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Census shows S.C. continues growth

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

"Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina."

That was the overall message for the Palmetto State as the U.S. Census Bureau released its yearly population estimates on Wednesday.

Fueled by residents moving in from other states, South Carolina gained an estimated 64,547 new residents between July 1, 2016, and July 1, 2017, and its population now tops 5 million for the

first time ever. Only nine states grew by more residents than South Carolina for the 12-month time frame, according to the bureau.

Only five states — Florida, Texas, North Carolina, Washington and Arizona — gained more population because of relocation from other states — called domestic migration.

About 76 percent of the state's 64,547 new residents were from domestic migration or relocations here, primarily for retirement or jobs, according to the bureau's statistics.

"We're benefiting from people up north who want to sell their houses and get out of the snow," Frank Rainwater, executive director of the S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, told *The (Charleston) Post and Courier*.

Incoming residents have not been moving to all parts of the state, however.

Historically, population increases for the state have been concentrated in the coastal metropolitan areas — Myrtle

MOVING IN

Top states for net domestic migration from July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2017

1. Florida 160,854
2. Texas 79,163
3. North Carolina 66,051
4. Washington 64,579
5. Arizona 63,111

6. South Carolina 49,015

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Division)

SEE **CENSUS**, PAGE A11

Referee throws no punches

Clarendon native
loves boxing, his job

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — Internationally known boxing referee Tony Weeks may have been born in Brooklyn, New York, but the 61-year-old has strong ties to Clarendon County.

As a youngster, Weeks traveled south and spent almost every summer in Alcolu at the home of his grandparents, Alan Hammett Sr. and Annie Hammett.

In between boxing bouts, Weeks was in Clarendon County recently visiting family and friends.

"We were childhood friends," said Jacquie Blackwell, who works with the Third Circuit Solicitor's Office. "We came up together. He's a great guy. He's humble and comes from one of the greatest families I know."

Weeks was working in a federal prison when he called his first bout, launching a career that takes him around the world.



Internationally known boxing official Tony Weeks is shown in the ring with Floyd Mayweather and Miguel Cotto. Floyd Mayweather won the bout on May 5, 2012, and the Boxing Association's light middleweight title.

SEE **WEEKS**, PAGE A7

City of Sumter contest helps warm family, holiday spirits

Christmas Wish Giveaway winner
nominates her son for a new stove

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

Kyle Langlois was in his shed with his parents when they got a phone call. His father answered to the voice of a woman from the City of Sumter. What's wrong, Bob

Langlois thought. His wife hadn't told him, after all.

"He didn't know what was going on," Kyle Langlois said. "And Mom just got real excited ... She just clapped her hands and said, 'I won.'"

What she won was not for her — it was for her son, and

she knew he needed it.

Beverly Langlois was the winner of the first-ever Christmas Wish Giveaway organized by Sumter Tourism and Downtown Sumter as a way to give back to residents over the holiday season. Anyone could nominate a Sumter County resident for something worth \$500 the recipient needs or wants this December, such as help with an electric bill or toys for their kids because they couldn't afford it

on their own. Anything to help fill a need.

"I just knew that his stove is so old, and I just was ready for him to get a new one. And I didn't really think that I would win, but I said, 'Well, I think I'll do it.' And I didn't tell anybody, and I said a little prayer," said the winning mother with a sneaky smile.

She dropped her nomination form off in the Letters for Santa Mailbox in front of the Sumter Opera House on the

last day the nomination period was open. The next day — the phone call.

"I was ecstatic, actually," she said. "It's very exciting."

Her son has three children and has been having to spend a lot of money to fix up their house.

"I've been going through a hard time, and my family has been really helping me out lately," Kyle Langlois said.

SEE **GIVEAWAY**, PAGE A11

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DEATHS, B6

James McLeod
Booker T. Wingate
Kernell Hilton
Christopher O. Archie
J.D. Prosser

Ernest Scarborough Sr.
James Chatman
Faye Morris
Joyce L. Mays
Leah G. Evans

WEATHER, A12

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Comics C6 Television C4

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STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Man hit, killed by car while in yard

LANCASTER — A South Carolina coroner said a man was killed after he was struck by a car as he worked in his yard.

Lancaster County Deputy Coroner Jennifer Collins told local media outlets that 53-year-old Gary Gene Roach Jr. was doing yard work Tuesday when a truck driving east on S.C. 9 left the road and hit him.

Collins said Roach died at the scene, and the driver of the truck was taken to a local hospital. There were no other passengers in the pickup truck.

Regulators won't dismiss move against utility

COLUMBIA — State utility regulators have refused to dismiss a request that could lower rates for South Carolina Electric & Gas Co. customers after the company

abandoned plans for two nuclear reactors.

The Public Service Commission on Wednesday refused to dismiss two cases against SCANA Corp., parent company of SCE&G, news outlets reported.

Wednesday's decision means regulators could stop SCE&G from continuing to charge ratepayers for the reactors at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station in Fairfield County that the company and the state-owned utility Santee Cooper abandoned July 31. Typical SCE&G customers are paying \$27 a month for the project.

The Public Service Commission has combined the request from the Office of Regulatory Staff to stop SCE&G from continuing to charge customers for the project with another proposal that would require SCE&G to refund about \$1.8 billion collected since 2009.

Group takes aim at trash with events, initiatives

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

A group dedicated to cleaning up streets in Sumter County unveiled its plans for the new year.

The goals of the Sumter Litter Alliance include creating an awareness and enforcement campaign, organizing a community-wide clean-up day tentatively scheduled for April 21 — the Saturday before Earth Day — and reviewing policies and procedures that could reduce litter in Sumter.

"Litter on our roads is a huge issue for all of us," said Nicole Bailey, vice president of operations for the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce. "This is going to be a big call to action for the residents and organizations

in Sumter."

"We want the residents of Sumter to take ownership of this problem," said Scott Burkett, a Realtor with ERA Wilder Realty, "and we want them to help us with the solution. Hopefully if more kids experience the consequences of littering, they will be our biggest advocates going forward."

The alliance is in the process of identifying popular dumping areas in the county as potential locations to install motion-activated cameras to record offenders, according to a news release.

Sumter Litter Alliance has also reached out to Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis to have Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center inmates assist in cleaning up roadways in rural areas.

The magistrate's court — which has jurisdiction over littering charges — was also contacted to ensure that littering penalties are high enough to discourage the behavior.

A public meeting that will be held in late February is also in the works, according to the release.

For more information about the Sumter Litter Alliance, or to volunteer or donate, send an email to SumterLitterAlliance@gmail.com.

The alliance consists of members of Sumter city and county councils, Sumter School District, Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce, South Carolina Department of Transportation, code enforcement officers and other agency officials.

Sumter County Farm Bureau helps families have a Merry Christmas

Sumter County Farm Bureau and local Farm Bureau Insurance agents are bringing a little more joy to this holiday season by helping those in the community facing financial hardship. The Sumter office donated \$1,000 to purchase Christmas gifts and food for two families that were adopted through the local Salvation Army's Angel Tree Family Program. The donation is part of a company-sponsored holiday community outreach program called Farm Bureau Cares. Through Farm Bureau Cares, county Farm Bureau offices across South Carolina provide a monetary donation during December to help a family or charity of their choice. Each local donation made by the County Farm Bureau and local agents is matched by Farm Bureau Insurance. From left are Duane Brown, Farm Bureau Insurance Agency manager for Sumter County; Major Robbie Robbins, commanding officer for the Sumter branch of Salvation Army; and Joye Davis, Sumter County Farm Bureau women's chair. "It was such a blessing to be able to shop for these families and to provide gifts for the children," Brown said.

PHOTO PROVIDED



2 adults, 4 children displaced from home by kitchen fire

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

A family of six, including four children, were displaced after a fire damaged their home off South Guignard Drive on Wednesday evening.

Sumter County Fire Department personnel were called to a house on Delaine Street at 7 p.m., where a fire

began in the kitchen, according to an incident report.

The blaze spread to the attic, causing an estimated \$60,000 in loss to the structure and \$20,000 to the contents.

A possible cause of the incident was "unattended cooking" that led to grease in the pot on the stove igniting.

American Red Cross disaster-trained volunteers are assisting the family by providing financial assistance for food, clothing, lodging and other essentials and comfort kits containing personal hygiene items.

"Each year around the holidays, the Red Cross and partners see an uptick in the number of home fires," the agency said in a news release.

"It's also been shown that Christmas tree fires are much more likely to be deadly than most other fires, and candle fires are four times as likely to occur."

When cooking and decorating this holiday season, the Red Cross reminds families to check existing smoke alarms and practice fire drills at home.

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More than 200 attend Active Shooter Training session in Manning

BY SHARRON HALEY

The Sumter Item

MANNING — Don't give shooters recognition for their crimes, Lt. Eric Rosdail with the Clarendon County Sheriff's Office told church leaders attending an Active Shooter Training session recently at Weldon Auditorium. "Don't name them," Rosdail urged. "Don't give them any recognition. Find the name of a victim, and tell everyone about that person. Tell everyone about the victim's life ... who they were and that their life mattered."

More than 200 church pastors, deacons and leaders from 82 churches in Clarendon, Sumter, Williamsburg and Florence counties attended the two-hour session.

Rosdail began the session with some history about the number of incidents involving shooters in South Carolina and nationally.

From 1988 through 2013, there were 87 incidents involving active shooters in South Carolina, Rosdail told those in attendance.

"Worldwide, the United States is ranked as No. 1 in the number of incidents involving active shooters," he said. "According to the FBI, between 1966 and 2016, there were 350 incidents. Canada was No. 2 with just nine incidents. I don't have an answer for that. Statistically the numbers here are pretty much the same in states with liberal gun laws and those states with strict gun laws."

Rosdail said that shooters have made a switch from shootings at schools to shootings at churches.

"Right now, churches are their target of preference," he added. "Large cities, small towns, strict gun laws, liberal gun laws, all denominations, it's happening across the board."

The first major shooting incident in the United States occurred a half century ago at the University of Texas in Austin, Rosdail added.

"The Texas Tower Shooter, as he became known, happened on Aug. 1, 1966," Rosdail said. "The next major incident didn't occur until April of 1999 when two students opened fire at Columbine High School in Colorado, killing 13 students and themselves."

Rosdail talked about the most recent shootings in Charleston and in Texas before he began stressing the need for local churches to make plans if a shooting incident should occur at their church.

"It was an outstanding program," Michel Richburg, representing Mt. Pleasant RMUE

'Right now, churches are their (shooters) target of preference.'

LT. ERIC ROSDAIL

With Clarendon County Sheriff's Office

Church in Panola, said after the session. "It was most informative and very much needed. He covered some good stuff."

Daun Davis representing Union Cypress AME Church said the session was "very informative" and greatly needed at this time.

Pastor Myra Pearson said the session was "on target." Clarendon County Sheriff Tim Baxley said he was very pleased with the big turnout.

"The audience had some great questions," Baxley added. "They received some information that they can take back to their churches and congregations to help keep them safe."

Baxley said he wanted to show church leaders that there were better options than having people in their churches with concealed weapons during church services.

"It is terrible that society has come to this," he added, "but we need to think about safety and the best ways to protect large numbers of people."

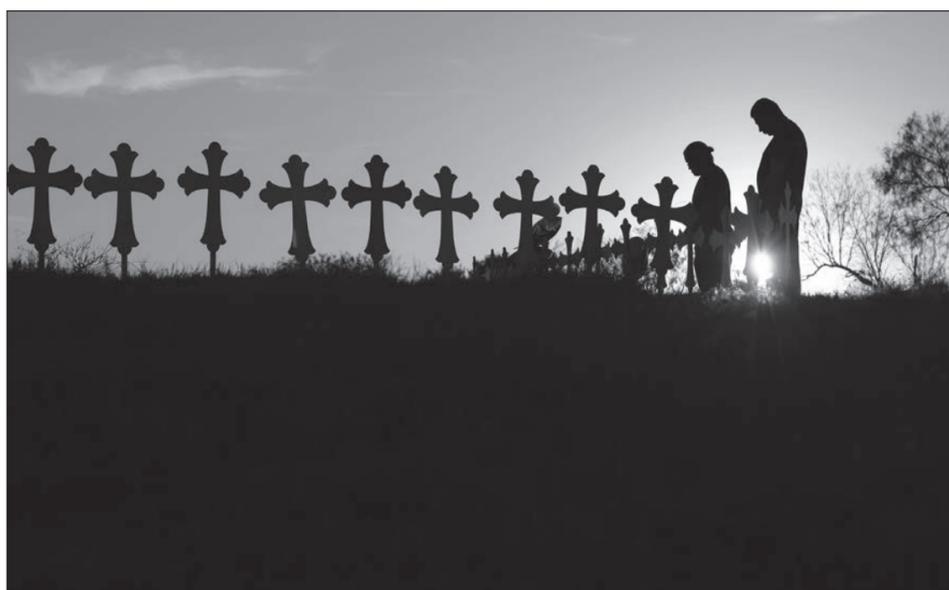
Baxley said he was delighted that firefighters from the Clarendon County Fire Department were present for the training session.

"They are also working with churches making plans," Baxley said.

Baxley said the short training session was the first move to helping churches put plans in place.

"My office is willing to meet with each church in the county at their church to help them put a plan in place," Baxley added. "They need to call my office and set it up."

For more information on the Active Shooter Training for Churches, call Lt. Eric Rosdail at (803) 435-4414.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenneth and Irene Hernandez pay their respects as they visit a makeshift memorial with crosses placed near the scene of a shooting and killing of more than two dozen at the First Baptist Church on Nov. 6 in Sutherland Springs, Texas. In response to church shootings nationwide, Clarendon County Sheriff's Office held an Active Shooter Training session.

- EDUCATIONAL ADVERTISEMENT -

Why Haven't Senior Homeowners Been Told These Facts? Keep reading if you own a home in the U.S. and were born before 1955.

It's a well-known fact that for many senior citizens in the U.S. their home is their single biggest asset, often accounting for more than 50% of their total net worth.

Yet, according to new statistics from the mortgage industry, senior homeowners in the U.S. are now sitting on more than 6.1 trillion dollars of unused home equity.¹ With people now living longer than ever before and home prices back up again, ignoring this "hidden wealth" may prove to be short sighted.

All things considered, it's not surprising that more than a million homeowners have already used a government-insured Home Equity Conversion Mortgage or "HECM" loan to turn their home equity into extra cash for retirement.

However, today, there are still millions of eligible homeowners who could benefit from this FHA-insured loan but may simply not be aware of this "retirement secret."

Some homeowners think HECM loans sound "too good to be true." After all, you get the cash you need out of your home but you have no more monthly mortgage payments.

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It's a fact: no monthly mortgage payments are required with a government-insured HECM loan;² however the homeowners are still responsible for paying for the maintenance of their home, property taxes, homeowner's insurance and, if required, their HOA fees.

Another fact many are not aware of is that HECM reverse mortgages first took hold when President Reagan signed the FHA Reverse Mortgage Bill into law 29 years ago in order to help senior citizens remain in their homes.

Today, HECM loans are simply an effective way for homeowners 62 and older to get the extra cash they need to enjoy retirement.

Although today's HECM loans have been improved to provide even greater financial protection for homeowners, there are still many misconceptions.

For example, a lot of people mistakenly believe the home must be paid off in full in order to qualify for a HECM loan, which is not the case. In fact, one key advantage of a HECM is that the proceeds will first be used to pay off any existing liens on the property, which frees up cash flow, a huge blessing for seniors living on a fixed income. Unfortunately, many senior homeowners who might be better off with HECM loan don't even bother to get more information because of rumors they've heard.

That's a shame because HECM loans are helping many senior homeowners live a better life.

In fact, a recent survey by American Advisors



FACT: In 1988, President Reagan signed an FHA bill that put HECM loans into law.

Group (AAG), the nation's number one HECM lender, found that over 90% of their clients are satisfied with their loans.

While these special loans are not for everyone, they can be a real lifesaver for senior homeowners like Betty Carter, who recently took out a HECM loan with AAG so that she could finally get the extra cash she needed to fix up her house.

"With the help of AAG, I have been able to repair my home's foundation that I had been putting off for several years, refinish the hardwood floors, paint the interior and will have the exterior painted within a few days. My house is starting to look like my home again and it feels good," says Carter.

The cash from a HECM loan can be used for any purpose. Many people use the money to save on interest charges by paying off credit cards or other high-interest loans. Other common uses include making home improvements, paying off medical bills or helping other family members. Some people simply need the extra cash for everyday expenses while others are now using it as a "safety net" for financial emergencies.

If you're a homeowner age 62 or older, you owe it to yourself to learn more so that you can make an informed decision. Homeowners who are interested in learning more can request a free 2017 HECM loan Information Kit and free Educational DVD by calling American Advisors Group toll-free at 1-800-791-1598.

At no cost or obligation, the professionals at AAG can help you find out if you qualify and also answer common questions such as:

1. What's the government's role?
2. How much money might I get?
3. Who owns the home after I take out a HECM loan?

You may be pleasantly surprised by what you discover when you call AAG for more information today.

¹Source: <http://reversemortgagedaily.com/2016/06/21/seniors-home-equity-grows-to-6-trillion-reverse-mortgage-opportunity>. ²If you qualify and your loan is approved, a Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) must pay off any existing mortgage(s). With a HECM loan, no monthly mortgage payment is required. A HECM increases the principal mortgage loan amount and decreases home equity (it is a negative amortization loan). AAG works with other lenders and financial institutions that offer HECMs. To process your request for a loan, AAG may forward your contact information to such lenders for your consideration of HECM programs that they offer. Borrowers are responsible for paying property taxes and homeowner's insurance (which may be substantial). We do not establish an escrow account for disbursements of these payments. A set-aside account can be set up to pay taxes and insurance and may be required in some cases. Borrowers must occupy home as their primary residence and pay for ongoing maintenance; otherwise the loan becomes due and payable. The loan also becomes due and payable when the last borrower, or eligible non-borrowing surviving spouse, dies, sells the home, permanently moves out, defaults on taxes or insurance payments, or does not otherwise comply with the loan terms. American Advisors Group (AAG) is headquartered at 3800 W. Chapman Ave., 3rd & 7th Floors, Orange CA, 92868.. V2017.08.23_OR

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My favorite Christmas allowed me to live the day

My favorite Christmas happened when I was 20. It wasn't because of a gift I received, but a gift I gave.

That Christmas, I decided the best gift I could give my stepdad was to get up early and feed all the animals down at the barn. Pop usually had to trudge off to do this chore in between opening gifts and cooking breakfast. I wanted him to have a more relaxed morning.

I got up at 6 a.m., not early on most days, but early for Christmas morning. I slipped into my jeans and boots and went down in the dark to the barn. It was brisk for a Florida morning, cold enough to see my breath. The horses were already up and eager to eat. I measured out their feed and threw in a little more because it was Christmas.



Clay Smith

The barn cats slunk around my ankles, looking for their breakfast, which I delivered in abundance. Christmas was the one day there would be a truce between myself and the cats. Then I hoisted a 40-pound bag of feed on my shoulder and crossed the lot over to the log barn. The log barn had been built by my great-grandfather around 1861. Behind it, there was a pen where we kept the steers we were feeding out. In that pen was an old feed trough that had been there all my life. There was no electricity in that barn, so I had to be

guided by the light of the full moon slowly slipping under the horizon. The steers looked at me as I poured out their feed, their breath fogging the air, waiting for me to get out of their way.

That's when God spoke to me. A gentle whisper came to my soul: "It was here, in a place that smelled like this, with mud and muck that I came into the world. I was laid into a feed trough like the one you just poured feed into. Joseph had to keep the steers back from bothering the Savior of the world. Clay, I did this for you and for the whole world. That's how much I want to be with you and save you."

A chill ran down my spine. I realized how wide and deep and high my Heavenly Father's love is for me.

Making my way back to the house, the brightest star in the heavens, Sirius, seemed to wink at me, one more part of the Christmas story.

Why is this my favorite Christmas? Because on this Christmas, I got to live the day, instead of just celebrate it.

This Christmas, use some holy imagination and live the day. Let your mind conjure the smells. See the breath of the cows. Feel the squish of the mud. See the wooden trough made smooth by a thousand licks. Let your soul hear the good news, that unto you is born this day a Savior in the city of Bethlehem. 'Tis Christ the Lord!

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

Give the one who gave it all an attitude of constant gratitude

We've all been there: that awkward, one-sided gift exchange with a friend who didn't make the cut on your Christmas gift-giving list. There you are standing with their gift in your hands and an expression on your face best described as part embarrassment, part gratefulness.

Should you run out and try to reciprocate? Do you lie and say their gift is forthcoming and that you merely left it at your home? Do you sheepishly admit you didn't get them anything?

Or, do you simply say, "Thank you"?

As the recipient of a gift from a person to whom I didn't give a gift, I can say there is a certain impulse toward guilt as if the missing gift somehow signifies my indifference toward our relationship. Any gift giver with a penchant for true generosity will tell you this isn't the case: they give because they love you, not because they hope for something in return.

A large part of the story of Christ's birth involves gift



Faith Matters

JAMIE H. WILSON

giving. Aside from the larger theme of God sending his son, Jesus Christ, as a gift and ransom for humanity, there are the wise men who brought with them three gifts to the young Jesus: gold, frankincense and myrrh. We don't know how many wise men there were, although we might assume each gift represented a wise man. After all, who shows up to the birth of the Savior of the world without a gift?

What if there was a fourth wise man — one who simply forgot to bring a gift? There he stood, empty handed as his colleagues laid before the King of Kings the finest gifts they could find. Maybe he stood, fidgeting in the corner as the eyes in the room turned to him. Maybe he would shrug and nervously toe the dirt floor. Maybe the others would try to console him.



All of this is wild speculation, of course, but I find myself often approaching my Heavenly Father with that attitude. There are people who are smarter and infinitely more talented than I. They offer my God a laundry list of abilities, whereas I often approach the throne of God feeling empty handed. What can I give the One who gave everything to me?

Then again, there is no one who can truly match the gift that God gave us on that holy night.

God has given us such a perfect gift in Jesus Christ, and that fact is never so evident as that when we read John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son ... (John 3:16, NIV, emphasis mine). Since there is no way we can give God

something of equal value, perhaps our attitudes should be one of constant gratitude, not just during the holidays but year round.

It's completely appropriate to stand in awe of this most precious gift and simply say "Thank you."

Email Jamie H. Wilson at faithmatterssumter@gmail.com.

CHURCH NEWS

Allen Chapel AME Church, 471 Lynam Road, announces:

* Sunday — Christmas program during 10 a.m. worship service.

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Fifth Sunday missionary worship service at 10 a.m.

Concord Baptist Church, 1885 Myrtle Beach Highway, announces:

* Sunday — Christmas Eve candlelight service at 6 p.m.

First Baptist Missionary Church, 219 S. Washington St., announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Bring in the New Year celebration at 10 p.m.

Grace Full Gospel Church, 1540 Bradham Blvd., announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 9 p.m. The Rev. Wayne Locklear will speak. Music will be provided by Voice of Triumph, of Maxton, North Carolina, and others.

High Hills AME Church, 6780 Meeting House Road, Dalzell, announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 10 p.m. The Rev. Keith R. Mayes Sr. will speak.

High Hills Missionary Baptist Church, 6750 Meeting House Road, Dalzell, announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m.

Knitting Hearts Ministry, meets at Bethesda Church of God, 2730 Broad St., announces:

* Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 — Knitting Hearts will meet from 10 a.m. until noon. International Bible teacher Dr. Peter Wyns will speak. All ladies of all ages are invited. A love offering will be received. Knitting Hearts is a community-wide, multi-cultural women's ministry. Visit knittingheartsministry.wordpress.com.

Liberty Hill AME Church, 2310 Liberty Hill Road, Summerton, announces:

* Monday — Christmas worship service at 10 a.m.

Mount Sinai AME Church, 5895 Mt. Sinai Church Road, Lynchburg, announces:

* Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018 — Gospel Fest 2018 gospel singing featuring the Singing Cousins and other guests.

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 325 Fulton St., announces:

* Today and Tuesday-Friday, Dec. 26-29 — Christmas camp for youth ages 4 to 13 years old.

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Youth worship celebration at 10:45 a.m.

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 3249 U.S. 15 S., announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 10 p.m.

Pinewood Baptist Church, 10 E. Fulton St., Pinewood, announces:

* Sunday — Christmas Eve services will be held at 11 a.m. and we invite all families to "come as you are" to worship together and observe the Lord's Supper. Nursery provided. Call (803) 452-5373 or visit www.pinewoodbaptist.org.

Refreshing Springs Kingdom Outreach, meets at Colony Square, 741 Bultman Drive, Suite 21, announces:

* Saturday, Dec. 30 — Kingdom United prayer breakfast at 10 a.m.

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m. Reid Chapel AME Church, 1008 Dibert St., announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m.

* Monday, Jan. 15, 2018 — MLK Celebration at 9 a.m. Elder Lee McElveen, of Calvary Christian Outreach Center, will speak.

St. James AME Church, 180 W. Fulton Manning Road, Pinewood, announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch night service at 10:30 p.m. The Rev. Lawrence Myers will speak.

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 7650 Summerton Highway, Silver community, Pinewood, announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — Watch

Night service at 10 p.m.

Summerton Southern Methodist Church, 1107 Felton Road, Summerton, announces:

* Sunday, Dec. 31 — New Year's eve singing from 8 p.m. until midnight. On the program: His Calling, Marty James, Mike and Beth Watson,

Julie Mahoney and others.

Taw Caw Missionary Baptist Church, 1130 Granby Lane, Summerton, announces:

* Sunday — There will only be morning services. Sunday school will be held at 9 a.m., devotional service at 9:45 a.m. and worship at 10 a.m.



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Forgot the stocking stuffers? We've got your back (scratcher)

BY IVY MOORE
Special to The Sumter Item

You've finished your Christmas shopping, but just as you've wrapped the last gift and settle down with a cup of tea or coffee and get half-way into a big sigh of relief, it hits you — you've forgotten the stocking stuffers!

Before you panic and head out the door, let *The Sumter Item's* elves plant a few ideas in your head. The items on this list should be readily available and abundant enough to fill more than one stocking.

While you're out, why not pick up a gift certificate for yourself? Perhaps for a massage or a pedicure for tired feet.



