

# the Sumter ITEM

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**Celebrating 100**  
Library observes century mark with literary gala

**A5**

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## Death penalty possible in murder case

**Bond for 2 suspects in store owner's killing will be Jan. 12**

**BY ADRIENNE SARVIS**  
adrienne@theitem.com

The death penalty, a life sentence or a sentence of more than 100 years are three possibilities facing the two teens accused of killing the owner of Save-

Mart Grocery on Manning Avenue on Nov. 24.

Lorenzo Hagood, 19, and Sincere Dinkins, 17, both of Sumter, are each charged with criminal conspiracy, possession of a weapon during a violent crime, attempted armed robbery, two counts of kidnaping and murder.



**HAGOOD**



**DINKINS**

possession of a weapon during a violent crime, 10 to 30 years for attempted

A murder conviction could result in a death sentence or mandatory minimum of 30 years to life in prison.

Other possible sentencing includes: five years for criminal conspiracy, five years for

armed robbery and 30 years for each count of kidnaping.

If convicted of all six charges without receiving a death sentence, Hagood and Dinkins could each be sentenced to a minimum of 110 years in prison.

The two men allegedly entered the store just before 7 p.m. that Friday and

SEE **PATEL**, PAGE A9

# The legacy of Scott Rumph

*Sumter icon left an indelible mark on the city he loved*

**BY GRAHAM OSTEEEN**  
Editor-At-Large of The Sumter Item

In a lifetime of business deals, Scott Rumph of Sumter, South Carolina, was the ultimate numbers guy.

"I'd say my first calculating really started at The Citadel, when I was down there with a slide ruler," he told me.

"They also had a hand-operated calculator. Turn the crank and get a number. Crank it maybe 10 minutes, 15 minutes — just to get a division. So when I graduated, that's when I got interested in advanced calculating. (Years later) when I read an article about a new calculator called the Sinclair Calculator, I couldn't imagine what it was. I thought I had gone to heaven."



Turns out Scott Rumph always knew the numbers better than everyone else. Better than the bankers, the accountants, the lawyers and his own business partners and associates.

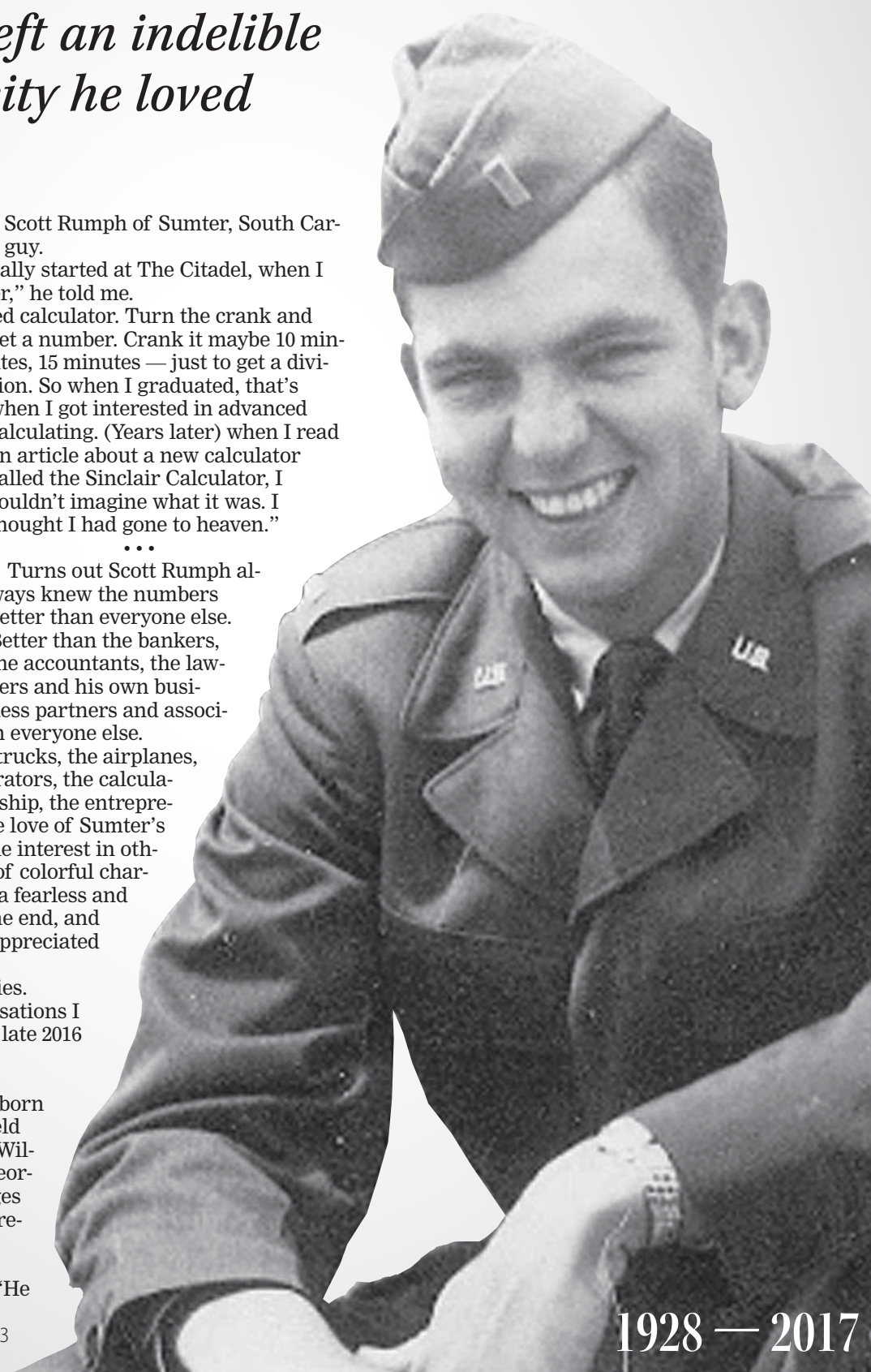
He also worked harder than everyone else. Along the way there were the trucks, the airplanes, the boats, the liquids, the incinerators, the calculations, the logistics, the salesmanship, the entrepreneurial spirit, the inventions, the love of Sumter's history and progress, the genuine interest in others, the family and a vast array of colorful characters and loyal friends. He had a fearless and youthful approach to life until the end, and he always recognized and fully appreciated his own remarkable journey.

