

Duke Energy seeks rate increase

Bills may go up starting Jan. 1

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

Residential electric customers of Duke Energy Progress may see a jump in their electric bills beginning Jan. 1,

if the Public Service Commission of South Carolina approves a rate increase the company is seeking.

In a July 1 news release, the company announced the rate-hike request. The company is also seeking a 14.3

percent rate increase for commercial and industrial customers.

According to Duke Energy Progress, the average residential customer would see an increase of approximately \$16.60 on his monthly electric bill.

Duke Energy Progress serves more than 30,000 customers in Sumter County, 6,100 in Clarendon County and about 5,000 in Lee County, accord-

ing to company spokesman Ryan Mosier.

The company cited investments in energy infrastructure and rigid environmental requirements as reasons for the proposed increase. The replacement of older, less-efficient coal plants with natural gas plants was

SEE INCREASE, PAGE A3

County's first responders upgrade to digital

New radio system should improve communication

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter County's first responders have been communicating more clearly after the countywide analog radio system was upgraded to a digital system.

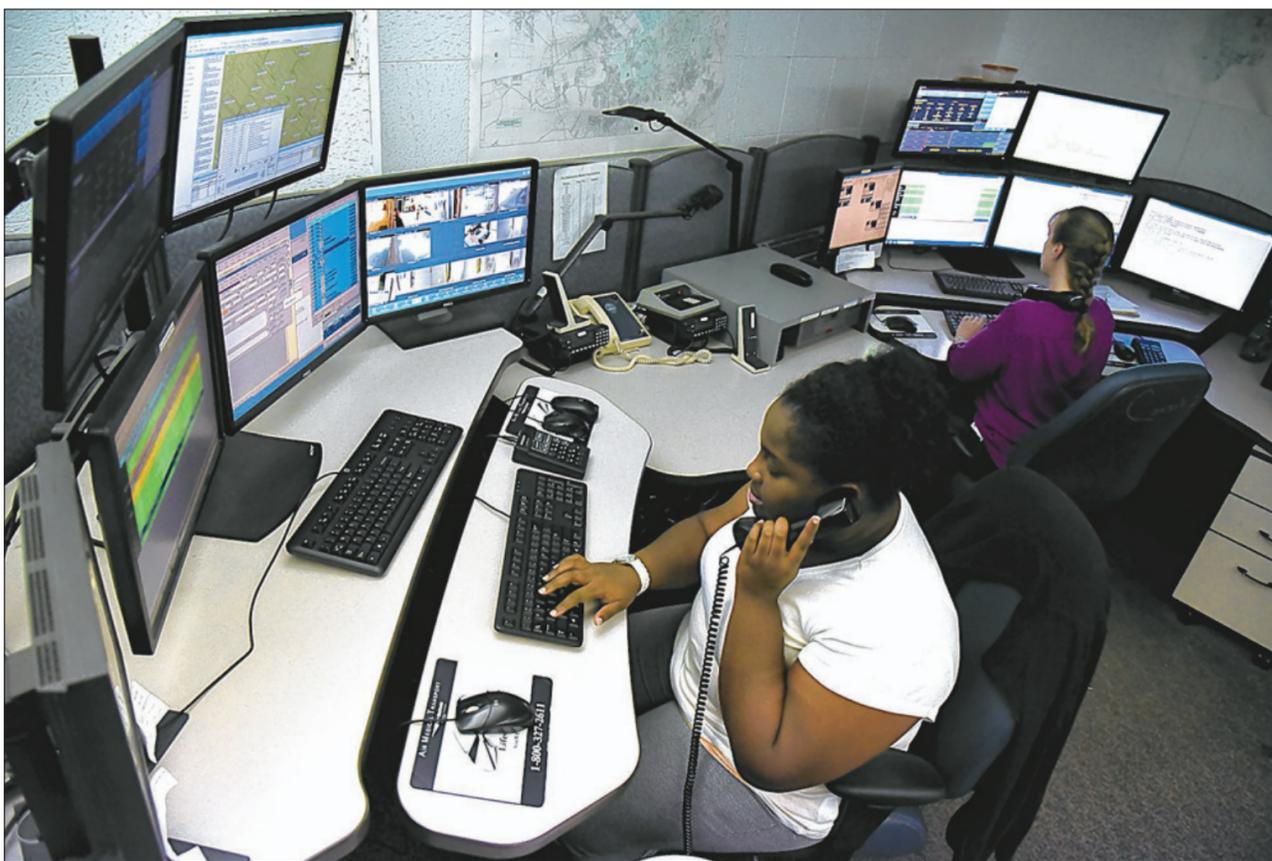
Sumter Police Department Chief Russell Roark III said the radio service is a joint function between the city and county, used by all first-responder agencies, but the police department manages the system.

Upgrading the radio system is one of the 2016 Capital Sales Tax projects and is considered top priority, Roark said. The switch from the analog 800 Mega Hertz system to the digital 800 Mega Hertz system cost approximately \$10 million, he said.

The analog system was very old and no longer supported by the manufacturer or industry, Roark said. It would have been almost impossible to fix or replace broken equipment, he said.

With the new system, all first responders in the city and county have new handheld and vehicle radios, Roark said.

He said the county's radio equipment was also added to



Sumter Police Department telecommunications operators Tarnissaya Josey, left, and Ruth Meyers respond to 911 calls, first responders and law enforcement officers in the field. An updated communications network should provide clearer conversations.

RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

three existing towers in the area to increase the radio system's coverage. Previously, only two radio towers were used, he said.

Roark said the first benefit of upgrading to the digital

system is that first responders no longer have to use equipment that has outlived its usefulness.

Also, the addition of the new towers allows first responders to pick up signals in

areas that were previously considered "dead spots," Roark said.

The public will see no change, he said.

It has taken more than a year since the penny project

was approved for the radio system to get up and running, Roark said.

He said programming the handheld radios took about

SEE DIGITAL, PAGE A3

You can prevent infection by deadly amoeba

Local family raises awareness in memory of son

BY ANDY WILSON
intern@theitem.com

This July marks four years since the death of 8-year-old Blake Driggers from primary amebic meningoencephalitis — a condition caused by what is commonly called a "brain-eating amoeba."

Blake was most likely infected by the amoeba during a day of fun at Lake Marion spent tubing and jumping off a dock but went a week without displaying symptoms. After the onset of symptoms, his condition rapidly deteriorated, and he died on July 17, 2012, 10 days after his initial exposure.

The anniversary of Blake Driggers' death will come nearly a month after the latest fatality caused by the deadly parasite, whose scientific name is *Naegleria fowleri*. An Ohio teenager died of the condition on June 19, several

weeks after she went rafting at the U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte.

The center's sanitation facilities, which use chlorine and ultraviolet light, apparently failed to prevent buildup of *Naegleria fowleri*. Recent tests conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed abnormally high levels of the amoeba.

Gingi Driggers, Blake's mother, is heartbroken every time she hears about another death from the amoeba. She and her husband, Walt, are dedicated to spreading awareness about *Naegleria fowleri*. In the past, they have held a 5K walk memorializing Blake, put up billboards and made T-shirts and wristbands to warn people about it but now mainly hand out fliers, post on Facebook and give out nose plugs to people who can't find them in stores.

Infection occurs when amoeba-infested water is forced up the nasal cavity, where it can travel into the brain and destroy neural tissue, a scenario



prevented by the use of nose plugs. Blake's father said that the illness has a 99 percent death rate but is 100 percent preventable by holding your nose or using nose plugs.

Gingi Driggers said nose plugs are

After Walt Driggers of Sumter and his wife, Gingi, lost their 8-year-old son, Blake, to a deadly "brain-eating amoeba," they began an awareness campaign to try to prevent further deaths. One way the family did this was to decorate a golf cart for local parades.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

sometimes carried by local sporting goods stores but seem to run out really quickly. You can request free nose plugs any time at the Driggers' website, www.RememberBlake.com, or the Kyle Cares Amoeba Awareness Foundation, a supplier of nose plugs to amoeba awareness groups like the Driggers' founded in honor of Kyle Lewis, a Texas boy who also died of the amoeba.

Official references to *Naegleria fowleri* infection as "rare" bother Gingi Driggers, who reminds readers that the amoeba is widespread in warm freshwater.

When each summer people are losing their loved ones to the amoeba,

SEE AMOEBIA, PAGE A3

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DEATHS, B6

Billie H. Murphey
Carissa R. Miller
Joyce McCants
Heyward Scott Sr.
Leona B. Green

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Barbara Beneski
Oscar Joe Brunson

James McDonald
Mary W. Devoe
Frank K. Clarke Jr.
Willis Thames
Ray E. Baker

WEATHER, A10

STAY INDOORS IF POSSIBLE

Partly sunny and hot today; mainly clear and very warm tonight.

HIGH 99, LOW 80

INSIDE

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LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Disaster group will hold town hall meeting

South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office will hold a town hall meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Patriot Hall, County Government Office, 135 Haynsworth St.

The action plan will be presented, and the public will be given an opportunity to respond. The office will concentrate on meeting the housing needs of the most vulnerable population. Based on public response, it may add or revise portions of the action plan.

Officials offer reward for info about break-ins

Sumter County Sheriff's Office is offering a \$500 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person who recently broke into American Grocery, Carquest, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Twin Dragon, all on Broad Street.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the sheriff's office's Investigative Division at (803) 436-2000 or Crimestoppers at (803) 436-2718. Callers may remain anonymous.

VA will host listening forum, fair Thursday

Columbia Veterans Affairs Regional Office will host a director's listening forum from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday at South Carolina National Guard Armory, 1100 Ehrenclou Drive in Camden.

VA Regional Office Assistant Director Woody Middleton will be available to visit with veterans and their families concerning VA benefits.

Besides the forum, the event will offer VA claim assistance as well as a military career and resource fair. The fair will feature veteran employment recruitment as well as information on behavioral health, ID cards, education, financial and legal guidance, family assistance and health and wellness.

Tractor Supply Co. will host local Market Day

The Tractor Supply Co. store in Sumter will present its first local Market Day event from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday. The event will feature local artisans, crafters, collectors and farmers selling their wares and produce at a tented space by the storefront.

Among the goods expected to be offered for sale are local produce, arts and crafts, honey and candles.

Sumter Tractor Supply Assistant Manager Brandi Brzys said the store is excited about giving community members "a chance to showcase their products and produce. Market Day gives us the opportunity to further enhance the shopping experience by celebrating what makes our community such a special place to live and work."

The store is at 2705 Broad St., and admission is free.

2 firefighters treated for heat issues

4 stations respond to home fire on West Bartlette Street

 BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

About noon on Thursday, 23 firefighters from four fire stations responded to a house fire in the 900 block of West Bartlette Street, and two firefighters were later transported to the hospital for heat-related issues.

As of about 4:15 p.m. Thursday, Sumter Fire Department Battalion Chief Joey Duggan said the two firefighters were doing fine and that one had already been released from the hospital, and the other would most likely be sent home later that day.

The firefighters were dealing with the heat inside the house from the fire combined with the high temperature



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sumter firefighters work to put out a fire at a house in the 900 block of West Bartlette Street on Thursday afternoon.

outside, Duggan said.

The battalion chief urges those who are working outside this summer to stay hydrated and take breaks

when needed.

As for the house fire, Duggan said the call for the fire came in about 12:03 p.m., and the structure was heavily involved when trucks arrived.

It took about 45 minutes to get the fire under control, and fire trucks were dismissed by 3:21 p.m., he said.

Duggan said the fire started when an air-conditioning unit began to smoke and catch fire.

One of the residents saw the smoke coming from the air conditioner and went inside the home to check on it, he said.

Duggan said the man got his wife out of the house and attempted to put out the fire, but he was unsuccessful.

He said the fire caused about \$30,000 worth of damage to the structure, which was a total loss. The structure is still standing, but the fire spread throughout the inside, Duggan said.

Airborne



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

A crane lifts an HVAC unit to the top of Sumter County Courthouse on Wednesday. Renovations at the courthouse include installing new HVAC units, energy-efficient plumbing and LED lights throughout the building. Sumter County Purchasing Director Bobby Galloway said the renovations are funded by an approximately \$5.2 million energy conservation bond provided by South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority to renovate county-owned buildings. Galloway said all projects have already started, and he anticipates that everything will be complete by October. He said designs for a three-story extension to the Harvin Street side of the building are also in the works. The extension will include elevators and restrooms in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act.

Messages to Haley about flag released

 BY MEG KINNARD and
 JEFFREY COLLINS

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Thousands of people reached out to South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley after the slayings of nine black people at a historic Charleston church, condemning the violence as senseless and saddening.

Many of these messages — included among more than 10,000 pages released Wednesday by Haley's office — praise the Republican governor as courageous for calling to remove the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds. But many others, while criticizing the violence, urged her to leave the flag alone rather than make a "knee jerk" reaction to the shootings.

The messages arrived from across the state and as far away as Texas, Washington and Hawaii. To many, Haley sent a standard response, thanking the writer for his or her message and praising South Carolina for unifying in the face of tragedy.

The documents, released in response to open records requests, reflect the divisiveness of the debate about the banner that had flown on the Statehouse grounds until Dylann Roof, the white man charged in the shootings, posed with the battle flag and talked of trying to start a race war.

Just five days after the shootings at Emanuel AME Church, amid heated conversations nationwide about race relations and the legacy of Confederate symbols, Haley held an emotional news conference to say the flag should be taken down.

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AMOEBA FROM PAGE A1

Gingi Driggers prays that authorities drop the word "rare" so people will realize that it's not as rare as they think.

While the amoeba is common in Southern lakes and rivers and even improperly chlorinated swimming pools, infections are uncommon. Out of millions of people swimming in natural bodies of water last year, five died of the infection. There is no known cure, and of roughly 138 people nationwide stricken by the disease between 1962 and 2015, only three have survived.

Symptoms usually appear one to seven days after infection but can begin as many as 15 days after exposure and include headache, fever, nausea, vomiting and a stiff neck, according to Dr. Anna Kathryn Rye Burch, associate division director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at University



Walt Driggers, father of Blake Driggers, surrounded by Blake's friends and cousins, releases nine red balloons in Dillon Park in June 2013. Nine balloons were selected because his son would have been nine that year, and red was his favorite color.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

of South Carolina School of Medicine and a physician at Palmetto Health Children's Hospital in Columbia. Later symptoms include confusion,

lack of attention, loss of balance, seizures and hallucinations as the brain deteriorates. Infections spike in the summer

months, when water warms to the high temperatures the amoeba thrives in. The CDC website states in its *Naegleria fowleri* entry that behaviors associated with infection include diving or jumping into the water, submerging the head under water or engaging in other water-related activities that cause water to go up the nose.

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control listed some precautions that can be taken to prevent infection:

- Avoid water-related activities in warm, untreated or poorly treated water;
- Avoid water-related activities in warm freshwater during periods of high water temperature and low water levels;
- Hold the nose shut or use nose plugs when taking part in water-related activities; and
- Avoid digging in or stirring up sediment surrounding warm, fresh water.

INCREASE FROM PAGE A1

also cited as well as an investment of \$1.7 billion in natural gas-fueled plants in North Carolina.

Frank Knapp, president and CEO of the Small Business Chamber of Commerce, criticized the release for lacking key information which will be considered during Public Service Commission hearings.

"There is no indication of what the total new revenue would be," he said. "What is the return on equity? They are not telling you that; it is a huge issue."

The release said the request to the Public Service Commission is the first request for an increase in the base rate for customers served by Duke Energy Progress in 28 years.

Duke Energy operates two utility companies in South Carolina, Duke Energy Carolinas, which serves areas mostly in the Upstate, and Duke Energy Progress, which operates predominantly in the Pee Dee area.

The two companies are the result of a merger in 2012, Mosier said.

C. Dukes Scott, executive director of the S.C. Office of

Regulatory Staff, said while the holding companies that own the utilities merged, the utility companies remain separate and are treated separately and are allowed different rates of return on their investments.

According to a report on return on common equity published at www.regulatorystaff.sc.gov, Duke Energy Progress is allowed a 12.75 percent return on equity and only reported a 3.37 percent return on equity from March 31, 2015, to March 31, 2016.

Duke Energy Carolinas filed for a 15.1 percent rate increase in 2013, according to materials provided by Knapp.

The base rate is only part of what customers pay each month on their utility bills, according to the Duke Energy Progress release. In addition, customers also pay a fuel component, which passes on increases and decreases in the cost of coal, natural gas and uranium.

The Public Service Commission has not yet scheduled a hearing on the proposed rate increase, but a spokesperson at the commission said a hearing date should be released in the next several days.



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter Police Department Senior Cpl. Mike Ward of the traffic division illustrates some of the new tools installed in the city's patrol cars.

DIGITAL FROM PAGE A1

two weeks because the channels had to be created manually.

He said the new console, or "brain," for the upgraded system will not be installed until the department moves to its new building in order to save money. It would be cost prohibitive to install the new console in the current police department building and

then pay to have it relocated and reinstalled, he said.

Sumter is not the only area in the state to make the change to a digital radio system. Roark said most counties in the state have made the switch. Through a partnership with Palmetto 800 Radio System, a statewide radio communication system, Sumter County will be connected with state and federal agencies. Roark said the partnership will also make maintaining the radio equipment

much more cost efficient for the county by having Palmetto 800 manage the maintenance and upgrades to the radio equipment.

