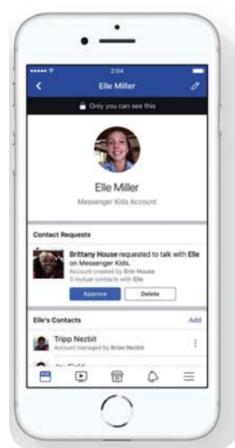


In sports: *Crestwood hosts Hartsville in basketball*

B1



Child experts: Just say 'no' to Facebook's kids app

A8

1 pleads guilty in Tony's Guns robbery

Store owner hopes 2nd suspect is brought to justice

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
 adrienne@theitem.com

The owner of Tony's Guns and Police Supply is relieved to know one of the suspects who broke into his business

and stole \$20,000 in handguns in 2016 pleaded guilty to federal charges last week.
 "That's good news," said gun store owner Tony Ashy about 24-year-old Cedric Reddick's guilty plea.
 Reddick and a co-defendant are charged with smashing display cases filled with firearms and filling bags with 69 handguns before leaving through the front door on foot on Aug. 5. The incident was recorded on a surveillance camera.

Though he is relieved, Ashy wants the other suspect to come to justice and all of the firearms to be found.
 Ashy, who opened the store in 1990, said he had not had problems at the store until recent years. The gun store was robbed in July 2012 when at least two men allegedly stole numerous weapons. No arrests have been made yet in that incident, according to Sumter County Sheriff's Office.
 You're a target when you have a business and you try your best to make it se-

cure, he said.
 You put a lock on the door to keep honest people out, he said, but if someone wants to get in, they will find a way.
 There is only so much you can do for security because people who want to do wrong are always ahead of you, Ashy said. If they would spend their time on more productive things, they would not be in jail, he said.
 Reddick pleaded guilty to conspiracy

SEE TONY'S, PAGE A7

Welcome to the neighborhood

New Walmart market opens on Pinewood Road today

BY KAYLA ROBINS
 kayla@theitem.com

Pinewood and McCrays Mill area residents now have a new place to buy their groceries and fuel up, and this new store also has an option not found at the company's other locations in Sumter County.

The new Walmart Neighborhood Market that opens today at 7:30 a.m. at 343 Pinewood Road marks the first of the now three Walmarts in Sumter that offers free Online Grocery Pickup.

"They just pull up, and after they've chosen what they want online, it's processed, and they're given a time bracket. They let us know when they're here, and we walk the products out to the car," Store Manager Adam Bunker said. "Of course, we'll show them, all their perishables in terms of produce. We'll show them their eggs and if they want anything specially showed to you. We load it into the vehicle, and you can be off and running."

Bunker, who has been with Walmart for 11 years after eight years of service with the U.S. Marine Corps, said the new layout of the store and the Online Grocery Pickup are aimed toward making

SEE WALMART, PAGE A7



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

An employee stacks boxes of fruit in the produce section of the new Walmart Neighborhood Market set to open this morning.

YOU'RE INVITED

The first 100 customers to shop at the new Walmart Neighborhood Market will receive a free 20-ounce travel tumbler.

WHERE: 343 Pinewood Road

WHEN: Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

REGULAR HOURS: 6 a.m. to midnight daily

FUEL STATION HOURS: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

OTHER GRAND OPENING FESTIVITIES: Vendor tents, product samples, dignitaries attending, performances from the Sumter High School band, a flag raising with the school's ROTC

Shopping list

- New Walmart by the numbers
- ✓ 95 new jobs created
- ✓ 132 total employees
- ✓ 40,000 items available for Online Grocery Pickup
- ✓ 8 fuel pumps
- ✓ 12 check-out registers
- ✓ 43,000 square feet of store
- ✓ \$13.57 average hourly wage made by a full-time employee in South Carolina

Superintendent to add new purchasing rules for district administrators

BY BRUCE MILLS
 bruce@theitem.com

In a move to increase transparency, Sumter School District's acting Superintendent Debbie Hamm has agreed to include new rules for administrators in the district's purchasing policy.

District Board of Trustee and Finance Committee Chairman Johnny Hilton announced the agreement and action Monday night at the board's regular meeting at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road. Because the new administrative rules are not nec-

essarily policy changes, Hilton said the board didn't have to officially vote on them Monday.

Hilton and the board's Finance Committee agreed earlier to the list of changes or recommendations in administrative rules regarding purchases. The new rules for administrators come after the district had various findings in its first procurement audit in December 2016.

Highlights of the new administrative rules are that the district will



HAMM

have a procurement audit every fiscal year — instead of the state requirement of every three years — and that the trustees will receive an email notification when the need for an emergency procurement arises. Previously, board members were not formally notified.

"It's going to make procurement more transparent to the board, provide more information to the board, plus we will have an annual audit as opposed to an audit every three years," Hilton said.

Other recommendations that will be included are that emergency pro-

curements should only be made in the case of an actual emergency and that there will be improved training and communication for district staff for handling small purchases — considered less than \$2,500 — with purchase orders.

After Sumter's two school districts consolidated into one district in July 2011, it received a two-year grace period from the state Department of Education before a procurement audit was necessary. Given the state

SEE DISTRICT, PAGE A7

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DEATHS, B5

Martha A. Jackson
 Patricia A. Hodge
 Kenneth James
 Rakeshkumar D. Parekh

WEATHER, A10

SUNSHADES AND A COAT NEEDED
 Plenty of sunshine today; clear and cold tonight.
HIGH 51, LOW 31

INSIDE

3 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES
 VOL. 123, NO. 74

Opinion A9 Panorama C1
 Classifieds B6 Food C4
 Comics C2 Television C3





SECOND FRONT

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

Johnny's Garden not damaged after car fire



VINCE JOHNSON / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter Fire Department responds to a car on fire at Johnny's Garden Juice Bar on Monday.

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

Anyone who may have been in the market for a healthy smoothie or juice for lunch on Monday may have been prevented from doing so by a scene of smoke and flames.

A vehicle erupted with fire in the parking lot in front of Johnny's Garden Juice Bar, 504 Miller Road, about 11:35 a.m. on Monday, bringing the Sumter Fire Department to the scene for almost an hour, according to an incident report.

The fire apparently began in the en-

gine compartment of a 2008 Nissan Altima and was confined to that area but not before emitting visible smoke throughout the lot.

A cause of the fire is not yet known, according to the report.

Damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$3,500, and about \$1,000 was thought to have been saved.

The building did not sustain any damage.

According to the narrative in the report by the fire department's Judson Coker, there was a delay in response time to the scene because the units had to come from training grounds.

LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Family of 8 displaced by house fire in South Sumter

A family of eight has been displaced after an electrical fire damaged their South Sumter home on Monday.

Eight Sumter Fire Department personnel responded to the 1,200-square-foot residence in the 1200 block of Coffey Street just before noon on Monday to find "light smoke showing," according to an incident report.

The blaze is thought to have started in the bathroom and was contained to the area of origin, according to the report.

About \$10,000 in damage to the structure was estimated, and about \$3,000 in contents were thought to have been destroyed, while \$35,000 of the structure and \$6,000 of contents were saved.

Three adults and five children are being assisted by American Red Cross volunteers, who are providing food, clothing, lodging and other essentials such as personal hygiene items.

2 burned, 1 critically, in Cherryvale stove fire

Two adults were injured, one with critical burns, when their stove caught fire in Cherryvale on Sunday.

An alarm was received at 11:35 p.m. on Sunday for a fire in the 4000 block of Eleanor Drive in the community off Broad Street near Shaw Air Force Base, according to a Sumter Fire Department incident report.

The fire is thought to have started on the stove when one of the two occupants "went to move the pot and spilled grease," a firefighter wrote in the report.

No damage to the house was reported though an adult male and female were transported to Augusta Burn Center, according to Sumter County EMS Director Bobby Hingst.

Hingst said one person was in critical condition because of the burns, while the other was stable. He said he had not heard an update of their condition since they were transported.

Ceremonial cannon rounds to be fired during ceremony

Soldiers from U.S. Army Central command are scheduled to fire multiple ceremonial cannon rounds on Thursday and Friday.

The soldiers will fire three rounds between 10 a.m. and noon on Thursday and 2 and 3 p.m. Friday. The firings are part of a general officer promotion ceremony and are not expected to be heard by the majority of the Sumter community.

For additional information, questions can be directed to the 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office at 20FWPublicAffairs@us.af.mil or (803) 895-2019.

Historian, activist will speak at library

BY IVY MOORE
Special to The Sumter Item

Sumter County Library will begin its observance of Black History Month with a presentation by George E. Frierson III on "Heroes and Unsung Heroes, Men of Courage and Power" on Saturday, Feb. 10. The 3 p.m. program in the library's main meeting room, adjacent to the children's department, is free and open to the public.

Frierson, a native of Alcolu, is a historian and activist who is perhaps best known for leading the movement that in 2014 exonerated George Stinney Jr., a 14-year-old black youth convicted and executed in 1944 for the killing of two young white girls. He continues to study and lecture on the history and contributions of black Americans during all periods in American history.

The Feb. 10 program will focus on the period surrounding the American Revolution. "... (bringing) to light some of the unsung heroes that are not commonly published or known to the average citizen."

Frierson noted that "America received its independence in 1776, and there are many great men and women who made this achievement possible ... However, there were many unsung and unknown persons of African descent who were also pillars and backbones in the birth of this nation."

Born in Alcolu, Frierson was educated in the Clarendon County public school system, holds college degrees in accounting and business management and served honorably in the U.S. Army. He has served as treasurer of the Clarendon County Democratic Party and vice chairman of the Clarendon County School District 3 Board of Trustees and is a chaplain with the South Carolina Caucus of

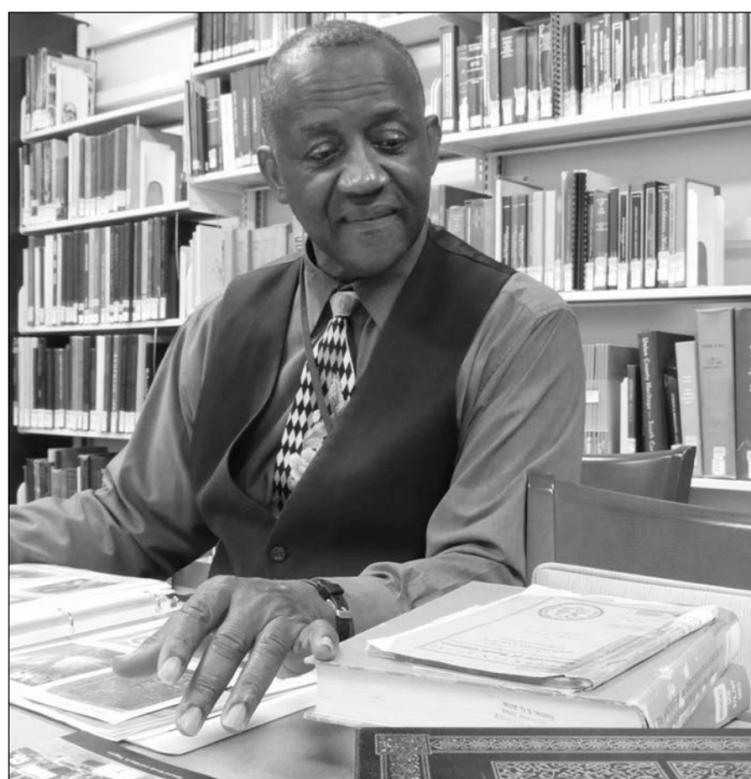


PHOTO PROVIDED

Historian and activist George E. Frierson III will open Sumter County Library's celebration of Black History Month on Feb. 10 with a presentation titled "Heroes and Unsung Heroes, Men of Courage and Power."

Black School Board Members.

A lifelong member of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Alcolu, Frierson is married to the former Laura Brayboy, and they have three children.

Frierson cites "reading, reading, reading" as his favorite hobby along with a passion for history. He continues his work in promoting Black History year round with lectures on the full achievements of blacks in history.

WANT TO GO?

Sumter County Library presents historian George E. Frierson III speaking on "Heroes and Unsung Heroes, Men of Courage and Power" at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, in the main meeting room of the library, 111 S. Harvin St. Admission is free, and the public is invited.

For more information, contact Gregory G. Johnson, reference and information services coordinator, at (803) 773-7273, or visit www.sumtercountylibrary.org.

Group warns parents of secondhand smoke dangers

FROM STAFF REPORTS

January is almost over, but it isn't too late to remind parents and grandparents that it is National Birth Defects Prevention Month.

Most women work hard to protect themselves and their unborn child during pregnancy by eating healthily, visiting the doctor and avoiding alcohol and tobacco use. What many don't realize is the risk of secondhand smoke exposure to moms-to-be and unborn babies.

According to a news release from S.C. Tobacco-Free Collaborative,

studies show that secondhand smoke exposure during pregnancy increases the risk of stillbirth (when a fetus dies in the uterus) by 23 percent and increases the risk of birth defects by 13 percent. Exposure to secondhand smoke occurs when a non-tobacco user inhales smoke from people around them — a friend, spouse, grandparent, co-worker, etc.

Not only are birth defects and stillbirths devastating to families, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also estimates birth

defects cost the United States more than \$2.6 billion each year from hospitalizations alone.

Megan Hicks, executive director for the South Carolina Tobacco-Free Collaborative, said she is hopeful that spouses and partners will reach out to community resources to help them quit using tobacco.

South Carolinians can contact the S.C. Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW / 1-800-784-8669 for free one-on-one professional coaching via telephone. Help is also available online at www.quitnow.net/southcarolina.

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Palmetto Health Tuomey expands to increase accessibility

Online portal offers convenient care at low price; new physicians will offer more appointments

FROM PALMETTO HEALTH TUOMEY

No one has time to be sick, and people don't want to spend time waiting around to see a provider when they feel bad. To help meet the need for fast care in Sumter, Palmetto Health Tuomey has grown the Carolina Family Medicine office, and the hospital system also has an online portal, SmartExam, to offer you faster, more convenient ways to get treatment.

One of the new physicians at the practice is Dr. Serena Smith, who joined in 2017. She has a history of working in a government setting, and before that, she had her own practice in Colorado.

"I watched babies and children grow and move on to college and their own careers. I was part of families rejoining and restructuring," Smith said. "I was honored to be allowed into these peoples' lives, struggles and successes."

Now she is proud to serve the Sumter community.

"Our clinic is staffed with experienced, knowledgeable, caring people, focused on keeping patients well," she said. "I am impressed with the awareness our staff attained over the years regarding individual patients, which leads to open communication with the patient and reveals the best ways to educate them on making

healthier choices."

Melanie Jordan, a nurse practitioner, joined Carolina Family Medicine about the same time.

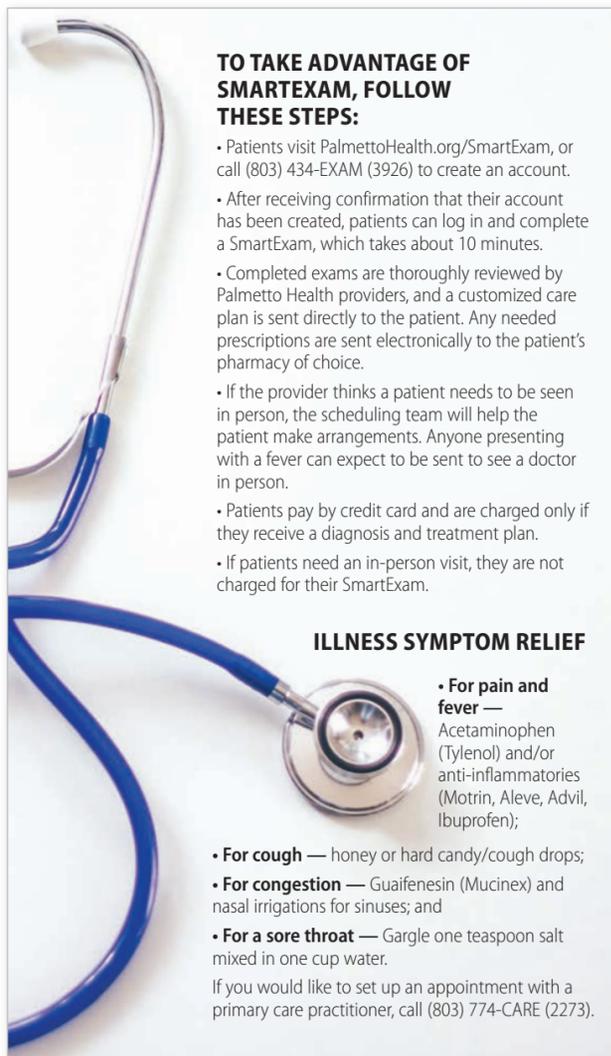
Jordan is new to the Sumter area, but she is not new to the Palmetto Health family. She started her career as a registered nurse 23 years ago. In 2015, she began taking steps to become a practitioner.

One of the biggest obstacles to good health in Sumter is access to a primary care physician, Jordan says.

"In my short time practicing in Sumter, I have become aware of the limited access to health care in the community, particularly primary care," Jordan said. "The majority of my patient population has expressed their concern regarding the limited availability of providers in the community and also share their overwhelming gratitude in being able to establish primary care at our clinic now that it is expanding."

With two new practitioners joining Dr. Kristen Wyrick at the practice, more appointments will be available and patients are able to see a provider faster.

But even with more appointments, there will be times when you are sick and unable to see your doctor — such as the weekend, for example. For those times or



TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SMARTEXAM, FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- Patients visit PalmettoHealth.org/SmartExam, or call (803) 434-EXAM (3926) to create an account.
- After receiving confirmation that their account has been created, patients can log in and complete a SmartExam, which takes about 10 minutes.
- Completed exams are thoroughly reviewed by Palmetto Health providers, and a customized care plan is sent directly to the patient. Any needed prescriptions are sent electronically to the patient's pharmacy of choice.
- If the provider thinks a patient needs to be seen in person, the scheduling team will help the patient make arrangements. Anyone presenting with a fever can expect to be sent to see a doctor in person.
- Patients pay by credit card and are charged only if they receive a diagnosis and treatment plan.
- If patients need an in-person visit, they are not charged for their SmartExam.

ILLNESS SYMPTOM RELIEF

- **For pain and fever** — Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and/or anti-inflammatories (Motrin, Aleve, Advil, Ibuprofen);
- **For cough** — honey or hard candy/cough drops;
- **For congestion** — Guaifenesin (Mucinex) and nasal irrigations for sinuses; and
- **For a sore throat** — Gargle one teaspoon salt mixed in one cup water.

If you would like to set up an appointment with a primary care practitioner, call (803) 774-CARE (2273).

doctor," Jordan said. "In primary care, a good, subjective history of patient's symptoms is a large piece in the diagnosing process. A huge component of SmartExam is to obtain a detailed history from the patient so the provider can treat the patient based on symptoms. With the focus being on minor illnesses that do not always require immediate attention, I think SmartExam is a valuable asset to productive patient care."

The new online service is for minor medical conditions, including colds, sinus pain, sore throats, allergies and skin rashes.

SmartExam is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, including holidays. Responses are provided within one hour between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. The cost for a diagnosis and treatment plan is \$20. If we can't treat you through a SmartExam, there's no charge to you.

However, it is good to remember, even if a doctor treats you, your body will still need time to rid itself of the illness.

"We always want to feel better faster when we're sick," Smith said. "A cold, sore throat, earache, bronchitis, cough, sinus infection are usually viral and take time, usually seven to 10 days, to recover from."

Smith suggests that if you are sick to stay well hydrated and get plenty of rest.

"There is no magic bullet and no pill to make the sickness go away," she said, "but there are steps you take to reduce your symptoms."

when you are experiencing a non-emergency, SmartExam is available on your smartphone, tablet or computer. The easy-to-use portal lets you complete an online interview about your symptoms;

those symptoms are then reviewed by a licensed provider.