He also loved to share his stories. This report is based on conversations I had with him over the course of late 2016 and early 2017.

Scott Winfield Rumph Jr. was born in Sumter in 1928 to Scott Winfield Rumph Sr. of Sumter and Olive Williams Rumph of Millidgeville, Georgia. His father was born on Yonges Island and ran away from his caretaker aunt at age 10.

"He got hauled back and ran away again at 14," Rumph said. "He

SEE **RUMPH**, PAGE A13



## Higher flu activity reported in state

**BY JIM HILLEY**  
The Sumter Item

South Carolina is seeing an unusual amount of early season flu activity, according to doctors.

Dr. Theresa Foo, an immunization consultant with the Department of Health and Environmental Control, said however that it is too early to make any predictions about the upcoming flu season.

"We track flu activity in South Carolina every year, and every year is different," Foo said. "There is no way to predict whether it will be a bad season or a weak season, but we are seeing some higher levels of flu cases than normal at this time of year."

According to the latest weekly report, a total of 435 influenza cases were reported in South Carolina from Nov. 19-25, a 21 percent increase from the previous week. There have been a total of 1,889 flu cases reported so far in the current flu season.

Meanwhile, the number of flu-associated hospitalizations increased to 29, a 9 percent increase from the previous week. During the current flu season, 101 influenza-associated hospitalizations have been reported as well as one fatality.

"That is just a sign to remind everyone to get their flu vaccines," Foo said. "Especially now, because it's the holidays and everyone is going to be together with family."

She said it takes about two weeks after getting a flu shot for immunity to build up.

Influenza A was reported in 76 percent of reported cases, and Influenza B was reported in 22.6 percent.

For the first time this flu season, the number of influenza-like illnesses is categorized as "high" in the weekly

SEE **FLU**, PAGE A9

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### DEATHS, A12 and A13

Raymond E. McIntosh  
Rev. Richard W. Hudson Sr.  
Mary Lue S. Singleton  
Joshua D. Neville  
Robert O. Ferrell  
Barbara Ann B. DuBose  
George S. Wham

Martha Lou Brailsford  
James D. Hammett  
Joseph L. Fohner Jr.  
Richard Swinton  
Jo Ellen M. Brooks  
Julia S. Brunson  
Jimmie Dow

### WEATHER, A14

**PERFECT AUTUMN DAY**  
Sunny and nice today with a few clouds; tonight, mainly clear and chilly.  
**HIGH 67, LOW 41**

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# SECOND FRONT

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## Auditor will report year-end surplus to school board

BY BRUCE MILLS  
[bruce@theitem.com](mailto:bruce@theitem.com)

Sumter School District's independent auditor will present last year's official audit report to the district's board of trustees Monday at the board's regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

District staff confirmed last week that Robin Poston of Harper, Poston and Moree, P.A., in Georgetown will provide that Fiscal Year 2017 audit report briefing to the full board Monday.

