," Brandel said in a release from the college. "I have been following this dream ever since, becoming the first in my family to pursue a career in aviation."

Brandel, an aeronautical science major with a minor in business administration, started aviation school with no flying experience and now has about 300 flight hours with more than 100 hours as pilot-in-command. She is finishing her final class at Embry-Riddle this summer after walking in the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Jo Brandel, 22, of Sumter is one of 121 female pilots from 35 states and five countries flying in the 42nd Air Race Classic this week. Brandel, co-pilot, and pilot Mia Hallgring are representing Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

May 2018 commencement ceremony.

"The Women's Air Race will be a great way to exhibit my skills in the cockpit," she said.

Brandel is co-piloting one of Embry-Riddle's Cessna 172s with pilot Mia Hallgring, a May graduate, from Little Compton, Rhode Island.

Each of Embry-Riddle's participating pilots was selected by college ad-

ministrators based on his or her skills and knowledge of aviation, safety, navigation, meteorology and crew resource management, according to the release.

The Cross Country Air Race Classic can be traced back to the 1929 Women's Air Derby when Amelia Earhart and 19 other pilots raced from Santa Monica, California, to Cleveland, Ohio.



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Sumter native now counselor at camp for kids with cancer after attending as child

SUBMITTED FROM
PALMETTO HEALTH

When Sarah Grace Jarecki was just 7 years old, she began feeling sick while attending a basketball camp.

Her mother expected it was a virus and took Sarah Grace to her pediatrician. The family quickly was referred to the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Palmetto Health Children's Hospital, where tests showed that Sarah Grace had a brain tumor. She was treated with surgeries, radiation and chemotherapy and completed her treatment in August 2004. She has followed up with annual visits and today has no measurable evidence of cancer.

Beginning at age 8, the highlight of Sarah Grace's summer has been CAMP KEMO. She was homesick at first, but she quickly became caught up in the fun.

Today, the Sumter native is 22 and is excited about her role as a counselor at CAMP KEMO.

"CAMP KEMO is honestly



JARECKI

the best experience a child with cancer could have. Children are in such good hands and having so much fun. There is so much laughter and so much to do that children can just focus on being kids and having fun," she said.

Jarecki became a counselor-in-training the summer before college.

"I have encouraged other former campers to get involved as counselors at CAMP KEMO," she said. "It

is such a joy to work alongside people who are totally devoted to creating an unforgettable experience for the kids."

Sarah Grace just graduated from Clemson University and plans to become a child life specialist.

"CAMP KEMO is the best week of my summer," she said. "I have just as much fun as the kids do."

CAMP KEMO is funded by donations. One way to donate is directly through CAMP KEMO's website at www.palmettohealthchildrens.org/programs/camp-kemo-programs.

There is no cost to families to send a child to the camp, and each child can invite one sibling. Camp week provides respite for parents caring for children with cancer and gives them a chance to get away while knowing their children are in the hands of the same physicians, nurses and staff who provide their treatment throughout the year. Hundreds of volunteers contribute to the success of CAMP KEMO.

STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

2 arrested after body found in car trunk

CHESNEE — Two people have been arrested after a man's body was found in the trunk of a stolen car in South Carolina.

The body of 37-year-old Jamie Miller of Chesnee was found in the trunk of the stolen car Saturday. It was one of two cars reported stolen a day earlier.

Spartanburg County Sheriff's Lt. Kevin Bobo said a South Carolina Highway Patrol trooper spotted the second stolen vehicle Sunday on state Highway 11 and chased it until it crashed. Bobo said

the driver, 31-year-old Steven Clayton Scruggs of Gaffney, was charged with murder. Thirty-one-year-old Tabitha Lianna Cook of Chesnee faces an accessory charge.

16 arrested in Poor People's Campaign

COLUMBIA — Sixteen protesters have been arrested near the Governor's Mansion in the final week of the South Carolina Poor People's Campaign.

Organizers said 82 people have been arrested during nonviolent protests in Columbia during the past six weeks. South Carolina is one of 35 state capitals and Washington, D.C., where there have been protests about conditions facing poor people.

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BRAD SCOTT WAYNE MATT KRIS

New S.C. law opens birth records to adult adoptees

COLUMBIA (AP) — Marie Anderson wishes the kind of law South Carolina just enacted had been in place when she decided to look for her biological parents in the early 1990s.

"I went to foster parents when I was 5 days old," said Anderson, now 82 and a coordinator for the ALMA Society, an organization that provides adoptees with resources to connect with their biological parents.

She conducted painstaking research through the New York court system, city directories and ancestry data to find her birth mother.

South Carolina's new law should

make adoptees' search for their birth parents much easier.

The law signed by Gov. Henry McMaster in May gives adoptees 18 years and older access to their birth certificates and any other information on file, which could include the medical history and contact information for birth parents, if provided. South Carolina was one of 22 states that seal original birth certificates of adopted children.

The state Department of Health and Environmental Control is reviewing the law to figure out how to implement it when it goes into effect in July 2019,

applying to adoptions after that date.

South Carolina Foster Parent Association's Executive Director Carl Brown, who has fostered more than 200 children and adopted six in addition to raising three biological children, supported the measure.

"I had a lot of children come through my home," Brown said. "Many of them at some point in their life want to know from where they came and who they are."

Along with the emotional connection, finding parents can be critical to the health of adopted children, Anderson said.

"We find that adoptees are given so many more tests because they have no medical history and doctors feel they can't take any chances," Anderson said.

She said that her search found her birth mother living just "4 miles down the road" from where she grew up.

"She didn't admit to anything at first, but after three or four days, I got her to confess," Anderson said.

Despite decades of searching, Anderson still hasn't found her father, but she's come to terms with that.

"I may never know, but that's why I do what I do," she said. "Now I have some closure."

Lower costs, fewer benefits in new health insurance option

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration Tuesday rolled out a health insurance option for small businesses and self-employed people that could lead to lower premiums but may also cover fewer benefits than current plans.

Labor Secretary Alex Acosta said the new "association health plans" will allow small businesses to pool their purchasing power, gaining access to some of the advantages that large employers have in the health insurance market.

"Today the Trump administration helps level the playing field between large companies and small businesses," Acosta said. "This expansion will offer millions of Americans more affordable health care options."

The new plans would retain the same protections for people with pre-existing conditions, older workers and women, that large company plans now have, Acosta said. However, some

groups currently offer association plans, and it was unclear if the consumer protections also apply to existing plans.

A Labor Department summary said new association plans could be offered to employers in a city, county, state or a metro area that includes several states. However, plans within a particular industry can be marketed nationwide. Sole proprietors and their families could join an association plan.

President Donald Trump has long asserted that promoting the sale of health insurance across state lines could bring down premiums without sacrificing quality. But many experts aren't convinced because medical costs vary greatly according to geography.

Currently plans for small businesses are required to cover the Affordable Care Act's 10 categories of "essential" benefits, from prescription drugs

to maternity and mental health. Under the new approach, small employers could get coverage that comes with fewer required benefits, said Gary Claxton of the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation.

Ultimately, the idea's success depends on buy-in from plan sponsors, consumers, insurers and state regulators. No major consequences are expected for people covered by large employers.

Acosta cited enrollment estimates that predict a modest impact: about 4 million people covered by the plans within a few years, including 400,000 who would have been uninsured. Compare that to the total number of about 160 million covered by job-based insurance.

After Republicans hit a dead end trying to repeal the Obama health law, the Trump administration has pushed regulatory actions to loosen requirements

and try to lower premiums for individuals and small businesses.

Another major initiative is expected later this summer when the administration eases rules for short-term health plans lasting less than a full year that could be purchased by individuals. Those plans wouldn't have to cover people with pre-existing conditions but would offer healthy people much lower premiums.

Critics say the administration's approach will draw healthy people away from the health law's insurance markets, raising the cost of coverage, which is subsidized by taxpay-

About 11 million people are covered by HealthCare.gov and state markets, but the administration's priority is to try to lower premiums for an additional 7 million or so who buy their coverage directly and don't get any help from

the government.

State insurance regulators have been concerned about association health plans because similar plans in the past had problems with financial solvency and fraud. Administration officials said Tuesday that states and the federal government would share regulatory oversight of the plans, with states retaining their current authority.

The new plans will be phased in, starting in September.

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Meet the new heart health clinic's staff

Patrick J. McCann is a cardiologist with Palmetto Heart and a clinical assistant professor at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

McCann earned his medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield and completed his residency in internal medicine at Saint Louis University Hospital. He also completed a clinical fellowship in cardiology at SLU Hospital and an advanced heart failure and transplant cardiology fellowship at the University of California San Diego.

McCann is triple-board certified in advanced heart failure and transplant cardiology, cardiovascular disease and internal medicine. He is skilled in managing patients who require advanced therapies for heart failure, including left ventricular assist devices, biventricular assist devices and cardiac transplant.

McCann is director of Heart Failure and Mechanical Circulatory Support at Palmetto Health Heart Hospital.

Shannon Cribb is a nurse practitioner who specializes in advanced heart failure for the Palmetto Health-USC Medical Group at Palmetto Heart Richland and Palmetto Health Tuomey. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of South Carolina and then earned her Master's Degree in Nursing at Francis Marion University in Florence.

Cribb's national board certification is by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners as a Family Nurse Practitioner and a Certified Nurse Educator. Shannon has a demonstrated history of administration and management and working in the hospital and health care industry. Cribb's greatest passion lies within her practice of being able to improve each patient's quality and longevity of life with new innovative technology and guideline-directed medical therapy.



CRIBB

to help people avoid being there."

At first, the clinic will see follow-up patients under the established care of the Palmetto Health Heart Failure Team and those who need to be established as heart failure patients under McCann's oversight.

Patient referrals initially will be made through family practice and cardiac physicians with eventual plans for walk-in services.

The Advanced Heart Health Center will have the access and support of other staff members within the Palmetto Health-USC Medical Group system.

"We're starting to see the combination of technology and medical care in heart failure, and I think it's a wonderful time because we have more treatment options available," McCann said. "So, with the

heart failure clinic that we're developing in Sumter, what we'd like to do is keep patients in their communities but still be able to reach them."

The clinic will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday.

Referrals can be directed to Palmetto Health Sumter, 115 N. Sumter St., Suite 410, Sumter, S.C. 29150. To make an appointment, call (803) 774-9797.

CLINIC

FROM PAGE A1

The Advanced Heart Health Center offers thorough patient evaluations and regular adjustments in medication, meal planning assistance, cardiac rehabilitation and more frequent physician visits.

McCann said the clinic is expected to reduce the number of heart failure hospitalizations.

"What we have noticed is when we are seeing patients sooner and optimizing their therapy and seeing them more frequently, we are lessening the burden on the Emergency Department and the hospital," McCann said. "So, patients don't have to spend so much time in the hospital receiving their care. We can do that on an outpatient basis and really start to transition that care away from the hospital to try



NEW FACES

FROM PAGE A1

July. He's replacing John Michalik, who retired at the end of the school year.

In the other principal change, Preston Spratt has been named new principal at Willow Drive Elementary School.

Spratt will be moving to Sumter from the Denver, Colorado, area, where he served in school administrative posts for four years, according to his resume. Before that, Spratt served as a classroom teacher and curriculum coordinator in Charlotte.

Spratt will replace Trevor Ivey, who, after completing the school year, accepted a position with the district office.

Regarding the school board's two executive sessions and two votes needed on June 11 to pass the administrative personnel report, Galloway said again Tuesday that she couldn't discuss items that were handled behind closed doors in executive session.

On the administrative personnel side, Jennifer Miller, a certified public accountant with public accounting and consulting firm Webster-Rogers LLP, is the district's new CFO. Miller is currently regional managing partner with the firm's Sumter office at 380 W. Wesmark Blvd.

With nine regional offices in South Carolina, Webster-Rogers is the second-largest government accounting and consulting firm in the state and in the top 175 in the U.S., according to its website.

Miller has worked in government accounting since 2002 and graduated from the University of South Carolina. She has performed school dis-

NEW DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

Chief financial officer: Jennifer Miller

Lakewood High School principal: Cedric McKnight

Willow Drive Elementary School principal: Preston Spratt

tricts' audits since joining WebsterRogers in 2005.

Miller said she has always enjoyed conducting school district audits and has been interested in moving to the other side as a district financial officer.

"Of all my governmental clients, I have enjoyed the school district audits the most," Miller said, "and I saw that there was a need at Sumter School District, and it just kind of all fell into place. It's a big change, but I am looking forward to the new challenges, and I'm excited about it."

A native of New York, Miller said she moved to Sumter about a year after high school graduation in 1995 when her husband was reassigned to Shaw Air Force Base. They have lived here ever since.

Miller replaces the district's previous CFO, Chris Griner, who left May 31 for another job opportunity in his home state of Georgia.

Miller said she will begin with the district in mid-July.

BOARD MEETING RESCHEDULED AGAIN

In other district news, the school board has rescheduled its regular June monthly board meeting again, moving it from Thursday to June 28. Because Sumter County Council postponed taking action last week on the district's 5.48-mill-increase request, the board has pushed its own meeting for third and final reading and adoption of its \$131.8 million budget until after county council meets again on Tuesday.

trained, he said.

Lee County officials said they are happy with the development announcement.

"Our goal is to help companies, much like Carolina Metal Finishing, meet and exceed productivity expectations, and we put forth every effort to make sure that happens," Lee County Council Chairman Travis Windham said. "It is always good to see when hard work yields good fruit."

JOB

FROM PAGE A1

Metal Finishing in Linden, New Jersey, Carolina Metal Finishing has been in operation since 2006. With the expansion, the Bishopville operation is increasing from 24 to 44 employees.

Gibart said the 20 new employees will be mostly mainline production workers. Six workers have already been hired and

New GOP plan: Hold kids longer at border but with their parents

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Republicans on Capitol Hill anxiously searched on Tuesday for a way to end the Trump administration's policy of separating families after illegal border crossings, with the focus shifting to a new plan to keep children in detention longer than now permitted — but with their parents.

GOP House leaders, increasingly fearful of voter reaction in November, were to meet with President Donald Trump on Tuesday evening at the Capitol to try to work out some resolution.

Leaders in both the House and Senate are struggling to shield the party's lawmakers from the public outcry about images of children taken from migrant parents and held in cages at the border. But they are running up against Trump's shifting views and his worries that, according to one adviser,

the lack of progress toward his signature border wall makes him look "soft."

Many lawmakers say he could simply reverse the administration's "zero tolerance" policy and keep families together. But some worry he could also inject a new dynamic, rejecting emerging GOP proposals and potentially exacerbating an already tough situation as his party heads toward a difficult midterm election.

"What I'm asking Congress to do is to give us a third option, which we have been requesting since last year, the legal authority to detain and promptly remove families together as a unit," Trump said Tuesday. "We have to be able to do this. This is the only solution to the border crisis."

House GOP leaders are scrambling to revise their broader current immigration bill to include a provision to resolve the situation.

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Allergies, glaciers and pikas: climate change in action

WASHINGTON (AP) — You don't just feel the heat of global warming, you can see it in action all around.

Some examples of where climate change's effects have been measured:

- Glaciers across the globe are melting and retreating, with 279 billion tons of ice lost since 2002, according to NASA's GRACE satellite. Jakobshavn Glacier in Greenland is flowing faster than any other glacier on Earth. In 2012, it hit a record pace of about 75 inches per hour. In 2017, it slowed down to 40 inches per hour. The Portage Glacier in Alaska has retreated so much it cannot be seen from the visitor center that opened in 1986.

In the Rocky Mountains, the first robins of spring are arriving 10 1/2 days earlier than 30 years ago. The first larkspur wildflower is showing up eight days earlier, and the marmots are coming out of hibernation five days earlier, according to data gathered by the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab.

- On average, during the past 30 years there have been more major hurricanes (those with winds of more than 110 mph), they have lasted longer and they produced more energy than the previous 30 years, according to an Associated Press analysis of storm data. Other studies have shown that the first named storm in the Atlantic forms nearly a month earlier than 30 years ago and storms are moving slower, allowing more rain to fall.

- Across the globe, seas have risen about 3 inches since 1993. That doesn't sound like much, but it is enough to cover the entire United States in water about 9 feet deep. Places like Miami Beach, Florida, and Norfolk, Virginia, flood frequently with high tides.

- The number of acres burned in the U.S. by wildfire has doubled compared with 30 years ago. Last year, more than 10 million acres burned. Over the last five years, an average of 6.7 million acres burned a year. From 1984 to 1988, about 2.8 million acres burned, on average.

- Allergies have gotten worse with longer growing seasons and more potent pollen. High

ragweed pollen days have increased by between 15 and 29 days since 1990 in a swath of the country from Oklahoma City north to Winnipeg, Canada, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture study.

- In the western United States the cute rodent called a pika needs weather around freezing for most of the year. But those habitats are shrinking, forcing them to higher altitudes. University of Colorado's Chris Ray, a pika expert, said she hasn't definitively linked climate change to dramatic reductions in pika populations, but she found that they have disappeared more from places that are warming and drying.

- Extreme one-day rainfall across the nation has increased 80 percent over the past 30 years. Ellicott City, Maryland, had so-called thousand-year floods in 2016 and this year. Flooding in Louisiana, West Virginia and Houston in 2016, South Carolina, Texas and Oklahoma in 2015, Michigan and parts of the Northeast in 2014 all caused more than \$1 billion in damage, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

- The number of polar bears in parts of Alaska dropped 40 percent since the late 1990s. When scientists have weighed polar bears recently in certain locations they were losing 2.9 to 5.5 pounds per day at a time of year when they were supposed to be putting on weight.

- Warmer water is repeatedly causing mass global bleaching events to Earth's fragile coral reefs. Before 1998 there had been no global mass bleaching events — which turn the living coral white and often lead to death. But there have been three in the last two decades. U.S. government coral reef specialist Mark Eakin said for multiple reasons, including global warming, "most of the reefs that were in great shape in the 1980s in Florida are just barely hanging on now."

The Associated Press Health & Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Halting S. Korea-U.S. drills risks weakening N. Korea deterrence

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — U.S. and South Korean defense officials formally suspended a major joint military exercise in hopes of advancing nuclear negotiations with North Korea. It's a bold gamble that could trigger a serious security crisis if the talks falter and the allies are forced to resume the drills, infuriating North Korea, analysts say.

The cancellation, abruptly decided by President Donald Trump at his summit last week with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, was formally announced by the Pentagon on Monday. South Korea's Defense Ministry simultaneously confirmed the suspension of the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercises, consisting largely of computer-simulated war games.

In announcing his decision, Trump said suspending the "provocative" war games would "save us a tremendous amount of money." The decision, which apparently came without consultations with South Korea or the Pentagon, surprised many in South Korea and the Unit-

ed States who think the training is a central pillar of their countries' seven-decade military alliance dating back to the 1950-53 Korean War.