The county will pay a fee for the maintenance services, he said. Roark said local agencies will continue to use the new radios until the next generation of equipment comes out.

The radios and radio system are similar to cellphones in that they will continue to change over time, he said.

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FBI: No double standard in Clinton probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Summoned before Congress and aggressively questioned by Republicans, FBI Director James Comey on Thursday strongly defended the government's decision not to prosecute Hillary Clinton for her private email setup.

He said there was no evidence that she knew that anything she was doing was against the law or had lied to federal investigators.

Comey's appearance before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee marked his first public statements since an FBI announcement that removed the threat of criminal charges against the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee but also revived public scrutiny of her handling of classified information.

A number of Republicans suggested there was a double standard for charging everyday people accused of crimes as opposed to high-level people such as Clinton. Lawmakers asked Comey if he had been hearing that, too.

"I've heard it a lot," he said. "It's not true, but I've heard it a lot."

"I totally get people's questions," he said, but the FBI was obliged to follow the law.

Comey gave his most detailed expla-



House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, right, accompanied by the committee's ranking member Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., center, welcome FBI Director James Comey on Capitol Hill in Washington on Thursday before Comey testified.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

nation to date about why the Justice Department concluded without charges a yearlong investigation that had dogged Clinton's presidential campaign and raised questions for voters about her trustworthiness.

"Our folks did it in an apolitical and a professional way," Comey said of the FBI's handling of the investigation.

Republicans said they were infuriated with the FBI's decision and confused by the way it was presented.

Comey on Tuesday gave a scathing assessment of Clinton's email practices, followed by his conclusion that "no

reasonable prosecutor" would charge her with a crime.

On Thursday, Comey said the legal decision came down to a simple lack of a criminal intent. When agents investigate allegations of criminal wrongdoing, they look for evidence not only that a statute was violated, but also that a person knew that what he was doing was wrong. That evidence did not exist in this case, Comey said.

Although there is a law that allows for felony prosecution for mishandling classified information because of

gross negligence, that law has been used only once in the 99 years since it was enacted — and that was in a case involving espionage, Comey said.

"We don't want to put people in jail unless we prove that they knew they were doing something they shouldn't do," Comey said. "That is the characteristic of all the prosecutions involving mishandling of classified information."

Comey, a registered Republican for years though he said he now is not registered in a political party, served as deputy attorney general in the George W. Bush administration. He was appointed in 2013 to a 10-year term as FBI director by President Obama.

Committee chairman, Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, told Comey that the FBI's decision on Clinton showed a "double standard" for powerful people. Had the "average Joe" done what she had done, he said, he would go to prison.

"If your name isn't Clinton or you're not part of the powerful elite, then Lady Justice will act differently," Chaffetz said, adding that the FBI had set a "dangerous precedent" in letting her off the hook.

AP looks at law enforcement shootings involving black men

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The shooting deaths of two black men within days by law enforcement officers are the latest in a spate of such cases that have made headlines nationwide in recent months.

A Minnesota officer fatally shot a man — identified by relatives as 32-year-old Philando Castile — while he was in a car with a woman and a child in Falcon Heights, a St. Paul suburb. The aftermath of the Wednesday shooting was purportedly livestreamed in a widely shared Facebook video.

A day earlier, 37-year-old Alton Sterling was shot and killed during a confrontation with two police officers outside a Baton Rouge, Louisiana, convenience store where he was selling music and movies on discs. Cellphone video of the shooting posted online by a community activist set off angry protests.

Here's a look at other recent cases involving law enforcement officers:

GREGORY GUNN

Montgomery, Alabama, police officer Aaron Smith, who is white, has been charged with murder in the February shooting death of 58-year-old Gregory Gunn. Officer Smith shot Gunn, who was unarmed, in the early hours of Feb. 25, steps from the man's home, according to police.

AKIEL DENKINS

A North Carolina prosecutor concluded that a white officer acted in self-defense when he shot a black man in Raleigh. Police have said 24-year-old Akiel Denkins pulled out a gun and reached for Officer D.C. Twiddy's weapon before the officer shot and killed him in late February.

Twiddy was trying to arrest Denkins after he failed to appear in court on felony charges related to selling cocaine.

FREDDIE GRAY

Six Baltimore police officers faced charges ranging from misconduct to second-degree murder in the death last April of Freddie Gray.

Gray, who was 25 and black, died when his neck was broken in the back of a police transport van. He had been restrained with handcuffs and leg irons but not a seat belt.

The death set off several days of rioting in Baltimore. The involuntary manslaughter trial of the first of those charged, Officer William Porter, ended in December in a hung jury. A judge acquitted two other officers in bench trials.

WALTER SCOTT

Michael Slager faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted of murder in the shooting death of Walter Scott, who was shot and killed running from a traffic stop in North Charleston in April 2015. Scott was unarmed.

The shooting was captured on cellphone video by a man passing by and reignited the debate about how blacks are treated by law enforcement officers.

Slager, 34, who is white, was fired by the North Charleston Police Department and stands trial in October.

LAQUAN MCDONALD

Chicago Police Officer Jason Van Dyke is charged with first-degree murder in the 2014 shooting death of black teenager Laquan McDonald.

Van Dyke was charged in November on the same day that the city, on the orders of a judge, released the explosive dash cam video showing the 17-year-old McDonald being shot 16 times. Van Dyke has pleaded not guilty and is free on bond.

The video has prompted local and federal investigations of both the shooting and the police department.

SAMUEL DUBOSE

Ray Tensing, a former University of Cincinnati police officer, is awaiting an October trial on murder and voluntary manslaughter charges in the fatal shooting of Samuel DuBose, who was unarmed when he was pulled over for a traffic stop. Tensing pulled over DuBose last July near campus for a missing license plate.

Tensing's attorney has said the former officer feared being dragged under the car as DuBose, 43, tried to drive away. Tensing, who is white, is free on \$1 million bond. DuBose was black.



Diamond Reynolds, the girlfriend of Philando Castile, talks about his shooting death with protesters and media outside the governor's residence on Thursday in St. Paul, Minnesota. Read more online at theitem.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Video of Minnesota police shooting man goes viral

FALCON HEIGHTS, Minn. (AP) — The fatal shooting of a black man in his car by a Minnesota police officer went viral Thursday, its aftermath apparently broadcast live on Facebook by the victim's girlfriend, who cried that he had just been shot "for no apparent reason."

The shooting happened late Wednesday during a traffic stop in the St. Paul suburb of Falcon Heights. The interim police chief in nearby St. Anthony, Jon Mangseth, said he was aware of the video but had not seen it.

In the video, the woman describes being pulled over for a "busted tail light" and said her boyfriend had told the officer he was carrying a gun for which he was licensed. She said he was shot

as he reached for his wallet.

The video appeared to be genuine, but The Associated Press could not immediately verify it with family members, and authorities did not confirm its authenticity.

As word of the shooting spread, relatives of the man joined scores of people who gathered at the scene and outside the hospital where he died. They identified him as Philando Castile of St. Paul, a 32-year-old cafeteria supervisor at a Montessori school.

Castile's girlfriend said Thursday that he was killed even though he complied with the officer's instructions. Diamond Reynolds told reporters that Castile did "nothing but what the police officer asked of us, which was to put your hands in the air and get

your license and registration."

Speaking to CNN early Thursday, Castile's mother said she suspected she would never learn the whole truth about her son's death.

"I think he was just black in the wrong place," Valerie Castile said, adding that she had underlined to her children that they must do what authorities tell them to do to survive. "I know my son ... we know black people have been killed ... I always told them, whatever you do when you get stopped by police, comply, comply, comply."

Police did not release any details about the officer who fired except that he has been placed on paid administrative leave. No one else was injured, the police chief said.

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Shark attack deaths in 1916 sparked fear that endures today

Scientist thinks rogue great white killed 2

MATAWAN, N.J. (AP) — Until the summer of 1916, many scientists thought sharks would never harm humans. That myth was shattered when the first recorded multiple fatal shark attacks left four people dead at the New Jersey shore during a period of 12 days, sparking fears that endure today.

Some thought a sea turtle was to blame when a Philadelphia man died after his thigh was stripped of flesh while he swam in the Atlantic Ocean off Beach Haven on July 1, 1916. Five days later, a bellman at the Essex & Sussex Hotel in Spring Lake died after he was bitten and his legs severed.

Worse was to come. Talk of the attacks was far from the minds of Matawan residents on a hot and humid July 12. The town was inland from Raritan Bay, which helped feed the tidal Matawan Creek.

Boys like 11-year-old Lester Stillwell liked to skinny dip off the Old Wyckoff Dock, about a mile and a half from the bay, Matawan historian Al Savolaine said.

“Look at me, boys, I’m floating,” Lester said, just as his playmates saw what they thought was a log. Then, they saw a fin lift him out of the

water, revealing a bloody mess “as the shark does a number on him and takes him down,” Savolaine said.

Running naked toward the center of town, the boys shouted, “A shark got Lester!”

W. Stanley Fisher, 24, heard the screams and headed to the creek with friends to recover the body. After nearly an hour, Fisher decided to make one last dive.

“He breaks the surface and shouts he has the body when the shark attacks,” Savolaine said.

About 100 bystanders watched Fisher fight the shark. A friend beat it with an oar before the fish finally released Fisher, having severed an artery near his hip. A tourniquet was applied, and Fisher was placed on a train to a hospital. He was dead in little more than two hours.

A half-mile downstream, the shark latched onto Joseph Dunn’s leg. A tug of war ensued before Dunn was freed, his artery intact.

The next day, as dynamite was dropped into the creek in hopes of raising Lester’s body, Matawan’s acting mayor offered a \$100 reward for anyone who “kills the man-eater.”

On July 14, a circus lion tamer who also was a taxidermist caught a shark in a net



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toys are seen around the grave of Lester Stillwell in Matawan, New Jersey, on June 16. In 1916, a shark attack killed 11-year-old Lester in Matawan Creek and Stanley Fisher, who tried to recover the boy’s body.



Old pilings are seen in Matawan Creek near where a dock was located in Matawan. In 1916, a shark attacked and killed two people in the creek.

in Raritan Bay. The shark was opened up, and human flesh and bones were reportedly found inside. The shark was put on display with no firm proof it was the killer, and the reward went to another man who had caught a blue shark.

“From a purely scientific standpoint, a single shark involved in multiple attacks would be a rogue killer. While

it does happen on occasion, it was never proven,” said George Burgess, curator of the International Shark Attack File in Florida.

Burgess thinks a single great white shark was responsible for the Matawan attacks.

Memories of the attacks faded as the nation entered World War I, he said, but people were reminded in 1975

when a character in the movie “Jaws” mentioned the 1916 attacks.

From July 9 through July 17, Matawan’s Historical Society will hold events commemorating the attacks and understanding the role sharks play in the sea. A memorial service will take place at the cemetery where Stillwell and Fisher are buried, and a monument will be unveiled in memory of the victims.

John S. Nichols, 70, of State College, Pennsylvania, will be there to remember Fisher, his great uncle.

“We’re proud and interested in exactly the role Stanley played,” he said. “It’s a matter of debate whether he was hero or a victim of circumstance.”

In TSA test, computers will scan carry-on bags

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Federal officials said Tuesday they are expanding tests to speed up airport lines and improve security.

In a first in the U.S., the Transportation Security Administration said Tuesday it plans to begin using computed-tomography or CT scanners to inspect carry-on bags at one checkpoint in the Phoenix airport by the end of the year.

CT scanners are already used to screen checked baggage. The process is mostly au-

tomated — the scanners generate 3-D images that are analyzed by computers. Security workers only check a bag if something is suspicious.

The use of CT technology would eliminate the need for screeners to examine X-ray images of every bag. It could also let travelers leave liquids and laptops in their carry-on bags.

TSA said it will work with American Airlines to make other changes to increase automation and speed up screening this fall in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and Miami.



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Muslims struggle to comprehend violent Ramadan

BEIRUT (AP) — As Muslims celebrate the end of Ramadan, many are struggling to comprehend a wave of attacks that killed 350 people across several countries during the holy month and raised the question of what drives the militants to ever more spectacular violence.

The high-profile attacks underline the warnings by many experts that the Islamic State group, especially when on the defensive, will metastasize far beyond its theater of operations.

The extremist group has always sought attention and recruits through terrorism, which has proven to be a winning strategy among its disenfranchised and angry followers.

The loss of its key city of Fallujah capped a series of recent setbacks in Iraq, and the group is pushing to project its strength while also diverting attention from its battlefield humiliations.

"ISIS is waging an existential fight," said Fawaz Gerges, a London-based scholar of jihadi groups, using another acronym for the militant group. "The future of the Islamic State is on the line, and it is trying to maximize the cost for its adversaries and also to inspire this particular segment of young men and women who subscribe to its ideology."

If the militants needed to send a message, Ramadan provided a convenient context.

Most Muslims regard the month as a time for introspection, peace and piety, but mili-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Passengers embrace each other after their evacuation after a blast at Istanbul's Ataturk Airport in Turkey on June 29. As millions of Muslims around the world celebrate the end of Ramadan, many are struggling to come to grips with what has been a particularly bloody month of attacks that killed more than 350 people and spread terror across continents.

tants and hard-line clerics have been touting it as an opportunity for jihad, or holy war.

Weeks before Ramadan, IS urged its supporters to strike wherever possible, and those calls appear to have found resonance.

Omar Mateen, who pledged allegiance to IS, killed 49 people at a crowded gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, on June 12. Militants killed 44 people at Istanbul's main airport on June 28. Young men killed 20 hostages at a Bangladesh restaurant on July 1.

Such violence highlights how attacks can be instantly attached to IS, even when the group does not claim responsibility. It also underscored the increasingly blurred lines in which attacks can be as-

signed to IS and transformed into a global cause.

The bloodshed also demonstrated the difficulty in neutralizing a threat that often is inspired by the group and not necessarily directed from within it.

Still, many of the attacks appeared to have been carefully planned, with targets

clearly meant to induce fear and shock. In Yemen on June 27, there were seven simultaneous attacks in the southern port of Mukalla against security targets, killing 43 people. In one of them, a bomb was hidden in a box of food brought to soldiers at a checkpoint to break their Ramadan fast.

In the Bangladesh violence, witnesses said the attackers tortured some of the victims before killing them for their failure to recite from the Quran. Baghdad residents hardened by years of war said a July 3 bombing that killed 175 people was like no other in recent memory. They said shoppers were trapped in an inferno of fire that was one of the deadliest single attacks since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

The wave of violence culminated Monday with triple suicide bombings in Saudi Arabia, including one that killed four security troops near the Prophet's Mosque in the city of Medina, one of Islam's holiest sites. The apparently coordinated attacks suggested the Islamic State group was to blame, although no one

claimed responsibility.

The IS group is increasingly on the defensive in Syria and Iraq. Its hold on territory has shrunk after losing key strongholds, including Fallujah.

Beirut-based analyst Ibrahim Bayram said the group's goal is to dispel the notion that it is going to vanish or shrink.

"With such attacks, it is proving that it is still capable of crossing borders and conducting attacks" everywhere, including in the holy sites in Saudi Arabia, he said. That is a key for the group, which seeks to boost its credentials and recruitment.

But the attack in Medina outside the sprawling mosque grounds where the Prophet Muhammad is buried sparked particular disgust. Millions visit the mosque every year as part of their pilgrimage to Mecca. Across social media and on channels used by the Islamic State group, supporters appeared to be grappling to explain the violence, quickly labeled by opponents as an attack on Islam itself.

This could be why there has been no claim of responsibility.

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Like many of Sumter's professionals, R. Capers Lee was inspired by another local dentist, Dr. Mutt Bozard, who was not only his dentist, but his Boy Scout leader as well. Lee remembers him as a kind, caring person who lived his life in an exemplary manner and hopes to emulate those qualities while also reflecting his Christian values in his practice at the Dental Team of Sumter. In fact, since joining the Christian Medical and Dental Association in 2004, he has made numerous trips to developing nations to provide free dental care in countries such as Peru, Honduras, Ecuador, Trinidad and Venezuela. The Dental Team of Sumter focuses on preventative dental care, but also specializes in restorative dental procedures whether that involves dentures, whitening, crowns or root canals.