The audit shows the district saved more than it spent last fiscal year by \$779,230, according to district Chief Fi-

nanacial Officer Chris Griner. Griner provided the highlights of the audit report on Wednesday to the school board's Finance Committee, which consists of some board members and appointed private-business owners from the local community. Generally, with budgets and financial reports, the committee — which serves in an advisory role to the full board — receives information the week prior to the full board's regularly scheduled meetings.

The net income, or surplus, for fiscal 2017 — July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017 — was keyed by mid-year cost-savings measures implemented in

January, Griner said.

The district's board of trustees didn't discover until Poston's official Fiscal Year 2016 audit report in December of last year that the district had overspent its budget in fiscal 2016 and finished with an annual net loss of almost \$4.4 million that year, depleting its ending fund balance, or savings account, to \$106,449.

District administration formed the original fiscal 2017 budget from the fiscal 2016 budget.

In January, the board hired an independent financial consultant to guide the district through its financial difficulties and adopted an emergency fi-

nanacial plan from then-Superintendent Frank Baker to try to end the year on better footing. That plan included eliminating 47 positions, cutting stipends and supply budgets and freezing various budget line items that amounted to \$6.3 million in cash-preservation efforts.

Poston will also detail in her report that — with the \$779,230 in net income for fiscal 2017 — the district's total ending fund balance, as of June 30, 2017, is \$885,679.

Monday's board meeting will be at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road, and is open to the public. Public participation is listed on the agenda.

## SCDOT roadside assistance is just an app away

FROM STAFF REPORTS

If you are traveling for the holidays, the S.C. Department of Transportation just made life a little easier.

SCDOT has added a new feature on its 511 app to allow motorists to contact SHEP for roadside assistance. Selecting the "SCDOT SHEP Roadside Assistance" tab connects users with the closest dispatch phone number.

SCDOT's State Highway Emergency Program, known as SHEP, has helped about 800,000 motorists across the state since its inception in 1996.

"The motorists in our state know that when they see the blue trucks coming, help is on the way," Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall, said in a news release from SCDOT. "Their impact to the state's economy, the public and the flow of traffic is countless and without measure."

SHEP responders are able to change tires, perform basic repairs, carry



James C. Zarpentine, an incident responder with the S.C. Department of Transportation, helps a motorist on I-20 with a stalled vehicle.

PHOTO PROVIDED

small amounts of gasoline and are trained in clearing wrecked vehicles from travel lanes.

SCDOT's 511 app, which is free and available with

iOS and Android devices, has current travel information including live streaming traffic cameras. The SCDOT 511 website is <http://www.511sc.org/>.

SHEP can also be reached by dialing \*HP.

For more information on SCDOT SHEP, visit <http://www.scdot.org/getting/shep.aspx>.

## LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

### Sumter man faces child porn charges

A Sumter County man faces nine charges connected to the exploitation of a minor after investigators reportedly found him in possession of child pornography.

Don Whitney Eunice, 38, is accused of distributing and possessing files that were found by Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force investigators, according to a news release from South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson on Friday.

Eunice was arrested on Thursday and is charged with four counts of second-degree sexual exploitation of a minor — a felony offense punishable by up to 10 years' imprisonment on each count — and five counts of third-degree sexual exploitation of a minor — a felony offense with the same punishments possible, if convicted.

The case will be prosecuted by Wilson's office.



EUNICE

### Shaw to hold training at Poinsett range

According to a news release from 20th FW Public Affairs at Shaw Air Force Base, exercise planners from the 20th Civil Engineer Squadron are scheduled to conduct an adaptive basing exercise Monday through Thursday at Poinsett Electronic Combat Range near Wedgefield.

The exercise will test airmen's ability to rapidly deploy and operate in austere conditions, including simulated chemical warfare survival, base defense and various alarm conditions. Residents of the area can expect increased traffic on roadways as well as increased noise coming from the eastern side of the range.

It is designed to fulfill Air Combat Command's priority to conduct an adaptive basing exercise quarterly, as well as the 20th FW's priority to conduct chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and enhanced conventional weapons training annually.

## Sumter adds security measures to council meetings

BY JIM HILLEY  
The Sumter Item

Visitors to Sumter City Council meetings will notice new security precautions are being taken at the Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St.

Sumter Assistant City Manager Al Harris said the new security measures, including an additional police guard and a metal detector on the first floor of the rear entrance to the opera

house, is not, to his knowledge, a reaction to any specific threat or incident.

"We discussed it at a meeting several weeks ago," Harris said. "Just seeing the types of things going on around the country, we decided we needed to do something."