South Korean military commentator Lee Ill-woo described the halt as "temporarily pulling off the wheels of the alliance." Other experts agree that the suspension will weaken, at least temporarily, the allies' defense posture against North Korea and open gaps in their combined deterrence.

Seoul and Washington describe the move as a temporary measure to prolong ongoing detente on the Korean Peninsula and increase the chances of successful nuclear diplomacy with North Korea. But if North Korea doesn't reciprocate by taking serious steps toward de-nuclearization, the allies would be compelled to resume the drills, and that would certainly draw a furious response from North Korea, which views the exercises as rehearsals for an invasion, experts say.

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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Blind to real problems of today's stats

For several decades, a few black scholars have been suggesting that the vision held by many black Americans is entirely wrong. Dr. Shelby Steele, a scholar at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, said: "Instead of admitting that racism has declined, we (blacks) argue all the harder that it is still alive and more insidious than ever. We hold race up to shield us from what we do not want to see in ourselves."

Dr. John McWhorter, professor of English and comparative literature at Columbia University, lamented that "victimology, separatism and anti-intellectualism underlie the general black community's response to all race-related issues," adding that "these three thought patterns impede black advancement much more than racism; and dysfunctional inner cities, corporate glass ceilings and black educational underachievement will persist until such thinking disappears."

In the 1990s, Harvard professor Orlando Patterson wrote, "America, while still flawed in its race relations ... is now the least racist white-majority society in the world; has a better record of legal protection of minorities than any other society, white or black; (and) offers more opportunities to a greater number of black persons than any other society, including all those of Africa."

During an interview in December with *The Daily Caller*, Steele said the anti-Americanism that started during the 1960s and has become mainstream and visible in the black community is "heartbreaking and sad." That anti-Americanism that so dominates the American black identity has been "ruinous to black America, where we are worse off than we were under segregation by almost every socio-economic measure."

Some people might challenge Steele's assertion that in many measures blacks are worse off than during segregation. How about some numbers? As late as 1950, female-headed households were only 18 percent of the black population.

Today 70 percent of black children are raised in single-parent households. In the late 1800s, there were only slight differences between the black family structure and those of



Walter Williams

that of whites; today it's about 30 percent longer. Would anyone suggest that there was less racial discrimination during earlier periods?

White liberals and the Democratic Party are the major beneficiaries of keeping black people fearful, angry, victimized and resentful. It's crucial to both their political success and their efforts to change our nation. Racial harmony would be a disaster for leftists, be they politicians, academic liberals or news media people. As for black politicians and civil rights hustlers, Booker T. Washington long ago explained their agenda, writing: "There is another class of colored people who make a business of keeping the troubles, the wrongs, and the hardships of the Negro race before the public. Having learned that they are able to make a living out of their troubles, they have grown into the settled habit of advertising their wrongs — partly because they want sympathy and partly because it pays. Some of these people do not want the Negro to lose his grievances, because they do not want to lose their jobs."

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

TRUMP KEEPS HIS 'BRING IT ON' ATTITUDE

I have always loved the underdog.

Although I did not vote for Trump, he gains my respect more each day. A man that was not given a chance to beat the Clinton machine, arrogantly mocked in that election, viciously attacked even before he took office ... and every single day since, not even given a chance to do his job, his family (HIS FAMILY)

called names that would get most people punched out, and he keeps that New York attitude of, "Bring it on." And in the process, has turned this country into the United States again around the world.

I sure as hell am voting for him next time. The other party? I could not have less respect for them at this point. The party of identity politics, hate and division.

JOHN SELLAR
Sumter

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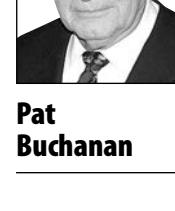


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COMMENTARY

Trump and the invasion of the West

"I t is cruel. It is immoral. And it breaks my heart," says former first lady Laura Bush of the Trump administration policy of "zero tolerance," under which the children of illegal immigrants are being detained apart from their parents.



Pat Buchanan

"Dis-graceful," adds Dr. Franklin Graham. "We need to be ... a country that governs with a heart," says first lady Melania Trump.

"No one likes this policy," says White House aide Kellyanne Conway, even "the president wants this to end."

And so it shall — given the universal denunciations and photos of sobbing children being pulled from parents.

Yet striking down the policy will leave America's immigration crisis still unresolved.

Consider. Since 2016, some 110,000 children have entered the U.S. illegally and been released, along with 200,000 Central American families caught sneaking across the border.

Reflecting its frustration, the White House press office declared:

"We can't deport them,

we can't separate them, we can't detain them, we can't prosecute them. What (the Democrats) want is a radical open-border policy that lets everyone out into the interior of this country with virtually no documentation whatsoever."

Where many Americans see illegal intruders, Democrats see future voters.

And with 11,000 kids of illegal immigrants in custody and 250 more arriving every day, we could have 30,000 in custody by summer's end.

The existential question, however, thus remains: How does the West, America included, stop the flood tide of migrants before it alters forever the political and demographic character of our nations and our

civilization?

The U.S. Hispanic population, already estimated at nearly 60 million, is predicted to exceed 100 million by 2050, just 32 years away.

And Europe's southern border is more imperiled than ours.

A week ago, the new populist regime in Rome refused to allow a boat full of migrants from Libya to land in Sicily. Malta also turned them away. After a voyage of almost a week and 1,000 miles, 630 migrants were landed in Valencia, Spain.

Why did Italy reject them? Under EU law, migrants apply for asylum in the country where they first enter Europe. This burdens Italy and Greece where the asylum-seekers have been arriving for years.

Of the landing in Spain, Italy's interior minister Matteo Salvini, a leader of the populist League party, chortled:

"I thank the Spanish government. I hope they take in the other 66,629 refugees (inside Italy). We will not be offended if the French follow the Spanish, the Portuguese and Maltese, we will be the happiest people on earth."

If the migrant boats of the Med are redirected to Spanish ports, one suspects that the Spanish people will soon become as unwelcoming as many other peoples in Europe.

And Trump is not backing down. Monday he tweeted:

"The people of Germany are turning against their leadership as migration is rocking the already tenuous Berlin coalition. Crime in Germany is way up. Big mistake made all over Europe in allowing millions of people in who have so strongly and violently changed their culture!"

Whatever European leaders may think of him, many Europeans are moving in Trump's direction, toward more restrictions on immigration.

In Germany, a political crisis is percolating. The Bavarian-based CSU, long-time coalition partner of Chancellor Angela Merkel's CDU, is now talking divorce if Merkel does not toughen

German policy.

Merkel has never fully recovered from the nationalist backlash against the million migrants she allowed in from Syria's civil war. A New Year's Eve rampage in Cologne, featuring wilding attacks on German girls by Arabs and Muslims, cost her dearly.

Among the reasons Bavarians are pulling away from Berlin is that, being in the south of Germany, Bavaria is a primary point of entry.

Virtually every one of the populist parties of Europe, especially of the right, have arisen to contest or to seize power by riding the issue of mass migration from Africa and the Middle East.

Yet the progressives adamantly refuse to act, apparently paralyzed by a belief that restricting the free movement of peoples from foreign lands violates one of the great commandments of liberal democracy.

We are truly dealing here with an ideology of Western suicide.

If Europe does not act, its future is predictable.

The population of Africa, right across the Med, is anticipated to climb to 2.5 billion by midcentury. And by 2100, Africa will be home to half of all the people of the planet.

If but a tiny fraction of the African and Middle Eastern population decides to cross the Mediterranean to occupy the emptying towns and villages of an aging and dying continent, who and what will stop them?

Trump may be on the wrong side politically and emotionally of this issue of separating migrant kids from their parents.

But on the mega-issue — the Third World invasion of the West — he is riding the great wave of the future, if the West is to have a future.

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of a new book, "Nixon's White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever."

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SUPPORT GROUPS

AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MONDAY MEETINGS:

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

TUESDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. coffee / snacks, 7 p.m. meeting, Alice Drive Baptist Church, Studio 4.3 (youth building), 1305 Loring Mill Road. For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, addictions, pornography, smoking, anxiety, etc.

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

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

Sumter Combat Veterans Group

Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.

"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Support group for teens and adults with special needs.

Call Joan at (803) 972-0051 or Carrie at (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.

Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.

Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) — Third Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m., Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. Open to anyone who has lost a loved one to murder in a vi-

olent way.

Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — Third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498 or (803) 316-4506.

EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call Dorcus at (803) 895-1252/1253 or Sue at (803) 847-2377.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:

Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call Bertha at (803) 774-6181.

Divorce Care — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

Grief Share — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

THURSDAY MEETINGS:

TOPS S.C. No. 236 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) — Thursdays, 9 a.m., Spectrum Senior Center, 1989 Durant Lane. Call Diane at (803) 775-3926 or Nancy at (803) 469-4789.

Alzheimer's Support Group through S.C. Alzheimer's Association — First Thursday, 6-8 p.m., National Health Care, 1018 N. Guignard Drive. Call Cheryl at (803) 905-7720 or the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 636-3346.

Journey of Hope (for family members of the mentally ill), Journey to Recovery (for the mentally ill) and Survivors of Suicide Support Group — Each group meets every first Thursday, 7 p.m., St. John United Methodist Church, 136 Poinsett Drive. Call Fred at (803) 905-5620.

FRIDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, Miller Road (across from Food Lion). For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.

Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call Kevin at (803) 778-0303.

SATURDAY MEETINGS:

Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Support Group — Third Saturday, 1:30 p.m., 3785 Blackberry Lane, Lot 7. Call Donna at (803) 481-7521.

SUNDAY MEETINGS:

Sumter MS Support Group — First Sunday, 3 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church fellowship hall, 2751 S. Wise Drive. Call (803) 481-5344 or (803) 464-6440. Email I.am.me.not.ms.miles013@gmail.com.

The last word in astrology

ARIES (March 21-April 19):

Size up your situation before you

move forward. Consider the demands or responsibilities being put on you, and make it clear what you can do and what you cannot. Don't waste time arguing or taking on an impossible physical challenge.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Avoid making physical changes. Concentrate on partnerships, educational journeys or learning from someone with more experience. Gather information. Don't let a personal matter interfere with your success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your emotions under control and your wits about you when dealing with past relationships or disappointments. Choose to remain positive and to focus on self-improvements that will make you feel good about your future.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Find an alternative path to get your way if someone stifles your chance to move forward. Attend a function that will bring you in contact with someone from your past; something interesting will develop.

Listen, but don't share too much information.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't disregard what others do or say. You'll have to stay on top of situations that unfold at home or at work to keep someone from making changes that could cost you. Take action if it will help you counter excessive behavior.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can stabilize your life if you concentrate on making changes that will cut your overhead. Saving for something that will improve your life will give you an incentive to avoid point-of-purchase sales and

frivolous spending.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put your heart and soul into personal improvements. Get physical and into tip-top shape; you will feel good about your accomplishments. Romance will enhance your life. Don't let an older relative put demands on your time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't give in to temptation. Someone or something will entice you to try something you shouldn't. Consider the consequence before you agree to something that could damage your reputation or a relationship with someone close to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look for an opportunity to advance or to make extra cash, but don't trust someone trying to talk you into a risky venture. Act on your own behalf, and look for solid deals or contracts before you sign on the dotted line.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your emotions in check. If you let someone or something upset you, it will lead to a mistake. Think and apply a practical application to whatever situation you face. Take responsibility for your actions and change what's necessary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take control of your life and set the standard rather than letting someone else make decisions for you. Have confidence that you know what's best for you, and follow through with your plans until you reach your goal. Romance is in the stars.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take part in events that are conducive to meeting new people or will bring you closer to someone you love. Partnerships are favored and can make a difference in how you move forward. A positive change in status or position is apparent.

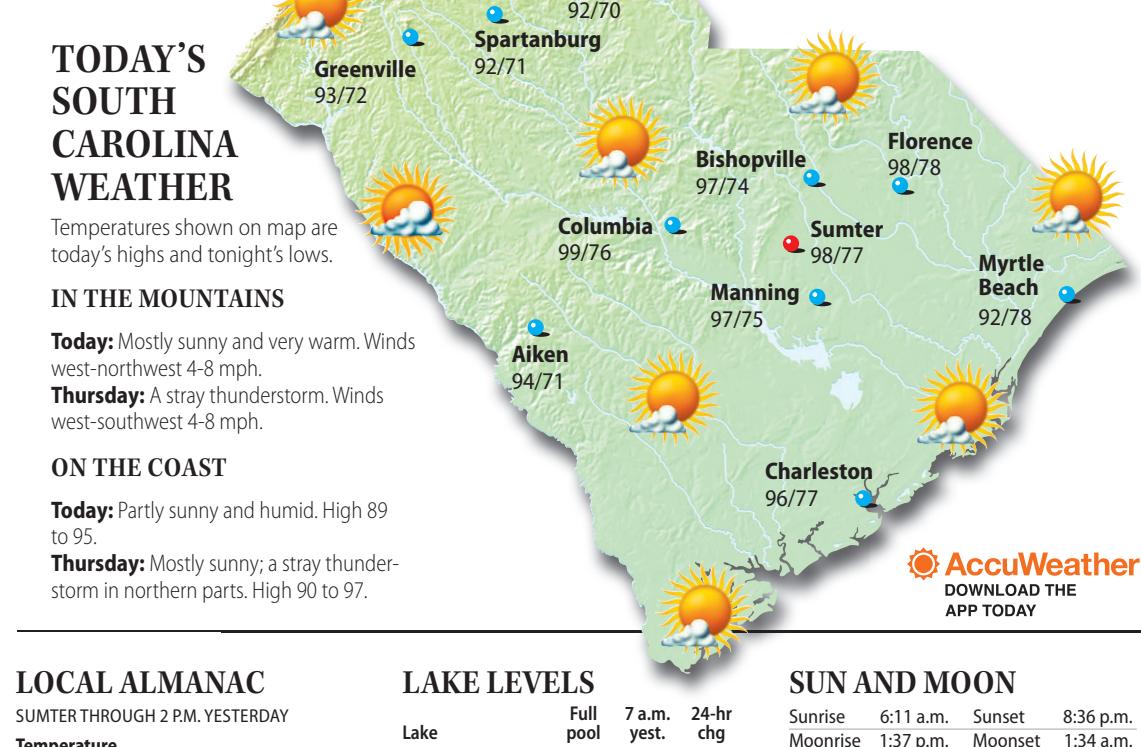
DAILY PLANNER

WEATHER

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AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
HOT 98° WSW 4-8 mph	HOT 77° SSW 4-8 mph	Partly sunny and very hot 98° / 77° W 4-8 mph	A shower and t-storm around 95° / 76° WSW 6-12 mph	Mostly sunny and warm 95° / 77° SW 7-14 mph	Mostly cloudy and hot 97° / 77° WSW 6-12 mph
Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 20%	Chance of rain: 15%



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature

High	94°
Low	75°
Normal high	89°
Normal low	67°
Record high	102° in 1970
Record low	49° in 1961

Flood stage

24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date	2.95"
Normal month to date	3.33"
Year to date	15.97"
Last year to date	20.70"
Normal year to date	20.95"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake Full pool 7 a.m. 24-hr

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.74	-0.02
Marion	76.8	75.82	-0.02
Moultrie	75.5	75.44	+0.01
Wateree	100	97.53	+0.03

RIVER STAGES

River Flood stage 7 a.m. 24-hr

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	4.27	+0.06
Congaree River	19	3.63	-0.29
Lynches River	14	2.02	-0.16
Saluda River	14	5.06	+1.55
Up. Santee River	80	77.74	-0.27
Wateree River	24	9.36	+1.24

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise 6:11 a.m. Sunset 8:36 p.m.

Moonrise 1:37 p.m. Moon

PRO BASEBALL

The Fastball Paradox: With velocity up, fastballs down

BY JAKE SEINER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Over five seasons as ace of the Pittsburgh Pirates, Gerrit Cole threw one of the game's hardest, heaviest fastballs, and he threw it often. The pitch helped him make millions of dollars. It put him in contention for major awards. Hitters swung through it again and again, and Cole seemed content not to mess with a good thing.

But when Cole was traded to the Houston Astros this offseason, a funny thing happened. He became more frugal with his fastball and ended up more overpowering than ever.

Cole has joined some of the game's best pitchers — including Cleveland's Corey Kluber and the Dodgers' Clayton Kershaw — in benefiting from a puzzling baseball paradox: In

an era when pitchers are throwing harder than ever, they're maximizing success by using fewer fastballs.

Pitchers — even ones with blazing fastballs like Luis Severino and Chris Archer — are using more off-speed than ever recorded, and while many aces think the downturn is a trend, some believe baseball could be entering a new age dominated not by 100 mph heaters, but by a steady stream of breaking balls and changeups.

So why is the hardest-throwing generation of pitchers ever going the way of the junk-ball?

Depends who you ask, but one culprit stands out to Cole, Kluber and Kershaw: baseball's swing-changing batters.

"You can call it launch angle, or you can call it the upper cuts," Cole said. "There are a lot of swings that are dictating breaking balls."

Cole's move away from a fastball-first approach is striking given the reputation of his hardest pitch. He topped out at 99 mph as an ace at UCLA, and his fastball was the headliner on a resume that earned him an \$8 million signing bonus as the first overall draft pick in 2011 by Pittsburgh. Under the guidance of Pirates pitching coach Ray Searage, Cole pounded the bottom of the strike zone with that heater, and for years, it worked. He was an All-Star and finished fourth in NL Cy Young Award voting in 2015, and was considered among the game's most overpowering starting pitchers.

Then baseball's flyball revolution took flight — a movement of hitters using upper-cut swings designed to crush exactly the kinds of sinking fastballs Cole was delivering. After never allowing more than 11 home runs in a season, Cole was tagged for 31 last year.

So it was time to change things up.

From 2013-17, Cole threw his fastball 65 percent of the time — well above the league average. But this year, he's cut that fastball rate by about 10 points, replacing those heaters with sliders and curveballs. The new look is working. Cole is 8-1 with a 2.59 ERA through 15 starts and leads the American League with 138 strikeouts.

"I think you're just continually trying to mess timing up, especially when guys are trying to slug," Cole said. "When they're trying to hit it out of the park every time, you have an easier time changing speeds."

SEE PARADOX, PAGE B4

LOCAL SPORTS

Teeing it up for God



THE SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Golfers await instructions before hitting the golf course at Sunset Country Club for the Churches Challenge Golf Tournament. The 19th annual Churches Challenge Golf Tournament and Praise Rally will be held Aug. 24-25.

19th Annual Churches Challenge set for Aug. 24-25 at Sunset Country Club

BY DENNIS BRUNSON

dennis@theitem.com

The Sumter chapter of the Christian Golfers Association will be sponsoring the 19th annual Churches Challenge Golf Tournament and Praise Rally on Aug. 24-25.