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TW	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 7:00pm Local news update.	Entertainment Tonight (N) (HD)	2016 U.S. Summer Olympic Trials: Track & Field Trials: from Hayward Field, Eugene, Ore. (HD)		2016 U.S. Summer Olympic Trials: Women's Gymnastics: from SAP Center, San Jose, Calif. (LIVE) (HD)		WIS News 10 at 11:00pm News and weather.	(:35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon President Barack Obama. (HD)			
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 @ 7pm Evening news update.	Inside Edition (N) (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles: Internal Affairs Deeks is accused of murder. (HD)		Hawaii Five-0: Ua lola loko i ke aloha Aunt Deb returns on a mission. (HD)	Blue Bloods: Cursed Gangster is gunned down in his car. (HD)	News 19 @ 11pm The news of the day.	(:35) The Late Show with Stephen Colbert Rose Byrne; Bobby Flay. (HD)			
WOLO	23	5	12	Wheel of Fortune: R&R (HD)	Jeopardy! (N) (HD)	Shark Tank Two business partners claim they have the answer to fire-starting problems. (HD)		(:01) What Would You Do? (HD)	20/20 ABC's Diane Sawyer joins Jaycee Dugard to talk about her new life. (N) (HD)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (HD)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live Actor Bill Hader joins from "The BFG"; actress Maria Bamford visits. (HD)			
WRJA	27	11	14	Travel Detective with Peter Greenberg (N)	Coastal Kingdom: Backyard Wildlife	Washington Week (N) (HD)	Charlie Rose: The Week (N) (HD)	The Great British Baking Show: Biscuits Biscotti, arlettes & 36 biscuits. (N) (HD)		A Few Good Pie Places Some of America's pie shops. (HD)	Tavis Smiley (HD)	BBC World News International news.	Charlie Rose (N) (HD)	
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory Lack of girlfriend. (HD)	The Big Bang Theory Leonard's mom. (HD)	Rosewood: Hydrocephalus and Hard Knocks Confidential informant is in trouble. (HD)		MasterChef: Gordon Ramsay Masterclass Chef Ramsay shares lobster techniques. (HD)	WACH FOX News at 10 Local news report and weather forecast.	TMZ (N)	2 Broke Girls Fortune teller. (HD)	Mike & Molly Mike meets Rosemary. (HD)		
WKTC	33	4	22	Anger Management Tempting a priest. (HD)	Anger Management Competing. (HD)	Masters of Illusion (N) (HD)	Masters of Illusion Guest magicians. (HD)	Penn & Teller: Fool Us: An Egg-Cellent Trick Guest magicians perform for hosts. (HD)	Bones: Stargazer in a Puddle Woman with aging disease killed. (HD)	Bones: The Mastodon in the Room Team works overseas to identify boy. (HD)	Hot in Cleveland Ex-spouse returns. (HD)			
CABLE CHANNELS														
A&E	46	130		Duck Dynasty (HD)	Duck Dynasty (HD)	Duck Dynasty (HD)	Duck Dynasty (HD)	Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:03) Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:32) Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:03) Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:33) Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:03) Duck Dynasty (HD)	
AMC	48	180		(5:00) The Matrix (99, Science Fiction) ★★☆☆ Keanu Reeves. (HD)	Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (11, Action) ★★☆☆ Robert Downey Jr. Sherlock Holmes and Watson must track down Professor Moriarty. (HD)									
ANPL	41	100		Treehouse Masters (HD)	Treehouse Masters (HD)		Treehouse Masters (N) (HD)		Treehouse Masters (N) (HD)		(:03) Treehouse Masters (HD)	Treehouse		
BET	61	162		(:05) Martin: Got to Be There	(:44) Martin: Baby, It's You Martin delivers a baby.	Martin: Yours, Mine and Ours	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx: Passenger 187	Wayans Bank robbery.	Wayans: Ted's Revenge	(:59) Real Husbands (HD)	Dish Nation	Wendy Williams Show (N)	
BRAVO	47	181		(6:24) Housewives	(:26) The Devil Wears Prada (06, Comedy) ★★☆☆ Meryl Streep. A young woman becomes an assistant to a demanding fashion editor.			Housewives of Orange (N)	(:41) Below Deck (N)	(:51) The Devil Wears Prada (06, Comedy) ★★☆☆ Meryl Streep. A woman works for a demanding boss.				
CNBC	35	84		Undercover Boss (HD)	Undercover Boss (HD)		Undercover Boss (HD)		Undercover Boss (HD)		Undercover Boss (HD)	Undercover		
CNN	33	80		Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360° (N) (HD)		CNN Tonight with Don Lemon		Inside Man (N) (HD)		Declassified (HD)	Spies (HD)		
COM	57	136		(:09) Futurama (HD)	(:40) Pineapple Express (08, Comedy) ★★☆☆ Seth Rogen. Two marijuana-smoking friends run for their lives when a murder is witnessed. (HD)			Forgetting Sarah Marshall (08, Comedy) ★★☆☆ Jason Segel. Man encounters ex-girlfriend at resort. (HD)						
DISN	18	200		Best Friends Whenever (HD)	Liv and Maddie (HD)	Stuck in the Middle (HD)	Girl Meets World (N) (HD)	Walk the Prank (N) (HD)	Walk the Prank (N) (HD)	Star vs. The Forces Evil (HD)	Star vs. The Forces Evil (HD)	Stuck in the Middle (HD)	Girl Meets World (HD)	Walk the Prank (HD)
DSC	42	103		Alaskan Bush People (HD)	Alaskan Bush People: Off (N)		Alaskan Bush People (N) (HD)		Homestead Rescue (N) (HD)		(:03) Alaskan Bush People (HD)		Homestead	
ESPN	26	35		SportsCenter (HD)	NBA Summer League: Minnesota vs Denver (LIVE) (HD)		NBA Summer League: Los Angeles vs New Orleans (LIVE) (HD)							
ESPN2	27	39		College Swimming/Diving	O.J.: Made in America: Part 1 O.J. Simpson's life. (HD)		CFL Football: Saskatchewan Roughriders at Edmonton Eskimos (LIVE) (HD)							
FOOD	40	109		Diners (HD)	Diners (HD)	Diners (HD)	Diners (HD)	Diners (HD)	Diners (HD)	Diners (N) (HD)	Diners (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives (HD)	Diners (HD)	
FOXN	37	90		On the Record with Greta (N)	The O'Reilly Factor (N) (HD)		The Kelly File News updates.		Hannity (N) (HD)		The O'Reilly Factor (HD)		The Kelly File	
FREE	20	131		(6:30) The Truman Show (98, Drama) ★★☆☆½ Jim Carrey. A man discovers his life is the subject of a 24-hour-a-day television show.			Paul Blart: Mall Cop (09, Comedy) ★★☆☆ Kevin James. A security guard tries to stop a gang of criminals from taking over a busy mall. (HD)		The 700 Club Woman shares her story of healing. (HD)		Quints (00) ★★ (HD)			
FSS	31	42		Driven (HD)	Braves (HD)	MLB Baseball: Atlanta Braves at Chicago White Sox from U.S. Cellular Field (LIVE) (HD)		Post Game		Post Game		MLB Game		
HALL	52	183		(6:00) A Christmas Detour (15) ★★☆☆½ Candace Cameron Bure. (HD)	Crown for Christmas (15, Romance) ★★☆☆ Danica McKellar. Woman's new boss is European monarch. (HD)		The Middle (HD)		The Middle (HD)		Golden Girls: All Bets Are Off	Gold. Girl Presidential visits.	MLB Girl Presidential visit.	
HGTV	39	112		Hunters (HD)	Hunters (HD)	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	Hunters (HD)	Hunters (HD)	Hunters (HD)	Hunters (HD)	My Lottery
HIST	45	110		Ancient Aliens (HD)	Ancient Aliens (HD)		Ancient Aliens (N) (HD)		(:03) Ancient Aliens (HD)		(:03) Ancient Aliens (HD)		Ancient (HD)	
ION	13	160		Criminal Minds: Roadkill Series of vehicular murders. (HD)	Criminal Minds: Amplification Chemical weapon. (HD)		Criminal Minds: To Hell... Homeless disappear. (HD)		Criminal Minds: ... And Back Canadian killer. (HD)		Saving Hope: Vamonos Secret in a patient's medical history. (HD)		Saving Hope (HD)	
LIFE	50	145		Little Women: Atlanta: Bad Apples Major turf war. (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta: Mo Monie, Mo Problems (HD)		Little Women: Atlanta: Savannah Showdown (HD)		(:02) Little Women: Atlanta: Little Women Big Changes (HD)		(:02) Little Women: Atlanta: Twerk Off! Minnie's love life. (HD)		Little Women: Atlanta (HD)	
MSNBC	36	92		Hardball with Chris (N) (HD)	All in with Chris Hayes (HD)		The Rachel Maddow Show (N)		Hardball with Chris (HD)		All in with Chris Hayes (HD)		Maddow (HD)	
NICK	16	210		Crashletes (N)	Crashletes	All in (N)	HALO	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends (HD)	Friends (HD)	Friends (HD)
SPIKE	64	153		Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Jail: Las (HD)
SYFY	58	152		(6:30) Clash of the Titans (10, Adventure) ★★☆☆½ Sam Worthington. A Greek warrior battles monsters.			Killjoys: Wild, Wild Westerley Escaped convicts. (N) (HD)		Dark Matter: Kill Them All Team for-mulates plan to escape. (N)		Killjoys: Wild, Wild Westerley Escaped convicts. (N) (HD)		Dark Matter: Kill Them All	
TBS	24	156		Seinfeld: The Wigmaster (HD)	Family Guy Hospital. (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	ELEAGUE (HD)	The Hangover Part III (13, Comedy) ★★☆☆ Bradley Cooper. Friends try to help unstable comrade.			
TCM	49	186		The Asphalt Jungle (50)	MGM Parade Show	In This Our Life (42, Drama) ★★☆☆ Bette Davis. Spoiled woman seduces sister's husband.		(:45) They Died with Their Boots On (41, Drama) ★★☆☆ Errol Flynn. General George Custer's life is told from West Point to Little Big Horn. (HD)		(:15) Santa Fe Trail (40) ★★				
TLC	43	157		Deadly Women (HD)	Killer Women: Mastermind to Murder (N)		Women in Prison (HD)		(:01) Killer Women: Mastermind to Murder					
TNT	23	158		Bones: The Mystery in the Meat Food scientist. (HD)	The Shawshank Redemption (94, Drama) ★★☆☆ Tim Robbins. An innocent man convicted of his wife's murder copes with the horrors of prison. (HD)		The Adjustment Bureau (11, Thriller) ★★☆☆ Matt Damon. Politician fights fateful forces. (HD)							
truTV	38	129		truTV Top Funniest (HD)	truTV Top Funniest (HD)		truTV Top Funniest (HD)		truTV Top Funniest (HD)					
TVLAND	55	161		A Griffith (HD)	Lopez (HD)	Lopez (HD)	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens (HD)	Queens (HD)	Queens (HD)	
USA	25	132		Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	
WE	68	166		Marriage Cody drops a secret.	Marriage: Memp-hitz the Fan		Marriage Boot Camp: (N)		Million Dollar Matchmaker (N)		Marriage Cheating confessed.		Matchmaker	
WGN	8	172		Person of Interest (HD)	Person of Interest (HD)		Person of Interest (HD)		Person of Interest (HD)		Person of Interest (HD)		Persn Int. (HD)	

'Matchmaker' Patti Stanger switches networks

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

"Million Dollar Matchmaker" (10 p.m., WE) debuts. Patti Stanger's series has a new name on a new network, but it's the same old charade.

For the record, Stanger's Bravo series was "Millionaire Matchmaker." On WE, she moves her operation to the penthouse floor of a desert resort located north of San Diego. There's a touch of product placement about this relocation, but it allows Stanger to keep an eye on her "Million Dollar" clients as well as their arranged dates.

Everyone's under surveillance. Stanger has the whole place bugged. It's about as romantic as being set up on a blind date by the KGB.

But who are we kidding? This is more about the freak show than romance. Stanger has a brusque, "tough love" approach, perhaps more suited to an athletic coach than a relationship counselor. Her first two projects are an oft-married, designer-clad Colombian beauty and a 30ish man who has endured, or perhaps enjoyed, hundreds of plastic surgeries.

With all the subtlety of a blowtorch, Stanger gets right to the woman's apparent problem. She has jumped into bad relationships with a "cliff diver's" disregard for consequences. Seconds later she surmises that her project wants to "fix" the wrong men in her life because she has been damaged in some way. Less than one commercial break later, tears flow when the woman realizes that, yes, she was abused as a 3-year-old girl. Insights abound. Lights, camera, closure.

The plastic surgery addict is a tougher nut to crack. For starters, he's a walking collection of silicon wads. Stanger calls him "The Ken Doll." And Ken has had him-

self sculpted for promotional purposes. He's in the cosmetic surgery field and sees his very existence as a walking billboard. This puts a damper on potential intimacy because he only wants to discuss his own image and his history of shape-shifting.

Patti insists that, somewhere deep inside, a "sweet boy" lurks within. Can she help Ken learn to love himself?

Like I said, nobody — from the host to the lovelorn — seems to take this seriously for a second. "Million Dollar Matchmaker" has a new address, but it's still located deep within the circus side-show.

Netflix debuts "Word Party" (TV-Y), an animated education series from the Henson Digital Puppetry Studio that "stars" four baby animals, Bailey, Franny, Kip and Lulu. Young viewers are invited to learn the animals' new words, practice these words themselves and celebrate these achievements with their own "Word Party."

Five years after the end of her 18-year captivity, kidnapping victim Jaycee Dugard discusses her new life and memoir with Diane Sawyer on "20/20" (10 p.m., ABC).

CULT CHOICE

An eccentric general (George C. Scott) is as essen-

tial to the defeat of German forces as he is bedeviling to the Allied command in the 1970 war epic "Patton" (8 p.m., Outdoor).

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.S. Olympic Trials (NBC) continue with track and field (8 p.m.) and women's gymnastics (9 p.m.).
- Piers Morgan hosts the new true crime series "Killer Women" (8 p.m., TLC, TV-14).
- A lesson in lobsters on "MasterChef" (9 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14).
- Ethical dilemmas caught on camera on "What Would You Do?" (9 p.m., ABC).
- The 2015 documentary "As I Am: The Life and Times of DJ AM" (9 p.m., Showtime) profiles a pioneer of musical "mash-ups."
- A mob hit may spark a war on "Blue Bloods" (10 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14).

SERIES NOTES

A race to clear Deeks on "NCIS: Los Angeles" (8 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * An eventful anniversary on "Rosewood" (8 p.m., Fox, r, TV-14) * Products made in America take center stage on "Shark Tank" (8 p.m., ABC, r, TV-PG) * Dean Cain hosts "Masters of Illusion" (8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., r, CW, TV-14) * Unexploded ordinance on "Hawaii Five-0" (9 p.m.,



NIKO / SHOWTIME

"As I Am: The Life and Times of DJ AM," airing at 9 p.m. today on Showtime, chronicles the life and untimely death of phenomenal DJ and mash-up pioneer DJ AM aka Adam Goldstein.

CBS, r, TV-PG) * Aspiring magicians audition on "Penn & Teller: Fool Us" (9 p.m., CW, r, TV-PG).

LATE NIGHT

Rose Byrne, Bobby Flay and "Weird Al" Yankovic are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes President Barack Obama and Madonna on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC, r) * Bill Hader, Maria Bamford and DNCE appear on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" (11:35 p.m., ABC, r) * Zac Efron, Wendy Williams and Eric Ripert visit "Late Night With

Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC, r) * Eric Bana, Judy Greer and Joss Stone appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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***THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 3D (PG)**
3:15 10:00

***THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2D (PG)**
12:00 1:00 2:30 5:00 8:30
6:00 7:30 7:45 8:15 9:45 10:30

***MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES (R)**
12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

***THE LEGEND OF TARZAN (PG13)**
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

***THE BFG (PG)**
1:00 3:45 6:30 9:15

***THE PURGE: ELECTION YEAR (R)**
12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30

INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE (PG13)
1:00 3:45 6:30 9:15

FREE STATE OF JONES (R)
12:00 3:00

THE SHALLOWS (PG13)
12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

FINDING DORY (PG)
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE (PG13)
12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30

THE CONJURING 2 (R)
12:45 3:45 6:45 9:45
*Pass Restricted

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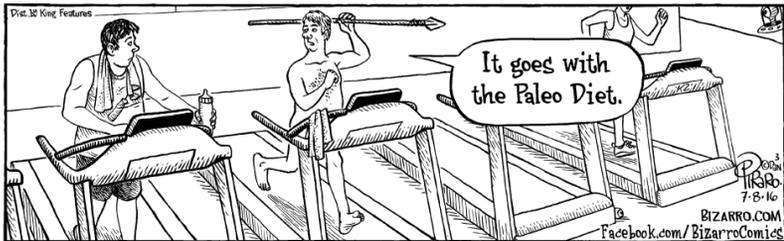
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BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



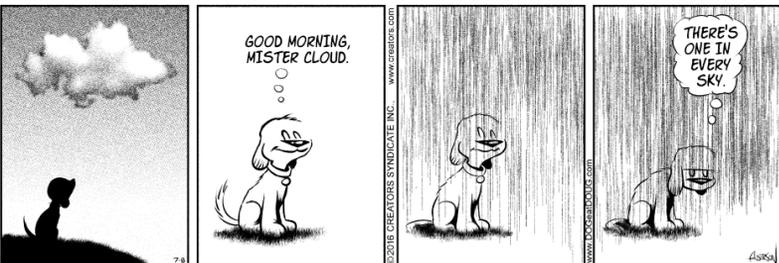
ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Wife questions care received at out-of-town clinic



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — On a recent trip out of state, my husband became ill. The hotel we stayed in referred us to a nearby urgent care walk-in clinic.

The nurse took his blood pressure, which was very high. The "doctor" never took his temperature or mentioned the high blood pressure to us. He prescribed six drugs and we went on our way. My husband was happy; I was not.

When we returned home, I looked up the doctor's name on the internet. Actually, he

was a physician's assistant, not a medical doctor. Abby, what should people do if they become sick while traveling?

Traveling medical emergency

DEAR T.M.E. — You have asked an excellent question, one that may help many other people. It is always wise when you travel to bring along a list of any medications you're taking and a copy of your medical records. Medical records are online these days and can be emailed to you upon request. A lot of health insurance companies offer a 24-hour service to call for a referral to a physician in whatever locale you happen to be.