"I believe in most (non-emergent) circumstances, using SmartExam can be nearly as effective as seeing a

STATE BRIEF

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Governor urges people to stand for game anthem

COLUMBIA — When the national anthem plays before the Super Bowl on TV screens across South Carolina, the

state's governor is urging residents to stand up.

Republican Henry McMaster issued a proclamation Tuesday designating Feb. 4 as "Stand for the Flag Super Bowl Sunday."

McMaster said in a release that standing for the anthem "recognizes and honors the sacrifice of generations of men and women who have chosen to

serve in the United States Armed Forces."

NFL players who kneeled during the anthem before games during the past year said they were exercising their free-speech rights and bringing attention to social injustices. Critics said they disrespected the flag, the country and the military.

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Women and heart health: what every woman should know

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women, though the symptoms in women are often under-reported or undiagnosed. One challenge is that some heart disease symptoms in women may be different from those in men. Join us to understand the unique symptoms of heart disease in women and begin to reduce your risk of heart disease.

Thursday, Feb. 15, 6-7 p.m.

Cameron Thomasson, NP, Palmetto Heart-Sumter

Light refreshments provided

Sumter Opera House City Centre, 25 N. Main St.

Heart disease: risk factors, symptoms and prevention

Heart disease can lead to heart attack, heart rhythm problems and other life-threatening conditions. Fortunately, knowledge is power. Our cardiologists will help you understand the risk factors for heart disease and how you can prevent it.

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 6-7 p.m.

Rosey Gilliam, MD, Palmetto Heart-Sumter

John D. Rozich, MD, Palmetto Heart-Sumter

Light refreshments provided

Sumter Opera House City Centre, 25 N. Main St.



Cameron Thomasson, NP, Palmetto Heart-Sumter



Rosey Gilliam, MD, Palmetto Heart-Sumter



John D. Rozich, MD, Palmetto Heart-Sumter

To learn more, visit us at PalmettoHealth.org/HeartMonth.



Care to be remembered.

What's the real state of the union? Look at the stats

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A by-the-numbers look at President Donald Trump's first year in office reveals areas of both progress and peril.

The stock market is soaring, smashing record after record. The unemployment rate has ticked downward. Some categories of violent crime are down, too.

But more U.S. troops are stationed in war zones. More people are dying of drug overdoses. More people think race relations have gotten worse under Trump.

Let's dive into the stats.

STOCK MARKET

As of Monday's close, the Dow Jones Industrial Average is up 45 percent since Trump was elected and 34 percent since he took office. The Dow closed at 18,332.74 on Election Day and 19,827.25 on Inauguration Day.

The S&P 500, the market gauge that professionals attach more weight to, performed about the same: It's up 33 percent since the election and 26 percent since the inauguration.

Trump said at an economic conference in Switzerland last week that the market "is smashing one record after another," adding more than \$7 trillion in new wealth since his election. Left unsaid is that the market has done much better than experts initially anticipated because the U.S. economy has continued to gain strength. The rest of the world economy has also exceeded performance expectations.

Those factors, combined with low interest rates, economic stimulus elsewhere and tax cuts Trump signed into law at the end of the year, have helped stocks surge.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Progress reducing the number of Americans without health insurance stalled toward the end of President

Barack Obama's term, and it may have slipped into reverse under Trump, according to one major survey.

The Gallup-Sharecare Well-Being Index finds that the number of uninsured adults increased by about 3 million in 2017.

But the government's National Health Interview Survey estimated that 28.8 million people were uninsured between January and June of 2017, not a statistically different change from 2016 and 2015. In the first six months of 2017, the uninsured rate was 9 percent, the same share of the population as in 2016.

CRIME

Early statistics released by the FBI last week show declines in some violent crimes and increases in one category for the first six months of 2017, compared with the same period in 2016.

Murder and manslaughter increased 1.5 percent in the first six months of 2017 over the first six months of 2016. The number of rapes decreased 2.4 percent, robbery offenses fell 2.2 percent and aggravated assaults were down 0.1 percent, according to the bureau.

The report is based on information from 13,033 law enforcement agencies that submitted data to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program for the first six months of 2016 and 2017.

401(K) RETIREMENT PLANS

The amount of money being squirreled away in 401(k) and IRA plans has increased 10 percent in the past year, aided by that strong stock performance, according to the financial firm Fidelity Investments. Trump has said people often approach him to thank him for the boom in their retirement nest eggs.

The average 401(k) balance was \$99,000 in the third quarter of 2017, up 10 percent from the average \$90,900 balance in the same July-August-Sep-

tember period of 2016.

The average balance in individual retirement accounts, or IRAs, rose to \$103,500 in the third quarter of 2017, up from \$94,000 in 2016.

MILITARY/SECURITY

Trump has expanded America's war footing, both in the number of troops deployed to war zones and in their ability to conduct offensive operations.

As his term wrapped up, President Barack Obama was withdrawing forces from Afghanistan as he eyed an end to the war. In a reversal, Trump has approved sending in more troops and giving them greater authority to go after members of the Taliban and other insurgent groups.

U.S. forces in Afghanistan currently number around 14,000, a 75 percent increase from the 8,400 forces there as of December 2016.

The Obama administration had capped the number of troops in Iraq at 5,262. Because of Iraqi government sensitivities, the U.S. continues to say publicly that roughly 5,200 troops are there, when the actual number is now about 7,000.

Obama had capped the number of troops in Syria at 503. About 2,000 are there now.

UNEMPLOYMENT

More people are working or actively seeking employment. The unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in January 2017, the month Trump was sworn into office, according to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. The rate has fallen steadily since then to 4.1 percent in October, where it remained through December, continuing a trend of falling unemployment that began under Obama. Obama took office at the depths of the Great Recession, when the economy was shedding hundreds of thousands of jobs every month.

The unemployment report for January 2018 will be released Friday.

The economy added slightly more

than 2 million jobs in Trump's first year, a figure that is close to the 2.2 million jobs created during Obama's final year in office.

RACE RELATIONS

More people think race relations have worsened since Trump's election in November 2016. Back then, 25 percent of those surveyed by the Pew Research Center expressed optimism that having the politically inexperienced New York businessman in the Oval Office would improve relations between the races. By December 2017, the percentage who felt that way had sunk to 8 percent, according to Pew. Forty-six percent in the November 2016 survey said Trump's election would worsen relations. That figure grew to 60 percent by last December.

Trump has weathered a number of racially charged controversies as a candidate and since taking office, including saying there were "very fine people" on both sides of a white supremacist protest and counterprotest in Charlottesville, Virginia, last summer. He most recently dismissed African countries by using a vulgarity that describes a filthy toilet.

NATIONAL DEBT

In Trump's first year in office, the national debt grew by \$546.4 billion. In 2016, Obama's final year, the national debt grew by \$1.01 trillion. The debt would have grown more in 2017 if not for the fact that the Trump administration is constrained by reaching the debt ceiling of \$20.5 trillion. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has been using various accounting maneuvers to keep Uncle Sam from going over the debt limit. Mnuchin will lose the ability to use these techniques in late February or early March, at which time lawmakers and the White House must agree on a plan to increase the borrowing limit so the government won't default on its obligations.

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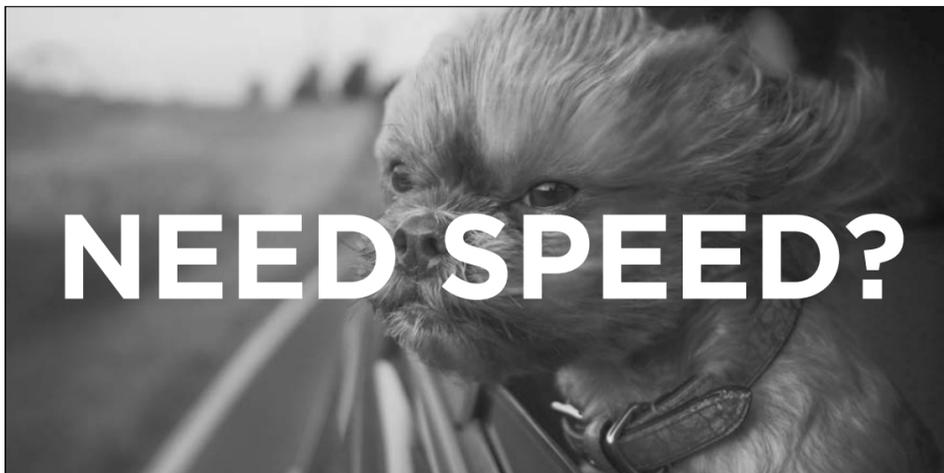
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Pentagon restricts release of Afghanistan war data

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon has ordered an independent federal auditor to stop providing the public with key information about U.S. war efforts in Afghanistan, accelerating a clamp-down on data, such as the size of the Afghan military and police forces, that indicate how the 16-year-old stalemate war is going.

The crackdown on information comes just months after President Donald Trump announced a new Afghanistan strategy aimed at breaking a battlefield stalemate by accelerating Afghan-led operations against the Taliban and other insurgent groups in the country. Trump on Monday railed against the recent string of attacks in Afghanistan and ruled out any U.S. discussions with the Taliban as part of the effort to seek peace talks between the Afghan government and the insurgents.

The auditing agency, established by Congress and known as the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR, revealed the new gag order in its latest three-month assessment of conditions in Afghanistan. The restrictions fly in the face of Pentagon assertions over the past year that it was striving to be more transparent about the U.S. war campaigns across Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan.

Over the years, the SIGAR auditing effort has revealed many dubious practices by the U.S., including instances of contractor fraud. Since January 2016 it had published data on the number of governing districts controlled by Kabul, the number controlled by the Taliban, and the number that are contested.

John F. Sopko, head of the auditing organization, expressed disappointment that the Pentagon had forbidden release of the data on relative control of the governing districts.

"This development is troubling for a number of reasons, not least of which is

that this is the first time SIGAR has been specifically instructed not to release information marked 'unclassified' to the American taxpayer," Sopko wrote.

"Aside from that, the number of districts controlled or influenced by the Afghan government had been one of the last remaining publicly available indicators for members of Congress — many of whose staff do not have access to the classified annexes to SIGAR reports — and for the American public of how the 16-year-long U.S. effort to secure Afghanistan is faring," he added.

In response, the Pentagon said the U.S.-led coalition of NATO and allied nations in Afghanistan made the decision to restrict the public release of the information.

The Defense Department told SIGAR this month that it doesn't "have the authority to overrule the classification determination made by NATO Resolute Support," Lt. Col. Michael Andrews said. He said that similar information was included in the department's December 2017 semi-annual report to Congress, and the Pentagon encouraged SIGAR to use that data.

The Defense Department report said the Afghan government has control or influence on more than 60 percent of the population, while insurgents had control or influence over approximately 10 percent of the population, with the remainder contested.

In November, Gen. John Nicholson described the Afghan government control during remarks to reporters at the Pentagon. He said it remained "roughly the same" as in 2016. "About 64 percent of the population is controlled by the government, about 24 percent live in contested areas, and the Taliban control the remaining 12 percent," he said. He did not reveal the number of districts held by each side.

Sopko wrote that historical-

ly, the number of districts controlled or influenced by the government has been falling since his office began reporting on it, while the number controlled or influenced by the insurgents has been rising — "a fact that should cause even more concern about its disappearance

from public disclosure and discussion."

The war effort has sometimes faded from U.S. public attention, even though the U.S. has invested about \$120 billion in reconstructing Afghanistan since 2002.

Sopko said in his report that the Pentagon also classified or

otherwise restricted information that his organization had previously reported publicly, including such "fundamental metrics" of the Afghan military and police performance as Afghan casualty figures and most measurements of the battlefield capabilities of the Afghan military.



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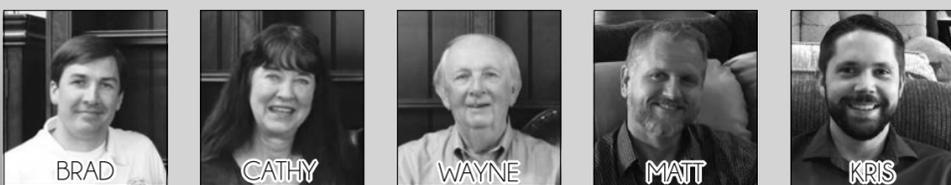
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Venezuelans 'loot to eat' amid economic tailspin

BY SCOTT SMITH and
FABIOLA SANCHEZ

The Associated Press

PUERTO CABELLO, Venezuela — The cab of Carlos Del Pino's big rig gave him a nerve-rattling front-row seat to a surge in mob attacks on Venezuela's neighborhood markets, cattle ranches and food delivery trucks like his.

Shortly after pulling away from the docks at Puerto Cabello, the country's biggest port, he witnessed 20 people swarm a truck ahead of him and in a frenzy fill up their sacks with the corn it was carrying to a food-processing plant. The driver was held at gunpoint.

"It fills you with terror," Del Pino said.

He has hauled cargo for 14 years and on a good month earns the equivalent of about \$100, enough to support his wife and two daughters. Yet, despite his fears, he sympathizes with his impoverished countrymen, who are becoming desperate amid Venezuela's widespread food shortages and sky-high inflation.

"They have to loot to eat," he said.

Sporadic looting, food riots and protests driven by the hungry poor have surged in Venezuela, a country that's no stranger to unrest. But the uprisings playing out recently have a different face than the mostly middle-class protesters who took to the streets for months last year in political demonstrations trying to oust President Nicolas Maduro.

"These protests are coming from people of the lower classes who simply cannot get enough to eat," said David Smilde, a senior fellow at the Washington Office on Latin America, who has spent decades researching Venezuela. "They want relief, not necessarily to force Maduro from power."

Venezuela holds the world's largest oil reserves and was once among Latin America's wealthiest nations. But after



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Men try to steal rice from a cargo truck arriving to the port in Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, on Jan. 23.

nearly two decades of socialist rule and mismanagement of the state-run oil company, it is being battered by the worst economic crisis in its history.

The surge in violent food protests began in poor neighborhoods across the country around Christmas, when Maduro had promised that holiday hams were coming in government food baskets distributed to his supporters.

But many didn't arrive, sparking protests with small groups burning garbage in the street and looting. Opposition pundits called it the "pork revolution." Trying to bring calm, Maduro ordered hundreds of supermarkets to slash prices to the previous month's level — a tall order in a country where prices have been doubling every few weeks.

Repeating a common refrain, the government blamed the absence of hams on sabotage by its foreign critics, in this case Portugal, which it said was taking orders from the U.S.

"Why didn't the ham arrive? Because of the blockade against us," socialist party leader Diosdado Cabello said on state TV, blaming the

"gringos" but providing no evidence.

The unrest has cooled some, but many Venezuelans fear it will be a temporary lull as the economy spins further out of control. The International Monetary Fund estimates inflation will reach five digits this year, while the economy, in its fifth straight year of recession, will shrink 15 percent.

Barely solvent businesses say they are reluctant to import more goods, fearing another government-ordered fire sale. As the currency crashes on the flourishing black market, the monthly minimum wage is now worth the equivalent of just \$3.

Financial sanctions imposed in August by the Trump administration are only adding to Venezuelans' misery, choking off the country's access to credit and scaring away oil companies.

Meanwhile, hunger is widespread.

Recently a dozen men stormed a street-side deli in the western city of Barquisimeto. Surveillance cameras captured them leaping over the glass counter as customers and employees scrambled out of the way. They wiped the store clean in minutes.

Cattle ranchers say at least two farms have been raided by people who slaughtered cows. A video on Twitter shows a dozen men in the state of Merida killing a cow with rocks and a machete, one shouting: "We are hungry."

In the first half of January, there were at least 110 incidents of looting, more than five times than in the same period a year earlier, says the Venezuelan Observatory of Social Conflict, a non-governmental group that tracks unrest.

Food and the cash to pay for it are more difficult to find, especially outside the capital of Caracas. And even when people have money, prices are often beyond their reach, with the inflation rate

soaring above 2,600 percent in 2017, the opposition-controlled National Assembly says.

Looting is part of a wider trend in hunger-related crimes, said Roberto Briceno Leon, director of the Caracas-based Venezuelan Observatory for Violence.

Street gangs are luring poor children as young as age 9 with food, he said. Standing in as a lookout during a burglary used to earn a recruit Nike shoes or Wrangler jeans. Now, they get a McDonald's hamburger, he said.

Briceno Leon adds that some hungry people unable to buy groceries steal food by eating it inside stores. Men riding motorbikes increasingly yank bags of food away

from customers who have stood in line for hours, spending what little money they had.

"It's not just that you do not have money," he said. "There's little money to shop with and few products."

Truckers hauling food — from rice to live chickens — have become targets while stopped in traffic or making a pit stop.

When the mob recently waylaid the truck in front of him, Del Pino rolled up his cab windows and locked the doors in fear the hungry mob would turn on him next.

He pulled his semi out of the line, dodging an attack.

"Here the problem is just that — hunger. Hunger is killing people," Del Pino said.



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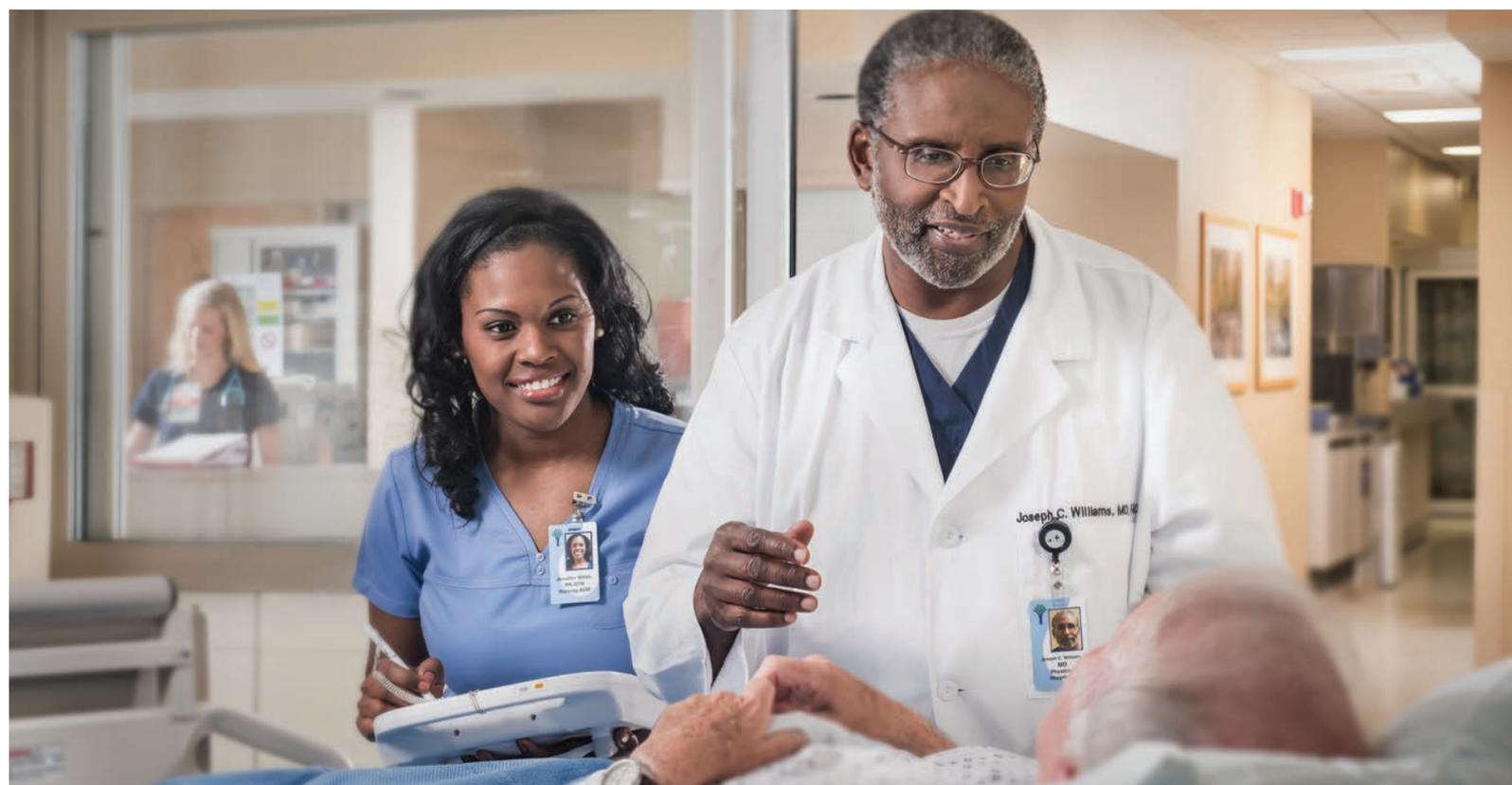
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WALMART

FROM PAGE A1

shopping convenient and efficient for customers who often find themselves in a busier and faster-paced life-style.

