

SPORTS



Jets begin playoff series

Dalzell-Shaw Post 175 travels to Conway to face Horry
B1

LOCAL

Good Samaritan rammed with SUV after trying to help victim of violence A2

DEATHS, B3

- Elfriede Krauthauser Winder
- Anne Hoggard Cotten
- Samuel Marvin Lowery
- Elvin James McCoy
- James Edward Thompson
- Pearl McKnight Brunson
- John Ward Jr.
- Ed Wright Jr.
- William B. Steele Sr.
- Charles Abrams

INSIDE

- Classifieds B6
- Comics B4
- Opinion A7
- Sports B1
- Television B5

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WEATHER, A8

SUMMER PATTERN

An afternoon thunderstorm today; partly cloudy and humid tonight
HIGH 89, LOW 75

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Martin-Knox begins as Sumter superintendent



Penelope Martin-Knox started as Sumter School District superintendent on July 1.

Her own teachers in school influenced district leader to become an educator

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

When Penelope Martin-Knox went off to college, she thought she wanted to be a pediatrician but later learned her passion was in teaching. After a 26-year career in public education, she is now Sumter School District's new superintendent.

Martin-Knox sat down earlier this week with *The Sumter Item*

to discuss her career, her formative years when teachers were the biggest influences on her life and her new job she started July 1 as the district's leader.

The Baltimore native remembers her first-grade teacher's name and wanting to emulate all her teachers in elementary school. Her middle school music teacher, Alvin Wallace, meant

SEE **MARTIN-KNOX**, PAGE A6

'God doesn't put a time on love.'



PHOTOS BY CHRIS MOORE / PRISMA HEALTH TUOMEY HOSPITAL

Marshal Maurice John and Erica Brooks were married recently in Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital's ICU.

Couple marries in Sumter ICU

BY TRACI QUINN
Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital

"While I have breath in my body, I will do my best to love you in the best way possible."

Marshal Maurice John spoke these words to his new bride, haltingly but resounding, as he lay in the ICU in obvious pain but beaming with joy. This was his wedding vow to the woman he loves in a ceremony that

wouldn't have been possible without the compassion, time and generosity of one nurse and the caring team she pulled together.

Honey Dawn Chapman, an RN in the emergency room at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, was called to the critical care unit earlier this week to notarize a power of attorney form. She took time to visit with John and learned his fiancé, Erica Brooks, had "finally said yes!" but couldn't get a marriage license because they couldn't both be present at the probate office.

Chapman, whom Erica calls "a positive vibration," sprang into action.

She persuaded the judge to send a clerk to the hospital with the form. She called Chaplaincy and asked Jason

Massey to perform the ceremony. She pulled in other nurses and sitters to help. This group of caregivers realized the couple wouldn't have rings to exchange, so they brought them. The

groom had lost a bit of weight and his suits wouldn't fit, so they bought a new shirt, lovingly cut down the back to make it easier for him to wear with all the tubes he needed to

SEE **LOVE**, PAGE A6

Through the efforts of RN Honey Dawn Chapman and a group of caregivers, Marshal Maurice John and Erica Brooks had everything they needed to be married in the ICU.

Byrd: Time to 'move forward' with school district

Sumter County Council vice chairman ready for monthly meetings with school board

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Sumter County Council Vice Chairman Jimmy Byrd doesn't want to rehash the past. After council's 4-3 vote on June 25 to



BYRD

deny Sumter School District's request to increase the millage rate, Byrd told *The Sumter Item* on Tuesday the goal now needs to be an improved working relationship between the two governmental bodies.

During the first half of June, the majority of council told district administration and the school district's Board of Trustees twice in public forums to lower its millage re-

quest — a millage rate is the calculation used to determine local taxes — from an original 9.01 mills. On June 20, they said any compromise offer didn't have enough votes to pass either.

The district's finances have been under scrutiny since its fiscal 2016 audit report revealed \$6.2 million in overspending, draining the district's general fund balance to \$106,449.

In the last two-plus years, the district has rebuilt the general fund bal-

ance and is projected to have in excess of \$10 million when the 2019 audit report is released in December.

In March, state Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman elevated the district's financial declaration from fiscal caution to fiscal emergency after the school board diverted from its own financial recovery plan with a vote to reopen Mayewood Middle School. The school board voted in

SEE **DISTRICT**, PAGE A6



SECOND FRONT

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

Good Samaritan rammed with SUV after intervening in domestic dispute

Man charged with attempted murder

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

A Sumter man has been charged with attempted murder stemming from a domestic dispute that ended with a good Samaritan being repeatedly ran into with an SUV.



HILL
David Lavern Hill, of Appaloosa Drive off

Pinewood and Kolb roads, also faces a second-degree domestic violence charge and two counts of assaulting an officer while resisting arrest, according to Sumter Police Department Public Information Officer Tonyia McGirt.

The 31-year-old is accused of grabbing a 40-year-old family member by the hair and punching her multiple times as she tried to call for help while they were inside a parked Dodge Durango at the Fredrick's Citgo on South Guignard Drive about 10:15 p.m. Sunday, according to McGirt.

The woman escaped when a 37-year-old bystander walked over and intervened, but Hill then reportedly slid to the driver's seat and, after a "belligerent exchange with the good Samaritan

and a 30-year-old witness parked nearby," drove into the man, ramming him against the witness' car, McGirt said.

She said he then backed up and rammed the man at least two more times before driving away.

Hill was later located by officers on Liberty Street, where he fought with them before they were able to detain him.

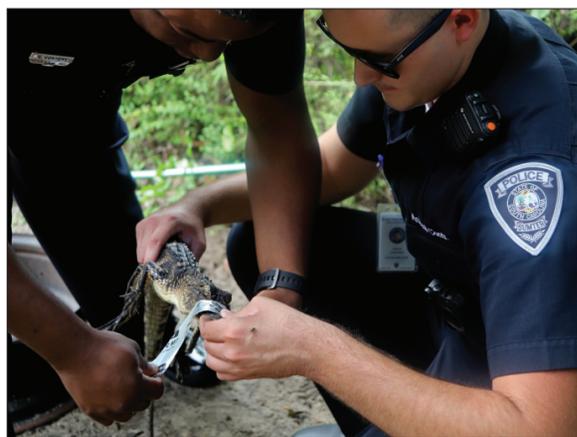
McGirt said the woman involved in the domestic dispute was treated for non-life-threatening injuries and later released from Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital. The 30-year-old witness was treated at the scene by EMS and released.

The good Samaritan is continuing to recover after being released from an area hospital Tuesday.

"This case is an example of the far-reaching dangers associated with domestic violence," City of Sumter Police Chief Russell Roark said. "Sunday's chain of events are the actions of someone we consider a threat not only to women, but also the community at large and to law enforcement."

Hill is being held at the Sumter County Sheriff's Office Detention Center, where he was denied bond on Tuesday and given a \$10,000 surety bond for each of the other charges. The investigation is ongoing.

Just visiting downtown Sumter



PHOTOS BY CORBETT MOORE / THE SUMTER ITEM

A baby alligator was spotted in the 500 block of South Harvin Street in downtown Sumter on Wednesday by resident Daniel Johnson. The gator, which measured at just shy of two feet, was crossing the street into a neighbor's yard when Sumter Police Department officers Josh Christmas and Charles Conyers arrived on the scene. The officers speculate the reptile may have been caught by accident by locals fishing in the nearby Green Swamp. A fishing hook was removed from the gator's tail, and it was being released back to the swamp.

Mathis resigns as Pinewood mayor

Filing for Sept. 10 special election opens Friday

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

Pinewood residents who are interested in becoming the town's next mayor can file their candidacy starting this week.

Sarah Mathis, who took office in 2014 after serving on town council, resigned after winning her unopposed re-election bid in November, opening the door for a new leader after the Sept. 10 special election.

A two-week filing period for the open seat begins Friday at noon and will close on Friday, July 26, at 5 p.m., according to Sumter County Voter Registration and Election Office.

Pat Jefferson, director of the county department, said the town government used to handle its own elections but that last year was the first year Sumter County took on running them.

Filing will take place at the Sumter County

Courthouse, 141 N. Main St., in Room 114. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Prospective candidates must fill out a statement of intent of candidacy form, which is available at www.SCVotes.org in the candidate information section or at the county election office. Candidates are required to file a statement of economic interest and a campaign disclosure form online with the South Carolina Ethics Commission at www.ethics.sc.gov.

To contact the Sumter County Voter Registration and Election Office, call (803) 436-2310, (803)-436-2311, (803) 436-2312 or (803) 436-2313.

The Town of Pinewood, which has a population of 538, is a mayor-council form of government with four nonpartisan, at-large council members and one full-time employee, according to Municipal Association of South Carolina records.

South Carolina briefs

Man throws 13-year-old girl from car

COLUMBIA (AP) — Authorities say a man from Georgia came to South Carolina to have sex with a 13-year-old girl and threw her out of his vehicle while speeding away from police.

Richland County deputies said an officer saw 30-year-old Derek Nelson of Augusta, Georgia, climb from the back seat to the front seat of his car and speed away from a Columbia parking lot at 3 a.m. Sunday.

Deputies said in a statement that Nelson was only wearing a T-shirt when his car was stopped.

Deputies found a girl nearby, and she said she was thrown from the vehicle. She suffered injuries to her hands, arms and legs.

Nelson faces criminal sexual conduct, assault, sexual exploitation of a minor and several other charges. It wasn't known if he had a lawyer.

Richland passes plastic bag ban

COLUMBIA (AP) — South Carolina's second-largest county is moving forward on a ban on single-use plastic bags.

The Richland County Council gave initial approval to the ban Tuesday, although it faces two more votes. The draft ordinance also does not give a date the ban would take effect.

Instead of plastic bags, stores would either have to have customers use their own reusable bags or bags made from recycled paper.

Poll of the week

This week's question: How far are you planning to travel this summer?

Answers are combined from our poll on www.theitem.com. Have a question you want us to ask? Email pressrelease@theitem.com.



- **A different state** 48% | 131 VOTES
- **Staying in Sumter** 19% | 52 VOTES
- **Somewhere in South Carolina** 18% | 50 VOTES
- **A different country** 15% | 42 VOTES

Next week's question: Are you taking your child(ren) to summer camp?

- Yes**
- No**
- Yes, a day camp not in Sumter**
- Yes, to a sleep-away camp**
- I'd like to but don't have information about camps**



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The Sumter Item is published five days a week except for July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day (unless those fall on a Sunday or Wednesday) by Osteen Publishing Co., 36 W. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150. Periodical postage paid at Sumter, SC 29150.

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

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Biden earned more than \$15 million after leaving White House

BY STEPHEN BRAUN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, took in more than \$15 million since leaving the Obama White House, according to newly released documents, catapulting the Democratic presidential candidate into millionaire status and denting the working-class aura he's developed over decades.



BIDEN

Long fond of describing himself as "Middle Class Joe" while he took in little more than his government salary, the former vice president stressed his working-class roots from the very beginning of his bid for his party's 2020 presidential nomination. But federal tax returns and a financial disclosure released Tuesday show that since Biden left public office, his income has surged thanks to a lucrative book deal and constant publicity tours that brought in more than \$4 million.

Biden's disclosure showed that he also made at least \$2.7 million in business income as part of his publicity tour and writing and took a \$425,000 salary from CelticCapri Corp., the business entity the Bidens used for their post-White House work.

Since leaving the White House, Biden and his wife signed a multibook deal with Flatiron Books valued at \$8 million, according to Publishers Weekly. Biden's first book, an account of his son Beau's death from cancer, briefly topped best-seller lists in 2017. He and his wife have also worked on two other book projects. Biden earned \$540,000 as a professor and namesake of the University of Pennsylvania's Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement. Jill Biden made at least \$700,000 in her own speaking engagements, the disclosure shows.

Joe Biden's basic speaking fee was reportedly \$100,000 a speech, but his disclosure showed that while some appearances were priced as low as the \$40,000 range, others ranged as high as \$190,000 for a lecture at Drew University in New Jersey.

Biden's last financial dis-

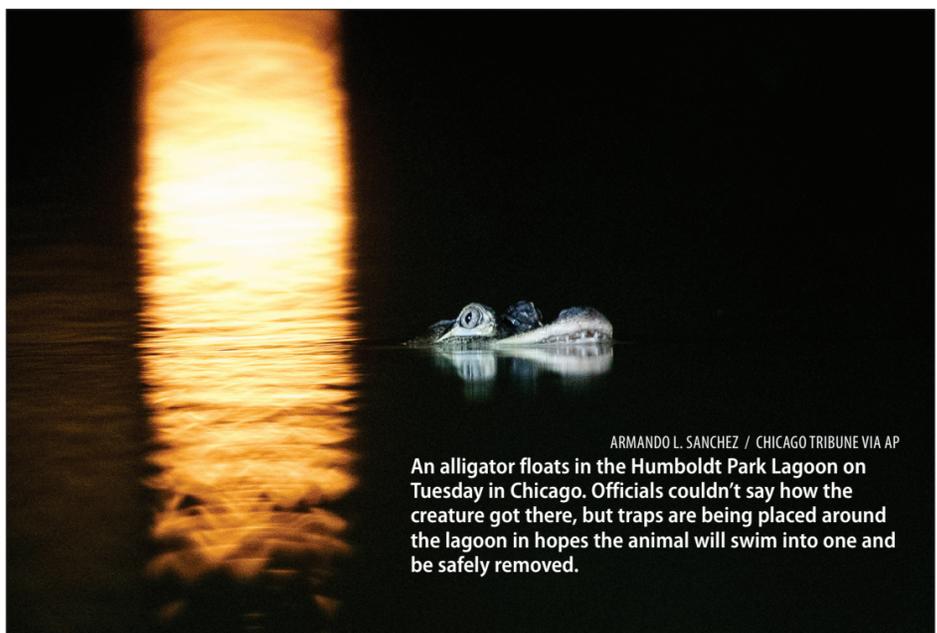
closure, filed in 2016 during his final year as vice president, showed that even after eight years at his \$230,000-a-year government salary, Biden held significant personal debt. The 2016 disclosure revealed financial assets worth more than \$273,000 — including a \$150,000 rental property — and more than \$750,000 in debt. Those liabilities included a recent mortgage worth more than \$500,000 on the rental property and a recent \$250,000 home equity loan.

But much of that debt has been paid off, according to the latest disclosure, which showed only two old loans, each worth no more than \$15,000 and dating to the 1980s.

Biden's three newly available tax returns, for 2016, 2017 and 2018, show that his family income jumped from \$400,000 in 2016 to \$11 million in 2017 as a result of his book deal.

Biden's most recent federal tax return had been released by the Obama administration in 2015. He and Jill Biden paid \$85,000 in federal taxes on \$390,000 in income, which includes both their salaries and nearly \$19,000 in rental income. The Bidens that year held less than \$25,000 in investments and gave nearly \$7,000 to charity.

The Bidens also donated between \$100,000 and \$499,000 to the Biden Foundation, a family based nonprofit, since its launch in November 2016, according to the charity's website. The Bidens set up the nonprofit to advance political and cultural issues aligned with his political interests, but the couple suspended the foundation's operations last April to concentrate on Biden's presidential campaign.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ / CHICAGO TRIBUNE VIA AP

An alligator floats in the Humboldt Park Lagoon on Tuesday in Chicago. Officials couldn't say how the creature got there, but traps are being placed around the lagoon in hopes the animal will swim into one and be safely removed.

Chicago police investigators confirm alligator in lagoon

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago police investigators have cracked the case: A 4-5 foot alligator is living in a lagoon at one of the city's most popular parks.

Chicago police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi says Tuesday that investigators went to Humboldt Park Lagoon on the city's West Side and confirmed that the unusual resident is there as reported on social media.

Officials couldn't say how the creature got there.

City officials say alligator traps are being placed around the lagoon in hopes the animal will swim into one and be safely removed.

Guglielmi says the animal was expected to be trapped "and relocated to a zoo for veterinary evaluation."

Alligators favor warm weather climates such as Florida but have been known to survive temporarily in the cold through a process similar to hibernation.

Tech worker charged with murder in death of college student

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A tech worker was charged Wednesday with murder and kidnapping in the death of a Utah college student whose body was found in a wooded

area with her arms bound behind her.