The praise rally will be held at Alice Drive Baptist

Church, while the tournament will be held at Sunset Country Club.

On Friday, Aug. 24, the players, their families and event sponsors will gather for fellowship, devotion, praise music and food at 5:30 p.m. at Alice Drive Baptist Church located at 1305 Loring Mill Road. A barbecue dinner with

all the trimmings will be catered by Shoney's.

On Saturday, Aug. 25, at Sunset, there will be a morning flight and an afternoon flight for the golfers. Sign in for the morning flight is 7 a.m. with play set to begin at approximately 8 a.m. The afternoon flight will begin sign in at 11 a.m.

and is scheduled for a 1 p.m. tee time.

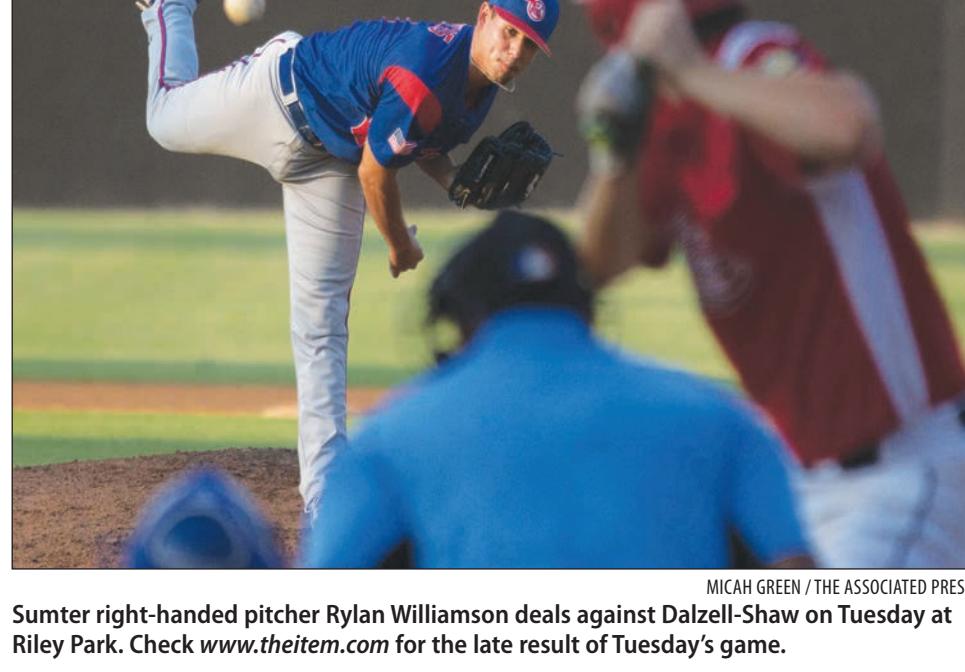
There were 185 golfers who participated in last year's event. That included 45 teams from 21 different churches and 12 different denominations.

The Sumter CGA Chapter

SEE GOLF, PAGE B2

AMERICAN LEGION SPORTS

P-15's hold off Jets for 7-3 victory



BY DENNIS BRUNSON

dennis@theitem.com

With two outs in the top of the fifth inning of his team's American Legion baseball game against Dalzell-Shaw Post 175, Sumter P-15's head coach Curtis Johnson strode to the mound at Riley Park with a purpose.

Sumter was locked in a 3-3 tie with the Jets, who came into the 7-inning contest with one win in 11 games, and they had the go-ahead run on third base. Johnson called for pitching staff ace Lathan Todd to come on in place of starter Chandler Hunter.

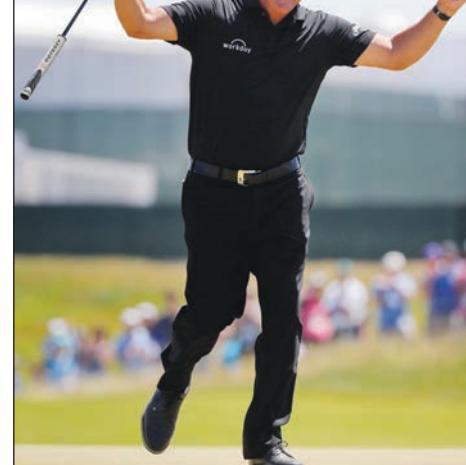
Todd recorded the needed out and pitched two more scoreless innings, while his teammates pushed across four runs in the bottom of the sixth to pick up a 7-3 victory on Monday.

The teams played again on Tuesday at Riley Park. Sumter begins play in the Palmetto Invitational today when it plays host to Buckner, Kentucky. The

SEE P-15'S, PAGE B2

ON THE FRINGE

U.S. Open being remembered for wrong reasons



BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — If the aim of the U.S. Open is to identify the best player, then the last three got it right.

The problem is a tendency to remember what went wrong.

The lasting image from Shinnecock Hills was Phil Mickelson, now 0 for 27 in the U.S. Open, hitting his putt too hard on the 13th hole Saturday. He moved as swiftly as his 48-year-old legs would allow and swatted the ball back toward the hole while it was still rolling. It was a shocking scene to everyone but Mickelson, who said he meant no disrespect to the game by intentionally violating a rule to either save shots or save a long walk to wherever his ball might have stopped.

Brooks Koepka, meanwhile, delivered a classic U.S. Open performance with discipline, grit and clutch putting. He effectively won by getting up-and-

down three times in a four-hole stretch, one of them for bogey, the last one a par on the 14th hole when he first had to get his ball back in play from thick, shin-high grass.

He became the first repeat U.S. Open champion in 29 years, and it's a wonder anyone remembers he won last year.

Just the mention of Erin Hills brings back memories of wide fairways and record scoring.

There was Koepka posing with the trophy, the large leaderboard behind him filled with more red numbers than had ever been seen at a U.S. Open. He was the third player to win at double digits under par (16 under). The other two were Tiger Woods, who won by 15 shots at Pebble Beach, and Rory McIlroy, who won by eight at Congressional. Koepka won by four shots, one of seven players to finish at 10 under or better.

The ultimate test was finding

Phil Mickelson reacts after finally sinking a putt on the 13th hole during the final round of the U.S. Open Golf Championship in Southampton, N.Y.

SEE FRINGE, PAGE B3

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

6 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Gerry Weber Open Early-Round Matches from Halle, Germany, and Fever-Tree Championships Early-Round Matches from London (TENNIS).

8 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Group B Match from Moscow — Portugal vs. Morocco (FOX SPORTS 1).

8:30 a.m. — Horse Racing: Breeders' Cup Challenge Series Royal Ascot Festival from Ascot, England

Princes of Wales' Stakes, Jersey Stakes, Queen Mary Stakes, Duke of Cambridge Stakes, Royal Hunt Cup and Sandringham Handicap (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

11 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Group A Match from Rostov-on-Don, Russia — Uruguay vs. Saudi Arabia (WACH 57).

11 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Gerry Weber Open Early-Round Matches from Halle, Germany, and Fever-Tree Championships Early-Round Matches from London (TENNIS).

2 p.m. — International Soccer: FIFA World Cup Group B Match from Kazan, Russia — Iran vs. Spain (WACH 57).

2 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los Angeles Dodgers at Chicago Cubs or Oakland at San Diego (MLB NETWORK).

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

6:30 p.m. — Professional Golf: PGA Professional Championship Final Round from Seaside, Calif. (GOLF).

7 p.m. — College Baseball: College World Series Game 9 from Omaha, Neb. — North Carolina or Mississippi State vs. Oregon State (ESPN).

7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Seattle at New York Yankees or Baltimore at Washington (MLB NETWORK).

7:30 p.m. — American Legion Baseball: Palmetto Invitational Game from Sumter — Buckner, Ky., vs. Sumter (WWHM-FM 92.3, WWHM-FM 93.3, WWHM-AM 1290).

8 p.m. — NHL Hockey: NHL Awards from Las Vegas (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

Midnight — Professional Golf: Asian Tour and Korean Tour Korea Open First Round from Cheonan, South Korea (GOLF).

AMERICAN LEGION SCHEDULE

MONDAY

Sumter 7, Dalzell-Shaw 3

TUESDAY

Dalzell-Shaw at Sumter, late
Camden at Manning-Santee, late
Dalzell-Shaw at Hartsville, late

WEDNESDAY

Buckner, Kentucky, at Sumter, 7:30 p.m.
Manning-Santee at Camden, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

Chapin/Newberry at Sumter, 7:30 p.m.
Hartsville at Manning-Santee, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Troy, Alabama, at Sumter, 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Tallahassee, Florida, at Sumter, 1 p.m.

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	47	22	.681	—
Boston	49	24	.671	—
Toronto	33	38	.465	15
Tampa Bay	33	39	.458	15½
Baltimore	20	50	.286	27½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	38	33	.535	—
Detroit	36	37	.493	3
Minnesota	31	37	.456	5½
Chicago	24	47	.338	14
Kansas City	22	50	.306	16½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	49	25	.662	—
Seattle	46	26	.639	2
Los Angeles	38	35	.521	10½
Oakland	36	36	.500	12
Texas	30	44	.405	19

MONDAY

Washington 5, N.Y. Yankees 3, 1st game
N.Y. Yankees 4, Washington 2, 2nd game
Cleveland 6, Chicago White Sox 2

Houston 5, Tampa Bay 4

Texas 6, Kansas City 3

Arizona 7, L.A. Angels 4

TUESDAY

Baltimore at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Seattle at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.

Detroit at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.

Boston at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Houston, 8:10 p.m.

Texas at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m.

Arizona at L.A. Angels, 10:07 p.m.

Oakland at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY

Detroit (Fulmer 3-5) at Cincinnati (Mahle 5-6), 12:35 p.m.

Atlanta (Sanchez 3-0) at Toronto (Happ 8-3), 12:37 p.m.

Chicago White Sox (Lopez 2-4) at Cleveland (Kluber 10-3), 1:10 p.m.

Oakland (Montas 3-1) at San Diego (Ross 5-4), 3:40 p.m.

Baltimore (Cashner 2-8) at Washington (Gonzalez 6-3), 7:05 p.m.

Seattle (Hernandez 6-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Loaisiga 1-0), 7:05 p.m.

Boston (Price 8-4) at Minnesota (Lynn 4-5), 8:10 p.m.

Tampa Bay (Eovaldi 1-2) at Houston (Morton 8-1), 8:10

p.m.
Texas (Mendez 0-1) at Kansas City (Junis 5-7), 8:15 p.m.

THURSDAY

Seattle at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.
Boston at Minnesota, 1:10 p.m.
Baltimore at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Oakland at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Toronto at L.A. Angels, 10:07 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	42	29	.592	—
Philadelphia	38	32	.543	3½
Washington	38	32	.543	3½
New York	31	38	.449	10
Miami	29	44	.397	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	42	30	.583	—
Chicago	40	29	.580	½
St. Louis	37	33	.529	4
Pittsburgh	36	36	.500	6
Cincinnati	26	45	.366	15½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	40	32	.556	—
Los Angeles	38	33	.535	1½
San Francisco	35	38	.479	5½
Colorado	34	38	.472	6
San Diego	34	40	.459	7

MONDAY

L.A. Dodgers at Chicago Cubs, ppd.
Washington 5, N.Y. Yankees 3, 1st game
N.Y. Yankees 4, Washington 2, 2nd game
Philadelphia 6, St. Louis 5, 10 innnings
Pittsburgh 1, Milwaukee 0
N.Y. Mets 12, Colorado 2
Arizona 7, L.A. Angels 4
Miami 5, San Francisco 4

TUESDAY

L.A. Dodgers 4, Chicago Cubs 3, 1st game
Baltimore at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
St. Louis at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Detroit at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Chicago Cubs, 8:05 p.m., 2nd game
N.Y. Mets at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.
Miami at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

TODAY

Detroit (Fulmer 3-5) at Cincinnati (Mahle 5-6), 12:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Sanchez 3-0) at Toronto (Happ 8-3), 12:37 p.m.
St. Louis (Wacha 8-2) at Philadelphia (Arrieta 5-5), 1:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Stripling 6-1) at Chicago Cubs (Lester 8-2), 2:20 p.m.
Oakland (Montas 3-1) at San Diego (Ross 5-4), 3:40 p.m.
Miami (Urena 2-8) at San Francisco (Holland 4-7), 3:45 p.m.
Baltimore (Cashner 2-8) at Washington (Gonzalez 6-3), 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Suter 7-4) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 5-4), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Lugo 2-2) at Colorado (Bettis 5-1), 8:40 p.m.

THURSDAY

N.Y. Mets at Colorado, 3:10 p.m.
Arizona at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
San Diego at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

MLB LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
BATTING_Altuve, Houston, .342; Segura, Seattle, .340;
Betts, Boston, .340; Trout, Los Angeles, .328; Brantley, Cleveland, .321; Rosario, Minnesotta, .321; Simmons, Los Angeles, .318; Martinez, Boston, .315; Duffy, Tampa Bay, .314; Castellanos, Detroit, .310.

RUNS_Trott, Los Angeles, 60; Betts, Boston, 55; Lindor, Cleveland, 54; Springer, Houston, 54; Segura, Seattle, 52; Benintendi, Boston, 51; Rosario, Minnesotta, 50; Judge, New York, 49; Altuve, Houston, 47; Ramirez, Cleveland, 47.

HITS_Altuve, Houston, 102; Segura, Seattle, 98; Castellanos, Detroit, 89; Rosario, Minnesota, 87; Lindor, Cleveland, 84; Machado, Baltimore, 83; Trout, Los Angeles, 83; Jones, Detroit, 4; Profar, Texas, 4; Smith, Tampa Bay, 4; tied at 3.

HOME RUNS_Trott, Los Angeles

PRO GOLF

Strange's advice for Koepka: Study up on Willie Anderson

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — Curtis Strange has some advice for Brooks Koepka ahead of next year's U.S. Open: Study up on Willie Anderson.

Koepka's one-shot victory at Shinnecock Hills made him the first back-to-back U.S. Open champion in 29 years, dating to Strange winning his second in a row in 1989. Strange was the first player in 38 years to win consecutive U.S. Opens since Ben Hogan in 1951.

"Nobody wrote about it," Strange said about his title defense going into Oak Hill. "I didn't think about repeating. I never went to a tournament thinking I was going to win. I went to a tournament thinking I was going to play well. When you're not Tiger Woods-caliber, it's presumptuous to stand on the first tee thinking about winning."

But when he arrived at Medinah in 1990 with a shot at three in a row, Strange couldn't escape the attention.

"I wasn't confident or cocky or arrogant, but I believed I might have a chance," Strange said. "You can't help but think because you're asked about it all the time. I can tell you this: Brooks is going to learn a whole lot more about Willie Anderson than he knows now."

Anderson, who was born in North Berwick, Scotland, and immigrated to the United States when he was 16, is the only player to win the U.S. Open three times — in 1903 at Baltusrol, in 1904 at Glen View Club in Chicago and in 1905 at Myopia Hunt.

"I knew he won the U.S. Open," Strange said. "I quickly found out the rest."

Strange was still buzzing after arriving home in North Carolina over the chance to witness the end of his greatest distinction in golf. He is part of the Fox Sports broadcast, providing analysis while walking the course. Strange typically was with the last group, but when Tony Finau and Daniel Berger dropped back early, he wound up with Koepka and Dustin Johnson.

Strange and Koepka not only shared a brief hug as Koepka walked off the 18th green, Strange's duty was to interview him before the crowd.

"I thought about asking him how well he knows his golf history," Strange said with a laugh.

Instead, he asked Koepka about going back-to-back, "Do you know how special this is?"

"It was a little emotional for me," Strange said. "It was the thrill of my life."

SCHEDULE SHAPING UP

The PGA Tour filled in some major pieces of the scheduling puzzle last week, starting with the Houston Open going to the fall starting in 2019 under the direction of Houston Astros owner Jim Crane and the Astros Foundation.



Brooks Koepka is interviewed by Curtis Strange after winning the U.S. Open Golf Championship on Sunday in Southampton, N.Y.

Then, the tour announced Monday that the 3M Open in Minnesota, a PGA Tour Champions event since 1993, would be on the PGA Tour schedule next summer.

The Houston Open had been penciled in for the date before the U.S. Open, but that doesn't mean Minnesota takes that spot.

One likelihood is for the RBC Canadian Open to be held a week before the U.S. Open, two of the oldest championships in golf in consecutive weeks.

The Canadian Open in recent years had taken the spot after the British Open, arranging a charter flight for those playing the event. But with a constricted schedule next year to end the FedEx Cup a week before Labor Day, that spot now goes to the World Golf Championship in Tennessee.

The John Deere Classic has a contract to be held before the British Open. A week before that would put Canada on top of the Fourth of July and too close to Canada Day on July 1. It would be tough attracting a strong field, not to mention volunteers.

A move before the U.S. Open is the best fit, especially for the title sponsor of two PGA Tour events. RBC also has Hilton Head a week after the Masters.

That would leave the tour to decide on Minnesota and Detroit after the U.S. Open and before the British Open.

Still to be determined is the order in the fall, with one other surprise. Two people aware of the discussions said the tour is working on a tournament in Japan for this fall that would at least temporarily add to the Asia swing along with stops in Malaysia, South Korea and Shanghai. They spoke to The Associat-

ed Press on condition of anonymity because the plans have not been finalized.

DUSTIN IN FRONT

Dustin Johnson returned to No. 1 in the world two weeks ago, and he returned to the top of the FedEx Cup standings last week.

It has not been a bad year.

And it could have been even better if Johnson had a stronger record closing out tournaments.

The U.S. Open was the fifth time that Johnson had at least a share of the 54-hole lead. He won two of those events, the Sentry Tournament of Champions and the FedEx St. Jude Classic. Johnson tied a PGA Tour record by losing a six-shot lead at the HSBC Champions. He was outplayed by Ted Potter Jr. in the final round of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, and by Brooks Koepka in the final round at Shinnecock Hills.

Johnson now has a 9-8 record when he has at least a share of the 54-hole lead, including a 0-3 mark in the U.S. Open. He lost a three-shot lead at Pebble Beach in 2010 and was tied for the lead at Chambers Bay in 2015 and at Shinnecock. He was the first player since Phil Mickelson at Merion in 2013 to have at least a share of the lead after each of the first three rounds without winning.

Johnson's 9-8 record is a little misleading because three of those victories were at tournaments shortened to 54 holes — Pebble Beach in 2009 (rain), The Barclays in 2011 (hurricane) and Kapalua in 2013 (wind).

STRICKER STREAK

Steve Stricker was No. 5 in the world,

one spot behind Kenny Perry and with no real chance of catching Tiger Woods. Apple's latest mobile device was the iPhone 3GS. LeBron James was with the Cleveland Cavaliers — the first time around.

That was the last time Stricker missed the cut in a major.