"Grocery shopping, especially for busy families with kids, used to take a couple of hours on the weekend," he said. "Now, it's a matter of a few clicks and one of our associates bringing the order out to a customer's vehicle."

Other features throughout the store, which *The Sumter Item* toured on Tuesday, are brightly lit, open and fully stocked in new layouts and designs.

Bunker said the size of the new store is about the same as the Neighborhood Market currently open on Bultman Drive, but sections are located in different areas of the store to create an optimal shopping experience.

The seasonal section, currently bathed in pink and red for Valentine's Day, is in the front of the store in its own open section. The produce section is more open, with stalls farther apart from each other.

Sections are labeled with large signs, and meat, cheese and produce aisles are lower to the ground and shorter so shoppers can see



Adam Bunker, manager at the new Walmart Neighborhood Market, gives a tour of the store on Tuesday.

more of where they may want to go next.

Special values, marked by orange signs, will accompany the standard rollback deals Walmart is known for during the first week.

The pharmacy and money services stations offer a new amenity called Mobile Express, where if you begin your order or refill online or on the Walmart app, you can simply pick up your product without having to stand in line.

Bunker said another difference found in this new store is there are only three manned check-out belts — the other eight are self-check out, totaling two additional registers than before.

He said Sumter High School or other students may like the Beverage Barn, where coffee, slushies and other drinks are sold to go.

While shoppers may still have to go to a Walmart Supercenter — many in that area of Sumter travel to the one in Manning — to find absolutely everything they need, the Neighborhood Market is a convenient, quicker place to go whenever you need.

"It's another way to help our customers show how, where and when they want, and we're adding approximately 95 new jobs on top of that," Bunker said. "This is what it means to be a store of the community."



Davion Hawk stocks bottles of water at the new Walmart Neighborhood Market ahead of its grand opening this morning.

DISTRICT

FROM PAGE A1

requirement to have the audit of purchase processes at least once every three years, the December 2016 audit represented the three-year period from 2013-16.

In that three-year audit, the district's auditor cited the district for one sole-source procurement that lacked adequate documentation, inappropriate use of "emergency procurement" procedures for purchases that should not have been considered emergencies and not consistently using purchase orders for small purchases, among other findings.

After the procurement audit, then-Superintendent Frank Baker and others said corrective actions had been put in place. Some changes regarding purchase orders were put in place in 2016 — even before the audit took place, Baker said.

Hilton had said earlier the purpose of the new procurement recommendations were to prevent any misinterpretation in the future and to keep the Finance Committee and the board in step with the superintendent and chief financial officer.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

In other matters at the board meeting, at-large board member and Facilities Committee Chairman William Byrd informed the full board

that he and district staff have reviewed proposals for conducting a population demographics study for the district. He said the recommendation of one proposer to do the study should be forthcoming.

Byrd also said his committee has solicited proposals for a district facilities study and those proposals will be reviewed soon, with a recommendation also forthcoming to the full board.

The two studies could affect the future of smaller, low-enrollment schools in the district. Last year, the financial consultant who guided the district through a financial crisis recommended closing two schools at the end of last school year (F.J. DeLaine Elementary and Mayewood Middle) and two more at the end of this school year to build the district's fund balance.

In a 4-2 split vote on April 24, the board voted down the motion to close the two schools.

TONY'S

FROM PAGE A1

to steal firearms from a federal firearms licensee and being a felon in possession of a firearm for his involvement in the August 2016 incident, according to the United States Attorney District of South Carolina.

A search warrant executed at Reddick's apartment revealed a 9mm handgun reportedly stolen during the Tony's Guns burglary.

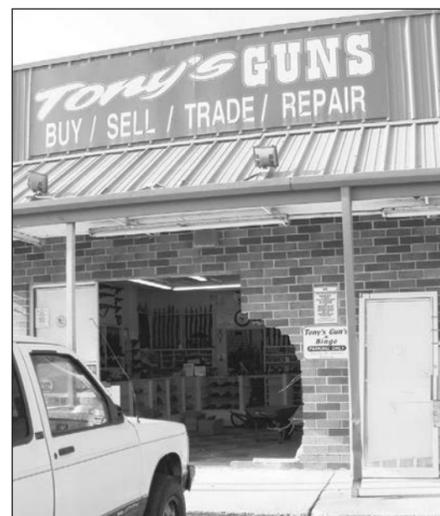
Reddick faces a maximum of five years' imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000 and three years of supervised release on the conspiracy charge and faces a maximum of 10 years' imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000 and three years of supervised release on the felon in possession of a firearm charge.

Reddick was previously convicted of second-degree burglary and transportation of stolen firearms and was on federal-supervised release after serving time for a federal conviction in 2013.

The 2016 investigation also revealed similarities between that burglary and liquor store burglaries in other counties for which Reddick was identified as a suspect after a DNA match linked him to one of the liquor stores.

The case for Reddick's co-defendant is still pending in federal court.

The case — part of the Project CeaseFire initiative — was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explo-



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

The front of Tony's Guns on Broad Street is shown a few hours after an August 2016 robbery. The perpetrator(s) backed a pickup truck into the building to gain access to the weapons.

sives; Sumter County Sheriff's Office; Newberry County Sheriff's Office; South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division; Clinton Police Department; Fairfield County Sheriff's Office; Richland County Sheriff's Department; and Lexington County Sheriff's Department.

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Experts: Just say 'no' to Facebook's kids app

BOSTON (AP) — Child development experts and advocates are urging Facebook to pull the plug on its new messaging app aimed at kids.

A group letter sent Tuesday to CEO Mark Zuckerberg argues that younger children — the app is intended for those under 13 — aren't ready to have social media accounts, navigate the complexities of online relationships or protect their own privacy.

Facebook launched the free Messenger Kids app in December, pitching it as a way for children to chat with family members and friends approved by parents. It doesn't give kids separate Facebook or Messenger accounts. Rather, the app works as an extension of a parent's account, and parents get controls such as the ability to decide who their kids can chat with.

The social media giant has said it fills "a need for a messaging app that lets kids connect with people they love but also has the level of control parents want." But critics see the move as a way for Facebook to lure in a younger audience before they could move on to a rival service such as Snapchat.

"TARGETING YOUNGER CHILDREN"

A group of 100 experts, advocates and parenting organizations is contesting Facebook's claims of filling a need. Led by the Boston-based Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood, the group includes psychiatrists, pediatricians, educators and the children's music singer Raffi Cavoukian.

"Messenger Kids is not responding to a need — it is creating one," the letter states. "It appeals primarily to children who otherwise would not have their own social media accounts." Another passage criticized Facebook for "targeting younger children with a new product."

In a statement, Facebook

said on Monday that the app "helps parents and children to chat in a safer way," and emphasized that parents are "always in control" of their kids' activity. The social media giant added that it consulted with parenting experts and families and said "there is no advertising in Messenger Kids."

KIDS AND FACEBOOK

A variety of experts and technology insiders have begun questioning the effects smartphones and social media apps are having on people's health and mental well-being — whether kids, teens or adults. Sean Parker, Facebook's first president, said late last year that the social media platform exploits "vulnerability in human psychology" to addict users. A chorus of other early employees and investors piled on with similar criticisms.

Many preteens have already found their way onto Facebook and more youth-oriented social media platforms such as Snapchat and Facebook's own Instagram, despite internal rules that require users to be at least 13 years old. Those rules are based in part on federal law, which prohibits internet companies from collecting personal information on children without their parents' permission and imposes restrictions on advertising to them.

Some companies have offered parental controls as a way of curbing unauthorized preteen use of their platforms. But Facebook's new kid-focused app, which features animations and emojis, seems to cater to a younger audience, said Josh Golin, executive director of Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood.

"It looks like something that would appeal to a 6-year-old or 7-year-old," he said.

He said the app gets those younger ones used to Facebook's platform "and then they transition to the mature version of Facebook."

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COMMENTARY

Immigration lies, hypocrisy

President Donald Trump reportedly asked why the U.S. is “having all these people from shithole countries come here.” I think he could have used better language, but it’s a question that should be asked and answered. I have a few questions for my fellow Americans to consider: How many Norwegians have illegally entered our nation, committed crimes and burdened our prison and welfare systems? I might ask the same question about Finnish, Swedish, Welsh, Icelanders, Greenlanders and New Zealanders.

The bulk of our immigration problem is with people who enter our country criminally from Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East. It’s illegal immigrants from those countries who have committed crimes and burdened our criminal justice and welfare systems. A large number of immigrants who are here illegally — perhaps the majority are law-abiding in other respects — have fled oppressive, brutal and corrupt regimes to seek a better life in America.

In the debate about illegal immigration, there are questions that are not explicitly asked but can be answered with a straight “yes” or “no”: Does everyone in the world have a right to live in the U.S.? Do Americans have a right to decide who and under what conditions a person may enter our country? Should we permit foreigners landing at our airports to ignore U.S. border control laws just as some ignore our laws at our southern border?

The reason those questions are not asked is that one would be deemed an idiot for saying that everyone in the world has a right to live in our country, that Americans don’t have a right to decide who lives in our country and that foreigners landing at our airports have a right to just ignore U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents.

Immigration today, even when legal, is different from the immigration of yesterday. People who came here in the 19th century and most of the 20th century came here to learn our language, learn our customs and become Americans.

Years ago, there was a guarantee that immigrants came here to work, because there was no welfare system; they worked, begged or starved. Today, there is no such assurance. Because of

our welfare state, immigrants can come here and live off taxpaying Americans.

There is another difference between today and yesterday. Today, Americans are taught multiculturalism throughout their primary, secondary and college education. They are taught that one culture is no better or worse than another. To believe otherwise is criticized at best as Eurocentrism and at worst as racism.

As a result, some immigrant groups seek to bring to our country the cultural values whose failures have led to the poverty, corruption and human rights violations in their home countries that caused them to flee. As the fallout from President Trump’s indelicate remarks demonstrates, too many Americans are afraid and unwilling to ask which immigrant groups have become a burden to our nation and which have made a contribution to the greatness of America.

Very unfortunate for our nation is that we have political groups that seek to use illegal immigration for their own benefit. They’ve created sanctuary cities and states that openly harbor criminals — people who have broken our laws. The whole concept of sanctuary cities is to give aid, comfort and sympathy to people who have broken our laws. Supporters want to prevent them from having to hide and live in fear of discovery. I’d ask whether, for the sake of equality before the law, we should apply the sanctuary concept to Americans who have broken other laws, such as robbers and tax evaders.

We should not fall prey to people who criticize our efforts to combat illegal immigration and who pompously say, “We’re a nation of immigrants!” The debate is not over immigration. The debate is over illegal immigration. My sentiments on immigrants who are here legally and who want to become Americans are expressed by the sentiments in Emma Lazarus’ poem “The New Colossus,” which is on a plaque inside the Statue of Liberty and in part says, “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

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

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COMMENTARY

What newspapers do, why they exist and why you should care

Editor's note: This column originally ran in the Jan. 28 edition of the Greenwood Index-Journal.

Sunshine Week, a time set aside by the media (newspapers, more so) nationally to highlight the importance of and need for transparency in government, doesn’t roll around until mid-March.

Really, every day of every week should be Sunshine Day, a point driven home well by the movie “The Post.” Starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks, “The Post” captures the true story of the release of the



Richard Whiting

Pentagon Papers, top-secret documents that clearly reflect a different tale about America’s involvement in the Vietnam War than a host of presidential administrations revealed — Democrat and Republican.

Streep plays publisher Katharine Graham alongside Hanks’ role as editor Ben Bradlee of *The Washington Post*. Right now, a bunch of readers stopped reading and moved on. Who cares, right? It’s a movie about that liberal rag, after all. The only thing worse would be a mention of *The New York Times*, right?

Spoiler alert! *The Times* is part of the movie too.

You see, the *Times* first published a story on the Pentagon Papers that were secretly given to them by Daniel Ellsberg, a State Department military analyst who accompanied troops to Vietnam and documented the war’s progress for Secretary of State Robert McNamara, who served under presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson.

What Ellsberg observed and reported was not at all the same message he heard coming out of McNamara’s reports to the media, reports that couched the war as progressing, not failing miserably. Years later, Ellsberg lands a job with RAND Corp., a civilian military con-

tractor. At odds with the truth he and McNamara knew juxtaposed with the public story even McNamara himself promoted, Ellsberg copies hundreds of pages of classified documents dating as far back as the Truman administration and leaks them to a *New York Times* reporter.

But then came this little thing called an injunction, orchestrated by President Richard Nixon, which prevented the *Times* from further publishing stories about the secret documents. Don’t like what the media writes or says, just get it shut down, right? Sound familiar, by the way?

Fast forward. While the *Times* is in a holding pattern, Ellsberg gives copies of the same documents to Bradlee’s assistant editor, whom he knew years ago.

Graham, new at the helm of the *Post* following her husband’s suicide and poised to go public with the family owned newspaper, finds herself at a crossroads. She can publish her staff’s work and pick up where the *Times* left off or she can, to use a newspaper term, spike the story, possibly saving it from financial ruin in the event investors pulled out.

It’s hard to believe, but at that time in the early 1970s, the *Post* was considered a local newspaper. Of course, publishing the Pentagon Papers stories catapulted the newspaper into the national spotlight. The *Post*, along with the *Times*, still had one more fight, which was taken up before the U.S. Supreme Court. The justices sided, 6-3, with the papers’ First Amendment right to publish.

Today, the outcry is over so-called fake news. But consider that fake news, until the Pentagon Papers found their way out of a dark locked file cabinet and onto the pages of the *Times* and the *Post*, was in what presidential administrations spanning from Truman to Nixon were telling the American public.

That is certainly a large-scale example and hardly the first such example that can be cited. Indeed, not everything is a cover-up, a Watergate. But that is why people should celebrate having a free press. And yes,

generally speaking it is newspapers — the Fourth Estate — that are in the watchdog role. They do the digging and research to unearth the truth.

Sadly, it seems, far too many people would rather simply believe what they are told by their government, from the local level all the way to our capitol. They enjoy jumping on the bandwagon to rail against a liberal media, just because the president they elected applies the label. God forbid that unbridled and legitimate investigation by a newspaper publish the real story.

It wasn’t OK that Truman lied. That JFK lied. That Johnson lied. That Nixon lied. And it wasn’t a liberal editor working for a liberal publisher of a liberal newspaper. No, it was a group of people driven by a thirst for truth and a desire to share that truth with the American public, no matter the outcome.

Really, that is what most of us in the newspaper business are all about. It could be telling readers who got arrested, if public business was conducted behind closed doors, how much taxpayer-funded administrators are being paid, where missing public funds went. And yes, it could be exposing a full-scale cover-up — not necessarily on par with the Pentagon Papers or even Watergate, but important to the public nonetheless.

If you get a chance, go see “The Post.” It’s not action-packed fictional entertainment. It’s not mindless humor to be enjoyed over buttered popcorn and a Coke. But it should deepen your appreciation for a free press and the First Amendment. Unless, that is, you are content to have the press silenced because the truth simply isn’t convenient.

We in this business don’t always get it right, and we know that. Writing the first chapter in history can be a bit messy, but ultimately historic truth is what we aspire to provide.

Whiting is executive editor of the Index-Journal. Contact him at (864) 943-2522, email rwhiting@indexjournal.com, or follow him on Twitter at IJEDITOR.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

MCKENZIE REPRESENTED THE GREATEST GENERATION WELL

My friend and mentor, Ross S. McKenzie Sr., has passed away at age 102 after a distinguished business career that continued until just five years ago when he retired as president of Sumter Coatings Inc. Born in Congaree, S.C., on May 26, 1915, Ross served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theatre in WWII. After the war, he moved to Sumter with his family to take a posi-

tion as chemist with the Williams Furniture Co. In 1969, Ross and a group of investors started up Southern Coatings Inc. Ross served as CEO of Southern Coatings until his retirement in 1981 (age 66). In 1996 when Sherwin-Williams Co. closed the coating plant on Fulton Street, Ross, at 81, was among a group of investors that formed Sumter Coatings Inc. on Highway 15 South. From 2003-13, Ross served as CEO of that company, proving that “ability is ageless.” He per-

formed his duties without a computer or cellphone, preferring to use his trusty calculator and a land-line telephone. Ross wasn’t “into” Facebook or Linked-in!

Ross served as chair of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce, the Sumter County Museum and senior warden at the Church of the Holy Comforter. In 63 years of service to Rotary International, Ross was named Rotarian of the Year (1990) and Honorary Rotarian (2016). In 1999, he recruit-

ed me to be the character interpreter of Thomas Sumter for the Sumter County Bi-Centennial year of 2000. Like many of us, he suffered life’s adversities such as the loss of a spouse, loss of a child and serious health issues. However, with a smile on his face and a shine on his shoes, Ross McKenzie represented the Greatest Generation well. Rest in peace, Ross. I’m grateful to have known you.

CHUCK FIENNING
Sumter

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN:
AA — Monday-Friday, noon and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.
AA Women's Meeting — Wednesdays, 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.
AA Spanish Speaking — Sundays, 4:30 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.
AA "How it Works" Group — Mondays and Fridays, 8 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call (803) 494-5180.
441 AA Support Group — Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 p.m., Hair Force, 2090-D S.C. 441.
AA Summerton Group — Wednesday, 8 p.m., town hall.
Manning Al-Anon Family Group — Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Behavioral Health Building, 14 Church St., Manning. Call Angie Johnson at (803) 435-8085.
C/A "Drop the Rock" Group — Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call Elizabeth Owens at (803) 607-4543.
MONDAY MEETINGS:
Sumter Vitiligo Support Group — Second Monday, 5:45-6:45 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Call Tiffany at (803) 316-6763. The group is also on Facebook.
TUESDAY MEETINGS:
Heroin Anonymous — Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 p.m., 4742 Broad St. Call (803) 494-5180.
Sumter Connective Tissue Support Group — First Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November, 7 p.m., 180 Tiller Circle. Call (803) 773-0869.
Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — First Tuesday at noon and third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498, (803) 469-4506 or (803) 938-8544.
Sumter Combat Veterans Group Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.
"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Support group for teens and adults with special needs. Call Joan Bell at (803) 972-0051 or Carrie Jodoin at (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.
Parkinson's Support Group — Second Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Carolinas Rehabilitation Hospital, 121 E. Cedar St., Florence. Call (843) 661-3746.
Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.
Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) —

Third Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m., Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. Open to anyone who has lost a loved one to murder in a violent way.
EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call Dorcus Haney at (803) 895-1252/1253 or Sue Zimmerman at (803) 847-2377.
WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:
Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call Bertha Willis at (803) 774-6181.
Divorce Care — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.
Grief Share — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

THURSDAY MEETINGS:
TOPS S.C. No. 236 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) — Thursdays, 9 a.m., Spectrum Senior Center, 1989 Durant Lane. Call Diane at (803) 775-3926 or Nancy at (803) 469-4789.
Alzheimer's Support Group through S.C. Alzheimer's Association — First Thursday, 6-8 p.m., National Health Care, 1018 N. Guignard Drive. Call Cheryl Fluharty at (803) 905-7720 or the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 636-3346.
Journey of Hope (for family members of the mentally ill), Journey to Recovery (for the mentally ill) and Survivors of Suicide Support Group — Each group meets every first Thursday, 7 p.m., St. John United Methodist Church, 136 Poinsett Drive. Call Fred Harmon at (803) 905-5620.