Prosecutors said Ayoola A. Ajayi, 31, was the last person Mackenzie Lueck communicated with on June 17 before she disappeared.

District Attorney Sim Gill also said Lueck's cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head, and her body was found with her arms bound behind her.

He did not discuss a motive or possible connection between Lueck and Ajayi.

Gill became emotional as he described the Lueck family's reaction to the charges.

"They asked me to express on their behalf the generosity of so many strangers and friends," he said.

Lueck disappeared shortly after she returned from a trip to her California hometown for the funeral of her grandmother and took a Lyft from the airport to a park, where she met someone.

Cellphone data put Ajayi in the park at the same time, authorities say.

Police have said they later found charred tissue in the backyard of Ajayi's home in Salt Lake City and her body in a canyon 85 miles away,

near the University of Utah, where she was a student.

Ajayi was arrested June 28 after a search for Lueck that lasted nearly two weeks. He was charged with one count each of aggravated murder, aggravated kidnapping, obstruction of justice and desecration of a human body.

No attorney has been listed for Ajayi.

Lueck has been remembered as a bubbly, nurturing person. She was a member of a sorority and a part-time senior at the university studying kinesiology and pre-nursing.

Ajayi is an information technology worker who had stints with high-profile companies and was briefly in the Army National Guard.

He has no formal criminal history but was investigated in a 2014 rape allegation and was arrested in a stolen iPad case at Utah State University in 2012. The arrest and the expiration of his student visa led to him being banned from the campus for about three years.

A native of Nigeria, Ajayi is now a U.S. citizen, records show.

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President Trump directs government to revamp care for kidney disease

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump signed an executive order directing the government to revamp the nation's care for kidney disease so that more people whose kidneys fail have a chance at early transplants and home dialysis.

Trump said his order was intended to increase the supply of donated kidneys, make it easier for patients to undergo dialysis in the comfort of their own homes and prioritize the development of an artificial kidney.

"It's truly an exciting day for advancing kidney health in our country," Trump said Wednesday.

The changes won't happen overnight — some of the initiatives will require new government regulations.

Because a severe organ shortage complicates the call for more transplants, the administration will try to ease the financial hardships for living donors by reimbursing them for expenses such as lost wages and child care, the Republican president said.

"Those people, I have to say, have never gotten enough credit," Trump said. "What they do is so incredible."

Another key change: steps to help the groups that collect deceased dona-

tions do a better job. Officials cited a study that suggests long term it may be possible to find 17,000 more kidneys and 11,000 other organs from deceased donors for transplant every year.

Federal health officials have made clear for months that they intend to shake up a system that today favors expensive, time-consuming dialysis in large centers over easier-to-tolerate at-home care or transplants that help patients live longer.

KIDNEY DISEASE BY THE NUMBERS

30 million

Of adults in the U.S. have chronic kidney disease; most are undiagnosed

30 minutes

The amount of time it takes for your kidneys to filter all your blood

15%

Of U.S. adults are estimated to have chronic kidney disease

340

People begin dialysis for kidney failure every 24 hours

9th

Leading cause of death is kidney diseases

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

stage renal disease, meaning their kidneys have failed, and require either a transplant or dialysis to survive. Only about a third received specialized kid-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adrian Perez undergoes dialysis at a DaVita Kidney Care clinic in Sacramento, California, in September 2018.

ney care before they got so sick.

More than 94,000 of the 113,000 people on the national organ waiting list need a kidney. Last year, there were 21,167 kidney transplants. Of those, 6,442 were from living donors, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing, which oversees the nation's transplant system.

"The longer you're on dialysis, the outcomes are worse," said Dr. Amit Tevar, a transplant surgeon at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, who praised the Trump administration initiatives.

Too often, transplant centers don't see a kidney patient until he or she has been on dialysis for years, Tevar said. And while any transplant is preferable, one from a living donor is best because those organs "work better, longer and faster," Tevar said.

Among the initiatives that take effect first:

- Medicare payment changes that would provide a financial incentive for doctors and clinics to help kidney patients stave off end-stage disease by about six months.
- A bonus to kidney specialists who help prepare patients for early trans-

plant, with steps that can begin even before they need dialysis.

• Additional Medicare changes so that dialysis providers can earn as much by helping patients get dialysis at home as in the large centers that predominate today. Patients typically must spend hours three or four times a week hooked to machines that filter waste out of their blood.

Home options include portable blood-cleansing machines, or what's called peritoneal dialysis, that works through an abdominal tube, usually while patients are sleeping.

Today, about 14% of patients in kidney failure get at-home dialysis or an early transplant. By 2025, the goal is to have 80% of people with newly diagnosed kidney failure getting one of those options, officials said.

These changes are being implemented through Medicare's innovation center, created under the Obama-era Affordable Care Act and empowered to seek savings and improved quality. The Trump administration is relying on the innovation center even as it argues in federal court that the law that created it is unconstitutional and should be struck down entirely.

At least 2% of U.S. public water systems are tainted

BY LAURA PANGALLOZZI

Binghamton University
State University of New York

More than five years after Flint's water crisis first hit the news, the city has successfully lowered the lead levels in its water.

The most recently available testing, from the second half of 2018, puts the lead in Flint's water at 4 parts per billion. That's well below the level, 15 ppb, that the federal government currently regards as dangerous for public health.

No amount of lead in water is safe, but the lower level in Flint represents a substantial improvement over the 27 ppb reported by the Virginia Tech Water Study at the peak of the crisis in April 2015.

However, even Flint's highest levels were not atypical for water systems that have problems. Most reports of elevated lead levels cluster in the range between 15 and 20 ppb.

WHERE LEAD PROBLEMS OCCUR

The federal Lead and Copper Rule requires public water utilities to sample home tap water yearly in neighborhoods most likely to face contamination.

If more than 10% of samples exceed 15 parts per billion of lead, the rule states that the water system must take steps to control pipe corrosion — the main source of lead in residential tap water — as well as to inform the public and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Water systems, especially in rural areas, can report much higher levels than the EPA cutoff. In 2017, for example, an elementary school in Tulare County, California, home to agricultural laborers, reported lead levels of 4,600 ppb. The school distributed bottled water to its students and replaced its well. The same year, a senior living center in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, had lead levels of 3,428 ppb. Such drinking water is truly poisonous, especially for children.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flint resident Freddie Fisher shouts out "No justice, no peace!" as he joins more than 50 Flint residents who rallied on the five-year anniversary of the Flint water crisis on April 25 in Lansing, Michigan.

Large urban water systems tend to have lower contaminant levels than systems in rural areas, including for lead, because they have expert staff to run facilities. But when contamination occurs in urban systems, it affects more people. Flint's water system serves 71,500 people, and its woes drew the attention of the Obama administration. In 2004, when Washington, D.C. had similar lead levels, Congress intervened to demand a rapid fix.

Right now, Newark, New Jersey — an area that I have studied for more than 10 years — is in the hot seat for lead but has not drawn similar attention. In June, the city reported to the EPA lead samples more than 2.5 times higher than that of Flint at the peak of the crisis, the highest level in a two-year problem.

The Pequannock facility, one of Newark's two water treatment plants and the source of the issue, distributes water to the city and several surrounding communities. The Newark Water Department serves a total of more than 290,000 people.

Of cities with more than 100,000 in population reporting issues since the beginning of 2017, nearest in rank to Newark in terms of levels of lead is Pittsburgh; then Trenton, New Jersey; Fort Wayne, Indiana; Suez Water, headquartered in Hackensack, New Jersey, serving multiple communities; Portland, Oregon; Providence, Rhode Island; and Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Most cities reporting issues are in New England and the Middle Atlantic States, where older housing is more likely to have lead pipes that run from

the water main into the home.

SHINING A LIGHT ON THE PROBLEM: MISSING DATA

What's more, an undetermined number of water systems with lead problems in their water do not report heightened lead levels to the federal government, in violation of the law.

An investigative report commissioned by Congress, publicly released in October 2017, showed that about 2% of public water systems across the country exceeded the federal limit on lead between 2014 and 2016.

The report says that the number of water systems that do not report their problems at all is understated — in some cases badly so. Flint itself initially failed to report its elevated lead levels to the EPA.

More than 936M have obstructive sleep apnea

SAN DIEGO (BUSINESS WIRE) — More than 936 million people have obstructive sleep apnea — the disease's first prevalence update in more than a decade — according to The Lancet Respiratory Medicine, the world's leading journal in its field.

The Lancet on Tuesday published a multinational analysis by ResMed and 12 academic leaders in sleep research. The results were first presented at the ATS 2018 International Conference in San Diego.

This figure is nearly 10 times greater than the World Health Organization's 2007 estimate of more than 100 million, renewing calls for physicians to step up their efforts to screen, diagnose and prescribe treatment for those who unknowingly suffer.

"More than 85 percent of sleep apnea patients are undiagnosed," said Carlos M. Nunez, M.D., a study co-author and ResMed's chief medical officer. "This raises their risk of workplace and roadway accidents and can contribute to other significant health problems, such as hypertension, cardiovascular disease or even poor glucose control for di-

abetic patients."

WHY IS SLEEP APNEA MOSTLY UNDIAGNOSED?

Sufferers often don't know they're suffering. They'll stop breathing for 10 seconds or more throughout the night — called an "apnea" — and repeatedly wake to breathe and prevent suffocation. They rarely remember waking, but the disruptive cycle causes chronic sleep deprivation.

"Many will attribute the resulting tiredness to aging or stress," Nunez said.

Today, women account for 40 percent of newly diagnosed sleep apnea patients.

WHO IS AT RISK?

More than half of all people with obesity, heart failure, stroke or transient ischemic attack, atrial fibrillation or type 2 diabetes also have sleep apnea, according to leading research. Snoring is the No. 1 indicator of sleep apnea in men and women, though not everyone who snores has it — and not everyone who has it snores.

People told they stop breathing for long periods during sleep are also at a higher risk for the disorder.

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Financier in sex abuse case went from math whiz to titan

BY MICHAEL R. SISAK
AND JIM MUSTIAN

Associated Press

NEW YORK — He has rubbed elbows with a prince and flown a former president on his private jet. He amassed a fortune that includes a 100-acre island in the Caribbean and one of the biggest mansions in New York.

He has donated tens of millions of dollars to Harvard and other causes, becoming a darling of professors and scientists — all without a college degree.

Jeffrey Epstein has long been an enigma, his ascent shrouded in mystery. Just how a middle-class Brooklyn math whiz became a Wall Street master of high finance with friends in very high places has been a subject of tabloid speculation for years.

Now, the details of Epstein's life and his alleged predilections are coming into sharper focus as federal prosecutors in New York pursue sex-trafficking charges accusing the 66-year-old billionaire of recruiting and abusing dozens of underage girls at his mansions in New York and Palm Beach, Florida, in the early 2000s.

Epstein, who pleaded not guilty Monday, could get up to 45 years in prison if convicted.

The financier avoided a potentially long prison sentence on nearly identical allegations more than a decade ago thanks to a once-secret agreement with federal prosecutors in Florida that has been widely criticized as a sweetheart deal.

In bringing charges this time, prosecutors in New York said a search of Epstein's Upper East Side mansion over the weekend yielded a vast trove of hundreds or even thousands of lewd photos of young women or girls.

Epstein's defense attorneys contend he never used violence or coerced any of the girls, and that his actions amount, at most, to soliciting prostitution. They say the charges should be dismissed in light of Epstein's earlier plea deal.

"This is ancient stuff," defense attorney Reid Weingarten said during a court appearance Monday.

Epstein has long obscured the source of his wealth. Even after his arrest, he refused to provide authorities with even basic information about his income and assets. His attorney said Epstein's lawyers intend to provide the information but want to make sure it is correct first.

This much is clear: "He is a man of nearly infinite means," federal prosecutor Alex Rossmler said in court.

The somewhat reclusive Epstein splashed onto the international scene in 2002 after a New York tabloid reported he had lent his Boeing 727 to ferry former President Bill Clinton and other notables on an AIDS relief mission to Africa.



Lawyer Brad Edwards, right, leaves federal court on Monday with his clients Michelle Licata, center, and Courtney Wild, left, after wealthy financier Jeffrey Epstein appeared for his arraignment in New York. Licata and Wild, two of Epstein's accusers, say they feel empowered after he was charged with sex trafficking and conspiracy charges.

Profiles in *New York* magazine and *Vanity Fair* followed, establishing Epstein's reputation as an exorbitantly wealthy playboy and a stealthy Wall Street mover and shaker. *Vanity Fair* in 2003 described him holding court in his extravagant New York mansion with real estate tycoons, business executives and the scions of some of America's wealthiest families.

He was said to spend 75 minutes a day practicing yoga with a personal instructor and eschewed email for face-to-face conversations. *Vanity Fair* reported that he drank Earl Grey tea and didn't touch alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

Epstein also enjoyed surrounding himself with women much younger than him, including Russian models who attended his cocktail parties and beautiful women he flew aboard his plane, according to the *Vanity Fair* profile.

His friends over the years have included Donald Trump, Britain's Prince Andrew and former Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz.

"I've known Jeff for 15 years. Terrific guy," Trump told *New York* magazine in 2002. "He's a lot of fun to be with. It is even said that he likes beautiful women as much as I do, and many of them are on the younger side. No doubt about it — Jeffrey enjoys his social life."

The writer of the *Vanity Fair* article, Vicky Ward, said Monday that she had also interviewed two girls who alleged Epstein tried to entice them into sexual activity, but that the magazine didn't run that part of the story. Former editor Graydon Carter said it was cut because he "didn't have confidence" in Ward's reporting.

Epstein grew up in the Coney Island

neighborhood of Brooklyn, the son of a New York City parks department employee.

He taught calculus and physics at the prestigious Dalton School, a prep school in Manhattan, from 1973 to 1975, despite not having a college degree. Attorney General William Barr's father, Donald Barr, was headmaster at the time.

Dalton graduate Paul Grossman said that he never had Epstein in class but that he was known among students as a math whiz.

"Everyone pretty much knew him as brilliant," said Grossman, who graduated in 1978. "None of us were surprised that when he left Dalton he made a zillion dollars in business."

William Barr has decided not to recuse himself from overseeing Epstein's case, a Justice Department official told The Associated Press on Tuesday. But Barr has withdrawn from taking part in any review of the 2008 deal in Florida because Barr's former law firm previously represented Epstein, the official said. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Epstein left Dalton in the mid-1970s for a job at Bear Stearns at the urging of a student's father who arranged a meeting with the chairman of the investment bank, according to published reports. He later began his own money-management business, J. Epstein & Co.

Epstein also forged a relationship with Leslie Wexner, the retail titan behind Victoria's Secret, The Limited and other store chains. He started managing Wexner's money in the late 1980s and helped straighten out the finances for a real estate development Wexner was backing in a wealthy Columbus,

Ohio, suburb.

It was through Wexner that Epstein acquired his Manhattan mansion, a seven-story, 21,000-square-foot former prep school less than a block from Central Park. It has been valued at about \$77 million.

Wexner's relationship with Epstein soured around the time of the money man's Florida arrest, and Wexner severed ties with him nearly 12 years ago. Wexner has not commented on Epstein's latest arrest.

"Little is known or said about Epstein's business except this: He manages money for the extremely wealthy," the Palm Beach Post reported in 2006 after Epstein's legal troubles began there. "He is said to handle accounts only of \$1 billion or greater."

In 2008, he reached a non-prosecution agreement with federal prosecutors in Florida over allegations of sex with underage girls. He was allowed to plead guilty to state charges of soliciting a minor for prostitution and served 13 months in jail. The deal also required that he reach financial settlements with dozens of his alleged victims.

Epstein nearly got another break in 2011, when the Manhattan District Attorney's office took the unusual step of asking a judge to register him as a lowest level sex offender so he wouldn't be required to check in with authorities every 90 days. Judge Ruth Pickholz balked, saying she had "never seen a prosecutor's office do anything like this," and the DA's office later reversed its position.

Federal prosecutors acknowledged Monday that the current charges overlap with the Florida case from more than a decade ago. But they said one count in the indictment is based entirely on New York victims.

Epstein spent most of his time in recent years in the Virgin Islands and regularly flew off to foreign destinations, making more than 20 trips in and out of the U.S. on his private jet in the last 18 months, according to prosecutors. He has six homes, including one in Paris, and two private planes.