- Cookie cutters
- Socks
- Mini jigsaw puzzle
- Bookmarks
- Keychain
- Kitchen timer
- Fragrant soaps
- Gum
- Candy
- Hand sanitizer
- Tire gauge
- Earbuds
- Earplugs
- Batteries
- Fidget spinner
- Mousepad
- USB hub
- Mini-bottles
- Headlamp
- Flashlight
- Lip balm
- Movie tickets
- Gas cards
- Grocery store cards
- Tape
- Yo-yo
- Jerky
- Gloves
- Wallet
- Stamps
- Scented candles
- Stylus pens

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Rubik's cube
- Avocado slicer
- Whole fruit
- Mini maple syrup
- Small journal
- Lighted slide-out magnifier
- Smartphone camera lens kit
- Refrigerator magnets
- Honey bear
- Hand lotion
- Pens/pencils
- Play-Doh
- Bubbles
- Jewelry
- Mustache trimmer
- Beard conditioner
- Matchbox cars
- Perfume/cologne
- SD memory card
- Gourmet tea/coffee
- Car wash gift card
- Golf balls/tees
- Barrettes/hairbows
- Comb/hairbrush
- Tea ball/infuser
- Stickers
- Whimsical wine stoppers
- Wine glass markers
- Honey sticks
- Emery boards
- Spa gift certificates
- Post-It notes
- Origami paper
- Dental floss/picks

- Back scratcher
- Finger puppets
- Sunglasses
- Eyewear retainers
- Cellphone case
- Small insulated mug
- Wireless mouse
- Nail polish
- Nail polish remover
- Makeup remover wipes
- Shower pouf
- Shower crayons
- Bath toys
- Fishing line
- Fishing lures
- Knife sharpener
- Chewing tobacco
- Money clip
- Hand warmers
- Duck calls
- Disposable razors
- Travel-size hygiene products
- Battery charger
- Cellphone charger
- Cellphone case
- Book light
- Stress ball
- Handheld fan
- Matches/lighters
- Nail clippers
- Sewing kit
- Band aids
- Shoelaces
- Shoe polish
- Bluetooth speaker
- Playing cards

- Poker chips
- Lottery tickets
- Address book
- Paperback book
- Coloring book
- Crayons
- Pocket calendar with important dates already marked
- Temporary tattoos / gift certificate for real one
- Stapler with staples
- Multi-tool or Swiss Army knife
- Sumter Little Theatre tickets
- Sumter Opera House tickets
- Restaurant gift certificates
- Cleaning cloth for TV, monitor screens and eyeglasses
- Bath bombs
- Personal-sized over-the-counter medications
- K cups/tea bags
- Stud finder/tools such as wrench, screw driver, etc.
- Ammunition
- Belt
- Miniature umbrella
- Rain poncho
- Ice scraper
- CD/DVD
- Tree ornament
- Local post cards
- Travel silverware set
- And, of course, money

Church Directory

Adventist

Sumter Seventh-Day Adventist
103 N Pike West 775-4455
Pastor Harry Robinson
Sat. Sch: 9:15 am, Worship: 11:00 am
Tues Bible Study 7 pm
www.sumter22.adventistchurchconnect.org

Wayman Chapel AME Church
160 N Kings Hwy • 803-494-3686
www.waymanchapelame.com
Reverend Dr. Dennis W. Broughton, Jr.
Church School 9:00 am
Worship 10:15 am
Wed. Bible Study 12:00 pm & 6:30 pm

Baptist - Missionary

Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church
803 S Harvin St. • 775-4032
Marion H Newton, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 7:45 & 10:45 am
Sunday Youth Service: 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

Catholic - Roman

The Catholic Community of Sumter, St. Anne Site
216 E Liberty St • 803-773-3524
Parochial Pastor Rev. Frank Palmieri, CRM
Vicar Rev. Noly Berjuega, CRM
Weekend Masses: Sat. 4:30 pm
Sun. 8:00 and 12:00 Noon
Confession: Sat. 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Lutheran - ELCA

St James Lutheran Church
1137 Alice Dr, Sumter
773-2260 / www.sjamessumter.org
Pastor Keith Getz
Sunday School: 9:00 am
Sunday Worship: 10:00 am
Thur. Bible Study 10:30 am
Wednesday Holy Communion: 12:00 pm

First Church of God
1835 Camden Rd • 905-5234
www.sumterfcg.org
Ron Bower, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Presbyterian - ARP

Lemira Presbyterian Church
514 Boulevard Rd • 473-5024
Pastor Dan Rowton
Sunday School 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am

African Methodist Episcopal

Union Station AME Church
945 South Main Street, Sumter
unionstationame@gmail.com
(803) 775 8200
Rev. Dr. Phil Flowers announces:
Sun. Church School 9:00 am
Sun. Church Service 10:00 am
Tues. Bible Study 11:00 am
Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm

Assembly of God

First Assembly of God
1151 Alice Drive • 773-3817
www.sumterfirstag.org
Jason Banar, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Salem Missionary Baptist Church

320 West Fulton Street
803-775-8054
Reverend Dr. Cartrell Woods, Jr. Pastor
Sun. School 9:00 am
Praise Worship 9:55 am
Worship 10:00 am

The Catholic Community of Sumter, St. Jude Site

611 W. Oakland Ave • 773-9244
www.stjudesumtersc.org
Pastor Rev. Frank Palmieri, CRM
Parochial Vicar Rev. Noly Berjuega, CRM
Saturday: 6:00 pm
Sun. 9:15 - 12:00 Noon, 5:00 pm
(In Spanish)
Confession: Sat. 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Methodist - United

Bethel United Methodist Church
5575 Lodebar Rd • 469-2452
Rev. Jeremy Howell
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School: 10 am
www.yourbethel.org
BMethodist@tfc1.net

Greater St. Paul Church
200 Watkins Street • 803-778-1355
Founder Bishop W.T. English
Sunday School - 10:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship - 11:30 am
Wed. Mid Week Service - 7:30 pm

Presbyterian PCA

Westminster Presbyterian Church
230 Alice Dr., Sumter • 803-773-7235
Pastor Stuart Mizelle
Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship Service 10:30 am

Presbyterian USA

First Presbyterian Church of Sumter
9 W Calhoun St (at Main St.)
(803) 773-3814 • info@fpcsumter.org
Rev. Nick Cheek
"Classes for all ages" 9:30 am
Hospitality & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:10 a.m.
Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 a.m.

BE PREPARED

The weather report is warning that a big snowstorm is on the way. We might lose power! What can we do to prepare? Head to the grocery store; it's good to stock up on emergency supplies and food. We need water, bread, milk, batteries and flashlights. Do we need fuel for the car? We don't want to run out of anything. What can we do to prepare our souls for life's storms? We can prepare our souls with worship, prayer and the study of God's Word. We can store in our hearts His love that comforts us through life's disasters. With God, we can be ready for whatever "storm" heads our way. Visit God's House each week and learn how to be prepared.

Daily Devotional Reading

Numbers 6:22-27	Ephesians 1:1-23	Ephesians 2:1-22	Ephesians 3:1-21	Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 4:17-32	Psalms 72
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Baptist - Southern

Grace Baptist Church
219 W Calhoun St • 778-6417
Dr. Stephen Williams
dsteve@tfc1.net
S.S. 9:45 am; Worship 11:00 am
Evening Worship/Bible Study 6:30 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm
Wed. Bible Study: 6:30 pm

Church of Christ

Plaza Church of Christ
1402 Camden Hwy. • 905-3763
Sunday School: 10 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 6 pm
Wed. Bible Class: 7 pm

Hickory Road Baptist Church

1245 Cherryvale Dr
803-494-8281
Dr. Ron Taylor Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 10:55 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Interdenominational

Spiritual Life Christian Center
4672 Broad St. Ext. • 968-5771
Pastors Randolph & Minerva Paige
Sunday Worship: 11:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

Shaw Heights Baptist Church

2030 Peach Orchard Rd. • 499-4997
Rev. Robert White, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:45 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 6 pm
Bible School June 20th - 25th
6:00 - 8:30 PM
4 year old & up

Trinity United Methodist Church

226 W Liberty St • 773-9393
Rev. Joseph James, Jr.
Blended Worship 8:45 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Traditional Service 11:00 am
office@trinityumcsumter.org

Non-Denominational

Calvary Bible Church
770 N. Wise Dr., Sumter
803-774-2341
Pastor Richard Harris
Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 PM

Pentecostal

First United Pentecostal Church
14 Plowden Mill Rd • 775-9493
Pastor Theron Smith
Sunday Service: 10:00 am & 6:30 pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 pm

Sumter First Pentecostal Holiness Church

2609 McCrays Mill Rd • 481-8887
S. Paul Howell, Pastor
Sunday School: 10:00 am
Sunday Worship: 10:45 am & 6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study/Youth Group: 7:00 pm

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Expert: New route may have distracted engineer before crash

BY PHUONG LE
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Experts say it's possible the engineer on an Amtrak train that derailed as it hurtled into a curve at more than twice the speed limit was distracted for an extended period of time before the train plunged off an overpass and onto a busy interstate, a key factor in the investigation.

Authorities on Wednesday reopened two southbound lanes of Interstate 5 - the Pacific Northwest's main north-south arterial - that had been closed since Monday's accident as federal investigators focused on whether the engineer's attention was diverted by a second person in the cab, or by something else.

Three men were killed Monday south of Seattle when the train barreled into a 30 mph zone at 80 mph. Southbound lanes of Interstate 5 near DuPont had been closed at the accident ever since.

A conductor in training who was familiarizing himself with the new route was in the locomotive with the engineer at the time. A federal official who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity said authorities want to know whether the engineer lost "situational awareness" — didn't realize where he was.

Rail-safety experts say that while it is fairly common to have two people in a cab, investigators will look into whether that may have distracted the engineer.

"What interactions were the conductor and the engineer having and did that distract the engineer from his focus on where they were on the route?" said Keith Millhouse, a rail-safety consultant who was former board chairman of Metrolink, Southern California's commuter rail system.

Millhouse said the two could have been having discussions that caused the engineer to not realize where he was on the route.

"My guess is there were probably distractions not only immediately prior to the accident but in the minutes leading up to the accident," he said.

Investigators had not yet interviewed the train engineer and other crew members — all of whom were hospitalized — as of Wednesday morning, a National Transportation Safety Board spokesman said. Experts say investigators will want to talk to them as soon as possible while the event is still fresh in their memory.

NTSB board member Bella Dinh-Zarr said Tuesday they were in the early stage of the investigation, and authorities won't determine a probable cause while on scene. She said distraction is one of the most looked at priorities, and investigators will be looking at cellphone records of all employees.

Dinh-Zarr also said the engineer did not manually activate the emergency brake, which went off automatically when the train derailed.

"This is a situation where the engineer should have been starting the braking application probably a minute before they reached that curve," said Allan Zarembski, a civil engineering professor who directs the rail engineering and safety program at the University of Delaware.

"It suggests strongly that the engineer was distracted for a fairly extended point of view," he said. The information so far "seems to suggest that there was an operator issue here," he said.

In some previous wrecks, train operators were found to have been seriously fatigued or distracted by a cellphone or something else.

Railroad unions have repeatedly urged adding a second crew member in the cab. Former NTSB chief railroad crash investigator Ed Dobranetski disagrees.

He has said putting multiple crew members in a locomotive was "more of a distraction"



Two damaged train cars sit on flatbed trailers after being taken from the scene of an Amtrak train crash onto Interstate 5 a day earlier Tuesday, Dec. 19 in DuPont, Washington.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

than a safeguard.

The former investigator pointed to a deadly 1996 collision near Washington, D.C. between an Amtrak train and a Maryland commuter train that had three crew members in the cab. The engineer of the commuter train was thought to have been distracted by a conversation with the other crew members. The train ran through a speed restriction, reaching 66 mph in a 30 mph zone, and blew through a stop signal before slamming head on into the Amtrak train.

Eleven people were killed. "Conversation creates a potential for distraction and in-

terference with the engineer's retention of information, in this case the signal information," the NTSB wrote in its report on the 1996 crash.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee said Wednesday that Amtrak President Richard Anderson told him the rail company would pay the costs of the derailment as well as the medical and other expenses of the victims. He also said Anderson would try to ensure a technology can automatically slow or stop a speeding train — known as positive train control — was in place statewide before a Dec. 31, 2018 federal deadline. That technology was not in-

use on the stretch of track involved in Monday's crash.

Regulators have been pressing railroads for years to install such technology, and some have done so, but the deadline has been extended repeatedly at the industry's request.

On Wednesday, crews in Washington state removed a train locomotive from the crash site and cleaned up debris before reopening the freeway that typically sees about 60,000 cars a day. The train, with 85 passengers and crew members, was making the inaugural run along a fast, new 15-mile bypass route.

THE PROBATE PROCESS

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GLENN F. GIVENS, ATTORNEY

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Mattis gives U.S. troops pep talk at Guantanamo

GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba (AP) — On a rare visit to the home of the U.S. military's prison for terror suspects, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis offered a pep talk Thursday to American troops — and urged them to always be ready for war.

"I need you to be at the top of your game," he told an assembly of several hundred troops, citing their roles both as a fighting force and as a positive example to a politically divided America of how to work together.

The unannounced visit was the first by a defense secretary since Donald H. Rumsfeld came here in January 2002 shortly after the first prisoners arrived from Afghanistan.

Mattis did not discuss the Trump administration's plans for the detention center, nor did he visit it. But he stressed the importance of keeping the Navy base as a U.S. toehold in southeastern Cuba. He said it will not be abandoned, regardless of the future of the prison.

"We need this base badly," he said, as a strategic spot to conduct humanitarian relief and other naval operations, as it had before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Mattis spoke to three groups of troops, offering holiday greetings and thanks for their service. He also fielded their questions as he stood in a warm sun and found that the prospect of war with North Korea was on their minds.

Mattis said international efforts to compel North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons are focused for now on diplomacy. He also emphasized that effective diplomacy must be backed by a credible threat of military force.

"We need to keep this in a diplomatic framework for solution," he said. But he added that in the event diplomacy fails, "you all have to be ready to go."

Speaking to a few dozen Marines at a rifle range, Mattis described North Korea as a "not yet imminent but a direct threat to the United States."

At another point, at an outdoor movie theater where troops and civilian staff had gathered, Mattis said that during the Cold War, U.S. leaders had been confident that Russia and China did not want to start a nuclear war.

"That may be an assumption we cannot make" with

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, he said.

Mattis was asked if the U.S. has worked out planning for a post-war Korean Peninsula, including the issue of reunifying the North and South. He answered indirectly by saying, "We're probably not where we need to be" in such discussions with Russia, China and others.

Mattis arrived at Guantanamo on Wednesday night and was accompanied by an Associated Press reporter. His overnight stop at Guantanamo amid uncertainty over the Trump administration's policy on continued use of the military prison.

Later Mattis was flying to Mayport Naval Station in Florida and planned today to visit Camp Lejeune and Fort Bragg in North Carolina.

President Donald Trump hasn't released any Guantanamo prisoners or added any to the list of men who have been officially cleared to go home or to a third country for resettlement.

WEEKS FROM PAGE A1

"I fell instantly in love with the sport," he added. "I credit Beto Martinez, who was the trainer that day, with getting me started in my career. He was the one who contacted the Arizona State Boxing Commission and told them I had the good, natural movements of a great referee."

Weeks said the late Muhammad Ali was the best boxer of all time. "You knew what he stood for," Weeks said. "He had showmanship. He was a self-promoter, and he packed the folks in."

Weeks said what truly set Ali apart from other boxers was "the beauty of his art."

Weeks said the "dream match" of all time was between Ali and Smokin' Joe Frazier, "hands down."

Weeks remembers the match like it was just yesterday. It was March 8, 1971, in Madison Square Garden.

"The world stopped to watch," he said with a smile. "Frank Sinatra didn't have tickets. He contacted someone at Life magazine, and they hired him to take pictures. He was standing there, right at ringside."

That fight became known as "The Fight," he added.

When asked about the perceived brutality of boxing, Weeks said there was brutality in almost every sport.

"There's beauty in the art of boxing," he added. "Each boxer is different. Their movements, the way they train and their talent make each one special."

What makes a good referee? "Good instincts, the ability to make the call on the spot and training," Weeks said.

"You can't look indecisive. After a fight, you're mentally exhausted. For 12 rounds, about 45 minutes, you are steadily in motion, watching and ready to step in if needed."

Weeks called boxing a wonderful sport for youngsters.

"Boxing teaches self-discipline," he said. "It's physical and mental. It teaches showmanship and how to control your emotions in the ring."

Weeks just returned to the United States after spending time in Germany and Colombia. Next, he's headed to Africa, China and Brazil.

"What's better than getting to travel all over the world and getting work in a sport that I love," he said. "I have the best of two worlds. I really love my job."

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THE CLARENDON SUN

Crowd gathers for field house ceremony

Monarch athletes will use new campus facility for training

BY SHARRON HALEY
Special to The Sumter Item

MANNING — More than 75 Monarch administrators, teachers, coaches, athletes and fans were present for Sunday's dedication ceremony for The Monarch Field House, behind Manning High School and adjacent to Ramsey Field, the home of the Monarch football team.

"I'm really excited about this facility," Clarendon School District 2 administrator John Tindal said at the ceremony. "We've been lacking this type of facility for some time, and I'm excited to see it finally come to fruition."

Tindal said the 15,246-square-foot facility cost a little more than \$2 million to build and will be paid for through the county's Local Option Sales Tax provision.

CSD2 Board Chairman Arthur J. Moyd Sr. applauded Tindal's vision for the facility and his plan for making the vision a reality.

"Mr. Tindal had a dream," Moyd said. "His dream became a goal, and his goal became a plan. He took the steps needed to secure funding. Mr. Tindal, I know that this day would not have been possible without your dream ... your vision. You can add this to your list of accomplishments and to your legacy at Clarendon School District 2."

MHS Principal Preston Threath told those in attendance that although thousands have passed through the doors of MHS, thousands more will pass through the doors of the new field house.

"Many have not been born yet who will pass through



PHOTOS BY SHARRON HALEY / THE SUMTER ITEM

The entire Monarch varsity football team will be able to lift weights at one time in the new weight room at The Monarch Field House, located behind Manning High School and adjacent to Ramsey Field. Before building the field house, the varsity team would need to split up into three groups to lift weights.

those doors," he said. "Athletes, coaches and students will enjoy what is being dedicated today."

Monarch Athletic Director and Head Varsity Football Coach Keith West said that not only will the Monarch football players have the opportunity to enjoy the new facilities, but athletes in each sport will also have that same opportunity.

"This facility is second to none in the state," West added. "The Dormans, Spartanburgs, Summervilles all have great facilities, but this facility is just as good as any-

thing that they have. This facility is a lot to be proud of and will enhance our entire athletic program."

Robert Parker, Monarch offensive tackle and strength training coach, said the new weight room has 20 racks that will accommodate all the varsity players at one time.

"While the varsity players are using the weight room, the junior varsity players can be viewing films," he added. "Then they can switch. We can get it all done in one day. Before the new facility, it would take three sessions just for the varsity players."



TySonda "Ty" Monique King, a former Monarch athlete and honorary coach, was on hand for Sunday's dedication of The Monarch Field House. More than a dozen current and former coaches and players were present for the dedication ceremony.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Tonka is a 10-month-old male gray tabby, domestic medium-haired kitten. He is current on all vaccinations, has been neutered and tested negative for feline leukemia and AIDS. Tonka is a sweet, laid-back ball of fur. He will do great in a home with kids. You can pick him up and hold him just like a baby with no problem. The adoption fee for all cats and kittens is \$50 with an approved application. Office hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Stop by today or go online to complete an adoption application at www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com.



Bambi is an 8-month-old male Ibizan Hound mix weighing approximately 25 pounds. He is current on all vaccinations, has been neutered and tested negative for heartworms. Bambi loves a lot of attention and loves to go for long walks. He is a sweet boy who deserves a nice cozy home. If you think he is the one for you, please stop by today or go online to complete an adoption application at www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com. Stop by Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at A Second Chance Animal Shelter, 5079 Alex Harvin Highway (U.S. 301). To drop off an animal, call (803) 473-7075 for an appointment. If you've lost a pet, check www.ccanimalcontrol.webs.com and www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

Farm bureaus spread cheer

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Clarendon County Farm Bureau and local Farm Bureau Insurance agents are helping two families in the Clarendon community facing hardships.

Two \$500 checks were presented to two families who have suffered through medical misfortunes this year. The donations are part of a company-sponsored holiday community outreach program called Farm Bureau Cares.

Through Farm Bureau Cares, county Farm Bureau offices in South Carolina provide a monetary donation during December to help a family or charity of their choice.

Each local donation made by the County Farm Bureau and local agents is matched by Farm Bureau Insurance.

Clarendon County Farm Bureau and local Farm Bureau Insurance agents were aware of the recipients' situations and selected the two families to receive the local Farm Bureau Cares donation.

Statewide, more than \$38,000 was donated through Farm Bureau Cares to assist charities and countless individuals this holiday season.

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THE Clarendon Sun

CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINE TUESDAY 11AM

LEGAL NOTICES

Beer & Wine License

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
Notice is hereby given that **Family Dollar Stores of South Carolina, LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and off premises consumption of beer & wine at 37 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102, Clarendon County.

To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **Sunday, January 7, 2018**.

For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:

- (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest;
- (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied;
- (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);
- (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,
- (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed.

Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907; or faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

Summons & Notice

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CLARENDON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2016-CP-14-00237 Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, Plaintiff vs. The Personal Representative, if any, whose name is unknown, of the Estate of Thomas Thames; and any other Heirs-at-Law or devisees of Thomas Thames, Deceased, the Personal Representative, if any, whose name is unknown, of the Estate of Peggy McBride aka Peggy Wells McBride; Brenda A. Lewis, Teresa Murray, Juanita McFadden, John McBride, Ervin McBride, Timothy McBride, Alvin McBride, Lee Ernest McBride, Ralph D. McBride, and any other Heirs-at-Law or devisees of Peggy McBride aka Peggy Wells McBride, Deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators,

Summons & Notice

Successors and Assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe, Republic Finance and South Carolina Federal Credit Union, Defendants. It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, upon reading the Motion for the Appointment of Kelley Y. Woody, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America (which are constituted as a class designated as "John Doe") and any unknown minors and persons who may be under a disability (which are constituted as a class designated as "Richard Roe"), it is ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 17, SCRPC, Kelley Y. Woody, Esq. is appointed Guardian ad Litem on behalf of all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America (constituted as a class and designated as "John Doe"), all unknown minors or persons under a disability (constituted as a class and designated as "Richard Roe"), all of which have or may claim to have some interest in the property that is the subject of this action, commonly known as 114 Richburg Street, Manning, SC 29102, that Kelley Y. Woody, Esq. is empowered and directed to appear on behalf of and represent all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, constituted as a class and designated as "John Doe", all unknown minors and persons under a disability, constituted as a class and designated as "Richard Roe", unless the Defendants, or someone acting on their behalf, shall, within thirty (30) days after service of a copy of this Order as directed below, procure the appointment of a Guardian or Guardians ad Litem for the Defendants constituted as a class designated as "John Doe" or "Richard Roe". IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order shall be served upon the unknown Defendants by publication in the Manning Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, together with the Summons in the above entitled action. SUMMONS AND NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED HEREIN; ALSO ANY PERSONS WHO MAY BE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES

Summons & Notice

OF AMERICA, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN DOE; AND ANY UNKNOWN MINORS OR PERSONS UNDER A DISABILITY BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE; ERVIN MCBRIDE; RALPH D. MCBRIDE YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in the above served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer upon the undersigned at their offices, 2838 Devine Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29205, within thirty (30) days after service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and, if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the original Complaint in this action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Clarendon County on May 27, 2016. NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, you have a right to be considered for Foreclosure Intervention. NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an action has been commenced and is now pending or is about to be commenced in the Circuit Court upon the complaint of the above named Plaintiff against the above named Defendant for the purpose of foreclosing a certain mortgage of real estate heretofore given by Peggy McBride and Thomas Thames to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company bearing date of March 9, 2010 and recorded March 23, 2010 in Mortgage Book 874 at Page 173 in the Register of Mesne Conveyances/Register of Deeds/Clerk of Court for Clarendon County, in the original principal sum of Forty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three and 76/100 Dollars (\$46,983.76). Thereafter, by assignment recorded February 18, 2016 in Book 1069 at Page 249, the mortgage was assigned to CitiFinancial Servicing LLC; thereafter, by assignment recorded February 18, 2016 in Book 1069 at Page 250, the mortgage was assigned to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, and that the premises affected by said mortgage and by the foreclosure thereof are situated in the County of Clarendon, State of

Summons & Notice

South Carolina, and is described as follows: All of that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, with improvements thereon, lying, situate approximately One Hundred Fifty (150 feet) Feet; North of West Higgins Street, formerly Silver Road, in the Town of Manning, County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, measuring 100 feet on all four side and being out from the Northern portion of a certain lot conveyed to Pinkney Hilton by Deed of W.P. Harrison, dated March 9, 1957 and recorded in Deed Book C-16, at Page 509 of the Records of Clarendon County and bounded as follows, North by lands formerly of J.K. Breedin, now of Albert Pugh: East by Lot of John Felder, South by the remaining portion of the Lot of Pinkney Hilton and West by a street or roadway separating said lot of Johnny McCray. TMS No. 169-11-02-006-00 Property Address: 114 Richburg Street, Manning, SC 29102 Riley Pope & Laney, LLC Post Office Box 11412 Columbia, South Carolina 29211 Telephone (803) 799-9993 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Estate Notice Clarendon County

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Clarendon County, the address of which is 411 Sunset Dr. Manning, SC 29102, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Joseph Nelson AKA Joe Louis Nelson #2017ES1400315
Personal Representative: Eliza Nelson Johnson
6343 M.W. Rickenbaker Rd. Summerton, SC 29148
William Ceth Land P.O. Box 138 Manning, SC 29102
12/8/17 - 12/22/17

Estate: Franklin James Adams, Jr. #2017ES1400056
Personal Representative: Sandra A. Washington
513 Oak Cove Dr. Columbia, SC 29229
12/8/17 - 12/22/17

Estate: James B. Benjamin #2017ES1400308
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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Thanks, Alabama, for making right choice for Senate

BY CELIA RIVENBARK

Editor's note: This piece originally ran in the Dec. 18 edition of The Post and Courier.

Dear Alabama ... Thank you from the bottom of my Tar Heel heart. Because, to be honest, it has been stressful the past few months trying to explain to people who don't live in the South that most of us don't think it's a good idea to get married before we've taken 8th-grade geometry.

Alabama — may I call you 'Bama? — you have restoreth my soul. Yea, though I stumbled through the valley of despair like a blind mule in a

punkin' patch, I can, finally, fear not the evil that would have been Roy Moore in the United States Senate.

As a sign of solidarity, my subscription to "Southern Living" has been renewed (it's headquartered in Birmingham, don'tcha know?) and I'm pondering a Gulf Shores vacation. All is forgiven, Alabama. You showed us.

It may seem odd to be so happy that y'all barely elected the guy who wasn't an accused pedophile to the U.S. Senate. To the folks who harp on the slim margin of Doug Jones' victory, all I can say is life is always full of people who want to lick the red off your candy. They'll pull up a sign and argue with the hole.

Henceforth, we will say that close only counts in horse-shoes, hand grenades and elections in which the winning candidate makes Steve Bannon look like the pale, putty-faced failure that he is.

Too much? Sorry. Like Roy Moore leering at a gaggle of girls in front of Limited Too, I guess I just can't help myself.

Sorry again. I don't mean to beat a dead horse. And speaking of horses, I'm fairly certain "Sassy" is a liberal Democrat. Did you see how she kept trying to toss Moore into the muck when he clumsily tried to ride her to the polls? It was fitting, I suppose, that he wanted to use a horse as a conveyance since

he wanted to set back the calendar to "Slavery And Other Cool Stuff." Sassy wasn't having it, whinnying noisily, digging in her heels and ignoring his commands like she was Kirsten Gillibrand or something. If you play a recording of Sassy's whinnying backward, it says "Paul is dead." No, that's not right. I meant it says: "Vote for Doug Jones; he's an economic populist who prioritizes a clean environment, renewable energy, raising the minimum wage, and hay in every barn." OK, I added that last part. For Sassy.

Finally, Alabama, I'd like to give a special shout-out to your African-American women voters. Ninety-seven

percent of black women voted for Jones, perhaps remembering Jones doggedly fought to convict two Klan members in 2002 after a Birmingham church bombing that killed four black girls in 1963. Soft on crime? Not hardly.

Sadly, 65 percent of white women voters supported the odious Moore. As for y'all? I wouldn't wave at you if my arm were on fire. This Christmas, when my mama-in-law makes her trademark chocolate holiday candy, the delicious but unfortunately named "Alabama Trash," it will be especially sweet.

Celia Rivenbark is a bestselling author and opinion columnist.

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Recent editorials from South Carolina newspapers:

THE POST AND COURIER

Dec. 20

Gov. McMaster's recognition of the opioid problem

Opioid addiction is nothing less than a public health emergency in South Carolina, and Gov. Henry McMaster is right to recognize the problem as such.

On Monday, Mr. McMaster announced that new designation, signed an executive order limiting initial post-emergency opioid prescriptions to five days and created an Opioid Emergency Response Team that will study the issue over the next six months.

That's the right approach in a state where prescription opioid and heroin overdoses claimed more than 600 lives last year — 65 in Charleston County alone — and prompted thousands of lifesaving emergency calls.

Limiting prescription lengths for opioid painkillers will help ensure that people receiving temporary treatment for acute pain don't wind up abusing potentially dangerous drugs with a demonstrated potential for addiction.

More than 2 million people nationwide are estimated to be addicted to prescription painkillers.

The move doesn't apply to long-term treatment, and patients can receive longer prescriptions by returning to a doctor after the initial five-day period runs out.

Mr. McMaster's Opioid Emergency Response Team is also a welcome new addition, albeit one that in many ways is likely to mirror the work of a legislative committee on opioids and a previous Governor's Prescription Drug Abuse Council created by his predecessor, Gov. Nikki Haley.