FRIDAY MEETINGS:
Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, Miller Road (across from Food Lion). For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.
Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call Kevin Johnson at (803) 778-0303.
SATURDAY MEETINGS:
Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Support Group — Third Saturday, 1:30 p.m., 3785 Blackberry Lane, Lot 7. Call Donna Parker at (803) 481-7521.

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

The last word in astrology
 EUGENIA LAST

with others today. Share your ideas and be willing to put time and energy behind your plans. Offer incentives and bring about positive change and you will make a difference.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Dealing with children, friends or your loved one won't be as easy as you hope. Offer space to others and take time to consider how you feel and what you want to do. Avoid unpredictable people and indulgent behavior.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Fix up your surroundings. Whether at work or at home, you'll be more productive if you're comfortable and relaxed. Expressing the way you want to do things will be your forte. Romance will improve your personal life.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Tidy up any unfinished business. Review contracts and investments and consider what you can do to improve your financial status. Think twice before you get involved in a joint venture. Don't mix business with pleasure. Avoid indulgent behavior.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): If you love someone, don't be shy — share your feelings. Don't blow situations out of proportion or overspend in order to make an impression. Moderation coupled with sincerity and affection should be sufficient.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A problem you face at work will result in being asked a slew of questions. Abide by the rules and regulations if you don't want to end up being blamed for any wrongdoing. Someone will be eager to make you

look bad.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Past debt will require attention. Don't lend or borrow money or make promises you won't be able to fulfill. Stay focused on the best way to make positive personal changes that will make your life less stressful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Refuse to let emotions take over or to be tempted by someone who is a poor influence. Walk away from indulgent situations and people. Proper diet, exercise and spending habits need to be incorporated into your routine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can make your move as long as you've done your homework. A deal that comes your way will have potential, but don't overextend yourself in order to take part. Know your boundaries and limitations before you say OK.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Dig in and get things done. Don't worry about what others do or say. Set your own pace and don't stop until you're satisfied with what you've accomplished. Don't let anyone disrupt your plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A pick-me-up will do you good. Update your image or plan something special with someone you love. Consider what you can do without overspending. Change begins within. Assess your situation and do what's best for you.

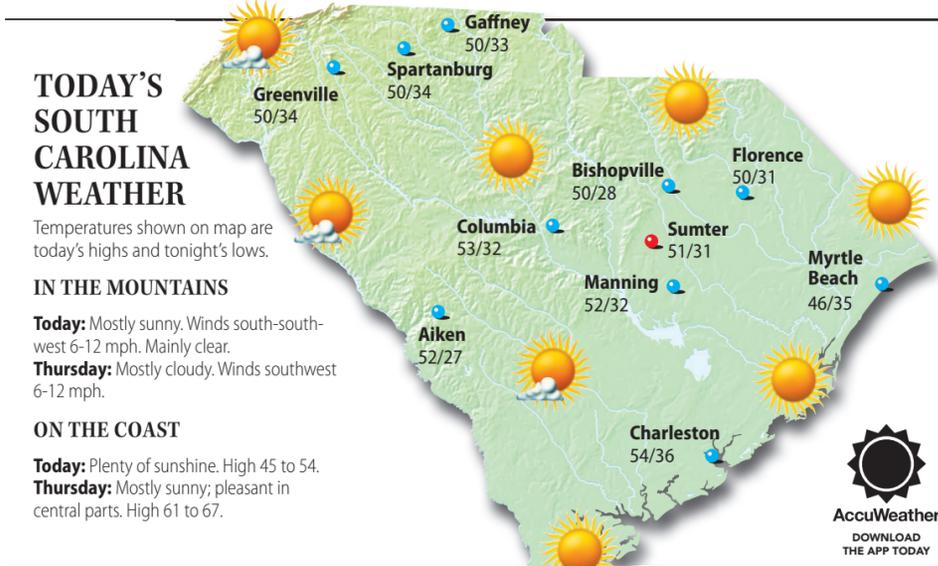
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll have plenty to deal with regarding negotiations, contracts, personal investments and medical concerns. Don't believe everything you hear. Look for alternatives to what's being suggested. Stick to your budget regardless of temptation or peer pressure.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Plenty of sunshine	Clear and cold	Increasing cloudiness	Turning sunny; cooler	Chilly with partial sunshine	Overcast, rain
51°	31°	66° / 48°	57° / 25°	49° / 35°	57° / 40°
Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 15%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 85%
SSE 3-6 mph	SSW 4-8 mph	SW 7-14 mph	NNW 7-14 mph	E 4-8 mph	SSE 4-8 mph



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
48°	48°	34°	56°	33°	79° in 2002	10° in 1966

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
0.00"	0.00"	2.04"	3.81"	2.04"	4.54"	3.81"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	354.51	+0.38
Marion	76.8	73.73	+0.14
Moultrie	75.5	73.89	+0.26
Wateree	100	98.00	+1.07

SUN AND MOON

	Sunrise	7:20 a.m.	Sunset	5:51 p.m.
Moonrise	6:16 p.m.		Moonset	7:20 a.m.

	Full	Last	New	First
	Jan. 31	Feb. 7	Feb. 15	Feb. 23

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	7.37	+0.66
Congaree River	19	6.56	+1.67
Lynches River	14	6.70	+1.72
Saluda River	14	8.30	+4.57
Up. Santee River	80	76.27	+0.36
Wateree River	24	11.59	+3.32

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	8:43 a.m.	3.7	2:59 a.m.	-1.2
	9:08 p.m.	3.1	3:42 p.m.	-0.8
Thu.	9:35 a.m.	3.6	3:52 a.m.	-1.2
	10:01 p.m.	3.2	4:32 p.m.	-0.8

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.
Atlanta	54/38/s	56/37/sh
Chicago	44/27/c	28/6/pc
Dallas	73/53/pc	65/39/pc
Detroit	41/31/c	35/9/c
Houston	69/56/pc	73/52/c
Los Angeles	80/55/s	79/55/pc
New Orleans	66/54/pc	71/51/c
New York	34/30/s	46/34/c
Orlando	67/48/s	74/54/pc
Philadelphia	35/29/s	49/33/c
Phoenix	81/52/s	80/54/pc
San Francisco	62/49/pc	65/50/pc
Wash., DC	41/36/s	53/35/pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	City	Today	Thu.
Asheville	48/29/s	53/31/c	Florence	50/31/s	65/48/s
Athens	54/32/s	57/39/c	Gainesville	63/38/s	70/45/pc
Augusta	55/30/s	67/51/pc	Gastonia	51/34/s	58/39/pc
Beaufort	54/37/s	67/48/pc	Goldensboro	47/31/s	63/47/pc
Cape Hatteras	40/37/s	56/49/pc	Goose Creek	53/34/s	68/51/s
Charleston	54/36/s	68/48/pc	Greensboro	46/31/s	56/37/pc
Charlotte	50/33/s	58/41/pc	Greenville	50/34/s	53/40/c
Clemson	51/32/s	53/38/r	Hickory	47/32/s	55/38/pc
Columbia	53/32/s	65/51/pc	Hilton Head	52/38/s	64/51/pc
Darlington	50/29/s	64/45/s	Jacksonville, FL	60/40/s	70/49/pc
Elizabeth City	43/32/s	59/44/pc	La Grange	57/35/s	58/39/sh
Elizabethtown	48/31/s	64/46/pc	Macon	57/30/s	65/44/c
Fayetteville	49/31/s	63/47/pc	Marietta	53/34/s	56/34/sh
Marion	49/26/s	56/32/pc	Mt. Pleasant	52/37/s	66/51/pc
Myrtle Beach	46/35/s	62/49/s	Orangeburg	52/30/s	65/48/pc
Port Royal	52/39/s	64/51/pc	Raleigh	46/30/s	59/41/pc
Rock Hill	50/32/s	58/39/pc	Rockingham	49/29/s	62/43/pc
Savannah	57/37/s	69/51/pc	Spartanburg	50/34/s	54/37/c
Summerville	53/33/s	67/50/s	Wilmington	47/31/s	63/49/pc
Winston-Salem	47/32/s	55/38/pc			

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Sleep Comfortable in the New Year

SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PETS OF THE WEEK



TOP: This big, beautiful bear of a boy is a senior citizen and needs a loving home to live out his golden years. Benny was someone's loved and cherished pet at one time, and he does not deserve to be sitting on a hard concrete floor. Gentle and low key, he is good with other dogs and misses the comfort of a loving home. Benny has been diagnosed with heartworms, which is a treatable condition. The Sumter Animal Control volunteers are his care. If you can find it in your heart to provide this worthy boy with a home, we think you will find your life enriched beyond measure.

BELOW: Monty is a calm and friendly young boy. He is content to chill out with you. Even though he likes other dogs, Monty wants his best human buddy's companionship most of all. If you have room in your home and heart for a small / medium sized lad, Monty would like to meet you.

If you would like to meet Benny in kennel 38 or Monty in kennel 21, call the volunteer coordinator at (803) 774-3232 or stop by Sumter Animal Control, 1240 Winkles Road. We have many other adoptable dogs as well as animals who were found and are waiting for their owners to claim them. Check Sumter Animal Control on Facebook.

CAN'T ADOPT BUT WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN SOME WAY?
Sumter Animal Control will gladly accept donations of the following: Capstar flea control pills (at Petco or Tractor Supply), bleach (gallons or spray bottle), metal food and water bowls in all sizes, towels, waterless pet shampoo, dog cologne, kibble, puppy food, newspapers and leashes and collars. You can also make a tax-deductible donation via Paypal at sumterstrays@gmail.com. One hundred percent of your donation will be used for the animals at Sumter Animal Control.

PREP BASKETBALL



Not their night

Crestwood's Jah'Che Whitfield drives to the basket against Hartsville's Mary Bishop-Tucker during the Lady Knights' 65-63 loss on Tuesday at The Castle.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Crestwood girls blow 17-point lead, shot at region title in 65-63 loss to Hartsville

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

When Ashanti Washington drilled in a jump shot with 2:42 remaining in the third quarter, she gave her Crestwood varsity girls basketball team a 43-26 lead over Hartsville. A victory that would give the Lady Knights at least a share of the Region VI-4A title seemed but a formality.

It didn't go that way though. In less than 30 seconds the Lady Red Foxes had the lead down to nine

and to six by the end of the quarter. HHS rode that momentum into the final stanza and went on for a 65-63 victory at The Castle.

"We just got complacent," said CHS head coach Larry Crosby, whose team fell to 16-3 overall and 5-1 in region play. "We got careless with the basketball and had some turnovers and they got right back in the game."

"We told the girls that they can't take their foot off the gas. We thought the game was over in the third quarter, but we told them that

Hartsville is going to keep coming, keep playing."

That they did. Hartsville, which improved to 13-2 overall and 5-1 in region play, scored 39 points in the final 10:33 of the contest.

"We just told the girls to keep playing," said Lady Foxes head coach Tammy Gibson, who picked up her first win over Crestwood in seven years as head coach. "That was our theme; regardless of what came our

SEE **KNIGHTS**, PAGE B3

CLEMSON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Reed leads No. 20 Clemson to 82-78 win over No. 19 North Carolina

BY PETE IACOBELLI
The Associated Press

CLEMSON — Marquise Reed had 20 points, including the go-ahead 3-pointer after No. 20 Clemson blew a 16-point lead, and the Tigers ended a 10-game losing streak to North Carolina with an 82-78 victory over the 19th-ranked Tar Heels.

The Tigers (18-4, 7-3) were up 44-28 at the half and looked like they would cruise to their first win over the Tar Heels (16-7, 5-5) since January 2010. Instead, Cameron Johnson and Joel Berry II rallied UNC back, with Berry's jumper tying it at 74 with 2:03 to play.

That's when Reed struck with his 3 from the left side to put Clemson ahead for good. Reed rebounded Johnson's miss moments later, and Elijah Thomas made an inside shot to go up 79-74.

North Carolina has its first three-game losing streak since the 2013-14 season.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clemson's Elijah Thomas, center, drives between North Carolina defenders, including Sterling Manley, left, during the first half of their game Tuesday in Clemson.

Clemson fans rushed the court after the school's second win over North Carolina since March 2004.

Gabe DeVoe had 17 points, including five of Clemson's season high 15

3-pointers.

Johnson had a career-high 32 points while Berry had 27, 19 of

SEE **TIGERS**, PAGE B3

PREP BASKETBALL

Lee Central's Knox gets 500th career victory; Stallions triumph 81-45

BY EDDIE LITAKER
Special to The Sumter Item

BISHOPVILLE — LaVerne Knox picked up his 500th career victory as his Lee Central High School varsity boys basketball team thrashed Central 81-45 on Tuesday at the LC gymnasium.

The Stallions made Knox's milestone victory a foregone conclusion early on in this contest. After beating Central 52-50 last week in Pageland, LC led 27-10 after one quarter and 45-19 at halftime.



KNOX

Lee Central led 66-37 after three quarters. The Stallions, who improved to 15-2 overall and 10-0 in Region IV-2A, took their biggest lead at 79-41 late in the fourth quarter.

Twelve different players scored for LC. Daquan Thomas led the way with 13, all of them coming in the first half. Daveon Thomas finished with 10, while Amadric Mixon and Treson Pringle both had nine. Kakuan Simon added eight.

Robert Price led Central, 10-8 and 6-4, with 12.

In the girls contest, Lee Central pounded Central 52-7.

Robionne Myers led the Lady Stallions, who improved to 7-3 in region play, with 22 points. Tashanna Harris had 14 and A'Yannah Lucas added eight.

PREP BASKETBALL

East Clarendon tops in 1A girls poll

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

As expected, the East Clarendon High School girls basketball team moved to the top of the 1A poll released by the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association on Tuesday.

The Lady Wolverines jumped ahead of Green Sea-Floyds, the defending state champion which had been ranked No. 1 all season. EC defeated GSF 64-30 last Tuesday after the poll, which was released prior to the game. East Clarendon, which lost to Green Sea-Floyds in last year's lower state championship game, had been No. 2.

The EC girls are one of seven local teams ranked in the respective polls. There had been eight in recent weeks, but Lakewood fell out of the 4A boys poll after being ranked No. 9 last week.

Sumter remained at No. 6 in the 5A boys poll despite a 16-point victory over then No. 3 Conway. Interestingly, Conway moved up to No. 2 in this week's poll.

The Sumter girls held steady at No. 10 in the 5A poll. Region VI foe and leader Carolina Forest jumped into the poll for the first time at No. 6.

Crestwood continued its ascent up the 4A girls poll. The Lady Wolverines jumped from No. 6 to No. 4, bypassing Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach.

Both Manning teams held steady in their respective 3A poll. The Manning boys are ranked third, while the Lady Monarchs are at No. 8.

Like the Crestwood girls, the Lee Central boys have slowly been working their way up the 2A poll. The Stallions moved from fourth to third, switching spots with Keenan.

There is a local team in seven of the 10 polls.

Along with the switch at the top in the 1A girls poll, there are two new No. 1s in the boys polls. Blythewood moved from second to first in the 5A poll, replacing Dorman, which fell to No. 3. Hemingway moved from second to first in the 1A poll. It replaced Williston-Elko, which dropped to fifth.

SEE **POLL**, PAGE B3

SUPER BOWL 52

Patriots enjoy big Super Bowl experience edge over Eagles

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — The Eagles are playing some of their best football heading into Sunday's Super Bowl matchup with the Patriots.

One thing Philadelphia can't contend with is New England's huge experience advantage in the big game.

On the 53-man active roster the Patriots brought to Minnesota, 32 players have a combined 60 games of Super Bowl experience.

Tom Brady alone has been to the Super Bowl seven times during his 18-year career, winning five.

By comparison, the Eagles have seven players on their active roster who've won a Super Bowl. Two of those players, LeGarrette Blount and Chris Long, won their rings last season with the Patriots. The others are Torrey Smith, Malcolm Jenkins, Corey Graham, Dannel Ellerbe and Will Beatty. An eighth player, Chris Maragos, is on injured reserve with a knee injury.

It's a huge gulf. By comparison, the 2015 Panthers that lost to the Broncos in the Super Bowl that season had three players who had won a ring: Ed Dickson (Baltimore), Roman Harper (New Orleans) and Michael Oher (Baltimore).

But the Patriots say it's nothing they will spend time talking about this week.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New England Patriots fans hold placards and cheer during an NFL football Super Bowl send-off rally for the team on Monday in Foxborough, Massachusetts. The Patriots are to play the Philadelphia Eagles in the Super Bowl on Sunday in Minneapolis.

"I think it's overrated," said special teams captain Matt Slater, who will be appearing in his fourth Super Bowl.

Defensive end Trey Flowers said the coaching staff hasn't mentioned last year's Super Bowl win since it came up in film study prior to their regular-season meeting with Atlanta back in October.

"It's a brand new team, so I

wouldn't say last year's experience will have anything to do with the outcome of this game," Flowers said. "This team has a lot of different guys from a year ago, so it's something you've got to do all over again as far as experience goes."

Yes and no. New England actually returns 31 players who were on

last year's Super Bowl roster against the Falcons. That doesn't include injured linebacker Dont'a Hightower or receiver Julian Edelman.

Two of the Patriots' additions since then both played in the Super Bowl with other teams. Linebacker James Harrison won two rings with the Pittsburgh Steelers and defensive lineman Ricky Jean

Francois played on the San Francisco 49ers team that came up short against Baltimore in the Super Bowl at the end of the 2012 season.

"We know what to expect, but at the end of the day, you've got to perform," linebacker Kyle Van Noy said. "So there's really no upper hand. You've got to just play the game and get ready for it and play at a high level."

He said that is because there is respect across the board for what backup quarterback Nick Foles has accomplished since Carson Wentz tore his ACL in Week 14.

"Everyone wants to hate on Nick Foles, but he's done a great job," Van Noy said. "He's still a high-caliber quarterback, like Carson Wentz. Nick Foles is a great quarterback who's done a great job. They distribute the ball really well and their run game is at a high level."

More than experience on either side, linebacker Elandon Roberts said the biggest challenge is not getting caught up in the emotions that come with playing in a Super Bowl.

"Obviously it's all the marbles right here, but it's everything you work for," Roberts said. "So you've got to think back to what got you here: doing your job, not getting overwhelmed and what not. As long as we do that that takes away most of it."