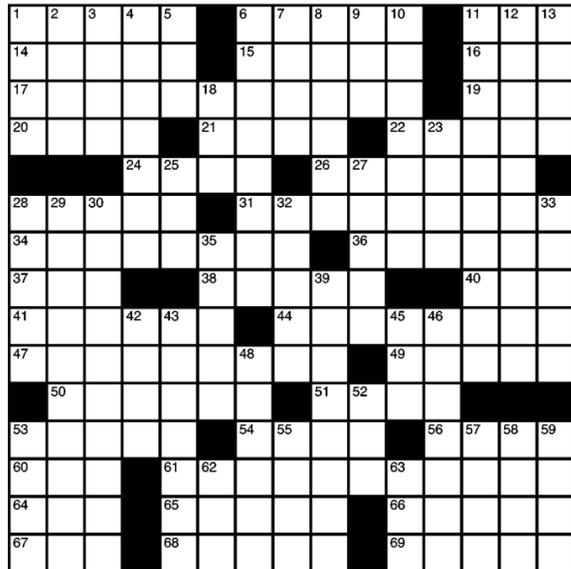
Physician assistants are standard in many areas of the country as long as they are supervised by a physician --

and in your husband's case, there should have been an M.D. on the premises. You, as the consumer, have a right to ask questions. It would not have been out of line to inquire about the certification of the person who was treating your husband, or to ask to see the supervising M.D.

If the medical emergency is dire, take no chances and call 911. If someone is really sick (having chest pains, muscle weakness, trouble speaking), an emergency room is better than an urgent care because more expertise and testing are available onsite.

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.

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By C.C. Burnikel 7/8/16

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wrap alternatives
 - 6 Ill-fated Corleone hoodlum Luca
 - 11 TD scorers
 - 14 Response to a raise
 - 15 Element #86
 - 16 Fish whose blood is poisonous to humans
 - 17 Art-loving athlete?
 - 19 "Agnus ___"
 - 20 Home of the annual Norwegian Wood music festival
 - 21 Heineken symbol
 - 22 Quick
 - 24 Sign on a door
 - 26 Texas county bordering New Mexico
 - 28 "___ Irish Rose"
 - 31 What you don't know about audio equipment?
 - 34 Chinese checkers, e.g.
 - 36 Firm
 - 37 Fruit juice brand
 - 38 Break up
 - 40 Goddess sister of Selene
 - 41 World Heritage Site org.
 - 44 Ban delivery
 - 47 Difficult situation at Bed Bath & Beyond?
 - 49 Foreigner in "Taxi"
 - 50 Greensboro Grasshoppers' baseball level
 - 51 Surprised sounds
 - 53 Appreciative sounds
 - 54 Wine holders
 - 56 "The Ghost of Frankenstein"
 - 60 "Away From ___": Julie Christie movie
 - 61 Gem of a night out?
 - 64 Turkish bigwig
 - 65 Sculpted trunk
 - 66 Chocolate-caramel candies
 - 67 It ends 11/6/2016 in the U.S.
 - 68 Evil figure
 - 69 "No good movie is too long and no bad movie is short enough" speaker
 - 7
 - 8 Members of a flock
 - 9 Punjabi prince
 - 10 Flipped over
 - 11 A behavioral sci.
 - 12 Laundry challenge
 - 13 Visibly embarrassed
 - 14 Time for a cold one
 - 15 Skirt feature
 - 16 Web feed document letters
 - 17 Woman whom Goya also painted
 - 18 Military support gp.
 - 19 Memory aids
 - 20 Brain-controlled transportation devices
 - 21 "Something's fishy"
 - 22 Adversity, in the RAF motto
 - 23 "We R Who We R" singer
 - 24 Flipped over
 - 25 A behavioral sci.
 - 26 Laundry challenge
 - 27 Visibly embarrassed
 - 28 Time for a cold one
 - 29 Skirt feature
 - 30 Web feed document letters
 - 31 Woman whom Goya also painted
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 - 69 Visibly embarrassed
 - 70 Time for a cold one
 - 71 Skirt feature
 - 72 Web feed document letters
 - 73 Woman whom Goya also painted
 - 74 Military support gp.
 - 75 Memory aids
 - 76 Brain-controlled transportation devices
 - 77 "Something's fishy"
- THURSDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| E | A | R | L | L | E | O | S | I | D | E | A |
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| P | R | I | N | T | E | R | P | A | P | E | R |
| P | A | S | T | A | S | L | A | Y | I | O | N |
| A | U | T | O | M | O | B | I | L | E | A | N |
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| S | O | U | L | S | T | E | T | T | R | A | Y |
- DOWN**
- 1 ___ de gallo
 - 2 Stern rival
 - 3 Crossing cost
 - 4 Signing facilitator
 - 5 Poker great Ungar

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.

OSUHE

FOYLT

ARDILA

OKIREO



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

"O S U H E - F O Y L T" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TANGY SEEDY MATTER APPEAL
Answer: The popularity of word processors in the 1960s led to — MANY TYPES

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

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

Difficulty: 5 (of 5)

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

N.G. Osteen 1843-1936
THE WATCHMAN AND SOUTHRON

H.G. Osteen 1870-1955
FOUNDER, THE ITEM

H.D. Osteen 1904-1987
THE ITEM

Margaret W. Osteen 1908-1996
THE ITEM



OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Comey: A theory

Why did he do it? FBI director James Comey spent 14 minutes laying out an unassailable case for prosecuting Hillary Clinton for the mishandling of classified material. Then at literally the last minute, he recommended against prosecution.

Charles Krauthammer

This is baffling. Under the statute (18 U.S.C. section 793(f)), it's a felony to mishandle classified information either intentionally or "through gross negligence." The evidence, as outlined by Comey, is overwhelming.

Clinton either sent or received 110 emails in 52 chains containing material that was classified *at the time*. Eight of these chains contained information that was top secret. A few of the classified emails were so marked, contrary to Clinton's assertion that there were none.

These were stored on a home server that was even less secure than a normal Gmail account. Her communications were quite possibly compromised by hostile powers, thus jeopardizing American national security.

"An unclassified system was no place for that conversation," said Comey of the classified emails. A rather kind euphemism, using the passive voice. In plainer, more direct language: It is imprudent, improper and indeed illegal to be conducting such business on an unsecured private server.

Comey summed up Clinton's behavior as "extremely careless."

How is that not gross negligence?

Yet Comey let her off the hook, citing lack of intent. But negligence doesn't require intent. Compromising national secrets is such a grave offense that it requires either intent or negligence.

Lack of intent is, therefore, no defense. But one can question that claim as well.

Yes, it is safe to assume that there was no malicious intent to injure the nation. But Clinton clearly intended to set up an unsecured private server. She clearly intended to send those classified emails. She clearly received warnings from her own department about the dangers of using a private email account.

She meant to do what she did. And she did it. Intentionally. That's two grounds for prosecution, one requiring no intent whatsoever.

Yet Comey claims that no reasonable prosecutor would bring such a case. Nor has one ever been brought.

Not so. Just last year, the Justice Department successfully prosecuted naval reservist Bryan Nishimura, who improperly downloaded classified material to his personal, unclassified electronic devices.

The government admitted that there was no evidence that Nishimura intended to distribute the material to others.

Nonetheless, he was sentenced to two years of probation, fined and forever prohibited from seeking a security clearance, which effectively kills any chance of working in national security.

So why not Hillary Clinton? The usual answer is that the Clintons are treated by a different standard.

Only little people pay. They

If Clinton were not a presumptive presidential nominee but simply a retired secretary of state, he might well have made a different recommendation. Prosecuting under current circumstances would have upended and redirected an already yearlong presidential selection process.

are too well connected, too well protected to be treated like everybody else.

Alternatively, the explanation lies with Comey: He gave in to implicit political pressure, the desire to please those in power.

Certainly plausible, but given Comey's reputation for probity and given that he holds a 10-year appointment, I'd suggest a third line of reasoning.

When Chief Justice John Roberts used a tortured, logic-defying argument to uphold Obamacare, he was subjected to similar accusations of bad faith.

My view was that, as guardian of the Supreme Court's public standing, he thought the issue too momentous — and the implications for the country too large — to hinge on a decision of the court. Especially after *Bush v. Gore*, Roberts wanted to keep the court from overturning the political branches on so monumental a piece of social legislation.

I would suggest that Comey's thinking, whether conscious or not, was similar: He did not want the FBI director to end up as the arbiter of the 2016 presidential election.

If Clinton were not a presumptive presidential nominee but simply a retired secretary of state, he might well have made a different recommendation.

Prosecuting under current circumstances would have upended and redirected an already yearlong presidential selection process. In my view, Comey didn't want to be remembered as the man who irreversibly altered the course of American political history.

And with no guarantee that the prosecution would succeed, moreover. Imagine that scenario: You knock out of the race the most likely next president — and she ultimately gets acquitted. Imagine how Comey goes down in history under those circumstances.

I admit I'm giving Comey the benefit of the doubt. But the best way I can reconcile his reputation for integrity with the grating illogic of his Clinton decision is by presuming that he didn't want to make history.

I don't endorse his decision. (Nor did I Roberts'.) But I think I understand it.

Charles Krauthammer's email address is letters@charleskrauthammer.com.

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NOTABLE & QUOTABLE

In "Why African Americans are terrified," *The Washington Post's* James Capehart addresses the most recent violence.

I didn't even have a chance to emotionally process what happened in Baton Rouge on Tuesday when what happened near St. Paul, Minnesota, on Wednesday was added to a grim list of black people who died at the hands of police.

There have been so many. And if you take all that and add the horror of Charleston where nine African Americans were killed, allegedly by a white supremacist, in a historic black church, perhaps you will begin to understand the trauma black people across the country are suffering right now.

A broken taillight can get you killed (Philando Castile).

Selling CDs outside a convenience store can get you killed (Alton Sterling).

Selling loose cigarettes can get you killed (Eric Garner).

Playing in a park with a toy gun can get you killed (Tamir Rice).

Shopping in a Walmart can get you killed (John Crawford III).

A missing license plate can get you killed (Samuel DuBose).

Worshiping in your church can get you killed (the Mother Emanuel nine).

A routine traffic stop can get you shot (Levar Jones) or killed (Sandra Bland, Walter Scott).

And as every African American knows, a routine traffic stop is never routine when you're black.

The facts in all these cases vary, and the victims involved are not "perfect." But this is how we see it. And we're terrified.

...

In "The Trumpen Proletariat," Dan Henninger writes, "Barack Obama's presidency of moral condescension has produced

an electoral backlash." Read it online at www.wsj.com:

The media originally looked upon the emerging Trump base with suspicion and distrust, regarding it as a volatile and possibly dangerous political faction but one that would slip back to the shadows as the Trump candidacy faded.

We are 10 days from the party conventions, and Mr. Trump sits, uneasily as always, close to the polling margin of error against the former Secretary of State, former U.S. senator and former first lady Hillary Clinton. The Trumpen proletariat turns out to be bigger than imagined.

In the nonstop conversation about the 2016 election, the question at the center of everything is whether one is a "Trump supporter."

But if it is true that in this election all the rules have been broken, couldn't it also be true that Donald Trump has himself become a bystander to the forces set in motion this year?

Mr. Trump has raised very little money, is still pouring the foundation for a campaign organization and faces a determined, billion-dollar Democratic Party machine. Once a month, he slanders reality with backhanded admiration for mass murderers such as Saddam Hussein and Kim Jong Un.

And yet he stands. This election must be about something else.

It is a reckoning, a final settling of accounts and grievances going way back. This isn't about Republicans versus Democrats. It's the gunfight at the OK Corral, between the Earps and the Clantons. It's a street fight about what have become irreconcilable views of America.

...

In "Donald Trump's theology," *New York Times* contributor Peter Wehner writes, "Since Donald

Trump assures us that the Bible is his favorite book, it's worth asking: Just what is his theology?"

To better understand Mr. Trump's approach to life, ethics and politics, we should not look to Christ but to Friedrich Nietzsche, who was repulsed by Christianity and Christ. "What is good?" Nietzsche asks in "The Anti-Christ." "Whatever augments the feeling of power, the will to power, power itself in man. What is evil? Whatever springs from weakness. What is happiness? The feeling that power increases — that resistance is overcome."

Whether or not he has read a word of Nietzsche (I'm guessing not), Mr. Trump embodies a Nietzschean morality rather than a Christian one. It is characterized by indifference to objective truth (there are no facts, only interpretations), the repudiation of Christian concern for the poor and the weak and disdain for the powerless. It celebrates the "Übermensch," or Superman, who rejects Christian morality in favor of his own.

For Nietzsche, strength was intrinsically good and weakness was intrinsically bad. So, too, for Donald Trump.

Those who believe this is merely reductionism should consider the words of Jesus: Do you have eyes but fail to see and ears but fail to hear? Mr. Trump's entire approach to politics rests on dehumanization. If you disagree with him or oppose him, you are not merely wrong. You are worthless, stripped of dignity, the object of derision.

This attitude is central to who Mr. Trump is and explains why it pervades and guides his campaign. If he is elected president, that might-makes-right perspective would infect his entire administration.

Notable & Quotable is compiled by Graham Osteen. Contact him at graham@theitem.com.

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICIES

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by

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

AROUND TOWN

Summer Movies at the Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St., will feature the following: today, July 8, "Pan;" Thursday, July 14, "Aladdin" (1992 version); Friday, July 15, "Goosebumps;" Thursday, July 21, "Shaun the Sheep;" Thursday, July 28, "Open Season: Scared Silly;" and Friday, Aug. 12, "The Hunger Games: The Mockingjay Part 2." Thursday movie times are 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Friday movie time is 7 p.m. Admission is \$1. Water and popcorn will be available for purchase for \$1 each. Call (803) 436-2500.

Lincoln High School Class of 1964 will meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 11, at the South Sumter Resource Center. This is an urgent business meeting. Attendance is imperative. Call Frances at (803) 773-3804.

The South Carolina Disaster Recovery meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 11, at Patriot Hall, 135 Haynsworth St. Residents are encouraged to attend and discuss with state officials how the funding should be disbursed. Questions on the event should be directed to Beth Parks at the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office, ContactSC-DR@scdr.sc.gov or visit their Facebook event page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1375501725799039/>.

The Sumter Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, at Shiloh-Randolph Manor, 125 W. Bartlette St. Mariann Frye, wellness ambassador for Rite Aid, will speak. Transportation provided within their mileage area. If you know a blind person, contact Debra Canty, chapter president, at (803) 775-5792 or debra.canty@frontier.com.

The Walnut Hill Neighborhood Association will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, at the North HOPE Center.

The Northside Neighborhood Association will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, at the North HOPE Center.

Lincoln High School Preservation Alumni Association will hold a "Shoe Rally and Wine Sip" at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 17, at the Lincoln High School cafeteria, Council Street. Requested donation amount is your shoe size in dollars. There will be refreshments, music and more. Men and women are needed to model their shoes. Call (803) 773-6700 or (803) 968-4173.

The North Main Community Organization will meet from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 19, at the North HOPE Center.

The Sumter County Education Association-Retired will meet at noon on Wednesday, July 20, at the North HOPE Center.

Fourth Fridays in Downtown Sumter will feature Darrell Harwood from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Friday, July 22, on Main Street between Liberty Street and Hampton Avenue.

Central Carolina Technical College will host an open house at the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Training Center (AMTTC) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 23. The AMTTC is located at 853 Broad Street. Attendees will see demonstrations that include 3D modeling, fourth axis machining, and robotics. Call (803) 778-6670.

The Sumter County Prevention Team will sponsor a "Parents Accessing Resources 4 Kids" (PARK) event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6, at Sumter High School, 2580 McCrays Mill Road. The purpose of this awareness event is to provide information on available community resources to parents of youth ages 0-18 years old in Sumter County.

Edmunds High School Class of 1966 will hold its 50th reunion on Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Sumter County Museum. Cost is \$30 for singles, \$60 for couples. Kent Mims and Coty Cuttino are organizing a golf outing for the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 23. Call Myra Moore Wilt at (803) 491-4624.

The Single Parent Institute meets from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Birnie HOPE Center. Meetings are open to teenage single parents, custodial and non-custodial single parents. You are welcome to bring your children as the Single Parent Institute is for the entire family. Contact Dr. L. Quaneck Walkes at (803) 223-9408 or lqwalkes@sctechthisout.com.

FYI

The Purple Heart Chapter of Sumter is sponsoring a project to have all Purple Heart medal recipients inducted into the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor located in New York. An enrollment application must be completed by the medal recipient or next of kin if the veteran is deceased. Proof of the award of the medal is required and, if possible, a photograph of the recipient. Call Willie Washington at (720) 203-2112 for details.