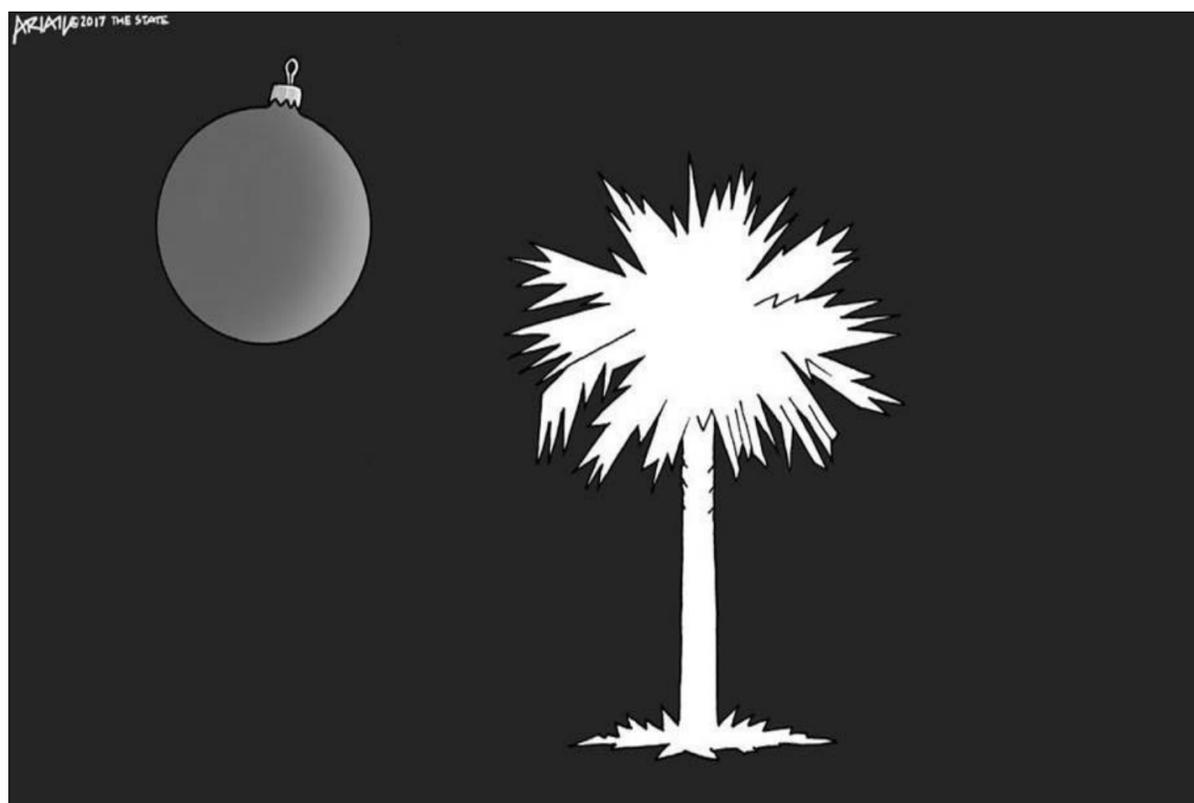
Both the council and the committee have made several sensible recommendations, some of which have now become law, including requiring doctors to enter painkiller prescriptions in a statewide drug-monitoring database.

Mr. McMaster's moves also mirror those of his political ally, President Donald Trump, who in October declared the opioid crisis a nationwide public health emergency.

"No part of our society — not young or old, rich or poor, urban or rural — has been spared this plague of drug addiction," he said in a speech that recalled his own brother's struggles with alcohol abuse that contributed to his death.

Mr. Trump's use of the term "emergency" rather than the more severe designation of "disaster" largely prevented any significant new federal funding from being freed up to address the issue, however. But the death toll from opioids is far higher than any natural disaster in recent memory.

Mr. McMaster should not make the



same mistake in South Carolina.

State funding is needed to expand treatment and prevention operations, particularly in providing better access to medication-assisted treatment and reducing the stigma that surrounds it.

Treatments like methadone and buprenorphine are not simply "trading one addiction for another" as critics commonly assert. Rather they are the best safe and scientifically proven way to help wean opioid and heroin addicts off more dangerous drugs in order to begin living more normal, productive lives.

But medication-assisted treatment can be costly for low-income patients, with long-term care costing more than \$10,000 in some cases. Barriers to insurance coverage — Medicaid doesn't pay for methadone treatment in South Carolina, for example — and geographical distance can also make treatment harder to obtain.

Fortunately, South Carolina has made addressing the opioid crisis a priority over the past few years, and Mr. McMaster's actions on Monday further that cause.

A disaster years in the making will not end overnight, however, and state officials and lawmakers must maintain their focus on the opioid crisis to save lives.

THE ISLAND PACKET

Dec. 19

Questions about contamination at military housing

The nation owes Marines and their families a safe, decent place to live.

The Laurel Bay military housing community in Beaufort County fails that basic test in the eyes of a number of people who have lived there over the years.

In a yearlong investigation, our staff documented their painful hardships. They think environmental factors at the 60-year-old complex of some 1,100 homes have contributed to a number of illnesses for Marines, their spouses and children.

Adults and children have battled cancer. Mothers have suffered through stillbirths, miscarriages and fertility issues. Others have reported serious respiratory, digestive and blood disorders.

The Marine Corps says there is no proven link between those health problems and environmental contamination at Laurel Bay. The state health department agrees.

But those on the front lines — the residents — are not so sure. One former resident posted online this January a YouTube video she called "Laurel Bay Housing and Kids with Cancer," and the floodgates opened.

As it turned out, many other families were worried — and sick.

An active civil suit may resolve some of their questions.

But one thing that is not in question is that the families living in Laurel Bay over the years were ill informed by the military, which withheld details of a serious problem. Old heating-oil storage tanks buried in yards were linked to the presence of benzene, a known carcinogen, and naphthalene, a possible carcinogen.

Years and years went by in which families were told no details on the presence of carcinogens in the vicinity of their homes — where children played in the dirt and their parents planted gardens. We also found questions on whether all the underground

tanks were truly filled with sand when they were no longer used or still contained heating oil.

The military says there was no direct exposure to the contamination, especially since the homes are served by a public water system, not wells.

But we also now know that a powerful pesticide was applied outside Laurel Bay homes for seven years after it was banned in the U.S. because it was considered harmful to both human health and the environment.

Also, lead-based paint was found in homes, a childcare center and playgrounds.

And residents consistently raised concerns about mold in homes. Some said the response by property managers was insufficient.

Residents who raised questions felt silenced — one saying she was told by a property manager to quit spreading rumors as her family suffered. Others said they feared retaliation against their active-duty spouses if they rocked the boat.

The military needs to do more investigating and be much more open with families living there now and those who lived there in the past.

After the YouTube video was posted, the Marine Corps come forward with town hall meetings.

The Marine Corps should outline in detail what it has found at Laurel Bay — and when and where.

It should make sure everyone who has lived in Laurel Bay knows results of its most recent environmental studies.

If the Marine Corps will not demolish the old houses, scorch the earth and start anew, it should demolish its penchant of keeping vital information away from Marine families who are giving their all for the nation.

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICIES

EDITORIALS represent the views of the owners of this newspaper.

COLUMNS AND COMMENTARY are the personal opinion of the writer whose byline appears. Columns from readers

should be typed, double-spaced and no more than 850 words. Send them to The Sumter Item, Opinion Pages, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, or email to letters@theitem.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by readers of the newspaper. They should be no more than 350 words and sent via e-mail to letters@theitem.com, dropped off at The Sumter Item office, 36 W. Liberty St. or mailed to The Sumter Item, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, along with the full

name of the writer, plus an address and telephone number for verification purposes only. Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at www.theitem.com.

GIVEAWAY

FROM PAGE A1

"And this is great to just kind of bring us together because it was something that Mom really, really wanted, and I had no idea."

The sentiment inside Bob's Appliance Sales and Service on Pocalla Road between South Main Street and South Guignard Parkway on Wednesday was as warm as a brand new stove.

"This is exactly what we wanted it to be," said Leigh Newman, City of Sumter's downtown development coordinator. "That's what we wanted the contest to be — somebody local wishing for somebody local."

The idea for the giveaway was initially for nominations to be wishing for personal gifts, she said, but they decided to have people nominate other recipients to get in the giving spirit of the holidays.

Eligibility rules for the contest required the recipient to live in the county and for the purchase to be from a business in the county.

That mindset prompted Newman and other organizers to make participants drop off nominations by hand to either the opera house or a box at the Swan Lake-Iris Gardens Visitor Center — get them downtown.

Keeping the gift in the family went beyond mother to son.

The Langloises have been customers at Bob's Appliance for



TY CORNETT / THE SUMTER ITEM

Joey Geddings, far left, and John Dollard, far right, co-owners of Bob's Appliance Sales and Service, stand in their store with Kyle Langlois, center, and his parents, Bob and Beverly Langlois. Beverly Langlois won the City of Sumter's Christmas Wish Giveaway and gifted \$500 toward a new stove for her son.

years, so they said it was natural to get their son's new stove from them, too.

"It makes us feel real good to know that the community knows about us enough as a local representative to choose us over any other representative for this they could have chosen," said Joey Geddings, co-owner of the business.

He said the company has been open for 48 years, started by his father who passed it down to him.

Knowing the Langlois couple wanted to include them in passing

something down to their son, he said, he and his partner, John Dollard, decided to make their Christmas Wish Giveaway winnings even more special. They said they will not charge the family for the difference in price and the \$500 from the city, charging them nothing.

"The community has given to us for so many years, and we're servants to the community, and we just want to make it a point to give back when we have the opportunity," Geddings said. "They're gonna have a nice stove."

CENSUS

FROM PAGE A1

Beach, Charleston and Hilton Head Island — and the greater Charlotte region, including York and Lancaster counties. People have also moved into the state's other major metropolitan hubs of Greenville and Columbia, according to historical Census data.

Meanwhile, many of the state's rural counties have been losing population, according to the bureau, and more residents have been moving out than moving in.

"Over time, it's just been (migration to) the metropolitan areas and the coastal areas," Mike Macfarlane of the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office told *The Post and Courier*.

Population growth or loss for states is based on three statistical indicators from the Census Bureau: net domestic migration; net natural increase, derived from births minus deaths in a year; and net international migration, or the movement of both native-born and foreign-born populations to and from another country.

South Carolina's net natural increase for the 12-month period was 9,925 residents. The state's net international migration total from 2016 to 2017 was 5,447 residents, according to the Census.

Population estimates for all 46 counties in the state will be released in March by the bureau, and population estimates for all incorporated cities and towns will be released in May.



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CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

BANKS — All area banks and credit unions will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25. SAFE Federal Credit Union and First Citizens will also be closed on Saturday, Dec. 23.

GOVERNMENT — The following will be closed through Tuesday, Dec. 26: state government offices; City of Sumter offices; Sumter County offices; Clarendon County offices; Lee County offices; and City of Bishopville offices. City of Manning offices will be closed Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 25-27. Federal government offices and the U.S. Postal Service will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25.

SCHOOLS — The following will be closed through Monday, Jan. 1, 2018, with students returning on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018: Lee County Public Schools and Thomas Sumter Academy. The following will be closed through Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, with students returning on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018: Sumter School District; Clarendon School District 1; Clarendon School District 2; Wilson Hall; St. Anne and St. Jude Catholic School; St. Francis Xavier High School; Laurence Manning Academy; and Clarendon Hall. Clarendon School District 3 and Sumter Christian School will be closed through Monday, Jan. 1, 2018, and will observe a faculty in-service day on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, with students returning on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018. Robert E. Lee Academy will be closed through Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018, with students returning on Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018.

UTILITIES — FTC will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25. Black River Electric Coop. will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26.

OTHER — Clemson Extension Service and the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce will be closed Monday-Friday, Dec. 25-29. The Harvin Clarendon County Library will be closed Friday-Tuesday, Dec. 22-26. The Sumter County Library will be closed Saturday-Tuesday, Dec. 23-26. The City of Sumter will not collect household garbage or recyclables on Christmas Day. Residents with Monday garbage and recycling service will have pickup on Saturday, Dec. 23. Residents are asked to have their roll cart and recycling bin at the curb by 7 a.m. There will be household garbage and recycling pickup on New Year's Day. For additional information, call the sanitation department at (803) 436-2558. Santee Wateree RTA will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26. Normal operations will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 27. The Sumter Item will be closed today and Monday, Dec. 25.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
67°	50°	74° / 57°	66° / 42°	53° / 30°	54° / 33°
Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 15%	Chance of rain: 65%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 5%
NW 3-6 mph	S 3-6 mph	SSW 8-16 mph	NNW 4-8 mph	NW 6-12 mph	ENE 4-8 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

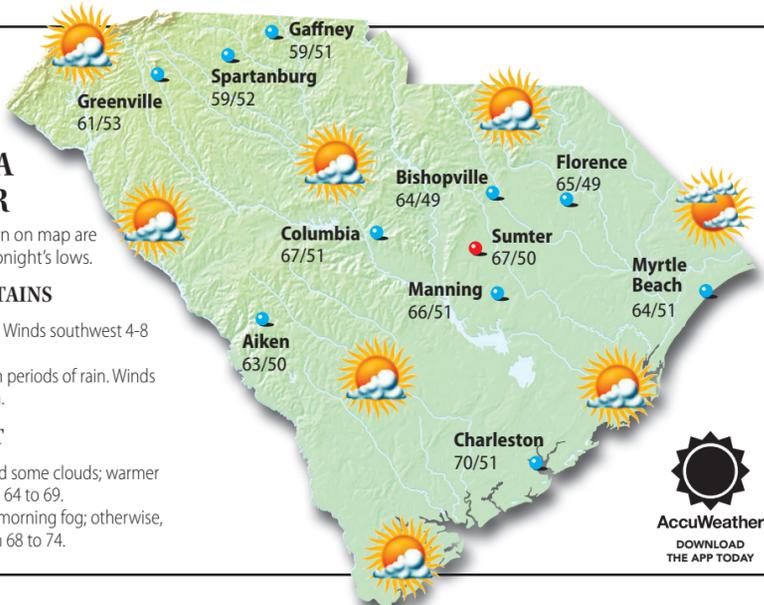
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Partly sunny. Winds southwest 4-8 mph.
Saturday: Mild with periods of rain. Winds southwest 7-14 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Sunshine and some clouds; warmer in central parts. High 64 to 69.
Saturday: Areas of morning fog; otherwise, clouds and sun. High 68 to 74.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
High	60°					
Low	46°					
Normal high	55°					
Normal low	33°					
Record high	79° in 2013					
Record low	15° in 1981					

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
24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	0.95"					
Month to date	3.76"					
Normal month to date	2.17"					
Year to date	37.28"					
Last year to date	49.12"					
Normal year to date	45.77"					

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	360	354.65	+0.07
Murray	76.8	74.27	+0.10
Marion	75.5	74.31	+0.12
Wateree	100	96.80	+0.16

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	8.88	-0.16
Congaree River	19	1.80	+0.69
Lynches River	14	5.27	+0.21
Saluda River	14	5.33	+2.54
Up. Santee River	80	75.36	-0.19
Wateree River	24	4.90	-0.18

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	7:24 a.m.	Sunset	5:17 p.m.
Moonrise	10:23 a.m.	Moonset	9:20 p.m.

Phase	First	Full	Last	New
	Dec. 26	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 16

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	11:25 a.m.	3.0	5:38 a.m.	0.3
	11:33 p.m.	2.6	6:24 p.m.	0.3
Sat.	12:01 p.m.	2.9	6:18 a.m.	0.4
	---	---	7:05 p.m.	0.3

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep your life simple and use your intelligence and skills to help you maneuver through any situation or dilemma you face. Getting along with friends and relatives will require patience. Focus on what's important to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be taken advantage of if you give in to unreasonable demands. Concentrate on what you need to clear up before the year comes to a close. Set a course that will put pending finances, contracts or settlements to rest.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Strive to gain complete control over matters that mean the most to you. Getting together with others and discussing your plans will help you gain support. Use your imagination and you'll come up with innovative solutions that will protect your status and reputation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be careful how you approach relatives who may not share your opinions. It may be best to remain quiet and enjoy the festivities going on around you. Youngsters will bring you great pleasure. A personal relationship will take an unusual turn.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Relationships should be your top priority. Taking care of loose ends and preparing to close the year on a high note are encouraged. Love and romance will give way to positive plans for the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Personal gains will be yours once you take care of the small but important details that are blocking you from

following through with your plans. Discipline and hard work will pay off and make you look good.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let people from your past disrupt your life and future. Emotions will be stirred up if you attend a reunion or frequent some of the places you used to hang out. Personal changes will evolve if you do some soul-searching.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Financial matters will have to be dealt with carefully. An unrealistic expectation that doesn't materialize will leave you questioning what you should do next. Prudence should be your plan for now. Offer hands-on help, not money.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make positive changes at home. Sprucing up your surroundings or updating your image will give you the confidence to take part in the festivities happening at work or in your community.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take charge and forge ahead with enthusiasm and determination. Refuse to let emotions take over. Know what you want and set your sights on reaching your destination regardless of what others do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Tidy up loose ends at work or at home. Clear your calendar so you can enjoy the festivities going on around you. Refrain from overspending or trying to buy someone's love and affection. Personal change is encouraged.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Know exactly how much disposable cash you have on hand and don't spend a penny more. Use your imagination when it comes to updating the way you look or how you present what you want to do.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	63/57/c	67/45/r
Chicago	43/27/sh	35/18/pc
Dallas	52/36/r	54/37/s
Detroit	39/32/sh	39/23/c
Houston	80/49/c	61/41/pc
Los Angeles	66/47/s	69/48/pc
New Orleans	79/63/c	71/52/r
New York	49/46/c	53/38/r
Orlando	81/59/pc	83/60/pc
Philadelphia	52/47/c	59/38/r
Phoenix	59/38/s	65/43/pc
San Francisco	56/41/s	56/41/pc
Wash., DC	58/51/c	65/41/r

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.
Asheville	59/49/c	64/42/r
Athens	62/54/pc	69/47/r
Augusta	68/49/pc	76/56/c
Beaufort	69/51/pc	74/60/c
Cape Hatteras	66/58/sh	68/55/c
Charleston	70/51/pc	75/59/c
Charlotte	63/52/pc	70/47/r
Clemson	57/53/pc	65/47/r
Columbia	67/51/pc	76/58/c
Darlington	64/49/pc	72/55/c
Elizabeth City	62/52/c	71/50/pc
Elizabethtown	61/51/c	73/57/pc
Fayetteville	64/49/pc	74/54/pc

City	Today	Sat.
Florence	65/49/pc	74/57/pc
Gainesville	76/53/pc	80/60/c
Gastonia	61/52/pc	68/47/r
Goldboro	61/50/sh	75/57/pc
Goose Creek	67/50/pc	73/60/c
Greensboro	61/49/pc	66/43/r
Greenville	61/53/pc	69/47/r
Hickory	59/49/pc	65/43/r
Hilton Head	66/52/pc	71/60/pc
Jacksonville, FL	75/54/pc	81/62/pc
La Grange	67/60/c	70/45/r
Macon	68/54/pc	74/54/r
Marietta	61/57/c	66/44/r

City	Today	Sat.
Marion	57/48/c	61/40/r
Mt. Pleasant	66/51/pc	72/60/pc
Myrtle Beach	64/51/pc	71/57/pc
Orangeburg	65/50/pc	73/59/c
Port Royal	66/52/pc	70/59/pc
Raleigh	60/47/c	70/50/c
Rock Hill	62/51/pc	68/50/r
Rockingham	63/48/pc	71/53/c
Savannah	71/51/pc	77/60/c
Spartanburg	59/52/pc	66/47/r
Summerville	67/49/pc	74/59/c
Wilmington	67/51/c	75/58/pc
Winston-Salem	61/51/pc	66/43/r

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ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

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

SUDOKU

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

JUMBLE

ANNUL BLEAK DAMAGE SCREWY
 There's a Jumble cartoon each day because the artist has never — DRAWN A BLANK

SUMTER SPCA PETS OF THE WEEK



LEFT: Angel is a beautiful and house-broken 2-year-old domestic medium hair / Manx mix. She is extremely friendly and loving. Angel is an active, playful and gentle girl. She adores attention and lots of hugs and kisses. She is great with other cats and would be a superb addition for a loving family this Christmas!

RIGHT: Cali is a 5-month-old Doberman Pinscher / Shepherd mix. She is a friendly and loving girl, who is great with other dogs and children. Cali lives for kisses and attention and lots of play time. She would love to find a forever home for Christmas with a forever family.

The Sumter SPCA is located at 1140 S. Guignard Drive, (803) 773-9292, and is open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day except Wednesday and Sunday. Visit www.sumterspcpa.com.

The SPCA relies heavily on community support and donations. Currently, the biggest needs are for dry puppy and kitten food, wet cat food, cat litter and cleaning supplies. The following are also appreciated:

Newspapers, stuffed animals, heavy duty trash bags (30 gallon or larger), dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, bleach, paper towels, sheets and comforters, baby blankets, canned dog and cat food, dry dog food, treats, leashes and collars, disinfectant spray, all-purpose cleaner, air freshener, no scratch scrubbers, two-sided sponges for dishes, litter freshener and, of course, monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

PREP BASKETBALL



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Senior Caitlin Timmons (11) is back for her sixth and final season for East Clarendon. Timmons, who is rated as one of the top five seniors in 1A, and EC are looking to reach the state championship game after making it to the lower state title game last season.

Improbable run to 1A lower state title game leads to high expectations for East Clarendon girls team

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The 2016-17 season was almost like a party for the East Clarendon High School varsity girls basketball team — the end of the season for sure. The Lady Wolverines, in their first season under veteran head coach Mike Lowder, won the program's first region title since 1971. On top of that, they came very close to playing for the 1A state title. EC took a 9-point lead into the fourth quarter against Green Sea-Floyds before losing 71-68 in overtime in the lower state championship game. With just one starter — and one play-

er for that matter — gone from that 15-8 team, expectations are high in Turbeville. East Clarendon has gone from the hunter to the hunted and Lowder thinks his players are handling it OK. "I really think the girls are focused," said Lowder, whose squad is off to a 4-3 start. "All summer the girls talked about last year, and they've had people tell them you'll be back. And our program ought to be back, but lots of things can happen — a key injury, a bad night, lose a couple of region games. "Anything can happen, but I think the girls are handling the new expectations well."

The Lady Wolverines return four starters. They are led eighth-grader Talaysia Cooper and senior Caitlin Timmons. Cooper was a 1A all-state selection by the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association as a seventh-grader, while Timmons was chosen as one of the top five seniors in 1A by the SCBCA in the preseason.

Lowder said Cooper is handling the extra attention she's receiving pretty well.

SEE ECHS, PAGE B4

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Fitzpatrick on 'Bama: 'Some people just don't like us'

BY JOHN ZENOR
The Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama is embracing a different role going into these playoffs. The fourth-ranked Crimson Tide players can't technically call themselves underdogs since they're actually slight favorites over No. 1 Clemson in the Sugar Bowl, but they know some view them as interlopers who don't belong in the playoffs this time. They had to sweat it out for more than a week before getting a postseason reprieve. All-America safety Minkah Fitzpatrick believes that period of uncertainty — and contentions by Ohio State fans and others that Alabama wasn't the most worthy No. 4 seed — can fuel the Tide.

"People were counting us out that didn't want us in there," Fitzpatrick said. "Some people just don't like us. It's true. But I think it definitely helped as motivation and fuel, especially if we do what we're supposed to do and get to where we want to be, I think it will help us a lot."

When you've won four national titles in the past nine years, you latch onto whatever motivational source you can find. Quarterback Jalen Hurts, asked if Alabama feels like an underdog, pointed out: "They're the national champions, we're not. So..."

The Tide (11-1) hasn't ranked lower than No. 2 in three previous playoff appearances, twice holding down the top spot.

This Alabama team was a much-debated playoff pick after failing to make the Southeastern Conference championship game. The Tide closed the regular season with a 26-14 loss at No. 7 Auburn in the Iron Bowl.

Cornerback Levi Wallace said the team, which wasn't challenged all that much the rest of the season, has to learn from that feeling after a loss. "It's just something internally," Wallace said. "We know we didn't finish the season the way we wanted to and we want to make sure that never happens again. We want to show the younger guys, now you know what it feels like. It's a different city after you lose."

And it left Alabama players in the rare position of trying to prove they belong in the playoffs. Linebacker Anfernee Jennings said they're "absolutely" thinking of themselves as underdogs.

"I think a lot of people felt like we didn't deserve to be in

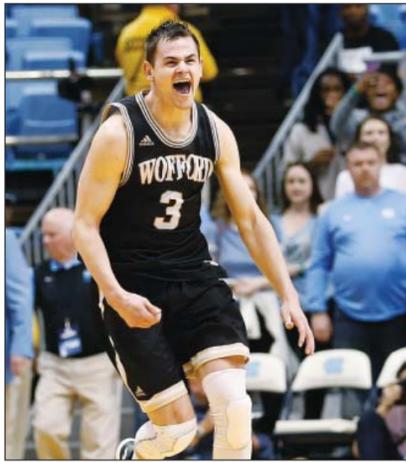
SEE BAMA, PAGE B3

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wofford stuns No. 5 UNC 79-75 in Chapel Hill

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Wofford coach Mike Young walked into his postgame news conference wearing a soaked dress shirt and sheepishly drying himself with a towel. "Pardon my appearance," Young said, "a little over-exuberance from my team." It's OK, coach. Beating fifth-ranked and reigning national champion North Carolina — on the road, no less — deserves a hearty celebration. Fletcher Magee scored 27 points to help the Terriers stun the Tar Heels 79-75 on Wednesday night, snapping UNC's 23-game home winning streak. The Terriers (8-4) led the entire second half and by as many as 14 points before holding off UNC's late-game run for their first win over a ranked team in 23 games. The Terriers closed it out with four straight free throws in the final 15.2

seconds to seal it, then mobbed each other at midcourt as the horn sounded and the Tar Heels (10-2) headed to the tunnel. It was in the locker room, Young said, that his team dumped a cooler on him as part of a celebration that left him a bit embarrassed as he pointed out it was only one regular-season win. And yet, he also understood: what a win it was for a team picked to finish sixth in the Southern Conference. "I grew up in Virginia," Young said. "This was my team, Coach Smith, and you see all those banners up there, and I can think back to (John) Kuester and (Walter) Davis and (Phil) Ford, all those guys. "And to bring a team in here and not only compete and fight and do some really good things — but win — holy cow, that's a mouthful."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wofford's Fletcher Magee reacts after the Terriers defeated North Carolina 79-75 on Wednesday in Chapel Hill, N.C.

USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Wilson helps No. 4 South Carolina rout Temple 87-60 in Staley's 1st return

BY DOUG FEINBERG
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A'ja Wilson wouldn't let Dawn Staley's homecoming be spoiled. Wilson had 28 points, 12 rebounds and eight blocks to help No. 4 South Carolina rout Temple 87-60 on Thursday night. "Our team said in the pregame huddle, let's do it for coach," Wilson said. "It's her homecoming. We wanted to put it on." Staley grew up in Philadelphia, a mile from Temple where she coached from 2000-

08. On Wednesday, the city celebrated her, renaming a few blocks Dawn Staley Lane as a day in her honor was celebrated at the Hank Gathers Recreation Center. She gave the center, where the Hall of Famer honed her game growing up, a replica NCAA championship trophy similar to the one her team won in April. The game against Temple was Staley's first against the school since she left for South Carolina following the 2008 season. Staley broke Nancy Wilson's program record with her 232nd victory. "It's ironic how it all plays

out," Staley said. "It was just great to have Candice (Dupree's) jersey retired and to come back and share in the national championship with the recreation center I grew up with. ... Seemed like the perfect fit for today." The Gamecocks (11-1) raced out to a 26-9 lead behind Wilson. She outscored the Owls 10-9 in the quarter. South Carolina led 46-20 at the half and cruised to the easy win. Tyasha Harris had 13 points and 11 assists for South Carolina. Mia Davis had 19 points and 10 rebounds for Temple (8-4). Tanaya Atkinson added 14

NO. 4 SOUTH CAROLINA 87
TEMPLE 60

SOUTH CAROLINA (11-1)
Jennings 5-9 0-0 10, Wilson 10-15 7-12 28, Cliney 5-9 0-0 11, Harris 6-12 0-0 13, Jackson 6-8 0-0 16, Grissett 1-5 0-3 2, Herbert Harrigan 3-6 0-0 7, Williams 0-0 0-0 0, Patrick 0-3 0-0 0, Totals 36-67 7-15 87.

TEMPLE (8-4)
Davis 6-15 4-5 19, Atkinson 0-1 0-0 0, Atkinson 4-15 5-7 14, Mayo 4-12 2-2 13, Reynolds 2-12 0-0 5, Niang 0-3 0-0 0, Taylor 4-10 0-0 8, Jones 0-3 0-0 0, Mayo 0-1 0-0 0, Perry 0-3 1-2 1, Totals 20-75 12-16 60.