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
11 a.m. — Professional Golf: Asian Tour Myanmar Open Final Round from Yangon, Myanmar (GOLF).
11:30 a.m. — Women's College Basketball: Kansas State at Oklahoma (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
Noon — Women's College Basketball: Fordham at St. Louis (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
2:55 p.m. — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Manchester United vs. Tottenham (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Tulane at East Carolina (ESPN2).
6:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Louisiana Stat at Tennessee (SEC NETWORK).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Houston at Cincinnati (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Louisville at Virginia (ESPN).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: West Virginia at Iowa State (ESPN).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Providence at Seton Hall (FOX SPORTS 1).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: Pittsburgh at Miami (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
7 p.m. — College Basketball: St. Bonaventure at George Mason (SPECTRUM 1250).
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: New York at Boston (ESPN).
8 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Philadelphia at Washington (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
8:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Memphis at South Florida (ESPN2).
8:30 p.m. — College Basketball: Mississippi State at South Carolina (SEC NETWORK, WDXY-FM 105.9, WNKT-FM 107.5, WDXY-AM 1240).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Connecticut at Central Florida (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Missouri at Alabama (ESPN2).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Texas at Texas Tech (ESPN).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Butler at Marquette (FOX SPORTS 1).
9 p.m. — College Basketball: Virginia Tech at Boston College (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
10:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Dallas at Phoenix (ESPN).
10:30 p.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Maybank Championship First Round from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (GOLF).
11 p.m. — College Basketball: Fresno State at Nevada (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
2:30 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Maybank Championship First Round from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (GOLF).

Tennessee 22, Kansas City 21
 Atlanta 26, Los Angeles Rams 13
 Sunday, Jan. 7
 Jacksonville 10, Buffalo 3
 New Orleans 31, Carolina 26

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

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

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

Super Bowl
 Sunday, Feb. 4
 At Minneapolis
 New England vs. Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	36	15	.706	—
Toronto	33	15	.688	1½
Philadelphia	24	23	.511	10
New York	22	28	.440	13½
Brooklyn	18	32	.360	17½
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	29	21	.580	—
Washington	27	22	.551	1½
Charlotte	20	29	.408	8½
Atlanta	15	35	.300	14
Orlando	14	34	.292	14
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	29	19	.604	—
Milwaukee	27	22	.551	2½
Indiana	28	23	.549	2½
Detroit	22	26	.458	7
Chicago	18	32	.360	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	35	13	.729	—
San Antonio	33	19	.635	4
New Orleans	27	22	.551	8½
Memphis	18	31	.367	17½
Dallas	16	35	.314	20½
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	32	21	.604	—
Oklahoma City	30	20	.600	½
Portland	27	22	.551	3
Denver	26	24	.520	4½
Utah	21	28	.429	9
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	40	10	.800	—
L.A. Clippers	25	24	.510	14½
L.A. Lakers	19	30	.388	20½
Phoenix	17	34	.333	23½
Sacramento	15	34	.306	24½

MONDAY
 Indiana 105, Charlotte 96
 Atlanta 105, Minnesota 100
 Memphis 120, Phoenix 109
 Milwaukee 107, Philadelphia 95
 Miami 95, Dallas 88
 Boston 111, Denver 110

TUESDAY
 Oklahoma City at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Brooklyn at New York, 7:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
 Cleveland at Detroit, 8 p.m.
 Orlando at Houston, 8 p.m.
 Sacramento at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
 Denver at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
 Golden State at Utah, 9 p.m.
 Portland at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY
 L.A. Lakers at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 Memphis at Indiana, 7 p.m.
 Charlotte at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
 Miami at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
 New York at Portland, 8 p.m.
 Chicago at Boston, 10 p.m.
 Dallas at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
 Memphis at Detroit, 7 p.m.
 Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Houston at San Antonio, 8 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
 Indiana at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
 Atlanta at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
 Portland at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
 Miami at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

New York at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
 New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 9 p.m.
 Utah at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
 Golden State at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Tampa Bay	49	34	12	3	71	175 125
Boston	47	29	10	8	66	156 116
Toronto	51	28	18	5	61	162 146
Detroit	48	19	21	8	46	126 146
Montreal	49	20	23	6	46	129 156
Florida	47	19	22	6	44	132 158
Ottawa	47	15	23	9	39	124 166
Buffalo	49	14	26	9	37	114 163
Metropolitan Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Washington	49	29	15	5	63	150 138
Columbus	49	27	19	3	57	131 137
Pittsburgh	51	27	21	3	57	151 153
New Jersey	48	24	16	8	56	144 146
Philadelphia	49	24	17	8	56	141 141
N.Y. Rangers	50	25	20	5	55	153 151
N.Y. Islanders	50	25	20	5	55	172 180
Carolina	49	22	19	8	52	137 154

WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Winnipeg	50	29	13	8	66	164 136
Nashville	47	29	11	7	65	145 123
St. Louis	51	30	18	3	63	148 130
Dallas	50	28	18	4	60	155 134
Colorado	48	27	18	3	57	157 139
Minnesota	49	26	18	5	57	144 140
Chicago	49	23	19	7	53	146 136
Pacific Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Vegas	48	32	12	4	68	164 128
San Jose	48	26	15	7	59	143 133
Calgary	49	25	16	8	58	137 135
Los Angeles	49	26	18	5	57	139 121
Anaheim	50	24	17	9	57	141 141
Edmonton	49	22	24	3	47	135 157
Vancouver	49	19	24	6	44	127 159
Arizona	50	12	29	9	33	118 172

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
 Monday's Games No games scheduled

TUESDAY
 Minnesota at Columbus, 7 p.m.
 San Jose at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
 Florida at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
 Anaheim at Boston, 7 p.m.
 Ottawa at Carolina, 7 p.m.
 New Jersey at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
 Montreal at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
 Chicago at Nashville, 8 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
 Vegas at Calgary, 9 p.m.
 Colorado at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

TODAY
 N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
 San Jose at Detroit, 8 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Washington, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY
 Toronto at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
 Montreal at Carolina, 7 p.m.
 St. Louis at Boston, 7 p.m.
 Florida at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
 Anaheim at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
 Philadelphia at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
 Vegas at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Nashville, 8:30 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Calgary, 9 p.m.
 Dallas at Arizona, 9 p.m.
 Colorado at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
 Chicago at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY
 Washington at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
 Detroit at Carolina, 7 p.m.
 San Jose at Columbus, 7 p.m.
 Vegas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S TOP 25 REULTS
 1. Villanova (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Creighton, Thursday.
 2. Virginia (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Louisville, Wednesday.
 3. Purdue (21-2) did not play. Next: vs. Maryland, Wednesday.
 4. Duke (19-3) beat Notre Dame 88-66. Next: at St. John's, Saturday.
 5. Michigan State (20-3) did not play. Next: vs. Penn State, Wednesday.
 6. Xavier (19-3) did not play. Next: at St. John's, Tuesday.
 7. Kansas (18-4) beat Kansas State 70-56. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Saturday.
 8. Cincinnati (19-2) did not play. Next: vs. Houston, Wednesday.
 9. Arizona (18-4) did not play. Next: at Washington State, Wednesday.
 10. Texas Tech (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Wednesday.
 11. Auburn (19-2) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Tuesday.
 12. Oklahoma (15-5) did not play. Next: vs. Baylor, Tuesday.
 13. Saint Mary's (21-2) did not play. Next: vs. San Francisco, Thursday.
 14. Gonzaga (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. San Diego,

Thursday.
 15. West Virginia (16-5) did not play. Next: at Iowa State, Wednesday.
 16. Wichita State (17-4) did not play. Next: at Temple, Thursday.
 17. Ohio State (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana, Tuesday.
 18. Tennessee (15-5) did not play. Next: vs. LSU, Wednesday.
 19. North Carolina (16-6) did not play. Next: at No. 20 Clemson, Tuesday.
 20. Clemson (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 19 North Carolina, Tuesday.
 21. Kentucky (16-5) did not play. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Tuesday.
 22. Rhode Island (17-3) did not play. Next: at UMass, Tuesday.
 23. Florida (15-6) did not play. Next: at Georgia, Tuesday.
 24. Michigan (18-6) beat Northwestern 58-47. Next: vs. Minnesota, Saturday.
 25. Arizona State (16-5) did not play. Next: at Washington, Thursday.

WOMEN'S TOP 25 RESULTS
 1. UConn (12-0) beat Memphis 93-36; beat Tulane 98-45.
 2. Mississippi State (22-0) beat Florida 90-53; beat Mississippi 69-49.
 3. Baylor (19-1) beat No. 6 Texas 81-56; beat No. 20 West Virginia 83-72.
 4. Louisville (22-1) beat Miami 84-74; beat Wake Forest 89-52.
 5. Notre Dame (20-2) beat Pittsburgh 87-53; beat No. 8 Florida State 100-69.
 6. Texas (16-4) lost to No. 3 Baylor 81-56; beat Iowa State 87-55.
 7. Oregon (20-3) beat Colorado 74-55; beat Utah 84-68.
 8. Florida State (18-3) lost to No. 5 Notre Dame 100-69.
 9. South Carolina (18-3) beat Arkansas 90-42; beat No. 11 Missouri 64-54.
 10. Tennessee (17-4) beat Mississippi 75-66; lost to LSU 70-59.
 11. Missouri (17-4) lost to No. 21 Georgia 62-50; lost to No. 9 South Carolina 64-54.
 12. Ohio State (17-5) lost to No. 14 Maryland 99-69; lost to Iowa 103-89; beat Michigan State 78-62.
 13. UCLA (17-4) beat Washington 86-69; beat Washington State 79-71.
 14. Maryland (18-3) beat No. 12 Ohio State 99-69; beat Northwestern 68-65.
 15. Texas A&M (17-5) beat LSU 69-59; beat Vanderbilt 91-67.
 16. Michigan (19-4) beat Michigan State 74-48; beat Northwestern 80-59.
 17. Oregon State (16-5) beat Utah 69-58; beat Colorado 86-71.
 18. Duke (17-5) beat Boston College 75-50; beat Pittsburgh 58-46.
 19. Oklahoma State (15-5) lost to Iowa State 78-69; beat Texas Tech 80-62.
 20. West Virginia (17-5) beat Texas Tech 82-52; lost to No. 3 Baylor 83-72.
 21. Georgia (19-2) beat No. 11 Missouri 62-50; beat Florida 66-57.
 22. Green Bay (19-2) beat UIC 65-36; beat IUPUI 52-45.
 23. California (15-6) beat Arizona 63-39; lost to No. 25 Arizona State 57-42.
 24. TCU (15-5) beat Kansas State 68-63; beat Oklahoma 62-58.
 25. Arizona State (15-7) lost to Stanford 74-50; beat No. 23 California 57-42.

TRANSACTIONS

TUESDAY
BASEBALL
American League
DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Travis Wood on a minor league contract.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Named Fernando Alcala director of baseball communications.
TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Jon Niese on a minor league contract.
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with RHP Neftali Feliz on a minor league contract.
CINCINNATI REDS — Agreed to terms with RHP David Hernandez on a two-year contract.
COLORADO ROCKIES — Agreed to terms with INF Shawn O'Malley and RHP Brooks Pounders on minor league contracts.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Manny Banuelos and Brian Moran, LHP/RHP Pat Venditte, C Shawn Zarraga, INFs Max Muncy and Donovan Solano, OFs Henry Ramos and Travis Tajerion and RHPs Daniel Corcino, CC Lee, Mark Lowe and Zach Nantz on minor league contracts.
MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Designated C Andrew Susac for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Matt Albers on a two-year contract.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Placed LHP Nik Turley on the restricted list.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
TENNESSEE TITANS — Named Dean Pees defensive coordinator and Matt LaFleur offensive coordinator.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Activated G Keith Kinkaid and D Mirco Mueller from injured reserve.
NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled D Tony DeAngelo and F Peter Holland from Hartford (AHL).
ECHL
GREENVILLE SWAMP RABBITS — Released F Shawn Bates.
SOCCER

GIRLS AREA ROUNDUP

Sumter runs away to 63-35 win over South Florence

Sumter High School turned a 19-16 halftime lead into a 46-27 advantage after three quarters on the way to a 63-35 varsity girls basketball win over South Florence on Tuesday at the SHS gymnasium.

The Lady Gamecocks, who improved to 13-5 on the season and 5-2 in Region VI-5A, out-scored SF 27-11 in the third quarter.

Kiara Jones had a double-double of 22 points and 10 rebounds for Sumter. Latrice Lyons added 15 points.

Layken Cox had seven points, while Tajanque Johnson had five points and seven rebounds and Tamerah Brown had five points and seven assists.

THOMAS SUMTER 44
CAROLINA 20

DALZELL — Aubrey Stoddard had 13 points and seven rebounds to lead Thomas Sumter Academy to a 44-20 victory over Carolina Academy on Tuesday at Edens Gymnasium.

Caetlyn Martin added

eight points for TSA. Josie Reed had six points and five assists, Taja Hunley had four points and 10 rebounds and Carmen Silvester had six rebounds and five steals.

Marley Ward led Carolina with 13 points.

WILSON HALL 59
ORANGEBURG PREP 30

ORANGEBURG — Natalie Jackson had a double-double of 14 points and 11 rebounds to lead Wilson Hall to a 59-30 win over Orangeburg Prep on Tuesday at the OP gymnasium.

The Lady Barons improved to 15-6 overall and 4-1 in SCISA Region II-3A.

Courtney Clark just missed a double-double for WH as she finished with 13 points and nine rebounds. Susanna Hutson connected on three 3-point baskets for nine points. Haley Roone McCaffrey had six points and Madison Elmore had five points, five steals and four rebounds.

Marlee Robinson led the Lady Indians with 12 points.

WILSON HALL
Segars 4, Elmore 5, Clark 13, Jackson 14, McCaffrey 6, Beasley 4, Hutson 9, Jarecki 4.

ORANGEBURG PREP
Robinson 12, Banks 1, Merritt 3, Summers 4, Livingston 3, Stroller 3.

JV BASKETBALL

LAURENCE MANNING 37
FLORENCE CHRISTIAN 33

MANNING — Audrey Bennett scored 23 points to lead Laurence Manning Academy to a 37-33 victory over Florence Christian School on Tuesday at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

Madison Truett added six for LMA, which improved to 8-3.

ORANGEBURG PREP 34
WILSON HALL 23

ORANGEBURG — Wilson Hall fell to 14-3 with a 34-23 loss to Orangeburg Prep on Tuesday at the OP gymnasium.

Gracyn Coker led the Lady Barons with nine points. Becca Cromer had eight.

From staff reports

BOYS AREA ROUNDUP

LMA stays perfect in region with 72-45 victory

MANNING — Laurence Manning Academy's varsity boys basketball team remained undefeated in SCISA Region II-3A with a 72-45 victory over Florence Christian School at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

The Swampcats improved to 14-5 on the season and 5-0 in region play.

Grayson Dennis led LMA with 19 points. Taylor Lee had 12, while Chase Lee had 11 and Wyatt Rowland and Jake Jordan both had eight.

Laurence Manning plays at Thomas Sumter Academy today.

JV BASKETBALL

LEE CENTRAL 53
CENTRAL 41

BISHOPVILLE — Lee Central High School had three players score in double figures in a 53-41 victory over Central on Tuesday at the LC gymnasium.

KJ Holloman led the Stallions with 13. Omari Martin added 13 and Daurrion Kelly had 10.

ORANGEBURG PREP 37
WILSON HALL 29

ORANGEBURG — Wilson Hall fell to 9-8 with a 37-29 loss

to Orangeburg Prep on Tuesday at the OP gymnasium.

Nathan Harris led the Barons with eight points.

B TEAM BASKETBALL

THOMAS SUMTER 31
ROBERT E. LEE 15

BISHOPVILLE — Thomas Sumter Academy improved to 7-3 with a 31-15 victory over Robert E. Lee Academy on Tuesday at the REL gymnasium.

Sammy Kessinger led the Generals with 12 points and five assists. Brandon Burns had nine points and nine rebounds.

KNIGHTS

FROM PAGE B1

way, whatever happened, just keep playing.”

The Lady Knights led 27-19 at halftime and it looked as though they had taken control of the game with a 10-0 run. Jah'Che Whitfield hit six free throws during that stretch and Washington's bucket gave CHS the 17-point advantage.

A seemingly innocent layup by HHS' Saquita Joyner was followed by a Crestwood turnover. Joyner sank two free throws before the Lady Knights turned it over the inbounds play. Taleah Stephens hit a layup and another turnover under the basket led to a Tarewyn Dawson jumper. Suddenly, it was 43-34 with 2:14 left in the quarter.

“We let them back in the game right there,” Crosby said. “We had a chance to put them away, but we didn't.”

Dawson drilled two 3-point shots and Jazolyn Pendergrass added one with one second left in the quarter to

make it 49-43.

Destinee Jamison converted a 3-point play with 7:25 left in the final stanza to put CHS up 52-43. That didn't slow the Lady Foxes though; they reeled off 13 straight points to go up 56-52 with 3:36 to go.

Joyner, who didn't score in the first half but had 19 in the second half, tied the game with a trey. She then got loose on a fast break layup and sank two free throws for the 4-point cushion.

“We knew that she would step up for us,” Gibson said of Joyner.

The Lady Knights managed to pull within one on two different occasions, the final time coming at 62-61 after two Jamison free throws with 57 seconds left. HHS beat the press and Joyner hit a layup off a nice assist by Mary Bishop-Tucker with 39 seconds to go.

Crestwood followed with a turnover and Joyner hit a free throw with 12 seconds left to put the game out of reach.

After Joyner's 19, Dawson had 16, Stephens 12 and Pendergrass 11.

Whitfield led CHS with 19. Jamison had 18 and Monijah Lewis tacked on eight.

Crestwood is going for its eighth straight region title. If the teams finish tied for the region lead, the Lady Knights would get the No. 1 seed in the state playoffs based on margin of victory. Each has two games remaining.

“We may be in the driver's seat, but we've got two tough games left,” Crosby said. “We play Lakewood on Friday and then Darlington next Tuesday. We can't take anything for granted.”

In the boys contest, Hartsville came away with a 49-44 victory. The Red Foxes, who improved to 13-8 overall and 3-3 in region play, broke away from a 10-10 tie after one quarter and led 21-15 at the half. They led 36-29 after three quarters.

Crestwood, which fell to 4-16 and 0-6, were led in scoring by Nazir Andino with 17. Kwaleek Jones and Jamel Walton both had six.

Kyron Gray led HHS with 16 points. Donquail Bishop and Dashawn Davis both had 12.

TIGERS

FROM PAGE B1

those coming in the second half.

The Tar Heels played almost all of the game without starting forward Theo Pinson, who strained his left shoulder when he crashed hard to the court going for a rebound.

BIG PICTURE

North Carolina: The Tar Heels have a serious problem at the point brewing if Pinson needs time to recover from a left shoulder strain. North Carolina is already without an injured Seventh Woods and suspended Jalek Felton. Pinson was the lone experienced, reliable option to run things when Berry needs a breather. Woods has been sidelined since December with a foot injury. Pinson hurt himself early against Clemson when he took a hard foul trying to get a rebound. Andrew Platek, a freshman who's averaged eight minutes a game this season, played 11 minutes in the first half.

Clemson: The Tigers also needs ways to overcome their sudden lack of depth at forward. Starter Donte Grantham was lost for the

(20) CLEMSON 82, (19) NORTH CAROLINA 78

NORTH CAROLINA (16-7)
Maye 2-8 0-0 4, Pinson 0-0-0 0, Williams 2-6 1-1 6, Johnson 10-18 6-6 32, Berry 10-16 4-4 27, Huffman 0-1 0-0 0, Manley 3-6 0-0 6, Brooks 1-3 0-0 2, Robinson 0-2 1-3 1, Platek 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 28-62 12-14 78.

CLEMSON (18-4)
Thomas 3-11 5-11 11, Skara 1-3 2-2 5, Mitchell 4-10 3-4 14, Reed 5-15 7-7 20, DeVoe 6-12 0-0 17, Simms 2-3 1-2 6, William 1-3 0-0 3, Trapp 2-4 1-1 6. Totals 24-61 19-27 82.