In addition to the metal detector, stations have been placed in the fourth-floor City Council Chambers to discourage visitors from getting too close to the council members.

Harris said more measures are under consideration.

Sumter City Council normally meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Council's next meeting will be held on Tuesday in City Council Chambers where it will consider first reading of an ordinance to amend the city's procurement ordinance and consider a list of city and county streets for paving or resurfacing.

## McDonald's manager gets \$110,000 for tip on murder suspect

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A McDonald's manager will get a \$110,000 reward for tipping off police about a man accused of killing four people and terrorizing a Florida neighborhood for 51 days.

Tampa police chief Brian Dugan said at a news conference Friday that

Delonda Walker will receive "every penny" of the reward money. Her tip to police on Tuesday led to the arrest of 24-year-old Howell Emanuel Donaldson III.

Donaldson is charged with four counts of first-degree murder. His victims were apparently randomly

shot during October and November.

Donaldson worked at the McDonald's. He left his loaded gun in the restaurant.

In a statement, Walker said getting a reward never entered her mind. She said she simply "wanted to do the right thing."

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# Summertown woman dies in home fire

BY SHARRON HALEY  
Special to The Sumter Item

SUMMERTON — A 70-year-old Summertown woman died Thursday morning when a fire destroyed her single-family home on Old River Road.

Clarendon County Deputy Coroner Bucky Mock identified the woman as Martha Brailsford.

Mock said an autopsy would be done Friday at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

“We could have preliminary results from the autopsy late (Friday),” Mock said.

Clarendon County Fire Chief Frances Richbourg said Brailsford lived in the home with her parents, both in their 90s, who were able to get out of the home uninjured.

Richbourg said a gentleman was hunting in a wooded area near the home when he spotted smoke.

“He said he got down (out of his hunting stand) and saw the fire and called it in,” Rich-

bourg added. “The house was fully involved with most of the roof down when firefighters arrived.”

“We called in (the State Law Enforcement Division) to help work the scene,” Richbourg said. “We don’t suspect foul play. We just want to make sure that we document everything.”

Richbourg said the closure of Old River Road did not play a major role in fighting the fire.

The road has been closed since October 2015 when the

“Thousand Year Flood” ravaged Clarendon County, destroying roads and causing dams to break.

“We know the road is out because the dam broke,” Richbourg said. “Mr. Buddy (Way) from the Panola station had to avoid that area and come in a different way.”

Richbourg said the American Red Cross was on scene helping the family.

“I hope folks keep the family in their prayers,” the chief added.

With temperatures expected to dip into the low 30s during the weekend, Richbourg stressed that families should check out their chimneys and heating systems to make sure they’re working correctly.

“Folks need to be vigilant at all times when there’s fire involved,” she added. “We’ve seen a lot of fires where someone is cooking and then distracted. They leave a pot on the stove, and the next thing it’s on fire. Fires take off quickly.”

## Veterans assist service members



PHOTO PROVIDED

Members of Sumter’s General George L. Mabry Jr. Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 817 recently donated \$2,000 to Shaw Air Force Base active-duty personnel in need of assistance during the Christmas holidays. Walmart gift cards were presented to Ivette Bohannan-Bagnato, the Shaw Air Force Base recovery care coordinator, who will distribute the cards to needy military personnel. From left are Ronald Harvin, LeRoy Thompson, Bohannan-Bagnato, Chapter Commander Dave Nesbitt, Jamie O’Neal and Willie Washington.

## Cookies needed to Shower Shaw

FROM STAFF REPORTS

JoAnne Morris, executive director of Sumter Volunteers and Santa’s official helper, is asking local bakers to get busy.

Morris is looking to make Christmas extra special for Sumter’s military personnel with Sumter Volunteers’ 25th-annual Shower Shaw with Cookies. Area bakers are asked to give a dozen cookies — home-made or store bought — to be distributed across Shaw on Wednesday.

The project started when wives at Shaw baked cookies for the airmen and sent dozens of cookies to Air Force personnel serving during Desert Storm between August 1990 and January 1991.

In 1993, people from the base sent out fliers asking the community to get involved, and the mayor asked the community to keep participating, she said.

Today, the community does

most of the baking, with the majority of the cookies going to the personnel at Shaw, though some are sent overseas.

Churches, schools and organizations are encouraged to get involved.

Cookies can be packaged in any kind of holiday wrapping or boxes, as long as each dozen is stored in a box or cookie tin to make shipping the treats an easy process. Homemade candy should also be packaged by the dozen. Handmade Christmas cards and thank-you notes are always appreciated by airmen.