South Carolina	26	20	24	17	-87
Temple	9	11	19	21	-60

3-Point Goals_South Carolina 8-20 (Jennings 0-1, Wilson 1-2, Cliney 1-3, Harris 1-3, Jackson 4-6, Herbert Harrigan 1-2, Patrick 0-3), Temple 8-16 (Davis 3-3, Atkinson 1-3, Mayo 3-6, Reynolds 1-2, Niang 0-1, Perry 0-1). Assists_South Carolina 22 (Harris 11), Temple 8 (Atkinson 6). Fouled Out_None. Rebounds_South Carolina 47 (Wilson 12), Temple 46 (Davis 10). Total Fouls_South Carolina 16, Temple 16. A_3,185.

points, nine rebounds and six assists. "We knew coming into this game it would be a difficult

matchup for us because of their size," Temple coach

SEE USC, PAGE B4

PRO BASKETBALL

Kuzma, Lakers end Rockets' win streak

HOUSTON (AP) — Lakers rookie Kyle Kuzma set career highs with 38 points and seven 3-pointers against the NBA's hottest team, and he wasn't all that impressed with it.

"Why not? I scored 30s in summer league, so..." he said before trailing off.

The stakes were a little higher Wednesday night. Kuzma helped the Lakers overcome James Harden's 51 points and end the Rockets' winning streak at 14 games with a 122-116 victory.

"It's a better team but it's the same mentality," Kuzma said. "I've got the same mentality every time I step on the court. I try to play my hardest and just be locked in."

Houston lost for the first time since Nov. 14, while the Lakers snapped a three-game skid. It was tied before Los Angeles scored 10 straight points — while Houston missed seven shots



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Laker rookie forward Kyle Kuzma (0) scored 38 points in the Lakers' 122-116 victory over Houston on Wednesday in Houston.

in a row — to go up 110-100 with about four minutes left.

Houston ended an almost four-minute scoring drought when Hard-

en made a free throw, and he added three more after being fouled on a 3-point attempt a few seconds later to cut it to 110-104. But former Rocket Corey Brewer, who finished with 21 points, made a 3-pointer before Lonzo Ball hit two free throws to make it 115-104.

"The fact that we were able to kind of punch them early and you knew that run was coming and then find our composure again and hit some big plays and get some big stops, it was really good to see from our group," Lakers coach Luke Walton said.

Harden powered Houston on a night when Chris Paul had just eight points before leaving early in the fourth quarter with a sore left leg.

The Rockets made seven free throws down the stretch but hit just four field goals in the last eight minutes — all in the final 1:05.

PRO BASKETBALL

Cavs assign Thomas to G-League team

CLEVELAND (AP) — Isaiah Thomas is one big step closer to joining the Cavaliers.

Cleveland assigned the All-Star point guard to its Canton G-League team so he could practice and scrimmage with the Charge on Thursday, a significant development in his recovery from a torn labrum in his right hip. Thomas was scheduled to work out at the Cavs' training facility in Independence.

On Wednesday, Thomas said how his body responds from the stress of 5-on-5 scrimmages will determine how soon he'll be able to make his debut with Cleveland. He's been sidelined since aggravating a hip injury in the playoffs last season with the Boston



THOMAS

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
12:30 p.m. — College Football: Bahamas Bowl from Nassau, Bahamas — Alabama-Birmingham vs. Ohio (ESPN).
1 p.m. — College Basketball: Texas (Rio Grande Valley) at Oklahoma State (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
1 p.m. — College Basketball: Temple at Georgia (SEC NETWORK).
2:55 p.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Liverpool vs. Arsenal (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
3 p.m. — College Basketball: Abilene Christian at Texas Tech (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
3 p.m. — College Basketball: Louisiana-Lafayette at Clemson (WWVD-FM 94.7, WPUB-FM 102.7).
3:30 p.m. — College Football: National Signing Day Special (ESPN).
4 p.m. — Women's College Basketball: Montana State at Brigham Young (BYUTV).
4 p.m. — College Football: Famous Idaho Potato Bowl from Boise, Idaho — Central Michigan vs. Wyoming (ESPN).
5:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Quarterfinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii — Middle Tennessee State vs. Princeton (WDXU).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WPDY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Sacred Heart at Providence (FOX SPORTS 1).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Florida Gulf Coast at Wichita State (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Northwestern at Oklahoma (ESPN2).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Jacksonville at North Carolina State (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Incarnate Word at Florida (SEC NETWORK).
7:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Quarterfinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii — Akron vs. Southern California (ESPN).
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Houston (ESPN).
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Milwaukee (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
8:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Long Island Hoops Showcase from Uniondale, N.Y. — Hofstra vs. Villanova (FOX SPORTS 1).
8:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Las Vegas Classic from Las Vegas — San Francisco vs. Duquesne (FOX SPORTS 2).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Birmingham Showcase from Birmingham, Ala. — Texas vs. Alabama (ESPN2).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Wright State at Georgia Tech (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
10:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Golden State (ESPN).
11 p.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Quarterfinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii — Davidson vs. New Mexico State (ESPN).
11 p.m. — College Basketball: Las Vegas Classic from Las Vegas — Southern Illinois vs. Nevada (FOX SPORTS 1).
1 a.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Quarterfinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii — Miami vs. Hawaii (ESPN).

SATURDAY
7:25 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Chelsea vs. Everton (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
9:55 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Bournemouth vs. Manchester City (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
10 a.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — West Ham vs. Newcastle (CNBC).
Noon — College Football: Birmingham Bowl from Birmingham, Ala. — Texas Tech vs. South Florida (ESPN).
Noon — College Basketball: Alabama A&M at Georgetown (FOX SPORTS 1).
Noon — College Basketball: Manhattan at Seton Hall (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
12:30 p.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Tottenham vs. Burnley (WIS 10).
12:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Minnesota at Wake Forest (ESPN2).
1:30 p.m. — College Basketball: CBS Sports Classic from New Orleans — Ohio State vs. North Carolina (WLTX 19).
2:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Connecticut at Auburn (ESPN2).
2:45 p.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Manchester United vs. Leicester City (WIS 10).
3 p.m. — High School Football: Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas from Spartanburg (ESPN).
3 p.m. — College Basketball: Wagner at Dayton (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
3:30 p.m. — College Football: Armed Forces Bowl from Fort Worth, Texas — San Diego State vs. Army (ESPN).
4 p.m. — College Basketball: CBS Sports Classic from New Orleans — Kentucky vs. UCLA (WLTX 19).
4:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Semifinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii (ESPN2).
4:30 p.m. — NFL Football: Indianapolis at Baltimore (NFL NETWORK, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).
6 p.m. — High School Football: State Champions Bowl Series from Phoenix — St. Frances (Md.) vs. Bingham (Utah) (ESPN).
7 p.m. — College Football: Dollar General Bowl from Mobile, Ala. — Appalachian State vs. Toledo (ESPN).
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Milwaukee at Charlotte (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
7 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Buffalo at Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
8 p.m. — College Basketball: Braggin' Rights Game from St. Louis — Illinois vs. Missouri (ESPN2).
8:20 p.m. — NFL Football: Minnesota at Green Bay (WIS 10, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).
8:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Las Vegas Classic from Las Vegas — Southern Illinois vs. Duquesne (FOX SPORTS 1).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Texas Southern at Brigham Young (BYUTV).
9:30 p.m. — High School Football: State Champions Bowl Series from Phoenix — Miami Northwestern (Fla.) vs. Chandler (Ariz.) (ESPN).
10 p.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Semifinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii (ESPN2).
11 p.m. — College Basketball: Las Vegas Classic from Las Vegas — San Francisco vs. Nevada (FOX SPORTS 1).
12:30 a.m. — College Basketball: Diamond Head Classic Consolation Semifinal Game from Honolulu, Hawaii (ESPN2).

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY
Varsity Basketball
 Crestwood in Moody Holiday Classic (Boys Only), TBA
 Lakewood in Panther Classic (in Myrtle Beach) (Boys Only), TBA
Middle School Basketball
 Chestnut Oaks, Furman, Hillcrest, Manning, Scott's Branch in Chestnut Oaks Christmas Tournament, 10 a.m.
Varsity Wrestling
 Sumter in Coastal Clash (in Myrtle Beach), TBA

SATURDAY
Varsity Basketball
 Crestwood in Moody Holiday Classic (Boys Only), TBA

Chestnut Oaks Christmas Tournament Championship Games, 1 p.m.
Varsity Wrestling
 Sumter in Coastal Clash (in Myrtle Beach), TBA

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	11	3	0	.786	395	274
Buffalo	8	6	0	.571	264	306
Miami	6	8	0	.429	252	342
N.Y. Jets	5	9	0	.357	285	342

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Jacksonville	10	4	0	.714	374	209
Tennessee	8	6	0	.571	296	319
Houston	4	10	0	.286	319	380
Indianapolis	3	11	0	.214	225	368

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Pittsburgh	11	3	0	.786	344	278
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	345	256
Cincinnati	5	9	0	.357	233	305
Cleveland	0	14	0	.000	207	362

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	8	6	0	.571	359	302
L.A. Chargers	7	7	0	.500	311	255
Oakland	6	8	0	.429	281	324
Denver	5	9	0	.357	254	328

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Philadelphia	12	2	0	.857	438	279
Dallas	8	6	0	.571	336	311
Washington	6	8	0	.429	305	359
N.Y. Giants	2	12	0	.143	228	355

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	401	282
Carolina	10	4	0	.714	331	286
Atlanta	9	5	0	.643	318	282
Tampa Bay	4	10	0	.286	285	336

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Minnesota	11	3	0	.786	343	242
Detroit	8	6	0	.571	358	339
Green Bay	7	7	0	.500	309	333
Chicago	4	10	0	.286	234	294

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
L.A. Rams	10	4	0	.714	438	272
Seattle	8	6	0	.571	321	294
Arizona	6	8	0	.429	246	337
San Francisco	4	10	0	.286	253	337

SATURDAY'S GAMES
 Indianapolis at Baltimore, 4:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Green Bay, 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
 Cleveland at Chicago, 1 p.m.
 Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
 Denver at Washington, 1 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1 p.m.
 Miami at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
 L.A. Rams at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
 L.A. Chargers at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
 Detroit at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
 Buffalo at New England, 1 p.m.
 Jacksonville at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Giants at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.
 Seattle at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
 Pittsburgh at Houston, 4:30 p.m.
 Oakland at Philadelphia, 8:30 p.m.

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	26	8	.765	—
Toronto	21	8	.724	2½
New York	16	14	.533	8
Philadelphia	14	16	.467	10
Brooklyn	11	19	.367	13

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	17	14	.548	—
Miami	16	15	.516	1
Charlotte	11	20	.355	6
Orlando	11	21	.344	6½
Atlanta	7	24	.226	10

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	23	9	.719	—
Indiana	18	14	.563	5
Milwaukee	16	13	.552	5½
Detroit	17	14	.548	5½
Chicago	10	20	.333	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	25	5	.833	—
San Antonio	22	10	.688	4
New Orleans	15	16	.484	10½
Memphis	9	22	.290	16½
Dallas	9	23	.281	17

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	19	13	.594	—
Portland	16	15	.516	2½
Oklahoma City	16	15	.516	2½
Denver	16	15	.516	2½
Utah	14	18	.438	5

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	25	6	.806	—
L.A. Clippers	12	18	.400	12½
L.A. Lakers	11	18	.379	13
Sacramento	11	20	.355	14
Phoenix	11	22	.333	15

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
 Toronto 129, Charlotte 111
 Indiana 105, Atlanta 95
 Miami 90, Boston 89
 Sacramento 104, Brooklyn 99
 Chicago 112, Orlando 94
 L.A. Lakers 122, Houston 116
 Oklahoma City 107, Utah 79
 Dallas 110, Detroit 93

Minnesota 112, Denver 104
 San Antonio 93, Portland 91
 Golden State 97, Memphis 84
 L.A. Clippers 108, Phoenix 95

THURSDAY'S GAMES
 Chicago at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
 Toronto at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
 Boston at New York, 8 p.m.
 Memphis at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
 San Antonio at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES
 New Orleans at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 New York at Detroit, 7 p.m.
 Washington at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
 Atlanta at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
 Charlotte at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
 Dallas at Miami, 8 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at Houston, 8 p.m.
 Denver at Portland, 10 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
 Philadelphia at Toronto, 5 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Indiana, 7 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
 Orlando at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Chicago at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
 Dallas at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at Memphis, 8 p.m.
 New Orleans at Miami, 8 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at Utah, 8 p.m.
 Denver at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
 Portland at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
 San Antonio at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
 Philadelphia at New York, 12 p.m.
 Cleveland at Golden State, 3 p.m.
 Washington at Boston, 5:30 p.m.
 Houston at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
 Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	33	24	7	2	50	126	84
Toronto	36	21	14	1	43	119	102
Boston	32	17	10	5	39	96	87
Montreal	34	15	15	4	34	94	108
Detroit	34	13	14	7	33	95	110
Florida	34	13	16	5	31	98	117
Ottawa	32	11	14	7	29	89	109
Buffalo	34	8	19	7	23	72	114

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	35	22	12	1	45	112	101
New Jersey	33	19	9	5	43	105	99
Columbus	35	21	13	1	43	101	95
N.Y. Rangers	34	19	12	3	41	112	97
N.Y. Islanders	34	18	13	3	39	121	120
Philadelphia	34	15	12	7	37	96	97
Pittsburgh	35	17	15	3	37	101	112
Carolina	33	14	12	7	35	91	106

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	33	21	8	4	46	112	91
St. Louis	36	22	12	2	46	108	90
Winnipeg	35	20	10	5	45	118	98
Chicago	33	17	11	5	39	102	86
Minnesota	34	18	13	3	39	100	99
Dallas	35	18	14	3	39	102	103
Colorado	33	16	15	2	34	105	109

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	33	22	9	2	46	116	100
Los Angeles	35	21	10	4	46	107	82
Calgary	35	18	14	3	39	99	103

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma second-team All-American linebacker Ogonnia Okoronkwo is the leader of a defense that has sometimes lagged behind the Sooners' powerful offense. It will need to be at its best against Georgia in the Rose Bowl if it hopes to play for the national title. Read the full story at www.theitem.com.

Oklahoma defense faces challenge in playoff game against Georgia

BY CLIFF BRUNT
The Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Each year, Oklahoma's defense has major lapses that make their fans grumble about coordinator Mike Stoops.

Almost every time, Stoops bounces back.

Stoops has been a popular figure to blame for the team's few failures during his second stint at Oklahoma, which began in 2012. For much of his run, the offense has been a consistent strength while the defense has been shaky on occasion. Last season, the Sooners beat Texas Tech 66-59 despite giving up 854 yards. This season, after the Sooners held on to beat Oklahoma State 62-52, some wondered whether Stoops' defense would cost the team a shot at a championship

of any kind.

Well, look at the Sooners now. The Big 12 champions will face Georgia in a playoff semifinal at the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1 and the defense has been key in getting this far.

Second-team All-America linebacker Ogonnia Okoronkwo helped the unit respond with a solid finish to the regular season. Oklahoma held TCU to 20 points in a critical showdown, Kansas to three points, West Virginia to 10 points in the first half of a 59-31 win and TCU to 17 points in a Big 12 title game victory.

Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley said he appreciates what Stoops has accomplished in the face of criticism.

"He's a true professional," Riley said. "That whole staff, they've done a great job. We

had some young guys at some really, really key positions throughout this year. That side was certainly, especially early on, really hit hard with injuries. A lot of different lineups and a lot of different guys playing. They've had some challenges, but they've continued to coach their tails off."

Stoops said he hears the critics but keeps the comments in perspective.

"You're never as good as people think you are, and you're never as bad as people think you are. I can tell you that's as honest as it can be," Stoops said, days after the regular-season win over TCU.

"Whether I say it, somebody else says it, whether I want to explain something or not, it doesn't matter, you know what I mean?"

BOWL SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DEC. 16
Celebration Bowl
At Atlanta
NC A&T 21, Grambling State 14
New Orleans Bowl
Troy 50, North Texas 30
Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Georgia State 27, Western Kentucky 17
Las Vegas Bowl
Boise State 38, Oregon 28
New Mexico Bowl
Albuquerque
Marshall 31, Colorado State 28
Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.
Middle Tennessee 35, Arkansas State 30

TUESDAY, DEC. 19
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
FAU 50, Akron 3

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20
Frisco (Texas) Bowl
Louisiana Tech 51, SMU 10

THURSDAY, DEC. 21
Gasparilla Bowl
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
Temple (6-6) vs. FIU (8-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

TODAY
Bahamas Bowl
Nassau
Ohio (8-4) vs. UAB (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise
Central Michigan (7-5) vs. Wyoming (7-5), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

SATURDAY, DEC. 23
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
South Florida (9-2) vs. Texas Tech (6-6), Noon (ESPN)
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth, Texas
San Diego State (10-2) vs. Army (9-3), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Dollar General Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Appalachian State (8-4) vs. Toledo (11-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

SUNDAY, DEC. 24
Hawaii Bowl
Honolulu
Fresno State (9-4) vs. Houston (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

TUESDAY, DEC. 26
Heart of Dallas Bowl
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Utah (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Quick Lane Bowl
Detroit
Northern Illinois (8-4) vs. Duke (6-6), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Cactus Bowl
Phoenix
Kansas State (7-5) vs. UCLA (6-6), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27
Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.
Southern Mississippi (8-4) vs. Florida State (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Pinstripe Bowl
Bronx, N.Y.
Boston College (7-5) vs. Iowa (7-5), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Foster Farms Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
Arizona (7-5) vs. Purdue (6-6), 8:30 p.m. (FOX)
Texas Bowl
Houston
Texas (6-6) vs. Missouri (7-5), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

THURSDAY, DEC. 28

Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.
Virginia (6-6) vs. Navy (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Camping World Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Virginia Tech (9-3), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Stanford (9-4) vs. TCU (10-3), 9 p.m. (ESPN)
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Washington State (9-3) vs. Michigan State (9-3), 9 p.m. (FOX)

FRIDAY, DEC. 29
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
Wake Forest (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (7-5), 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
El Paso, Texas
NC State (8-4) vs. Arizona State (7-5), 3 p.m. (CBS)
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Kentucky (7-5) vs. Northwestern (9-3), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.
New Mexico State (5-6) vs. Utah State (6-6), 5:30 p.m. (CBSSN)
Cotton Bowl Classic
Arlington, Texas
Southern Cal (11-2) vs. Ohio State (11-2), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

SATURDAY, DEC. 30
TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Louisville (8-4) vs. Mississippi State (8-4), Noon (ESPN)
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Iowa State (7-5) vs. Memphis (10-2), 12:30 p.m. (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
Washington (10-2) vs. Penn State (10-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Wisconsin (12-1) vs. Miami (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

MONDAY, JAN. 1
Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
Michigan (8-4) vs. South Carolina (8-4), Noon (ESPN)
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
UCF (12-0) vs. Auburn (10-3), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Notre Dame (9-3) vs. LSU (9-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)
Rose Bowl (CFP Semifinal)
Pasadena, Calif.
Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Georgia (12-1), 5:10 p.m. (ESPN)
Sugar Bowl (CFP Semifinal)
New Orleans
Clemson (12-1) vs. Alabama (11-1), 8:45 p.m. (ESPN)

MONDAY, JAN. 8
CFP Championship
Atlanta
Rose Bowl winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

SATURDAY, JAN. 20
East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)
NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
American vs. National, TBA (FS1)

BAMA FROM PAGE B1

the playoffs," Jennings said. "But we felt like we should the whole time and we're ready to go in and dominate."

Wallace thinks the Tide has another role, that of the villain in college football. He said it doesn't bother him "even a little bit" that some people don't like 'Bama.

"We're seen as the villain," Wallace said. "I'm sure a lot of people don't like Alabama because we're always so good each and every year. That's something Coach (Nick) Saban has instilled in us. Trying to be the best we can be. Just being the University of Alabama, whatever you guys (the media) say we are, that's what we are but we're definitely the bad guys in college football."

This team doesn't enter the playoffs with an impeccable resume partly because an opening win over No. 3 Florida State lost its luster when the Seminoles struggled the rest of the way. The Tide's only other wins over ranked teams came against No. 16 LSU (24-10) and No. 24 Missis-

sippi State (31-24).

Now, Alabama gets a rematch against the team that toppled the Tide in the national championship game, a defeat that fueled them through the offseason.

"Our whole motto was finishing, so I think that really helped us in the offseason," Alabama tailback Damien Harris said. "But now, we're just focused on us and we're focused on playing our best football. I know we're playing a great team and they're going pose a lot of challenges to us, but we feel like if we play our best football, it gives us a good chance to win."



Alabama running back Damien Harris (34) and the rest of the Crimson Tide are preparing for their Sugar Bowl showdown with Clemson on Jan. 1 in New Orleans.

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Wed., Dec. 27th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 2 pm
Tues., Jan. 2nd	Thurs. Dec. 28th @ 2 pm
Wed., Jan. 3rd	Fri. Dec. 29th @ 11 am

Have a safe and Merry Christmas!

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ECHS FROM PAGE B1

"She has people around her (defending), no matter who we're playing," Lowder said. "She's averaging 23 points a game and had 50 the other night against Lake City. I think (the defense) will be more focused when we begin region play."

While Timmons recently had her first double-figure game of the season along with fellow senior starter Gracen Watts, Lowder said she is the engine that makes the team run.

"On the floor, people look to her," he said. "She plays defense, she rebounds, she scores. Of course, she's been playing since the seventh grade, and she's been coming out and getting better every year. She's just a great player."

Sophomore Valencia Garriss is the other regioning starter and she is averaging a double-double of 10 points and 10 rebounds. Junior Britni Anderson and sophomore Rhamey Floyd are splitting time while trying to replace Ka'Terria Rose.

"Both girls are tall, and we don't have

a lot of tall teams in our region," Lowder said. "We hope we're going to be able to take advantage of our height."

As has been the case throughout his coaching career, Lowder has EC getting out on a fast break at every opportunity.

"We don't like to get set up in a half-court offense if we can help it," he said. "We're better when we're getting out with the ball. We try to position Talaysia where her defense leads to offense. She's only taken nine 3-pointers, making three. She's tall, almost six foot, so she can throw over people if she needs to. We want to get to the basket as much as possible."

East Clarendon is ranked fifth in the most recent SCBCA 1A poll. Of its three losses, two have come to 4A No. 5 Crestwood and the other to 3A No. 7 Manning.

Lowder said he has been playing his entire team up to this point. That includes senior Shannon Scott, Gadasha Blanding, Quanisha Rhodes, freshman Kirby Floyd and eighth-grader Liberty Whack. Once the Lady Wolverines begin play in Region VI, which includes GSF, he will be tightening the rotation.



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Talaysia Cooper (10) is back for East Clarendon after being a 1A all-state selection last season as a seventh-grader. She's averaging 23 points a game so far this season.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina's A'ja Wilson (22) puts up a shot over Temple's Lena Niang (1) during the first half of the Gamecocks' 87-60 victory on Thursday in USC head coach Dawn Staley's first return to her old Team in Philadelphia.

USC FROM PAGE B1

Tonya Cardoza said. "We decided to pack it in and hope they miss shots. They came out and made shots. Wilson is just a tough matchup for anyone, arguably the best player in college basketball."

HONORING DUPREE

Temple retired Candice Dupree's No. 4 jersey at halftime. It was only the second time in school history a women's basketball player was bestowed that honor. Dupree starred for the Owls from 2002-06 and is the school's career field goal percentage leader (51.4 percent). She's third on the scoring list (1,698), third in rebounds (968) and tied for second in blocks (218). Staley had her team stay out and watch the halftime ceremony honoring her former player.

TRANSFER WAIVER

Te'a Cooper is still waiting to hear if her petition to the NCAA to become immediately eligible has been approved. She transferred to South Carolina from Tennessee last year and the Gamecocks are argu-

ing that because Cooper was sidelined with a knee injury last year, forcing her to sit out a season will cost her an extra year of eligibility. The Gamecocks submitted the request earlier this week.

TIP-INS:

South Carolina: Wilson set the school record for free throws made (484) in her career and free throws attempted (684). Shannon Johnson held both previous records with 478 makes on 679 attempts.

Temple: Cardoza passed Staley as the school's all-time winningest coach on Jan. 1, 2017. Cardoza has 196 wins while her former teammate at Virginia had 172. Debbie Ryan, the coach of the two former Virginia stars, was in attendance on Thursday, sitting behind the Temple bench.

UP NEXT:

South Carolina: Opens SEC play against Texas A&M on Dec. 31.

Temple: Opens American Athletic Conference play at Central Florida on Dec. 30.

Chestnut Oaks tournament continues today, Saturday

Chestnut Oaks Tournament continues today

The Chestnut Oaks Christmas Basketball Tournament continues today at the Chestnut Oaks Middle School gymnasium.

Play begins today at noon. The championship games will be played on Saturday with the girls starting at 1 p.m. followed by the boys.

TODAY

- Noon - C.E. Murray vs. Darlington (B)
- 1 p.m. - Furman vs. Heyward Gibbes (B)
- 2 p.m. - Darlington vs. Chestnut Oaks (G)
- 3 p.m. - Darlington vs. Scott's Branch (B)
- 4 p.m. - Chestnut Oaks vs. Manning (B)
- 5 p.m. - C.E. Murray vs. Southeast (B)
- 6 p.m. - C.E. Murray vs. Furman (G)
- 7 p.m. - Chestnut Oaks vs. Furman (B)

SATURDAY

- 1 p.m. - Girls Championship
- 2:30 p.m. - Boys Championship

NFL FINES SEATTLE \$100,000

RENTON, Wash. — The Seattle Seahawks have been fined \$100,000 for not properly following concussion protocol with quarterback Russell Wilson during a game in November.

The NFL and NFLPA announced their decision on Thursday following an investigation that lasted more than a month. Along with the financial penalty, Seattle's coaching and medical staffs will be required to attend remedial training regarding the concussion protocol.

Seattle is the first team fined for such a

SPORTS ITEMS

violation.

LOUISIANA TECH 51 SMU 10

FRISCO, Texas — A fumble by SMU on the first snap of the game set the tone for Louisiana Tech in a 51-10 victory in the Frisco Bowl on Wednesday night.

J'mar Smith threw three touchdown passes and ran for a score, Louisiana Tech's defense scored twice and the Bulldogs ended their fourth straight season with a bowl victory.

Smith completed 15 of 23 passes for 216 yards, and Teddy Veal caught four passes for 84 yards for Louisiana Tech (7-6). The Bulldogs led 42-10 at the half.

SMU (7-6) fumbled on its first offensive snap and turned it over on its first three drives and six times overall.

It was a disappointing debut for SMU coach Sonny Dykes against his former school. Dykes was 22-15 at Louisiana Tech from 2010 to 2012 before leaving for California in 2013. Dykes was fired by Cal a year ago, and spent this season as an offensive analyst at TCU before SMU hired him to replace Chad Morris on Dec. 11.

From staff and wire reports

WOFFORD FROM PAGE B1

The Tar Heels got within a point twice and missed four 3-pointers for the tie in the final 6 minutes. But they never could overtake the Terriers, who played confidently and kept counter-punching every time UNC made a run.

"We've got to by God be ready to play and not act like we're prima donnas, (that) we've got North Carolina (on their jersey) and we can walk out there and the other team is going to fold," UNC coach Roy Williams said. "That team outworked us."

Joel Berry II scored 23 points to lead UNC, which suffered its first home loss to an unranked team while ranked in the top five since falling to Boston College in January 2009.

"They just had the momentum," Berry said, "and it's hard to get it back on your side when they're just coming out here and playing with more effort than you."

BIG PICTURE

Wofford: The key sequence came at the end of the first half, where Wofford ran off eight straight points to take a 34-33 lead. Then the Terriers made 10 of 15 shots out of the break to steal momentum and put UNC in catch-up mode. More importantly, they never folded as UNC tried to rally.

UNC: This wasn't the way the Tar Heels wanted to follow a tough weekend road win

at No. 21 Tennessee. They were often sloppy with the ball and struggled to get consistent defensive stops. Luke Maye struggled offensively (17 points on 4-for-16 shooting) and UNC shot just 36 percent.

"Bad movement, bad defense, bad coaching — we got fat and happy," Williams said. "It was a disgusting thing for me the entire game."

MAGEE'S ROLL

Magee, a 6-foot-4 junior, entered the day as the nation's No. 2 scorer (24.1 points) while leading the country in made 3s per game (4.73). He made 10 of 23 shots and 4 of 12 3s against UNC, several on tough looks.