"I don't know if it's a streak," he said after making the cut on the number at the U.S. Open. "It's just that I want to keep playing. It's nice to be making cuts, but it's about more than that."

The last cut he missed was at Hazeltine in the 2009 PGA Championship. Now the streak is at 25 majors, though Stricker has not played or did not qualify for nine of those majors.

Stricker would like to be at the British Open, but he'll have to win the John Deere Classic for a fourth time to get there. That would allow him to play the Senior British Open at St. Andrews, and it's possible Stricker will go over to St. Andrews specifically for the senior major.

"I'm thinking about going over there, just because it is at St. Andrews," he said. "I do like St. Andrews — the aura, the town, the tournament."

The deciding factor, as usual, will be what his family wants.

DIVOTS

Brooks Koepka moved to the top of the Ryder Cup standings after the first two majors, followed by Dustin Johnson and Patrick Reed. Phil Mickelson has dropped out of the automatic top eight qualifiers and is No. 10. With majors counting double, Mickelson tied for 36th at the Masters and tied for 48th in the U.S. Open. ... Webb Simpson was planning to have his wife, Dowd, caddie for him at the Greenbrier Classic. Now that's off the table — she is pregnant with their fifth child. ... Steve Stricker has earned \$806,235 in five starts on the PGA Tour Champions and is No. 4 in the Charles Schwab Cup. He has made \$549,838 in eight starts on the PGA Tour and is No. 130 in the FedEx Cup. ... Koepka joined Rory McIlroy, Padraig Harrington, Mickelson and Tiger Woods as the only players to win majors in consecutive seasons in the last 25 years.

STAT OF THE WEEK

Dustin Johnson took 53 putts in the opening two rounds at the U.S. Open. He took 73 putts on the weekend.

FINAL WORD

"He can do my job, but I can't do his." — Graeme McDowell, who missed the cut at the U.S. Open, on Matt Parziale, the firefighter from Massachusetts who tied as the low amateur at Shinnecock Hills.

FRINGE FROM PAGE B1

enough red numbers to put on all the boards.

"Everyone said Erin Hills was set up for me," Koepka said. "It was set up for a lot of guys that bomb that ball. I just happened to play a little bit better."

No one was better on the back nine when he ran off three straight birdies, and the middle one was exquisite — a chip 8-iron from 155 yards to a back pin. Koepka called it the best shot he hit all week.

Remember that one?

Probably not, and that's OK. It's easy to lose track of birdies on a course that allowed a record 140 rounds under par.

Dustin Johnson spent more time talking to rules officials than to Lee Westwood, his playing partner, during the final round at Oakmont in 2016. There was a discussion on the fifth green on whether Johnson caused his ball to move a fraction of an inch. Equally vivid was the image of two officials telling Johnson on the 12th tee that he might be penalized one shot. Or he might not.

Overlooked is that tough par save from behind the 16th green, and Johnson hitting 6-iron to 5 feet on the 18th hole for a birdie to make the penalty a moot point.

The sign that a U.S. Open is not running smoothly is when

Mike Davis, the chief executive of the USGA, is on TV as much as some of the players. The ideal week is when Davis is out of sight until the trophy presentation.

But he had some explaining to do, such as how the wind was stronger than expected on Saturday to the point that he felt good shots were not rewarded, and in some cases punished. He also explained why the rules did not provide for Mickelson to be disqualified.

The severity of Shinnecock in the third round should not take away from this U.S. Open. It's supposed to be hard. It has a history of being the toughest test, and living on the edge often means crossing the line. Everyone still plays the same course, and Koepka shot 72 that day. That's why he was in position to win.

If not for Mickelson making a spectacle of himself and the moment, odds are it would be forgotten sooner.

Tom Meeks, the predecessor to Davis in setting up the U.S. Open, used to relish such moments. He said in a 2009 interview that the U.S. Open had to be harder than anything else, but still fair, and that was a hard line to find. "If I had any doubt, I would go the more difficult way," Meeks said.

He also predicted that

Davis, if he were to follow the

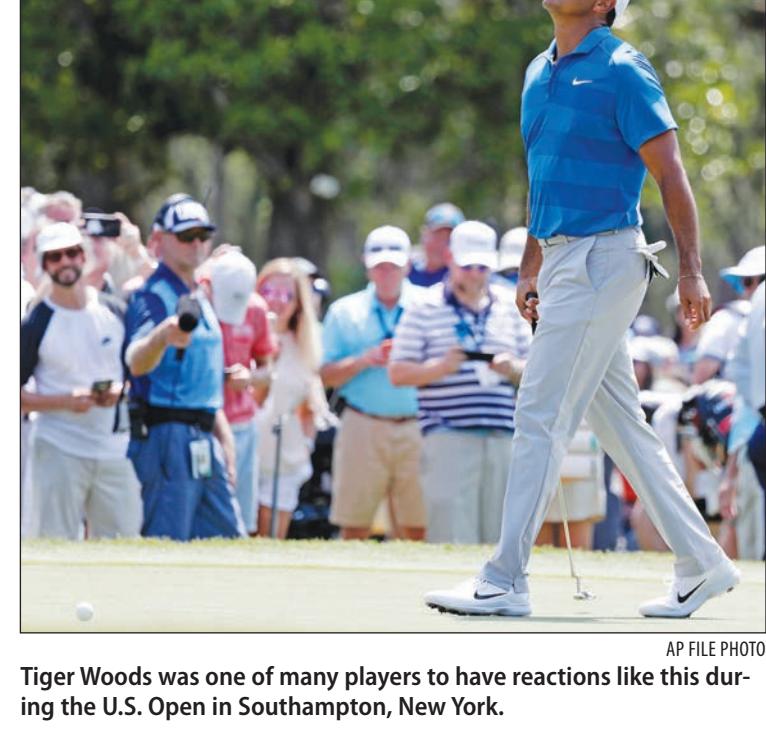
U.S. Open philosophy, would make mistakes at some point.

"It doesn't happen by design," Meeks said. "It happens because of the U.S. Open."

The USGA doesn't always get it wrong. Its finest moment was Pinehurst No. 2 in 2014, when the U.S. Open delivered a proper test for the men and women in consecutive weeks. The first year two years Davis was in charge, the winning score at Winged Foot and Oakmont was 5-over par, and no one complained.

Lately, however, the U.S. Open has become more about the USGA than the player who gets the trophy. That doesn't happen at the other majors. With few exceptions, it's about the winner, not the golf course. It's about the player, not the organization.

And so the memories of Shinnecock are as much about Mickelson as Koepka, and memories of Erin Hills are as much about low scores as the guy who had the lowest



Tiger Woods was one of many players to have reactions like this during the U.S. Open in Southampton, New York.

one.

Fans can choose what they want to remember.

But it would be nice to have a U.S. Open when there wasn't such a choice.

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NBA DRAFT

Arizona's Deandre Ayton top choice among bigs in NBA draft

BY AARON BEARD

The Associated Press

There's been little question that Arizona's Deandre Ayton is the best of a potential-filled group of bigs at the top of Thursday's NBA draft.

Ayton was a force in his lone college season and looks like the favorite to land with Phoenix as the No. 1 overall pick. Behind him are several talented big men including Michigan State's Jaren Jackson, Texas' Mo Bamba and Duke's Wendell Carter Jr., who like Ayton all played just one year in college and could all hear their name called in the first 10 selections.

Here's a look at the top prospects:

DEANDRE AYTON

The 7-foot, 250-pound big man can single-handedly dominate defenses, monopolize the boards and alter or swat shots.

STRENGTHS: Ayton offers an impressive mix of power and touch. He averaged 20.1 points and was a force around the rim with 75 dunks while shooting 61 percent from the field, yet he had enough range to hit 12 3-pointers to pull defenders away from the paint, too. At the other end, 8.2 of his 11.6 rebounds per game came on the defensive glass to secure a stop.

CONCERNS: He wasn't particularly effective (14 points on 6-for-13 shooting) in the first-round NCAA Tournament loss to underdog and undersized Buffalo. His lofty draft stock assumes he continues to develop physically and build on his game, including on the defensive end (averaged just 1.9 blocks despite his physical tools).

JAREN JACKSON JR.

The Michigan State one-and-done big man is a possible top-five pick with size, length and a reliable jump shot.

STRENGTHS: The 6-11 Jackson, who averaged 10.9 points and 5.8 rebounds, offers two intriguing skill-sets. First, he shot nearly 40 percent from 3-point range even as he attempted nearly three per game. He also averaged 3.0 blocks per game, aided by a wingspan measured at more than 7-5 at the combine.

CONCERNS: The 18-year-old (he turns 19 in September) had issues with foul trouble during the year, which helped limit him to 21.8 minutes per game on the season.

MO BAMBA

The 7-foot freshman from Texas has the potential to be an elite defender and rebounder — and that's just a start.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw throws to a Philadelphia batter during a May 31 game in Los Angeles. Kershaw, Corey Kluber and Gerrit Cole are among the many big league pitchers maximizing success by throwing fewer fastballs.

STRENGTHS: Bamba averaged 12.9 points and 10.5 rebounds while shooting 54 percent from the floor. But it's the defensive potential that stands out here; he ranked second nationally with 3.7 blocks per game, aided by a wingspan measured at an incredible 7-10 at the combine — three inches more than any other player.

CONCERNS: While he's a good athlete, he'll need to add some strength to a 225-pound frame to hold up physically in the paint against stronger opponents.

WENDELL CARTER JR.

Duke's "other" one-and-done frontcourt presence had his own big season, even if overshadowed by teammate and possible top overall pick Marvin Bagley III.

STRENGTHS: The 6-10, 259-pound Carter is a bit of a throwback with his post play. He has back-to-the-basket skills yet can step behind the 3-point arc, too. Carter averaged 13.5 points and 9.1 rebounds, posting 16 double-doubles. And he's got enough bulk to battle up front at the NBA level.

CONCERNS: He doesn't have a lot of foot speed,

which can affect him in transition or at the defensive end. He also had bouts with foul trouble, ending when he fouled out in 22 minutes during an overtime loss to Kansas in the NCAA Elite Eight.

OTHERS TO WATCH

— **MITCHELL ROBINSON:** The five-star recruit curiously opted to play for Western Kentucky, then never suited up at the college level. The 6-11 center is a first-round prospect with upside to develop thanks to his length and athleticism.

— **OMARI SPELLMAN:** Spellman was the inside-out big man who shot 43 percent from 3-point range for national champion Villanova. He could be the defacto post presence capable of stretching the floor in a small lineup in the NBA, though he's a likely second-round pick.

— **ROBERT WILLIAMS:** Texas A&M's 6-10 sophomore is a gifted athlete (check out the windmill dunk he threw down in the Aggies' NCAA Tournament win against Providence for proof). That and his defensive potential is a big reason why he's a possible lottery pick.

to emulate Steve Nash and counts Rod Strickland as one of his many mentors.

He thinks he's the best player in the draft, and very easily could be the first guard to get selected.

Young was recruited for years by Oklahoma, his hometown school, and Sooners coach Lon Kruger spent hours and hours with him this past season breaking down film — probably all the while knowing that his star guard was going the one-and-done route.

"I knew how good he was, but I didn't even realize he was this good," said Kentucky coach John Calipari, who also recruited Young heavily. "The biggest thing in this, and it's a great lesson — Lon Kruger, who I have unbelievable respect for, basically said 'We're going to play through you, it's all going through you, you're going to shoot

when you want.' And he did not lie."

Kruger's trust in Young was worthwhile. In college, there was something special from Young just about every night.

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He had a sensational year by any measure.

"It was crazy," Young said. "But it was

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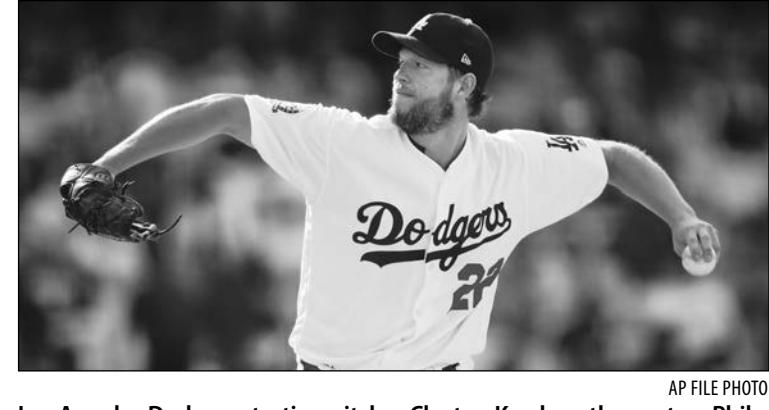
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Atlanta worked Young out about a week ago, and the guard looked noticeably stronger than he was a couple months ago when his college career ended — he says he's packed on at least 10 pounds of new muscle since then.

The Hawks say their approach will be simple: They'll take the best player still on the board. Young knows it's out of his control.

"This is the first time in my life where I haven't gotten to pick where I'm going," Young said. "AAU, you get to pick what team you play for. College, same. Having to wait to see where you're going, it's definitely something different but I'm not nervous at all."

And when it's time to find his seat at Barclays Center for the draft, Young insists that he's going to savor the moment.



AP FILE PHOTO

Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw throws to a Philadelphia Phillies batter during a May 31 game in Los Angeles. Cole, Kershaw, Corey Kluber and Gerrit Cole are among the many big league pitchers maximizing success by throwing fewer fastballs.

PARADOX

FROM PAGE B1

Kluber and Kershaw have made similar adjustments in the past couple years. Both Cy Young winners rank among the league leaders in fewest fastballs thrown this season.

"Guys are geared up to swing for a fastball," Kluber said. "I guess it's almost rare now to see somebody actually, like, go the other way with the breaking ball."

Kluber has set a career low with a fastball rate of 41.8 percent this season. Same for Kershaw, who has dropped from a 72-percent fastball clip in 2010 all the way to 42.8 percent in an injury-hampered 2018.

"The hitters tell you what you need to do," Kershaw said. "And for me, I guess it's been throwing a lot more breaking balls."

Cole, Kluber and Kershaw suspect the tide will turn back, perhaps soon, once hitters recalibrate to the number of four-seam fastballs pitchers are throwing up in the strike zone.

But Trevor Bauer, Kluber's analytically-minded teammate in Cleveland, thinks the off-speed uptick is only going to spread.

Two years ago, Bauer and Indians closer Cody Allen watched as 6-foot-8 Yankees fireballer Dellin Betances carved up Cleveland's hitters with a fastball that averaged 98 mph. Allen — no slouch himself with a fastball around 94 mph — told Bauer that if he could throw hard like Betances, he wouldn't even bother with a breaking ball.

"No," Bauer recalled telling Allen. "He should never throw a fastball."

Bauer's theory is that the threat of a 100 mph fastball might be more dangerous to hitters than the fastballs themselves.

"As guys throw harder, guys have less and less time to hit that offering," Bauer said. "So they have to speed up in order to catch up to it, which, that makes the breaking ball more effective."

Hitters are left picking between two nasty poisons — risk being behind on triple-digit fastballs, or jeopardize taking ugly swings on breaking pitches as they dart out of the strike zone.

Veteran slugger Todd Frazier was with the Yankees last year when New York's hard-throwing bullpen led by Betances, Aroldis Chapman and Chad Green overpowered hitters while also posting the lowest fastball rate in the majors.

"I have to set my feet for 98 mph, and understand I might

get 84-88 mph slider," said Frazier, now with the New York Mets. "It makes it tougher on you."

And yet, Frazier and his fellow hitters aren't close to jumping off their fastball-first approach.

"The baseline of hitting is the fastball," Mets teammate Jay Bruce said. "You have to stay on the fastball. For me personally, that's what my timing of the at-bat works off of."

Bauer has hypothesized for years that as velocities climb, pitchers may benefit from throwing fewer fastballs, but he didn't fully embrace the shift himself until this year. After a 2017 postseason in which Houston's Lance McCullers Jr. (40 percent fastball rate in 2017) and the Yankees' Masahiro Tanaka (26.4 percent) thrived with low fastball rates, Bauer has finally followed suit.

It's no coincidence to him that he's having the best season of his life.

Bauer has thrown his four- and two-seam fastballs less than 40 percent of the time this year — about a 10-point drop from his career average — and filled that gap mostly with sliders. He's baffling hitters like never before, ranking among the league leaders with a 2.50 ERA and 129 strikeouts — second only to Cole in the AL.

That 40-percent clip puts Bauer among the most infrequent fastball throwers, but he thinks the rest of the league may soon catch up by slowing down. Since pitch-type data was first recorded in 2002, the rate of four- and two-seam fastballs has shrunk steadily from 64.4 percent to 55.4 percent, according to data logged by FanGraphs. Meanwhile, average fastball velocity has risen from 89 mph to 92.6.

If the heat keeps getting hotter, Bauer thinks pitchers will cool it further on the fastballs. After all, other hurlers are going to notice the success that Cole and Bauer — former UCLA teammates — are having with the adjustment this season. Bauer suspects the league-wide fastball rate could drop as low as 40-45 percent before hitters finally adjust.

"You trap the hitters, basically, if you take that approach," Bauer said.

What do the hitters make of all that?

"Everybody can hit 98," is what they're saying," Frazier said. "But that isn't necessarily true. It's very hard to hit 98 with movement. I think sometimes pitchers overthink things."

NBA DRAFT

After electric year, Trae Young awaits the draft's call

BY TIM REYNOLDS

The Associated Press

Trae Young went into college basketball feeling like he had something to prove to his doubters.

A year later, here he goes again.

Young was the most electrifying player in the college game this past season, his stellar numbers in his only season at Oklahoma more than silencing anyone who felt like he wasn't elite. And now he expects that he'll need to prove himself once again, starting right when his name gets called in Thursday night's NBA draft.

"I'll always have a chip on my shoulder," Young said, "until I hang my shoes up."

That chip served him well at Oklahoma, when he led the nation with averages of 27.4 points and 8.7 assists per game. He'll be snagged in the lottery on Thursday, by a team that apparently will be willing to turn its offense over to a 6-foot-2 guard who tries

to emulate Steve Nash and counts Rod Strickland as one of his many mentors.

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YOUNG

RECRUITING CORNER

Linebacker Lytle down to Clemson, Wisconsin

Linebacker **Spencer Lytle** of Bellflower, Calif., has seen enough.

He took an official visit to Wisconsin and an unofficial visit to Clemson in the last week, and he cancelled a planned official visit to Notre Dame for this past week. Now he's ready to make a decision between the Tigers and Badgers by the end of July.

"In no order Clemson and Wisconsin are currently at the top," Lytle said. "I really could make a decision anytime between now and Aug. 1, but there is nothing scheduled right now."

He will sign in December and enroll in January.