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Focus on finances, contracts and

health. Take care of pressing matters before things get out of hand. Bring about the changes that will help you feel emotionally and mentally secure. Make the best choices for you, not someone else.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): There is no time to relax when you can accomplish so much. Take advantage of every opportunity you get, and turn the things that come your way into positive experiences. Romance is in the stars, along with domestic improvements.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): What works for someone else isn't likely to work for you. Make an effort to figure out your best route, and base upcoming events and get-togethers on what will benefit you the most. Don't give in to peer pressure or indulgence.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Talks, sharing ideas and offering something different will grab the attention of someone who is willing to support your efforts. You can improve your surroundings by building a space that is conducive to expanding your plans. Romance is highlighted.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Stay focused on what you want to accomplish. Your dedication and loyalty will be impressive and help you bring about alterations required to make your job and your life easier. An unlikely offering is best handled with caution.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't share everything with just anyone. Save some surprises for later. Your involvement in planning and promoting something you want to do will encourage new connections and bring about praise and exciting

prospects.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep your ideas to yourself and stay focused on what needs to be completed. Consider what's not going according to plan and formulate a strategy to help you implement the changes required to ensure your happiness. Stop procrastinating.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may have too many options. Don't try to do everything all at once. Pick and choose what makes the most sense in order to achieve the highest returns. Don't dismiss an important relationship. Leave time for fun and games.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be torn between what you want to do and what you know you should do. Be responsible and don't fall into an expensive trap. Persuasive tactics will be used to entice you to do things you probably shouldn't.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider what brings you the greatest joy. Don't give in to someone's demands when you should be following your own path. An important relationship will either stifle or encourage your success. Change what isn't working.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A last-minute change of plans will turn out in your favor. Accepting the situation will help you move past any roadblocks and on toward what's important to you. Don't give up when you should be assertive and do what's best for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Plan an entertaining event for yourself and the people you enjoy being with the most. A personal change will lift your spirits and encourage you to be more receptive to doing things differently. Be proud of your new look and attitude.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2016

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
99°	80°	101° / 78°	97° / 76°	95° / 76°	97° / 76°
Chance of rain: 25%	Chance of rain: 15%	Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 45%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 60%
W 7-14 mph	WSW 6-12 mph	W 8-16 mph	W 4-8 mph	SSW 6-12 mph	SSW 6-12 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Partly sunny and hot. Winds west-southwest 6-12 mph.

Saturday: Hot; a stray afternoon thunderstorm. Winds west 6-12 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Partly sunny; hot in southern parts. High 95 to 100.

Saturday: Sunshine; a stray thunderstorm in northern parts. High 97 to 101.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 4 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	
High	99°
Low	72°
Normal high	91°
Normal low	70°
Record high	103° in 1954
Record low	55° in 1951

Precipitation	
24 hrs ending 4 p.m. yest.	0.03"
Month to date	0.08"
Normal month to date	1.07"
Year to date	25.06"
Last year to date	23.41"
Normal year to date	23.99"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	356.78	-0.02
Marion	76.8	75.01	-0.11
Moultrie	75.5	74.96	-0.02
Wateree	100	97.66	-0.07

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	5.75	+0.73
Congaree River	19	3.39	+0.24
Lynches River	14	2.88	-0.23
Saluda River	14	1.78	+0.03
Up. Santee River	80	75.96	+0.13
Wateree River	24	6.80	+0.57

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:18 a.m.	Sunset	8:36 p.m.
Moonrise	10:32 a.m.	Moonset	11:33 p.m.
First	July 11	New	Aug 2
Full	July 19	Last	July 26

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	12:26 a.m.	3.3	7:30 a.m.	-0.1
	1:04 p.m.	2.8	7:38 p.m.	0.2
Sat.	1:11 a.m.	3.1	8:14 a.m.	0.1
	1:53 p.m.	2.8	8:28 p.m.	0.4

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	95/76/pc	94/76/t
Chicago	86/66/pc	78/62/pc
Dallas	97/79/pc	97/79/pc
Detroit	89/66/t	78/62/pc
Houston	96/78/s	95/80/pc
Los Angeles	80/64/pc	80/64/pc
New Orleans	94/80/pc	95/80/pc
New York	91/72/pc	85/70/pc
Oriando	96/76/t	96/76/pc
Philadelphia	93/76/pc	92/75/pc
Phoenix	108/86/s	109/85/s
San Francisco	70/58/pc	69/55/pc
Wash., DC	94/79/pc	94/74/pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Asheville	92/71/pc	90/67/pc	Florence	98/80/pc	101/78/t
Athens	97/76/pc	97/74/t	Gainesville	96/74/pc	97/74/pc
Augusta	101/77/pc	102/75/t	Gastonia	95/75/pc	97/70/s
Beaufort	100/80/pc	100/79/t	Goldsboro	96/79/pc	98/75/s
Cape Hatteras	88/81/pc	90/80/pc	Goose Creek	100/81/pc	101/79/t
Charleston	100/80/pc	101/80/t	Greensboro	93/75/pc	95/70/pc
Charlotte	96/76/pc	97/72/s	Greenville	99/76/pc	98/73/t
Clemson	100/79/pc	99/74/t	Hickory	94/75/pc	93/70/pc
Columbia	103/81/pc	104/78/t	Hilton Head	97/82/pc	99/81/s
Darlington	97/79/pc	100/76/s	Jacksonville, FL	98/76/pc	98/76/pc
Elizabeth City	92/77/pc	94/74/pc	La Grange	96/76/pc	95/75/t
Elizabethtown	95/79/pc	99/75/s	Macon	98/76/pc	99/75/t
Fayetteville	97/79/pc	99/75/t	Marietta	94/76/pc	93/75/s
Marion	94/73/pc	93/66/pc	Mt. Pleasant	98/82/pc	100/81/t
Myrtle Beach	95/81/pc	98/79/s	Orangeburg	100/79/pc	102/75/s
Port Royal	99/82/pc	100/80/s	Raleigh	94/76/pc	94/70/pc
Rock Hill	96/77/pc	98/71/t	Rockingham	97/78/pc	99/72/t
Savannah	99/79/pc	100/79/t	Spartanburg	97/76/pc	97/71/t
Summerville	99/79/pc	100/77/t	Wilmington	95/79/pc	99/78/t
Winston-Salem	92/74/pc	93/69/pc			

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

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SUMTER SPCA DOG OF THE WEEK



Fred, a neutered and housebroken 1-year-old red basset hound / chow mix, is available for adoption at the Sumter SPCA. He is super friendly, affectionate, gentle and active. Fred loves to be petted and given lots of attention. He is great with other dogs. Fred has a wonderful demeanor and sweet personality and would make an excellent new addition to any family! The Sumter SPCA is located at 1140 S. Guignard Drive, (803) 773-9292, and is open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day except Wednesday and Sunday. Visit the website at www.sumterscpca.com.

The SPCA relies heavily on community support and donations. Currently, the biggest needs are for dry puppy and kitten food; wet cat food; cat litter; and cleaning supplies. The following are also appreciated: Newspapers; stuffed animals; heavy duty trash bags (30 gallon or larger); dishwashing liquid; laundry detergent; bleach; paper towels; sheets and comforters; baby blankets; canned dog and cat food; dry dog food; treats; leashes and collars; disinfectant spray; all-purpose cleaner; air freshener; no scratch scrubbers; two-sided sponges for dishes; litter freshener; and, of course, monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Committee made right decisions in Riley brawl

What happened at Riley Park on Tuesday is not what American Legion baseball is about, nor is it the case for any athletic endeavour. Two teams, the Sumter P-15's and Lexington Post 7, getting in a benches-clearing brawl is something that should be viewed with nothing but disdain.

Such incidents, unfortunately, occur from time to time in the world of sports. Not as much as one might think though. With the advent of social media and the ability to get information into public space around the world in a matter of minutes, every scrape -- big or small and from pee wee league to the big leagues -- is generally there for all to see.



Dennis Bronson

While there was a call from many for one -- mainly Sumter -- or both teams to be booted out of the playoffs, the American Legion baseball state committee should be commended for taking the action it did in regards to not doing such a thing.

You ask people "to do battle" on an athletic field and sometimes actions are going to be taken that lead to words being said that lead to other actions being taken that lead to what happened on Tuesday. You ask people to be competitive up to the moment a game might be reaching its peak and then you tell those people to shut all of that emotion and adrenaline down. That might be easy to do for someone my age, but I know what I was like when I was a young man and sometimes actions occurred before the brain followed through a logical progression.

The American Legion national committee set a precedent in the 2011 Southeast Regional played in Sumter when it sent Douglasville, Ga., and Cherryville, N.C., home after getting into a brawl. I thought that was a rash decision at that time as well, even though it was a very messy situation.

I'm not being naive. While it wasn't stated, the reason Sumter -- and Lexington -- is still in

SEE BRONSON, PAGE B3



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter second baseman Ryan Moore, left, knocks down a throw from home as Lexington's Mike Smith slides into second base during the P-15's 20-0 victory in seven innings against Post 7 on Thursday at Riley Park.

Redemption rout

Given new life after brawl, Williamson & P-15's offense respond with 20-0 victory over Lexington in 7 innings

BY JUSTIN DRIGGERS
justin@theitem.com

The Sumter Post 15 American Legion baseball team got a second chance at state play-off life on Thursday, head coach Steve Campbell said, and the P-15's wanted to take advantage of it.

"We wanted to come out and show everybody that we were appreciative of the break we got," Campbell said, referring to Tuesday's game with Lexington Post 7 that resulted in a benches-clearing brawl. "We wanted to show that we're better than what took place the other night."

The P-15's also apparently wanted to show that their recent offensive woes might have turned a corner as well.

Sumter scored nine runs in



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

An American Legion baseball state official talks to both Sumter and Lexington prior to their game on Thursday at Riley Park. The P-15's and Post 7 were involved in a benches-clearing brawl on Tuesday.

the bottom of the first inning -- sending 14 men to the plate with six coming home before

the first out was recorded. The P-15's added seven more runs in the second en route to

a 20-0 victory in seven innings on Thursday at Riley Park.

With the win, Sumter improved to 18-4 overall and grabbed a 1-0 lead in the now best-of-3 first-round series. Post 7 fell to 4-13. Game 2 is today in Lexington at Ball Park Sports Complex at 7 p.m.

"We just found it -- we just started hitting the ball all through the lineup," said P-15's center fielder Ryan Touchberry, who finished 3-for-4 and drove in four runs. "We just came in ready to hit. We were trying to (be aggressive) and hit first-pitch strikes and we got them."

The P-15's registered 10 hits in the first two frames in building their big lead -- including four for extra bases.

SEE SUMTER, PAGE B3

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

After stellar first half, Montgomery an All-Star

BY JUSTIN DRIGGERS
justin@theitem.com

The first big change that greeted Jordan Montgomery when he arrived in Trenton, N.J., was the weather.

"Definitely a lot colder here than it was in Columbia or Charleston," Montgomery said. "I was glad when the weather started to warm up."

The former Sumter High School, Sumter P-15's and University of South Carolina standout also had to make one of the biggest adjustments of his career by going from high Single-A ball to Double-A -- generally considered one of the biggest jumps in professional baseball.

"The (strike) zone is a little smaller here and the hitters are a lot more talented," Montgomery said. "There are a lot

of top prospects from other teams who will make you pay for a mistake.

"I just try to keep those to a minimum."

The tall left-hander has done just that -- at an All-Star level.

In his first year with the Trenton Thunder, the New York Yankees Double-A affiliate, Montgomery has already put together a stellar first half -- going 7-3 with a 2.69 earned run average with 73 strikeouts against 28 walks. He led Trenton with 80 1/3 innings pitched heading into Thursday's start at Bowie.

His first half was so impressive that he was one of six Thunder players selected for the 2016 Eastern League All-Star Game in Akron, Ohio, on July 13.

SEE MONTGOMERY, PAGE B2



DAVID M. SCHOFIELD / TRENTON THUNDER

Former Sumter High, Sumter P-15's and University of South Carolina standout left-handed pitcher Jordan Montgomery throws during the Trenton Thunder's game against the Akron Rubber Ducks on April 23 at Arm & Hammer Park in Trenton, N.J. Montgomery was named to the Eastern League All-Star team after posting a 2.69 earned run average and 73 strikeouts against 28 walks in 80 1/3 innings pitched heading into Thursday's start against Bowie.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Former Knights RB taking steps to attend USC

BY PHIL KORNBLOT
Special to The Sumter Item

Former Crestwood High School and University of North Carolina running back Ty'Son Williams has taken the steps to transfer as a student to the University of South Carolina and potentially join the football team.



WILLIAMS

Williams, who recently announced he was transferring after one season at UNC, has filled out the application forms and sent them along with his transcripts to the USC

SEE WILLIAMS, PAGE B4

WIMBLEDON



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena Williams returns to Elena Vesnina during Williams' Wimbledon semifinal victory on Thursday.

Serena wins, but Venus' loss means no all-Williams final

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

LONDON — Instead of the ninth all-Williams final at a Grand Slam tournament, there will be a rematch of another sort to determine the title at Wimbledon.

And so as Serena Williams again stands one victory from her record-tying 22nd major title, she will need to beat a woman who already stopped her once this year in that pursuit, Angelique Kerber.

After Williams needed all of 48 minutes to overwhelm Elena Vesnina 6-2, 6-0 at the All England Club, older sister Venus failed to join in the family fun, losing to Kerber 6-4, 6-4 in Thursday's second semifinal.

Since winning her sixth Wimbledon trophy a year ago to raise her career count at Grand Slam events to 21, Serena has come quite close to pulling even with Steffi Graf at 22 — the most in the Open era, which began in 1968 (Margaret Court's all-time mark is 24). But the American was surprisingly beaten by Roberta Vinci in the U.S. Open semifinals last September, then by Kerber in the Australian Open final in January, and by Garbine Muguruza in the French Open final last month.

Reaching the final at each of a year's first three major tournaments might sound good to other players.

Not to this one. "For anyone else in this whole planet, it would be a wonderful accomplishment," Serena said. "For me, it's about, obviously, holding the trophy and winning, which would make it a better accomplishment for me. For me, it's not enough. But I think that's what makes me different. That's what makes me Serena."

Yes, she is one of a kind. When a reporter asked



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Angelique Kerber celebrates after beating Venus Williams in their Wimbledon semifinal match on Thursday.

what she makes of it when others talk about her as one of history's greatest female athletes, this was the reply: "I prefer the word, one of the greatest 'athletes' of all time."

Hard to argue. And the case will be even stronger if she can do what she couldn't in Melbourne: solve Kerber's left-handed game.

"I know," Kerber said, "she will go out and try everything to beat me right now."

That Australian Open victory gave Kerber her first Grand Slam title in her first Grand Slam final.

She insisted Thursday she's more relaxed and more confident on court thanks to that big moment.

Didn't necessarily look that way at the outset against Venus, who at 36 was the oldest major semifinalist since Martina Navratilova was 37 at the All England Club in 1994.

Venus is a five-time Wimbledon champion but hadn't been to the semifinals since she was the runner-up to Serena seven years ago.

"Steps away from making it to the end," Venus said. "That's the position I want to be in, is playing in the

"I prefer the word, one of the greatest 'athletes' of all time."

SERENA WILLIAMS WHEN ASKED ABOUT BEING CONSIDERED ONE OF HISTORY'S GREATEST FEMALE ATHLETES

semifinals, playing for a space in the final."

But against Kerber, Venus was broken the first four times she served.

She never recovered.

"A very shaky match from her. She was fighting hard, but she was frustrated. I could tell," said Venus' coach, David Witt. "Her concentration was up-and-down. The focus was up-and-down. That made her game up-and-down."

Perhaps the accumulated court time during this fortnight simply took a toll on Venus, who revealed in 2011 that she had Sjogren's syndrome, which can cause fatigue and joint pain.

She was a half-step slow to some balls, was breathing heavily after longer points, and wound up with 21 unforced errors, 10 more than Kerber.

"I was trying to (move) her, as well," the fourth-seeded Kerber said. "That was the plan."

After a running cross-court forehand winner capped the 19-stroke exchange that ended her victory, Kerber tossed aside her racket and dropped to her knees at the baseline.

That match managed to be more competitive than what transpired earlier, which more closely resembled a training session for the No. 1-ranked Serena — except she probably gets more of a workout when she practices.

"I couldn't do anything today," Vesnina said.

two starts.

"I was just kind of in the zone," Montgomery said of his 11-strikeout performance, "I was ahead in the count most of the night and just put them away when I had the chance. I was able to get my curveball and changeup over when I needed to and really expanded the zone.

"It was what I've been wanting to do mentally the whole time and I was finally able to execute."

It's been a simple mindset of just throw strikes and work ahead that has led to a half-season full of quality starts. The Thunder lefty has given up three runs or less in 13 of his 15 starts this season and hasn't allowed more than four runs in any contest while averaging close to six innings per start.

"My arm feels good and I'm starting to put things together," Montgomery said. "I'm just trying to go out and have quality starts and have a good second half and see where things go from there."

MONTGOMERY

FROM PAGE B1

"The one thing that really impresses me about him is he never changes his game plan." Trenton pitching coach Jose Rosado said. "No matter what happens behind him in the field, he keeps his focus on the batter."

That focus has allowed Montgomery to do the one thing Rosado and the Yankees preach — get ahead in the count.

"He's usually 1-2 or 0-2 in the count," Rosado said. "That gives him a chance to be successful. He's got command of his fastball, so then he can mix in his curveball and his changeup."

Montgomery's changeup has started to become a real weapon for him, he added. While his fastball averages between 91-94 miles per hour, his changeup is about 10 miles per hour slower but looks like a fastball leaving his hand — putting it on par

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

5:30 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Scottish Open Second Round from Inverness, Scotland (GOLF).

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

8 a.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Fifth-Place Game from Orlando, Fla. (NBA TV).

8 a.m. — International Cycling: Tour de France Stage Seven from Lac de Payolle, France (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

9 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Scottish Open Second Round from Inverness, Scotland (GOLF).