"That's what kids in mid-major schools like us, that's our opportunity, one of our best opportunities we get the whole year," Magee said. "This game was marked and big for us."

UNC'S HOME SUCCESS

The Tar Heels had won 22 games in the Smith Center and a relocated game in Greensboro against Notre Dame last season during its home winning streak. It was UNC's first home loss since February 2016 against rival Duke.

UP NEXT

Wofford: The Terriers visit UNC Greensboro on Dec. 30 in Southern Conference play.

UNC: The Tar Heels face Ohio State on Saturday in New Orleans for the CBS Sports Classic.

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PRO FOOTBALL



Jacksonville quarterback Blake Bortles, left, is chased by Houston defensive end Jadeveon Clowney (90) during the Jaguars' 45-7 victory on Sunday. Clowney and Bortles are involved in a feud.

Trash? Jaguars QB Bortles 'making guys eat those words'

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles kicked Jadeveon Clowney's "trash" talk to the curb.

Clearly frustrated following a 45-7 loss at Jacksonville on Sunday, Clowney called Bortles trash after the game. Bortles got his first chance to respond Wednesday and handled the latest insult as well as he has opposing defenses in recent weeks.

"If how we're playing and how I'm playing is trash, then I'm fine with being trash," Bortles said.

Bortles is the NFL's most prolific passer in December. He has thrown for 903 yards, with seven touchdowns and no interceptions in three games in the playoffs-defining month. He completed 21 of 29 passes for 326 yards and three touchdowns against the Texans.

"I've heard a lot of stuff, and I imagine some of the stuff I didn't see somebody

told me," Bortles said. "I'm sure there are things out there that I have no idea about, but I could care less."

The Jaguars (10-4) clinched a playoff spot with their seventh victory in eight games and can win the AFC South for the first time since its inception in 2002 with a win at San Francisco (4-10) on Sunday.

Bortles has been a big reason for the franchise's resurgence.

But that hasn't stopped opponents from taking shots at the fourth-year pro who entered this season with a reputation for turning the ball over at an alarming rate. Bortles began 2017 with the same number of wins (10) as interceptions returned for touchdowns. He also had 15 more passes batted down at the line of scrimmage than any other quarterback during his first three years in the NFL.

He was an easy target for critics.

New Orleans Saints defensive end Cameron Jordan took a shot at Bortles in August while praising Drew Brees. During an appearance on SiriusXM NFL Radio, Jordan said facing Brees in practice "helps the defense. It's not like we're going against Blake Bortles. It's not like Drew is giving picks away."

Winning has done little to silence Bortles' doubters.

Cincinnati Bengals linebacker Vontaze Burfict made headlines early last month by saying he was "not sure Blake can beat us. We want to put it in his hands and have him beat us, if he can." Bortles responded with a touchdown, no interceptions and no sacks in 23-7 victory. He also jabbed back at the often-flagged and previously suspended Burfict afterward.

"I thought we did a good job playing as hard as we possibly can between the whistles and beating the crap out of them," Bortles said.

PRO FOOTBALL

Steelers seek group effort to replace star receiver Brown

BY DAN SCIFO
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Replacing Antonio Brown won't be a one-man job for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The team's top wide receiver is out indefinitely with a left calf injury sustained against the New England Patriots.

That means it's up to Martavis Bryant, rookie JuJu Smith-Schuster and others to fill a significant void left by the star wide receiver when the Steelers visit the Houston Texans on Monday.

"(Brown) is always tough because he never misses practice and he never misses games," Steelers offensive coordinator Todd Haley said Thursday. "You don't necessarily think about that scenario a whole bunch."

Brown enjoyed a MVP-caliber season until his injury.

Brown, who became the first player in NFL history with five straight 100-catch seasons, led the league in receptions, yards receiving and was tied for touchdown catches entering the game against New England.

Brown, at 1,533 yards, has more receiving yards than four other teams — Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago and Buffalo. Coach Mike Tomlin didn't put a timetable on a possible return.

"I'll be honest, (Brown), you can't replace him with one man," Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said. "(Brown) is not human, so we'll have multiple guys trying to fill that spot."

Brown left the game against New England early in the second quarter after he became awkwardly tangled in double coverage and fell to the ground while trying to catch a pass in the end zone.

The Patriots benefitted and gained the inside track on home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs with their win against the Steelers, though it took a late overturned touchdown and last-second end zone interception to seal the game.

"In a situation like playing against the Patriots, I think if (Brown's) playing, it would've been a different scenario," Smith-Schuster said.



Pittsburgh wide receiver Martavis Bryant (10) hopes to help the Steelers fill the hole left by the injury of Antonio Brown.

PRO FOOTBALL

Vikings look to get past Packers in final push to playoffs

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — If the Minnesota Vikings have their way, they won't have to take another road trip after this weekend, even in the playoffs.

For an opportunity for that to happen, the NFC North champions need to finish out the last two weeks of the regular season with victories over division rivals already out of the playoff picture.

The payoff could be sweet for the Vikings if they can safely navigate the postseason all the way to February — a Super Bowl played in front of hometown fans at U.S. Bank Stadium.

There is something to play for after all when Minnesota visits the Green Bay Packers on Saturday night.

"The only thing I've really told them is we'd like this to

be the last plane trip that we have to take, but that's about the only thing I've said," Vikings coach Mike Zimmer said.

The Vikings (11-3) head into the second-to-final week of the season having already assured themselves of a home playoff game.

Minnesota wraps up the regular season with a winnable home game against the Chicago Bears on New Year's Eve, while the Eagles finish with home games against the Raiders and Cowboys.

But Philadelphia is also adjusting to backup quarterback Nick Foles, who will start the rest of the year with starter Carson Wentz out with a knee injury.

Green Bay (7-7) is handing the offense back to backup Brett Hundley after quarter-

back Aaron Rodgers went on season-ending injured reserve this week.

It was a decision that coach Mike McCarthy said was made in the best interest of Rodgers, who wasn't completely healed from a collarbone injury.

With the Packers out of the playoffs, it didn't make sense to further risk the health of their franchise quarterback, who was hurt the previous time these teams met in Week 6 in Minneapolis.

There have been gradual signs of improvement from Hundley since he was thrust into the starting job after Rodgers went down.

"I know for as many things that went wrong that day, he felt like he got better," McCarthy said. "But he'll be much better prepared for this op-

portunity."

The Vikings, of all teams, know full well how much a backup quarterback can succeed.

Subbing for the injured Sam Bradford, quarterback Case Keenum has kept the Vikings rolling with a 9-3 record in his starts. Keenum has completed 68 percent of his passes, with 20 touchdowns, seven interceptions and a career-best 98.9

passer rating.

Not bad for a player once considered a journeyman who first entered the league in 2012 as an undrafted free agent with the Houston Texans.

"Case has done an unbelievable job," Zimmer said. "I think the more he's played, the more confident he's been with making the correct decisions."

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PRO GOLF

Justin Thomas raking in cash and playing for trophies



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justin Thomas is more than happy with the \$25 million he has won in three years on the PGA Tour, but said he is driven more by victories.

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

Justin Thomas has earned about \$25 million in his three years on the PGA Tour. That includes his bonus from winning the FedEx Cup this year. It does not include endorsement money from the likes of Titleist, Citi and Polo.

He has a better grasp of his percentage making putts inside 10 feet than the size of his bank account.

Thomas appreciates the money as a measure of success. The 24-year-old just doesn't see it as much more than that.

"I've never been one to say, 'Wow, I

have all this' or 'Wow, I could buy this or that.' Never in my mind have I been like, 'OK, I'm playing golf to win all this money,'" Thomas said.

"I'm truly playing because I want to win a lot — a lot — of golf tournaments and majors and hopefully have a Hall of Fame-type career. The money really is just a bonus. I'm sure a lot of people honestly don't believe me, but I don't know. I've never once thought about the money."

It's only a problem this time of the year — not for him, but those trying to buy Christmas presents for him.

"My parents and girlfriend get so

mad because they say it's so hard to get something for someone who already has everything," Thomas said. "I told them, 'I don't care, I don't need anything, I don't want anything.' I told them I can always use more stuff for my house, but they don't think that's a very good Christmas present."

It wasn't always like that.

As a teenager, Thomas said his parents used to save one big present that they hid until he was done unwrapping his other presents. One year, he spotted a golf club box under the sofa. It was a Scotty Cameron putter. He still has it.

OBITUARIES

JAMES MCLEOD

MARION — James McLeod, 76, husband of Betty Lester McLeod, died on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017.



MCLEOD

He was a son of the late Willie and Lucille Hodge McLeod.

Funeral services for Mr. McLeod will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday

at Hayes F. Samuels Sr. Memorial Chapel, 114 N. Church St., Manning. Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 26, at Florence National Cemetery, Florence.

The family is receiving friends at his residence, 505 Lipscomb Ave., Marion.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Mark AME Church Building Fund, 6097 Alderman Camp Road, Alcolu, SC 29001.

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

BOOKER T. WINGATE

DARLINGTON — Booker T. Wingate died peacefully at his home on Dec. 16, 2017, after an illness.



WINGATE

He was born on July 21, 1929, in Darlington County, to the late Bertha Wingate. He resided in Florence prior to moving to the Washington, D.C., area in 1950. He became established there and he worked and raised his family. Booker returned to Darlington after his retirement and shared a home with his only daughter.

His deceased wife, the former Carrie Baker, and their two sons, Melvin and Booker T. Wingate Jr. all preceded him in death.

He is survived by his present wife, Rose Sumpter Wingate who resides in Maryland; his devoted daughter, Cynthia Yvonne Wingate of the home; two grandsons, Marcus (Latisha) Wingate of Atlanta and Jared Wingate of Hyattsville, Maryland; 10 great-grandchildren; and a number of great-great-grandchildren. Other survivors include a sister, Miriam Jones of Darlington; and a special cousin, Josie Pratt of Florence.

Wake service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 212 Chestnut St., Darlington.

Funeral services will be conducted at noon, immediately after the wake. Grave-side/burial services will be held at Northview Cemetery on Roughfork Street, Florence.

Kenneth L. Boatwright Sr. and the staff of Jefferson Funeral Home Service Inc. are in charge of arrangements.

KERNELL HILTON

Kernell Hilton, 49, of Manning, died on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017, at Sumter Health and Rehab, Sumter.



HILTON

He was born on Dec. 18, 1968, in Clarendon County, to the late Marion and Dorothy Mae Morris Hilton.

He leaves to cherish his memories: a loving wife of the home, LaVerne King-Hilton; three children, Kernell, Verlicia and Davonta; four sisters; two brothers; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday at

Taw Caw Missionary Baptist Church, Summerton. Interment will follow at Shiloh-St. Matthew Church Cemetery.

Viewing will be held from 1 to 7 p.m. on Saturday in the chapel of King-Fields Mortuary.

Mr. Hilton will be placed in the church at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday until the hour of service.

The family is receiving friends from 4 to 8 p.m. at the residence of his sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Gregory Martin, 3519 Mallett Road, Manning.

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

CHRISTOPHER O. ARCHIE

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Christopher O'Neil Archie, 26, was born on Dec. 30, 1990, in Sumter, to Christine Archie Scarborough and Dennis Scarborough.



ARCHIE

Christopher was educated in the public schools of Sumter County.

Christopher was preceded in death by a brother, Denzell Archie.

He departed this life on Monday, Dec. 18, 2017, in Sumter.

In addition to his parents, Christopher leaves to cherish his memory: two children, Christopher Archie Jr. and Carson McCray; three sisters, Diamond Scarborough, Karema Scarborough and Sabrina Scarborough; five brothers, Dennis Scarborough, Izell Scarborough, Tyrell Scarborough, Donald Young and Dion Young; grandparents, Minnie Archie and Sammy Prielou; two aunts, Eartha Smith and Catherine Anderson; two uncles, Robert Archie and John Gibson; two close friends, Tony Archie and Devonte Huggins; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 182 Pike Road East, Sumter. Interment will follow at Aycock Cemetery in Wedgefield.

A public viewing will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. today at the mortuary.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his aunt, Catherine Anderson, 5700 Wedgefield Road, Wedgefield.

Services are entrusted to Whites Mortuary LLC of Sumter.

J.D. PROSSER

J. D. Prosser, 84, widower of Belle Robinson Prosser, died on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, at Blue Ridge of Sumter.

Born in Lake City, he was a son of the late John and Mattie Richardson Prosser. Mr. Prosser was of the Pentecostal faith. He was a retired lineman with Black River Electric Coop.

Surviving are two sons, John Derwin Prosser (Kathy) of Wedgefield and Glenn Alfred Prosser (Donna) of Sumter; two daughters, Tammy Rabon (Henry) of Sumter and Vivian Ann McGriff (Eugene) of Dalzell; one sister, Ruby Abrams of Dalzell; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the chapel of Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home with the Rev. Keith Rabon and the Rev. Matt Cuny officiating. Burial will be at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. on Sat-

urday at Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home and other times at the home of his sister, 2441 Four Bridges Road.

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.



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THOMAS W. CAPPS

GASTONIA, N.C. — Thomas Wayne Capps, 79, of Belmont, passed away on Dec. 20, 2017.

He was born on Feb. 5, 1938, in Cleveland County, a son of the late Garwood and Lottie Mae Mooney Capps.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 30, at Greene Funeral Service — South Chapel, 1503 S. York Road, Gastonia.

Visitation will be at the funeral home one hour prior to the service.

ERNEST SCARBOROUGH SR.

BISHOPVILLE — Ernest "Shot" Scarborough Sr., 88, husband of Estelle Gamble Scarborough, passed at his residence on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017.

Born in Lee County, he was a son of the late Doc Luke and Lula Hannibal Scarborough.

Public viewing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. today at Square Deal Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Saturday at St. Mark Baptist Church, 510 Wisacky Manville Road, Bishopville, with the Rev. Yancy Martin, pastor/eulogist. Interment will follow at St. Mark Memorial Garden.

Online condolences can be sent to the family at esquaredealfun@sc.rr.com.

These services have been entrusted to Square Deal Funeral Home, 106 McIntosh St., Bishopville, SC 29010.

JAMES CHATMAN

James "Toot" aka Jimmy Chatman was born on May 9, 1943, in Clarendon County, to the late David and Sally Riley Chatman Sr. in Clarendon County. He departed this life on Friday, December 15, 2017 at his residence.

He was educated in the public schools of Clarendon and Sumter counties. In his early years of life, he was a member of Rock Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Manning, where he served on the trustee board. He later moved his membership to Jehovah's Missionary Baptist Church.

Jimmy was the number one car salesman in Sumter for more than 42 years in selling cars. He worked for several car dealerships, to include Roy Timmons as a car washer, Robert E. Lee Chrysler Plymouth as a car salesman and Newsome Car Dealership in Camden as a car salesman. In 1978, God blessed him with his own business as the owner of C&C Motors. After C&C Motors, he started working at Jim Braham for several years and later moved his employment to Midstate Imports, where he worked for a number of years, until his health began to fail.

Jimmy was united in holy matrimony in 1965 to Dorothy Baldwin Chatman for 25 years and to this union they were blessed with two daughters. He later married Cecilia Hernandez from 2002 to 2009.

Jimmy is survived by his children, Terence Tomlin of Darlington, Valeria (Randy) Chatman Scott and Velisa Chatman Ward, both of Columbia, and Timothy (Mildred) Tyrone Kelly of Sumter; siblings, David Chatman of Sumter, Emma Chatman of Brooklyn, New York, Inez Chatman of Sumter, Edward Chatman of Sumter, Sallie C. (Charles) Burns of Atlanta, Patricia Chatman of Sumter, Franklin Chatman of Sumter, Janice (Lorenzo) McCleary of Sumter, Jeanette Hernandez of Newark, New York, and Michael T. (Carolyn) Chatman of Sumter; grandchildren, Portia (Ronderick) James, Emmanuel Glenn Franklin, Terence Tomlin II, Alana A. Tomlin, Kaylen F. Tomlin, Derek Latimer, Jerome Latimer, Crystal Latimer, Chris Pugh and Laita Monroe; one aunt, Lucille Chatman of Tampa, Florida; three great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.

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

Mr. Chatman will be placed in the church at 10 a.m. on Saturday for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Jehovah's Missionary Baptist Church, Sumter, with Pastor Marion H. Newton officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park.

The family will be receiving friends at 1306 Covert Garden Drive, Sumter.

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

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

FAYE MORRIS

Donna Faye Dennis Morris, 63, wife of Allen L. Morris, died on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born in Charleston, she was a daughter of the late Jack and Mary Ruth Brewer Dennis. Mrs. Morris was a member of Sumter Baptist Temple. She retired from B-D after 38 years of service. She enjoyed sewing and baking. She was a loving wife, mother

and grandmother.

Survivors include her husband of 42 years; two children, Henry A. Morris (Terri) of Dalzell and Michelle Morris of Sumter; three grandchildren, Katelyn, Austin and Logan; one sister, Sandra "Sandy" Smith (Cecil); one brother, Ricky Dennis; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a son, Lance Morris; and one brother, Bill Dennis.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ronnie Morris officiating.

The family will receive friends following the memorial service on Saturday at the home, 725 Colony Road.

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

JOYCE L. MAYS

Joyce L. Singletary Mays, 69, of Harleyville, died on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, at Life Care Nursing Facility, Charleston.

She was born on Sept. 25, 1948, in Harleyville, to the late Alonzo and Queenell Joyner Singletary.

Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced at a later date by King-Fields Mortuary, Summerton.

The family is receiving friends at the home, 229 Dantzler Road, Harleyville, SC 29448.

LEAH G. EVANS

Leah G. Evans entered eternal rest on Dec. 16, 2017, at McLeod Hospice House, Florence.

The family is receiving friends at 420 Levy St., Bishopville.

Visitation will be held from 2 until 6 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, 55 Dove Lane, Bishopville, with the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jerome Douglas officiating, assisted by Pastor Richard Addison. Interment will follow at Thomastown Cemetery, Bishopville.

Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville, is in charge of arrangements.

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Want to Buy

Will buy furniture by piece or bulk, tools, trailers, lawn mowers, 4 wheelers, or almost anything of value. Also old signs & lawn furniture Call 803-983-5364

Firewood

For Sale TONS & TONS of fire wood premium seasoned oak. U haul \$45 per pick up load, delivered 1 cord \$130. Call Collins Tree Service 803-499-2136

Split Oak Firewood \$55 for truck load, 2 truck loads for \$100. Delivered stacked. 843-536-6050

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

3435 Kel Sam Dr. Dalzell, Sat. 9-3:30 Household items, clothing, jewelry, shoes, furn., & more

Sat. Dec. 23rd 8-1 at 10 Abbey Hall Crt. Queen and full bed w mattress, window unit, male clothing sz 28 to 48, and much more.

Fri. Dec. 22nd 9-3 at 19 B Somerset Dr. Windsor City. Gift baskets, Simply Southern apparel and more.

For all last minute Christmas shoppers Sat. 8-1 872 & 878 Twin Lakes Dr. Inexpensive Men, Women, Kids Clothing (all sizes) Christmas gifts, New & slightly used, toys. Everything must go!

For Sale or Trade

Golden Kernel Pecan Co. 1200 C Pocalia Rd 968-9432

We buy pecans, sell Pecan halves, Chocolate & all flavors & Fruit cake mix. Gift Pkgs avail. M-F 9-5 Sat 9-1

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Tru by Hilton. Please apply in person at Spring Hill Suites 2645 Broad St. Seeking front desk clerk, house keeping and maintenance engineer. TruSumter@gmail.com

Contractors Wanted!

The Sumter Item has a newspaper route for the Bishopville area. Contractor will service home delivery, newspaper racks & newspaper dealers. Also need contractor for the Mayesville, Elliott & Lynchburg route. Must have good dependable transportation & a phone in your home. Come by & apply at 36 W. Liberty St. or call Reda at 803-774-1257

Front Desk Clerk & Maintenance person needed. Some experience helpful. Apply in person 9 am - 3 pm. Mon - Fri. at Mt. Vernon Inn, 2 Broad St. Sumter.

WE WILL BUY YOUR CAR OUTRIGHT!

Regardless of year, make or model, we will pay you good money for your current vehicle. We can give you a fair price appraisal in 15 minutes. Call Dealer For An Appointment **855.223.5023**

Help Wanted Full-Time

Looking for FT employees w/Commercial Cleaning Experience. Hours 7 days a week 6pm-10pm. Call 803-457-1059

Help Wanted Part-Time

PT Floral Shop Assistant/Delivery Includes Saturdays. Must have good driving record. No lifting limitations. The Daisy Shop 1455 S Guignard Pkw. No phone calls please.

RENTALS

Unfurnished Apartments

Senior Living Apartments for those 62+ (Rent based on income)
Shiloh-Randolph Manor
125 W. Bartlette.
775-0575
Studio/1 Bedroom apartments available EHO

Huntington Place Apartments

Rents from \$625 per month 1 Month free*
*13 Month lease required
Leasing office located at Ashton Mill Apartment Homes
595 Ashton Mill Drive
803-773-3600
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5

Unfurnished Homes

House for Sale: 37 Lincoln Ave. & 1030 California Blvd
Mobile Home/Lot: 21 Idaho Dr & 122 Newbury Ave.
Contact Mrs. Bess 803-468-4226

Mobile Home Rentals

Scenic Lake 2 & 3BR 2BA No pets, Section 8 accepted. 499-1500 or 469-6978 btwn 9am-5pm

Large 2BR/2BA MH for rent in Whispering Pines, unit 12A. \$550 Month. Water is included with rent. Contact David at 803-468-3724

Office Rentals

690 Bultman Dr 1612 Sq. Ft. Reception area w/ hdwd floors, 4 Private offices, Conference rm, Secretarial work area, Copier/Equip. Rm, Shower rm, 2 1/2 baths, file storage rm, \$2050 mo+\$57.76 CAM Call 803 773-1477

REAL ESTATE

Homes for Sale

FSBO: Manning: 3 Br, 1.5 Ba, fenced in backyard, storage bldg, refrigerator, stove, fresh paint, new carpet. Ready to move in! Call 803-225-5658 or email bbhhill@hotmail.com

TRANSPORTATION

Autos For Sale

Holiday Sales
Cars, Trucks and Vans Starting at \$1995
Price is Right Auto Sales
3210 Broad St 803-494-4275

LEGAL NOTICES

Beer & Wine License

Notice of Application

Notice is hereby given that **Kenny Hankins** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and ON premises consumption of **Beer, Wine and Liquor at 500 Old Manning Road, Sumter, SC 29150**. To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **December 24, 2017**. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

Summons & Notice

Summons and Notice Publication Family Court of Sumter, South Carolina Third Judicial Circuit

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SUMTER, COUNTY

Vs. (Plaintiff)
James Wandtke
Adelina Jones
Joel Rough
William Ingraham
John Doe

Summons & Notice

IN THE INTEREST OF
Child born 4/8/2010
Children born 2/10/13
Children born 4/11/2015
TO DEFENDANTS:
James Wandtke
Adelina Jones
Joel Rough
William Ingraham
John Doe

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED And required to answer the complaint in the above referenced concerning the minor Children above and that you have failed to contact the agency in regards to your whereabouts in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for James C. Campbell County, on March 16, 2017 and Amended on September 5, 2017 a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff at Steven B. Suchomski, 105 N. Magnolia Street, Sumter, SC 29150 within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the statutory time allotted, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Complaint. A hearing has been scheduled for March 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Sumter County Family Courthouse, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, South Carolina, 29150.

S. C. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Steven B. Suchomski, Esquire
P.O. Box 68
Sumter, SC 29151
(803) 773-5531

SUMMONS Deficiency Judgment Waived IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS DOCKET NO. 2017CP4302204

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Plaintiff,

v.
Stephen L. Clemons; Angel M. Clemons; Foundation Finance Company, LLC; Fadma Hairston;
Defendant(s). (013263-10282)

TO THE DEFENDANT(S), Fadma Hairston:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this foreclosure action on property located at 1255 Cottingham Dr. Sumter, SC 29154, being designated in the County tax records as TMS# 226-10-03-008, of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices, 100 Executive Center Drive, Ste 201, Post Office Box 100200, Columbia, South Carolina, 29202-3200, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; except that the United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

TO MINOR(S) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND/OR MINOR(S) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) RESIDES AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY:

YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a Guardian Ad Litem to represent said minor(s) within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein. Columbia, South Carolina 12/05/2017

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:
YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Summons and Complaint, of which the foregoing is a copy of the Summons, were filed with the Clerk of Court for Sumter County, South Carolina on November 20, 2017. Columbia, South Carolina 12/5/2017

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, you may have a right to Foreclosure Intervention. To be considered for any available Foreclosure Intervention, you may communicate with and otherwise deal with the Plaintiff through its law firm, Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC, Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC represents the Plaintiff in this action. Our law firm does not represent you. Under our ethical rules, we are prohibited from giving you any legal advice. You must submit any requests for Foreclosure Intervention consideration within 30 days from the date you are served with this Notice.

IF YOU FAIL, REFUSE, OR VOLUNTARILY ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION, THE FORECLOSURE ACTION MAY PROCEED.

Robert P. Davis
Rogers Townsend and Thomas, PC
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
Robert P. Davis (SC Bar #74030),
Robert.Davis@rt-law.com
Andrew W. Montgomery (SC Bar #79893),
Andrew.Montgomery@rt-law.com
John J. Hearn (SC Bar #6635),
John.Hearn@rt-law.com
Kevin T. Brown (SC Bar #064236),
Kevin.Brown@rt-law.com
Jason D. Wyman (SC Bar #100271),
Jason.Wyman@rt-law.com
John P. Fetner (SC Bar #77460),
John.Fetner@rt-law.com
Clark Dawson (SC Bar #101714),
Clark.Dawson@rt-law.com
100 Executive Center Drive,
Suite 201
Post Office Box 100200(29202)
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 744-4444
(013263-10282) 12/5/2017 A-4640858
12/15/2017, 12/22/2017, 12/29/2017

Notice of Sale

MASTER IN EQUITY NOTICE OF SALE 2017-CP-43-00472

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: **Branch Banking and Trust Company vs. Michael L. Simmons and Michelle L. Simmons, I**, the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel and lot of land with improvements thereon, if any, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina identified as Lot No. 4 as shown on plat prepared by J. P. Edwards, RLS, dated June 8, 1976, and recorded in Plat Book Z-38, at page 294, records of Sumter County.

Aforesaid Plat is specifically incorporated herein and reference is craved thereto for a more complete and accurate description of the metes, bounds, courses and distances of the property concerned herein. This is description is in lieu of metes and bounds, as permitted by law under Section 30-5-250 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended. Be all measurements a little more or a little less and according to said plat.

Please note that the above description has been modified to correct a minor, immaterial clerical error in the legal regarding the plat date.

This being the same property conveyed unto Michael L. Simmons and Michelle L. Simmons, as joint tenants, with the right of survivorship, and not as tenants in common, by virtue of a Deed from Kenneth P. Simmons and Linda T. Simmons dated May 25, 2006 and recorded May 26, 2006 in Book 1029 at Page 1999 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Sumter County, South Carolina.

TMS No. 231-00-03-006

Property address: 1815 Queen Chapel Road, Sumter, SC 29153

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 4.990% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CASE NO.: 2016-CP-43-02297 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

NEW PENN FINANCIAL, LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Plaintiff,

v.
VERMELL EDWARDS, AND IF VERMELL EDWARDS BE DECEASED, THEN ANY AND ALL CHILDREN AND HEIRS AT LAW, DISTRIBUTES AND DEVISEES AND IF ANY OF THE SAME BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO CLAIM UNDER OR THROUGH THEM, ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, INTEREST OR LIEN UPON THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, ANY UNKNOWN ADULTS, ANY UNKNOWN INFANTS OR PERSONS UNDER DISABILITY, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN DOE OR PERSONS IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE; ARNOLD EDWARDS; MARY DAVIS; JEREMIAH EDWARDS; VERNON EDWARDS; BOBBY EDWARDS,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE Deficiency Judgment Waived

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of: **JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association vs. Richard O. Bernier and Valerie M. Bernier, I**, the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel, or lot of land, together with the improvements thereon, if any, situate, lying, and being in the Township of Stateburg, County of Sumter, State of South Carolina,

Notice of Sale

being shown and designated as Lot #231, containing 0.79 acre of Oakland North Subdivision, Section No. 4, as shown on that certain plat prepared for Richard O. Bernier and Valerie M. Bernier, by Joseph R. Edwards, RLS, dated October 28, 1993, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Mesne Conveyances for Sumter County in Plat Book 93 at page 1884, and having such metes and bounds as are shown on said plat, this description being in lieu of metes and bounds, as permitted under Section 30-5-250 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina. This is the property known as 2785 Watermark Drive.