Swansea High School LB **Greg Williams** was one of the impressive performers at Clemson's camp this month, so much so the Tigers offered him. He returned to campus with his dad on Thursday for a more detailed look at things as he weighs that opportunity to join the Tigers.

"They just want to make sure when I say I'm all in, I'm all in," Williams said. "They really want to work with me. He (Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney) said he wants to mold me into a great player because he believes I'm a great fit at Clemson."

Williams said the idea of committing did cross his mind, but he still wants to talk to his coaches and family before finalizing his plans. He also wants to spend time with his team at some 7-on-7 competitions and might go to some other camps.

Williams said he wants to make a decision by the end of the month with East Carolina, Missouri and Central Florida also under consideration.

Clemson is hoping to add another quarterback to the 2019 recruiting class, and the Tigers like the looks of former Wake Forest commitment **Brendon Clark** (6-feet-2-inches, 209 pounds) of Midlothian, Va.

They'll have to beat out the likes of ND, North Carolina and Virginia Tech to land him. He visited Clemson earlier this month.

According to stats from *MaxPreps*, Clark was the ninth leading passer in the state of Virginia last season with 2,006 yards. He completed 61 percent of his attempts with 28 touchdowns and just four interceptions. He also runs well, so he sees a good fit in the Clemson offense.

"Obviously we run a lot of the same routes that they run, kind of the quick game stuff, and I can spread the ball down the field," Clark said.

Clark took an unofficial visit to VT on Thursday, an official to ND Friday through Sunday and an unofficial to UNC on Sunday.

Clark said he is looking for a school that can develop him as a QB, and Clemson's current QB room is not a turnoff to him.

"It doesn't really matter to me," he said. "The only thing I can do is go in there and work as hard as I can, and if I start, I start, and if I don't I'm just going to keep working and trying to get better."

He has set July 4 for his next commitment announcement.

Defensive back **Jalyn Phillips** of Lawrenceville, Ga., said he has made his decision. He had a final five of Clemson, Alabama, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Southern California. He was offered by Clemson earlier this month in camp. At this point he is scheduled to announce on Aug. 20.

DB **Shyheim Battle** of Rocky Mount, N.C., was back at Clemson last week for a Swinney camp, another chance to interact with the coaches and another chance for them to gauge him in action at cornerback. Battle feels he impressed the coaches again, and the Tigers remain at the top of his list along with North Carolina State.

Battle said Clemson wants him to return for the All-In Cookout in late July.

"(Assistant) Coach (Mike) Reed said he wanted to go ahead and try to get a commit in, but I told him I'm just taking my time right now. I'm just taking all of my visits right now and stuff like that," Battle said.

Battle also visited NCSU and UNC last week. He might try to work in a visit to Ohio State, but it's the Tigers and NCSU still at the head of the pack with not much separating them.

"I'm still in between, not leaning too much anywhere," Battle said. "Fifty-50." He has set Dec. 15 for his commitment announcement.

Hanahan High's **Cooper Dawson** (6-5, 245) participated in a Swinney camp earlier this month as a defensive end. Unfortunately, he tore his anterior cruciate ligament and will miss his senior season. Last week, Clemson contacted him with an offer -- as an offensive tackle.

"A month ago, I probably would've said, 'Heck, no,' but I've gotten three



Phil Kornblut

offers now for offensive tackle," Dawson said. "The coaches keep saying, 'We can put you in the (National Football) League if you try as an offensive tackle.' It's something that I've got to consider."

Dawson also has offers from Colorado State, Coastal Carolina, Appalachian State, Army, Navy, UCF, South Florida and Old Dominion.

Offensive lineman **JD Duplain** of Strongsville, Ohio, visited Clemson last week. His offers include Boston College, Indiana, Michigan State and Arkansas.

Clemson is in the top six with OL **Trevor Keegan** of Crystal Lake, Ill.. The others are Penn State, Ohio State, Michigan, Georgia and Alabama.

Clemson offered '20 QB **DJ Niagalelei** of Bellflower, Calif., while he was at camp on Wednesday. He was offered by UGA last Tuesday and by Auburn on Saturday.

Savell Small, a '20 LB from Seattle was offered by Clemson at camp last Wednesday. Some of his other offers are Alabama, Florida State, Southern Cal, Washington, Stanford, UGA, Louisiana State, ND and Oregon.

Reggie Grimes, a '20 DE from Mount Juliet, Tenn., was offered by Clemson while at camp on Thursday.

USC

DB **Johnny Dixon** of Tampa, Fla., made his official visit to USC over the weekend, the next step in his long running relationship with USC, which gave him his first offer.

"It was good; I liked everything about it," Dixon said. "Everything the coaches were saying was genuine because I hung out with the players, and they said the same thing about the coaches."

He also got a message from the coaches he was excited to hear.

"The coaches aren't scared to play me," he said.

USC is in Dixon's final five along with PSU, Miami, Alabama and Ohio State. He's not in a rush on a decision because he's not signing early. He has an official set with PSU for late September and might squeeze one in this summer to Miami, if not, during the season.

"Everything is the same," Dixon said. "They're still in the same place. I've always liked South Carolina."

DB **Chris Steele** of Bellflower, Calif., also made an official visit to USC over the weekend. That was his second visit with USC. He took an unofficial visit in March. Steele also has taken official visits to Oklahoma, LSU and Florida and is scheduled to visit Southern Cal this weekend. He plans to announce a commitment on July 7.

DB **Jaydon Hill** of Madison, Ala., made an unofficial visit to USC over the weekend, and USC remains a strong player with him.

"I'm one of the top guys they want to take in this class," Hill said. "He (defensive coordinator Travaris Robinson) is actually saying he develops DBs and nobody does it better than him. He said he's just the guy. My relationship with the coaches stands out a lot. I just know the history and defenses and the (NFL) first-rounders they've produced, (head) Coach (Will) Muschamp and T-Rob."

Hill said right now USC and Tennessee are neck and neck and he also visited Tennessee recently. He also added an offer from UF on Saturday. He's looking at some time in August for making his decision.

DB **Jammie Robinson** of Cordele, Ga., a frequent visitor to USC, was back for an overnight stay on Friday. That was his second visit of the month to Columbia. Two weeks ago he was in for his official visit.

Robinson said he has a final four now of USC, UGA, Auburn and Michigan. USC has long been among his favorites, and this visit didn't hurt the Gamecocks' cause.

"It helped South Carolina out a little more," he said. "Just them welcoming me on campus anytime I want to come up is pretty nice."

Robinson was at UGA recently for a 7-on-7 and also got the recruiting treatment from UGA. He is planning a return visit to UGA this weekend and also plans to get to Auburn over the weekend. He also wants to visit Michigan at some point as well.

"I'm just taking my time with it," he said. "Hopefully I'll have a decision by the season; if not, I'll wait until (December) signing day."

He said there is no leader among the four at this point.

USC QB commitment **Ryan Hilinski** was offered last week by Southern Cal after a camp. Much was written about that on the west coast, leading to nationwide speculation about which USC

Hilinski prefers.

"I've been recruiting for South Carolina up until today," Hilinski explained. "I'm still recruiting after I got the other USC offer. I was texting guys after the camp. If that tells you all you need to know; I think that explains itself really."

It's a great offer for me. It's definitely meaningful and it shows that all my hard work is paying off for sure. But right now, of course, I'm committed to South Carolina, and it's going to take a whole lot to change that. But if someone wants to put their best foot forward and try that, they can, but it's definitely going to take a lot because I'm committed 100 percent right now, and I'm recruiting my butt off."

Hilinski and his mom visited on USC Thursday through Saturday. Hilinski took his official visit to USC in April, and he said at this point he has no plans to schedule any other official visits.

DB **Cam Smith** of Westwood High in Blythewood competed at UGA's camp last week and walked out of Athens with an offer from head coach Kirby Smart. UGA join USC, Tennessee and UNC in his top four. He has camped at USC and UNC and has visited Tennessee. He will visit ECU.

USC continues to show strong interest, Smith said, with regular contact from the coaches.

"Coach Muschamp texts me and my mom almost every day, talking about the academics and the progress on the new football operations (building) and all the stuff like that," Smith said. "He keeps us updated on everything basically. I stay in touch with Coach T-Rob a lot too."

Smith has set Aug. 17 for his announcement, and he doesn't have a favorite among his four. He said his plan is to sign and graduate early.

Placekicker **Ryan Fitzgerald** of Moultrie, Ga., competed at USC's kicker camp on Saturday. He said he had the longest kickoff at 75 yards and was a finalist in the punt competition.

USC got a visit last week from running back **Tahj Gary** of Atlanta. USC is in his top eight.

Athlete **Cameron Wynn** of Chattanooga, Tenn., has USC in his top 10 along with Maryland, UF, VT, ND, Mississippi State, Louisville, Mississippi and West Virginia.

Wide receiver **Keveon Mullins** named a final four of USC, UGA, Louisville and his hometown Memphis Tigers. He was at USC for camp last week, and he visited Louisville on Friday. He also picked up an Arkansas offer on Saturday.

Ta'Chawn Brooks, a '20 recruit from Dutch Fork High in Irmo, camped at USC on Friday. He measures at 6-4, 275 pounds and ran a 4.9 40-yard dash at Wofford's camp. He's being recruited as an OT. He camped at Auburn on Saturday and Oregon State also is showing interest. He also camped at Kentucky.

USC offered '20 RB **Brian Branch** of Tyrone, Ga. He also lists offers from Louisville, ECU and Indiana. USC offered '20 RB **Tirek Murphy** of Middle Village, N.Y. Some other offers for him are Tennessee, Pittsburgh, Michigan, Duke, BC and Baylor.

USC offered '20 RB **Lamy Constant** of Brooklyn, N.Y. He also counts offers from Tennessee, UF, Texas A&M, Duke, LSU, Baylor, WF, BC and others.

USC offered '21 RB **Dylan Betts-Pauley** of Hoover, Ala., and '21 ATH **Will Shipley** of Weddington, N.C. He also has offers from Duke and WF.

USC OL target Anthony Whigan of Lackawanna Junior College in Pennsylvania added offers from Arkansas and Oklahoma. Whigan has taken an official visit to USC, and USC is working him hard.

"I talk to (OL) Coach (Eric) Wolford almost ever day," Whigan said. "We talk about everything. They're just happy that I got a chance to come down and visit them and they have a need for an older offensive tackle."

He recently visited Louisville officially and he has not set any more of official visits though he's talked about seeing Ole Miss and PSU during the season. He's still looking at September or October for a decision.

CLEMSON AND USC

DE **Dal'Mont Gourdin** of Garrett Academy in North Charleston has offers from Nebraska, UCF, Coastal, Troy, Florida International, Georgia State and others. He camped at Clemson last week, hoping to add the Tigers to his list. He also visited Clemson for a spring practice and the spring game.

"I think I need to show them that I'm as good as any player in (the) 5A (classification)," Gourdin said. "Just because my school is 2A, I think that's the reason why they haven't offered. It would be very special because it's in-state."

Gourdin also went to UCF's spring game and has also visited Georgia State. He said he's also hearing some

from USC. Gourdin, who had 15 QB sacks last season, said UCF is his favorite at this point.

WR **Jalin Hyatt** of Dutch Fork landed camp offers this month from VT and Duke. He's also been to USC and Clemson camps and has impressed all with his speed. USC and the Tigers both told him they are interested. Hyatt said he's also looking at Tennessee for an unofficial visit in the near future. Hyatt had 49 receptions for 937 yards and 13 TDs for a 5A state championship team last season.

The NCSU website *InsidePack-Sports* reported LB/RB **Quavaris Crouch** will visit NCSU today. He reportedly was at Michigan on Saturday and was at Tennessee last week. USC and Clemson are two others in pursuit.

LB **Kalen DeLoach**, who has Clemson and USC offers, told *BamaOnline* he will visit Alabama on Friday for the Champions Cookout. He also said he will take official visits to Michigan, Alabama, Auburn and FSU. He went to spring games for both USC and Clemson and has had them listed among his favorites. He also took an unofficial visit to USC.

USC offered '20 WR **Ze'Vian Capers** of Alpharetta, Ga. He also has offers from Clemson, Arkansas and Louisville.

OTHERS

Lakewood High QB **Malik Richardson** was offered by ECU.

WR **Jacoby Pinckney** of Dorman High in Roebuck named his final four as UGA, Michigan, Alabama and VT.

DB/WR **Kenney Solomon** of Socastee High in Myrtle Beach was offered by UCF after camping there. Some of his other offers are Charlotte, Marshall, Coastal and Miami (Ohio).

OL **Daylen Powell** of Summerville High committed to Western Kentucky.

ATH **Jalon Calhoun** of Southside High in Greenville committed to Georgia Tech. Calhoun plays QB but has been recruited primarily as a WR. Some of his other offers are PSU, ECU, Coastal, Furman, Mercer, The Citadel, Wofford and Charlotte.

Saluda High LB **Raqueon Hartley** committed to Middle Tennessee State.

Greenville High QB **Davis Beville** committed to Pitt.

BASKETBALL

Zane Martin, a 6-4 transfer from Towson, reportedly was to visit Clemson over the weekend. He is not a graduate transfer and would have to sit out this season.

Martin averaged nearly 20 points per game last season and declared for the National Basketball Association draft but did not retain an agent and eventually withdrew. He played two seasons at Towson. He reportedly will decide between Clemson, Gonzaga, Seton Hall and New Mexico.

USC target **AJ Lawson**, a 6-7 player from Mississauga, Ontario, had 18 points and 12 rebounds in a 113-74 loss by his Canadian National Team to the United States in the gold medal game of the FIBA U18 Americas Championship played on Saturday. Lawson took an official to USC in late May. Creighton, Southern Methodist and Oregon are also involved.

In the same game, 6-6 '19 recruit **Jo-siah James** of Porter-Gaud in Charleston had nine points and eight rebounds for the USA. He's a Clemson and USC target.

Juwain Gary, a 6-6 '19 recruit from Gray Collegiate in Columbia, will take unofficial visits this summer to his final five schools of USC, Clemson, Alabama, NCSU and VT. He has been to Alabama and NCSU thus far, and he will visit VT at the end of this month. He will later take visits to Clemson and USC. He will take official visits in the fall before making his decision. Gary said he doesn't have a favorite from his final five at this point.

USC target **Brandon Stone**, a 6-11 '19 recruit, took an official visit to La Salle over the weekend. He has an official visit to PSU set for September.

According to a tweet by *GetMeRecruited*, the USC women offered 5-6 eighth-grader **Lisa Thompson** of Plainfield, Ill.

BASEBALL

USC landed a commitment from shortstop **Quintin Perez** of Hancock JC in California. He had a .367 batting average with 12 doubles, three home runs and 18 runs batted in this season. He also stole 10 bases in 12 attempts. He committed 13 errors in 31 games with a .906 fielding percentage.

USC also gained a commitment for the '18 class from outfielder **Andrew Eyster** (6-3 190) of Ocala, Fla. He played last season at Sante Fe JC in Florida and hit .412 with 13 HRs and 53 RBI. He was a 32nd-round pick in the Major League Baseball draft earlier this month and a 27th-round pick out of high school.

COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

BY ERIC OLSON

The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Go bananas, Mississippi State Bulldogs! You're one win away from the College World Series finals.

Jordan Westburg hit a grand slam, doubled and drove in seven runs and Mississippi State continued its surprise postseason surge by beating North Carolina 12-2 on Tuesday.

The Bulldogs (39-27), with two wins at the CWS, are off until Friday. Win then or on Saturday, and they'll be playing for the national championship next week.

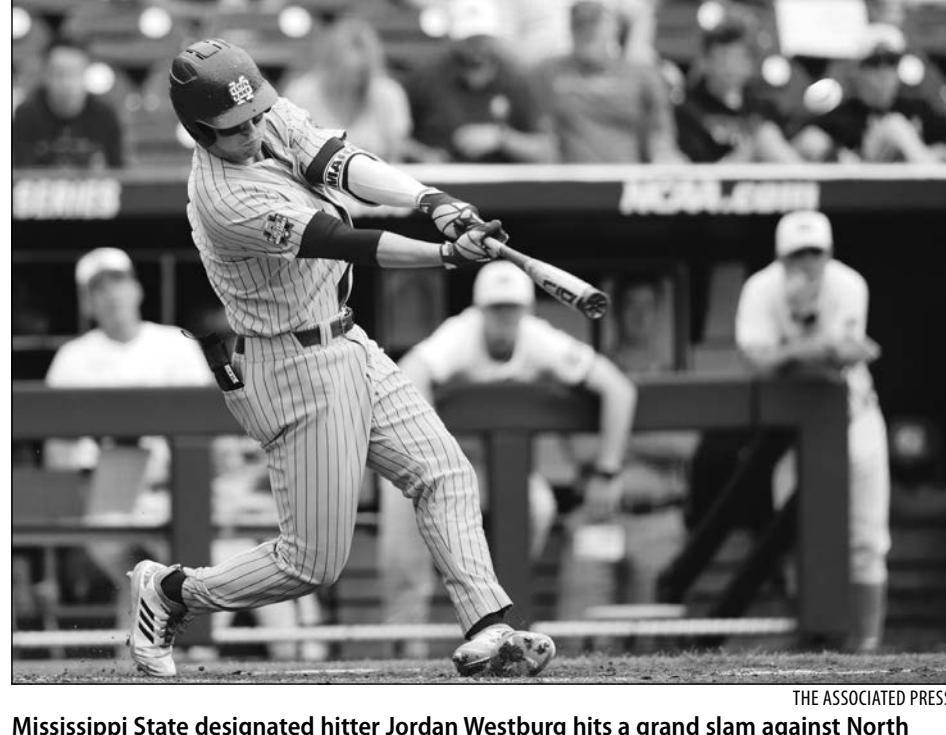
This game was all about Westburg, the freshman who two weeks ago came up with the "Rally Banana" that's become the Bulldogs' good-luck charm in the NCAA Tournament. His seven RBIs, on the slam in the second inning and three-run double in the eighth, tied a CWS record.

"I think we had a good banana today. That's all I can say," Westburg deadpanned.

Westburg crushed a breaking pitch Austin Bergner left hanging, and the ball landed in the seats above the left-field bullpen for a 4-1 lead.

When Westburg returned to the dugout, a teammate handed him his Rally Banana.

Westburg came up with the Bulldogs' alternate mascot during a re-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mississippi State designated hitter Jordan Westburg hits a grand slam against North Carolina in the second inning of the Bulldogs' 12-2 victory on Monday in the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

gional game against Oklahoma on June 3. The Bulldogs were struggling when he went into the tunnel and grabbed a banana. Instead of eating it, he put it on his head in hopes of turning the Bulldogs' luck. It must have worked. Mississippi State won, Westburg and his banana got some TV

time, and the meme took off.

Since then, Westburg has been the curator of the fruit. (No, it's not the same banana every game.)