Workers in Epstein's New York neighborhood said Tuesday that they rarely saw him, if at all, in recent years.

A bellman a few doors down who declined to give his name said he saw the billionaire leaving his mansion about three months ago with a woman who was covering her face. The bellman said he had seen multiple women going in and out maybe once every two weeks.

Michelle Licata, who says she had sexual encounters with Epstein when she was 16, welcomed his arrest.

"The first moment of finding out that Jeffrey Epstein was put in jail was so relieving to me I felt safer," she said Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America." "I've waited for this one day just to happen, and it's finally come."

Powell signals that rate cut could be coming soon

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Chairman Jerome Powell signaled Wednesday that the Federal Reserve is likely to cut interest rates late this month for the first time in a decade in light of a weakening global economy and rising trade tensions.

Delivering the central bank's semiannual report to Congress, Powell said that since Fed officials met last month, "uncertainties around trade tensions and concerns about the strength of the global economy continue to weigh on the U.S. economic outlook." In addition, annual inflation has dipped further below the Fed's annual target level.

Powell's remarks triggered a stock market rally, with the Dow Jones industrial average up nearly 100 points in late-morning trading.

Economists suggested that Powell's message made a quarter-point rate cut a virtual certainty at the Fed's meeting this month, with many forecasting further rate cuts to come.

Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics, said he thinks economic growth will slow below a 1% annual rate in the second half of this year, which he thinks will lead to additional quarter-point cuts in December and then March.

Ashworth said a July rate cut would be "insurance against the downside risk that Fed officials believe have mounted in recent months."

Many investors have put the odds of a rate cut this month



Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell speaks on June 19 during a news conference in Washington.

at 100%. The Fed's benchmark rate stands in a range of 2.25% to 2.5% after the central bank raised rates four times last year — action that incited public attacks on the Powell Fed from President Donald Trump.

Trump, who is counting on a strong economy for his reelection campaign, has called the Fed his biggest threat. He contends that the central bank made a huge mistake by tightening credit last year and should be cutting rates now. Trump has argued that last year's rate hikes have held back economic growth and the stock market.

In his prepared remarks, Powell made no mention of the president's criticism. He did thank Congress for the "independence" it has given the Fed to operate free of political intrusion. But later, in the question-and-answer period, Democratic members of the House Financial Services Committee made clear their

discontent with Trump's attacks.

Rep. Maxine Waters, who leads the committee, declared that "this president has made it clear that he has no understanding or respect for the independence of the Federal Reserve." She also referred to published reports that Trump had discussed firing Powell.

Asked by Waters what he would do if Trump said he wanted to fire him, Powell replied, as he has in the past, that he intends to serve his full four-year term.

Powell's remarks Wednesday began two days of his testimony on Capitol Hill. Today he will address the Senate Banking Committee.

At the moment, the U.S. economic landscape is a mixed one: The job market appears resilient, but economic growth is slowing. Many forecasters predict that growth has slowed to an annual rate of around 2% in the just completed April-June quarter.

In his testimony, Powell said the economy has fared reasonably well over the first half of the year. But he noted that "crosscurrents, such as trade tensions and concerns about global growth, have been weighing on economic activity and the outlook."

He said that growth in business investment "seems to have slowed notably," possibly because of concerns over slowing global growth and the trade battle between the Trump administration and China.

Powell repeated a pledge the Fed made in its June policy statement that officials would "act as appropriate to sustain the expansion." But notably, he added that "many" Fed officials saw that the case for a looser monetary

policy "had strengthened."

The Fed hasn't cut rates since 2008 at the height of the financial crisis.

Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping declared a truce last month in what had threatened to become an escalating U.S.-China trade war and agreed to resume talks toward a deal that would meet the administration's demands to better protect U.S. technology. That step eased fears that Trump would extend punitive tariffs to an additional \$300 billion in Chinese goods, in the process inviting retaliation from Beijing on American exports and likely weakening both nations' economies.

And last week the government reported that after a tepid job gain in May, U.S. employers sharply stepped up their hiring in June, an indication of the economy's durability.

A wild card in the Fed's decision-making has been Trump's highly unusual public pressure on the central bank to cut rates sharply. Trump's attacks have raised alarms that he is undermining the Fed's long-recognized independence from political pressure.

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MARTIN-KNOX

FROM PAGE A1

the world to her, she said, in supporting her academics and musical endeavors.

“Going into education allowed me to give back to children what had been afforded to me through the support I received from my teachers,” Martin-Knox said. “I really have been focused on the development of children and ensuring that children don’t go without because my teachers made sure that I had at all times.”

That support came in various forms and fashions.

In middle school, Wallace introduced her to music. After she mastered the recorder, he gave her a clarinet to take home and practice with. She hadn’t known what a clarinet was, and there were no musicians in her family to show her.

She said she thought that was the worst weekend of her life because she couldn’t figure out how it worked.

When she returned to school, Martin-Knox said, she asked her teacher to give her the recorder back.

“I can still hear him chuckle when he asked me, ‘Show me what happened,’” Martin-Knox recalled. “I went to show him what happened, and he told me at that time that I needed to take the protective cap off the clarinet in order to get it to produce a sound.”

“So, later on, I realized that’s what good teaching is,” she said. “He made me go back and show him what I had done; so, he taught me the lesson of not quitting. He was one of those teachers who truly went above and beyond.”

A high school music teacher and her two college band directors also stood out, she said, as she achieved a bachelor’s in music education from Morgan State University in Baltimore in 1991.

After a year teaching in Baltimore City Public Schools, she secured a position in Baltimore County Public Schools, one of the largest systems in the country with a current enrollment

of 114,000 students, headquartered in Towson, Maryland.

Martin-Knox started at Deer Park Middle Magnet School as an instrumental music teacher in 1993 and advanced there to principal from 2005-10.

Her last two positions in the district were community superintendent and chief of school climate and safety.

As a community superintendent, she was responsible for about 35 schools in the district across the K-12 levels. Baltimore County Public Schools is divided into four zones and has a total of 175 schools, she said.

In both roles, she focused on the transition for students across the three levels, ensuring environments were productive and inviting — especially around social and emotional aspects to student learning.

“Going to the model of the community superintendent,” Martin-Knox said, “allowed me to really focus on that trajectory from kindergarten to 12th grade to look at the data and see student progress and to really help

leaders in the schoolhouse shape the experiences for our children so they achieve academic success.”

NOW IN SUMTER

Martin-Knox said she is excited to be in Sumter.

She said she has been impressed with school leadership and community support and that she has already spent time in the schools listening in order to lead.

“It’s about listening and learning,” Martin-Knox said. “Once you have listened and learned, then you take the process of leading into consideration. But you can’t lead what you don’t understand. Right now is the opportunity to listen and take in as much as I can so that I can be a support to the leadership that ultimately impacts our children.”

Her goals for this year, she said, are improving academic outcomes for students in line with state standards and strengthening environments around children, from classroom instruction to after-school opportunities.

LOVE

FROM PAGE A1

give him the medicine that he needed while in the hospital.

Chapman bought a cake. Safety monitor Briana Welch brought the flowers.

Brooks wanted a photo taken so she could send it in to the newspaper; Chapman secretly had it printed on canvas as a wedding gift.

Three days after Chapman met the couple, their marriage license was official. On a Wednesday afternoon, against a backdrop of medical machines quietly whirring and the hushed but urgent bustle of caregivers, the critical care unit became “church.”

Massey blessed the couple’s hands, saying, “These are the hands of your partner, strong and full of love; the hands that will give you strength.” He offered this quote from writer L.R. Knost: “All things can be mended, not with time but with intention. So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally.”

“God doesn’t put a time on love,” the new bride later responded.

As Massey pronounced the couple husband and wife, the family members gathered in the small room and those watching from across the country via cell-phones erupted into quiet but gleeful applause. Chapman smiled through her tears.

She acted out of compassion with no need for recognition, but her reward was in that room: the power of love in action.



PHOTOS BY CHRIS MOORE / PRISMA HEALTH TUOMEY HOSPITAL

Marshal Maurice John’s room in the ICU was full of supporters, family and friends as he and Erica Brooks said their vows. Hospital employees helped with the ceremony, including decorations and asking a Sumter judge to send a marriage license form to the hospital.



DISTRICT

FROM PAGE A1

April 2018 to close Mayewood Middle and F.J. DeLaine Elementary School in Wedgefield due to what it said was low enrollment and in an effort to save money.

Byrd, fellow Republican council members Artie Baker and Charles Edens and Democrat Chris Sumpter voted against the original request on June 25 to raise taxes and against amending the agenda to allow district administration to present new information that showed it just \$206,645 short of balancing its budget for next year.

Byrd said Tuesday the other three council members have already stated their reasoning to *The Sumter Item* — which has been giving council members the space to publicly do so — for voting down a tax increase.

“It’s over with,” he said, and he’s ready to move forward.

Byrd wants moving forward to include monthly meetings between council’s Education

Liaison Committee, of which he is a member with Sumpter and Chairman Jim McCain, and a similar committee from the school board and district administration.

Due to “miscommunication” or other reasons, those meetings didn’t happen last year, Byrd said, but McCain wants them to happen. Byrd said he is on board.

He said the district’s new superintendent, Penelope Martin-Knox, who started July 1, and finance staff will be welcome to attend those meetings, as well.

“You get to know each other,” Byrd said, “and we might find out some stuff we don’t know on both sides. That’s all it’s about. We live together. We’re neighbors. We understand the community, and we need to be on the same team, and we want to be,” he said. “Like I say, it’s over with, so let’s move forward and try to improve education for all Sumter County going forward.”

He said by working together that council and the district may come to an agreement

early next year.

“Maybe in January, February, we will already have our minds made up on what they need, and we won’t have any issues,” Byrd said. “That’s what our goal is now — let’s move forward.”

This year marked the third consecutive year that council has denied a millage rate hike request from the district.

FLEMING-McGHANEY ALSO SAYS TIME TO MOVE FORWARD

Councilwoman Vivian Fleming-McGhaney, a Democrat who was in support of the millage increase, spoke



FLEMING-McGHANEY

Wednesday and said she had hoped a compromise could have been reached, but she’s ready to put the issue to bed. Fleming-McGhaney said her constituents were in support of a millage increase and after the state had already provided a lot of support with funding the teacher pay raises, she felt the county should have also

responded favorably.

She said she also understands taxes are a “balancing act,” but everyone contributes to the process in some manner.

Fleming-McGhaney added she hopes Sumter County can move forward in love.

“I just have a fundamental premise about the way I do things,” she said, “and I never want to hurt anyone, and I do things in love. And, I’m not seeing enough of that. We criticize each other so harshly, be-

fore trying to see through the other person’s eyes.”

McGhaney is a long-time council member and is also a school district employee. State ethics officials have told her in the past she does not need to recuse herself from these millage votes because she does not have anything to directly, personally gain.

The other two in support of the tax hike included McCain and Eugene Baten, both Democrats.

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COMMENTARY

America is greater than 'just OK'

WASHINGTON — Maybe President Trump was right that we needed a “Salute to America” last week because apparently some Americans have lost sight of the greatness of our country. Case in point: To mark Independence Day, *The New York Times* posted a video op-ed challenging what it called the “mythology” of American greatness. “America may once have been the greatest,” the *Times* video declares, “but today, America, we’re just OK.”

The video is like a caricature of how conservatives think the left sees America — except it isn’t a caricature; it’s real. It’s a straw man come to life. As evidence we’re just OK, the video cites statistics showing that other developed countries, such as Luxembourg, Sweden and Norway, have lower poverty rates or better education and health care outcomes than America. And as for our “kick-ass democracy,” the *Times* says, it’s not that big a deal because “a lot of countries have



Marc Thiessen

and progress those other countries enjoy today would not be possible without the United States.

The reason that “a lot of countries have freedoms” today is because our Founding Fathers pioneered the principle of popular sovereignty, where governments answer to the people instead of the other way around. At the time of our founding, the rest of the world was ruled by monarchs. Our founders established the first country in human history that was built on an idea — the idea of human liberty.

For most of our history, American democracy was a global outlier. In 1938, on the eve of World War II, there were just 17 democracies. It was not

freedoms.”

Put aside for a moment all the misleading data the video uses to show America is not so great. The fact is, all the freedom

until 1998 — just two decades ago — that there were more democracies than autocracies.

That dramatic explosion of freedom didn’t just happen. It was the direct result of the rise of the United States as a global superpower. The U.S.-powered victory over Nazi tyranny in World War II and our triumph over Soviet tyranny in the Cold War defeated the hateful ideologies of fascism and communism and unleashed a wave of freedom that has spread across the world. Today, 4.1 billion people live in democracies. (Of those who do not, four out of five live in China.)

The unprecedented expansion of liberty has produced unprecedented prosperity. Last September, the Brookings Institution reported that “for the first time since agriculture-based civilization began 10,000 years ago, the majority of humankind ... some 3.8 billion people, live in households with enough discretionary expenditure to be considered ‘middle class’ or ‘rich.’”

None of that would be possible without the Pax Americana

guaranteed by U.S. military. Americans liberated a continent, rebuilt much of it from the rubble of war with the Marshall Plan and then stood watch on freedom’s frontier and prevented a Soviet tank invasion across the Fulda Gap. And today, the only thing that stops North Korea from invading South Korea or China from invading Taiwan is American military might.

So, let’s be clear: Every country that enjoys democratic governance today owes its birth of freedom to our Founding Fathers and the continued existence of their democracy to the U.S. military.

Today, for all its flaws, America remains the freest, most innovative, most prosperous country in the history of the world. We invented the lightbulb and the iPhone. We put a man on the moon and a rover on Mars. We are a nation of unparalleled military power and unlimited opportunity. There’s a reason we have a crisis on our southern border; millions want to come here so that they can share in the

abundance of American prosperity.

The men and women who flew those fighters and bombers over the Mall last week make it all possible. They provide the critical foundation of peace and security upon which our freedom, and the freedom of all the world’s democracies, is built. Maybe Luxembourg scores better on some measures, but no one is counting on Luxembourg to secure the peace of the world. Trump was right to shine a spotlight on our men and women in uniform and to remind those who have lost sight of it that the United States is not simply the greatest nation on Earth; we are indispensable. Without us, the world would be mired in the darkness of totalitarianism rather than the light of liberty.

That is better than “just OK.”

Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.

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EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Recent editorials from South Carolina newspapers:

THE AIKEN STANDARD July 7

Ongoing reporting on SRS will benefit readers as site in flux

The *Aiken Standard* covered news and information in and around Aiken for 83 years before President Harry S. Truman asked DuPont for expertise in starting an atomic energy project in our neighborhood. For the last 70 years, the Savannah River Site has been a consistent and important topic for our readers, locally and beyond.

Right now, the site is in a bit of a flux. Political plays and shifting plutonium are creating uncertainty with the general public about who’s on first. There’s no better time than now to take a deeper dive on this topic that is vital to national security and whose success has run in tandem with the CSRA for almost three generations.

Over the last several months, reporters have been looking at documents and talking to experts about how we got here and the future of the site. This edition is the start of a series looking extensively at not only MOX and plutonium but also the entire Savannah River Site and its many facets.