This being the same property conveyed to Richard O. Bernier and Valerie M. Bernier, as tenants in common with an indestructible right of survivorship, by deed of Lisa R. Hansen, dated October 5, 1993 and recorded November 2, 1993 in Book 584 at Page 1797 in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County.

TMS No. 092-13-02-007

Property address: 2785 Watermark Drive, Dalzell, SC 29040

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 7.000% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CASE NO.: 2016-CP-43-02297 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

NEW PENN FINANCIAL, LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Plaintiff,

v.
VERMELL EDWARDS, AND IF VERMELL EDWARDS BE DECEASED, THEN ANY AND ALL CHILDREN AND HEIRS AT LAW, DISTRIBUTES AND DEVISEES AND IF ANY OF THE SAME BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO CLAIM UNDER OR THROUGH THEM, ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, INTEREST OR LIEN UPON THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, ANY UNKNOWN ADULTS, ANY UNKNOWN INFANTS OR PERSONS UNDER DISABILITY, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN DOE OR PERSONS IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE; ARNOLD EDWARDS; MARY DAVIS; JEREMIAH EDWARDS; VERNON EDWARDS; BOBBY EDWARDS,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE Deficiency Judgment Waived

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of: **New Penn Financial, LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing against Vermell Edwards, and if Vermell Edwards be Deceased, then**

any and all Children and Heirs at Law, Distributes and Devisees and if any of the same be dead, any and all persons entitled to claim under or through them, also all other persons unknown claiming any Right, Title, Interest or Lien upon the Real Estate described in the complaint herein, any unknown adults, any unknown infants or persons under disability, being a class designated as John Doe or persons in the Military Service of the United States of America, being a class designated as Richard Roe; Arnold Edwards; Mary Davis; Jeremiah Edwards; Vernon Edwards and Bobby Edwards, the undersigned Master in Equity for Sumter County, South Carolina, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 11:00 A.M.** at the Sumter County Judicial Center, located at 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH THE DWELLING AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, LYING AND BEING SITUATE IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SUMTER, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, LOCATED AT THE SOUTHERN CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF ROWLAND AVENUE AND PEACH STREET, AND BEING SHOWN AND DELINEATED ON THAT PLAT PREPARED BY PALMER & MALONE, CIVIL ENGINEERS, DATED APRIL 19, 1949 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK Z-8 AT PAGE 84 IN THE RECORDS OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE FOR SUMTER COUNTY. AFORESAID PLAT IS SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATED HEREIN AND REFERENCE IS CRAVED THERETO FOR A MORE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE METES, BOUNDS, COURSES AND DISTANCES OF THE PROPERTY CONCERNED HEREIN. THIS DESCRIPTION IS MADE IN LIEU OF METES AND BOUNDS PERMITTED BY LAW UNDER 30-5-250 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA (1976), AS AMENDED. THIS IS THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 14 PEACH STREET, SUMTER, SC. THIS BEING THE IDENTICAL PROPERTY CONVEYED TO VERMELL EDWARDS AND ARNOLD EDWARDS BY THAT DEED OF LUCIE ANNE C. ELDRIDGE DATED AND RECORDED APRIL 27, 2006 IN DEED BOOK 1026 AT PAGE 118, AFORESAID RECORDS.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 14 PEACH STREET, SUMTER, SC 29150 TMS: 228-04-01-021

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to

Notice of Sale

Defendant(s)

BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a **Green Tree Servicing LLC** vs. The Personal Representative, whose name is unknown of the Estate of **Curtis Smiling**; Sandra J. Smiling; Rodney Smiling, Sr.; Phyllis L. Jackson; Carolyn D. Teagle; and Michael C. Smiling as heirs of the Estate of Curtis Smiling; all Unknown Heirs of Deceased Defendants, and all other persons entitled to claim under or through them being a class designated as **Mary Roe**; All Unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein, being a class designated as **Jane Doe**; also any Unknown persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as **John Doe**; and any Unknown minors, persons under a Disability or persons incarcerated, being a class designated as **Richard Roe**; **Carroll E. and Nancy Wilson, I, Richard L. Booth**, as Master In Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 Noon**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT LOT OF LAND, WITH ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE IN SUMTER TOWNSHIP, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2, SUMTER COUNTY, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, REPRESENTED AS LOT 7, ON A PLAT OF M. K. MALLARD, DATED JANUARY 19, 1956, AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK Z-13, AT PAGE 75, AND SHOWN ON A MORE RECENT PLAT PREPARED BY BEN J. MAKELA, R.L.S., DATED JUNE 16, 1999, AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK 99, AT PAGE 636 THE SAID PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND HAVING SUCH METES AND BOUNDS AS ARE SHOWN ON SAID PLAT, THIS DESCRIPTION BEING IN LIEU OF METES AND BOUNDS, AS PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 30-5-250 OF THE 1976 CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO CURTIS SMILING BY DEED FROM JEAN BOARDRAY, MICHAEL SMILING, CAROLYN D. TEAGLE, PHYLLIS L. SMILING; AND RODNEY SMILING RECORDED 09/13/2001 IN DEED BOOK 816 PAGE 215, IN THE R.M.C. OFFICE OF SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

TMS #: 245-10-02-010
SUBJECT TO SUMTER COUNTY TAXES

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, the same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at the time of the bid or comply with the other terms or the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master In Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder).

Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order.

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date.

The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 6.375% per annum.

Richard L. Booth
Master In Equity
for Sumter County

Theodore von Keller, Esquire
B. Lindsay Crawford, III,
Esquire
Sara Hutchins
Columbia, South Carolina
Attorney for Plaintiff

Notice of Sale

**NOTICE OF SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017-CP-43-01201**

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of **Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.**, as Trustee for ABFC 2005-HE2 Trust ABFC Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-HE2 vs. Any heirs-at-law or devisees of **Sue O. Brunson a/k/a Sue A. Brunson a/k/a Susie Annie Odum Brunson**, deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors and Assigns, and all other persons or entities entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons or entities with any right, title, estate, interest in or lien upon the real estate described in the complaint herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as **Richard Roe**; and any unknown minors, incompetent or imprisoned person, or persons under a disability being a class designated as **John Doe**; **Wanda Brunson; Blake Anderson; Craig Anderson; David Brunson Jr.; Betty Brunson Johnson; Mark Scarborough; Susie Brunson Scarborough**, the undersigned Master In Equity for Sumter County, South Carolina, will sell on **January 2, 2018 at 12:00PM**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, City of Sumter, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, IN PRIVASTEER TOWNSHIP, SUMTER COUNTY, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BEING SHOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT #9 ON A PLAT OF RABON TERRACE MADE BY J.P. EDWARDS, R.L.S., DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 1971, RECORDED SEPTEMBER 10, 1971 IN PLAT BOOK Z-30 AT PAGE 117, SAID LOT #9 BEING BOUNDED BY AND MEASURING AS FOLLOWS: ON THE NORTH BY LOT #10 AND MEASURING THEREON 250 FEET, ON THE EAST BY PROPERTY OF FEDERAL DEVELOPERS, INC. AND MEASURING THEREON 120 FEET, ON THE SOUTH BY LOT #8 AND MEASURING THEREON 250 FEET; AND ON THE WEST BY TINDAL ROAD AND MEASURING THEREON 120 FEET; BE ALL OF SAID MEASUREMENTS BEING A LITTLE MORE OR LESS ACCORDING TO SAID PLAT.

THIS IS THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO DAVID BRUNSON, JR. AND SUE O. BRUNSON AS JOINT TENANTS WITH THE RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP BY DEED OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DATED AUGUST 23, 1974 AND RECORDED ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1974 IN DEED BOOK A-10 AT PAGE 678 IN THE RECORDS FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

**CURRENT ADDRESS
OF PROPERTY:
2751 Tindal Road,
Sumter, SC 29150
TMS: 2231401007**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to the purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to the Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail to comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Master In Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder). No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding shall not remain open after the date of sale and shall be final on that date, and compliance with the bid may be made immediately. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the balance of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 7.8% per annum. The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions, easements and restrictions of record and any other senior encumbrances

In the event an agent of Plaintiff does not appear at the time of sale, the within property shall be withdrawn from sale and sold at the next available sales date upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or such terms as may be set forth in a supplemental order.

The Honorable Richard L. Booth
Master In Equity
for Sumter County

Brock & Scott, PLLC
3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110
Columbia, SC 29210
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Phone 803-454-3540
Fax 803-454-3541

Notice of Sale

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2014-CP-43-00860**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of **Nationstar Mortgage LLC** vs. **Andrew R. Shanahan**; and **Madeline E. Shanahan, I**, the undersigned **Richard L. Booth**, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, IF ANY, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SUMTER, STATE OF SC, BEING SHOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NO. 348 IN THE MEADOWCROFT SECTION 9A SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT PREPARED BY LOUIS W. TISDALE, R.L.S., DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 2003, WHICH PLAT IS OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF MESSE CONVEYANCES FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SC IN PLAT BOOK 2003 AT PAGE 38. PURSUANT TO SECTION 30-5-250 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SC (1976, AS AMENDED) REFERENCE TO SAID PLAT IS HEREBY MADE FOR THE METES, BOUNDS, COURSE AND/OR DISTANCES OF THE PROPERTY DELINEATED THEREON. THIS PROPERTY IS KNOWN AS 1120 MALONE DRIVE, SUMTER AND IS SHOWN ON THE AUDITOR'S MAP OF SUMTER COUNTY AS TAX PARCEL 182-13-08-001.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO ANDREW R. SHANAHAN AND MADELINE E. SHANAHAN BY DEED OF JASON W. DICKERMAN AND ELLEN F.H. DICKERMAN DATED MAY 6, 2008 AND RECORDED JUNE 17, 2008 IN VOLUME 1107 AT PAGE 3224 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ROD FOR SUMTER COUNTY.

TMS No. 182-13-08-001
**Property address:
1120 Malone Drive,
Sumter, SC 29154**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 6.000% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the

Notice of Sale

sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

NOTICE OF SALE

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of **First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Inc.** now **First Citizens Bank & Trust Company** vs. **Mr. Glory Baptist Church, CA# 2017-CP-43-00961**, I, the undersigned, will sell on **January 8, 2018 at 12:00 noon** or thereafter, at the Sumter County Courthouse Judicial Center, 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, South Carolina, to the highest bidder the following property:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being more particularly shown and delineated as 0.749 acres, more or less as shown on that certain plat of Michael C. Turbeville, III, RLS dated 06/11/09 and recorded in the office of the ROD for Sumter County in Plat Book PB2009 at page 144. The said tract/lot(s) has/have such boundaries, metes, courses and distances as are shown on said plat which are incorporated herein in accordance with the provision of Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of SC, 1976. This property is more generally known as 841 N. Main Street and is shown on the Sumter County Tax Maps as Parcel 229-12-02-002.

This being the same property conveyed to Mr. Glory Baptist Church (a Corporation) by deed of Dixie Properties, LLC recorded June 26, 2009 in Book 1125 at page 1231.

**Property Address:
841 North Main Street
Sumter, SC
TMS# 229-12-02-002**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit, at the conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of the bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the property will be resold on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day at the risk of the said highest bidder. Personal or deficiency judgment having been waived, the bidding will not remain open for a period of thirty (30) days after the sale but the purchaser may comply with the bid immediately. Purchaser to pay for preparation of the deed, documentary stamps on the deed, recording fees.

SUBJECT TO SUMTER COUNTY TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS, EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS, ANY OTHER MATTERS OF RECORD.

Paul Weissenstein
Special Referee
for Sumter County

Ray Coit Yarborough, Jr.
Attorney for Plaintiff

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2015-CP-43-01052**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of **U.S. Bank National Association**, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for the **RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT vs. Frances W. Oxendine**; et al., I, the undersigned **Richard L. Booth**, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with any improvements thereon, situate, lying in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, designated as Lot 2, as shown on that certain Plat of J.P. Edwards dated October 19, 1984, recorded in the R.M.C. Office for

Notice of Sale

Sumter County in Plat Book Z-48, at Page 1063, the exact boundaries and measurements of which can be determined by reference to the said Plat. This being the property known as 881 Perry Boulevard.

This being the same property conveyed to **Dellie N. Oxendine** and **Frances W. Oxendine** by Deed of C.S. Leviner Construction dated June 13, 1985 and recorded June 17, 1985 in Book 405 at Page 421 in the ROD Office for Sumter County. Thereafter, **Dellie B. Oxendine** conveyed here interest in the subject property to **Frances W. Oxendine** by Deed dated August 4, 1997 and recorded August 6, 1997 in Book 681 at Page 1688 in the ROD Office for Sumter County.

TMS No. 207-07-03-018
**Property address:
881 Perry Blvd,
Sumter, SC 29154**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 3.990% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

Notice of Sale

**NOTICE OF MASTER
IN EQUITY SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017CP4300957**

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, South Carolina, heretofore issued in the case of **MidFirst Bank, against Angela C. Dorsey**; et al., the Master in Equity for Sumter County, or his/her agent, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 P.M.**, at Sumter Judicial Center, 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with any improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, and being shown and designated as Lot 127 of Hunters Crossing Subdivision, Phase 1, Section 2 as more fully shown on a plat thereof prepared by Louis W. Tisdale, RLS, dated February 9, 2006, recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Plat Book 2006 at Page 282; which plat is incorporated herein by this reference and having such metes, bounded, courses and distances, being a little more or less, as by this reference to said plat will more fully appear

**TMS Number:
1871202025
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
1772 Polaris Dr.,
Sumter, SC 29153**

This being the same property conveyed to **Angela C. Dorsey** by deed of **Firstar Homes, Inc.**, dated December 28, 2006, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County on January 4, 2007, in Deed Book 1059 at Page 1675.

TERMS OF SALE: FOR CASH. The Master in Equity will require a deposit of 5% of the bid amount in cash or certified funds, which is to be applied on the purchase price upon compliance with the bid. Interest on the balance of the bid at 6.000% shall be paid to the day of compliance. In case of non-compliance within 20 days after the sale, the deposit of 5% is to be forfeited and applied to Plaintiff's judgment debt and the property re-advertised for sale upon the same terms at the risk of the former highest bidder. Purchaser to pay for deed recording fees and deed stamps.

Deficiency judgment not being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Should Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent fail to appear on the day of sale, the property shall not be sold, but shall be re-advertised and sold at some convenient sales day thereafter when Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent, is present.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

Plaintiff does not warrant its title search to purchasers at foreclosure sale or other third parties, who should have their own title search performed on the subject property.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County
Sumter, South Carolina

FINKEL LAW FIRM LLC
Post Office Box 71727
North Charleston, S.C. 29415
(843) 577-5460
Attorneys for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF SALE
IN THE COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS
CASE NO.
2017-CP-43-01222**

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER**

**First-Citizens Bank & Trust
Company** Plaintiff,

-vs-
**Evan S. Queen; Amanda G.M. Queen
and Branch Banking and Trust
Company.** Defendant(s)

BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of **First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company vs. Evan S. Queen; Amanda G.M. Queen and Branch Banking and Trust Company**, I, **Richard L. Booth**, as Master In Equity for Sumter

Classified In-line
Edition Deadline

Fri., Dec. 22nd	Wed. Dec. 20th @ 11:30 am
Sun., Dec. 24th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 9:30 am
Tues., Dec. 26th	Thurs. Dec. 21st @ 11:30am
Tues., Jan. 2nd	Thurs. Dec. 28th @ 2 pm

Have a safe and Merry Christmas!
Business office will be closed December 22nd, 25th and January 1

the Sumter ITEM
36 W. Liberty Street
Sumter, SC
803-774-1200

the Sumter ITEM

A2 | TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017

CONTRACTORS WANTED!*
For Routes in Our Delivery Area

Great for person looking for extra income.
If you have good dependable transportation and a phone in your home and a desire to earn a good extra income...

**COME BY & APPLY AT
36 W. Liberty Street
Sumter, SC**

***PRN CONTRACTORS AS NEEDED.**

place my **AD**

PETS Puppies for sale...

**ORDER YOUR CLASSIFIED AD ONLINE 24/7.
WWW.THEITEM.COM**

Notice of Sale

County, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 Noon**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

ALL that certain piece, parcel, lot or tract of land, containing 0.66 ACRE(S), more or less, together with any and all improvements thereon, lying, being and situate in Stateburg Township, the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being shown and delineated as LOT NO. 45 and a portion of Lot No. 46 on that certain plat by Thomas M. Reynolds, PLS, dated August 31, 1994, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in PLAT BOOK 94 at page 1200.

Pursuant to Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), reference to said plat(s) is hereby craved for particulars of the boundaries, metes, courses, and/or distances of the property delineated thereon.

This property is represented as TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 155-06-01-014 upon the records of the Sumter County Auditor, and is known as **4246 N. Lake Cherryvale Drive, Sumter, SC.**

This being the identical property heretofore conveyed unto the Mortgage(s) herein, Evan S. Queen, by Deed from D.R. Queen, recorded January 16, 2007 in said Register's Office in Deed Book 1061 at page 176.

TMS #: 155-06-01-014

SUBJECT TO SUMTER COUNTY TAXES

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, the same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at the time of the bid or comply with the other terms or the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master In Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder).

Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order.

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date.

The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 8.125% per annum.

Notice of Sale

Richard L. Booth
Master In Equity
for Sumter County

Theodore von Keller, Esquire
B. Lindsay Crawford, III,
Esquire
Sara Hutchins
Columbia, South Carolina
Attorney for Plaintiff

**MASTER IN EQUITY
NOTICE OF SALE
2017-CP-43-01430**

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: Broker Solutions, Inc. dba **New American Funding vs. Chance D. Smiling**; et.al., I, the undersigned Richard L. Booth, Master in Equity for Sumter County, will sell on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 12:00 PM**, at the County Judicial Center, 215 Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being more particularly shown and delineated as Lot 16 A, in the Southern Hills Subdivision, as shown on that certain plat of Joseph R. Edwards, RLS dated September 28, 2004 and recorded in the Office of the ROD for Sumter County in Plat Book PB2004 at Page 486. The said Tract/Lot(s) has/have such boundaries, metes, courses and distances as are shown on said plat which are incorporated herein in accordance with the provision of Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of SC, 1976.

This being the same property conveyed to Chance D. Smiling by Deed of Gary B. Arnold and Vicki L. Arnold dated November 19, 2015 and recorded December 1, 2015 in Book 1216 at Page 5739 in the ROD Office for Sumter County.

TMS No. 1850701009

**Property address:
805 Southern Hills
Court,
Sumter, SC 29150**

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale) upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 20 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Notice of Sale

Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 3.375% per annum.

The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given.

The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County

Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff

NOTICE OF SALE 2017-CP-43-00410
BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper against William H. Fields, I, the undersigned Special Referee for Sumter County, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:30 p.m.** at the Sumter County Courthouse in Sumter, South Carolina, to the highest bidder, the following described property, to-wit: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in Concord Township, County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, being more particularly shown and delineated as Lot 2, containing 0.38 acre, more or less, as shown on that certain plat of D.D. Edmunds, RLS, dated August 6, 1997, and recorded in the Office of the RMC for Sumter County in Plat Book PB 97 at Page 956. The said lot has such boundaries, metes, courses and distances as are shown on said plat which are incorporated herein in accordance with the provision of Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976. This property is more generally known as 1810 Myrtle Beach Hwy. Being the same property conveyed unto Hamer A. Fields by deed of Douglas D. Miles and Robin W. Miles dated August 11, 1997 and recorded August 12, 1997 in Deed Book 682 at Page 489; thereafter, Hamer A. Fields died intestate on November 9, 1999, leaving the subject property to his heir at law, namely, William H. Fields, by Deed of Distribution dated September 7, 2000, and recorded September 8, 2000 in Deed Book 781 at Page 1592 in the ROD Office for

Notice of Sale

Sumter County, South Carolina. TMS No. 267-00-03-011 Property Address: 1810 Myrtle Beach Highway, Sumter, SC 29153 **TERMS OF SALE:** The successful bidder, other than the plaintiff, will deposit with the Special Referee at conclusion of the bidding, five per cent (5%) of said bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the successful bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Special Referee may resell the property on the same terms and conditions (at the risk of the said defaulting bidder). Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order. The successful bidder will be required to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed and interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to the date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 8.0000%. **THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, COUNTY TAXES, EXISTING EASEMENTS, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES.** No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. **NOTICE:** The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date. Honorable A. Paul Weissenstein, Jr. Special Referee Sumter County Riley Pope & Laney, LLC Post Office Box 11412 Columbia, SC 29211 (803) 799-9993 Attorneys for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF MASTER
IN EQUITY SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017CP4301314**

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, South Carolina, heretofore issued in the case of **Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC**, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, against **Elizabeth S. Ramsey**; et al., the Master in Equity for Sumter County, or his/her agent, will sell on **January 2, 2018, at 12:00 P.M.**, at Sumter Judicial Center, 215 North Harvin Street, Sumter, SC 29150, to the highest bidder:

All that piece, parcel or lot of land, with improvements thereon, located in the County of Sumter, Staatsburg Township, the said lot or parcel having been surveyed and divided from a 7.49 acre tract owned by Louis Ramsey, the said lot of land being more specifically described in that plat of H.S. Willson, RLS, dated July 28, 1982 and recorded in Plat Book Z-47 at Page 748 being bounded and measuring according to said plat.

**TMS Number:
155-16-01-032
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
785 Mayfield Dr.,
Sumter, SC 29150**

This being the same property conveyed to Terrill Ramsey and Yulanda Ramsey by deed of

Notice of Sale

Elizabeth S. Ramsey, dated October 13, 2011, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County on October 13, 2011, in Deed Book 1161 at Page 1133.

TERMS OF SALE: FOR CASH. The Master in Equity will require a deposit of 5% of the bid amount in cash or certified funds, which is to be applied on the purchase price upon compliance with the bid. Interest on the balance of the bid at 9.23% shall be paid to the day of compliance. In case of non-compliance within 20 days, after the sale, the deposit of 5% is to be forfeited and applied to Plaintiff's judgment debt and the property re-advertised for sale upon the same terms at the risk of the former highest bidder. Purchaser to pay for deed recording fees and deed stamps.

Deficiency judgment not being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

Should Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent fail to appear on the day of sale, the property shall not be sold, but shall be re-advertised and sold at some convenient sales day thereafter when Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorney, or Plaintiff's agent, is present.

The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and easements and restrictions of record.

Plaintiff does not warrant its title search to purchasers at foreclosure sale or other third parties, who should have their own title search performed on the subject property.

Richard L. Booth
Master in Equity
for Sumter County
Sumter, South Carolina

FINKEL LAW FIRM LLC
Post Office Box 71727
North Charleston, S.C. 29415
(843) 577-5460
Attorneys for Plaintiff

**NOTICE OF SALE
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2017-CP-43-01393**

BY VIRTUE of the decree heretofore granted in the case of: **Regions Bank DBA Regions Mortgage vs. William M. Foxworth a/k/a William Foxworth**, the undersigned Master In Equity for Sumter County, South Carolina, will sell on **January 2, 2018 at 12:00PM**, at the Sumter County Courthouse, City of Sumter, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

THE LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS POLICY IS SITUATED IN THE STATE OF SC, COUNTY OF SUMTER, CITY OF SUMTER AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR LOT OF LAND, WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF SUMTER, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN AND DELINEATED AS LOT 70, "WINTER PARK" SUBDIVISION, AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF D.D. EDMUNDS, RLS, DATED AUG. 9, 1995, AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE RMC FOR SUMTER COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK PB95 AT PAGE 763. THE SAID LOT HAS SUCH BOUNDARIES, METES, COURSES AND DISTANCES AS ARE SHOWN ON SAID PLAT WHICH ARE INCORPORATED

Notice of Sale

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In the event an agent of Plaintiff does not appear at the time of sale, the within property shall be withdrawn from sale and sold at the next available sales date upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or such terms as may be set forth in a supplemental order.

The Honorable Richard L. Booth
Master In Equity
for Sumter County

Brock & Scott, PLLC
3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110
Columbia, SC 29210
Attorneys for Plaintiff
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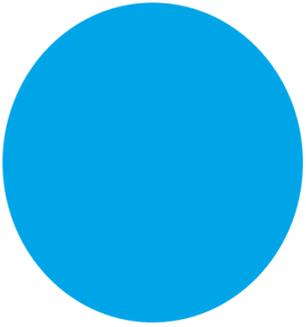
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IN BRIEF

Nearly 9M sign up for coverage under the Affordable Care Act

The government said about 8.8 million people signed up for coverage next year under the Affordable Care Act. A deadline surge last week may account for the surprisingly strong numbers.

Thursday's update came from Seema Verma, head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Wednesday, President Trump proclaimed that a GOP tax cut bill "essentially repealed Obamacare." The bill repealed only the health law's fines on people who don't carry health insurance, starting in 2019.

Evacuation orders for most areas around fire lifted in California

Evacuation orders for areas around the smoldering remnants of Southern California's wildfire were canceled Thursday after a new round of winds caused little fire activity. The lifting of evacuation orders left only Rose Valley in Ventura County under evacuation orders.

Second federal judge blocks Trump contraception rules

California faces potentially "dire" health and financial consequences from new rules by the Trump administration allowing more employers to opt out of providing women with no-cost birth control, a federal judge said.

U.S. District Judge Haywood Gilliam in Oakland became the second federal judge to block the changes to President Obama's health care law. He said the Trump administration failed to provide the required notice and public comment period.

No terror ties for driver who plowed into Australian crowd

The driver of an SUV that rammed into a crowd in Melbourne on Thursday, injuring 19 people, is an Australian of Afghan descent with a history of drug use and mental illness, but police reported no known links to terrorism.

The driver, 32, who was not identified, was known to police for minor assault and traffic offenses.

Pence makes surprise visit to Afghanistan for war meetings

Vice President Pence made an unannounced trip to Afghanistan on Thursday to meet with Afghan leaders and visit U.S. troops.

Pence landed at Bagram Air Base, then met with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. He returned to the base to address U.S. troops.

29 killed, 29 injured in blaze at building in South Korean city

A fire broke out Thursday at an eight-story building in Jecheon, South Korea, killing 29 people and injuring 29 others.

The toll could rise as fire department rescuers continued to search the building.

From staff and wire reports

USA TODAY EXCLUSIVE

VA hired workers with revoked medical licenses

Practice went on 15 years in violation of federal law

Donovan Slack
USA TODAY

The Department of Veterans Affairs allowed its hospitals across the country to hire health care providers with revoked medical licenses for at least 15 years in violation of federal law, a USA TODAY investigation found.

The VA issued national guidelines in 2002 giving hospitals discretion to

hire clinicians after "prior consideration of all relevant facts surrounding" any revocations and as long as they still had a license in one state.

A federal law passed in 1999 bars the VA from employing any health care worker whose license has been yanked by any state.

Hospital officials at the VA in Iowa City relied on the illegal guidance this year to hire neurosurgeon John Henry Schneider, who revealed in his application that he had numerous malpractice claims and settlements and Wyoming



David Shulkin

had revoked his license after a patient died. He still had a license in Montana.

The VA moved to fire Schneider Nov. 29 after inquiries about his case from USA TODAY. He resigned instead. The VA said at the time that Iowa City hospital officials received "incorrect guidance" green-lighting his hiring in April. The agency conceded this week that it was national policy.

VA Secretary David Shulkin said in see VA, PAGE C2



More than 31 million people traveled on Amtrak trains last year. ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

Amtrak's reputation takes another hit after accident

Despite fatalities and complaints, rail service continues to benefit from congressional support

Bart Jansen
USA TODAY

Amtrak's latest fatal accident, a derailment near Seattle that killed three passengers, could discourage ridership and further tarnish the service's safety reputation as the railroad is under attack from the Trump administration, experts said.

But despite several fatal accidents in recent years and complaints of unreliable service, Amtrak remains popular in Congress and with travelers — 31.7 million of them last year.



Workers examine the engine from the Amtrak train that crashed onto Interstate 5 on Monday in DuPont, Wash. ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

"Amtrak is likely to take a significant hit in consumer support and enthusiasm for high-speed train lines as a result," said Brian Tierney, CEO of Brian Communications. "And they may see an immediate decline in daily ridership due to consumers' heightened fear."