He's put sunscreen and bug spray on it. He's wrapped one in a towel, as if it were relaxing at a spa. Sometimes Westburg or a teammate puts the ba-

nana up to his face like a mustache; other times it's a faux radar gun.

A couple Mississippi State fans have been dressed up in banana outfits, others wear Rally Banana T-shirts, and the Bulldogs have received best wishes from banana producers Dole and Chiquita.

"If you're going to do all the shenanigans in the dugout," Westburg said, "you might have to step it up on the field and back that up. It was nice to do that today."

FLORIDA 6

TEXAS 1

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Jackson Kowar struck out a career-high 13 in 6 2/3 innings, Jonathan India hit a three-run homer and defending national champion Florida eliminated Texas from the College World Series with a 6-1 win on Tuesday.

Kowar (10-5) held the Longhorns scoreless on five hits, mixing his changeup with a fastball still touching the mid-90s deep into his season-high 121-pitch afternoon.

The Kansas City Royals' first-round draft pick struck out the side in the third and sixth innings and broke his previous high of 11 Ks he set against TCU in the CWS last year. He became the first pitcher with 13 strikeouts in a CWS game since 2010 and, according to ESPN, the first in 40 years to do it in fewer than seven innings.

OBITUARIES

PAULINE ENZOR OSBORNE

Pauline "Polly" Enzor Osborne, beloved friend of many and a former top Columbia Realtor, died peacefully on

Wednesday, June 13, 2018, of natural causes at age 94.

She will be remembered for her generosity, her work ethic, her beautiful smile and the many large and small ways she touched our lives.

Polly was born on Sept. 28, 1923, in the Spring Branch farming community of Horry County, the seventh child of her seventh-child father, Quinton Montrose Enzor, and his wife, Leona Joyner Enzor.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her two sisters, Jennie Lovette of Lumberton and Irene Luther of Nichols; and seven brothers, Ernest and Luther of Nichols, Roscoe, Elmer and Cecil of Fair Bluff, North Carolina, Austin Fentrice of Eden, North Carolina, and Carroll of Florence.

She is survived by her "little brother," Herman Enzor; her two children, Austin Edwin Floyd of Sumter and Rachel Floyd Harjes (John) of Columbia; four grandchildren, Kathy Floyd Goodwin and Kim McGinnis of Sumter, Chris Harjes (Natalie) of Asheville, North Carolina, and Heather Harjes of Charlotte, North Carolina; six great-grandchildren, Lindsey McGinnis Havenga (Jakes) and Rebecca McGinnis of Taylors, Kayla Floyd and Miranda Goodwin of Sumter, and Via and Zeb Harjes of Asheville; and two great-great-grandchildren, Hallie and Coby Havenga of Taylors.

Polly, who grew up during the Depression, loved telling and writing stories about growing up "in the old days," and about adventures with her two sisters and eight brothers, including several mischievous pranksters who argued for years about who was really "the ring leader."

She was known for her work ethic, telling well-meaning activities directors "What do I like to do? I like to work." Even at 90, she could outlast most younger people in the yard or garden.

She graduated from Floyds High School, where she lettered in track one year and basketball four years, being named All-Conference in basketball. She attended North Greenville Junior College for one semester before marrying and having children.

In 1964 she moved to Columbia, where she worked at the Market Restaurant, where she was named South Carolina Waitress of the Year in 1968 by the SC Restaurant Association, and then at the Flaming Pit. She also was part owner



OSBORNE

of Rigby's Restaurant.

In 1976, she joined Bob Capes Realtors, where she was their top producer in 1983 and 1988 at the respective ages of 60 and 65. She then joined RE/MAX Realtors in 1993, retiring in June 1999 at the age of 75, after 23 years in real estate. She earned both GRI and CRS certifications and was a lifetime member of the Columbia Board of Realtors Million Dollar Club. She was honored by the Columbia Sales and Marketing Executives Association, Who's Who in American Women, and Tribune to Women in Industry. At RE/MAX she marketed using postcards featuring pictures of her four great-grandchildren, Lindsey, Rebecca, Kayla and Miranda.

Polly's primary lifetime devotion was to her family. She kept in close contact with her 10 siblings and coordinated almost yearly reunions, with many at the Duford House and then at the Polly House at Spring Branch. All have benefited from her commitment to sharing food, fun and photos with all since her teens.

Polly's kind heart and generosity were legendary. Unable to afford a bike as a child, she finally bought her own in 1965, then donated one annually to Epworth Children's Home for many years.

More important than these "things," Polly gave, especially to her grandchildren and great-grands, the gift of time and the everyday "simple things" that make memories and happy childhoods. Chris and Heather loved going to Morrison's Cafeteria, then the toy store and book store, then Cromer's to watch the monkeys and buy peanuts to be fed to the squirrels and pigeons at the State House.

Kathy and Kim also loved Cromer's and the State House, along with playing grocery store with Polly's pantry items and loose change. They also enjoyed swimming and skiing at the Lake Murray retreat, sleeping on the feather mattresses at the Caesar's Head mountain house, and riding the Gator at Spring Branch.

Lindsey, Rebecca, Kayla and Miranda took joy in playing on and painting the playhouse at Polly's Hopkins home, sliding and digging in the sand pile, riding scooters on the driveway, making rock dams in the stream, frying shrimp over candles, riding mall escalators and shopping at Target.

Thanks to Polly's angel granddaughter, Kathy Goodwin, for coordinating loving 24/7 care since October 2017.

Our gratitude to Polly for her long life of contributing to the happiness and character of our children and the well-being of us all. She will be missed.

To honor Polly's memory, please consider donating to your local animal rescue shelter or donate to the Polly Osborne Endowed Scholarship at USC Sumter (established by Austin). For information, call or email Vicki Singleton at (803) 938-3782 or singlev@uscsumter.edu.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the 3926 Devine St. Chapel of Dunbar Funeral Home in Columbia. Email rharjes@aol.com to submit a memory or statement to go in the program.

Please view and/or sign the online guestbook or view the full obituary at <https://www.mearesfuneralhome.com/notices/PaulinePolly-Osborne>.

MARY DAVIS

MANNING — Mary Davis, 66, died Saturday, June 15, 2018. She was born Oct. 29, 1951, in Clarendon County, a daughter of the late Thomas

Johnson and Evelyn Pugh Johnson.

Funeral services for Mrs. Davis will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at Mt. Zero Missionary Baptist Church, 7827 Paxville Highway, Manning.

The Rev. Jeffery Jackson, pastor, officiating; the Rev. Lillian Wright, presiding; and Minister Shirley Sterlings, Bishop O. W. Prince and the Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Richburg, assisting. Burial will follow in the churchyard cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at her residence, 108 Richard St., Manning.

These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC.

THERESA R. HUGHES

FLORENCE — Theresa Rush Hughes, 86, widow of David Hughes, died Friday, June 15, 2018, at Carolinas Hospital Systems.

She was born Nov. 28, 1931, a daughter of the late Hillard Rush and Elvira Rush.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Hayes F. Samuels Sr.

Memorial Chapel, 114 N. Church St., Manning. Burial will follow in Rush Cemetery.

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

COLUR T. STERLING

Colur Nadine Tindal Sterling, 99, died on Thursday, June 14, 2018, in Cambridge, Maryland.

She was born in Sumter to the late Sarah and William Henry Tindal.

She will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

This is a courtesy announcement by Sumter Funeral Service Inc.

Ellen began her career as

ROVENA B. WATSON

On Wednesday, June 13, 2018, Rovena Brunson Watson, widow of the late Otis Watson, exchanged her rugged cross for her precious crown at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on May 26, 1925, in Manning, she was a daughter of the late Willis and Mary Magdalene Johnson Brunson and stepdaughter of the late Sallie James Brunson.

Service of remembrance will take place on Thursday at 1 p.m. at Society Hill AME Church, 1030 Morello Road, S.C. 260 South in the Jordan Community of Manning, where the Rev. Marie Marvin, pastor of the Historic Laurel Hill AME Church, will preside. Words of hope will come from the Rev. Dr. Mary Rhodes, pastor of Society Hill AME Church. The service of committal will follow in the family plot in the Society Hill AME Church Cemetery.

The family is receiving relatives and friends from 4 to 8 p.m. at the residence of her daughter, Ruth Ann Watson, of 1764 Bonanza Crossing, Jordan Community of Manning.

Fleming & DeLaine Funeral Home and Chapel of Manning is in charge of these services. Online condolences for the family may be sent to www.flemingdelaine.com or flemingdelaine@aol.com.

SHIRLEY A. SIMMONS

Shirley A. Simmons, 69, wife of Elder Robert Simmons, entered into eternal rest Saturday, June 16, 2018, at Palmetto Heart Hospital in Columbia.

Born in Richland County on May 18, 1949, she was the daughter of the late Wesley and Rosa Blanks.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 1000 Dover Circle, from 3 to 8 p.m.

Ephriam D. Stephens Funeral, 230 S. Lafayette Drive, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 775-8911. "Where Dignity is the Watchword."

ELLEN "IDA LEE" LEE BRUNSON

Ellen "Ida Lee" Lee Brunson, 71, departed this journey of life from multiple medical conditions on the evening of Wednesday, June 13, 2018. She was born on March 25, 1947, in Lee County, the fourth of 12 children of the late Ella Louise Williams and Hayes Lawson. She received her early childhood education in the public schools of Lee County.

She married at an early age and had three children in her first union with the late James Lesane Jr. She later adopted one of her grandchildren in her second union to Henry Moreno. She began working in the local hotels and restaurants in Sumter until she relocated to Washington, D.C.

Ellen began her career as

a dietitian at George Washington University Hospital for six years. As a compassionate care provider, she furthered her education at Automation Academy of Baltimore and Catonsville Community College to receive her certificates as a nurse's aide/geriatric aide and nursing support technician. She worked at various nursing homes before providing 10 years of patient care at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. She later became a taxi driver for two cab companies in Baltimore before returning to South Carolina. She returned to cooking and patient care at Greene Nursing Home and A Step Above In-Home Care.

When she returned to S.C., Ellen and Norwood Brunson finally married each other to become husband and wife. Ellen also returned to her family's home church, Mt. Sinai in Mayesville, in 2001. She dedicated her life to Jesus Christ and joined Bethany Missionary Baptist Church in 2011. Ellen was a devoted member who regularly attended Bible study, Sunday School and other services. She served faithfully as a trustee, a missionary and pastor's aide for Bethany Missionary Baptist Church.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her husband, Norwood Brunson Sr.; a son, Eric (Lisa) Lesane of Baltimore; stepsons, James (Clarissa) Brunson and Jasmin Brunson of Sumter; daughters, Chaplain (Major) Linda Lesane of Enterprise, Alabama, and Demesha Moreno of Atlanta; stepdaughters Sylvia (George) Maddox of Prattville, Alabama, Rosa (Kenneth) Pack of Gable, Dylena (Frederick) Wells of Mayesville and Gloria (Elijah) of Sumter; one sister, Elder Shirley (Willie) Battle of District Heights, Maryland; eight sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law; 11 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, 19 step-grandchildren, 21 step-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 125 W. Bartlette St., Apartment 308, Sumter.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. at Bethany Missionary Baptist Church, 350 E. Red Bay Road, Sumter, with the Rev. Daryl F. McGhaney, pastor, eulogist.

The remains will be placed in the church at 1 p.m. for viewing until time of services.

The procession will leave from the home at 1:20 p.m.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter. Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williams-funeralhome@sc.rr.com. Visit us at www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com.

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Sumter County Museum seeks FT Education & Visitor Services Manager. Position is responsible for development, implementation, & management of educational programs. Position will also oversee daily visitor experience & maintain membership database. Must have background in history & education with at least 3 years of experience in related field.

Submit resume and cover letter to P.O. Box 1456, Sumter, SC 29151 or arivers@sumtercountymuseum.org

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, PS Orange Co. Inc. will sell at public lien sale on June 28, 2018, the personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: household and personal items, office and other equipment. The public sale of these items will begin at 09:30 AM and continue until all units are sold.

PUBLIC STORAGE # 08604, 1277 Camden Hwy Sumter, SC 29133 (803) 469-4434 Time: 02:00 PM

A015 - Evans, Aquia; A021 - Hood, James; B021 - Bratton, Ruth; B076 - Graves, Tanikka; C029 - Geddings, Christopher; C045 - Polite, Elvira; C063 - Swinton, Genard; D016 - Evans, Victoria; D018 - Washington, Takesha; D020 - Cabbagestalk, Melvin; D044 - Taylor, Devin; E003 - Bratton, Tracy; F027 - Hargrove, Kenneth; F045 - Jones, Eddie; G006 - Wilson, Shatara; G015 - Nelson, Jenitki; G036 - Jenkins, Doris; H002 - Fowler, Charlene; I010 - Dixon, Nicholas; J012 - Brailsford, Arnold; K013 - Mathis, Cheryl; OP08 - Shaw, Joe

PUBLIC STORAGE # 25924, 1143 N Guignard Dr, Sumter, SC 29150, (803) 773-4161 Time: 02:00 PM

I22 - Mayfield, Wilbur; 232 Gibson, Latanya; 407 - McCabe, Ashley; 428 - Alexander, Mary; 441 - Tyson, Desmond; 455 - Fernandez, Chasmin; 520 - Coleman, Jamelle; 557 - Muhammad, Rodrick; 705A - Johnson, Kristal; 706 - Brown, Thomas; 732 - Ross, Matthew; 740 - Mosley, William

PUBLIC STORAGE # 25925, 3785 Broad St, Sumter, SC 29154, (803) 494-9001 Time: 02:00 PM

0119 - Chambers, Laquanya; 0333 - Coplin, Sheila; 0416 - McCray, Kayla; 0422 - Hilton, Omar; 0701 - Maiorana, Angelo; 0719 - Ohue, Mary; 0842 - Wilson, Liz.

Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available prior to the sale. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be in cash or credit card-no checks. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By PS OrangeCo, Inc., 701 Western Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. (818) 244-3080.

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Summons & Notice

SUMMONS

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CIVIL ACTION NO: 2018-CP-43-00696

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Pamela A. Nance, PLAINTIFF,

vs.

Reyna Carolina Trostle, DEFENDANT.

TO THE DEFENDANT HEREIN NAMED:

You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint on the subscribers at their offices at 17 East Calhoun Street, Sumter, South Carolina, within thirty (30) days of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Complaint was filed in the above entitled action in the Sumter County Clerk of Court's Office on April 18, 2018, for the purpose of instituting an action against the Defendant as a result of an auto accident which occurred April 21, 2015.

BRYAN LAW FIRM OF SC, LLP.

John R. Moorman Attorney for the Plaintiff

17 East Calhoun Street

P.O. Box 2038

Summons & Notice

Summons, were filed with the Clerk of Court for Sumter County, South Carolina on August 19, 2016. Columbia, South Carolina 5/25/18 NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, you may have a right Foreclosure Intervention. To be considered for any available Foreclosure Intervention, you may communicate with and otherwise deal with the Plaintiff through its law firm, Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC. Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC represents the Plaintiff in this action. Our law firm does not represent you. Under our ethical rules, we are prohibited from giving you any legal advice. You must submit any requests for Foreclosure Intervention consideration within 30 days from the date you are served with this Notice. IF YOU FAIL, REFUSE, OR VOLUNTARILY ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION, THE FORECLOSURE ACTION MAY PROCEED. Columbia, South Carolina 5/25/18 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS COUNTY OF SUMTER DOCKET NO. 2016CP4301543 HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee in trust for Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust Inc., Asset Backed Pass Through Certificates Series 2003-HE4, Plaintiff, v. Jerlean T. Fulwood a/k/a Jerlean Tomlin; Matiel Johnson; Matilda Yvette Richardson, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Annette Tomlin Ceaser a/k/a Annette T. Ceaser; Any Heirs-At-Law or Devisees of Annette Tomlin Ceaser a/k/a Annette T. Ceaser, Deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe, by publication thereof in the The Item, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, together with the Summons in the above entitled action, s/Robert P. Davis Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF Robert P. Davis (SC Bar #74030), Robert.Davis@rtt-law.com Andrew W. Montgomery (SC Bar #79893), Andrew.Montgomery@rtt-law.com John J. Hearn (SC Bar # 6635), John.Hearn@rtt-law.com Kevin T. Brown (SC Bar # 064236), Kevin.Brown@rtt-law.com Jason D. Wyman (SC Bar # 100271),

Summons & Notice

AD LITEM NISI Deficiency Judgment Waived It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, upon reading the Motion for the appointment of Anne Bell Fant as Guardian Ad Litem Nisi for any unknown minors and persons who may be under a disability, it is ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 17, SCRCP, Anne Bell Fant, be and hereby is appointed Guardian Ad Litem Nisi on behalf of all unknown minors and all unknown persons under a disability, all of whom may have or may claim to have some interest in or claim to the real property commonly known as 3365 Tobias Rd, Acolita, SC 29001; that Anne Bell Fant is empowered and directed to appear on behalf of and represent said Defendant(s), unless the said Defendant(s), or someone on their behalf, shall within thirty (30) days after service of a copy hereof as directed, procure the appointment of a Guardian or Guardians Ad Litem for the said Defendant(s), and it is FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order shall forthwith be served upon the said Defendant(s). Any Heirs-At-Law or Devisees of Annette Tomlin Ceaser a/k/a Annette T. Ceaser, Deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe, by publication thereof in the The Item, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, together with the Summons in the above entitled action, s/Robert P. Davis Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF Robert P. Davis (SC Bar #74030), Robert.Davis@rtt-law.com Andrew W. Montgomery (SC Bar #79893), Andrew.Montgomery@rtt-law.com John J. Hearn (SC Bar # 6635), John.Hearn@rtt-law.com Kevin T. Brown (SC Bar # 064236), Kevin.Brown@rtt-law.com Jason D. Wyman (SC Bar # 100271),

Summons & Notice

Jason.Wyman@rtt-law.com John P. Fetner (SC Bar# 77460), John.Fetner@rtt-law.com Clark Dawson (SC Bar# 101714), Clark.Dawson@rtt-law.com 100 Executive Center Drive, Suite 201 Post Office Box 100200/29202 Columbia, SC 29210 (303) 744-4444 s/ James C. Campbell Clerk of Court for Sumter County Sumter, South Carolina (013263-08958) 5/30/18 A-4659649 06/06/2018, 06/13/2018, 06/20/2018

SUMMONS**IN THE FAMILY COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DOCKET NO: 2018-DR-43-0298****STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER**

DELILA W. TAYLOR, Plaintiff,
vs.
CHARLES R. TAYLOR, Defendant.