10 a.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Third-Place Game from Orlando, Fla. (NBA TV).

11:45 a.m. — NASCAR Racing: Sprint Cup Quaker State 400 Series Practice from Sparta, Ky. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

Noon — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Championship Game from Orlando, Fla. (NBA TV).

12:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: K&N Pro Series East from Columbus, Ohio (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

1:30 p.m. — Professional Golf: Web.com Tour LECOM Health Challenge Second Round from Findley Lake, N.Y. (GOLF).

1:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Sprint Cup Quaker State 400 Series Practice from Sparta, Ky. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

2 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Seventh-Place Game from Orlando, Fla. (NBA TV).

3 p.m. — LPGA Golf: U.S. Women's Open Second Round from San Martin, Calif. (FOX SPORTS 1).

3 p.m. — Formula One Racing: British Grand Prix Practice from Silverstone, England (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

4 p.m. — Senior PGA Golf: Champions Tour Dick's Sporting Goods First Round from Endicott, N.Y. (GOLF).

4 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Ninth-Place Game from Orlando, Fla. (NBA TV).

4:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: XFINITY Series ALSCO 300 Pole Qualifying from Sparta, Ky. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

6 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Cleveland vs. Milwaukee (NBA TV).

6 p.m. — International Track and Field: U.S. Olympic Trials from Eugene, Ore. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

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

6:30 p.m. — College Swimming: Longhorn Aquatics Elite Invite Day One from Austin, Texas (ESPN2).

6:30 p.m. — American Legion Baseball: State Playoffs — First-Round Series Game Two — Sumter at Lexington (WWHM-FM 92.3, WWHM-FM 93.3, WWHM-AM 1290).

7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh or Washington at New York Mets (MLB NETWORK).

7:30 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Dallas at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

8 p.m. — International Track and Field: U.S. Olympic Trials from Eugene, Ore. (WIS 10).

8 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Atlanta at Chicago White Sox (FOX SPORTSOUTH, WPUB-FM 102.7).

8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Atlanta vs. Houston (NBA TV).

8 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Orlando at Houston (UNIVISION).

8:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Denver vs. Minnesota (ESPN).

8:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: XFINITY Series ALSCO 300 from Sparta, Ky. (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

9 p.m. — International Gymnastics: U.S. Women's Olympic Trials from San Jose, Calif. (WIS 10).

10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Sacramento vs. Toronto (NBA TV).

10 p.m. — CFL Football: Saskatchewan at Edmonton (ESPN2).

10:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: NBA Summer League Game from Las Vegas — Los Angeles Lakers vs. New Orleans (ESPN).

MLB STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	49	35	.583	—
Toronto	48	39	.552	2½
Boston	46	38	.548	3
New York	41	43	.488	8
Tampa Bay	34	51	.400	15½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	51	33	.607	—
Detroit	45	40	.529	6½
Chicago	44	41	.518	7½
Kansas City	43	41	.512	8
Minnesota	29	55	.345	22

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	53	33	.616	—
Houston	46	39	.541	6½
Seattle	43	42	.506	9½
Oakland	36	49	.424	16½
Los Angeles	36	50	.419	17

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Detroit 12, Cleveland 0
Minnesota 4, Oakland 0
Baltimore 6, L.A. Dodgers 4, 14 innings
Toronto 4, Kansas City 2
L.A. Angels 7, Tampa Bay 2
Boston 11, Texas 6
Chicago White Sox 5, N.Y. Yankees 0
Houston 9, Seattle 8

THURSDAY'S GAMES

L.A. Angels 5, Tampa Bay 1
Detroit at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Oakland at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
Seattle at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

L.A. Angels at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Chi. White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Oakland at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
Seattle at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Detroit at Toronto, 1:07 p.m.
Atlanta at Chi. White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Boston, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Cleveland, 4:10 p.m.
Oakland at Houston, 4:10 p.m.
Seattle at Kansas City, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Texas, 9:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	51	35	.593	—
New York	46	38	.548	4
Miami	44	41	.518	6½
Philadelphia	40	46	.465	11
Atlanta	28	57	.329	22½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	52	32	.619	—
St. Louis	44	41	.518	8½
Pittsburgh	44	42	.512	9
Milwaukee	37	47	.440	15
Cincinnati	32	54	.372	21

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	54	33	.621	—
Los Angeles	48	39	.552	6
Colorado	38	46	.452	14½
Arizona	38	49	.437	16
San Diego	37	48	.435	16

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 3
N.Y. Mets 4, Miami 2
Cincinnati 5, Chicago Cubs 3
Baltimore 6, L.A. Dodgers 4, 14 innings
Washington 7, Milwaukee 4
Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 5
San Diego 13, Arizona 6
San Francisco 5, Colorado 1

THURSDAY'S GAMES

St. Louis 5, Pittsburgh 1
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago Cubs, 8:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Miami, 7:10 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Chi. White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 8:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.
Arizona at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Atlanta at Chi. White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Milwaukee, 2:10 p.m.
Arizona at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Miami, 4:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh, 7:15 p.m.
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 7:15 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:15 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

WNBA STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	13	6	.684	—
Atlanta	9	9	.500	3½
Washington	9	10	.474	4
Chicago	7	10	.412	5
Indiana	7	11	.389	5½
Connecticut	4	13	.235	8

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	17	1	.944	—
Minnesota	15	3	.833	2
Dallas	9	10	.474	8½
Phoenix	8	11	.421	9½
Seattle	6	12	.333	11
San Antonio	5	13	.278	12

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

New York 78, Seattle 74
San Antonio 77, Washington 70
Los Angeles 94, Indiana 88

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Minnesota at Connecticut, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Dallas at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at San Antonio, 9 p.m.
Indiana at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Dallas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE
BOSTON RED SOX — Signed SS Santiago Espinal and C Alberto Schmidt to minor league contracts and assigned them to the Gulf Coast League. Signed CF Chad Hardy to a minor league contract and assigned him to the Dominican Summer League.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Recalled RHP Tyler Glasnow from Indianapolis (IL). Optioned LHP Kyle Lobstein to Indianapolis.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed 2B Matt Carpenter on the 15-day DL. Purchased the contract of C Michael McKenry from Memphis (PCL).

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
GARY SOUTHSIDE RAILCATS — Signed RHP Jorge De Leon. Sold the contract of RHP Christian Herstine to New York (AL).

JOPLIN BLASTERS — Signed LHP Frank Del Valle. Released LHP Noel Arguelles. Traded OF Willie Cabrera to Winnipeg for a player to be named.

KANSAS CITY T-BONES — Traded INF Brandon Tierney to Joplin for RHP Josh Hodges and a player to be named.

SIoux FALLS CANARIES — Traded RHP Jimmer Kennedy to Sussex County (Can-Am) for a player to be named.

ST. PAUL SAINTS — Signed LHP Mike Strong. Released RHP Zac Westcott.

TEXAS AIR HOGS — Released RHP Paxton Bartley.

WINNIPEG GOLDFEYES — Released LHP Conor Spink.

CAN-AM LEAGUE
ROCKLAND BOULDERS — Released C Logan Spurlin.

SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Released INF Riley Palmer.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
CHARLOTTE HORNETS — Signed C Roy Hibbert.

CHICAGO BULLS — Signed G Rajon Rondo to a two-year contract.

DALLAS MAVERICKS — Acquired the rights to C Stanko Barac from Indiana for F Jeremy Evans, the rights to G-F Emir Preldzic and cash.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS — Traded C Andrew Bogut and future second-round draft pick to Dallas for future second-round draft pick.

ORLANDO MAGIC — Agreed to terms with G Evan Fournier on a five-year contract, G D.J. Augustin and C Bismack Biyombo to four-year contracts and F Jeff Green to a one-year contract. Signed C Stephen Zimmerman.

Traded G Shabazz Napier to Portland for cash considerations.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS — Signed F Jake Layman.

FOOTBALL

NFL — Named Jocelyn Moore senior vice president of public policy and government affairs.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Re-signed RW Kyle Palmieri to a five-year million contract.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Announced the retirement of D Matt Carnier.

WINNIPEG JETS — Agreed to terms with

AMERICAN LEGION PLAYOFFS

LOWER STATE PLAYOFFS

FIRST-ROUND SERIES Best-of-5

MANNING-SANTEE VS. FLORENCE
Tuesday
 Florence 14, Manning-Santee 0
Wednesday
 Florence 10, Manning-Santee 1, Florence leads series 2-0
Thursday
 Manning-Santee at Florence
Today
 Florence at Manning-Santee (if necessary)
Saturday
 Manning-Santee at Florence (if necessary)

WEST COLUMBIA VS. HORRY
Tuesday
 Horry 8, West Columbia 7
Wednesday
 Horry 8, West Columbia 0, Horry leads series 2-0
Thursday
 Horry at West Columbia
Today
 West Columbia at Horry (if necessary)
Saturday
 Horry at West Columbia (if necessary)

SUMTER VS. LEXINGTON
Tuesday
 Sumter, Lexington forfeit game after fight
Wednesday
 Sumter at Lexington, postponed
Thursday
 Sumter 20, Lexington 0, Sumter leads 1-0
Today
 Sumter at Lexington
Saturday
 Lexington at Sumter (if necessary)

MURRELLS INLET VS. ORANGEBURG
Tuesday
 Murrells Inlet 7, Orangeburg 6
Wednesday
 Murrells Inlet at Orangeburg, ppd., rain
Thursday
 Orangeburg 3, Murrells Inlet 2, series tied 1-1
Today
 Orangeburg at Murrells Inlet
Saturday
 Murrells Inlet at Orangeburg
Sunday
 Orangeburg at Murrells Inlet (if necessary)

CHAPIN-NEWBERRY VS. HARTSVILLE
Tuesday
 Chapin Newberry 11, Hartsville 1
Wednesday
 Hartsville 8, Chapin-Newberry 2
Thursday
 Chapin-Newberry 12, Hartsville 8, Chapin leads series 2-1
Today
 Chapin-Newberry at Hartsville
Saturday
 Hartsville at Chapin-Newberry (if necessary)

CAMDEN VS. AIKEN
Tuesday
 Camden 6, Aiken 5
Wednesday
 Camden 9, Aiken 5, Camden leads series 2-0
Thursday
 Camden 5, Aiken 4, game suspended in bottom of fifth
Today
Aiken at Camden, completion of suspended game
Saturday
 Camden at Aiken (if necessary)
Sunday
 Aiken at Camden (if necessary)

SECOND-ROUND SERIES Best-of-5
 Florence vs. West Columbia/Horry winner
 Sumter/Lexington winner vs. Murrells Inlet/Orangeburg winner
 Chapin-Newberry/Hartsville winner vs. Camden-Aiken winner

UPPER STATE PLAYOFFS FIRST-ROUND SERIES Best-of-5

GREENWOOD VS. UNION POST 22
Tuesday
 Union Post 22 6, Greenwood 4
Wednesday
 Greenwood 12, Union Post 22 1, series tied 1-1
Thursday
 Greenwood at Union Post 22, ppd., rain
Today
 Greenwood at Union Post 22 (DH)
Saturday
 Union Post 22 at Greenwood (if necessary)

YORK VS. UNION
Tuesday
 York 15, Union 5
Wednesday
 York 11, Union 10
Thursday
 York 6, Union 4, York wins series 3-0

SPARTANBURG VS. WILLIAMSTON
Tuesday
 Spartanburg 11, Williamston 10, Spartanburg leads series 1-0
Wednesday
 Williamston 6, Spartanburg 5
Thursday
 Spartanburg 11, Williamston 1, Spartanburg leads series 2-1
Today
 Spartanburg at Williamston
Saturday
 Williamston at Spartanburg (if necessary)

GREENVILLE VS. FORT MILL
Tuesday
 Greenville 11, Fort Mill 1
Wednesday
 Greenville 6, Fort Mill 4, Greenville leads series 2-0
Thursday
 Fort Mill at Greenville
Today
 Greenville at Fort Mill (if necessary)
Saturday
 Fort Mill at Greenville (if necessary)

GREER VS. LANCASTER
Tuesday
 Lancaster 5, Greer 2
Wednesday
 Greer forfeits final two games, Lancaster wins series 3-0

WALHALLA VS. INMAN
Tuesday
 Inman 7, Walhalla 6
 Walhalla 7, Inman 6
Wednesday
 Inman 12, Walhalla 6
 Inman 10, Walhalla 6, Inman wins series 3-1

SECOND-ROUND SERIES Best-of-5
 Greenwood/Union Post 22 winner vs. York
 Rock Hill vs. Spartanburg/Willemston winner
 Gaffney vs. Greenville/Fort Mill winner
 Lancaster vs. Inman

SUMTER

FROM PAGE B1

Jordan Holladay delivered the big blow with a 3-run triple in the first that made it 4-0. Caleb Larrimore had an RBI double. Todd Larrimer's 2-run single completed the scoring after everyone in the Sumter lineup had reached base and scored a run.

Starting pitcher Rylan Williamson had the big second inning for the P-15's with an RBI double and a 2-run single in his two at-bats. Touchberry drove in a run with a base hit and Ryan Moore drove in another with a sacrifice fly. Daniel Twitty plated a run with a bases-loaded walk and Holladay drove in another by being hit by a pitch with the bases loaded -- one of four Sumter players who took an HBP as Lexington had to use three different hurlers to get through the first two innings.

Sumter added four more runs over the fifth and sixth innings to complete the scoring.

"The first batter (of the game) came up and got a hit and we just started rallying from there," said Touchberry, who had RBI singles in the first and second innings and a 2-run single in the fifth. "We just got in that groove."

Meanwhile, Williamson was in a groove of his own on the mound. He had little trouble in 6-plus innings for the P-15's and gave up just for hits with six strikeouts and one walk.

Williamson pitched around a leadoff single to start the game and avoided any trouble after back-to-back 2-out singles by Post 7 in the third inning. Otherwise he was nearly flawless. Chad Jones replaced him in the seventh and struck out the side.

"I just wanted to throw strikes and hit spots and let the defense work," Williamson said. "My curveball was working really well and I seemed to be able to spot it up for strikes if I wanted or put it in the dirt and get them to chase."

Williamson finished with two hits and three RBI for Sumter. Larrimore had three hits and scored two runs while his late-inning replacement, Courtland Howard, had two hits and drove in a run. Twitty scored three runs and had a double.

"We just made adjustments at the plate throughout the night," Campbell said. "We saw several different pitchers with different pitches, but we made the right adjustments to stay level with the ball."

"I think this shows what happens when this team stays focused and plays to (its) potential."

SUMTER HEAD COACH STEVE CAMPBELL

BRUNSON

FROM PAGE B1

the tournament is because Sumter Post 15 is under contract to host the state tournament July 23-27. And it doesn't take a business genius to tell you that if you don't have a local team playing in such a tournament for at least a couple of days it is going to be difficult for the tournament to be a financial success.

If such an agreement didn't exist both teams would have been kicked to the curb with little, if any, hesitation. That would have been a shame on both accounts because both teams got caught up in the moment, pure and simple.

There was obviously a lot of frustration taking place on the part of Sumter. The P-15's, the No. 1 seeds from League III, were down to No. 4 seed Lexington late in the

opening game of a series most expected they would win easily. However, Sumter had been struggling offensively the last half of the regular season and that had obviously carried over to the playoffs.

There was a progression of incidents that led to what transpired and, according to reports, both sides were responsible in some form or fashion.

There's no doubt that Sumter came out on the long end of the stick with the ruling because a game in which it was in very real danger of losing has been basically deemed to have never been played. Some have said Sumter should have to forfeit because it was the "aggressor" in the brawl, but there's no doubt Lexington chose to participate as well, so where do you draw the line in fairness?

While some may have called for the ejected play-

ers -- two for Sumter and four for Lexington -- to have at least missed one game, that would have left Lexington short on players and in a position to forfeit. Again, a question of fairness.

The best-of-3 scenario put in place for the series can be called into question because Sumter now has to win only two games instead of three. That being said,

Lexington only has to win two as well, which is what it would have had to do if it had been the winner of the Game 1.

There are no easy decisions in cases like this, but the state baseball committee, which I have been a vocal critic of in recent years, did as good as it could do by both teams. Namely, they are still playing.



Sumter starting pitcher Rylan Williamson throws during the P-15's 20-0, 7-inning victory over Lexington on Thursday at Riley Park.

KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Brawl decision sends the wrong message

To American Legion leadership,

If this attached article (from the Lexington County Chronicle and The Dispatch News concerning the Sumter-Lexington American Legion baseball fight) is reflective of the outcome of our game on Monday, and Sumter was given the win, then my son will no longer be playing in the playoffs this season. I refuse to allow my son to participate in a playoff system and organization that is rigged and led by a bunch of cheaters and UNHONORABLE men and women.

This decision sends the wrong message to our sons that if you are losing, just rush the mound and NOTHING will happen to you except you are given a clean slate. I refuse to allow my son to be a part of a playoff system that rewards cheating and unsportsmanlike conduct.

The American Legion leadership needs to re-read their oath that they require our sons to state at the beginning of every game and make sure their decisions and rulings reflect that same oath. I honestly cannot believe that the Sumter team and AL leadership can actually sleep at night knowing the truth about what happened Monday night. The bottom line is that Post 7 won that game Monday night fair and square in seven innings, and Sumter was the aggressor that night. Sumter should be disqualified from the entire tournament as Lexington was only defending itself from aggression. I actually thought that this

was what our military and the American Legion was all about, "defending those that can't," but I must be mistaken. Please tell the American Legion to remove HONOR or HONORABLE from every document within their organization as it does not reflect what they actually operate by or stand for.