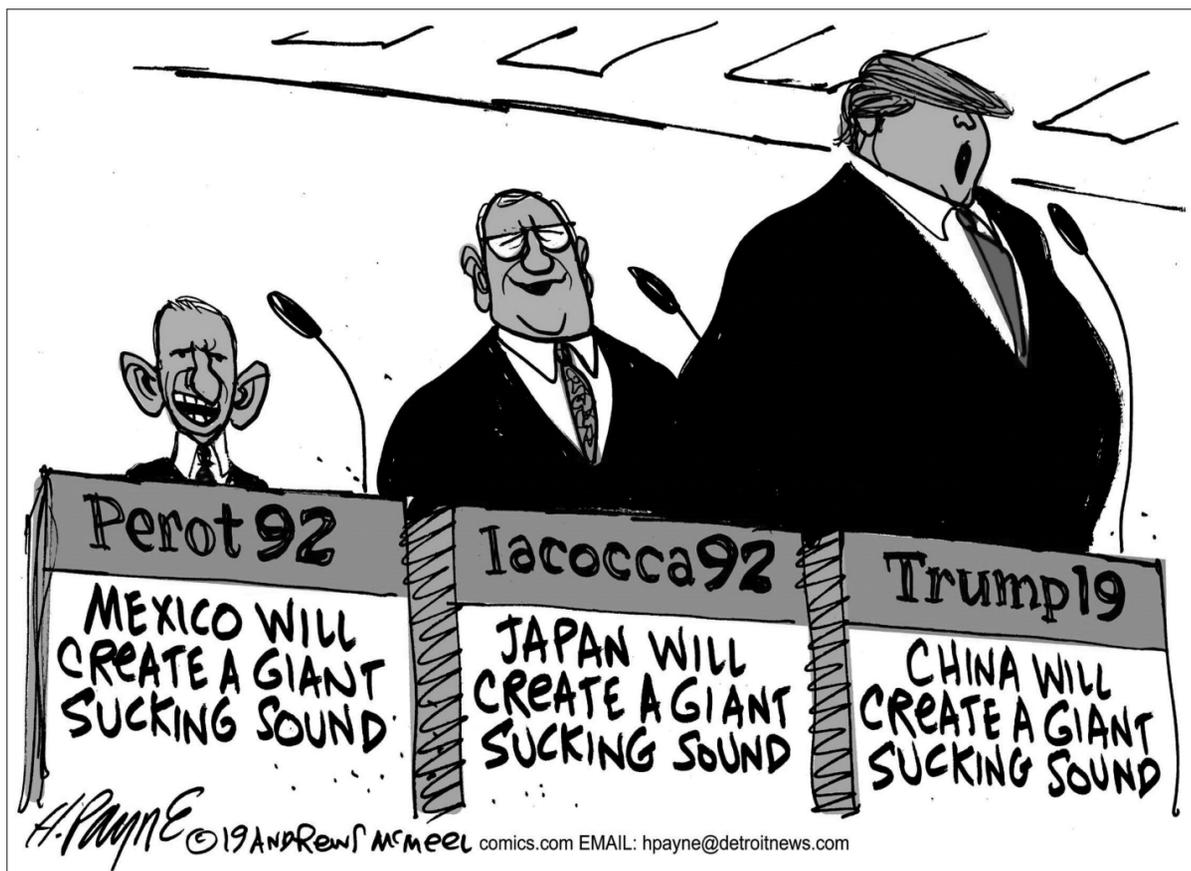
This has been a collaborative journalism effort. This project brought together investigative reporters Colin Demarest of the *Aiken Standard* and fellow *Evening Post* Industries’ daily newspaper, Charleston’s *Post & Courier*’s Thad Moore and Glenn Smith.

The focus of (the June 7) story looks at the plutonium located at the site, its challenges with aging infrastructure and more. We hope both lifelong residents and newcomers will learn something new about the Savannah River Site from reading this issue.

The story talks about the fall of the mixed oxide facility, MOX, which closed in October of last year — a story, by the way, that was first broken to CSRA readers and many in Washington by Demarest. And the *Standard* expressed its disappointment in the MOX closure but applauded the efforts by our government officials.

The news from SRS doesn’t stop with the closure of MOX; the *Aiken Standard* will continue to cover the proceedings of whether pit production will come to SRS and the long-term storage solution of plutonium that’s being held at Savannah River.

SRS is important to our region, and *Aiken Standard* readers, for many reasons: workforce, economic power and influence, environmental impact, contribution to the community and charitable institutions, and of course, its role in our national security. We take all of it seriously.



So do those we speak to at the NNSA, DOE and SRS. Savannah River Site has raised the bar for nuclear safety and security, making it one of the very best facilities of its type and setting the standard around the world.

THE POST AND COURIER July 7

Solutions for S.C.’s unsafe drinking water problem

To ensure all South Carolinians have safe drinking water, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control needs greater authority to compel dozens of failing rural water systems to join forces with their neighbors to create economies of scale capable of financing upgrades that would be unaffordable otherwise.

Many small rural water systems have for years failed to deliver safe drinking water due to incompetence, worn-out infrastructure or lax enforcement of water quality standards, among other problems.

Worse, most small rural water providers simply cannot afford the kind of systemwide improvements needed even with grants and low-cost loans provided by state and federal agencies. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, the needed repairs would cost about \$1.8 billion statewide over 20 years.

“The needs are greater than all the

resources combined,” Bonnie Ammons, head of the Rural Infrastructure Authority, recently told the House Legislative Oversight Committee. Since 2013, the RIA has distributed about \$122 million in grants to help cope with the problem.

In response to questions from legislators, Ms. Ammons said she was unaware of any mechanism that would enable the state or DHEC to take over failing water systems. But she did say there had been recent discussions about compelling failing water agencies to merge with larger ones or form regional co-ops that would be better able to finance major improvements, something consultants recommended as far back as 2005.

In 2012, for example, when the Hampton County town of Gifford was facing insurmountable water system repairs, the mayor reached out to four neighboring towns and formed a regional water system that was better able to cope with the costs.

More often than not, however, small municipalities have resisted mergers, partly because their water systems bring in significant income, and officials are wary of ceding any control over that revenue.

Another problem, Ammons said, is that there is no incentive for successful systems to absorb smaller troubled systems.

The *State* newspaper’s “Tainted Water” series documented dozens of cases in which rural water systems were contaminated by bacteria or higher-than-acceptable levels of lead or radium, both of which can have dire health effects.

In Denmark, city officials for up to

10 years used an unapproved chemical to treat rust-colored, bacteria-contaminated well water. In Jenkinsville in 2011, officials failed for four days to issue a boil-water alert because of contamination simply because the manager was out of town. The newspaper series also showed that DHEC often went easy on small rural agencies found in violation of drinking water standards.

Only once in recent memory has a failing water agency merged with a larger one. The city of Florence, under pressure from the state and federal government, agreed to take over the Timmonsville water system to resolve a 2013 lawsuit brought against the smaller town by the Environmental Protection Agency.

DHEC lacks the authority to take over water systems, but once DHEC has exhausted its regulatory remedies, it can ask a judge to appoint a receiver to operate a water system, an agency spokeswoman said. Certainly, DHEC should use all of the tools at its disposal, including asking a judge to intervene when appropriate.

Clean drinking water should be a basic right, and lawmakers should demand water suppliers, whether public or private, measure up to state standards.

In cases where water suppliers repeatedly fail to meet goals for improvement, the Legislature should empower DHEC to hand them over to responsible operators. And the RIA should look at providing incentives for merging small water systems to create more fiscally robust agencies to help finance capital projects that would be impossible otherwise.

AROUND TOWN

The Sumter County Recreation Department Summer Enrichment Program will be held from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. July 15 through Aug. 9 at Shiloh Community Center, 475 Puddin Swamp Road, Lynchburg. The program is open to youth ages 5 through 12 (proof of age required). Registration will held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday at Shiloh Community Center until July 15. Registration fee is \$15 per participant and a weekly fee of \$10. For information, call Shiloh Community Center at (843) 659-4201 or the Recreation Department at (803) 436-2249.

The Sumter Opera House once again offers its Summer Cinema Series with an all new lineup of movies. Movies will be shown at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets are \$1 and concessions will be available for purchase. The following films are scheduled: July 16, "Smallfoot"; July 23, "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse"; July 30, "The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part"; Aug. 6, "Mary Poppins Returns"; and Aug. 13, "Dumbo" (2019). The Sumter Opera House is located at 21 N. Main St., (803) 436-2616.

The Sumter County Museum will host a talk and book signing reception with author Signe Pike, who will discuss her historical fiction novel "The Lost Queen." This free event will be held at 6:30 p.m. today at the museum, 122 N. Washington St. Copies of Pike's book will be available for purchase. Visit <http://www.sumtercountymuseum.org/events.html> or call (803) 775-0908.

The Lincoln High School Preservation Alumni Association board meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 13, at 26 Council St. Call the alumni office at (803) 775-0444 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday or Wednesday.

The Knit and Stitch Sewing Group will meet from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, July 16, at the Wesmark Branch of the Sumter County Library, 180 W. Wesmark Blvd. Open to anyone who enjoys knitting, crocheting, embroidery, cross stitch or any other sewing hobby. This is an opportunity to learn new sewing hobbies, exchange patterns or simply enjoy fellow stitchers. The group meets every third Tuesday.

Lake Marion VFW Post 11078,

Summerton, will meet on Tuesday, July 16, at 1 Duke St., Summerton, right behind First Citizens Bank. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7 p.m. All VFW members are encouraged to attend as are all prospective members. Call Carl A. Farley at (803) 460-8910.

The Walnut Hill Community Club will meet from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, at the North HOPE Center, North Main Street. Other community clubs are invited to attend. There will be presentations from the city and county of Sumter.

The Lincoln High School Preservation Alumni Association will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 21, at 26 Council St. Call the alumni office at (803) 775-0444 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday or Wednesday.

The Sumter County Sheriff Citizens Advisory Board will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 29, at the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, 1281 N. Main St. Presentations will be given by Mayor Joe McElveen, Sumter Police Chief Russell Roark and Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis. Open to the public, comments are limited to two minutes, and there will be sign up sheets available prior to the meeting.

The One Sumter Community Group will sponsor its fifth annual prayer breakfast at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 3, at Mount Zion Enrichment Center, 315 W. Fulton St. Tickets: \$10 each; \$100 for table of 10. Call the Rev. Joshua Dupree at (803) 795-3600.

A "Back 2 School Bash," presented by Save the Children and the Summerton Literacy Council, will be held from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Clarendon One Community Resource Center, 1154 Fourth St., Summerton. Call (803) 485-2043.

A maternity health and resource fair will be held from 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Sumter County Library, 111 N. Harvin St. The aim of the fair is to provide an informative interactive session for parents and expectant parents. Community resource agencies will provide evidence-based practices that help prepare for successful parenting. Special gift for first-time expectant moms. RSVP by calling (803) 250-6713. Vendors should call (803) 983-8031.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
89°	75°	89° / 73°	91° / 72°	93° / 72°	93° / 73°
Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 15%
SSW 4-8 mph	SSW 4-8 mph	WSW 7-14 mph	WSW 6-12 mph	WSW 4-8 mph	W 3-6 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

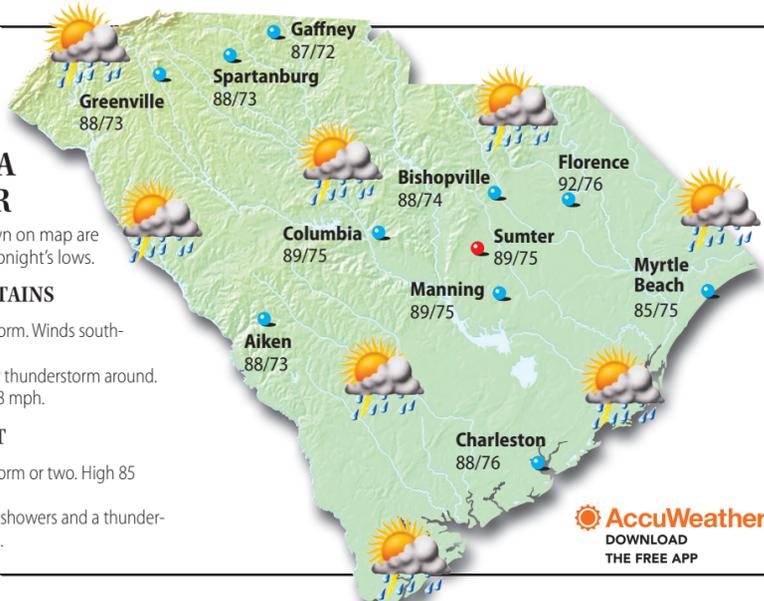
Today: A thunderstorm. Winds south-southwest 4-8 mph.

Friday: A shower or thunderstorm around. Winds southwest 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A thunderstorm or two. High 85 to 91.

Friday: A couple of showers and a thunderstorm. High 87 to 92.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
	87°	74°	91°	70°	104° in 1986	58° in 1961

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
	0.78"	2.96"	1.56"	19.30"	18.02"	24.35"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.71	+0.03
Marion	76.8	75.53	none
Moultrie	75.5	75.24	-0.01
Wateree	100	97.42	+0.01

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	3.15	+0.27
Congaree River	19	4.92	-0.01
Lynches River	14	3.40	+0.53
Saluda River	14	2.32	none
Up. Santee River	80	77.15	-0.30
Wateree River	24	9.60	+0.63

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:19 a.m.	Sunset	8:35 p.m.
Moonrise	3:54 p.m.	Moonset	2:20 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
July 16	July 24	July 31	Aug 7

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	5:00 a.m.	2.9	11:59 a.m.	-0.2
	5:55 p.m.	3.3	---	---
Fri.	5:56 a.m.	2.8	12:45 a.m.	0.2
	6:50 p.m.	3.4	12:53 p.m.	-0.2

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	87/73/t 86/73/t	
Chicago	79/60/pc 86/69/pc	
Dallas	96/73/t 95/73/s	
Detroit	85/63/pc 83/64/s	
Houston	93/78/t 95/77/t	
Los Angeles	86/65/pc 87/66/pc	
New Orleans	91/78/t 86/76/r	
New York	84/73/t 87/71/pc	
Oriando	92/73/t 92/73/t	
Philadelphia	87/74/t 89/71/pc	
Phoenix	111/86/pc 110/89/pc	
San Francisco	72/57/s 72/57/s	
Wash., DC	90/75/t 90/71/s	

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	84/68/t 83/67/t		Florence	92/76/t 91/76/t	
Athens	87/73/t 88/72/t		Gainesville	89/73/t 89/74/t	
Augusta	92/75/t 90/74/t		Gastonia	89/74/t 89/72/t	
Beaufort	91/77/t 92/76/t		Goldsboro	91/75/t 90/74/t	
Cape Hatteras	88/78/t 88/77/t		Goose Creek	88/75/t 89/75/t	
Charleston	88/76/t 89/75/t		Greensboro	88/72/t 90/71/t	
Charlotte	89/75/t 89/73/t		Greenville	88/73/t 88/71/t	
Clemson	88/73/t 85/71/t		Hickory	86/72/t 88/69/t	
Columbia	89/75/t 87/74/t		Hilton Head	87/78/t 88/76/t	
Darlington	90/75/t 90/74/t		Jacksonville, FL	92/74/t 91/73/t	
Elizabeth City	91/77/t 90/75/t		La Grange	88/73/t 88/72/t	
Elizabethtown	89/75/t 89/74/t		Macon	90/73/t 90/73/t	
Fayetteville	91/75/t 90/74/t		Marietta	86/73/t 85/72/t	
			Marion	84/68/t 85/67/t	
			Mt. Pleasant	88/77/t 89/76/t	
			Myrtle Beach	85/75/t 87/76/t	
			Orangeburg	88/73/t 88/73/t	
			Port Royal	89/76/t 91/75/t	
			Raleigh	89/74/t 91/73/t	
			Rock Hill	88/74/t 87/72/t	
			Rockingham	90/74/t 89/73/t	
			Savannah	93/75/t 93/75/t	
			Spartanburg	88/73/t 86/71/t	
			Summerville	88/74/t 88/73/t	
			Wilmington	88/75/t 88/75/t	
			Winston-Salem	87/73/t 90/70/t	

PUBLIC AGENDA

SUMTER COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION / ELECTION COMMISSION

Today, 5:30 p.m., registration / election office, 141 N. Main St.

CLARENDON SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

Today, 7:30 p.m., district office, Turbeville

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do more listening and less talking

when dealing with partners. Finding out where you stand will give insight into how best to handle situations that may not be to your liking. Give-and-take is required.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Share your feelings, but don't force your ideas on others. The way you approach people will make a difference to the outcome. If you are calm and consistent, you'll receive a far better response. Collaborate with people who have something to offer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put restrictions on how much you spend and the promises you make others. You should be aiming toward stress reduction, not ramping it up. Don't let situations turn into a melodrama that leaves you facing an ultimatum.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What you do will make a difference to a meaningful relationship. Don't let an outsider coax you into something that will cause those close to you to worry. Emotional upset and anger will only make matters worse. Romance is encouraged.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have some unique ideas, but they won't all be feasible. Crunch the numbers before you make promises. You can hurt your reputation if you can't live up to your word. Someone will hold you accountable if you fall short.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do your best to get along with everyone. A personal change you make will turn out well, but it might not please someone close to you. You should seek approval before you commit to something that will affect others. Romance will ease

the pressure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You know better than anyone what's best for you. Don't back down or give in to someone asking you to do something restrictive or underhanded. A joint venture isn't recommended. An argument over money is likely.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your emotions will need to be channeled. Physical improvements, lifestyle changes or romance should be your priority. If someone is demanding or forceful, know enough to walk away. A problem based on false information isn't worth arguing about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your dialogue honest and precise. Someone will misinterpret what you are trying to say if you aren't explicit. A last-minute change someone makes should not be allowed to cost you. Stand up for your rights.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put your heart and soul into what you do. Pay close attention to detail, and your expertise will be appreciated. A unique opportunity will be tempting, but first get all the facts and figures before you agree to participate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Assess a partnership or project you are involved in before you decide to participate. A change someone makes unexpectedly should be a warning sign to slow down and rethink your next move. Use your intelligence and experience to avoid a costly mistake.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't wait for someone else to make the first move. You'll do better if you work alone. If you give someone the upper hand, expect him or her to take advantage of you. Celebrate your success with someone you love.