TO: THE DEFENDANT, CHARLES R. TAYLOR :

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified that an action has been filed against you in this Court. Within thirty (30) days of the day you receive this Summons, you must respond in writing to this Complaint by filing an Answer with this Court. You must also serve a copy of your Answer to this Complaint upon the Plaintiff or the Plaintiff's Attorney at the address shown below. If you fail to answer the Complaint, judgment by default could be rendered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

Plaintiff complains of the Defendant as follows:

1. Plaintiff and Defendant are husband and wife, having been married on April 5, 2013.

2. No child was born of the marriage and none is expected.

3. Plaintiff and Defendant are citizens and residents of the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, having been so for at least three months prior to the institution of this

action.

4. This Court has subject matter and in personam jurisdiction over the parties, and venue is proper before this Court.

FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION: (Divorce upon the Grounds of Habitual Drunkenness and/or Habitual Drug Use, and/or One Year Continuous Separation)

5. The above allegations are incorporated herein by reference.

6. During the marriage, Defendant had a fixed habit of habitually abusing alcohol to the point of intoxication and/or passing out.

7. Defendant also had a habit of smoking marijuana and consumed and abused this substance until the parties separation or about January 2016 when Defendant was removed from the former marital residence due to his habitual use of intoxicants.

8. The parties have not cohabitated since January 2016.

9. Plaintiff seeks a Decree of Divorce from the Defendant upon the ground of habitual drunkenness and/or habitual drug use, or in the alternative, one year of continuous separation.

FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION: (Bar to Alimony)

10. The above allegations are incorporated herein by reference.

11. Defendant is able-bodied and capable of self-support.

12. Plaintiff is able-bodied and capable of self-support.

13. Defendant is currently residing with his live-in girlfriend.

14. Based upon the length of the marriage, together with other factors enumerated under the South Carolina s, Defendant should be permanently barred from receiving alimony from the Plaintiff, both temporarily and permanently.

FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION: (Restraining Orders)

15. The above allegations are incorporated herein by reference.

16. Due to the Defendant's abusive conduct during the marriage, including verbal and emotional abuse upon the Plaintiff, together with the history or physical assault upon Plaintiff, as well as threats of

endangering her life, Plaintiff seeks permanent Restraining Orders of and against Defendant prohibiting any form of contact whatsoever for any reason, both temporarily and permanently.

FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION: (Resume Use of Maiden Name)

17. The above allegations are incorporated by reference.

18. Plaintiff seeks to resume the use of her maiden name of Walker.

19. Plaintiff asserts that she is not doing so for any fraudulent purpose, to avoid prosecution, or that she is on any terrorist or other offender list in order to avoid prosecution thereof.

FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION: (Attorney Fees, Suit Money and Costs)

20. The above allegations are incorporated by reference.

21. Due to the conduct of Defendant as alleged herein, the Plaintiff is entitled to an award of attorney fees, suit money and costs due to his marital fault causing the breakup of the marriage. Plaintiff further asserts that there is no property to divide between the parties, but should Defendant seek equitable distribution or special equity. Plaintiff further requests that the Court consider an award of attorney's fees and costs against Defendant.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that she be granted all relief contained herein, together with such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Carrie A. Warner
P.O. Box 6306
Columbia, SC 29260
(803) 799-3074 Office
(803) 252-3548 Facsimile
Attorney for Plaintiff

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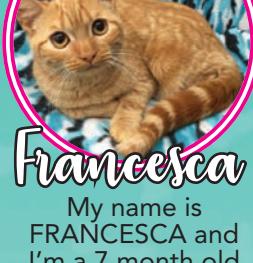
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My name is YOGI and I'm a 1 year old brown male Lab mix.



My name is FRANCESCA and I'm a 7 month old orange tabby female American shorthair.



My name is HAMILTON and I'm a 6 month old tan and black male Shepherd/Boxer mix.



My name WILLIAM and I'm a 9 week old gray tabby male American shorthair.



My name is MEG and I'm a 1 year old blond female Lab mix.



My name is ELLIE MAE and I'm a 6 month old tortoiseshell/tabby female American shorthair.



My name is KERWIN and I'm a 6 month old black and white male Lab mix.



My name is MAX and I'm a 9 week old gray tabby and white male Manx/American shorthair.



My name is SABRE and I'm a 6 month old black and white male Lab/Collie/Sheltie mix.



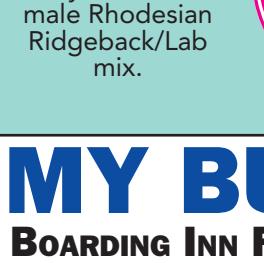
My name is BOOGER and I'm a 5 year old black male American shorthair.



My name is STITCH and I'm a 1 year old black and white male Pit/Hound mix.



My name is CHABLIS and I'm a 1 year old silver tabby female domestic longhair.



My name is KARMA and I'm a 5 year old tan male Rhodesian Ridgeback/Lab mix.



My name is MAGGIE and I'm a 7 week old orange tabby and white female American shorthair.



My name is NIXON and I'm a 7 month old brindle and white male Lab mix.



My name is HYATT and I'm a 7 week old gray tabby male American shorthair.

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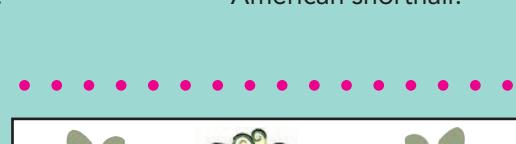
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SALES HOURS

How far away was that lightning?

BY BECKY BOLINGER
Colorado State University
The Conversation

You probably do it. It might be ingrained from when you were a kid, and now it's almost automatic. You see the flash of lightning — and you immediately start counting the seconds till it thunders.

But does counting really get you a good estimate for how far away the lightning is? Is this one of those old wives' tales, or is it actually based on science? In this case, we have physics to thank for this quick and easy — and pretty accurate — calculation.

So what happens when a big storm rolls in? The lightning you see is the discharge of electricity that travels between clouds or to the ground. The thunder you hear is the rapid expansion of the air in response to the lightning's intense heat.

If you're really close to the lightning, you will see it and hear the thunder simultaneously. But when it's far away, you see and hear the event at different times. That's because light travels much faster than sound. Think of sitting in the nosebleed seats at a baseball game. You see the batter hit the ball a second before you hear the crack of the bat.

When observing an event on Earth, you see things almost the instant they happen — the speed of light is so fast you can't even detect the

travel time. The speed of sound is much slower, which gives us time to do our calculation.

Let's simplify the speed equation: Sound travels a little more than 700 miles per hour, or 700 miles in 3,600 seconds. That means 7 miles traveled every 36 seconds. Make this even easier and round down to 7 miles every 35 seconds... or 1 mile every 5 seconds! Count to 5: If you hear thunder, the lightning occurred within 1 mile.

Now that you know how far away that lightning strike was, is it far enough to be a safe distance from the storm? That's actually a trick question. Thunder can be heard up to 25 miles away, and lightning strikes have been documented to occur as far as 25 miles from thunderstorms — known as a "bolt from the blue." So if you can hear thunder, you're close enough to be hit by lightning, and sheltering indoors or in an enclosed car is your safest bet.

And don't count on the folk wisdom that lightning never strikes the same place twice to protect you. That one is just plain wrong. For example, lightning strikes the top of the Empire State Building an average of 23 times per year.

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



Got indigestion?



A2 milk is displayed on the shelf at The Fresh Market in Latham, New York. So-called A2 milk is showing up on more supermarket shelves.

This subset of cows could solve your milk problem

BY MICHAEL HILL
Associated Press

MORAVIA, N.Y. — Milk got your stomach feeling sour?

Dairy companies looking for ways to appeal to people who avoid milk because of indigestion are promoting what they describe as a natural, easier-drinking alternative. It's called A2 milk, which is produced by a subset of cows that produce milk lacking a protein that backers say is associated with milk's dyspeptic tendencies.

That A2 claim has its skeptics, but the bet is that consumers will pay an extra dollar or more per half-gallon to drink milk that might not cause indigestion, gas and bloating.

"Our approach has been, 'Listen, if you thought you had trouble with milk, try our A2 milk because you may be able to have it,'" said Dan Ripley, whose family farm in central New York has both ordinary cows and those producing what he sells as "Premium A2 Guernsey" milk.

The major A2 player in the United States, Australia-based a2 Milk Company, started selling its milk in California in 2015 and this year began making a big push into the Northeast. Its milk is now sold in major eastern chains such as

ShopRite and Wegmans, and TV ads with the tagline "Love milk again" went up recently in New York City and elsewhere.

"The Northeast is really the big kahuna of the dairy industry in the U.S.," said Blake Waltrip, the company's U.S. CEO.

The company's U.S. expansion complements its efforts to boost distribution in markets including Southeast Asia and the Middle East under a recent deal with the world's biggest dairy exporter, New Zealand's Fonterra.

Separately, Nestle SA, the world's largest food company, began selling an A2 baby formula in China this year.

Most cows produce milk that contains both A1 and A2 proteins. Backers of this milk claim the A1 protein can cause bloating and other symptoms because of the way it breaks down when digested. Some cows naturally produce milk without the A1 protein, and farmers can breed those cows with an eye toward building a herd that produces milk that only contains the A2 protein.

This kind of milk still has lactose, but proponents say it could help people who mistakenly assume they're lactose intolerant.

In Buffalo, New York, Public Espresso + Coffee co-owner



Dan Ripley, of the Ripley Family Farm in Moravia, New York, feeds a Guernsey calf. Some cows on the farm naturally produce milk without a protein some people blame for indigestion.

James Rayburg said he has a history of milk issues but can pour A2 on cereal or add it to recipes without worries. His shop recently switched over to Ripley's milk for all the drinks they serve.

"For me, I know if I'm feeling that much better about drinking that much milk, then our customers are feeling that way, too," Rayburg said.

Not everyone is convinced.

The National Dairy Council, which represents U.S. dairy farmers, said the claim remains an unproven theory.

Bruce German, director of the Foods for Health Institute at the University of California, Davis, said existing studies have either methodological flaws or may have issues because they are funded by the

industry.

"Unfortunately, all the studies are somewhat sort of flawed in various ways, and they seem to be spinning a rather attractive story around A2," German said.

Ripley understands the skepticism and said he became convinced only after he discovered his own children could drink A2 without the digestion problems that afflicted them with regular milk.

Ripley Family Farm is essentially a competitor to Waltrip and the far larger a2 Milk Company, but both say the milk could be a boon to a U.S. dairy industry that has milk consumption dropping for decades and wholesale prices slumping amid a global oversupply.

While the vast majority of Ripley farm's revenue comes from wholesaling traditional milk, selling Guernsey A2 milk and cheese is a way to make extra income.

Other farmers who sell to the a2 Milk Company, like Hourigan's Dairy Farm in central New York, get a premium for that milk from the company. While there are costs associated with segregating A2 milk and performing genetic tests to make cows produce the right type of milk, the extra money is appreciated.

"The milk market is kind of tough right now," said Hourigan's farm manager A.J. Wormouth, "and anything we can do to add value to your product definitely helps."

BIZARRO



ANDY CAPP



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



MOTHER GOOSE



DILBERT



Lifelong bachelor's interest in teen girl sets off alarms



Dear Abby

ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY
— I have a 59-year-old brother-in-law who has always been a "proud bachelor." He isn't a rich, handsome, George Clooney-type bachel-

lor, but a hand-to-mouth, burping, uncouth "Shallow Hal" kind of bachelor. He befriended a woman with four daughters, paying most of his attention to one of the daughters. He would take the woman and her girls to dinner, and take the daughters shopping without the mother.

Fast forward eight years.

No, you are not wrong. The statement that the girl is "now 18" is a red flag for me, too. Rather than talk to your brother-in-law, inform the mother that he may be "grooming" her daughter for something more than an innocent tour of the islands. She should have noticed something was amiss eight years ago, when

one daughter was singled out for special treatment, and put a stop to it then.

READER ALERT — If you know a student who would like to enter the \$5,000 Dear Abby College Columnist Scholarship contest, see the information on DearAbby.com/scholarship and learn more. The deadline is fast approaching.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME

By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

POTZA

P O T Z A

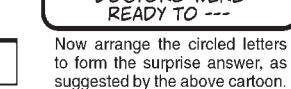
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**SUSGE**

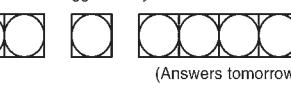
S U S G E

**HGSITT**

H G S I T T

**VOCNIE**

V O C N I E



Yesterday's Jumbles: GOURD FAULT LAVISH BUNDLE

Answer: When the Beatles were asked if they wanted to tour America, they were — ALL "FOUR" IT

(Answers tomorrow)

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY:

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

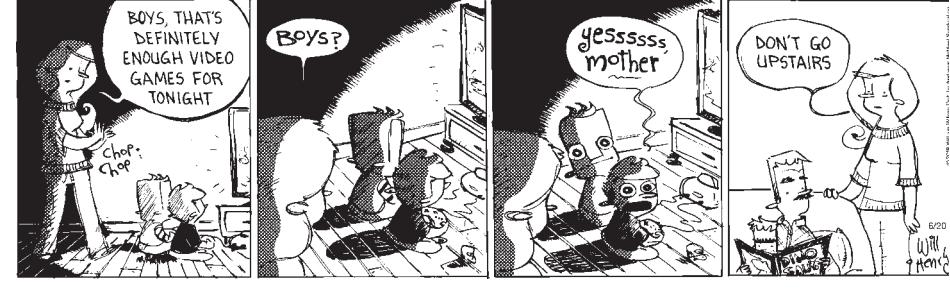
3	6	4	9	7	5
5			1	8	3
			6		
				9	
					2

5	3	6	4	8	9

2	4	8	5		

1	7	9	2	5	6

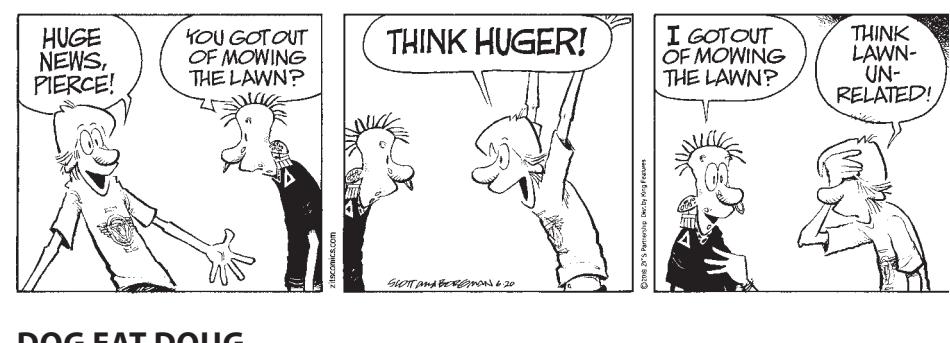
WALLACE THE BRAVE



GARFIELD



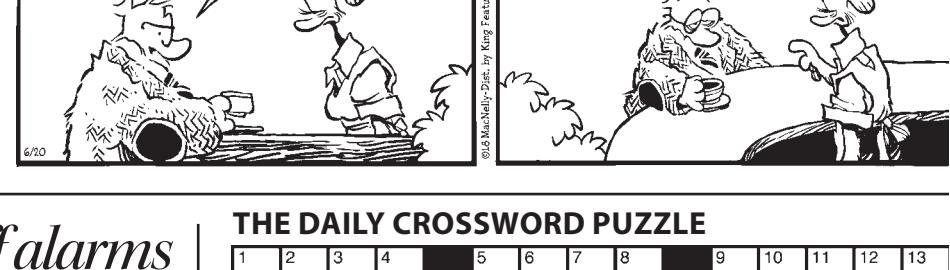
ZITS



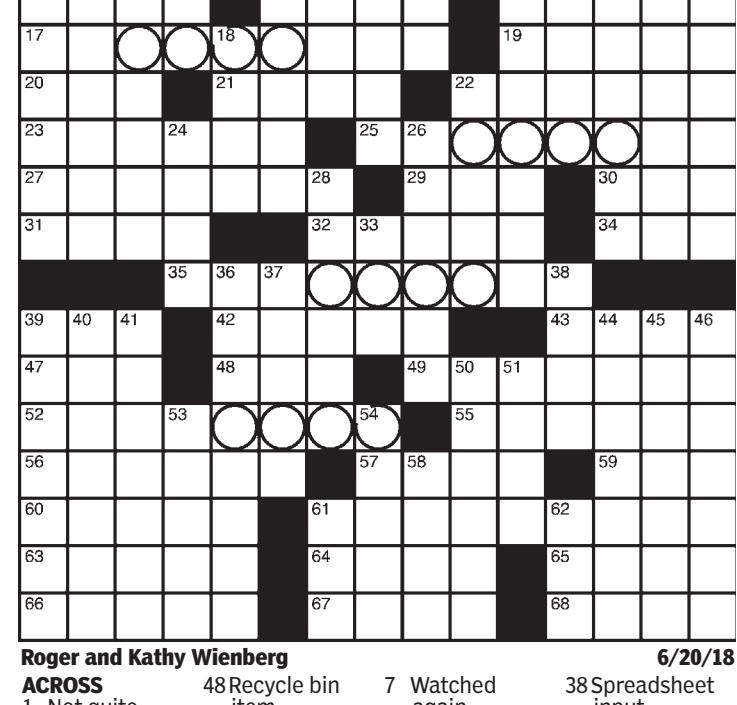
DOG EAT DOUG



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Roger and Kathy Wienberg

ACROSS	48	Recycle bin item	7	Watched again	38	Spreadsheet input	
1	Not quite round	15	16	Asound	39	As a group	
5	Gumbo vegetable	18	19	Liquid poured in honor of a deity	40	On a tether	
9	Ply			52	Behold in amazement	41	Compelling
14	Like every U.S. president	21	22	55	Pluto's largest moon	44	Colonnaded entryway
15	"Coulda been a lot worse!"	24	25	56	Trip up	45	Reviewed for typos
16	Romantic text	28	29	57	Use a wrecking ball on	46	State assemblies
17	Fidgety	32	33	59	59	50	Skin malady
18	Gymnast Simone who won four golds in Rio	35	36	61	title words	51	"So Unusual": Cyndi Lauper's debut studio album
20	Carefree	37	38	64	60	53	Poet's creation
21	The "I" of "The King and I"	42	43	65	Metaphor in a gambling debacle	54	Word with secret or school
22	Masters	48	49	66	61	61	58
23	Characteristic of the villain in "The Fugitive"	50	51	67	Employee hours suggested by this puzzle's circles	62	Scuds
25	"Is that it?"	53	54	68	63 Smell or taste	63	Supervillain Luthor
27	All-in-one printer feature	55	56	69	64 Ancient Dead Sea region	64	In the know
28	Actor Wallach	57	58	70	65 Slurpee, basically	65	
29	Unconscious	59	60	71	66 Tidied, as a lawn	66	
31	" goes nothing!"	61	62	72	77 TV warrior princess	77	
32	Muse of poetry	64	65	73	68 Sci-fi escape ships	78	
34	Navig. technology	66	67	74	75	79	
35	T.S. Eliot poem, with "The"	68	69	75	76	80	
36	Sprite	70	71	76	77	78	
42	Admonish	72	73	78	79	79	
43	They're on the phone	74	75	80	81	80	
47	Classical lead-in	76	77	81	82	81	