Criticism of the railroad focuses on government subsidies rather than infrastructure, said Michael Friedberg, executive director of the Coalition for the Northeast Corridor, which is the rail route from Washington to Boston.

Monday's derailment "was a tragedy, and we have to find out why," he said. "I'm hoping that people do not look at it as a trend, because it's still a much safer

see AMTRAK, PAGE C2

Jerusalem dispute darkens Nazareth holiday

Shira Rubin
Special to USA TODAY

NAZARETH, Israel — This biblical city known as the childhood home of Jesus is hoping for a Christmas miracle: tourists.

The town's markets are stocked with Santa hats and green and red stockings but few buyers in the wake of President Trump's declaration Dec. 6 recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital. His announcement departs from an international consensus that Jerusalem's status should be negotiated in peace talks with Palestinians.

Israel's tiny, and shrinking, Christian minority already had been facing economic hardships.

"A lot of things are missing for us this year," said Badia Basha, 66, standing at a small table selling Christmas knickknacks outside Mary's Well, where Christians believe the Angel Gabriel told Mary she would give birth to the son of God. "Christmas is supposed to bring many performances and singers and visitors that include Christians and also Muslims and Jews to this city, but today there is almost nothing."

Last week, Nazareth Mayor Ali Salam, a Muslim, canceled a number of

Christmas festivities in protest. On Saturday, Salam told reporters that outdoor stalls, the Christmas tree lighting and the citywide parade in Nazareth this Saturday would go on as planned.

Tourism, a crucial component of Nazareth's economy, has been weak since the 2014 Israeli war in Gaza.

Elias Mattar, chef at the trendy Locanda restaurant in the newly opened Ramada Nazareth Hotel, said that if he had the chance, he would leave the area.

"It's unreal the extent to which politics enters everything here, even in Nazareth — the symbol of Christianity," he said. "The situation is not normal."

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VA

continued from C1

an interview that he ordered the rewriting of the guidelines and launched a nationwide review to identify and remove any other health care workers with revoked licenses.

"It's very clear to me that our job is to have the best quality doctors that we can provide to take care of veterans, and that's going to be our policy," he said.

Shulkin said health care providers with prior sanctions against their medical licenses short of revocation — suspensions or reprimands, for example — will be reviewed to ensure they provide quality care to veterans at the VA.

The USA TODAY investigation published this month found that in addition to hiring Schneider, VA hospitals know-

ingly hired other health care providers with license penalties. In some cases, they went on to harm veterans.

A VA hospital in Oklahoma hired a psychiatrist sanctioned for sexual misconduct who slept with a VA patient. The VA in Tomah, Wis., hired a psychiatrist disciplined for medication violations who overprescribed narcotics to veterans. A Louisiana VA clinic hired a psychologist with felony convictions. The VA fired him after determining he was a "direct threat to others" and the VA's mission.

USA TODAY reported that the malpractice claims against Schneider included cases alleging he made surgical mistakes that left patients maimed, paralyzed or dead and that his veteran patients in Iowa suffered complications. One of those patients, Richard Joseph Hopkins, 65, died from an infection in August after four brain surgeries by

Schneider in a span of four weeks.

Schneider denied in an interview that he provided substandard care and blamed poor patient outcomes on other providers or unfortunate complications that can occur in neurosurgery.

Hopkins' daughter Amy McIntire told USA TODAY this week that she is furious Schneider was hired and floored by the national policy that allowed it.

"I'm appalled by the ineptitude at the VA," said McIntire, a registered nurse who noted that an agency so large has numerous staff to write policies and ensure they comply with federal law. "For it just to be ignored, it's crazy."

Nearly 50 members of Congress have called on the VA for answers since USA TODAY's story ran.

A group of 14 senators from both parties wrote to Shulkin this month asking about the hiring and oversight of health care workers with known histories of

malpractice and license discipline. That followed letters from Montana Democratic Sen. Jon Tester and Iowa Republican Sens. Joni Ernst and Chuck Grassley, who said it was "unacceptable that it was only as a result of USA TODAY's report that the VA determined that hiring this neurosurgeon was illegal."

Monday, 31 members of the House of Representatives fired off letters to the VA secretary expressing "extreme concern."

"The hiring of doctors who have had their medical licenses revoked in any state is already prohibited," 30 of the lawmakers wrote, including members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., demanded in his own letter that Shulkin launch a nationwide review to identify other VA health care workers with malpractice complaints and settlements or sanctions for poor care.

Corrections & Clarifications



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Amtrak

continued from C1

mode of transportation than highways."

More than 35,000 people died in highway accidents in 2015, the most recent year for which figures were available, compared with 749 in railroad accidents, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

Kajal Lahiri, a distinguished professor of economics at the University of Albany, said the country relies on passenger rail service and the government must invest in it, despite the injury to its reputation from accidents.

"It's bad. It's always shocking, accidents like this," Lahiri said. "But accidents do happen. More infrastructure spending is needed to upgrade our railway system."

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating Monday's accident, in which a high-speed train on an inaugural route from Seattle to Portland entered a 30-mph curve at 80 mph and derailed, sending cars plunging off a bridge onto Interstate 5.

"It suggests a pattern, and Amtrak doesn't have any margin for mistakes left in the minds of consumers," said Tierney, the crisis manager.

Amtrak CEO Richard Anderson said



Cars from a derailed Amtrak train spilled onto Interstate 5 on Monday.

JOHN FROSCHAUER/AP

safety is the top priority for the railroad, which is investing in improvements recommended by the NTSB.

"We share a real sense of urgency in getting to the root causes of the accident" to make sure it never happens again, Anderson said.

Even without accidents, Amtrak's reputation has suffered complaints about unreliable trains or late service. The railroad is in the midst of refurbishing 450 cars on the Northeast Corridor with seat padding and other amenities.

Trump proposed in his budget for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1 to reduce Amtrak subsidies for long-distance service by \$630 million — nearly half the

\$1.4 billion provided the previous year — and argued that trains were often late and operate at a loss.

As Congress debates spending, it continues to embrace the railroad. The Senate Appropriations Committee agreed to provide \$1.6 billion for Amtrak and continue all routes. The House Appropriations Committee approved \$1.4 billion.

Lahiri said the government must invest more in Amtrak because private funds won't provide enough to improve train service, which is inferior to that in Europe, Japan and China.

"You have to have rails, no matter what," he said.

U.N.'s Jerusalem vote defies Trump threats

Measure declares U.S. recognition 'null and void'

Oren Dorell
USA TODAY

The United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly Thursday to repudiate President Trump's controversial declaration recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Trump threatened to withhold aid in retaliation for a vote condemning his position.

The U.N. body voted 128-9 to declare Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital "null and void." Thirty-five nations abstained.

The measure, drafted by U.S. ally Egypt, urges nations to support U.N. resolutions dating to 1967 — when Israel captured East Jerusalem from Jordan — that call for Jerusalem's status to be decided through negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians.

Israel says a united Jerusalem will remain its capital, while Palestinians want it to cede East Jerusalem as the capital of a future, independent Palestinian state. Only a handful of countries recognize Jerusalem as the Israeli capital, while most others maintain embassies in Tel Aviv.

The resolution says "that any decisions and actions which purport to have altered the character, status or demographic composition of the Holy City of Jerusalem have no legal effect, are null and void and must be rescinded in compliance with relevant resolutions of the Security Council."

Trump warned Wednesday that the vote could impact "billions of dollars" in U.S. aid.

"Let them vote against us, we'll save a lot," Trump said. "We don't care. This isn't like it used to be where they could vote against you, and then you pay them hundreds of millions of dollars, and nobody knows what they're doing."

Americans are "tired of being taken advantage of" at the United Nations, "and we're not going to be taken advantage of any longer," Trump said.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Er-

dogan criticized Trump for threatening to cut off U.S. funding to countries that oppose his decision. "Mr. Trump, you cannot buy Turkey's democratic will with your dollars. Our decision is clear," Erdogan said at a cultural awards ceremony in Ankara on Thursday.

U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley said, "No vote in the United Nations will make any difference" on the U.S. decision to move its embassy to Jerusalem, which will go ahead because "it is the right thing to do."

"We will remember it when we are called upon once again to make the world's largest contribution to the United Nations," Haley said. "And we will remember when so many countries come calling on us, as they so often do, to pay even more and to use our influence for their benefit."

"No vote in the United Nations will make any difference."

U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley

Trump's announcement Dec. 6 said the State Department had been ordered to begin the years-long process of moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. Trump said the decision, following a law passed by Congress in 1998, does not impact the borders of Jerusalem but reflected the reality that Israel considers the city its capital.

His announcement was widely condemned in capitals around the world and provoked deadly protests in the Middle East.

Thursday's vote at an emergency meeting of the General Assembly came after the United States vetoed the same measure in the Security Council on Monday. The remaining 14 Security Council members voted in favor of the resolution, including U.S. allies such as Italy, Japan, Britain, France and Ukraine.

There are no vetoes at the General Assembly.



Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., sought protections for immigrants. AP

Congress avoids shutdown with spending measure

Michael Collins
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — Congress once again forestalled a government shutdown — with a short-term funding measure through mid-January — and temporarily extended funding for health insurance for children from low-income families.

The House voted 231-188 Thursday to approve a short-term spending bill that would fund most government programs at current levels through Jan. 19. The Senate quickly followed suit, passing the bill on a 66-32 vote.

The government was scheduled to run out of money at midnight Friday, raising the possibility of a partial shutdown heading into the holidays.

Temporary funding is needed because Congress has been unable to agree on long-term government spending levels since the 2017 fiscal year ended last September. The government has operated on a series of short-term extensions of last year's budget.

The measure approved Thursday would keep the government operating for a few more weeks but puts off until next year a number of tough decisions, including the reinstatement of government subsidies for health insurers providing coverage to low-income clients

and protections for young Americans brought into the USA illegally by their parents.

In a separate vote, the House advanced an \$81 billion package of disaster assistance funding for states and U.S. territories ravaged by recent hurricanes and forest fires.

During Thursday's debate, House Republicans said that, although not ideal, the temporary funding is needed to give lawmakers more time to resolve long-term spending issues.

A vote against the funding measure "is a vote to shut down the government," said Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore.

Most Democrats refused to support the measure and accused Republicans of abdicating their fiscal responsibilities by delaying long-term spending decisions and passing a \$1.5 trillion tax package that would benefit corporations and the wealthy.

Short-term funding amounts to "an inefficient waste of taxpayer dollars" and "an epic failure of governing," said Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y.

Fourteen Democrats voted for the spending measure, while 16 Republicans voted against it.

Hard-line conservative Republicans were unhappy because the bill did not include long-term funding for defense programs.

Contributing: Deirdre Shesgreen

Germany's rising anti-Semitism haunts Jews

New immigrants, rise of right-wing nationalists linked to increased activism

Austin Davis
Special to USA TODAY

BERLIN — When telecommunications manager Mikhail Tanaev emigrated to Germany in 1998 from his native Russia as a teen, his Jewish faith didn't matter to classmates or neighbors.

That's because Germany has taken extraordinary steps since the end of World War II to atone for the Holocaust and prevent anti-Semitism from taking hold again. The country has paid reparations to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution, erected dozens of memorials to those murdered and turned anti-Semitic speech into a crime.

Yet Chancellor Angela Merkel's decision in 2015 to open the nation's arms to 1 million mostly Muslim refugees has created a double threat for Germany's roughly 120,000 Jews: rising anti-Semitism from the newcomers and a resurgent right-wing nationalist movement spawned by the arrival of immigrants.

The anti-Semitic sentiment has become more public and virulent, said Tanaev, 32. "When I arrived in Germany ... I never saw such displays."

Last week, thousands of protesters in Berlin burned Israeli flags to protest President Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The flag-burning prompted a national outcry.

"I never thought that could happen in the middle of Berlin. That's something you see in other parts of the world. It's really disturbing," Tanaev said. "It feels like we're being threatened because you never know how people will react."

Other instances of anti-Semitism in Germany have become more brazen. Last month, thieves in Berlin made off with more than a dozen sidewalk plaques honoring victims of the Holocaust. And the German military found Nazi memorabilia in soldiers' barracks over the summer.

In 2016, Germany recorded 1,468 anti-Semitic incidents, an increase from previous years that has put Germany's Jewish community on edge. According to a survey by the Bielefeld University, 62% of Jewish respondents said they experience anti-Semitism, and 28%



A far-right rally in Berlin in August commemorates the 30th anniversary of the death of leading Nazi figure Rudolf Hess. Germany has seen a rise in anti-Semitic speech and actions. FRANK JORDANS/AP

"I never thought that could happen in the middle of Berlin. That's something you see in other parts of the world."

Mikhail Tanaev on anti-Israel flag-burning protests

said they were victims of verbal attacks or harassment in the past year.

The survey cites increased anti-Semitism by Muslim newcomers and a strengthened nativist movement, said Andreas Zick, who led the study.

Underscoring that trend is the rise of the anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD), now the third-largest political party in Parliament four years after its founding. The AfD finds support with nationalist and anti-Semitic rhetoric.

"Germans are the only people in the world who plant a monument of shame

in the heart of the capital," senior AfD member Björn Höcke said this year about the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin.

Other party members want Nazi soldiers remembered as patriots.

Zick also noted anti-Semitic remarks posted on social media by right-wing groups. The comments fuel misconceptions among new immigrants that Germany tolerates such behavior, despite strict laws requiring social media giants such as Facebook to delete posts categorized as hate speech, he said.

"Refugees coming in don't perceive that there's a strong norm against anti-Semitism."

Such sentiments prompted a Jewish community center in Berlin to launch an initiative to combat anti-Semitism.

"Here, we put in concrete terms that 'the Jew' is actually a normal person — that he looks like you and is someone you can have a normal conversation with," said Rabbi Daniel Fabian of the Kahal Adass Jisroel synagogue.

Jewish leaders are pushing for changes in the education system to head off anti-Semitism, including visits to concentration camps.

"We are looking for modern means to convey what has happened and to keep the memory alive," said Josef Schuster, president of Germany's Central Council of Jews.

Manafort and Gates make their Christmas wish lists

Indicted Trump associates want to travel for holiday

Jessica Estepa
USA TODAY

All Paul Manafort wants for Christmas is to be free from house arrest. And to go to the Hamptons.

As part of special counsel Robert Mueller's wide-ranging probe into Russia's interference in the presidential election, President Trump's former campaign chairman and his associate Rick Gates were indicted on 12 counts, including conspiracy, money laundering and acting as unregistered foreign agents. Both men pleaded not guilty — and they still want to celebrate the holiday season.

Manafort is petitioning a judge to free him from home confinement in Virginia for a trip to the Hamptons, where he also owns a house and where his in-laws live. Gates is asking for permission to go to "holiday events" close to his home in Richmond, Va., along with a family trip to West Virginia.

As part of their requests, Manafort and Gates both agreed to continue with GPS monitoring, which according to U.S. Probation and Pre-Trial Services consists of wearing a wrist or ankle monitor.

Manafort and Gates were placed under house arrest because they were considered flight risks, but U.S. District Judge Amy Jackson said she was "inclined" to eventually let them out of their confinement.

Washington-based attorney Richard Gilbert said requests for reprieves do happen when the defendants weren't charged with crimes of violence or terrorism. People may want to travel for business, vacations or family matters.

Mueller's team, investigating Russia's possible collusion with Trump associates, has objected to some of these requests, but not others.

Still, both Manafort and Gates were granted a reprieve to leave their homes for Thanksgiving.

Now, Manafort wants to travel to his

home in Bridgehampton, N.Y., with regular trips to his in-laws in East Hampton, N.Y., for an extended Christmas weekend.

His lawyers argued that spending Christmas at the Manafort home in Virginia would be a hassle for their extended family.

"Attempting to arrange for the gathering at the defendant's Virginia condominium, for example, where he is currently under home detention, would splinter the family's regular religious celebration by precluding attendance by close family members and by not providing adequate accommodations for the other guests traveling significant distances to be with their family," their motion reads.

Jackson appeared to find the request a bit irksome. Just last week, she issued another order under which Manafort could be granted release from house arrest in Virginia and allowed to go to his home in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., while awaiting trial. In this agreement, Manafort agreed to forfeit \$10 million in real estate and cash if he failed to appear for future court hearings.

The Christmas request, she noted, requires an "entirely different arrangement." Still, Jackson said his request will be granted if Manafort provides a detailed itinerary. He will have to remain in his Bridgehampton home at all other times.

Gates had his own requests for the holidays. He wants an allowance to travel on five separate days to celebrate Christmas events within walking or a short driving distance of his home in Richmond, as well as a New Year's getaway to West Virginia.

Jackson granted only part of Gates's travel request, noting that they "impose not only on the Court and its staff but also Pretrial Services, and given the fact that defendant has yet to be released from home confinement."

Contributing: Brad Heath



Protesters block a street in Washington after President Trump's inauguration in January. Six people were found not guilty Thursday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Six Trump inauguration protesters not guilty

First defendants faced rioting, other charges

Sean Rossman
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — The first six people charged with rioting in downtown Washington on President Trump's inauguration day were found not guilty on all counts Thursday.

The jury presented its verdict in D.C. Superior Court, where for the past month federal prosecutors tried to argue the defendants were guilty of assisting in the violence, even though evidence didn't show any of the six had done any physical damage that day. The protesters, who were tried together, maintained they were expressing their First Amendment rights by protesting Trump.

Jennifer Truanto, 38; Michelle Macchio, 26; Oliver Harris, 28; Brittne Lawson, 27; Christina Simmons, 20; and Alexei Wood, 27, all faced decades in prison. The jury found them not guilty on five counts of felony destruc-

tion of property and two misdemeanor counts of engaging in and conspiracy to engage in a riot.

"I feel overwhelmed and elated," said Harris after the decision. "It's been incredibly trying in a lot of ways. This process has invaded every aspect of my life."

Lawson, a registered nurse from Pittsburgh, said she broke into tears upon hearing the verdict.

"This sets an incredible precedent for activists facing state repression," she said.

The six were among more than 200 people to face felony and misdemeanor charges for what prosecutors called a riot. Anti-Trump protesters marched through the streets on inauguration day, where some smashed windows, lit fires and tossed bricks at police, injuring six officers.

Attorneys for the defendants maintained the assertion the six were simply using their First Amendment rights.

The outcome could serve as evidence of things to come for the 188 people yet to stand trial on similar charges. The next defendants go to trial March 5.

FRIDAY EVENING DECEMBER 22

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS												
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	Blindspot "City Folks Under Wraps" Jane and Weller face a toxic secret. (N)	Dateline NBC (N)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Anderson Cooper, Andy Cohen; Issa Rae. (N)			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	I Love Lucy Christmas Special: Reminiscences on Christmas Eve.	The Dick Van Dyke Show -- Now in Living Color!: Laura dyes her hair blond.	Blue Bloods "Not Fade Away" Danny protects a released ex-con. (DVS)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert "Rachel Maddow; Ben Platt" Rachel Maddow; Ben Platt performs.		
WOLO	23	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Home for the Holidays" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Shark Tank Product that makes coffee taste better. (DVS)	(:01) Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. "Re-wind" Fitz's secret journey is revealed. (N)	(:01) 20/20	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live Jack Black; Kirk Herbstreit.		
WRJA	27	11	14	Travels With Darley "Tokyo, Japan"	This Week In South Carolina	Washington Week (N)	Washington Week (N)	Christmas at Belmont 2017: Carols and seasonal favorites.	Eric Idle's The Entire Universe: Lecture about the universe.	Amanpour on PBS (N)	Third Rail With OZY	NHK Newsline
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory "The Fetal Kick Catalyst"	Hell's Kitchen "Trimming Fat; Welcome to the Jungle" Teams re-create six of Ramsay's dishes. (DVS)		WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Competing in a sports competition.	Last Man Standing Mike's father moves to town.	Masters of Illusion: Christmas Magic: Magicians perform.	Greatest Holiday Commercials Countdown 2017: The world's best holiday commercials.	American Ninja Warrior "Venice Beach Qualifying" Competitors face 10 obstacles. (Part 1 of 2)	American Ninja Warrior "Venice Beach Qualifying" Competitors face 10 obstacles. (Part 2 of 2)	The Game "Parachutes ... Beach Chairs"		
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 12.16.17" Riding along with law enforcement.	Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 72" (N)	Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 72" (N)	Live PD "Live PD -- 10.06.17" Riding along with law enforcement.						Live PD: Rewind
AMC	48	180	(6:00) ** "Hocus Pocus" (1993, Comedy) Bette Midler.	** "Ice Age" (2002, Children's) Voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary. Animated. Ice Age animals find and travel with a human baby.	** "Ice Age" (2002, Children's) Voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary. Animated. Ice Age animals find and travel with a human baby.	** "Happy Feet!" (2006, Children's) Voices of Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Brittany Murphy. Animated. An emperor penguin expresses himself through tap-dancing.						
ANPL	41	100	Animal Cribbs A cats-only tree house.	Animal Cribbs "Ultimate Manimal Cave"	Animal Cribbs "Ultimate Manimal Cave"	Animal Cribbs "Ultimate Builds" (N)	(:01) Animal Cribbs "Fluffy Fixer Pupper"	(:03) Animal Cribbs "Ultimate Builds"	Animal Cribbs			
BET	61	162	(5:20) ** "Tyler Perry's Good Deeds" (2012, Drama) Tyler Perry.	(7:58) ** "Woman Thou Art Loosed" (2004, Drama) Kimberly Elise, Loretta Devine, young woman tries to overcome a life of abuse.	(7:58) ** "Woman Thou Art Loosed" (2004, Drama) Kimberly Elise, Loretta Devine, young woman tries to overcome a life of abuse.	** "Coach Carter" (2005, Drama) Samuel L. Jackson, Robert Richardson, Rob Brown. A high-school basketball coach pushes his team to excel.						
BRAVO	47	181	Married to Medicine Simone plans a surprise.	Married to Medicine "Mama Drama" Tonya's mother comes to town. (N)	Married to Medicine "Mama Drama" Tonya's mother comes to town. (N)	** "The Other Guys" (2010, Comedy) Will Ferrell, Mark Wahlberg, Eva Mendes. Two desk-bound detectives get a chance to work on a real case.						
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	The Job Interview		
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	CNN Special Report	CNN Special Report	United Shades of America	United Shades of America	United Shades of America	United Shades of America	United Shades of America	United Shades of America	United Shades of America
COM	57	136	(4:45) "Meet the Parents" (2000)	(:20) ** "Meet the Fockers" (2004, Comedy) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Dustin Hoffman. Future in-laws clash in Florida.	(:20) ** "Meet the Fockers" (2004, Comedy) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Dustin Hoffman. Future in-laws clash in Florida.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.	Kevin Hart: Seriously Funny: The comic's take on his family.
DISN	18	200	Andi Mack	Andi Mack	"Good Luck Charlie, It's Christmas!" (2011) Bridgit Mendler. Members of a family get separated during the holidays.	Stuck in the Middle	Stuck in the Middle	Disney Parks Presents a Disney Channel Holiday Celebration	Bizaardvark	Andi Mack Andi takes a stand.		
DSC	42	103	Gold Rush "Gold Bars and Hail Mays"	Gold Rush: Pay Dirt (N)	Gold Rush: Pay Dirt (N)	Gold Rush "The Holy Grail" (N)	Tesla's Death Ray: A Murder	(:01) Gold Rush "The Holy Grail"	Tesla's			
ESPN	26	35	College Football	NBA Countdown	NBA Basketball Los Angeles Clippers at Houston Rockets. (N) (Live)		NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Golden State Warriors. (N) (Live)					
ESPN2	27	39	College Basketball Northwestern at Oklahoma. (N) (Live)		College Basketball Texas vs Alabama. (N) (Live)		SportsCenter (N) (Live)		SportsCenter (N)			
FOOD	40	109	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	The Grill Dads (N)	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News at Night (N)	Tucker Carlson				
FREE	20	131	(5:25) *** "The Polar Express"	*** "The Santa Clause" (1994, Children's) Tim Allen, Judge Reinhold, Wendy Crewson. An adman takes over for fallen Santa.	(:40) * "The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause" (2006, Children's) Tim Allen, Martin Short, Elizabeth Mitchell. Jack Frost wants to freeze Santa out of the North Pole.	(11:50) *** "Elf" (2003)						
FSS	21	47	ACC All-Access	Hawks Pregame	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Oklahoma City Thunder. (N) (Live)	Hawks Postgame	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Oklahoma City Thunder.					
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Christmas at Holly Lodge" (2017, Drama) Alison Sweeney.	"Christmas Under Wraps" (2014, Children's) Candace Cameron Bure, David O'Donnell. A doctor discovers an Alaskan town's holiday secret.	"The Christmas Cottage" (2017, Drama) Merritt Patterson, Steve Lund. A cynical designer decorates the romantic Christmas cottage.	"Christmas Incorporated" (2015)						
HGTV	39	112	House Hunters	House Hunters	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper
HIST	45	110	Ancient Aliens	Ancient Aliens	Ancient Aliens "Shiva the Destroyer"	Ancient Aliens "The Alien Disks"	(:03) Ancient Aliens "Destination Mars"	(:03) Ancient Aliens	Ancient Aliens			
ION	13	18	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Responsible" A student dies at a party.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Florida" Detective Benson's brother.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Florida" Detective Benson's brother.	Terrorists threaten victim's fiancée.	"Pretend" A teenage boy is killed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pretend" A teenage boy is killed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pretend" A teenage boy is killed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pretend" A teenage boy is killed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pretend" A teenage boy is killed.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pretend" A teenage boy is killed.
LIFE	50	145	(6:00) "Wrapped Up in Christmas" (2017) Tatiana Ali, Brendan Fehr.	Bring It! "Fan Chat: Battle for Oz" Oz-inspired choreography challenge. (N)	Bring It! "Fan Chat: Battle for Oz" Oz-inspired choreography challenge. (N)	Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate. (N)	(:02) The Rap Game "Holiday Remix" Jaw-dropping moments from the series.	(:03) Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate.	(:03) Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate.	(:03) Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate.	(:03) Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate.	(:03) Bring It! Coach D and the Dancing Dolls celebrate.
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	The Loud House	SpongeBob	** "Megamind" (2010, Children's) Voices of Will Ferrell, Brad Pitt.	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince
SPIKE	64	153	Friends	Friends	Friends	** "Pretty Woman" (1990) Richard Gere. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort.	Love Actually					
SYFY	58	152	(5:00) ** "The Lone Ranger" (2013, Western) Johnny Depp. (DVS)	Futurama "War Is the H-Word"	Futurama "The Cynic Woman"	Futurama "Parasites"	Futurama	Futurama "Bendless Futurama"	Futurama "That's Lobstermation!"	Futurama "That's Lobstermation!"	Futurama "That's Lobstermation!"	Futurama "That's Lobstermation!"
TBS	24	156	Family Guy (DVS)	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Surprise! Instant Xmas Carol!: Celebrity carolers hit the road. (DVS)	Snoop Dogg: Joker's Wild	Drop the Mic
TCM	49	186	(5:15) *** "Guys and Dolls" (1955) Marlon Brando, Jean Simmons.	** "Christmas in Connecticut" (1945, Comedy) Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan. A newspaper columnist is made to play host to a war hero.	** "Remember the Night" (1940, Romance-Comedy) Barbara Stanwyck, Fred MacMurray. An assistant DA takes a shoplifter home for the holidays.	*** "Meet Me in St. Louis" (2015)						
TLC	43	157	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.	Untold Stories of the E.R.: "Punched!"	Untold Stories of the E.R.: Holiday ER	Santa Sent Me to the ER	Untold Stories of the E.R.: Holiday ER	Santa Sent Me to the ER	Untold Stories of the E.R.: Holiday ER	Santa Sent Me to the ER	Santa Sent Me to the ER
TNT	23	158	How the Grinch Stole Christmas	*** "The Wizard of Oz" (1939, Children's) Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger. A tornado whisks a Kansas farm girl to a magic land. (DVS)	How the Grinch Stole Christmas	How the Grinch Stole Christmas	(:15) ** "A Christmas Carol" (1999, Fantasy) Patrick Stewart, Richard E. Grant. Crotchety Ebenezer Scrooge experiences a holiday epiphany. (DVS)	(12:15) ** "McFarland, USA"				
TRUTV	38	129	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	(:36) M*A*S*H	(:12) Everybody Loves Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Mom	Mom	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens
USA	25	132	Modern Family (DVS)	Modern Family (DVS)	Modern Family "Door to Door"	Modern Family "Hit and Run"	Modern Family "Little Bo Bleep"	Modern Family "Election Day"	Modern Family "Election Day"	Modern Family "Election Day"	Modern Family "Election Day"	Modern Family "Election Day"
WE	68	166	Monk Monk buys a new house.	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars (N)	(12:12) Monk
WGNA	8	172	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Rules/Engagement

'Last Post' offers politics, military action, melodrama

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Does Coke help sell Pepsi? Netflix and Amazon Prime may be the biggest competitors for the streaming market, but sometimes their programming can overlap and complement each other. Viewers of Netflix's gorgeously produced "The Crown" may have more than a passing interest in "The Last Post," debuting on Amazon Prime today.