We have a NOSE for NEWS

Call us at (803) 774-1200 or visit us at 36 W. Liberty St.

the Sumter ITEM



PICTURES FROM THE PUBLIC



Daniel Riddle comments on his photo submission, "This great egret has its catch in its beak after floating down the Wateree River. The fish is shadowed perfectly on the wing."

HAVE YOU TAKEN PICTURES OF INTERESTING, EXCITING, BEAUTIFUL OR HISTORICAL PLACES? Would you like to share those images with your fellow *Sumter Item* readers? E-mail your hi-resolution jpegs to sandra@theitem.com, or mail to Sandra Holbert c/o *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, SC 29150. Include clearly printed or typed name of photographer and photo details. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of your photo. Amateur photographers only please. Photos of poor reproduction quality may not publish. With the exception of pictures that are of a timely nature, submitted photos will publish in the order in which they are received.

Dalzell hopes to take down Horry

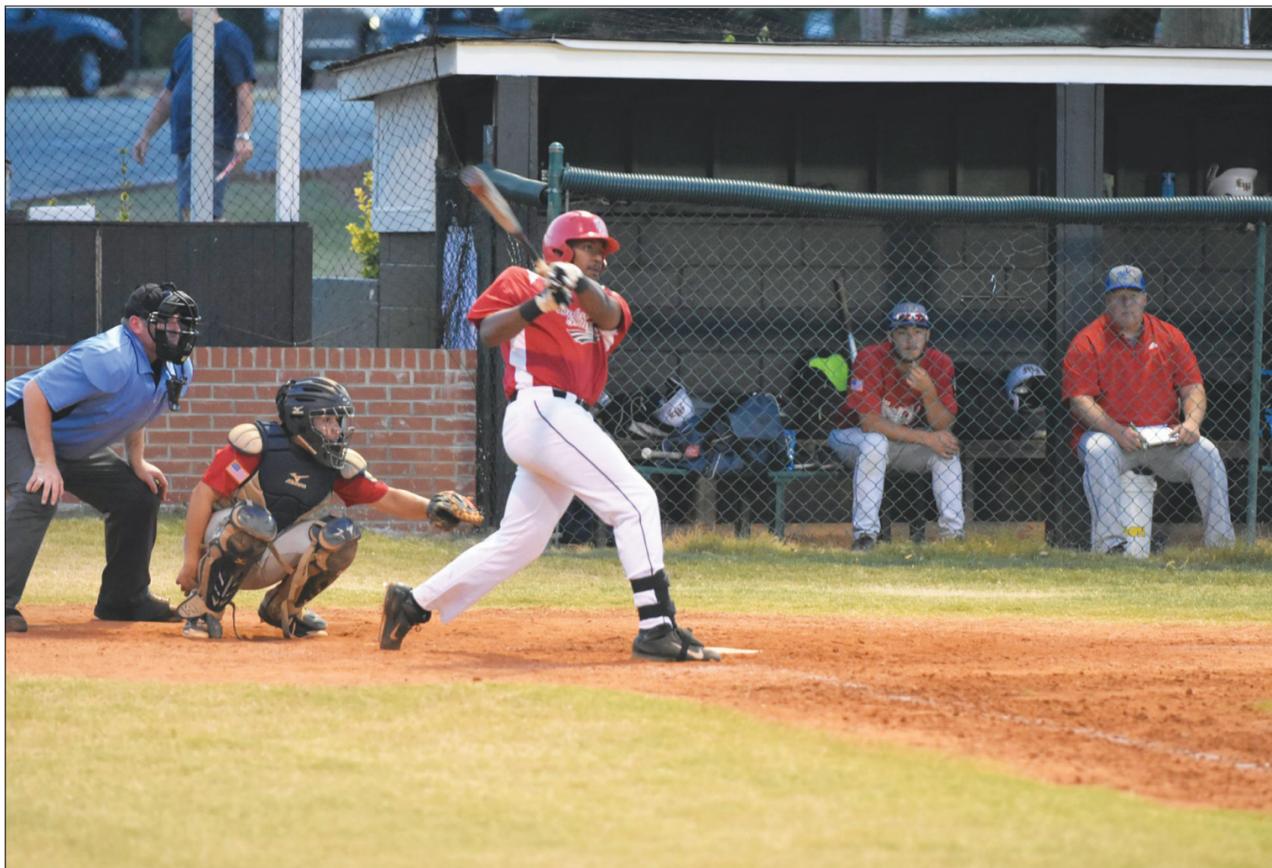
BY J. SCOTT SEWELL
jscott@theitem.com

Dalzell-Shaw Post 175 finds itself in a place it hasn't been many times before — the American Legion baseball state playoffs.

The Jets were slated to begin their best-of-3, first-round playoff series with Horry Post 111 on Wednesday in Conway. It's the first time Post 175 has made the playoffs since they were swept by Florence in 2014.

Dalzell-Shaw finished the 2019 season 4-6 in League II, allowing it to grab the fourth and final playoff berth for the league. Horry finished third in League II at 6-4 and is 9-10 overall.

"I wish we would've drawn someone different than our own league opponent, that we just played last week," said Jets coach Jamey Lisenby, whose team is 7-13 overall. "We finished the season with Horry and turn around and got to play them again. I guess it helps with familiarity. We know what they want to do and how they do it, but they know what we want to do



THE SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Malcolm Brown has been one of the top hitters for Dalzell-Shaw Post 175. The Jets are in the state playoffs for the first time since 2014, facing Horry Post 111 in the first round.

SEE DALZELL, PAGE B2



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York Yankee Gleyber Torres, left, and Boston's Mookie Betts celebrate after the American League defeated the National League 4-3 in the All-Star Game on Tuesday in Cleveland.

AL tops NL 4-3 to win 7th straight All-Star Game

BY BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

CLEVELAND — For one night, the pitchers took back the power.

Hours after an awesome Home Run Derby got everyone buzzing even louder about monster shots and juiced balls, only a couple flew out of Progressive Field in the All-Star Game.

Instead, Justin Verlander blazed 97 mph heat from the start, Shane Bieber and Aroldis Chapman each struck out the side and the American League slowed a loaded NL lineup 4-3 Tuesday for its seventh straight win.

"I know it's the year of the home run, but pitching dominated today," Colorado slugger Nolan Arenado said.

Sure did — at least until play resumes Thursday.

Facing Christian Yelich, Cody Bellinger and a bunch of boppers, the AL staff combined to strike out 16.

"Baseball is a funny game," said Bieber, a most unlikely MVP after being added late to the roster.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

American League starting pitcher Justin Verlander of the Houston Astros smiles as he prepares to pitch during the first inning of the All-Star Game on Tuesday in Cleveland. The AL won 4-3 over the National League.

SEE ALL-STAR, PAGE B2

Robert E. Lee's Rankin concerned about depth

The Sumter Item sports writer Danny Kelly conducted a question-and-answer interview with each of the 12 high school football coaches in Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties, asking each the same five questions about their recently concluded spring practices. Today we have Robert E. Lee Academy head coach David Rankin.

5 Questions About Spring Practice

understand the offense a lot better. Christian Olson, our inside linebacker, looks like he's come on real good.

Q: What was your No. 1 goal entering spring practice and did you accomplish that?

A: We had summer practice, didn't get to have a spring practice. We've been practicing probably two days a week for a little while. We get 12 of those. Our goal over spring practice was try to see what we got, try to figure out our offense, changes a little bit because of personnel. We might be running the same offense, or whether we're going to try decide whether we can throw it any. Defense, what kind of speed we got on defense. Do we got big enough linemen to be a hit hat-to-hat team or are we going to slant and get after it. How we're going to play personnel you've got, and try to figure out who can do what.



RANKIN

Q: Who was an individual who shined for you?

A: Our quarterbacks, Jet Smith and Keaton Price, have really developed along. They've gotten older and

Q: Was there anything that left you a little concerned?

A: We need to develop some depth. I think the first group will be fine. Where as in the past we've had some depth, we don't have as much depth. Some of our younger players are going to have to develop a little bit earlier than in the past.

Q: Where do you need to make the most progress over the summer entering fall?

A: Conditioning and weight lifting, be ready to go when we get there in August. Monday through Thursday in the summer we go from 9 to 11 (a.m.) and you get in shape. Try to prevent some injuries by lifting weights and getting stronger.

Q: What was one area or position you feel like you solidified in spring?

A: Maybe receiver. We got some guys who can catch it, and feel good about our receiving corps, and some of those young guys are better than I thought they would be.

Sumter Junior P-15's roll over Hartsville 10-2 in 4 innings

BY J. SCOTT SEWELL
jscott@theitem.com

Chalk one up for the unpredictable nature of summer weather in the South.

The Sumter Junior P-15's took Game 1 of their American Legion baseball first-round playoff series over Hartsville after a rain delay and a separate prolonged lightning delay resulted in 10-2 victory over Hartsville on Monday at Riley Park.

The game was halted for the second time in the bottom of the fourth inning.

The Junior P-15's got off to a

sloppy start, striking out four times in the first two innings. A miscue in the field ultimately gifted Hartsville the first run of the game when Sumter failed to cover third base on a bunt single, allowing the runner at first base to advance all the way to third. Hartsville scored on a sacrifice fly to go up 1-0.

Sumter then had leadoff runners picked off first base in both the second and third innings.

Everything changed with one out in the bottom of the third, however, when the Junior P-15's scored five

SEE JUNIOR, PAGE B2

Federer, Nadal to meet again at Wimbledon

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — All these years later, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal will meet again at Wimbledon for the 40th installment of their terrific rivalry — and first at the All England Club since their memorable 2008 final.



FEDERER



NADAL

"Such a long time," Nadal said. They moved on to the semifinal showdown everyone's been thinking about since the tournament draw by each overcoming a tough opening set Wednesday.

A 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 victory over Kei Nishikori gave the No. 2-seeded Federer his 100th match win at the All England Club, the first man to reach that total at any Grand Slam tournament. Not long after that ended on Centre Court, the No. 3-seeded Nadal finished off Sam Querrey 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 at No. 1 Court.

Friday's other semifinal will draw far less attention: No. 1 Novak Djokovic, the defending champion, against No. 23 Roberto Bautista Agut, never before this far at a major.

Looking ahead to what comes next for himself, Federer said: "Obviously, I know people always hype it up."

Well, why shouldn't they? These are, after all, two of the greatest players in tennis' long history, winners of more Grand Slam titles than any other men. Of Federer's 20, a record eight came at Wimbledon. Of Nadal's 18, 12 came at the French Open, where he routed Federer in the semifinals last month.

That gave Nadal a 24-15 career edge head-to-head, including 10-3 at the Slams.

But that one was on the red clay Nadal rules. This one is on Federer's territory: grass.

This is their fourth matchup at Wimbledon — and first that won't come in the final. Federer beat Nadal for the 2006 and 2007 titles, but Nadal won the championship 11 years ago in a 9-7 fifth set as dusk descended.

"Well, we have a lot of information on Rafa, and so does he about us," Federer said. "So you can either dive into tactics and all that stuff like mad for two days — or you're just going to say: 'You know what? It's grass-court tennis and I'm going to come out there and play attacking tennis.' And if he can defend that, that's too good. And if he can't, well, then, that's good for me."

It is the 13th time that the Big Three of Federer, Nadal and Djokovic are in the semifinals at a major tournament together. On 11 of the previous occasions, one of them claimed the title.

There were some shaky moments for each Wednesday.

"The beginning," Federer said, "was brutal."

The eighth-seeded Nishikori jumped out to an early edge by breaking in the very first game, enough to give him that set.

But Federer quickly turned things around in the second, conjuring up whatever he wanted, exactly when he wanted it.

His approach shots were beyond reproach. His volleys vibrant. His returns were timed so well, and struck so violently, that one knocked the net-rushing Nishikori's racket plum out of his hands.

And Federer's serve? Sure, he faced break points, but he never allowed 2014 U.S. Open runner-up Nishikori to convert another.

"Overall, I'm just very happy how I'm hitting the ball," Federer said. "Feel good off the baseline, too, which is clearly going to be important, maybe, for the next match."

Yeah, maybe.

Nadal, of course, is still a ball-retrieving, shot-whipping machine at the back of the court.

He did have some trouble closing out the first set against Querrey, an American ranked 65th who was trying to reach his second Wimbledon semifinal.

ALL-STAR FROM PAGE B1

With fans hoping to see a replay of Monday's jaw-dropping aerial show when 312 homers cleared the walls, this became the Arm-Star Game up until the late innings.

Derby champ Pete Alonso of the Mets grounded a two-out, two-run single past Gleyber Torres in the eighth to close the NL's gap. After a double steal put runners at second and third against Cleveland reliever Brad Hand, White Sox catcher James McCann made a tumbling catch on Mike Moustakas' twisting foul pop to end the inning.

Chapman closed to give the AL its 19th win in 22 games, with a tie stuck in there. He got a little encouragement with two outs — Yankees teammate CC Sabathia, honored this week for his contributions on and off the field, strolled to the mound to talk to the flamethrower.

Chapman then struck out Yasmani Grandal for a save, giving the AL an overall 45-43-2 lead in the Midsummer Classic.

No need, either, for the experimental rule that was set to go effect: If the game went into extras, each team would've started the 10th with an automatic runner on second base.

Major League Baseball is on a record-shattering pace for homers this season, but no one came close to clearing the walls until Charlie Blackmon connected in the NL sixth to make it 2-1. Texas' Joey Gallo

countered with a solo drive in a two-run seventh.

Still, it was a far cry from last year's All-Star Game that featured a record 10 home runs.

"I kind of expected it, to be honest," former NL MVP Kris Bryant said. "You only see them once, so they have the advantage."

"There are a lot of hard throwers and great pitchers over there. Unless you've seen them before, it's a difficult matchup," he said.

Cleveland favorite Michael Brantley had an early RBI double off losing pitcher Clayton Kershaw. Jorge Polanco drove in a run with an infield single for a 2-0 edge in the fifth and another scored on a double-play grounder.

"I wanted to swing the bat early. I had some nervous jitters I wanted to get out," Brantley said.

Winning pitcher Masahiro Tanaka, Lucas Giolito and Shane Greene did their parts to protect the lead with scoreless innings.

Bieber dazzled in front of a chanting home crowd, striking out Willson Contreras, Ketel Marte and Ronald Acuña Jr. in the fifth with a 1-0 lead. Bieber later donated his cap to the Hall of Fame.

"It was electric out there, the fans got in it and it was fun," AL manager Alex Cora of the Red Sox said. "And I'm glad that he got the MVP. He plays at this level. He's really good."

JUNIOR FROM PAGE B1

runs, and sent 10 batters to the plate. Clayton Goff and Timothy Gottshall delivered two clutch 2-out base hits to score four of the five runs in the inning and give Sumter a 5-1 lead.

Hartsville got one back in the top of the fourth inning, but the Junior P-15's erupted for five runs again in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Gottshall delivered the knockout blow with another 2-run single, giving Sumter its 10-2 lead. Gottshall finished the game 2-for-3 with four runs batted in.

On the mound, it was Austin Trapp who held the Hartsville bats in check for most of the game. Trapp allowed five hits and struck out two batters in four innings pitched.

The teams were scheduled to play the second game of the best-of-3 series on Wednesday in Hartsville. A third game, if needed, is set for Thursday.