Previous Puzzle Solved

	SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS													
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	World of Dance "The Qualifiers 3"	World of Dance "The Qualifiers 4"	Reverie "Blue Is the Coldest Color" Mara is warned about side effects. (N)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon (N)			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	NCIS: Los Angeles (DVS)	SEAL Team "Borderlines" The team rescues a CIA operative.	Code Black "Only Human" Max has difficulty breathing. (N)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Trevor Noah; Liza Koshy; Two Feet. (N)			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Bed & Breakfast"	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs A turf war erupts over the backyard.	The Goldbergs "Jackie Likes Star Trek"	Modern Family Phil shows a house to his musical hero.	(:31) American Housewife "Field Day"	Shark Tank A "hate connection" app. (DVS)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N)	
WRJA	27	11	14	Gubernatorial Debate "GOP Gubernatorial Runoff Debate"	Nature "Pets: Wild at Heart: Playful Creatures" The wild behavior of pets. (Part 1 of 2) (DVS)	NOVA "Dawn of Humanity" Ancient fossil human ancestors. (DVS)			Amanpour on PBS (N)	BBC World News	Nature The wild behavior of pets. (DVS)		
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory "The Veracity Elasticity"	The Big Bang Theory	MasterChef "Trouble Brewing" The first team challenge of the season. (N) (DVS)	Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back "The Old Coffeepot Restaurant" A failing Cajun restaurant. (N)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	FIFA World Cup Tonight (N) (Live)		
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Vanessa wants a quiet Christmas.	Last Man Standing Eve is suspended for name-calling.	Supergirl "Battles Lost and Won" Supergirl and the team battle Serena.	The Originals "We Have Not Long to Love" Purist vampires rise up for a showdown. (N)	Dateline "What Lies Beneath" A mother's disappearance.	Dateline "Lethal Weapon" A doctor poisoned with cyanide.		The Game Melanie sleeps with Derwin's rival.		
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Antics in the heart of horse country.	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Kelly is called upon to take the wheel.	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Ozzy and Kelly tour the Biosphere. (N)	(:01) Wahlburgers Paul makes an executive decision. (N)	(:04) Ozzy and Jack's World Detour Black Sabbath cover band.	Ozzy and Jack's World Detour					
AMC	48	180	*** "Tombstone" (1993, Western) Kurt Russell, Val Kilmer, Michael Biehn. Doc Holliday joins Wyatt Earp for the OK Corral show down.			(:05) *** "Tombstone" (1993, Western) Kurt Russell, Val Kilmer, Michael Biehn. Doc Holliday joins Wyatt Earp for the OK Corral show down.							
ANPL	41	100	Pool Kings	Pool Kings	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End XL Two very different pools. (N)	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools					
BET	61	162	(5:25) ** "Soul Plane" (2004)	*** "Boyz N the Hood" (1991, Drama) Larry Fishburne, Ice Cube, Cuba Gooding Jr. Three boys become men in a tough L.A. neighborhood.			(:05) ** "Next Friday" (2000, Comedy) Ice Cube, Mike Epps, Justin Pierce. A young man lives with kin who won the lottery.						
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New York City Heather and Aviva butt heads.	The Real Housewives of New York City "Faux Weddings and a Funeral"	The Real Housewives of New York City (N)	The Real Housewives of New York City	Watch What Happens Live	The Real Housewives of New York City					
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank (DVS)	The Deed A cottage goes unsold. (N)	Shark Tank Aromatherapy sprays.	Shark Tank					
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Anderson Cooper				
COM	57	136	(6:45) South Park "The Cissy"	(7:55) South Park "The Magic Bush" "Fishticks"	South Park "The Hobbit"	South Park "Margaritaville"	South Park "Crème Fraîche"	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	The Opposition w/ Jordan Klepper (N)	(12:01) South Park			
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd	Bunk'd Finn fears public speaking.	Andi Mack Raven's Home	Stuck in the Middle Big City Greens	Bizaardvark	Raven's Home	Andi Mack (Part 1 of 2)	Bunk'd Finn fears public speaking.	DuckTales		
DSC	42	103	Misfit Garage	Misfit Garage: Fired Up (N)	Misfit Garage: Fired Up (N)	Sticker Shock "Episode 9" (N)	Misfit Garage "Episode 7"	Misfit Garage "Episode 7"	Misfit Garage "Episode 7"	Misfit Garage "Episode 7"	Misfit Garage		
ESPN	26	35	College Baseball NCAA World Series, Game 9: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter		
ESPN2	27	39	NBA Draft Preview 2018 (N) (Live)	NBA Mock Draft Special	NBA Draft: On the Clock	NBA Draft Preview 2018	NBA Draft Preview 2018	NBA Draft Preview 2018	NFL Live	Draft Preview			
FOOD	40	109	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games "GGG vs. DDD"	Guy's Grocery Games (N)	Guy's Grocery Games "Spiciest!"	Guy's Grocery Games "Blogger Battle"	Guy's Grocery Games "Blogger Battle"	Guy's Games				
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Tucker Carlson				
FREE	20	131	(6:00) *** "13 Going on 30" (2004) Jennifer Garner, Mark Ruffalo.	Young & Hungry (N)	(:31) Young & Hungry (N)	(:02) ** "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" (1994, Comedy) Jim Carrey, Courteney Cox. A goofy gumshoe probes the kidnapping of the Miami dolphin.	The 700 Club	The 700 Club	The 700 Club	** "Sydney White" (2007)			
FSS	21	47	(6:00) Rodeo From March 14, 2018.	Rodeo From March 15, 2018.	Rodeo From March 16, 2018.						Rodeo		
HALL	52	183	Last Man Standing "My Name Is Rob" "Three Sisters"	Last Man Standing "Explorers" "A House Divided"	The Middle "Adult Swim"	The Middle (DVS)	The Middle "The Final Final"	The Middle "Fight or Flight"	The Golden Girls "Empty Nests"	The Golden Girls "Old Friends"	The Golden Girls		
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Brother vs. Brother (N)	House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Brother vs. Brother	Brother vs. Brother		
HIST	45	110	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Navy SEALS: America's Secret Warriors	A terrorist insurgency in Iraq. (N)	SIX "Masks" (N) (DVS)	(:05) SIX "Masks" (DVS)	Navy SEALs				
ION	13	18	Law & Order "Publish and Perish" A porn actress is killed.	Law & Order "Sport of Kings" A jockey is shot.	Law & Order "In God We Trust" A fire yields evidence in an old case.	Law & Order "Locomotion" A commuter train hits an SUV.	Law & Order "Red Ball" A deal with a criminal.	Law & Order "Flaw"					
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: LA Christy and Todd's old issues resurface.	Little Women: LA The girls work on their friendships. (N)	Little Women: LA "Welcome to Solvang" Tonya makes a drunk-en confession. (N)	(:37) Little Women: LA					(12:01) Little Women: LA		
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Last Word	The 11th Hour With Brian Williams (N)	Rachel Maddow					
NICK	16	210	Henry Danger	** "Paul Blart: Mall Cop" (2009, Comedy) Kevin James, Jayma Mays.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends		
PARMT	64	153	(6:00) *** "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" (1989) Harrison Ford.	Yellowstone "Daybreak" (Series Premiere) (N)	The Expanse "Fallen World" Drummer and Ashford are trapped. (N)	** "Resident Evil: Apocalypse" (2004, Horror) Milla Jovovich, Sienna Guillory, Oded Fehr. Survivors of a deadly virus battle zombies.	(10:57) Yellowstone "Daybreak"	** "Robin Hood" (2010)					
SYFY	58	152	(6:30) ** "Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time" (2010) Jake Gyllenhaal. A prince and princess join forces to safeguard a supernatural dagger. (DVS)										
TBS	24	156	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Full Frontal With Samantha Bee (N)	Conan Actor Burt Reynolds; actor Dylan Moran.	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee			
TCM	49	186	(6:00) *** "Adventures of Don Juan" (1948) Errol Flynn.	**** "The Philadelphia Story" (1940) Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn. An ex-husband upsets a socialite's wedding plans. (DVS)	**** "June Bride" (1948, Comedy) Bette Davis, Robert Montgomery, Fay Bainter. A wedding story spells love for an editor and a reporter.	**** "June Bride" (1948, Comedy) Bette Davis, Robert Montgomery, Fay Bainter. A wedding story spells love for an editor and a reporter.							
TLC	43	157	(:09) My 600-Lb. Life (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "James & Cynthia" James is suspected of cheating. (N)									
TNT	23	158	NCIS: New Orleans "Overdrive" A Marine dies in a race car crash.	*** "American Sniper" (2014, War) Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller, Jake McDorman. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle logs an incredible number of kills. (DVS)									
TRUTV	38	129	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Impractical Jokers		
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	(:36) M*A*S*H	(:12) Everybody Loves Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens		
USA	25	132	NCIS: Revenge" The team searches for Bodnar. (DVS)	NCIS "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" Parsons' view of the team changes.	NCIS "Past, Present and Future" Tony is determined to find Ziva.	Colony "Lazarus" Snyder goes back to work for the IGA. (N) (DVS)	(:01) Modern Family (DVS)	(:31) Modern Family (DVS)	(12:01) Modern Family				
WE	68	166	CSI: Miami A movie star is found dead.	CSI: Miami "Just Murdered"	CSI: Miami "Burned"	CSI: Miami Possible drug-smuggling.	CSI: Miami "Born to Kill"	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami			
WGNA	8	172	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	

Costner stars in 21st-century western series

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Big star. Big skies. Big show? It's a pretty safe bet that fans of TV westerns and Kevin Costner will tune in for "Yellowstone" (9 p.m., Paramount, TV-MA), a multigenerational saga set in Montana's ranching country.

Costner ("Dances With Wolves") stars as John Dutton, the family patriarch and owner of the biggest ranch in the United States. A father and grandfather not always in control of his brood, he's content knowing that his vast spread is the envy of the world.

Family dynamics with a side of envy, greed and historical resentments are what drive "Yellowstone." This tale of ranchers and branding, cowboys and stallions begins oddly enough, in a courtroom, where John's son Jamie (Wes Bentley) challenges a developer encroaching on the family's property rights. Jamie looks good in a suit, but he's a bit of a stiff.

British actress Kelly Reilly plays his sister Beth, a far more strident defender of her father's interests. She's first seen in the boardroom brutally explaining the facts of life to a business partner who faces a Dutton takeover or total ruin. Hard-drinking and philandering, Beth is the most interesting character. Hiding behind bangs and a relatively soft-spoken voice, her appearance is deceptive.

Dutton's estranged son Kayce (Luke Grimes) lives close by, but at a considerable emotional distance after marrying a Native American woman, Monica (Kelsey Asbille), and raising their son on the reservation with minimal contact with Grandpa.

The problems with this relationship begin to transcend family squabbles when a politically ambitious new tribal

chief (Gil Birmingham) sees Dutton's land as rightfully belonging to his people.

"Yellowstone" is not an old-fashioned western shot against picturesque backdrops. It depicts Montana's wide-open spaces as both glorious and troubled. Between vistas, Native Americans live in squalid conditions, and oil and gas rigs dot the landscape.

Costner's role as the star attraction is both the strength and weakness of the series. As a grandfather, he's philosophical and given to long-winded regrets. Too often, he speaks in platitudes. And he's not alone. There are entirely too many explanatory speeches in this movie-length series pilot.

Dutton may be a grandpa, but he's not a doddering old man. He's not weak enough to be King Lear or Vito Corleone. And so far, his sons don't seem likely to challenge or replace him. Beth is certainly shrewd enough to pick up all of the marbles, and may emerge as the driving force of this 21st-century western.

• "Young & Hungry" (8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Freeform, TV-14) enters its fifth and final season.

• Hulu streams the 10th episode of the second season of "The Handmaid's Tale."

Recent episodes of this series seem not so much "torn from the headlines," but anticipating news stories. Recently on "Handmaid's," we've seen moral qualms about a religious state separating parents from children and the emergence of Canada as a beacon of resistance and an adversary to Gilead. Blessed Day!

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

• A brew pub sets the stage on "MasterChef" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14).



Call Rhonda Barrick at: (803) 774-1264 | E-mail: rhonda@theitem.com

Traditional paella gets a twist with hearty vegetables

BY AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Though traditional paella centers on a variety of meat and seafood, we wanted to develop a vegetable-focused version that highlighted the array of hearty vegetables common in Spanish cuisine: artichokes, bell peppers, fennel and peas.

We gave the artichokes and peppers extra flavor by roasting and then tossing them with a bright, lemony sauce. We sautéed the fennel with chopped onion to give it a rich caramelized flavor that gave the dish aromatic backbone. Chopped kalamata olives brought in a distinct pop of briny, contrasting flavor.

To infuse the rice with complex, authentic flavor, we bloomed the paprika with the garlic and browned diced tomatoes to give them savory depth.

We coated the rice with this potent mixture before adding broth, wine and saffron and simmering the rice until tender.

Cooking on the stovetop alone yielded unevenly cooked rice, so we transferred it to a 350 F oven where the grains cooked to perfection in the steady, even heat. You will need at least a 6-quart Dutch oven for this recipe. While we prefer the flavor and texture of jarred whole baby artichokes, you can substitute 18 ounces frozen artichoke hearts, thawed and patted dry, for the jarred kind.

Bomba rice is the most traditional rice for this dish, but you can use any variety of Valencia rice. If you cannot find Valencia rice, you can substitute Arborio rice. Socarrat, a layer of crusty browned rice that forms on the bottom of the pan, is a traditional part of paella. In this version, socarrat does not develop because most of the cooking is done in the oven; if desired, there are directions on how to make a socarrat before serving.



CARL TREMBLAY / AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN VIA AP

VEGETABLE PAELLA

Servings: 6

Start to finish: 2 hours

3 cups jarred whole baby artichokes packed in water, quartered, rinsed, and patted dry
2 red bell peppers, stemmed, seeded, and chopped coarse
1/2 cup pitted kalamata olives, chopped
9 garlic cloves, peeled (3 whole, 6 minced)
6 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
Salt and pepper
3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 onion, chopped fine
1 fennel bulb, stalks discarded, bulb halved, cored, and sliced thin
1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
1 (14.5-ounce) can diced tomatoes, drained, minced, and drained again
2 cups Bomba rice
3 cups vegetable broth

1/3 cup dry white wine
1/2 teaspoon saffron threads, crumbled
1/2 cup frozen peas, thawed

Adjust oven rack to lower-middle position, place rimmed baking sheet on rack, and heat oven to 450 F. Toss artichokes and peppers with olives, whole garlic cloves, 2 tablespoons oil, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper in bowl. Spread vegetables in hot sheet, and roast until artichokes are browned around edges and peppers are browned, 20 to 25 minutes; let cool slightly.

Mince roasted garlic. In large bowl, whisk 2 tablespoons oil, 2 tablespoons parsley, lemon juice and minced roasted garlic together. Add roasted vegetables, and toss to combine. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees. Heat remaining 2 tablespoons oil in Dutch oven over medium heat until shimmering. Add onion and fennel and cook until softened, 8 to 10 minutes.

Stir in remaining minced garlic and paprika and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Stir in tomatoes, and cook until mixture begins to darken and thicken slightly, about

3 minutes. Stir in rice and cook until grains are well coated with tomato mixture, about 2 minutes. Stir in broth, wine, saffron, and 1 teaspoon salt. Increase heat to medium-high and bring to boil, stirring occasionally. Cover, transfer pot to oven, and bake until liquid is absorbed and rice is tender, 25 to 35 minutes.

For optional socarrat, transfer pot to stovetop and remove lid. Cook over medium-high heat for about 5 minutes, rotating pot as needed, until bottom layer of rice is well browned and crisp.

Sprinkle roasted vegetables and peas over rice, cover, and let paella sit for 5 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining 1 tablespoon parsley and serve.

Nutrition information per serving: 511 calories; 138 calories from fat; 15 g fat (2 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 1289 mg sodium; 82 g carbohydrate; 10 g fiber; 8 g sugar; 12 g protein.

For more recipes, cooking tips and ingredient and product reviews, visit <https://www.americastestkitchen.com>. Find more sauce recipes and pairing suggestions in "The Complete Mediterranean Cookbook."

A simple shrimp pad thai that requires just 1 skillet

BY AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Our version of this take-out classic is surprisingly easy to make and requires just one skillet.

While truly authentic pad thai, with its sweet, sour and salty flavors, requires hard-to-find ingredients like preserved daikon, palm sugar and dried shrimp, our simplified weeknight recipe uses accessible ingredients to create a simple flavor profile.

ONE-PAN SHRIMP PAD THAI

Servings: 4

Start to finish: 1 hour

8 ounces (3/8-inch-wide) rice noodles
1/3 cup lime juice (3 limes)
1/3 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup fish sauce

1 pound extra-large shrimp (21 to 25 per pound), peeled and deveined
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
4 garlic cloves, minced

8 ounces (4 cups) bean sprouts
Fresh cilantro

1/4 cup dry-roasted peanuts, chopped

Bring 3 quarts water to boil in large saucepan. Place noodles in large bowl. Pour boiling water over noodles. Stir, then let soak until noodles are soft and pliable but not fully tender, stirring once halfway through soaking, 12 to 15 minutes. Drain noodles and rinse under cold running water until water runs clear. Drain well and set aside.

While noodles soak, squeeze 1/3 cup lime juice. Whisk sugar, fish sauce, and lime juice together in bowl. Mince garlic. Chop 1/4 cup cilantro. Chop peanuts.

Peel and devein shrimp. Pat shrimp dry with paper towels.

Heat oil in 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until just smoking. Add



DANIEL J. VAN ACKERE/AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN VIA AP

shrimp in single layer and cook until spotty brown and cooked through, about 2 minutes per side. Stir in garlic during last minute of cooking. Transfer shrimp to plate and tent loosely with aluminum foil.

Add noodles and lime juice to mixture to now-empty skillet and cook over medium heat until sauce is thickened slightly, about

4 minutes.

Add sprouts and shrimp to skillet and cook until shrimp and sprouts are warmed through and noodles are well coated and tender, about 3 minutes. Sprinkle with cilantro and peanuts and serve.

Nutrition information per serving: 478 calories; 98 calories from fat; 10 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats);

143 mg cholesterol; 1894 mg sodium; 76 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 21 g sugar; 21 g protein.

For more recipes, cooking tips and ingredient and product reviews, visit www.americastestkitchen.com. Find more recipes like One-Pan Shrimp Pad Thai in "Dinner Illustrated."