Halftime, Clemson 44-28, 3-Point Goals, North Carolina 10-24 (Johnson 6-10, Berry 3-7, Williams 1-3, Robinson 0-1, Platek 0-1, Maye 0-2), Clemson 15-30 (DeVoe 5-8, Mitchell 3-6, Reed 3-8, William 1-1, Simms 1-2, Trapp 1-2, Skara 1-3), Fouled Out, None. Rebounds, North Carolina 36 (Maye 9), Clemson 31 (Reed 8), Assists, North Carolina 14 (Berry 4), Clemson 17 (Reed 5). Total Fouls, North Carolina 20, Clemson 18.

season with a torn ACL against Notre Dame on Jan. 20. This past Sunday, Mark Donnal suffered a concussion and missed the contest with North Carolina. If Donnal's symptoms continue, Clemson must get production from freshmen Amir Simms and Malik William.

UP NEXT

North Carolina returns home to play Pitt on Saturday night. Clemson travels to Wake Forest on Saturday.

SCBCA TOP 10 POLLS

BOYS

- 5A**
1. Blythewood
2. Conway
3. Dorman
4. West Ashley
5. Wade Hampton
6. Sumter
7. Nation Ford
8. Westside
9. Gaffney
10. Spring Valley

4A

1. Wilson
2. Greenville
3. Aiken
4. Berkeley
5. Westwood
6. A.C. Flora
7. Ridge View
8. Travelers Rest
9. North Augusta
10. Orangeburg-Wilkinson

3A

1. Ridgeland-Hardeeville
2. Southside
3. Manning
4. Loris
5. Chester
6. Newberry
7. Chapman
8. Clinton
9. Wade Hampton
10. Bluffton

2A

1. Gray Collegiate
2. Carvers Bay
3. Lee Central
4. Keenan
5. Calhoun County
6. North Charleston
7. Silver Bluff
8. Marion
9. Landrum
10. St. Joseph's

1A

1. Hemingway
2. Great Falls
3. Lowcountry Leadership
4. Hunter-Kinard-Tyler
5. Williston-Elko
6. High Point Academy
7. McCormick
8. Lewisville
9. Ridge Spring-Monetta
10. McBee

GIRLS

- 5A**
1. Spring Valley
2. Goose Creek
3. Woodmont
4. Rock Hill
5. Wade Hampton
6. Carolina Forest
7. Fort Dorchester
8. Greenwood
9. Nation Ford
10. Sumter

4A

1. North Augusta
2. Richland Northeast
3. Westwood
4. Crestwood
5. Orangeburg-Wilkinson
6. Myrtle Beach
7. Wilson
8. Hartsville
9. Greenville
10. North Myrtle Beach

3A

1. Emerald
2. Newberry
3. Ridgeland-Hardeeville
4. Pendleton
5. Bishop England
6. Swansea
7. Battery Creek
8. Manning
9. Dillon
10. Loris

2A

1. Marion
2. Mullins
3. Barnwell
4. Brashier Middle
5. Blacksburg
6. Landrum
7. Andrew Jackson
8. Christ Church
9. Burke
10. Batesburg-Leesville

1A

1. East Clarendon
2. Green Sea-Floyds
3. Lamar
4. Ridge Spring-Monetta
5. Blackville-Hilda
6. Denmark-Olar
7. C.E. Murray
8. Palmetto Scholars Academy
9. Charleston Math & Science
10. Estill

POLLS

FROM PAGE B1

In the other boys polls, Wilson stayed atop 4A,

Ridgeland-Hardeeville 3A and Gray Collegiate 2A. In the girls poll, Spring Valley is still No. 1 in 5A, North Augusta in 4A, Emerald in 3A and Marion in 2A.

Keeping Sumter Beautiful

Katie Altman, Water Resources Extension Agent

Provide for Wildlife

Carolina Yards is a program offered through Clemson Extension that “seeks to work with residents in creating healthy, watershed-friendly landscapes.” One of the ways Carolina Yards teaches about sustainable landscaping practices is through the Carolina Yards online course, which we are currently working to make even better than ever!

Carolina Yards gives you a list of actions you can take to improve your yard. Each action you take earns you “inches” and when you reach 36 inches, you have a certified Carolina Yard. You don't have to take the online course to participate in the Carolina Yards program. You can purchase a workbook for \$16 online or at your local Clemson Extension office, but you will gain a wealth of information in the online course that will help you make an impact in your yard and in your local ecosystem.

Let's look at just one of the Carolina Yards principles: “Provide for Wildlife.” This principle is made up of 6 specific actions that will help you provide a healthy ecosystem that supports native wildlife. An ecosystem is the interconnections between plants, animals, and their physical environment. Here are the 6 actions you can take to start gardening like a local:

1. Learn to identify 5 kinds of wildlife that live in your yard
2. Plant native vegetation to provide wildlife habitat.
3. Provide a water source, such as a birdbath or pond.
4. Keep natural wildlife shelters in your yard that may include wood piles and older trees. Bugs and insects are an important food source for other wildlife.
5. Provide wildlife shelters, such as bat or bird houses.
6. Establish a butterfly garden by providing nectar and host plants for butterflies and beneficial insects.

These actions won't just be good for the environment and wildlife; they'll also create an enjoyable habitat for you! You'll be able to sit in your yard and enjoy the plant life while watching butterflies or other native wildlife.

To learn more about Carolina Yards, visit clemson.edu/cy. To learn more about the online course, click on the “Online Course” tab on the left side of the screen.

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.

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Mediocre score, rousing success in Tiger's return

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — One year later, Tiger Woods looked five years younger.

There are intangibles that are hard to measure, though at this stage in his return, they mean more than the traditional measure of a golfer.

Woods was walking just as tall at the end of the week as when he arrived at Torrey Pines for the Farmers Insurance Open, and not just because he played four rounds on the PGA Tour for the first time in 29 months.

It's not often that Woods says words like "pleased" and "positive" after a tie for 23rd.

But it would be hard to argue with him.

This did not look like the previous five comebacks from when he had the

ON THE FRINGE



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Despite finishing in a tie for 23rd, Tiger Woods' return to the PGA Tour in the Farmers Insurance Open was considered a rousing success.

first of four back surgeries a week before the 2014 Masters. There was no sense of how long he would last, rath-

er how long it would take for him to get sharper.

"Ninety holes over five days in a row ... I know he did that in the Bahamas, but those were 3½ hours, and now we're playing five-hour rounds," caddie Joe LaCava said. "That makes a difference because you're adding about seven, eight hours on your feet, playing golf, thinking about what to hit, and hitting shots. So I'm glad he got through that. I'm not saying health isn't going to be an issue, but it certainly looks better than it has."

The only concern was off the tee. Woods hit 17 out of 56 fairways for the week, tied for last among the 77 players who made the cut. He hit only three fairways in each of the final three rounds, and his drive on the par-5 10th hole on the North Course was 65 yards left of the edge of the fairway.

But then, that might have worked in his favor.

How else would he get a sense that his back could handle so many violent swings required to get him out of that mess?

"Some of the shots I had to hit out of the rough, out of the trees, shaping them both ways, and a few times I had to jack up the speed," Woods said after the final round. "And had no issues at all."

The issue was being there in the first place, but there's time.

Woods headed home for two weeks before he comes back out to California for the Genesis Open at Riviera, a course where he made his PGA Tour debut at age 16 in 1992 but last played in 2006. He's likely to play the Honda Classic a week later, and then have two weeks off before the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill.

SPORTS ITEMS

MLB will try experiment to speed up All-Star game

NEW YORK — A runner would be put on second base at the start of the 11th inning of the All-Star Game and each additional inning, according to the latest pace-of-game proposal by Major League Baseball.

The experiment also would be used in the 10th inning of spring training games, according to the Jan. 9 proposal obtained by The Associated Press. Spring training games would be capped at 10 innings.

Concerned about injuries in games that don't count, the players' association isn't expected to oppose the concept. MLB isn't considering using the rule in any games that count.

Baseball experimented with the rule last year at the rookie level Gulf Coast and Arizona leagues.

INJURED MIAMI GUARD BROWN EXPECTED TO MISS ABOUT 6 WEEKS

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Miami Hurricanes guard Bruce Brown Jr. is expected to be sidelined for about six weeks because of a left foot injury that will require surgery, meaning he's likely to miss the rest of the regular season.

The team says surgery is scheduled for Thursday. Brown suffered the injury in practice Monday. The Hurricanes (15-5, 4-4 Atlantic Coast Conference) play at home Wednesday against Pittsburgh.

The injury is the latest setback in a disappointing season for Brown, a sophomore considered a possible NBA first-round draft pick this year. He's averaging 11.4 points and shooting 42 percent, including 27 percent from 3-point range. All of those figures are a decline from his freshman season.

If Brown is sidelined six weeks, his return would coincide with the ACC tournament.

FORMER PADRES, DIAMONDBACKS GM KEVIN TOWERS DIES OF CANCER

SAN DIEGO — Kevin Towers, whose 14-year tenure as general manager of the San Diego Padres included an appearance in the 1998 World Series, has died from complications of cancer. He was 56.

Friend and former agent Barry Axelrod said Towers died Tuesday at a hospital. Towers' wife, Kelley, was at his side.

Towers was diagnosed with a rare form of thyroid cancer a little more than a year ago.

Axelrod said Towers was admitted to a hospital with fluid on his lungs a few days ago, and friends and family members thought he would be able to go home Tuesday.

As he spoke last week about being elected to the Hall of Fame, former Padres closer Trevor Hoffman grew emotional when he mentioned Towers' influence on his career.

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Find Kid Scoop on Facebook

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Sunny Question

Why are sunny winter days COLD, while sunny summer days are HOT? Kid Scoop's winter expert Dr. I. Cicle explains it all!

As you can see, it's a sunny winter day here and ...

YEAH! It's a sunny day! Let's hit the waves, Bro!

Uh, Dude, there's something really wrong with this sand. It's, like, frozen!

That's because it isn't sand. It's snow!

SNOW? But it's, like, sunny today. So why isn't the snow, like, melted?

I'm glad you asked! Let's pretend this snowball is Earth.

Earth is, like, WAY bigger, Dude!

The Earth tilts on its axis as it travels around the sun. In the winter, if the part of the Earth where you live is tilted away from the sun, it gets indirect sunlight.

Indirect sunlight doesn't warm up the Earth as much as the direct sunlight we get in the summer.

That is so cool! Now, why is this sand so COLD?

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know that weather can be observed, measured and described; changes in weather and seasons are affected by the Earth's position.

Experiment Tells All

Try this experiment to understand the difference between indirect and direct sunlight.

Keep track of your work on a separate sheet of paper like the Scientist's Notebook.

Stuff you need:

- 2 metal pie tins or flat pans
- a sunny winter day
- watch or clock
- a rock

What to do:

- Lay one pan flat on the ground in the direct sunlight. (Fig. 1)
- Tilt the other pan on its side. Lean it against a rock or a shoe. This pan is being hit with indirect sunlight. (Fig. 2)
- Wait three minutes.
- Which pan is warmer?

Standards Link: Investigation: Students will make predictions based on observation; answer meaningful questions and draw conclusions.

(Fig. 1) direct sunlight

(Fig. 2) indirect sunlight

SCIENTIST'S NOTEBOOK

Question	Hypothesis	Observation	Conclusion
Which pan do you think will feel warmer after three minutes in the winter sun?	What do you think the answer to the question is? <input type="checkbox"/> pan in direct sunlight <input type="checkbox"/> pan in indirect sunlight	Which pan was warmer in three minutes? <input type="checkbox"/> pan in direct sunlight <input type="checkbox"/> pan in indirect sunlight	Was your hypothesis correct? What did you learn from this experiment?

Standards Link: Language Arts/Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Without the Sun ...

Without the sun we wouldn't have newspapers because newsprint is made from trees and trees need the sun to grow. Look through the newspaper for other things that need the sun to exist.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand the main idea and supporting details in expository text.

Sun Spot Mystery

The sun is covered with spots! Use the spots to solve the mystery questions.

How far is the sun from the Earth?
220 million miles (149.6 million km)

How long does it take the sun to make one complete rotation?
28 Earth days

What is the diameter of the sun?
1.4 million km

WARNING! Never look directly at the sun as this can damage your eyesight!

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know about the sun, planets and stars.

Kid Scoop Word Search

SUNLIGHT EXPERIMENT SUMMER MILES PAPER DIAMETER HYPOTHESIS METAL WINTER SAND SNOWBALL PAN AXIS SHOE

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Who cares about the weather?

Why is the weather report important to different people? Why is it important to a farmer, an astronaut or a fireman? Find an article or picture in the newspaper of a person who cares about the weather. Tell why this person cares.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand the main idea and supporting details in expository text.

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PRO BASKETBALL

Pistons take a risk to salvage season by adding Griffin

BY NOAH TRISTER
The Associated Press

DETROIT — With his team in a slump that threatened to derail a once-promising season, Stan Van Gundy boldly put the Detroit Pistons on a new path.

Where it will lead is anyone's guess.

The trade that brought Blake Griffin to the Pistons includes plenty of risk. The 6-foot-10 forward with an All-Star pedigree has a lengthy highlight reel and an injury history to match. But in his fourth season as Detroit's coach and team president, Van Gundy wasn't going to let this opportunity pass. If healthy, Griffin is the type of player who could lift this franchise significantly — and not just this season.

"The hardest thing to do in this league is to get a proven star," Van Gundy said Tuesday. "You get very few opportunities to do it."

Detroit has made the playoffs once under Van Gundy, but when the Pistons lost their eighth straight game Sunday, this season seemed to be slipping away. Detroit has looked lost without injured point guard Reggie Jackson, and although center Andre Drummond is signed long term, the future appeared murky at best.

Guard Avery Bradley was on an expiring contract, and recent draft picks Luke Kennard and Stanley Johnson look more like role players than stars. The Pistons weren't in a clear rebuilding mode, but improving the roster wasn't going to be easy.

So Detroit took a gamble, sending Bradley and leading scorer Tobias Harris to Los Angeles for Griffin in a six-player trade announced Tuesday morning. The deal also cost the Pistons a first-round draft pick.

"It's a great addition," said De-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Los Angeles Clippers dealt forward Blake Griffin, right, to the Detroit Pistons on Tuesday as Detroit dramatically shook up its struggling roster. The deal for the five-time All-Star gives Detroit a player who has been the face of the Clippers, but whose career has been undercut by injuries.

troit forward Reggie Bullock, who once played with Griffin on the Clippers. "We're getting an All-Star-caliber player coming to a team to add onto the one that we already have."

The upside is obvious. The Pistons have been mediocre for most of the past decade, but they've never picked higher than seventh in the draft during that period. Detroit isn't considered a major free agent destination, so if the Pistons were going to acquire a player like Griffin, this was one way to do it.

Griffin agreed to a \$171 million, five-year deal with the Clippers in July, so Detroit can keep him for a while, albeit at a prohibitive cost.

"Everybody can view that differ-

ently. 'Oh wow, you're locked into 140 million dollars-plus.' Yeah, but he's locked into us too, as one of the best players in the league," Van Gundy said.

The 28-year-old Griffin has averaged 21.6 points, 9.3 rebounds and 4.2 assists in his career, and he and the 24-year-old Drummond could be a formidable frontcourt tandem. Van Gundy acknowledged that the NBA has become more perimeter oriented, but he says there is value in trying to build a different type of team.

"Like the Tampa Bay Rays in baseball. Everybody wanted power hitting and on-base percentage. They couldn't get that. What did

they go do? They went and built it on relief pitching and defense, and were very, very competitive for years," Van Gundy said. "So we're not in a situation where we can be that choosy, and we can't necessarily go and try to do it the same way as everybody else."

The question is whether Griffin can stay healthy. The Clippers drafted him first overall in 2009, but he missed the 2009-10 season after surgery on his broken left kneecap. He also missed 21 games last season and 47 in 2015-16.

If Griffin isn't able to stay on the court, that big contract will become quite a burden for the Pistons — and even if he is healthy, Detroit may need to be creative to build a capable supporting cast around him and Drummond.

Van Gundy already suggested that it will be hard for the Pistons to make another major move before this year's trade deadline next week.

"If you look at our roster, and the fact that we gave up a pick and the whole thing, we don't have a ton of assets now to really do anything major," he said. "But it doesn't mean something couldn't come up."

No matter how this deal turns out, it feels like a tipping point for Van Gundy, the kind of trade that could define his tenure in Detroit. The Pistons will have a hard time withstanding any significant decline in Griffin's performance, but if he remains the star he's been for much of his career, his arrival could be a big step in the right direction.

"Since we've gotten here, all of our discussions have talked about, you know, how do you get that guy? How do you get the real superior talents in this league?" Van Gundy said. "You've got to have one of those guys."

OBITUARIES

MARTHA A. JACKSON

MANNING — Martha Ann Frazier Mooror Jackson, 74, wife of Samuel Jackson Sr.



and widow of Woodrow Mooror, died Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018, a daughter of the late Henry Frazier and Ona Pearson Frazier. Funeral services for Mrs. Jackson will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at Manning Deliverance Temple, 6422 June Burn Road, Manning. Pastor Jacqueline Fulmore will officiate, and burial will follow in Carolina-Johnson Cemetery, Manning.

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

PATRICIA A. HODGE

Patricia Anne Hodge, 52, passed peacefully at her home on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018, in Sumter.

Patricia, or "Patty" as her loved ones called her, was born in the town of Reno, Nevada, on April 19, 1965. She was the first child, and only

girl, of James and Thelma Mowatt. She traveled with her family throughout her childhood, attending school in Niceville, Florida, and Leysin, Switzerland. As an adult, she went on to have two children, priding herself on being a caregiver and a loving mother and grandmother. Known for her ease in frequent conversation with even total strangers, she touched the lives of those who had the opportunity to know her. Her love of music, animals, laughter and her family, whether by blood or not, was a gift that will continue to give long after her passing. Her signature trait of joy, shown through her constant smiling, laughter and unique sense of humor, will never be forgotten.

She is survived by her father, James Mowatt; brother, James "Jimmy" Mowatt; two children, Joseph Mowatt and Veronica Fisk; and four grandchildren, along with numerous friends.

Patty was preceded in death by her beloved mother, Thelma Mowatt.

A memorial service will be held in the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday at 2 p.m.

You may go to www.bullockfuneralhome.com and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



KENNETH JAMES

Kenneth (Kenny) James was born Nov. 17, 1958, to Lille Mae James Robinson and the late Gilbert Burgess. He passed away Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, at the home of his mother. He was a graduate of Sumter High School. Kenneth had two passions: working on cars and cooking. Anyone that knew Kenny knows that he never met a stranger, and he was never at a loss for words.

He leaves to cherish his memories his mother, Lillie Mae James Robinson of Sumter; a son, Kenneth Avery James of Woodbridge, Virginia; two daughters, Kennetta Chalys James of Woodbridge, Virginia, and Jellycatu Kenya James of Springfield, Virginia; one

grandson, Vaughn Latham James Ganzales of Woodbridge, Virginia; four sisters, Janis (Robert) Mivens of Athens, Alabama, Stephanie (Jerome) Bennett, Rosezetta (Harry) Titus, both of Sumter, and Sherondah (Timothy) Volt of Colonial Heights, Virginia; seven brothers, Michael Burgess of Lexington, North Carolina, Antonio (Delma) Burgess of Fayetteville, North Carolina, Reginald Burgess of Sanderford, North Carolina, James Robinson Jr. and Patrick Robinson of Sumter, Andre Burgess of Southern Pines, North Carolina, and Darrell Burgess of Charlotte; along with a life-long family friend Anne (Elijah) Walker of Sumter, two very close friends of Kenneth's, Wayne Durant of Sumter and Edward Goodwill of Bowie, Maryland; and many other relatives, loved ones and friends.

He is preceded in death by his sister, Peggy Ann Robinson of Asheville, North Carolina; his father, Gilbert Burgess of Fayetteville, North Carolina, and stepfather James W. Robinson of Sumter.