The winner of the Sumter-Hartsville series will face either Manning-Santee or West Florence Green in the second round.

DALZELL FROM PAGE B1

and how we do it too."

The Jets were 0-2 against Horry during the regular season, losing 4-2 on the road, and then 6-0 at home.

"They're a good team, a very fundamentally sound baseball team," said Lizenby. "They play baseball very well. We've played them tough twice. The last time down there they got the hit when they needed it to take the lead, and we didn't get the hit when we needed it to win the game."

Post 175 enjoyed its most successful season in five years in part because of the production from the middle of its lineup. Hunter McGee and Malcolm Brown have produced outstanding seasons for the Jets, knocking in a combined 22 runs. McGee finished the regular season hitting .345 with a .387 on-base percentage, while Brown led the team with three home runs and 14 runs batted in. "Those two have been steady for us all year

long," said Lizenby.

On the mound, it's been Shane Gaymon and Michael Love leading the way. Gaymon was expected to start Game 1 against Horry, while Love is slated to pitch Game 2 on Thursday in Dalzell.

"Gaymon has given us probably five quality starts on the mound," said Lizenby. "He always gives us a chance, and that's what we ask him to do. If he's got his control, he'll be fine."

Despite playing in a league with perennial state champion contenders in Sumter Post 15 and Florence Post 1, the Jets found a way to have a successful season. However, they're still looking to put it all together for a prolonged stretch.

"It's going to take a total team approach," said Lizenby. "We've had some games where we've had some great pitching, but didn't hit the ball. We've had some where we scored nine or 10 runs and lost because we didn't get good pitching. We've gotta put it all together for two out of the next three games."

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

THURSDAY

5:30 a.m. - Professional Golf: Scottish Open First Round (GOLF).

7:30 a.m. - International Cycling: Tour de France Stage 6 from Belles Filles, France (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

8 a.m. - Professional Tennis: Wimbledon Women's Semifinal Matches from London (ESPN).

9:30 a.m. - Professional Golf: Scottish Open First Round (GOLF).

1:30 p.m. - Senior PGA Golf: PGA Tour Champions Senior Players Championship First Round from Akron, Ohio (GOLF).

3 p.m. - High School Baseball: GEICO City Series Third-Place Game from Chicago (ESPN).

4 p.m. - NASCAR Racing: Gander Outdoors Truck Series Buckle Up in Your Truck 225 Pole Qualifying from Sparta, Ky. (FOX SPORTS 1).

4 p.m. - PGA Golf: John Deere Classic First Round from Silvis, Ill. (GOLF).

6 p.m. - High School Baseball: GEICO City Series Championship Game from Chicago (ESPN).

6 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Toronto vs. Indiana (NBA TV).

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

6:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Washington vs. Atlanta (ESPN2).

7:30 p.m. - NASCAR Racing: Gander Outdoors Truck Series Buckle Up in Your Truck 225 from Sparta, Ky. (FOX SPORTS 1, WEXG-FM 92.9).

7:30 p.m. - LPGA Golf: Marathon Classic First Round from Sylvania, Ohio (GOLF).

8 p.m. - Major League Baseball: Houston at Texas (ESPN).

8 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Portland vs. Oklahoma City (NBA TV).

8:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Houston vs. Utah (ESPN).

10 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Sacramento vs. Los Angeles Clippers (NBA TV).

8:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas - Memphis vs. Boston (ESPN2).

4:55 a.m. - Formula One Racing: British Grand Practice from Silverstone, England (ESPN2).

AMERICAN LEGION SCHEDULE

SENIORS

REGULAR SEASON

TUESDAY
Sumter at Goose Creek, p.p.d., rain

FRIDAY
Florence at Sumter, 7 p.m.

PLAYOFFS

WEDNESDAY
Manning-Santee at Lexington, 7 p.m.
Dalzell-Shaw at Horry, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
Lexington at Manning-Santee, 7 p.m.
Horry at Dalzell-Shaw, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY
Manning-Santee at Lexington, 7 p.m. (If Necessary)
Dalzell-Shaw at Horry, 7:30 p.m. (If Necessary)

JUNIORS

PLAYOFFS

TUESDAY

West Florence Green at Manning-Santee, p.p.d.
Turbeville at Darlington p.p.d.
Sumter 10, Hartsville 2

WEDNESDAY

West Florence Green at Manning-Santee (If Necessary)
Darlington at Turbeville (If Necessary)
Sumter at Hartsville (If Necessary)

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	57	31	.648	—
Tampa Bay	52	39	.571	6½
Boston	49	41	.544	9
Toronto	34	57	.374	24½
Baltimore	27	62	.303	30½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	56	33	.629	—
Cleveland	50	38	.568	5½
Chicago	42	44	.488	12½
Kansas City	30	61	.330	27
Detroit	28	57	.329	26

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	57	33	.633	—
Oakland	50	41	.549	7½
Texas	48	42	.533	9
Los Angeles	45	46	.495	12½
Seattle	39	55	.415	20

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Houston at Texas, 8:05 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.

Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers at Boston, 7:10 p.m.

Minnesota at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.

Houston at Texas, 8:05 p.m.

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

Chicago White Sox at Oakland, 10:07 p.m.

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

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	54	37	.593	—
Washington	47	42	.528	6
Philadelphia	47	43	.522	6½
New York	40	50	.444	13½
Miami	33	55	.375	19½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	47	43	.522	—
Milwaukee	47	44	.516	½
St. Louis	44	44	.500	2
Pittsburgh	44	45	.494	2½
Cincinnati	41	46	.471	4½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	60	32	.652	—

Arizona	46	45	.505	13½
San Diego	45	45	.500	14
Colorado	44	45	.494	14½
San Francisco	41	48	.461	17½

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.

Washington at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers at Boston, 7:10 p.m.

N.Y. Mets at Miami, 7:10 p.m.

San Francisco at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.

Arizona at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.

Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

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

MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTING — LeMahieu, New York, .336; Brantley, Houston, .324; Devers, Boston, .324; Anderson, Chicago, .317; Polanco, Minnesota, .312; Alberto, Baltimore, .309; Moncada, Chicago, .308; Merrifield, Kansas City, .306; Cabrera, Detroit, .304; Martine, Boston, .304.

RUNS — Betts, Boston, 77; Trout, Los Angeles, 71; Devers, Boston, 69; Bogaerts, Boston, 67; LeMahieu, New York, 65; Merrifield, Kansas City, 62; Bregman, Houston, 61; Semien, Oakland, 61; Encarnacion, New York, 60; CSantana, Cleveland, 60.

RBI — Trout, Los Angeles, 67; Abreu, Chicago, 66; Bogaerts, Boston, 65; LeMahieu, New York, 63; DSantana, Seattle, 63; Devers, Boston, 62; Rosario, Minnesota, 60; Soler, Kansas City, 59; Sanchez, New York, 57; 2 tied at 56.

HITS — Merrifield, Kansas City, 117; LeMahieu, New York, 113; Devers, Boston, 112; Polanco, Minnesota, 111; Brantley, Houston, 108; DSantana, Seattle, 102; Semien, Oakland, 102; Andrus, Texas, 99; Bogaerts, Boston, 98; 2 tied at 96.

DOUBLES — Bogaerts, Boston, 29; Castellanos, Detroit, 29; Devers, Boston, 25; Merrifield, Kansas City, 25; Brantley, Houston, 24; Buxton, Minnesota, 24; Choo, Texas, 23; Agordon, Kansas City, 23; Polanco, Minnesota, 23; Chapman, Oakland, 22.

TRIPLES — Mondesi, Kansas City, 9; Merrifield, Kansas City, 7; Kiermaier, Tampa Bay, 6; Polanco, Minnesota, 5; 7 tied at 4.

HOME RUNS — Trout, Los Angeles, 28; Encarnacion, New York, 25; Sanchez, New York, 24; Bregman, Houston, 23; Soler, Kansas City, 23; Abreu, Chicago, 21; Chapman, Oakland, 21; Kepler, Minnesota, 21; Vogelbach, Seattle, 21; 3 tied at 20.

STOLEN BASES — Mondesi, Kansas City, 28; Smith, Seattle, 23; Andrus, Texas, 19; Ramirez, Cleveland, 18; Kiermaier, Tampa Bay, 17; Villar, Baltimore, 17; Hamilton, Kansas City, 16; Anderson, Chicago, 15; OGordon, Seattle, 15; 3 tied at 13.

PITCHING — Giolito, Chicago, 11-3; Lynn, Texas, 11-4; German, New York, 10-2; Gonzales, Seattle, 10-7; Morton, Tampa Bay, 10-2; Odorizzi, Minnesota, 10-4; Verlander, Houston, 10-4; 5 tied at 9.

ERA — Morton, Tampa Bay, 2.32; Minor, Texas, 2.54; Verlander, Houston, 2.98; Berrios, Minnesota, 3.00; Cole, Houston, 3.09; Odorizzi, Minnesota, 3.15; Chirinos, Tampa Bay, 3.15; Giolito, Chicago, 3.15; Stroman, Toronto, 3.18; Miley, Houston, 3.28.

STRIKEOUTS — Cole, Houston, 170; Sale, Boston, 153; Verlander, Houston, 153; Bauer, Cleveland, 149; Boyd, Detroit, 142; Morton, Tampa Bay, 142; Bieber, Cleveland, 141; Lynn, Texas, 123; Snell, Tampa Bay, 122; Giolito, Chicago, 120.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING — McNeil, New York, .349; Bellinger, Los Angeles, .336; Blackmon, Colorado, .330; Yelich, Milwaukee, .329; Arenado, Colorado, .312; KMarte, Arizona, .311; Freeman, Atlanta, .309; Dahl, Colorado, .308; Rendon, Washington, .304; Verdugo, Los Angeles, .303.

RUNS — Bellinger, Los Angeles, 70; Bell, Pittsburgh, 69; Freeman, Atlanta, 69; Acuna Jr., Atlanta, 68; Story,

Colorado, 68; Blackmon, Colorado, 67; Bryant, Chicago, 66; Yelich, Milwaukee, 66; Rendon, Washington, 65; Arenado, Colorado, 61.

RBI — Bell, Pittsburgh, 84; Bellinger, Los Angeles, 71; Alonso, New York, 68; Freeman, Atlanta, 68; Arenado, Colorado, 67; Escobar, Arizona, 67; Yelich, Milwaukee, 67; 5 tied at 62.

HITS — Freeman, Atlanta, 110; KMarte, Arizona, 110; Bellinger, Los Angeles, 107; Arenado, Colorado, 106; Acuna Jr., Atlanta, 105; Blackmon, Colorado, 104; Baez, Chicago, 103; Escobar, Arizona, 103; Albies, Atlanta, 102; Bell, Pittsburgh, 102.

DOUBLES — Bell, Pittsburgh, 30; Bryant, Chicago, 28; Freeman, Atlanta, 25; Harper, Philadelphia, 24; Peralta, Arizona, 24; Baez, Chicago, 23; Dahl, Colorado, 23; McNeil, New York, 23; 3 tied at 22.

TRIPLES — Blackmon, Colorado, 7; Escobar, Arizona, 6; Tapia, Colorado, 5; Tatis Jr., San Diego, 5; Dahl, Colorado, 4; Frazier, Pittsburgh, 4; KMarte, Arizona, 4; SMarte, Pittsburgh, 4; Rosario, New

ELFRIEDE KRAUTHAUSER WINDER

Elfriede "Fritzi" Krauthauser Winder, 91, widow of John K. Winder, passed from this life on Saturday, July 6, 2019, at her residence amid her family, after a long debilitating struggle with Alzheimer's.

Born on Jan. 24, 1928, in Koln, Germany, she was a daughter of the late Heinrich and Maria Matilde Magdalena Rieger Krauthauser.

After World War II, Fritzi went to London for a year to care for the children of a lawyer as an "au pair" and learn the English language. She was later employed with NAAFI (Navy-Army-Air Force Institute), where her English improved. It was during this time she met an American airman, her future husband.

Fritzi was an avid reader and enjoyed cycling through the local countryside, camping and swimming. Other hobbies included playing the guitar, crocheting, knitting and sewing. She journeyed throughout France and other parts of Europe, frequenting her mother's home in Bensberg, Germany. During her husband's 20-year military career, Fritzi crossed the Atlantic multiple times before settling in Sumter with him and their five children.

This adventurous, amazing mother will be sorely missed.

Surviving are her children; devoted primary caregiver, Debora E. Russell, Eric L. Winder, Henry P. Winder (Uncha) and Kathryn W. Pack, all of Sumter, and Gretta A. Baker (Miles) of Fort Worth, Texas; seven grandchildren, Isreal C. Russell (Marie), Adam N. Russell (Kayla), Kara M. Youngblood, Sonya L. Winder, James L. Pack III and Rebekah K. Pack, all of Sumter, and Joshua Kramer Baker (Alysa) of Decatur, Texas; seven great-grandchildren; and a sister, Hildgard K. Fleet (Graham) of Sidmouth, Devon, United Kingdom.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Heinz Krauthauser; a sister, Leni Neumann; and a son-in-law, Donnie B. Pack.

A private memorial service is pending.

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

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home & Crematorium, 515 Miller Road, Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-7500.

ANNE ELIZABETH COTTEN

JOHNSTON — A celebration of life service for Anne Elizabeth "Booba" Hoggard Cotten will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Kingdom Hall for Jehovah's Witnesses, Edgefield, with Brother Thomas Jackson presiding.

Mrs. Cotten entered into rest at the age of 87 on Thursday, July 4, 2019.

She was born on March 23, 1932, in Westmoreland, Pennsylvania, to the late Alfred and Leona Hoggard. Mrs. Cotten was the youngest girl of five children.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Marie McNeil; three brothers, George Hoggard, Jessie Hoggard and Herman Hoggard; and one son-in-law, Kenneth Simmons.

Mrs. Cotten was educated in the Pennsylvania public school system, where, at an early age, she developed a love for language and reading. She was always seen with a book or a crossword puzzle in hand. She later worked as a librarian for both the public library of Philadelphia and in the Philadelphia public school system. She dedicated her life and was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses on May 9, 1976. One of her Bible teachers said that, "Everyone needs a Bible study like Anne." She truly

searched God's word and loved to study it. Mrs. Cotten served as a regular pioneer for many years, was a zealous Kingdom proclaimer, and had a large spiritual family. She eventually relocated to Sumter in 1983 and then relocated again to Edgefield County in 2010.

Mrs. Cotten leaves to cherish her memory: two children, G. Kevin (Karen) Turner of Perry Hall, Maryland, and Naomi Simmons of Johnston; five grandchildren, Simone (George) Byrd, Samantha Simmons and Sabrina Simmons, all of Johnston, Karene (Jeremy) Proffitt of Media, Pennsylvania, and Kidron Turner of Owings Mill, Maryland; five great-grandchildren, Austin G. Byrd of Johnston and Joshua Proffitt, Eleazar Proffitt, Nathaniel Proffitt and Ebenezer Proffitt, all of Media; and a host of nieces and nephews. Mrs. Cotten had many friends, both old and young, and will be missed by all.

We look forward to seeing "Booba" soon, knowing it is just around the corner the day when she will be back and once again welcoming all to come sit and visit. Mrs. Cotten always said, "I am determined to let nothing separate me from Jehovah. Romans 8:38-39."

A visitation with the family will take place following the service in the foyer of the Kingdom Hall for Jehovah's Witnesses, Edgefield.

Cole Funeral Home, 1544 University Parkway (118 Bypass), Aiken, SC 29801, (803) 648-7175. Please sign the online registry at www.colefuneralhomeinc.com.

SAMUEL MARVIN LOWERY

Samuel Marvin Lowery was born on Nov. 7, 1944, in Clarendon County, a son of the late Willie Jr. and Mary Eva Epps Lowery. Sam attended the public schools of

Clarendon County and was a member of Lodabar AME Church in his youth. In his former years, Sam was employed with the Jackson Brothers

Scott & Ralph Jackson Farm for many years. He saw that life was leading him in a new direction, so he went into the heating and air business. "Trane," as everyone would call him, installed units for Palmetto Heating and Air, now named "Advance Heating & Air" for more than 35 years.

On Friday morning, July 5, 2019, Sam entered eternal rest at his residence.