Both series are knee-deep in the British Empire during its precipitous decline. "Post" is set in the Colony of Aden, now a city in Yemen, in the mid-1960s. The British military is preparing the area for independence, but not fast enough for locals, who begin organizing an insurgency against Her Majesty's forces.

But don't go expecting a purely military/political drama. "Post" opens with the departing base commander Nick Page (Joseph Kennedy) having a flagrant affair with Alison (Jessica Raine), another officer's wife who's often seen hitting the bottle and repeatedly listening to "Love Letters."

The base reflects a little bit of Britain in the barren desert, complete with wives, family and plenty of drinking and other behaviors considered abominations by the predominantly Islamic population.

A hotbed in at least two meanings of the word, the base reluctantly welcomes new commander Joe Martin (Jeremy Neumark Jones) and his wife, Honor (Jessie Buckley), a naive and pleasant woman who falls under the influence of the adulterous Alison. Honor is also inclined to befriend people without regard to rank or status, a fact that does not sit well with her careerist spouse.

All this hanky-panky takes place as hostile forces gather outside the gates, growing more organized and well-armed, a shocking development to colonial overlords unused to change.

"Post" offers an engaging blend of politics, military action and melodrama — a rarity, considering that much entertainment seems deliberately aimed at gender-specific audiences. Soaps and rom-coms for women and blow-'em-ups for the guys.

Don't go looking for the expensive sets and costumes of "The Crown." The desert is exotic yet spare and, but for the Beach Club, the base is a pretty barebones cement block. But there's clearly enough going on to keep viewers hooked.

- Netflix begins streaming the third season of "Fuller House" (TV-Y7) as well as "Bright" (TV-MA), a movie thriller starring Will Smith. Netflix knows many of its viewers came of age in the 1990s, a time when every Will Smith and Adam Sandler movie was a hit.

- CBS goes deep into its vault for the holidays, unspooling repeat annual treats, the "I Love Lucy Christmas Special" (8 p.m., TV-G) and "The Dick Van Dyke Show — Now in Living Color!" (9 p.m., TV-G), from the 1950s and '60s, respectively.

- "Eric Idle's the Entire Universe" (10 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings) blends informed talk about cosmology from British physicist Brian Cox with comedy, song and dance. Astronaut Tim Peake has a cameo.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- A secret divides Jane and Weller on "Blindspot" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- Dean Cain hosts "Masters of Illusion: Christmas Magic" (8 p.m., CW, r, TV-PG).
- Katharine McPhee ("American Idol," "Scorpion") stars as a doomed spouse in the 2017 thriller "The Lost Wife of Robert Durst" (8 p.m., Lifetime Movie Channel).
- Fitz's mission is revealed on "Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." (9 p.m., ABC, TV-14).
- Kevin Frazier and Keltie Knight host the "Greatest Holiday Commercials Countdown 2017" (9 p.m., CW, r, TV-PG).
- Danny goes all out to clear a client's name on "Blue Bloods" (10 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

CULT CHOICE

Judy Garland met her husband, director Vincente Minnelli, on the set of the 1944 MGM musical "Meet Me in St. Louis" (midnight, TCM), the



MATT KENNEDY / NETFLIX
Will Smith, left, and Joel Edgerton star in the action-thriller film "Bright," now streaming on Netflix.

film that introduced wartime listeners to a melancholy holiday tune about loss and separation, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

SERIES NOTES

Ramsay reveals the series' most popular recipes on a two-hour "Hell's Kitchen" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * A better cup of joe on "Shark Tank" (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * A two-hour

"Dateline" (9 p.m., NBC) * "20/20" (10 p.m., ABC).

LATE NIGHT

Rachel Maddow and Ben Platt are on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Anderson Cooper, Andy Cohen, Issa Rae and Dram featuring Bigbubymom on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) * Jack Black, Kirk Herbstreit,

Desmond Howard, Lee Corso and Walk the Moon appear on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" (11:35 p.m., ABC, r) * Sarah Paulson, Judd Apatow, Grant Morrison and Mark Guiliana visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC, r) * Krysten Ritter and Josh Hutcherson appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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SATURDAY EVENING DECEMBER 23

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	Football Night in America (N) (Live)			(20) NFL Football Minnesota Vikings at Green Bay Packers. NFC North rivals meet for the second time this season when the Packers host the Vikings. Minnesota clinched the NFC North last week with a 34-7 home victory over Cincinnati. Green Bay looks to even the season series after a 23-10 loss in Week 6. (N) (Live)			WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	Saturday Night Live		
WLTX	19	9	9	Inside Edition Weekend (N)	Paid Program Paid programming.	NCIS: New Orleans "Let It Ride" Pride and the team try to trap Garcia. (DVS)	48 Hours			News 19 at 11pm (N)	Blue Bloods "Worst Case Scenario" A threat to New York may be imminent. (DVS)		
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Home for the Holidays"	Jeopardy!	The Great Christmas Light Fight A wireless light show and more.			Ten Days in the Valley "Day 7: Breaking the Story" Jane and Bird revisit the scene. (N) (DVS)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) American Ninja Warrior "Las Vegas Finals" Stage 1 continues. (Part 3 of 6)		
WRJA	27	11	14	The Crimson Field Grace is threatened by a commander.	Father Brown "The Owl of Minerva" A fugitive asks for help.	The Doctor Blake Mysteries "The Open Road" A mechanic is found dead.			Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries "Blood and Circuses" A carnival act is murdered in town.	Austin City Limits "Tom Waits" A 1979 performance by Tom Waits.	Bluegrass Underground "Kasey Chambers"		
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory "The Euclid Alternative"	The Big Bang Theory	The Gifted "eXit strategy" The mutants devise plans for a takeover. (DVS)	Lethal Weapon "Born to Run" The death of a celebrity's bodyguard.			WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Panthers Huddle With Ron Rivera	Hell's Kitchen "Raising the Bar" A dinner service with chef tables.	Ring of Honor Wrestling
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing The father of Kristen's baby returns.	Last Man Standing Vanessa wants a quiet Christmas.	Rookie Blue "For Better, For Worse" Andy and Nick share an intimate moment.	Saving Hope "Ride Hard or Go Home" Gavin crosses the line with a patient. (DVS)			Leverage "The Radio Job" The team stages a hostage stand-off.	Impractical Jokers A sensitivity training session.	Impractical Jokers Share shameful secrets in the park.	Impractical Jokers Settling senseless debates in the mall.
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	(5:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 12.15.17" Riding along with law enforcement.			Live PD: Rewind "Live PD: Rewind No. 73" (N)			Live PD "Live PD -- 10.21.17" Riding along with law enforcement.			Live PD: Rewind	
AMC	48	180	(5:30) ** "This Christmas" (2007) Delroy Lindo, Idris Elba.			*** "Scrooged" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe. TV-network bigshot meets Christmas ghosts.			** "A Christmas Carol" (1984, Children's) George C. Scott, Angela Pleasence, Edward Woodward. Christmas Eve spiritual visitations enlighten an old miser.				
ANPL	41	100	Waiting For A Forever Home			Waiting For A Forever Home			(:07) Pit Bulls and Parolees (N)			Pit Bulls-Parole	
BET	61	162	(5:25) ** "Woman Thou Art Loosed" (2004) Kimberly Elise.			** "War Room" (2015, Drama) Priscilla Shirer, T.C. Stallings, Karen Abercrombie. Premiere. A woman turns to prayer to save her failing marriage.			(:09) Pit Bulls and Parolees "Hounded"			Forest Whitaker. A teen goes to New York to spend Christmas with relatives.	
BRAVO	47	181	(6:14) Vanderpump Rules			(:16) The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills The ladies let loose in Sin City.			(:18) *** "Bridesmaids" (2011, Comedy) Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, Rose Byrne. A maid of honor's life unravels as the big day approaches.			(10:54) *** "Bridesmaids" (2011) Kristen Wiig. A maid of honor's life unravels as the big day approaches.	
CNBC	35	84	American Greed "Pain Killer Profits"			American Greed			American Greed			American Greed	
CNN	3	80	CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera (N)			The Seventies "What's Goin' On"			The Seventies "Crimes and Cults"			The Seventies	
COM	57	136	(5:15) ** "Happy Gilmore" (1996) Mickey Mouse			(25) ** "The Longest Yard" (2005, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Burt Reynolds. Prisoners train for a football game against the guards.			* "Blended" (2014, Romance-Comedy) Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore, Joel McHale. Premiere. Two single-parent families are stuck together at a resort.				
DISN	18	200	Hotel Transylvania: The Series			*** "Frozen" (2013, Children's) Voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff.			(:45) LEGO Frozen Northern Lights			Walk the Prank MECH-X4 "Ultimate Cmas Present"	
DSC	42	103	Dirty Jobs "Maple Syrup Maker"			Alaskan Bush People "A Very Brown Christmas in Alaska" (N)						Alaskan Bush People "Raised Wild" Alaskan Bush	
ESPN	26	35	College Football Dollar General Bowl -- Appalachian State vs Toledo. (N) (Live)						SportsCenter (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	27	39	(6:30) SportsCenter Basketball			College Basketball Illinois vs Missouri. From Scottrade Center in St. Louis. (N)			College Basketball			E:60	
FOOD	40	109	Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives			Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives			Eat, Sleep, BBQ Diners, Drive			Diners, Drive Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	
FOXN	37	90	Fox Report (N)			Watters' World (N)			Justice With Judge Jeanine (N)			The Greg Gutfeld Show (N) Watters' World Justice Judge	
FREE	20	131	(10) *** "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid. A traditional Griswold yuletide backfires in comic fashion.			(:20) ** "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (2000, Children's) Jim Carrey, Jeffrey Tambor, Christine Baranski. A curmudgeon hates the Christmas-loving Whos of Whoville.						"Disney's A Christmas Carol" (2009)	
FSS	21	47	Hawks Pregame NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Atlanta Hawks. From Philips Arena in Atlanta. (N) (Live)						Hawks Postgame Boxing 30 (N)			NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Atlanta Hawks.	
HALL	52	183	(6:00) "Christmas Next Door" (2017) Jesse Metcalfe, Fiona Gubelmann.			"Christmas Getaway" (2017, Romance) Bridget Regan, Travis Van Winkle. Premiere. A travel writer decides to go on a Christmas trip, alone.			"A Royal Christmas" (2014, Romance) Lacey Chabert, Stephen Hagan, Jane Seymour. A queen does not want her son to marry a commoner.			"A Wish for Christmas" (2016)	
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers at Home: Drew's			Property Brothers at Home: Drew's			Property Brothers "Miles Apart"			House Hunters Hunters Int'l Property Brothers	
HIST	45	110	Pawn Stars			Pawn Stars "A Very Vegas Christmas"			Pawn Stars "Another Christmas Story" (:03) Pawn Stars (:33) Pawn Stars			(:03) Pawn Stars (:33) Pawn Stars (12:03) Pawn Stars	
ION	13	18	"Christmas Mail" (2010, Romance-Comedy) Ashley Scott, A.J. Buckley, Rolonda Watts. A mail carrier falls for a woman who answers letters to Santa Claus.			"A Prince for Christmas" (2015, Romance) Viva Bianca, Kirk Barker, Aaron O'Connell. A prince from Europe meets a charming waitress.			"A Perfect Christmas List" (2014) Ellen Hollman. A woman plays peacemaker for her daughter and granddaughter.			** "Bruce Almighty" (2003)	
LIFE	50	145	(6:00) "Dear Santa" (2011, Drama) Amy Acker, Brooklynn Proulx.			** "The Holiday" (2006, Romance-Comedy) Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law. Two women from different countries swap homes at Christmas.			(:02) Little Women: LA Stephanie and Terra disagree.			(12:01) ** "The Holiday"	
MSNBC	36	92	The Rachel Maddow Show			The Last Word			Lockup: Long Island- Extended Stay			Lockup: Long Island- Extended Stay Lockup: Tampa	
NICK	16	210	"Tiny Christmas" (2017) Jonathan A. Rosenbaum.			Nicky, Ricky			Full House			Fresh Prince Friends Friends Friends	
SPIKE	64	153	(5:30) *** "Rush Hour" (1998) *** "The Hangover" (2009, Comedy) Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms, Zach Galifianakis.						*** "Rush Hour" (1998, Action) Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker.				
SYFY	58	152	*** "Men in Black" (1997, Action) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith, Linda Fiorentino. Secret agents monitor extraterrestrial activity on Earth.			*** "Men in Black" (1997, Action) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith, Linda Fiorentino. Secret agents monitor extraterrestrial activity on Earth.			Futurama "The Tip of the Zoidberg" Futurama "Cold Warriors" Futurama				
TBS	24	156	Seinfeld "The Race" Seinfeld "The Gum" Seinfeld "The Strike" The Big Bang Theory			The Big Bang Theory			The Big Bang Theory			Full Frontal With Samantha Bee Search Party "Frenzy" Search Party "Psychosis"	
TCM	49	186	(5:00) *** "King of Kings" (1961) Jeffrey Hunter, Siobhan McKenna.			*** "The Quiet Man" (1952, Drama) John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara, Barry Fitzgerald. An Irish-American returns to Ireland to claim his home.			*** "My Favorite Wife" (1940) Irene Dunne. A presumed-dead wife returns to find her husband remarried.			"By the Light of the Silvery Moon"	
TLC	43	157	Say Yes, Dress Say Yes, Dress			Say Yes, Dress			Say Yes, Dress			Say Yes, Dress Say Yes, Dress Say Yes, Dress	
TNT	23	158	(5:45) *** "Cinderella" (2015) Cate Blanchett, Lily James. (DVS)			*** "The Wizard of Oz" (1939, Children's) Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger. A tornado whisks a Kansas farm girl to a magic land. (DVS)			(:15) ** "Maleficent" (2014, Fantasy) Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning. A terrible betrayal turns Maleficent's pure heart to stone. (DVS)			** "Bruce Almighty" (2003)	
TRUTV	38	129	Impractical Jokers Impractical Jokers			Hack My Life Hack My Life Hack My Life Hack My Life			Impractical Jokers Impractical Jokers			Impractical Jokers Impractical Jokers Impractical Jokers	
TV LAND	55	161	The Golden Girls The Golden Girls			Love-Raymond Love-Raymond Love-Raymond Love-Raymond			Mom Mom			King of Queens King of Queens King of Queens	
USA	25	132	(6:00) ** "G.I. Joe: Retaliation" (2013) Dwayne Johnson. Threats from within the government jeopardize the G.I. Joe's.			*** "Thor" (2011, Action) Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Anthony Hopkins. Cast out of Asgard, the Norse god lands on Earth. (DVS)			Modern Family "White Christmas" Modern Family (DVS) Modern Family "Arrested"				
WE	68	166	Criminal Minds "Open Season"			Criminal Minds "Legacy"			Criminal Minds			Criminal Minds "In Birth and Death" Criminal Minds	
WGNA	8	172	Blue Bloods "Most Wanted"			Blue Bloods "Shoot the Messenger"			Blue Bloods "Power of the Press"			Blue Bloods "Under the Gun" Bones "The Maggots in the Meathead" Bones	

Hallmark airs yet another original Christmas movie

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

No excess is too much when it comes to Christmas. But Hallmark may have outdone itself. It has not only been airing Christmas movies since before Halloween, it has also been essentially broadcasting the very same Christmas movie over and over again, presenting contrived tales of perfect-looking people thrown together by happenstance just in time for a clutch under the mistletoe.

But who wants surprises around the holidays? Hallmark clearly has a faithful audience.

Saturday brings us "Christmas Getaway" (8 p.m., TV-PG), about a travel writer (Bridget Regan) stranded for the holidays with a widower (Travis Van Winkle, "The Last Ship") and his cute-as-a-button daughter.

The only thing that distinguishes this romantic comedy from the onslaught that preceded it is the fact that "Getaway" has to be the last original Hallmark Christmas movie of the year. We'll just have to wait until October 2018 to see another "new" one.

• Viewers hoping to escape the tinsel avalanche have some streaming options. As reviewed in this space yesterday, Amazon Prime's "The Last Post" offers much for fans of "The Crown" to enjoy. Set in the British colonial outpost of Aden (now a city in Yemen) in the mid-1960s, "Outpost" follows soldiers and their wives on a besieged military base during the waning days of the British Empire. Bored wives console themselves with bed-hopping and booze, while their husbands slowly come to realize the growing insurgent threat to their colonial toehold in the oil-rich region. Period clothes and music offer stark contrast to the eternal desert all around them.

• Netflix offers an escape to sunnier climes with the overlooked 2014 thriller "The Two Faces of January." Based on a novel by Patricia Highsmith ("Strangers on a Train," "The Talented Mr. Ripley"), "January" is set in 1962 in Greece, where a young tour guide and petty con man (Oscar Isaac) takes up with an American businessman (Viggo Mortensen) and his younger wife (Kirsten Dunst). As in many Highsmith stories, the



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When a reservation mix-up at a mountain resort forces newly single travel writer Emory Blake (Bridget Regan) to share a cabin with handsome widower Scott Hays (Travis Van Winkle) and his daughter over the holidays, their lives are transformed by the magic of Christmas and the power of love in "Christmas Getaway," airing at 8 p.m. today on Hallmark.

characters seem almost competitively amoral.

"January" makes the most of its Greek scenery and attractive cast. If first-time director Hossein Amini seems to evoke Hitchcock, Isaac may remind some viewers of Al Pacino circa "The Godfather, Part II," projecting both passion and calculating intensity with more than a whiff of malice. Fans of smart, stylish thrillers may find "January" the perfect antidote to a December night with "nothing" new to watch.

• NBC airs the 1946 Frank Capra fable "It's A Wonderful Life" (8 p.m. Sunday, TV-G), as it has for decades.

"Wonderful Life" is such a well-established tradition that even the backlash to the movie has gotten a little long in the tooth.

There's a memorable Christmas episode of "The Sopranos" when a grumpy Tony recoils from a repeat of "It's a Wonderful Life" and growls, "Enough already!" But that episode, "To Save Us All From Satan's Power," aired in 2001. A long time ago.

To put that in pop cultural perspective, the episode featured a glance at "Big Mouth Billy Bass," the singing gag gift popular for about 5 seconds

some 16 Christmases ago.

"Saturday Night Live" parodied the movie with a classic skit. "It's a Wonderful Life: The Lost Ending." But that was back in the day when Dana Carvey, Dennis Miller, Jon Lovitz and the late Jan Hooks and Phil Hartman were the core of the cast.

The skit was introduced by William Shatner on the Dec. 20, 1986, show. In the same episode, Shatner appeared in another classic skit, exhorting a roomful of "Star Trek" enthusiasts to "get a life!"

Here's to all of us getting a life, and a wonderful life at that. Merry Christmas, 2017!

SATURDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

• A winner emerges on "The Great Christmas Light Fight" (8

p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG).

• Han Solo and crew face new dangers in the face of Kylo Ren in the 2015 adventure "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" (8 p.m. Starz), starring Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Adam Driver and Daisy Ridley.

• Jane learns shocking news about Gus on day seven of "Ten Days in the Valley" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-14).

SUNDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

• CMT offers viewers five consecutive chances to watch the 2003 Christmas-themed romantic comedy "Love Actually" (noon to 3 a.m. Monday).

• Scheduled on "60 Minutes" (7 p.m., CBS): saving sacred texts from ISIS vandals; Japanese baseball phenomenon Shohei Ohtani; the island

home to Scotland's best single-malt whiskies.

• TBS offers viewers 12 chances to watch "A Christmas Story" (8 p.m. Sunday through 8 p.m. Monday).

• ABC celebrates Christmas Eve with a generational touchstone, the 1991 animated musical "Beauty and the Beast" (8 p.m., TV-PG).

• CBS repeats airings of "I Love Lucy" (8 p.m., TV-G) and "The Dick Van Dyke Show — Now in Living Color!" (9 p.m. TV-G).

• A chance to leave the naughty list on "Ice Age: Mammoth Christmas" (8:30 p.m., Fox, r, TV-PG).

CULT CHOICE

Long associated with the holiday, "The Bells of St. Mary's" (10 p.m. Sunday, TCM), starring Ingrid Bergman and Bing Crosby, features a Christmas pageant, but is not really a Christmas movie. It has been mentioned in other classic films, including "It's a Wonderful Life" and "The Godfather." Its title song, sung by Bing Crosby, has been released by dozens of artists, from Chet Atkins to Sister Rosetta Tharpe. A version by The Drifters can be heard in "Goodfellas."

SUNDAY SERIES

Krusty and his daughter share Christmas with "The Simpsons" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-PG) * Peter plays Santa on "Family Guy" (9 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * Holiday spirit on "Bob's Burgers" (9:30 p.m., Fox, r, TV-PG) * Ex-Yankee Alex Rodriguez appears on "Shark Tank" (10 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * Deep blue something on "Blue Bloods" (10 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

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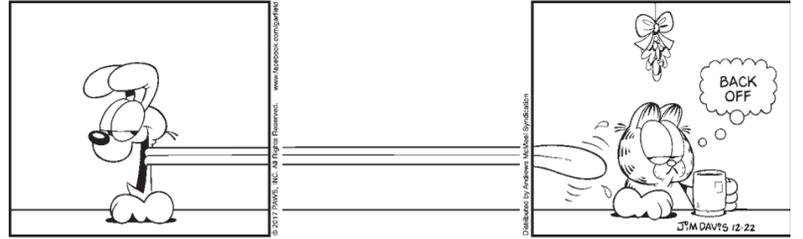
SOUP TO NUTZ



ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



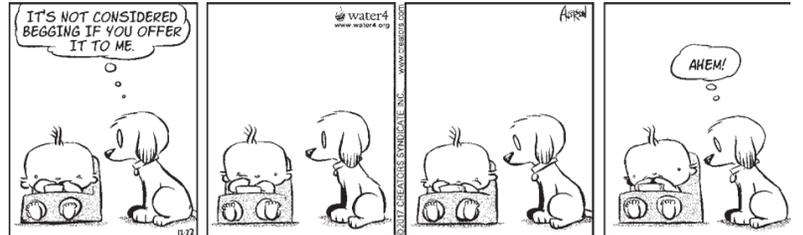
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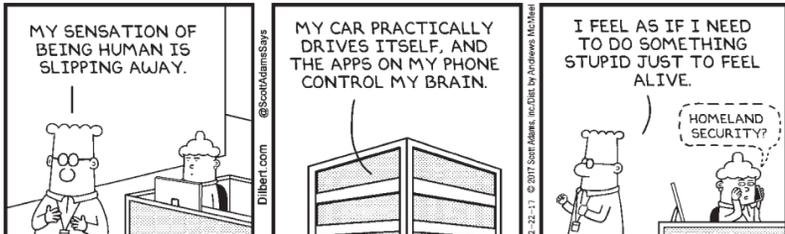
MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Vacation plans are tripped up by broken ankle



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — I had planned a trip to Europe with my friend "Elizabeth," a friend of hers and Elizabeth's daughter. The plan was I would share rooms with Elizabeth. We paid for the hotels in advance.

Shortly before our scheduled departure I fell, broke my ankle and couldn't go. We tried unsuccessfully to obtain some kind of refunds and travel insurance paid only if the accident happened while we were ac-

tually traveling. I was out \$2,000. Elizabeth's friend offered me \$500. Elizabeth, feeling some obligation, also offered me \$500. I feel guilty taking Elizabeth's money because she paid for herself and her daughter. I think the other woman should give me at least half — not just \$500 — because she derived 100 percent of the benefit. Also, she has never reached out to me directly at all.

No money has been received at this point. Should I just write it off? Or am I wrong to expect some of the money back?

Money woes in the East

DEAR MONEY WOES — Yes, you are wrong. Nobody

owes you anything. Accidents happen but the broken ankle was your bad luck. It was generous of Elizabeth and her friend to offer you any money at all. My advice is to accept it graciously, write the rest off, and stop looking for someone to be mad at.

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

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

NANLU

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BKALE

AGAMDE

CYWRES

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: INEPT KNELT IMPACT NOTARY

Answer: The marsupial couple vacationed together to get some — "KOALA-TY" TIME



THERE'S A JUMBLE CARTOON EACH DAY BECAUSE THE ARTIST HAS NEVER

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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						
54	55	56			57			58		59		60	61	62
63				64						65				
66								67				68		
69									70				71	

Paul Cuerdon

- ACROSS**
- 1 Plodded (through)
 - 6 Dies down
 - 10 Not quite shut
 - 14 Where something can be set for later
 - 15 Protected at sea
 - 16 Queen of Heaven
 - 17 "The terrible tsar has arrived," either way?
 - 20 Gambit
 - 21 Field: NYC stadium
 - 22 QB Peyton Manning has an NFL passing record 539 of them
 - 23 "I could — horse!"
 - 25 "Sommersby" actor
 - 27 Disappointed reaction to the censored version of "Fifty Shades of Grey," either way?
 - 32 Amused initialism
 - 33 Clumsy boats
 - 34 Sweethearts
 - 37 Eponymous virologist
 - 39 Part of NAFTA
 - 42 Perhaps
 - 43 Hawaiian greeting
 - 45 "The Americans" actress Russell
 - 47 Magic org.?
 - 48 Query about the Cheshire's grin, either way?
 - 52 Chipmaker's prefix
 - 53 A, in many orgs.
 - 54 "who?!"
 - 57 DEA agent
 - 59 Slip away
 - 63 Mrs. Claus' remark about what she did to keep Santa home, either way?
 - 66 Domino
 - 67 Calendario units
 - 68 Springsteen's "Born —"
 - 69 Tuts
 - 70 Wail
 - 71 Innings
- DOWN**
- 1 Measure of power
 - 2 Tibet's place
 - 3 Jockey
 - 4 Polished words
 - 5 Nowhere near the norm
 - 6 Ending with Tyrol
 - 7 Common-interest group
 - 8 Harmless
 - 9 Ready for the curtain to open
 - 10 Sushi tuna
 - 11 Kid
 - 12 Moistureless
 - 13 Traitors
 - 18 Rebel, in a way
 - 19 Like some memes
 - 24 ERA or RBI
 - 26 Coaches' headaches
 - 27 Big cat of film
 - 28 Certain score
 - 29 Give the okay
 - 30 City near Kobe
 - 31 Roulette bets
 - 35 Actor Idris —
 - 36 Sandwich side
 - 38 Medieval Tatar chief
 - 40 Ten up front?
 - 41 Undid
 - 44 Pose in yoga
 - 46 Words just before leaving
 - 49 How Rome wasn't built?
 - 50 Piemonte city
 - 51 Ready to be shipped
 - 54 ERA or RBI
 - 55 An eternity
 - 56 Pass (out)
 - 58 Food on the trail
 - 60 Wine named for an Iberian city
 - 61 Grapes
 - 62 Sicilian mountain
 - 64 Derek and Peep
 - 65 U.K. component
- Previous Puzzle Solved**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | R | E | D | I | T | T | H | A | W | S | M | S | |
| T | E | R | E | S | A | A | I | D | A | H | E | W | |
| S | P | I | N | I | N | G | T | O | Y | A | D | A | |
| S | T | P | A | U | L | A | M | I | N | E | | | |
| S | A | F | E | A | L | P | I | N | E | P | E | A | K |
| P | T | A | A | N | A | S | L | U | E | | | | |
| E | R | R | O | R | S | T | O | R | M | I | N | G | |
| C | A | S | H | M | E | R | E | S | W | E | A | T | E |
| S | P | I | R | A | L | E | D | K | N | A | V | E | |
| | | | | A | N | I | M | U | V | A | L | E | E |
| B | E | S | T | I | N | S | H | O | W | B | Y | R | D |
| A | X | E | S | L | A | M | B | D | A | | | | |
| B | A | A | T | H | E | F | O | U | R | T | O | M | S |
| E | L | M | T | E | E | T | G | N | O | M | E | S | |
| S | T | Y | I | M | P | S | S | O | N | A | T | A | |