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

Funeral services will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at Job's Mortuary Parlor, 312 S. Main St., Sumter.

Family will receive friends at the home, 110 Fagan St., Sumter.

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

RAKESHKUMAR D. PAREKH

Rakeshkumar D. Parekh, age 47, died on Monday, Jan. 29, 2018, in Macon, Georgia.

Services will be held on Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel.

You may go to www.bullockfuneralhome.com and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Card of Thanks

Dr. Isaac C. Joe, Sr.
We would like to express, with sincere gratitude, how much we love and appreciate all who have spent time and sent their condolences over the passing weeks. Your acts of kindness have been felt through your visits, your flowers, and your words of encouragement. We cannot begin to express how much your many kind words about the late, Dr. Isaac C. Joe, Sr. has meant to our family. With sincere thanks,
The Joe Family (Blanche, Veronica, Sommer, and Chris)

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Camp Bob Cooper (Clemson University Youth Learning Institute), Sumterton, SC is now hiring for Part-Time Food Service Workers, no more than 28 hours per week, shifts vary, some weekends. Must have a valid ID, reliable transportation, and be able to pass a background check. Please Call: 803-478-2105
Clemson University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Exp. Trailer switcher needed in Sumter to move trailers in yard. Do washouts & minor repairs. Thurs., Fri. & Sun. 7 am - 5 pm. Must have 2 yrs exp. CDL & clean driving record. 803-938-2708 M-F 9am-3pm lv msg.

Trucking Opportunities

Burch's Landscaping P/T & F/T Triaxle Dump Truck Operator Wanted. Clean CDL & Experience a must! Retirees welcome. Box 467 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

NOW HIRING Exp. Class A CDL drivers (OTR). Must be able to pass D.O.T physical exam & alcohol/drug screen. At least 1 year flatbed exp. Must be able to work Mon - Fri. Call Darrell at 803-410-0178.

Medical Help Wanted

Pediatric office with FT/PT opening for receptionist. Requires EHR/Computer experience, and good communication skills. Bring in or mail resume with salary requirements to: 380 W. Wesmark Blvd. Bldg. B, Sumter, SC 29150

RENTALS

Rooms for Rent

Men's Large room for rent No deposit, No lease. Call 803-565-7924.

Unfurnished Apartments

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

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

Unfurnished Homes

Lg 3BR 1.5 BA C/H/A, \$650 mo. Call 803-394-2112 or 803-757-0083.

Mobile Home Rentals

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

Country Living DW 3BR 2BA on a Pond \$750 Mo + Deposit. References required. Call 803 469-9353

REAL ESTATE

Homes for Sale



150 Milton, Price reduced! 2 Br, lg. corner lot, great shape. Financing avail. 803-464-5960 / 803-775-4391

Homes for Sale



11 Bonview: 3 Br, CHA, fresh paint, new carpet, nice fenced lot. Financing available. Call 803-775-4391 or 464-5960

TRANSPORTATION

Vans / Trucks / Buses

2006 Fleetwood Bounder, diesel, 38 ft. Totally furnished & appliances. 20,000 mi. Asking \$55,000. Call 843-380-1193.

Antiques / Classic Cars

For Sale: 1948 Chevy, 2 door. 1948 Chevy restored 4 dr. 87 Camaro, \$1500, Call 803-236-6426

Miscellaneous



Refurbished batteries as low as \$45. **New batteries** as low as \$65. 6v golf cart battery as low as \$65. Auto Electric Co., 102 Blvd Rd. 803-773-4381

the Sumter ITEM Classifieds
YOUR SOURCE FOR A QUICK SALE!
36 W. Liberty St. • Sumter, SC 29150
803-774-1200

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 4194 Broad Street Sumter, SC 29154 to satisfy a lien on February 8th 2017 at 11:00 AM at www.storage-treasures.com

Cube 190-Donald L. Lucas
Cube 154-Dennis Wells
Cube 10-Steve Davies

Bid Notices

INVITATION TO BID

The Sumter County Public Works is soliciting separate sealed bids from qualified vendors for the following projects:

PAVING OF CEDARWOOD DR, BIRCH CT, SYCAMORE DR, BENNETT DR, DANIEL TAYLOR LN, MAYRANT RD, SAXTON RD, TIMBER SAND RD, AND VIXEN LOOP

Bids will be received until 10:00 A.M. Thursday, February 22, 2018 in the Sumter County Public Works Conference Room located at 1289 North Main Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29153.

Plans and bid documents may be obtained from:

Sumter County Public Works
1289 North Main Street
Sumter, South Carolina 29153
Email: khyatt@sumtercountysc.org
Phone: (803) 436-2241
Or
Davis & Floyd, Inc.
240 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 305
Columbia, SC 29210
Email: twarren@davisfloyd.com
Phone: (803) 256-4121

Any written questions should be emailed to twarren@davisfloyd.com no later than Tuesday February 13, 2018 at 4:00 pm.

The County of Sumter reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The County of Sumter reserves the right to waive any or all technicalities.

Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting
Wednesday, February 14, 2018 @ 9:00 am
Meet at County Public Works' office
1289 North Main Street

Summons & Notice

HEARING NOTICE
FILE NO.: 2017-DR-43-468
IN THE FAMILY COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER

Heyward, Harold Plaintiff

Davis, Letisha and Bostic, Roland Dwight Defendant.

TO: DWIGHT C. MOORE, Esq.

A Hearing has been set in the above matter for the 6th day of March, 2018 at 09:30 o'clock A. M.

You are hereby notified to be present in the chambers of the Family Court of the THIRD Judicial Circuit, located at 215 North Harvin Street at the aforesaid time.

TYPE: ADOPTION HEARING
TIME ALLOTTED: 1 Hour

THIS CASE WILL BE HEARD BY:
JUDGE ANGELA R. TAYLOR

IT IS ORDERED that the attorney requesting the hearing shall notify the opposing Counsel or party of the date of the hearing as the Clerk's office will send notices of Hearing only to the requesting attorney.

****BE ADVISED THAT WHILE A CASE IS SET BEFORE A CERTAIN JUDGE, SUCH DESIGNATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.**

SUMTER COUNTY FAMILY COURT
215 NORTH HARVIN STREET
SUMTER, S.C. 29150-4900



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CALL 803-774-1258
Customer Service
Dept. Hours
Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm

the Sumter ITEM 36 W. Liberty Street
803-774-1258

the Sumter ITEM

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.**

#MeToo movement is starting to show generational divides

BY DAVID CRARY
and TAMARA LUSH/Associated Press

Where there has been solidarity and safety in numbers in the #MeToo movement, there is now also an increasingly apparent generational divide. And it's not just among women.

Compared to their elders, younger women are seen as generally more willing to speak out about being sexually harassed and bring a new set of expectations to their sexual relationships. There are also generational differences in approach to dating relationships, and in expectations that, if spoken, their concerns about sexual misconduct would be received without repercussion.

Baby Boomer women "took it for granted they wouldn't be heard" by men, especially in sexual situations, said Amy Lynch, a Nashville-based consultant who helps employers navigate generational relationships in the workplace. Millennial women — those in their 20s and 30s — are more likely to have grown up in environment supportive of gender equality, with the expectation — not always fulfilled — that they'll be attentively listened to in those circumstances.

"I have sometimes joked that my generation is feminism's Frankensteins," said Courtney Martin, 38, an author and blogger. "Our mothers raised us to believe we deserved sexual equality, but now that we're actually demanding it, it can seem overly entitled or sensitive to them."

Debra Katz, a Washington lawyer specializing in cases of sexual harassment and sex discrimination, says younger women make up the bulk of clients bringing complaints to her firm.

"Women historically felt they would immediately lose their job if they came forward with sexual harassment complaints," Katz said. "Among the younger generation, people are not suffering in silence... The advice

they're getting now is to come forward and report it."

Generational differences surfaced in two highly publicized offshoots of the #MeToo movement earlier this month.

In France, there was a notable backlash — led by younger women — in response to an open letter signed by 74-year-old movie star Catherine Deneuve and dozens of other women about men being unfairly targeted by sexual misconduct allegations. Among those assailing Deneuve were feminist Caroline De Haas, 37, and France's gender equality minister, 35-year-old Marlene Schiappa.

In the U.S., some perceived a generational gap in reaction to the detailed account by a woman identified as "Grace" of a sexual encounter with comedian Aziz Ansari that left her feeling disrespected and abused. Among older women, there were suggestions that Grace should have been more vocal and assertive in dealing with what amounted to a bad date. Among younger women, there was blame for Ansari and suggestions he had pressured Grace without heeding her words and body language.

Among millennial men such as Ansari — who is 34 — there's a cultural contradiction at play, according to sociologist W. Bradford Wilcox, director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia.

"There's a public embrace of more egalitarian, feminist sensibilities and ideas," he said, but that often doesn't carry over to their private approach to sexual encounters.

As for millennial women, Wilcox said, "there's a tension between what they're expecting in terms of men being more egalitarian, and then finding in private that things don't match their expectations."

At a crowded coffee shop in St. Petersburg, Florida, Lauren Caplinger, 20, said this



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lauren Caplinger, 20, sits in a coffee shop while she uses a computer to do her homework in St. Petersburg, Florida, on Monday. The University of South Florida public relations major says this moment in gender relations is an "overwhelming" and "ambiguous" time for men and women. "The set rules and lines, things that we thought were rules, are kind of dissipating, and everything is becoming blurry," she said.

'Our mothers raised us to believe we deserved sexual equality, but now that we're actually demanding it, it can seem overly entitled or sensitive to them.'

COURTNEY MARTIN, 38

moment in gender relations is an "overwhelming" and "ambiguous" time for both sexes.

"The set rules and lines, things that we thought were rules, are kind of dissipating, and everything is becoming blurry," said Caplinger, a public relations major at the University of South Florida.

On one hand, she felt comfortable enough to go up to a guy at a club and offer to buy him a drink — something her mother chided her for — and on the other, is curious about some of the dating rituals of old that she's heard her mother and grandmother talk about.

"I haven't been picked up for a date in like, pfft, ever," she said. "I've always wanted my way out in case I want to leave."

A few seats away, Kelsey Stephenson, 28, discussed the differences she sees in how older and younger women

view the #MeToo movement.

Older women look at the some of the troublesome incidents and assume, "that's the way men are, and we had to deal with that," Stephenson said. "Younger women have the vocabulary and tools to describe it... These are conversations that are uncomfortable but are important to get to a better place in society."

Millennial women "think that men should be more in tune with the way a woman says things," said Nicole Slaughter, 31, a freelance journalist. "The culture has changed so much, so quickly. We're still feeling out where the line should be drawn on these kinds of behaviors."

A former president of the National Organization for Women, Kim Gandy, is heartened by the increasing willingness of younger women to speak up about workplace harassment. She recalled

working for a telephone company in Louisiana in the 1970s where a district manager remained on the job long after word spread among female employees about his predatory behavior.

"There was an expectation of rotten behavior being something that went with the territory," Gandy said. "Today there would have been a much quicker response."

Yet Gandy is cautious about predicting a generational sea change. She's now CEO of the National Network to End Domestic Violence, and says the age group of 18-to-24-year-olds has one of the highest levels of dating violence and domestic violence.

Jeremy Fischbach, 39, a New Orleans-based entrepreneur who has written about "redefining masculinity," says he'd like to be hopeful about the future of gender relations, but sees a worrisome void on the male side.

"Who are the younger generation going to emulate and follow?" he asked. "Where are the good ideas and the good men? How do we get young men on that path, so they're not bragging about how many women and girls they slept with, but how many they supported?"

Celebrity divorce lawyer launches site to simplify breakups

BY ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — For years, Laura Wasser has been one of the go-to divorce attorneys when Hollywood power couples break up.

Now Wasser wants to bring some of the strategies she's developed during her career representing stars such as Angelina Jolie, Christina Aguilera and Johnny Depp to help regular couples. Her new site, It's Over Easy, aims to get couples divorced from their computers or tablets, without having to hire an attorney — or ever set foot in a courthouse.

The website allows couples in New York County and throughout California to handle their divorces and child custody arrangements online. Wasser said the inspiration came from her own online shopping habits, and hearing from people who want to handle their own divorces but find the process too confusing, expensive, intimidating — or all of those things and more.

"I feel like there's so many people who these days shop online, date online, bank online — maybe they actually even met dating online — and now they're married," she said. "Why not give them the opportunity to do this online?"

She said the site's goal is "changing the face of divorce." It requires both parties to use the site to complete their judgment, although work is transferable to a lawyer if needed.

The process is based on core questions Wasser asks clients and techniques she uses to try to keep break-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ups amicable. Wasser, 49, said she urges people undergoing a divorce or end of a long-term relationship to try to think about the moments they really cared for the other person, such as when they proposed marriage or the birth of a child. "Try to get back to them and realize that there is something good that did come out of your relationship. Focus on that and try to find a way forward," she said. "It's so much better for your emotional health to be able to do it

that way."

It's Over Easy is part service-oriented and part-lifestyles site, with Wasser and others sharing their approaches to managing finances during a breakup, co-parenting children, and surviving holiday gatherings. Users of the site fill in financial information and details about what days are most important for them to have their children. At the end of process, both sides will have documents that can lead to legal divorces

and custody agreements.

The site has three tiers, ranging from \$750 for a guided do-it-yourself filing to a premium, \$2,500 service that includes filing of court documents, 90 minutes of mediation counseling and document filing with the court.

Wasser's services, by comparison, start with a \$25,000 retainer and \$850 an hour.

The site could even work for some of her clients. "I think there are probably some that can go through this process. They probably wouldn't mind seeing me less, paying me less," she joked.

Other sites offer similar services, such as Wevorce, which is affiliated with another online legal resource, LegalZoom. But those services aren't fronted by a lawyer like Wasser, who doesn't comment about her celebrity clients but is familiar to readers of TMZ and other celebrity sites.

Wasser became a family law attorney after she finished law school and her marriage was coming to an end. She asked her father, divorce lawyer Dennis Wasser, for a job. Her first assignment was to handle her own divorce. She remains friends with her first husband, she said.

As for concerns the site will make it too simple for couples to divorce, Wasser is skeptical.

"We're not making it too easy," Wasser said. "Divorce is very difficult, but it is happening. And I hardly think that is anybody is going to see ... our advertisements and go 'Oh I hadn't even thought of that. Now I'm going to get divorced.'"

BIZARRO



SOUP TO NUTZ



ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



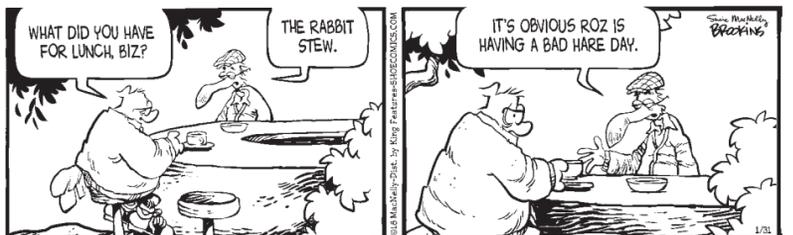
DOG EAT DOG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Man puts alcohol problem on display in front yard



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — I'm a widowed senior who has been dating a very kind man, "Ben," for three years. He's retired; I am not. He does things for and with me, and we enjoy traveling to-

someone. My son came home for a month because of a job change, and tonight he found Ben passed out in the front yard. I told my son I was sorry, and he said not to be, but he does not want his family — my grandchildren — around when Ben is like this.

I am so embarrassed. I would miss this relationship, but I'm wondering if you think I should end it.

Missing the good in him

and is willing to do something about it.

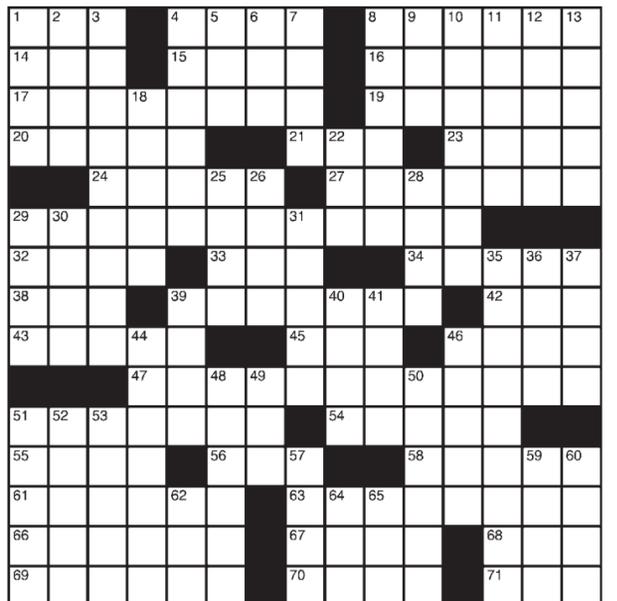
Because Ben's drinking is now affecting you and, by extension, your family, it's time to confront him and give him a choice — get help or find another lady friend. There are Alcoholics Anonymous groups worldwide and in almost every community. Steer Ben in that direction, and while you're at it, locate the nearest Al-Anon group for yourself. You will find it both sympathetic and helpful. These groups are as close as your phone directory or your computer. Visit al-anon.org.

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.

gether. The problem is, Ben usually starts drinking about 3 p.m. at the neighborhood bar. I'm welcome to join him, but I prefer to work at my job or volunteer in the community. By the grace of God, Ben has made it home safely every night, but I'm afraid he will eventually hurt

DEAR MISSING THE GOOD — It must have been clear to you for some time that Ben has a serious drinking problem that needs to be addressed. Whether you should end the relationship depends upon whether he is willing to admit that he has a problem

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Ed Sessa

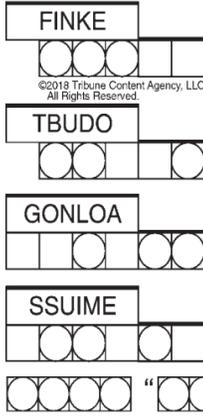
1/31/18

- ACROSS**
- 1 Heist
 - 4 Pasta nutrient
 - 8 Archie Bunker types
 - 14 Statement softener, in emails
 - 15 Command to Silver
 - 16 Shangri-la
 - 17 Five-time NBA champion-ship-winning coach
 - 19 Find hilarious
 - 20 No votes
 - 21 Half an oz.?
 - 23 Olympian Lipinski
 - 24 German wheels
 - 27 Seize the opportunity, sunshinewise
 - 29 Same old story
 - 32 Metal corrosion
 - 33 Part of a biathlete's gear
 - 34 2017 award for Emma Stone
 - 38 Yale email address
 - 39 Finger painting?
 - 42 "Deadwood" channel
 - 43 A little lit
 - 45 Hellenic "H"
 - 46 All hands on deck
 - 47 Captain's choice at the Super Bowl
 - 51 Italian rice dish
 - 54 Transparent soap brand
 - 55 "I'm ___ you!"
 - 56 "Hun!?"
 - 58 Harvard's is "Veritas"
 - 61 Excited reply to "Who wants dessert?"
 - 63 Hiker's snack that's literally found in 17-, 29-, 39- and 47-Across
 - 66 Evening meal
 - 67 John known for overlapping diagrams
 - 68 Loved, with "up"
 - 69 Agrees
 - 70 Air Quality Index factor
 - 71 Owen, to Stephen King
 - 10 Buffalo Bill and Charles Dickens wore them
 - 11 "60 Minutes" part-time correspondent
 - 12 Prom queen's crown
 - 13 Thai snack
 - 18 Hit the ball hard
 - 22 Defib expert
 - 25 Bart's brainy sibling
 - 26 Munro pen name
 - 28 Pretzel shape
 - 29 Ridge on a neck
 - 30 German wheels
 - 31 Makes mad
 - 35 Present time?
 - 36 Eve's second
 - 37 Theater seating arrangements
 - 39 Putin's no
 - 40 Perched on
 - 41 Like a double eagle in golf
 - 44 Sure victors
 - 46 35-Down song
 - 48 On the clock
 - 49 "How stupid am I?!"
 - 50 Title job for Shakespeare's Petruchio
 - 51 PEDs, in slang
 - 52 "The Best Exotic MariGold Hotel" locale
 - 53 Poker-faced
 - 57 Off-rd. transports
 - 59 Bandleader Puente
 - 60 Team on a field
 - 62 ___ volente
 - 64 Sleep phase
 - 65 Mexican year
- DOWN**
- 1 Morning co-host with Seacrest
 - 2 Muscat's country
 - 3 "Cheers!"
 - 4 Sculptor's tool
 - 5 Be under the weather
 - 6 Grass in a J.D. Salinger title
 - 7 R&B's ___ II Men
 - 8 Part of a bedroom set
 - 9 "What am ___ do?"
- Previous Puzzle Solved**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| L | E | W | D | A | B | O | R | T | B | A | I | L |
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| R | A | N | D | G | R | E | E | N | S | N | A | K |
| D | I | D | A | G | O | O | D | E | E | D | | |
| F | I | A | T | S | I | T | C | O | M | | | |
| B | L | A | S | T | A | M | P | S | P | O | R | T |
| F | O | R | M | E | R | R | O | O | M | M | A | T |
| G | U | M | E | R | O | S | I | O | N | | | |
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| S | L | E | D | H | V | A | T | T | E | Z | R | A |

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.