I respect and appreciate my elders. I respect and appreciate all of the men and women that have fought for our country. But I do NOT respect the current American Legion leadership that made this incredibly bad decision in regards to our sons' game on Monday night. There is absolutely no way that Sumter should be allowed to continue to play after rushing the mound and clearing their bench. There is no way that the umpires from Monday night should be allowed to umpire another game this season. There is absolutely no way that Sumter should be given a win for Monday night's game. Lexington did not forfeit. Lexington left the game because the Lexington player's lives were in danger.

Yes, the game was over after seven innings with Lexington winning 4-2. That is the only fact that I have heard correctly from any source from Monday night so far. If you weren't at the game, then let me recap for you. Lexington ended the seventh inning with nine players on the field of play. The seventh inning ended when the batter also known as the aggressor rushed the mound. The second that he made the decision to rush

the mound ended the seventh inning; therefore, the number of players on the field after that second doubled as Sumter cleared their bench. As a result of defending itself, yes two or three additional Lexington players entered the field of play to assist in removing Sumter players from our pitcher. (That's the defending part that I spoke of earlier.)

Given these FACTS, the real story is that Sumter had a dozen plus players on the field when they should not have, and Lexington had nine plus maybe two or three to assist in removing aggression. So given these facts of the night, who do you really think was the aggressor that night? Who do you think actually deserves the win? Who do you think should be disqualified from the tournament? If you said Sumter, then you are correct. If you said Lexington, which it sounds like you did given the attached article and other articles and statements that I have heard, then you are completely wrong and misguided.

In closing, please accept this email as a formal complaint about the ruling from Monday night's game and the poor judgment that was made in regards to your ruling. This has truly been an injustice and disgrace to the game of baseball and the lives that were lost in defending those that needed defending!

TODD WOOD

A concerned father, spectator and American

WILLIAMS

FROM PAGE B1

admissions office and is waiting on a reply. Assuming he is accepted, he will enroll at USC as soon as possible. "I wanted to transfer closer to home and I feel like this will be the best fit," Williams said. "North Carolina is a great school and a great program, but I want to be closer to family."

From a football standpoint, one of Williams' former coaches has been in touch with the USC staff and Williams plans to talk with them once he's accepted by the school. Williams nearly signed with the Gamecocks for the 2015 class.

"Mon Denson committed and that filled up the other (running back) spot, so basically I ran out of time," Williams said. "He took that last spot. It was USC or North Carolina and that left me with the other option."

The Tar Heels have put some transfer restrictions on Williams, including blocking him from going to another school on schol-

arship that will play them in the next four years. USC and North Carolina will meet in '19, but that's not going to prevent Williams from joining the Gamecocks if he's accepted by the school.

"I'm going to use the GI Bill to pay for my first year," Williams said, noting his mother was just recently promoted to the rank of major by the U.S. Army. So, if he's accepted to school, his plan is to walk on the football team and redshirt in '16 with the hopes of going on scholarship for '17.

Williams ran 19 times for 57 yards as a true freshman at UNC after enrolling in the school in January of '15. He would have been competing for playing time behind All-Atlantic Coast Conference performer Elijah Hood and rising senior T.J. Logan this fall.

Williams was rated a four-star prospect by Scout.com coming out of Crestwood.

Williams was a standout running back for Crestwood, recording three 1,000-yard rushing seasons. He rushed for 1,201 yards and 14 touchdowns as senior, 1,516 yards and 16 touchdowns as a junior and 1,008 yards and 17 scores as a sophomore.

PRO BASKETBALL



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Newly acquired Chicago Bulls guard Rajon Rondo talks to the media Thursday at the Bulls' training facility in Chicago.

Rondo, Wade make Bulls more interesting

BY ANDREW SELIGMAN
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — For all the jokes about loading up for a run at the 2011 championship, give the Chicago Bulls this: Next season won't be a dull one.

They got a whole lot more interesting by adding Rajon Rondo and Dwyane Wade this week.

"We didn't want to go into an absolute rebuild, but we did want to get younger and we did want to get more athletic," general manager Gar Forman said. "And at the same time, we want to be able to compete and put as good a team as we can out there on the floor."

Wade is finally coming to Chicago after turning them down six years ago to stay in Miami and form a "Big Three" with LeBron James and Chris Bosh.

As good as Wade is, he is also 34 years old. At 30, Rondo is not exactly young by NBA standards, either. So for Forman's talk about a youth movement, the additions raised a few eyebrows and led to some quips about building a contender for 2010-11 season.

Rondo's deal became official on Thursday. While the Bulls did not announce the terms, a person with knowledge of the negotiations previously told The Associated Press that the four-time All-Star agreed to a \$30 million, two-year deal.

Wade is coming home to Chicago after 13 seasons, 12 All-Star selections and three championships with Miami. He agreed to a two-year contract worth about \$47 million — \$7 million more than the Heat offered — on Wednesday night. While Forman would not discuss Wade because the deal had not been announced, he did talk about the direction of a transitioning franchise that missed the playoffs for the first time in eight years.

Former MVP Derrick Rose was traded to the Knicks before the draft and he will be joined by Joakim Noah. Pau Gasol is headed to San Antonio. Coach Fred Hoiberg's

freewheeling offense will now get Wade and Rondo, who is three years older than Rose.

"We didn't want to rebuild where we become possibly a lower lottery team long term," Forman said. "We've studied the NBA, we've studied the history of the NBA, and when you make a move to go that direction, it sometimes can take six, seven years to get out. That wasn't our goal."

Rondo is known as an intelligent player who also has a history of clashing with coaches, most notably Rick Carlisle in Dallas.

"I think a lot of it is perception," Rondo said. "Not to knock anything — you make the bed, you've got to lay in it."

The question is: Just what are the Bulls getting into? After all, Hoiberg got called out last year in his first season by All-Star Jimmy Butler, and the Bulls just added a player with a checkered history when it comes to getting along with coaches.

Is Rondo different now?

"I think I'm the same player," he said. "You'd probably consider me stubborn. But I think I'm really intelligent. I put a lot of work into this game. I don't B.S. around about my craft; I put a lot of work in. I watch a lot of film. I study. People may look at it as a knock, but I really look at it as what makes me great."

He said he doesn't "lose sleep" over his reputation. But the Bulls at least had some questions about it before they decided to sign him.

Rondo had a sort of resurgence this past season with Sacramento, averaging 11.9 points and an NBA-best 11.7 assists. It was the fourth season in which he averaged a double-double and the first since 2012-13, when he made his fourth All-Star team with the Celtics. Wade averaged 19 points.

But some of the biggest issues that brought down the Bulls last season remain. One is that they still don't have a guard who consistently hits from long range.

SPORTS ITEMS

Golf tournament to benefit LMA baseball

The LMA Golf Invitational will be held on Saturday, July 16, at Shannon Greens Golf Course in Manning.

All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Laurence Manning Academy baseball program for facilities upgrades, equipment and new uniforms.

The tournament format is a 4-man Captain's Choice at a cost of \$50 per player. Mulligans will be available for \$5 apiece with a limit of two per player.

The combined team handicap must be 30-plus and only one player can have a handicap of 7 or less. The top two teams will receive a cash prize.

Door prizes will be awarded and a chicken bog lunch will be served. Hole sponsors are also needed.

For more information, call Barry Hatfield at (803) 236-7047.

MIRIM LEE TIES RECORD AT U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

SAN MARTIN, Calif. —

Mirim Lee became the fifth golfer to shoot a round of 8-under par at the U.S. Women's Open on Thursday when she made 10 birdies on the way to a 64 to take the early lead at CordeValle.

Lee is the first woman to shoot that much below par at the U.S. Open since Lorie Kane and Becky Iverson did it in the second round in 1999 at Old Waverly in Mississippi.

CAVENDISH WINS TOUR STAGE 6 IN MASS SPRINT

MONTAUBAN, France — British sprinter Mark Cavendish easily won the sixth stage of the Tour de France in a mass finish on Thursday.

It was Cavendish's third stage win of this Tour, his 29th overall.

NOTRE DAME, MICHIGAN RESUMING RIVALRY

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — A person familiar with the decision tells The Associated Press that Notre Dame and Michigan have agreed to resume

their football rivalry.

The person says the Fighting Irish will host the Wolverines in 2018, and the series will shift to Michigan Stadium in 2019. The person spoke Thursday on condition of anonymity because the agreement hadn't been announced.

ANGELS 5

RAYS 1

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Albert Pujols and C.J. Cron drove in runs to back starter Hector Santiago and lead Los Angeles over struggling Tampa Bay.

CARDINALS 5

PIRATES 1

ST. LOUIS — Stephen Piscotty hit a three-run home run and Randal Grichuk also went deep to help St. Louis beat Pittsburgh to avoid a four-game sweep and end the Pirates' season-best seven-game winning streak.

Staff and wire reports

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NASCAR

Stewart needs Kentucky win for career victory sweep

BY DAN GELSTON

The Associated Press

Tony Stewart is down to his final try at Kentucky Speedway to complete a NASCAR track victory sweep.

The three-time champion has won at every track on the Sprint Cup schedule, with highs of five wins at Watkins Glen and four at Daytona (though not the 500) to one win at six tracks. His latest victory, and 49th overall in the Cup series, came two weeks ago at Sonoma Raceway and snapped an 84-race drought.

His skid at Kentucky isn't quite as lengthy: 0 for 5 dating to the track's inaugural race in 2011.

While Stewart has missed dozens of races the last three years because of injuries and the aftermath of a fatal accident in a sprint car race, he's never missed Kentucky — and just one lap led and no top 10s to show for his effort.

His start Saturday night will mark his 600th in Sprint Cup,



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retiring Tony Stewart has one more chance to win at Kentucky Speedway and complete a career track sweep.

good for 24th on the career list.

"While Kentucky doesn't sound like a big deal, when you want to try to win at every track on the schedule, that would make it a big deal," Stewart said. "No matter what happens in the championship, I could say that was perfect."

There is one caveat to the list — Stewart's lone win at Darlington Raceway came in

the second-tier Xfinity series. He's never won at Darlington in 23 career Cup starts and has one more chance in the Southern 500 on Sept. 4.

"Jeff Gordon can't say he won at every track he ran at so, if I could win those two in the dream season, that would be awesome for us," Stewart said. "That's a second home track for me. It's closer to where I grew up than Chicago is. I've got a lot of friends who go down to the Kentucky race, so that would be nice to win in front of them."

Kentucky Speedway is about 80 miles from Stewart's home in Columbus, Indiana, and there should be a strong contingent of Hoosiers on hand this weekend to watch him go for win No. 50.

Yes, the checkered flag would be a sweet accomplishment for the driver known as Smoke.

But he needs another solid finish to remain in the top 30 in driver points to earn a spot in the Chase for the Sprint

Cup championship. He holds a three-point lead over Brian Scott for 30th. Stewart, who announced last year that 2016 would be his final season as a NASCAR driver, broke his back a week before the season opened and missed the first eight races before returning for a farewell tour.

He can return to race in any kind of series next season — and got a small taste of what is potentially ahead this week at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Stewart, a two-time Brickyard 400 winner, turned a few laps on a dirt track oval built for him at IMS to honor his short-track racing career. IMS President Doug Boles invited several dirt midget drivers to the track on Tuesday to test out the temporary track.

"I don't think anybody that I know of ever dreamed that we'd see anything like this at IMS," Stewart said. "This could be one of the coolest things that's ever happened to short track racing."

IT'S TIME TO FACE THE MUSIC

Xfinity driver Bubba Wallace was fined \$15,000 by NASCAR on Wednesday for a critical tweet following the race at Daytona. Wallace, who had been penalized in the race for not keeping a reasonable speed under caution, was seemingly upset with how Aric Almirola was awarded the victory when the race ended under caution.

"Got the muppets up there officiating tonight! Never know how to react under pressure... Whatta joke," Wallace tweeted.

TOWNLEY INJURY

John Wes Townley is undergoing treatment for a possible concussion and did not race in Thursday night's NASCAR Truck Series race at Kentucky Speedway.

The No. 05 Chevrolet was driven by Parker Kligerman. Cole Custer will substitute for Townley in Saturday night's ARCA 150 at Iowa Speedway.

Clemson lands commitment from top WR recruit Higgins

Clemson landed a commitment from one of the nation's top wide receiver prospects in Tee Higgins (6-foot-5-inches, 190 pounds) of Oak Ridge, Tenn. Higgins revealed his decision Monday morning with a tiger paw in the sky fireworks video produced by Bleacher Report.

Higgins once was a Tennessee commitment and as recently as the middle of June he was publicly touting the Volunteers as his leader, releasing a top five in order of Tennessee, Clemson, Ohio State, Florida State and Mississippi. However, as his decision time grew nearer Higgins started to have a change in heart.

"I just followed my heart and that's the place I wanted to go," Higgins said. "I've got a good relationship with the coaches, (head) Coach (Dabo) Swinney and (assistant) Coach (Jeff) Scott."

Higgins said he informed Scott of his decision and playing for Scott is a big reason he chose the Tigers.

"We really have a strong relationship," he said. "We built that really good throughout the recruiting process, so it's good to have that."

Last season, Higgins had 52 catches for 941 yards and 28 touchdowns. He understands what kind of offensive weapons the Tigers have accumulated for the '17 season and beyond, and despite losing players like Deshaun Watson, Mike Williams, Jordan Leggett and possibly Wayne Gallman after this season, Higgins says there won't be any reduction in firepower.

"Oh man, it's going to be deadly; it's going to be a deadly offense," Higgins said. "It's going to be great fun."

Higgins becomes Clemson's 11th commitment for the 2017 class and third from the Volunteer State, including WR Amari Rodgers of Knoxville, one of Higgins' closest friends. Plus, Clemson took a commitment away from Tennessee earlier this year in quarterback Hunter Johnson.

Higgins said it would have been the easy thing for him to stay close to home, but that's not where he saw his future.

"It was hard, you know," Higgins said. "It's my backyard, so, it was really hard. But Amari, he's like a brother to me, so I'll be glad of that."

Higgins is also a basketball prospect who averaged 15 points per game last season. He said he has not talked with Clemson in detail about possibly playing that sport as well.

Offensive lineman Andrew Thomas of Atlanta will announce his college choice between Clemson, Georgia and Notre Dame at The Opening. His exact announcement date has not been set. Thomas has visited all three schools and in the spring he claimed UGA as his favorite.

Defensive end Jordan Williams of Virginia Beach, Va.,



Phil Kornblut
RECRUITING

had set Sept. 24 for his commitment announcement, but he's moved that date forward to Aug. 6. He's also cut his list from five to four, dropping Ohio State. That means his decision will come from Clemson, Tennessee, Virginia and Virginia Tech.

Williams said he's 95 percent certain about where he's going. "It just feels like the right thing to do," he said. "I know I'm going to go with my gut. I don't want to second guess myself and go somewhere where I'm not happy. I just have that feeling where I know I'm going to be happy here. I'm going to work my butt off at that school when I go there and I know it's going to be fun."

"I know a few guys who are already committed to this school already, so I'm going in knowing I know a few of these guys. This school has the complete package. They're just not a football school. They're just not an academic school. It's the complete package really and it's going to be the best move for me."

Williams has visited all of his finalists at least once, and he's headed back to Clemson for the All-In Cookout. Williams said he's in constant contact with his final four schools. He said Clemson assistant Marion Hobby and defensive coordinator Brent Venables are in touch on a daily basis.

Defensive back Gentry Bonds (6-1, 193) of Murfreesboro, Tenn. released a top five of Clemson, Nebraska, Georgia Tech, Missouri and Kentucky. Bonds attended a Clemson camp last month.

Bonds said he will take more visits in July, but is not sure where. One of those could be a return trip to Clemson for the All-In Cookout. He does not have a timetable for making a decision, but he will be enrolling early.

USC AND CLEMSON

WR OrTre Smith of Wando High in Mt. Pleasant released a final five South Carolina, Clemson, UGA, North Carolina and Florida. There is no order to the five and he has visited each this summer. Smith plans to announce a commitment on his birthday, Sept. 11. He will likely visit the schools again in July and August, but no trips have been set.

His mother, Tashia Green, worked closely with Smith on his final five choices and offers a breakdown on each.

"We all know that the University of Florida is the sleeper," Green said. "They kind of came on pretty late. OrTre has always been interested in them, but he kind of put them

on the backburner. But when he went to Florida for the 7-on-7 (camp), that kind of turned things around.

"For Clemson, I'd say he likes the family atmosphere there. He understands the Clemson culture. He is a Clemson guy, and when I say a Clemson guy I mean athletically and academically he fits in."

"Now, USC, they've been there from the beginning and have kept in contact. They have all the majors that he's interested in and he loves the staff."

"Georgia, he loves the staff there as well and again it's a family atmosphere. That's really big for him. He wants to feel connected."

"UNC, same thing, just that family atmosphere. When we go to these schools we feel like we fit in. He's feeling very comfortable right now, but at the end of the day, Sept. 11, there can only be one."

Smith was considering a visit to ND, but he has dropped those plans.