Samuel leaves to cherish his memory: one son, Samuel Lowery Jr. (Kim); one daughter, April Nicole Lowery; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; six brothers, Joseph (Evelyn) Witherspoon of Gable, James Lowery of Sumter, John Lowery (Elizabeth) of Selma, North Carolina, Kenneth Lowery of Summerton, William Lowery of Greenville and Charles Lowery of Elizabeth City, North Carolina; a special niece, Debra (Anthony) Wilson of the home; a special nephew, Barry Nelson of Spring Valley, New York; a niece that helped and cared for him, Paula Green of Sumter; two aunts, Katherine McFadden of Gable and Pearlina Lowery of New Zion; two uncles, Robert Epps of Columbia and James Epps of Spring Valley; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends who will miss him dearly.

Public viewing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. today at Job's Mortuary.

Mr. Lowery will be placed in the church at 10 a.m. on Friday until the hour of service.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, 805 S. Harvin St., Sumter, with Pastor Marion H. Newton officiating and Pastor Ricky Simmons, eulogist. Interment will follow at Lodabar Church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the home, 1999 Ashby Road, Sumter, SC 29154.

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

Online memorials may be sent to the family at job-smortuary@sc.rr.com or visit us on the web at www.job-smortuary.net.

ELVIN JAMES MCCOY

Elvin James "Red" McCoy, 79, husband of Deloris



MCCOY

Thames McCoy, died on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at Prisma Health Richland Hospital in Columbia. Born in Sumter, he was a son of the late Ernest J. and Mary Sevier McCoy. Mr. McCoy was retired from Campbell Soup Co. He loved his kids, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, fishing and the sports of baseball and bowling as well as bingo and planting flowers.

Surviving are his wife of 59 years of Sumter; a son, Mark McCoy (Beckie) of Sumter; a daughter, Patricia Norton of Sumter; 10 grandchildren, Mickel, Kirk, Ashliegh, Amanda, Charlotte, Jamie, Kacie, Kristie, Shannen and Ladonna; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Wendy Karen McCoy; and a brother, Alton McCoy.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery with the Rev. Aaron Reed officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com

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



JAMES EDWARD THOMPSON

James Edward Thompson, affectionately known as "Bum," "Uncle Bum" or "JT," was born in Sumter County, to the late Cornelius and Inez Vaughn Thompson. He confessed that he knew Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. He worshipped and fellowshiped with New Life Bible Church. He departed this earthly life on Friday, July 5, 2019, at Prisma Health Richland Hospital, Columbia.

James graduated from Lincoln High School, Sumter, in 1970. After high school, he joined the United States Air Force and served for four years at Vandenberg Air Force Base in Lompoc, California. Upon his honorable discharge from the military, he joined McEntire Air National Guard in Hopkins. He served with distinction and received awards such as outstanding guardsman. Having a thirst for knowledge, he matriculated at Halm Industrial Corp. in Glen Head, New York, and Sumter Area Technical College (now Central Carolina Technical College). He received awards in operator technician, Caterpillar Operator Training Course. He further believed in hard, honest work. He was employed with Union Camp, Eastover, for 26 years (that he helped to build), presently known as International Paper, from which he retired in 2010.

In addition to his parents, James was preceded in death by his sister, Ethel Gadson; a brother, Cornelius Thompson; and his parents-in-law, Walter P. and Edna Buckery.

James' precious memories are cherished by his loving and devoted wife, Annette O. Buckery Thompson; one daughter, Felicia I. Thompson Hawkins (Mark) of

Travelers Rest; two sons, James B. Thompson of Columbia and Edward C. Thompson (Yasheika) of Greenville; four grandchildren; one sister, Dorothy Thompson Dix (Wilbert Sr.); one uncle, Herbert (Lucille) Kennerly; six sisters-in-law; four brothers-in-law; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 2415 Wedgefield Road, Sumter.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 7 p.m. today in the John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday at St. James United Methodist Church, 720 Broad St., Sumter, with the Rev. Cheryl Johnson, pastor, the Rev. Dr. Nate Brock, eulogist, the Rev. Travis Kinley officiating, assisted by the Rev. George Johnson.

The remains will be placed in the church at noon.

The funeral procession will leave at 12:10 p.m. from the home.

Burial will follow at Hillside Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to SPOLIWA Bible Camp, 317 Bible Camp Road, Jeffersonville, GA 31044.

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 williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com.

Visit us on the web at www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com.

PEARL MCKNIGHT BRUNSON

Funeral services for Pearl McKnight Brunson will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 10075 Calvary Church Road, Pinewood, with the Rev. Edward L. Sanders officiating. Interment will follow at Calvary-Zion Hill Cemetery.

The public may view from 2 to 5 p.m. today at Palmer Memorial Chapel, 304 S. Main St., Sumter.

Pearl McKnight Brunson, 80, widow of Lee Ernest Brunson, transitioned on Thursday, July 4, 2019, at 19 E. College St., Sumter.

Born in Pinewood, she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Mary Benjamin McKnight. Pearl was educated in the public schools of Sumter County and was a self-employed domestic worker and farmer. Mrs. Brunson was a member of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as a missionary.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by six sisters, six brothers, five aunts and three uncles.

Survivors include three sons, Frankie L. Brunson, George McKnight and Willie (Stephanie) McKnight, all of Pinewood; two grandchildren, Lavaron and Erica Johnson, both of Pinewood; one great-grandchild, Damarion Johnson of Pinewood; a sister, Georgia McKnight of Pinewood; brother, James McKnight of Charlotte, North Carolina; a special niece, Betty McKnight; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

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

Professional services rendered by Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc.



JOHN WARD JR.

John Ward Jr., 75, widow of Maggie Hunter Ward, departed this life on Monday, July 8, 2019, at his residence.

He was born on May 7, 1944, in Georgetown, a son of the late John Ward Sr. and Cecil Woodberry Ward.

The family will receive friends at the home, 1620 N. Kings Highway, Sumter, SC 29154.

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

ED WRIGHT JR.

CHERAW — Ed Wright Jr. passed away on Monday, July 8, 2019.

The family is receiving friends at 61 Inglis Road, Cheraw.

Professional and courteous services are incomplete at this time and will be announced later by JP Holley Funeral Home, Bishopville Chapel.

WILLIAM B. STEELE SR.

William B. "Billy" Steele Sr., 84, husband of Cecelia Johnson Leach Steele and widower of Jackie McLendon Steele of Hartsville, died on Monday, July 8, 2019, at Covenant Place.

Born Aug. 1, 1934, in Sumter, he was a son of the late George William Steele and Louise Preast Steele Haley. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War. Billy was a member of First Baptist Church and the Friends and Followers Sunday School Class. He was a member and past president of the Lions Club, where he also served as lion tamer for many years. He was a Shriner and retired from CP&L as a distribution line technician after more than 40 years of service.

Survivors include his wife of Sumter; a son, William Bryan Steele Jr. (Vicky) of Sumter; three daughters, Sheila Steele Thacker (Mike) of Irmo, Sharon Steele Young (Jeffrey) and Suzann Steele Sears (Pat), all of Sumter; 11 grandchildren, Stephanie Steele, Jenna Steele, Trey Steele, Becca Thacker Curtis (Adam), Ryan Thacker, Betsy Young Hudson (Ceb), Will Young, Robert Young, Greyson Young, John Patrick Sears and McLendon Sears; five great-grandchildren, Remington Steele, Maeleigh Curtis, McLendon Curtis, Ella James Hudson and Britton Hudson; a sister, Alvenia Ottosson (Andy) of Sumter; and a number of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, George W. Steele, Bobby Steele, Sammy Steele and A.J. Haley.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday at First Baptist Church. The Rev. Dr. Dan Barber and the Rev. Dr. Bob Calvert will officiate. Burial with military honors will be at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Friends and Followers Sunday School Class of First Baptist Church and members of the Sumter Lions Club.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. Friday at First Baptist Church and other times at the home.

The family extends their gratitude to Dr. Philip Brandt and Dr. Andrew Reynolds for the exceptional care they provided, along with Amedysis Hospice and the staff of Covenant Place.

Memorials may be sent to First Baptist Church, 107 E. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150 or to the Sumter Lions Club, P.O. Box 2513, Sumter, SC 29151.

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

CHARLES ABRAMS

Charles Abrams, 63, died on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital.

Born on June 11, 1956, in Sumter County, he was a son of Lillie Mae Bradford Abrams and the late Earnest L. Abrams.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home of his mother, 1720 Elder Lane.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Williams Funeral Home Inc.

BIZARRO



WALLACE THE BRAVE



ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



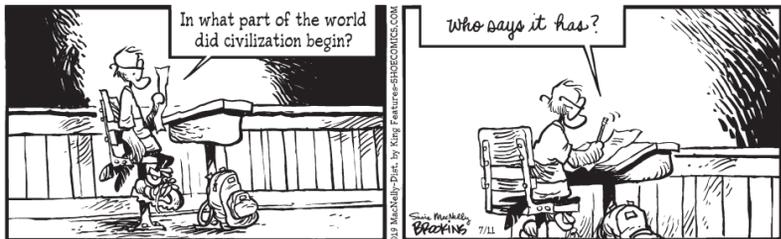
DOG EAT DOG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Friendship ends after birthday party joke goes wrong



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — I recently attended a friend's party to celebrate their son's 18th birthday. I thought it would be cheeky and fun to buy him a risqué card from an adult boutique, thinking everyone would get a good laugh, and we'd have something to roast the young man with. When he opened the card, he had a look of horror on his face, ran out of the room all teary-eyed and went directly to his bedroom. His mother picked up the card and immediately asked me to leave. I was embarrassed but unsure about the reason.

I gave them a week or so to cool off. I called back only to be informed by the mother that I'd violated her son's sanctity of sexual orientation because he identifies as a "they" and "prefers androgynous boys to women." She went on to explain that as a result of my "indiscriminate sexism," I'm no longer allowed around the family. I feel I should've been informed of the child's orientation being such an important aspect of his ... or rather, "their" identity, and tried to explain it was an honest mistake and would never happen again. My friend said the damage was done, and they can't forgive that kind of arrogance and blatant disrespect for "their" gender identity and sexual orientation. Was I insensitive for not asking first, or should the parents have taken the initiative to inform me so I wouldn't make such an egregious error in what I assumed was a well-rounded friendship? Any advice would be great.

Wanting to scream in Eugene

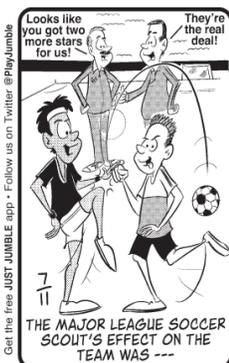
DEAR WANTING — I think one lesson to be learned here is that some people aren't comfortable with sexual humor. Another is that it's a mistake to assume that everyone is straight or cisgender. I'm sorry that the young person was embarrassed. Your apology should have been directed at them, not their mother. But since the mother has now decreed you persona non grata, you'll have to accept it. It's unfortunate. The family overreacted. What could have been handled as a simple teachable moment was blown out of proportion.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

GTURO
NRTIP
TCOEKD
TTUFIO



THE MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER SCOUT'S EFFECT ON THE TEAM WAS ---

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

Answer here: "OOO - OOOOO" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MUSTY SHOVE WOBBLE RODENT Answer: When Congress created the U.S. Mint in 1792, they got their --- MONEY'S WORTH

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14					15				16					
17					18				19					
20							21		22					
23					24	25		26						
				27				28			29	30	31	
32	33	34		35							36			
37			38					39	40	41				
42						43	44					45		
46					47	48								
				49				50			51	52	53	54
55	56	57					58			59	60			
61						62				63				
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

Paul Coulter

- ACROSS**
- 1 Red ink list
 - 6 Editor's "never mind"
 - 10 Fast one
 - 14 Naturally lit courtyards
 - 15 Mex. title
 - 16 Roughly
 - 17 Devious nestling's cry?
 - 19 Word on diet food packaging
 - 20 Like a coach after a rough game, maybe
 - 21 Marriott-owned hotel chain
 - 23 Sets, as a price
 - 24 Div. won by the Braves 13 times
 - 26 Besmirch
 - 27 Early-rising duck's call?
 - 32 Maria
 - 35 Big bully
 - 36 Protected at sea
 - 37 Counselor
 - 39 Watch for money, usually
 - 42 Four-time Grammy winners Kings of
 - 43 Backspace over
 - 45 Hosp. areas
 - 9 Start liking
 - 10 Astronomical time period
 - 11 Lit
 - 12 In the matter of
 - 13 Kohler rival
 - 18 Academic goal
 - 22 Churchill's "so few": Abbr.
 - 25 Bay leaf source
 - 27 Moon and Star of the NFL
 - 28 Skewed fare
 - 29 "And another thing ..."
 - 30 2003 Masters champ Mike
 - 31 Brings home
 - 32 Locker room sprinkle
 - 33 Brain wave
 - 34 Admit frankly
 - 38 To a great degree
 - 40 Equally hard to find
 - 41 Contest where participants stand for a spell
 - 44 Figures
 - 47 Elevator
 - 48 Bring out
 - 51 He played Ugarte in "Casablanca"
 - 52 Eyeball benders
 - 53 HGTV topic
 - 54 Two before marzo
 - 55 Reddish shade
 - 56 Where to find Java
 - 57 Student of Seneca
 - 58 Just all right
 - 60 Hungarian wine region
 - 63 Rehab symptom, for short

Previous Puzzle Solved

H	O	E	D	B	A	T	H	E	L	A	O	S			
A	N	N	E	A	B	H	O	R	I	N	C	H			
R	E	D	S	S	U	E	D	E	C	L	O	T			
D	A	N	D	I	S	S	E	L	T						
P	R	O	D	U	C	E	E	V	I	D	E	N	C		
U	T	T	E	R		I	R	E	T	O	V				
T	H	E	B	E	S	E	E	K	I	S	L	E			
A	R	M	Y	T	O	N	D	O	T	C	O	M			
B	I	O	T	N	N					A	R	O	M		
C	O	L	L	E	G	E	E	D	U	C	A	T	E	D	
C	L	O	T			P	E	N	H		E	L	D		
D	E	U	C	E	S	W	I	L	D	T	R	E	E		
N	A	S	H			A	I	S	L	E	S	I	T	S	
A	R	K	S			L	E	C	A	R		P	E	S	T