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

Yesterday's Jumbles: PETTY HONOR FAMOUS CALMLY
Answer: He didn't do so well on his algebra test and worried about the — AFTERMATH

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

	3		5	2	7	8		
				3			7	
7								1
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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)	The Blacklist "The Cook" Liz and Red hunt for Tom's killers. (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Info Wars" A pundit is assaulted during a protest. (N) (DVS)	Chicago P.D. "Chasing Monsters" The team tries to take down a gang. (N) (DVS)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Tom Selleck; Rita Ora; Liam Payne. (N)			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	The Amazing Race "The Claws Are Out" (N)	(:01) SEAL Team "Getaway Day" Jason and the team must deploy early. (N)	Criminal Minds "Miasma" A mass grave is found inside a crypt. (N) (DVS)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Rose McGowan; Rand Paul; Jacob Williams. (N)			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Wheel Across America" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs Beverly decides to reinvent herself.	Speechless Maya gives Jimmy tips on being the boss.	Modern Family Phil decides to take a camping trip.	(:31) American Housewife "Gala Auction"	Match Game Jack McBrayer; Jane Krakowski. (N)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	
WRJA	27	11	14	Weekends With Yankee "Land and Water"	Expeditions With Patrick McMillan	Animals With Cameras, A Nature Miniseries (Series Premiere) Newborn Kalahari meerkats; penguins. (N)	NOVA "The Impossible Flight" Two pilots fly a solar-powered airplane. (N)	Amanpour on PBS (N)		BBC World News	NHK Newsline		
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory Stuart asks Amy out on a date.	The Big Bang Theory Leonard devises a plan.	The X-Files "Ghoul" Two teenage girls attack each other. (N)	9-1-1 "Point of Origin" An emergency at an Indian wedding. (N) (DVS)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)		Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Eve's breakup garners opinions.	Last Man Standing Mike fears for his family's privacy.	Riverdale "Chapter Twenty-Five: The Wicked and the Divine" Chic helps Betty with her darkness. (N)	Dynasty "Promises You Can't Keep" The Carringtons host a casino party. (N)	Dateline "The Last Dance" A popular teacher goes missing.		Dateline "Mystery in Orange County" A young Army veteran disappears.	The Game Malik undergoes physical therapy.		
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	Storage Wars "Ve-gas Shrugged"	Storage Wars "Assassin's Greed"	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars: Northern	Storage Wars (N)	(:01) Rooster & Butch A product for the visually impaired. (N)	(:03) Storage Wars	(:33) Storage Wars	(12:03) Storage Wars	
AMC	48	180	(5:30) *** "Demolition Man" (1993) Sylvester Stallone.	*** "Above the Law" (1988, Action) Steven Seagal, Pam Grier, Henry Silva. A CIA-sponsored drug cartel is uncovered by a Chicago cop.	*** "Dredd" (2012, Action) Karl Urban, Olivia Thirlby, Lena Headey. A futuristic cop acts as judge, jury and executioner.	*** "300" (2006, Action)							
ANPL	41	100	Tanked	Tanked "Ty Dolla's Fresh Tank"	Tanked: Sea-Lebrity Edition Adrian Peterson and Antonio Brown.	Tanked: Sea							
BET	61	162	(5:30) *** "Django Unchained" (2012, Western) Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz, Leonardo DiCaprio. An ex-slave and a German bounty hunter roam America's South.	BET News Presents: Angela Rye's State of the Union (Live)	*** "Takers" (2010, Action) Matt Dillon, Paul Walker. Skilled thieves plan the biggest heist of their careers.	Tanked: Sea							
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New Jersey The ladies hash out their differences.	The Real Housewives of New Jersey "Reunion Part 2" (Part 2 of 2)	The Real Housewives of New Jersey Out-of-control Easter celebration. (N)	Relative Success With Tabatha Tempers fray at an apparel company. (N)	Watch What Happens Live	The Real Housewives of New Jersey Out-of-control Easter celebration.					
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank A new recreational sport.	Shark Tank (DVS)	Billion Dollar Buyer (N)	Shark Tank A solution for lost pacifiers.	Shark Tank					
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Cuomo Prime Time (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Corporate Trade-marq" (N)	Corporate	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	The Opposition w/ Jordan Klepper (N)	(12:01) The Office Ryan returns.		
COM	57	136	(6:50) South Park "Professor Chaos"	(:25) South Park	South Park	South Park "T.M.I."	South Park "Over Logging"	South Park	Bunk'd	Jessie	K.C. Undercover	(12:01) The Office Ryan returns.	
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	K.C. Undercover (N)	Andi Mack	Stuck in the Middle	Bizaardvark					
DSC	42	103	Street Outlaws "Blinding Lights"	Street Outlaws: Full Throttle (N)	Street Outlaws (N)	(:09) Garage Rehab: Revisited (N)	(:09) Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws					
ESPN	26	35	NBA Countdown (N) (Live)	NBA Basketball New York Knicks at Boston Celtics. From TD Garden in Boston. (N) (Live)	NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Phoenix Suns. (N) (Live)								
ESPN2	27	39	College Basketball Louisville at Virginia. (N) (Live)	College Basketball Missouri at Alabama. (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N)							
FOOD	40	109	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games "Fried Feud"	Guy's Grocery Games "Friend or Foe"	Guy's Games						
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	Tucker Carlson						
FREE	20	131	(6:00) *** "Mulan" (1998) Voices of Ming-Na Wen, Eddie Murphy.	grown-ish "Cashin' Out" (N)	(:31) Alone Together "Pop-Up"	(:02) *** "Mulan" (1998, Children's) Voices of Ming-Na Wen, Eddie Murphy, B.D. Wong. Animated. A Chinese maiden disguises herself as a man.	The Iron Giant: Signature Edition"						
FSS	21	47	Hawks Pregame	NBA Basketball Charlotte Hornets at Atlanta Hawks. From Philips Arena in Atlanta. (N) (Live)	Hawks Postgame	Future Phenoms	NBA Basketball Charlotte Hornets at Atlanta Hawks.						
HALL	52	183	Full House "Happy Birthday Babies"	Full House Rebecca has twins.	Full House "Nicky and/or Alexander"	Full House "Bachelor of the Month"	The Middle "The Second Act"	The Middle "Bunny Therapy"	The Middle "The Hosi"	The Middle	The Golden Girls "Heart Attack"	The Golden Girls "Stan's Return"	The Golden Girls
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers "Modern Must-Have"	Property Brothers	Property Brothers "Shaky Start" (N)	House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	Property Brothers "Big City Move"	Property Brothers				
HIST	45	110	Forged in Fire The Japanese Katana.	Buried: Knights Templar and the Holy Grail (Part 1 of 2)	Law & Order "Blaze" Fire kills 23 people at a concert.	Law & Order "Identity" An executive is gunned down.	Law & Order "Floater" A body is found in the river.	Law & Order "Embedded"					
ION	13	18	Little Women: Atlanta Nico expresses his feelings for Tanya. (N)	Little Women: Atlanta The group goes on a fishing trip. (N) (Part 1 of 2)	Little Women: Atlanta "Road Trippin" Part 2 "Chris' jealousy gets the best of him. (N) (Part 2 of 2)	(:02) Bring It! "The Dolls' Last Chance" Selections for the national competition.	(12:01) Little Women: Atlanta						
LIFE	50	145	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					
MSNBC	36	92	Hunter Street (N)	SpongeBob	*** "Rango" (2011, Children's) Voices of Johnny Depp, Isla Fisher, Abigail Breslin.	Fresh Prince	Friends	Friends	Friends				
NICK	16	210	(6:30) *** "The Bourne Ultimatum" (2007) Matt Damon. Premiere.	Waco (Part 1 of 6)	Waco (Part 2 of 6)	Happy! "I Am the Future" Sax and Happy try to rescue Hailey.	(10:50) *** "Battle: Los Angeles" (2011) Aaron Eckhart. U.S. Marine troops fight off alien invaders.	Friends	Friends	Friends			
NIKE	64	153	(6:30) *** "The Goonies" (1985, Children's) Sean Astin, Josh Brolin, Jeff Cohen. Young misfits find a 17th-century pirate's treasure map.	The Magicians "Be the Penny" Quentin and Julia discover a secret. (N)	Happy! "I Am the Future" Sax and Happy try to rescue Hailey.	(10:50) *** "Battle: Los Angeles" (2011) Aaron Eckhart. U.S. Marine troops fight off alien invaders.	Friends	Friends	Friends				
SYFY	58	152	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee (N)	Conan (N)	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee		
TBS	24	156	(5:30) *** "Home Before Dark" (1958, Drama) Jean Simmons.	*** "My Brother's Wedding" (1983, Drama) Everett Silas, Jessie Holmes. A man must choose between attending a wedding or a funeral.	*** "Vacation" (2015, Comedy) Ed Helms, Rusty Griswold and family take a road trip to Walley World. (DVS)	*** "Straight Time" (1978, Crime Drama) Dustin Hoffman, Theresa Russell, Gary Busey. Hissled LA. parolee slips back into armed robbery.	(:05) Family by the Ton (N)	(:08) My 600-Lb. Life Liz cannot get out of her bed.					
TCM	49	186	(:04) My 600-Lb. Life (Part 2 of 2)	The Librarians The Library creates a nightmarish trial. (N)	*** "Vacation" (2015, Comedy) Ed Helms, Rusty Griswold and family take a road trip to Walley World. (DVS)	The Librarians The Library creates a nightmarish trial.	Hawaii Five-0 "I Ka Wa Mamua"						
TLC	43	157	(5:30) *** "Red 2" (2013) Bruce Willis, John Malkovich. (DVS)	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers	Impactical Jokers		
TNT	23	158	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Love-Raymond	Mom	Mom	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens		
TRUTV	38	129	NCIS "Charade" Agent DiNozzo's identity is stolen. (DVS)	NCIS "Privileged Information" A Marine falls to her death. (DVS)	NCIS "Shell Game" The team investigates an abduction. (DVS)	NCIS "The Collar"	Law & Order "Undercover"	Law & Order					
TV LAND	55	161	Law & Order "The Fire This Time"	Law & Order "3 Dawg Night"	Law & Order The death of a publisher.	Law & Order "The Collar"	Law & Order "Undercover"	Law & Order					
USA	25	132	Cops "Arizona"	Cops "Arizona"	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		
WE	68	166	Cops "Arizona"	Cops "Arizona"	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		
WGNA	8	172	Cops "Arizona"	Cops "Arizona"	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		

'Animals With Cameras' is highly entertaining

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Wednesday nights belong to complicated antiheroes. Or American psychos. "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story" (10 p.m., FX, TV-MA) really should be called "The Andrew Cunanan Story." Offering flashbacks within flashbacks, it recalls his descent into decadence and delusion as he embarked on the killing spree that would end at Versace's front gate.

In lesser hands, Cunanan (Darren Criss) might seem like a one-dimensional psycho. Here, he's a killer, but also occasionally witty, charming and seductive, allowing this profile to make us think about our culture's obsessive love affair with unearned status and wealth.

"Waco" (10 p.m., Paramount, TV-14) offers a similarly three-dimensional take on cult leader David Koresh (Taylor Kitsch). It shows how even FBI insiders (Michael Shannon) chafed at the militarized siege of the Branch Davidian compound.

"Waco" also asks viewers to think about how they would respond to a figure like Koresh — a man who had appointed himself a messiah and armed his followers to the teeth as they awaited, or even seemed to invite, Armageddon.

We stand on the shoulders of giants. Giant meerkats. All television breakthroughs have their basis in old shows and discarded ideas. "Nature" (8 p.m., PBS, TV-G, check local listings) takes a page from David Letterman's gimmicks, numerous YouTube stunts and "Meerkat Manor" to present the three-part miniseries "Animals With Cameras."

This fast moving and highly entertaining experiment features various critters, including meerkats, fitted with tiny cameras and left on their own to spy on their brethren. Basically, the "Nature" cinematographers have outsourced their work to their subjects, creating a "Wild Kingdom" variation on reality television.

This is the second annual gimmick for "Nature." Last year, it presented "Spy in the Wild," "starring" camera-laden animatronic creatures made to look like various animals that embedded themselves with wild dogs, elephants and monkeys.

You can't escape the surveillance state. Even in the jungle.



COURTESY OF ESTER DE ROIJ / © BBC

A Magellanic penguin sets off to sea with its miniature camera at the Cabo dos Bahias colony in Argentina on the "Nature" presentation of "Animals With Cameras," premiering at 8 p.m. today on PBS.

• Also on PBS, "NOVA" (9 p.m., TV-PG, check local listings) presents "The Impossible Flight," a two-hour look at efforts to fly a totally solar powered plane around the globe.

Built by a team of scientists and engineers, the Solar Impulse II took flight in 2015. Sporting an enormous wingspan covered with solar panels and containing batteries capable of flying the plane at night and in cloudy conditions, the aircraft's light weight and delicate construction forced pilots to avoid any turbulence or storms as they circumnavigated the Earth.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Teens see each other as monsters on "The X-Files" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14).
- A controversial TV pundit becomes an assault victim on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- A gang's brutality prompts action on "Chicago P.D." (10 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- "Angela Rye's State of the Union" (10 p.m., BET) discusses

the president's address and his first year in office.

CULT CHOICE

Hapless escaped cons (George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson) embark on a tuneful odyssey in the Coen Brothers' 2000 comedy "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" (8 p.m., and 10:30 p.m., CMT).

SERIES NOTES

The hunt for Tom's killers on "The Blacklist" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-14) * Beverly turns a page on "The Goldbergs" (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * Veronica fears that Archie knows too many Lodge

secrets on "Riverdale" (8 p.m., CW, TV-14) * Ray strikes a pose on "Speechless" (8:30 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * A sudden deployment on "SEAL Team" (9 p.m., CBS, TV-14) * Bobby can't shake his past on "9-1-1" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14) * Phil toughens up on "Modern Family" (9 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * Blake's secrets revealed on "Dynasty" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14) * Charitable bribery on "American Housewife" (9:30 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * Tales from the crypt on "Criminal Minds" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).

LATE NIGHT

Angela Rye is booked on "The

Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) * Rose McGowan, Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.), Jacob Williams and Curtis Harding appear on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Tom Selleck, Rita Ora and Liam Payne on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) * Dakota Johnson, Taylor Kitsch, Maggie Williams and Nikki Glaspie visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC) * Martin Short, Lisa Kudrow and Fall Out Boy appear on "The Late Late Show With James Cordean" (12:35 a.m., CBS).

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Mix up this year's Super Bowl party with steak fajitas

BY KATIE WORKMAN
Associated Press

This year I'm looking to shake up the Super Bowl gathering a bit. Normally, a pot of chili anchors our party, but this year I'm thinking fajitas. They are customizable, have lots of visual appeal and will definitely fuel the arm-chair athletes as they offer their unsolicited advice to the television.

Fajitas are surprisingly easy to make, especially if you use a pre-made fajita seasoning or some other Mexican seasoning blend. I use red onions because I like the way they add even more color to the dish, but if you have yellow or white onions, no problem, use them. For more color, use two different color peppers. And don't shy away from a tiny bit of sugar, which just enhances the caramelization of the vegetables. If you want a little more heat, you could ei-

ther use two jalapeños or stick with one but leave some of the seeds in (that's where almost all of the heat is in a hot pepper).

Tempting though it might be, don't skip the part where you warm your tortillas in the pan. This adds flavor, those nice brown spots bringing out a toasty wheat taste, and also makes the tortillas more pliable. It takes only a few minutes, and I think it makes the meal. If you want to toast them before cooking the meat, that's also a fine order of events — then you might want to heat them for about 20 seconds in the microwave once the meat is cooked up.

Multiply the recipe as needed, but don't crowd the pan when cooking the vegetables and meat — especially the meat, which needs to brown as it cooks. Cook the meat in batches.

If you want to make this meal just that much more special and restaurant-like, pick up more than one kind of salsa — maybe a green tomatillo version and a tomato-based red-style jar. And go to town with the rest of the toppings; assembling the perfect fajita is part of the pleasure of this meal.



STEAK FAJITAS

Start to finish: 45 minutes

Serves 4

- 2 tablespoons vegetable or canola oil, divided
- 2 red onions, halved and sliced
- 2 red bell peppers, stemmed, seeded and sliced
- 1 jalapeño, stemmed, seeded and chopped
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 pound fajita-sliced beef strips
- 1 tablespoon taco, fajita or Mexican seasoning blend
- 1 lime, halved
- 10 6-inch flour tortillas

To serve (pick and choose):

- Salsa (maybe more than one)
- Crumbled queso fresco, or another white, crumbly Mexican cheese (feta works too, in a pinch), or shredded Mexican-blend cheese

Sour cream

Lime wedges

Fresh cilantro leaves

Avocado slices or guacamole

In a large skillet, heat one tablespoon of the vegetable oil over medium heat. Add the onions, peppers and jalapeño, sprinkle the sugar over them, season



with salt and pepper, and sauté for 8 to 10 minutes until fairly tender. Remove all the cooked vegetables to one half of a serving platter.

Return the pan to medium heat, and add the remaining tablespoon of oil. Add the beef strips, sprinkle with the seasoning, and sauté for 5 minutes until the beef is cooked. Add salt and pepper to taste. Transfer

the beef to the other half of the serving platter. Tent with foil to keep warm.

Carefully clean the hot pan and return it to medium-high heat. Make sure the pan is clean and dry before warming the tortillas, one at a time, for 15 to 20 seconds on each side until browned in spots and slightly fragrant. Transfer the tortillas to a plate as they are warmed, and keep them covered with a clean dishtowel to keep them warm.

Remove the foil and dishtowel, and squeeze the juice of the lime halves over the meat and the vegetables. Serve the beef and vegetables with the tortillas and assorted toppings, and let everyone fill their own fajitas.

Nutrition information per serving: 537 calories; 196 calories from fat; 22 g fat (6 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 72 mg cholesterol; 945 mg sodium; 52 g carbohydrate; 5 g fiber; 9 g sugar; 32 g protein.

Katie Workman has written two cookbooks focused on easy, family-friendly cooking, "Dinner Solved!" and "The Mom 100 Cookbook." She blogs at <http://www.themom100.com/about-katie-workman>. She can be reached at Katie@themom100.com.

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