DB Hamsah Nasirildeen of Concord, N.C., visited USC for a junior day and a spring practice, and he also was at Clemson for a spring practice. He plans to see both again this summer. Nasirildeen has narrowed his list to USC, Clemson, Alabama, UF and FSU. He is scheduled to camp at Alabama on July 17 and plans to visit the others this summer. He also plans to visit UGA, ND, Penn State and VT. He visited UGA, UF and Alabama in the spring.

A running back on the board for USC at this point is AJ Davis (6-0, 180) of Lakeland, Fla. His offers include USC, Clemson, Auburn, UF, FSU, Ohio State Tennessee, Central Florida, Texas, UGA, Mizzou, Oklahoma, Louisville and Baylor.

He's been to Clemson before and he plans to get to USC in July. Davis said he has around 35 offers and doesn't plan to narrow his list until football season.

At this point, none in particular stand out more than others, but Louisville, Oklahoma, West Virginia and Mizzou are some of the others who are in regular contact. He attended a camp at FSU last month and also visited UCF. Davis said he'd like to wait until National Signing Day in February of '17 before making his decision.

DB Janyest Williams of Loganville, Ga., will be coming out with a top five list at The Open and there's a good chance USC and Clemson will be on it.

Williams visited USC in April and he was there last month as a camp observer. He's had both USC and Clemson high up on his list throughout the recruiting campaign and both continue to work him diligently.

Williams also has been to UGA and Alabama this summer, and he might take some

other visits when he returns from Oregon. Those could include the social gatherings at USC and Clemson in July. Some of his other offers are FSU, Ohio State, Auburn, Oklahoma, Stanford, Michigan State, UGA, Tennessee, Oklahoma State, Oregon, California, Texas Christian, GT and Michigan.

USC

OL TJ Moore of Charlotte decided to delay making his commitment to a school for a little while, possibly as long as a month.

"I'm going to wait it out at least a month to see if I get more offers," Moore said. I talked to (USC OL) Coach (Shawn) Elliott. I really don't know (on a decision), that's why I didn't commit."

Moore had said USC, Tennessee and North Carolina State were his top three. He's also been waiting to hear back from Alabama on a possible offer.

"My head coach talked to Alabama and I should get the offer pretty soon," he said. "I'm just waiting on Alabama (before finalizing a decision)."

Former UGA DB Johnathan Abram and his younger brother, athlete Aaron Abram of Hattiesburg, Miss., both hold offers from USC. The Gamecocks moved on the older Abram soon after he left UGA and enrolled at Jones County Junior College in Mississippi, while they offered the younger Abram at a camp in early June.

USC continues to recruit both and both remain interested at this point. Aaron Abram said he's added offers from Memphis and Louisiana-Monroe and is expecting one soon from Alabama-Birmingham. He's been to camp this summer at Southern Mississippi and is scheduled to visit Ole Miss and Memphis in July. There's also talk about visiting USC.

"Man, we like South Carolina a lot," Abram said. "But he (Jonathan) don't want to go to the same school. He tells me he wants me to make my own name. He doesn't want me to go to the same school as him. I wouldn't mind playing against him."

RB Chase Hayden of Collier, Tenn., visited his three favorites over the past couple of weeks and is now targeting a decision between mid and late July. Hayden visited USC, Arkansas and Mizzou and liked each. He does not have a favorite at this point.

"I enjoyed all of my visits and everybody is in good position right now," Hayden said. "South Carolina visit went pretty well. I worked out at the little camp thing, and I just enjoyed doing that and learning from the coaches. They're telling me that they want me and I'm at the top of their board and that they want me to come there and at my position come in and compete early."

Hayden's mother joined him on the visit. Assistant coach Bobby Bentley is recruiting Hayden, and he spent a lot of time with him on the visit. He's also keeping in regular contact and talked with him earlier this week.

Hayden also is getting a strong push from Arkansas and Mizzou and both are pitching him the same thing as USC, and that's the chance for early playing time.

DB Troy Young (6-1, 193) of Mobile, Ala., picked up an offer from USC last month, and he's very interested in what USC has to offer. USC DC and secondary coach Travis Robinson contacted Young about the offer after reviewing his film and Young got the feeling Robinson liked him a lot as a safety, and he likes USC.

"South Carolina is at the top of my list," Young said.

While Young is high on USC, he's not calling anyone a leader right now. He's taking several visits this summer and is just coming off a trip to Cal. He also plans to get to USC, Alabama, Auburn, NCSU, UCF and Arizona. He'd like to make his decision before the season. Some of his offers are USC, Mississippi State, NCSU, Arizona, UCF, Louisiana Tech, UAB, Bowling Green and Toledo.

OL Jordan Carty (6-7, 283) of Miami attended a USC camp last month and picked up an offer. USC likes him as a tackle. Carty also has offers from WVU, UNC and NCSU.

USC is one of the 11 schools listed as one of the favorites of WR Leroy Henley of Deerfield Beach, Fla. He also has NCSU, Maryland, UCF, Pittsburgh, Indiana, UNC, UK, Illinois, WVU and Louisville on the list.

BASEBALL

Left-handed pitcher Mitchell Miller (6-5, 185) of Loganville, Ga., switched from Mississippi State to Clemson for the '16 class. Miller was actually a Bulldog signee, but with the coaching changes on the staff there he decided to go elsewhere and received his release.

He visited Clemson last week and committed to head coach Monte Lee after the visit.

Right-handed pitcher and '17 recruit David Agle of Spartanburg Methodist College committed to Clemson. He had a 6-4 win-loss record with a 5.18 earned run average. He was drafted in the 27th round of the Major League Baseball draft by the Philadelphia Phillies.

Also committing to Clemson was '18 catcher Adam Hackenberg of Fork Union Prep in Virginia. He batted .415 this season and was named first team all-state.

His brother is former PSU quarterback Christian Hackenberg. He's the sixth commitment for Clemson's '18 class.

BILLIE H. MURPHEY

LANDRUM — Billie Hurt Murphey, 58, of Landrum, passed away on July 6, 2016. She was a daughter of Woodson W. Hurt of Sumter and the late Shirley Stephens Hurt and the wife of Dell Murphey. She was the secretary and receptionist at Landrum High School and was a member of Landrum First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Dell Murphey; her father, Woodson W. Hurt; two daughters, Linsey Murphey Cooke (Jason) of Spartanburg and Lacey Murphey of Landrum; three sisters, Kathy Robinson (Robbie), Darlene Buchko (John) and Kim Hurt, all of Sumter; and a grandson, Blaise Cooke.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Landrum First Baptist Church, conducted by the Rev. Mark Bishop and the Rev. Danny Bureson.

The family will receive friends following the service at the church.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church Landrum for Student Leadership University, 300 E. Rutherford St., Landrum, SC 29356.

Condolences may be left at www.pettyfuneralhome.com.

Petty Funeral Home & Crematory of Landrum is in charge of arrangements.

CARISSA R. MILLER

Carissa R. Dobson Miller, 29, entered eternal rest on Thursday, June 30, 2016, at Palmetto Health Richland, Columbia.

Born on Aug. 15, 1986, in the United Kingdom, she was a daughter of Steven and Vangie Devore Dobson. She was educated in the public schools of Sumter County at Crestwood High School and William H. Taft High School in San Antonio, Texas. She also studied at Everest Institute and St. Phillips University in San Antonio. At the age of 19, she joined the United States Air Force, where her primary specialty was information management. Her uniform was decorated with many medals and badges.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her husband, Michael A. Miller; her children, Kya E. Dobson and Aiyana M. Miller; sister, Stephanie Dobson; grandmothers, Verna Williams and Martha Waters; and a host of loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives and sincere friends.

Homegoing service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Revelation Sanctuary Church, 3925 U.S. 15 South, Sumter, with Pastor Terry Dinkins officiating, eulogist.

The family is receiving friends and relatives at the home, 1150 S. Pike West, Apartment 112, Sumter.

The remains will be placed in the church at 10 a.m.

The funeral procession will leave at 10:20 a.m. from the home.

Floral bearers and pallbearers will be family and friends.

Burial will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday at Fort Jackson National Cemetery, Percival Road, Columbia.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

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

JOYCE MCCANTS

MANNING — Joyce McCants, 68, died on Sunday morning, July 3, 2016. She was a daughter of the late David McCants and Alpha Kennedy.

Funeral services for Ms. McCants will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Hayes F. & LaNelle J. Samuels Sr. Memorial Chapel, 114 N. Church St., Manning, with Pastor Robby Culbreath, eulogist, the Rev. Samuel Sparks, the Rev. Mary Hagen and the Rev. Willie Davis assisting. Burial will follow in Melina Presbyterian Church cemetery.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her daughter, Amina McCants, 1095 Micky St., Turbeville, and the home of her sister, Yvonne "Vicky" (Sonny) McFadden, 1282 Leon McFadden Road, Gable.

These services are entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

HEYWARD SCOTT SR.

ALCOLU — Heyward Scott Sr., husband of Dorothy Mae Daneey Scott, died on Tuesday, July 5, 2016.

He was a son of the late Jessie Scott and Annie Blanding Scott and Mae Bell Samuels Scott.

Funeral services for Mr. Scott will be held at noon on Saturday at Trinity AME Church, 51 Rigby St., Manning, with the Rev. Jerome McCray presiding, the Rev. Dr. Leroy Green, eulogist, the Rev. Jimmy McFadden, the Rev. Bertha M. Scott and the Rev. Northern Miller assisting. Burial will follow in Saint Mark AME Church cemetery, Alderman Camp Road, Alcolu.

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

LEONA B. GREEN

Leona B. Green, 81, widow of Benjamin Green, died on Tuesday, July 5, 2016, at McElveen Manor Assisted Living Facility.

Born in Charleston, she was a daughter of the late Charles and Virginia Gallishaw Keith.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Palmer Memorial Chapel.

TRELLIVON BLANDING

Trellivon Blanding, son of Larry and Latonya Caesar Blanding, was born on June 30, 2016, in Sumter. He departed this life on Thursday, June 30, 2016, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Walker Cemetery.

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

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

JULIA H. JOHNSON

MANNING — Julia Hammett Johnson, 83, wife of Leroy "Byrd" Johnson, died on Wednesday, July 6, 2016, at Clarendon Memorial Hospital, Manning.

She was born on Oct. 3, 1932, in Alcolu, a daughter of the late Allen Sr. and Annie Mae Hilton Hammett.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 1670 Durant Lane, Manning.

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

CHARLES WATSON JR.

Charles Watson Jr., 64, was born in Sumter to the late Charles Sr. and Ronetta Bracey Watson. He enjoyed a wonderful life and loving life with his five siblings, Patricia (Clarence) Thorpe, Sandra (Charles) Staton, Ralph (Denise), Rodney (Jackie) and Dwight Watson. Charles Jr. attended the public schools of Sumter County and was a graduate of Lincoln High School Class of 1970. In 1971, he joined the United States Air Force. He served for 21 years before retiring as a technical sergeant.

Charles Jr. died on June 29, 2016, in Austin, Texas.

Survivors are his children, Rochelle (Emanuel) Thomas, Summer (Kerwin) Jefferson, Charles (Shayla) Watson III, Patson Brewster and Angie (Kipkeno) Saine; seven grandchildren; brothers and sisters; a loving companion, Dollie Simmons; and a host of other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by both parents, Charles Watson Sr. and Ronetta Bracey Watson; his paternal grandparents, Mike and Mozel Watson; and maternal grandparents, Moses and Henretta Bracey.

Homegoing services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Greater Mt. Zion Church in Austin.

Courtesy announcement by Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc.

BARBARA BENESKI

Barbara Jean Tyler Beneski, 70, wife of Theodore "Ted" Beneski, died on Thursday, July 7, 2016, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Services will be announced by Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter.

OSCAR JOE BRUNSON

Oscar Joe Brunson, 51, one of God's angels, was lifted away on Sunday, July 3, 2016.

Born on May 30, 1965, in Sumter County, he was a son of Beauford Jim and Wilhelmenia English Brunson. He attended and graduated from Camden High School, where he was a member of the ROTC and drill team. He was joined in holy matrimony to Beverly Montgomery.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his children, Shakeena Tomlin of Sumter and Tessa Charles of Bishopville; one stepdaughter, Shontae Hickman of Bishopville; two grandchildren; six sisters, Anna Brunson of Linden, New Jersey, Mamie Brunson and Beatrice Brunson, both of Sumter, Mary Davenport, Louella Brunson of Camden and Patricia White of Bishopville; four brothers, Earl English of Sumter, Beaufort (Cindy) Brunson of Bishopville, Richard (Joanne) Brunson of Clinton, Maryland, and Roy Lee Brunson of Washington, D.C.; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel, Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter, with Pastor Angela Ford Nelson officiating, eulogist.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home of his sister, Mamie Brunson, 1199 N. Lafayette Drive, Apartment 84, Sumter.

The procession will leave at 2:30 p.m. from the home.

Flower bearers and pallbearers will be family and friends. Burial will be in Cooksfield

Cemetery, Dalzell.

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com.

Visit us on the web at www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com

Services directed by the staff and management of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

JAMES MCDONALD

SUMMERTON — James "Big D" McDonald, 70, husband of Rosa Lawson McDonald, died on Thursday, July 7, 2016, at his residence.

He was born on Jan. 4, 1946, in the Summertown section of Clarendon County, a son of the late Willie "Bo" and Lillie Mae Oliver McDonald.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 3132 Rowe Drive, Summertown.

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

MARY W. DEVOE

NEW ZION — Mary Ruth Woods Devoe, 80, beloved wife of 58 years to Harry L. Devoe Jr., died on Wednesday, July 6, 2016, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time and will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home of Sumter.



FRANK K. CLARKE JR.

HENDERSONVILLE, North Carolina — Frank Kennedy Clarke Jr., 80, beloved husband of Anna Martin Clarke, died on Wednesday, July 6, 2016, at Preston Health Center in Hilton Head Island.

He was born in Sumter, and was a graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology. He proudly served as a Marine. Following his service, he started working at BellSouth Communications, then Bell Labs, where he enjoyed a successful career as a lead electrical engineer until retiring in 1992. After retiring, he earned a doctor of philosophy in finance and shared his brilliant mind at the University of South Carolina as a professor of finance and statistics, until moving to Fleetwood Plaza in Hendersonville.

Frank was a caring husband, father and friend, whose wisdom impacted all who knew him. He is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years, Anna Clarke; two daughters, Margaret Anthony (Steve) of Hilton Head and Elizabeth Clarke (Xavier) of San Francisco; two brothers, Finley Clarke (Laura) of Florence and Henry Clarke (Penny) of Bedford; three granddaughters, Mary Margaret, Lauren and Carly of Hilton Head; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Frank Kennedy Clarke Sr., and his mother, Margaret Bland Clarke. Graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday at Sumter Cemetery in Sumter with the Rev. Jim Burton officiating. The family will receive friends following the service.

Friends who wish to make memorial gifts in Frank's memory, please consider a donation to the Mayo Clinic Department of Development, Mayo Clinic, 200 First St. SW, Rochester, MN 55905 (855) 852-8129.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com

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



WILLIS THAMES

MANNING — On Sunday, July 3, 2016, Willis Thames, devoted husband of Naomi Lemon Thames, exchanged mortality for immortality at Clarendon Memorial Hospital.

Born on Aug. 11, 1940, in the Ram Bay community of Manning, he was a son of the late Daniel King and Ruth Pearson Thames.

Service of remembrance will take place at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Elizabeth Baptist Church, 4829 Alex Harvin Highway, Manning, where the pastor, the Rev. Terry R. Johnson, will deliver words of comfort. The service of committal will follow in the Thames family plot, located in the Elizabeth Baptist Church cemetery.

Public viewing will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the chapel of Fleming & Delaine Funeral Home, 222 W. Boyce St.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the residence, 1874 Ram Bay Road, in the Ram Bay community of Manning.

Fleming & DeLaine Funeral Home of Manning is in charge of these services.

Online condolences for the family may be sent to www.flemingdelaine.com or flemingdelaine@aol.com.

RAY E. BAKER

BISHOPVILLE — A Celebration of Life service for Ray E. Baker, 60, will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday at Cherryvale Baptist Church in Sumter. The Rev. Mike Keenan and the Rev. Marion Watkins will officiate.

A visitation for the family will be held at the church.

Ray passed away on July 6, 2016, at his residence.

He was born in Sumter, a son of Frances Humphries Hatfield and the late Ray William Baker Sr. He attended Cherryvale Baptist Church; was an avid NASCAR fan; and he was well-known as an excellent painter.

Surviving are his mother of Bishopville; wife, Wendy Baker of Sumter; daughter, Summer (Adam) Bowen of Dalzell; grandchildren, Gage and Layne Bowen, both of Dalzell; sisters, Cindy (David) McArthur of Stockbridge, Georgia; brothers, Timmy (Tammy) Baker of Sumter and Mark Baker of Bishopville; adopted sister, Elizabeth Sohneman of New York; step-siblings, Ann (Billy) Taylor of Sumter, Bobby (Tonya) Hatfield of Blythewood and Sherry West of Manning; several nieces and nephews; and special friend, Charlene Wilson.

The family would like to give a special thanks to his caregiver, Jason Jackson.

Memorials may be made to the Cherryvale Baptist Church, 1502 Cherryvale Drive, Sumter, SC 29154.

Norton Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Baker family. www.nortonfh.net



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