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 "The Lion King" cast. (N)	The Wall "Ruben and Sandy"	Hollywood Game Night "American Good Place Warrior" Two teams compete at party games. (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "A Story of More Woe" SVU investigates a murder. (DVS)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Madonna; Guy Raz; Ari Lennox performs.			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Love Island (N)	Big Brother A houseguest is evicted. (N) (Live)	Elementary "Miss Understood" A brilliant young criminal seeks help. (N)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Craig Ferguson; Ronda Rousey.			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Wheel Around the World"	Jeopardy! (N)	Holey Moley "Leave the Golf to the Robots" A sudden death tiebreaker. (N)	Family Food Fight "Surf & Turf / Birthday Cake Challenge" A surf-and-turf challenge. (N) (DVS)	Reef Break "Buried Things" Wreckage of a plane crash is discovered. (N) (DVS)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live Jon Favreau; Alex Morgan; Megan Rapinoe. (N)			
WRJA	27	11	14	Rick Steves' Europe "The Best of Sicily"	Palmetto Scene Leaders of the Civil Rights Era.	Reconnecting Roots "A Work in Progress"	Endeavour on Masterpiece "Confection" Gossip threatens to expose secrets. (DVS)	Endeavour on Masterpiece "Degüello" The murder of an Oxford librarian. (DVS)	Professor T. "Tamara" A call girl is found dead.				
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	MasterChef "Tag Team Tears & Tantrums" Cooks compete in a tag-team challenge. (N) (DVS)	Spin the Wheel "Latham Family" Joseph Latham tests his knowledge. (N) (DVS)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)		
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing "Mike and his neighbor butt heads."	Last Man Standing "Mike Hires Chuck"	IZombie "Night and the Zombie City" Private eye Mick Chisel is murdered. (N)	The Outpost "We Only Kill to Survive" (Season Premiere) Talon summons a new threat. (N)	The Good Wife "On Tap" An alderman accused of taking a bribe.	The Good Wife "Nine Hours" Alicia receives a cryptic tip.	The Game Malik's offer from Ford.			
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 08.04.18" Riding along with law enforcement.	Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 0002" (N)	Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 0003" (N)	(:01) Live Rescue: Rewind "Live Rescue: Rewind 7" (N)	(:04) Hero Ink "Never Give Up"	(:34) Hero Ink "Against All Odds"	(12:03) Live PD: Rewind				
AMC	48	180	(5:30) ** "Colombiana" (2011, Action) Zoe Saldana, Jordi Molla.	*** "Gladiator" (2000, Historical Drama)	Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix, Connie Nielsen.	A fugitive general becomes a gladiator in ancient Rome.		** "Transporter 3" (2008, Action) Jason Statham, Natalya Rudakova.					
ANPL	41	100	Man-Eating Super Squid: Monster	Mermaids: The Body Found: The Extended Cut	Mermaids: The New Evidence	River Monsters "Vampires of the Deep"	Mermaids-Body						
BET	61	162	(6:28) ** "Juice" (1992, Crime Drama) Omar Epps, Tupac Shakur, Jermaine Hopkins. A ghetto youth menaces his accomplices in a bungled robbery.	(8:58) ** "Shaft" (2000, Action) Samuel L. Jackson, Vanessa L. Williams, Jeffrey Wright. A former cop vows to bring a murderous racist to justice.	The Real Housewives of New York City The ladies discuss Bethenny. (N)	The Real Housewives of New York City The ladies discuss Bethenny.	Watch What Happens Live	The Real Housewives of New York City The ladies discuss Bethenny.					
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New York City Luann records her new single.	The Real Housewives of New York City Bethenny throws a party.	The Real Housewives of New York City The ladies discuss Bethenny. (N)	The Real Housewives of New York City The ladies discuss Bethenny.	Shark Tank (DVS)	Shark Tank (DVS)	Shark Tank				
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank A solution for lost pacifiers.	Shark Tank (DVS)	Shark Tank (DVS)	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank				
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Cuomo Prime Time (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Anderson Cooper	Anderson Cooper				
COM	57	136	(6:50) The Office "The Dundies"	(:25) The Office	The Office Michael has a panic attack.	The Office "Fire"	The Office "Hal-loewen"	The Office "The Fight"	The Office Michael surprises his boss.	The Office "Performance Review"	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	(:31) South Park	(12:03) South Park "Handicar"
DISN	18	200	Just Roll With It	Bunk'd	Bunk'd (N)	Bunk'd	Coop & Cami Ask the World	Amphibia	Big City Greens	Bunk'd	Andi Mack	Bunk'd	
DSC	42	103	Naked and Afraid "Burnt to a Crisp"	Naked and Afraid	Naked and Afraid	Survivalists try to avoid becoming prey. (N)	Naked and Afraid XL "Hike Into Hell"	Naked and Afraid					
ESPN	26	35	Baseball: Sunday Night Countdown	MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Texas Rangers. From Globe Life Park in Arlington, Texas. (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N)					
ESPN2	27	39	NBA Summer League Basketball: Hawks vs Wizards	Professional Fighters League Women's Lightweights/Welterweights. (N) (Live)			NBA Summer League Basketball Boston Celtics vs Memphis Grizzlies. (N) (Live)						
FOOD	40	109	Chopped "Tendon Intentions"	Chopped "Culinary Fireworks"	Chopped Bacon, burgers and beer. (N)	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Chopped			
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)				Tucker Carlson			
FREE	20	131	(6:00) *** "Monsters, Inc." (2001) Voices of John Goodman.	Siren "The Outpost" Ryn needs to help her colony. (N)	(:01) *** "Beauty and the Beast" (1991) Animated. A maiden trades places with her captive father.	Voices of Paige O'Hara, Robby Benson.	The 700 Club Archeological finds support the Bible. (N)	*** "ParaNorman" (2012)					
FSS	21	47	CJ10	Cooperstown	SportsMoney	ACC All-Access	ACC All-Access	Future Phenoms	Running	Powerboat Racing	Fight Sports: Boxing		
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Portrait of Love" (2014) Jason Dohring, Bree Williamson.	"Love Unleashed" (2019, Romance) Jen Tucker argues with an uptight executive at a puppy party.	Lilley, Christopher Russell, Jill Morrison. A woman argues with an uptight executive at a puppy party.	The Golden Girls "Big Daddy"	The Golden Girls "The Way We Met"	The Golden Girls "End of the Curse"	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	
HGTV	39	112	Hunters Int'l	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters (N)	Christina/Coast	Unspouse	House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	House Hunters	House Hunters	Christina/Coast
HIST	45	110	Mountain Men "Family First"	Mountain Men "Final Farewell" (N)	Ax Men "Back to the Woods"	(:03) Alone "The Kill" (N)	(:05) Alone "The Moose"	Mountain Men					
ION	13	18	Chicago P.D. "Hit Me" A cop targets women leaving a casino.	Chicago P.D. An escaped killer heads to Chicago.	Chicago P.D. "A Night Owl" Halstead takes an off-duty security job.	Chicago P.D. A candlelight vigil for a murdered boy.	Chicago P.D. Halstead is faced with a robbery crew.	Chicago P.D. "Kasual With a K"					
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: Atlanta A surprise could ruin Andrea's night.	Little Women: Atlanta Andrea wants to leave the music biz. (N)	Little Women: Atlanta Emily summons Bri back to Dallas. (N)	(:03) Little Women: LA Jasmine and Chris renew their vows. (N)	(:03) Marrying Millions Rosie's parents are not supportive.	(12:01) Little Women: Atlanta					
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	SpongeBob	Double Dare (N)	** "Tooth Fairy" (2010) Dwayne Johnson. A hockey player must serve time as a real tooth fairy.	Friends	Friends	Friends					
PARMT	64	153	Mom	** "The Mummy" (1999, Adventure) Brendan Fraser. A mummy seeks revenge for a 3,000-year-old curse.	** "The Mummy Returns" (2001) Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz.								
SYFY	58	152	** "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" returns to monitor dinosaurs' progress. (DVS)	Seinfeld "The Letter"	Seinfeld "The Parking Space"	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Conan Comic Kmail Nanjiani. (N)	Seinfeld "The Keys"	Seinfeld "The Mango"	
TBS	24	156	Seinfeld "The Limo"	Seinfeld "The Good Samaritan"	*** "Tab Hunter Confidential" (2015) Tab Hunter. Tab Hunter discusses life as a secretly gay matinee idol.	(:45) *** "Gunman's Walk" (1958, Western) Van Heflin, Tab Hunter, Kathryn Grant. A young cowboy develops a thirst for violence and gunplay.	** "That Kind of Woman" (1959) Sophia Loren, Tab Hunter.						
TCM	49	186	(5:30) *** "Auntie Mame" (1958) Rosalind Russell, Forrest Tucker.	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)	(:02) Untold Stories of the E.R.	(:02) My Crazy Birth Story	Dr. Pimple Popper					
TLC	43	157	Dr. Pimple Popper	*** "Edge of Tomorrow" (2014, Science Fiction) Tom Cruise, Emily Blunt, Brendan Gleeson. A soldier in an alien war gets caught in a time loop. (DVS)	*** "Oblivion" (2013, Science Fiction) Tom Cruise, Morgan Freeman. Premiere. A stranger's arrival triggers one man's battle to save mankind. (DVS)								
TNT	23	158	Bones "The Sense in the Sacrifice" The team devises a plan to catch Pelant.	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	Carbonaro Eff.	Inside Carbonaro	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	
TRUTV	38	129	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	Carbonaro Eff.	Inside Carbonaro	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	ImpRACTICAL Jokers	
TV LAND	55	161	Andy Griffith Show	Andy Griffith Show	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Two and Half Men	Two and Half Men	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens
USA	25	132	(6:00) ** "The Fast and the Furious" (2001) Vin Diesel. (DVS)	** "Fast & Furious" (2009, Action) Vin Diesel, Paul Walker. Fugitive Dom Torretto and Brian O'Conner resume a feud in Los Angeles. (DVS)	*** "Fast & Furious" (2009, Action) Vin Diesel, Paul Walker. Fugitive Dom Torretto and Brian O'Conner resume a feud in Los Angeles. (DVS)	Queen of the South Teresa and Dumas finally strike a truce. (N)	(:01) Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Sex trafficking operation. (DVS)	(12:01) Queen of the South					
WE	68	166	Growing Up Hip Hop Atlanta	Growing Up Hip Hop Atlanta	Growing Up Hip Hop Atlanta (N)	(:01) Growing Up Hip Hop Atlanta	(:01) Growing Up Hip Hop Atlanta	Love After Lockup					
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	Married ... With	

Miniature golf meets 'Wipeout' to create 'Holey Moley'

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

The recent 30th anniversary of "Seinfeld" was a milestone that recalled the years of "Must See TV." Thursday nights once heralded shows like "Friends," "Cheers" and "ER," which could reach 20 or 30 million viewers. Even more recently, Thursday nights were home to CBS's "The Big Bang Theory," the most popular sitcom of this decade.

Thursday nights were crucial to advertisers, particularly those who were trying to reach young viewers just deciding what new movie to attend on a Friday night.

Streaming services like Netflix have upended expectations both for movie attendance and TV habits.

A glance at tonight's network schedule suggests that programmers aren't counting on habit at all. The offerings have little connection to the regular schedule.

Given the network choices between "Love Island" (8 p.m., CBS, TV-PG), "The Wall" (8 p.m., NBC, r, TV-PG), "Family Food Fight" (9 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) and "MasterChef" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14), you might be tempted to switch to cable. But there, you could stumble upon a very special episode of "Jersey Shore: Family Vacation" (8 p.m., MTV, TV-14). The gang has gathered around Mike on the eve of his sentencing on tax charges. Look for plenty of jokes about "The Situation."

ABC used to air a silly summer distraction called "Wipeout," a wet and wild obstacle course that didn't tax too many brain cells. I wondered where it had gone until I caught sight of "Holey Moley" (8 p.m. ABC, TV-PG), something that basically presents a miniature golf competition on top of a game of "Wipeout," with cheeky commentary from faux sportscasters (Joe Tessitore and Rob Riggle), who belabor the obvious with glib "irony." It's about three layers



ERIC MCCANDLESS / ABC

Mini-golf competitors Craig Kirby and Valeria Brannen watch as resident golf pro Stephen Curry prepares to take a shot on the "Leave the Golf to the Robots" episode of "Holey Moley," airing at 8 p.m. today on ABC.

too many. Riggle returns to hosting duty for Discovery's Shark Week, beginning July 28.

Up against these choices, it's easy to see why some might take the plunge with "Siren" (8 p.m., Freeform, TV-14), the angsty melodrama featuring a secret race of mermaids. As contrived as it sounds, this cable series is a festival of realism compared to "The Outpost" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14), a violent, mythical series developed for Syfy but sold to CW. "The Outpost" enters its second season tonight. You could build a drinking game around the word "destiny."

- Don't go mistaking the scripted "Siren" with the bogus documentary "Mermaids: The Body Found: The Extended Cut" (8 p.m., Animal Planet, r, TV-PG).
- Netflix begins streaming the well-received 2018 Taiwanese drama "Cities of Last Things," a tale that begins with a

man's suicide and moves backward chronologically over three explanatory segments, each unfolding in a different film style: science fiction, film noir and soap opera.

CULT CHOICE

The 2015 documentary "Tab Hunter Confidential" (8 p.m., TCM) recalls the actor who died July 8, 2018. Like Rock Hudson, Hunter had to reconcile his Hollywood heartthrob image with his closeted life as a gay man. Interviews include Debbie Reynolds and John Waters, who cast Hunter in the 1981 comedy "Polyester," an homage to 1950s melodramas.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- "Dr. Pimple Popper" (9 p.m., TLC) en-

ters its third season.

- An old nemesis turns to Holmes and Watson on "Elementary" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).
- A plane wreck in the jungle sparks a race against the clock on "Reef Break" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).
- Dale orders off the menu on "Baskets" (10 p.m., FX, TV-MA).
- "The Dead Files" (10 p.m., Travel, TV-PG) enters its 11th season investigating a house fire that may have unleashed "dark" forces.

SERIES NOTES

Liv gets inside the head of a slain private eye on "IZombie" (8 p.m., CW, TV-14) * Julie Chen Moonves hosts "Big Brother" (9 p.m., CBS, TV-PG) * Jane Lynch hosts "Hollywood Game Night" (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14) * "Spin the Wheel" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-PG) * After their dad's murder in an apparent break-in, teens' tales begin to unravel on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" (10 p.m., NBC, r, TV-14).

LATE NIGHT

"The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) presents The Best of Dulce Sloan Vol. 2 * Kumail Nanjiani appears on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS, TV-14) * Craig Ferguson, Ronda Rousey and Bear Grylls are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Madonna, Guy Raz and Ari Lennox on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC, r) * Jon Favreau, D'Arcy Carden and Taylor Bennett appear on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" (11:35 p.m., ABC) * Seth MacFarlane, Linda Cardellini and the 1975 appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS).

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Grand Ole Opry tours get updated with new immersive film

BY KRISTIN M. HALL
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The backstage of the Grand Ole Opry, a radio staple since 1925, is a place where you might run into your favorite country star, drop a letter in a singer's mailbox or take a peek inside a dressing room where an impromptu jam session is happening.

Every year, 1 million people come to the Opry House in Nashville to see a performance, or event, or take one

of the backstage tours that allow fans to see behind the red curtain on the "show that made country music famous."

And a new feature this year on those tours is an immersive film that explains the history of the unique institution while showing video clips of more than 100 different artists on stage. The 14-minute film is hosted by Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood and is projected onto three screens inside the new Circle Room, which is the first stop for fans on the

Opry's daily tours.

Country singer Jeannie Sealey is coming up on her 52nd year as a member of the Grand Ole Opry, one of only three living female artists who have been members longer than 50 years. The singer who had a hit with "Don't Touch Me" in 1966, has seen the radio program, the Opry House and its tours transform and be updated over the years.

"It is so alive. It is so realistic," said Sealey of the new film. "I think the pacing they

did creates that excitement."

The film is projected onto thousands of reflective threads that make up the screens, and the movement of the threads, as well as the curve of the screen creates a sense of dimension. Brooks and Yearwood seem almost like they are standing on a replica of the circle of wood that artists stand in on the real Opry stage.

"It struck me how difficult it is to represent so many eras and so many people and cover 94 years," Sealey said.

"It struck me how well they did that."

The film features archival footage of iconic stars from Roy Acuff, Loretta Lynn, Johnny Cash and Reba McEntire, and clips of artists like Carrie Underwood and Darius Rucker being surprised on an invitation to become Opry members. The daytime tour also features a guided tour throughout the venue, including Studio A where "Hee Haw" was filmed, the dressing rooms and the stage.

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Multi Family Yard Sale. Friday 7-12-2019 (12:00-5:00) and Saturday 7-13-2019 (8:00-12:00) **2009 Pine-wood Road Sumter SC.**

Sumter United Ministries Super Yard Sale "CLEARANCE SPECIAL" 50% Off EVERYTHING 215 Pine St. (off Church St) July 11, 12, & 13. 8am-3pm

Yard Sale/Car wash/Grilled food & D.J. Al Gospel music. Sat. July 13th 9am-? at 1109 N. Main St.

For Sale or Trade

For Sale: Craftsman 500 riding lawnmower, 17.5 HP, used one year, been sitting, needs work \$450.00 OBO Call 803-469-4945

For sale: 2 cemetery plots, Evergreen Cemetery, military section. \$8900 Call 803-775-3146 leave mess.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Abandon Vehicle / Boat

Abandoned Vehicle Notice: The following vehicle was abandoned at Joe Green's Garage, 3194 St. Paul Road, Summerton, SC 29148. Described as a 1992 Cadillac Eldorado VIN #1G6EL13B6NU617731. Total Due for storage is \$800.00 as of May 30, 2019, plus \$25.00 per day thereafter. Described as a 1998 Chevrolet Malibu, VIN #1G1ND52T8WY192429. Total Due for storage is \$405.00 as of June 18, 2019, plus \$25.00 per day thereafter. Described as a 2005 Toyota Camry, VIN #4T1BE32K05U040052. Total Due for storage is \$2,000.00 as of June 18, 2019, plus \$25.00 per day thereafter. Owner is asked to call 803-478-2565. If not claimed in 30 days, it will be turned over to the Magistrate's Office for public sale.

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