Treats can be delivered to Swan Lake Visitor Center, 822 W. Liberty St., between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Dec. 6.

For more information about Shower Shaw with Cookies, call Sumter Volunteers at (803) 775-7423.

When cookies are dropped off, make sure to sign in and write how many are being delivered total.

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# Flynn pleads guilty, is cooperating in campaign probe

BY ERIC TUCKER and CHAD DAY  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Michael Flynn, President Trump's former national security adviser, pleaded guilty Friday to lying to the FBI about his contacts with Russia, becoming the first Trump White House official to face criminal charges and admit guilt so far in the wide-ranging election investigation by special counsel Robert Mueller.

Flynn also agreed to cooperate with Mueller's probe, which focuses on Russian meddling in the 2016 election and possible coordination between Russia and Trump's team in the campaign that sent the Republican businessman to the White House.

Flynn spent just 25 days in the White House, but his actions — and the Russia investigations broadly — have shadowed Trump throughout the year, angering the president and repeatedly distracting from his agenda. Flynn's plea came hours before Republican senators hoped to pass a far-reaching tax bill, which would be a significant victory for Trump.

Court papers make clear that Flynn knows the identities of at least two members of Trump's transition team who were intimately aware of

his outreach to Russian government officials in the weeks before the inauguration. Mueller's prosecutors did not reveal the names of the officials but indicated they were senior and within Trump's inner circle.

Those officials discussed the details of what Flynn was supposed to communicate to the Russians about U.S. sanctions imposed by the Obama administration. One of the officials, described as a "very senior member" of the presidential transition, also directed Flynn to contact foreign government officials, including Russia's, about a U.N. Security Council resolution regarding Israeli settlements.

On Friday, Trump ignored reporters' shouted questions as he welcomed the Libyan prime minister to the White House, and aides canceled media access to a later meeting between the two. Flynn visited his son's house in Virginia shortly after he entered his guilty plea.

Flynn was an early and vocal Trump supporter on the campaign trail and was present for consequential moments in the campaign, the following transition period and the early days of Trump's presidency, making him a valuable potential tool for prosecutors and agents. His



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Trump national security adviser Michael Flynn arrives at federal court in Washington on Friday. Court documents show Flynn, an early and vocal supporter on the campaign trail of President Trump whose business dealings and foreign interactions made him a central focus of Robert Mueller's investigation, pleaded guilty lying about his conversations with Russia's ambassador to the United States during the transition period before Trump's inauguration.

business dealings and foreign interactions have made him a central focus of Mueller's investigation.

Trump's former national security adviser admitted to lying about his conversations with Russia's ambassador to the United States during the transition period before Trump's inauguration.

In a statement, Flynn, a 58-year-old retired Army lieutenant general, said he accepted responsibility for his actions and added: "My guilty plea and agreement to cooperate with the Special Counsel's Office reflect a decision I made in the best interests of my family and of

our country."

Flynn is the fourth former Trump associate to face charges in the investigation, the first who actually served in Trump's White House. He has been under investigation for a wide range of allegations, including lobbying work on behalf of Turkey, but the fact that he was charged only with a single count of false statements suggests he is cooperating with Mueller in exchange for leniency.

White House lawyer Ty Cobb sought to distance the plea from Trump himself, saying, "Nothing about the guilty plea or the charge implicates anyone other than

Mr. Flynn."

Early on in his administration, Trump had taken a particular interest in the status of the Flynn investigation. Former FBI Director James Comey, whose firing in May precipitated the appointment of Mueller as special counsel, has said Trump had asked him in a private Oval Office meeting to consider ending the investigation into Flynn. Comey has said the encounter unnerved him so much that he prepared an internal memo about it. The White House has denied that assertion.

Comey tweeted a Bible passage Friday morning: "But justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

Flynn, who was interviewed by the FBI just days after Trump's inauguration, was forced to resign in February after White House officials said he had misled them about whether he had discussed sanctions with the Russian ambassador, Sergey Kislyak. Administration officials said Flynn had not discussed sanctions that had been imposed on Russia in part over election meddling. In charging Flynn, prosecutors made clear they think that claim to be false.

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ADRIENNE SARVIS / THE SUMTER ITEM

The Friends of the Library invite the public to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the library from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday. Shown here is the current Sumter County Library at 111 N. Harvin St., where the gala reception will be held.

## Sumter County Library celebrates 100 years

### Public invited to gala reception on Monday

BY IVY MOORE  
Special to The Sumter Item

The Sumter County Library turns 100 years old Monday, and its friends — the Friends of the Library — are celebrating the occasion by hosting a party from 6 to 8 p.m. that evening. Friends president Sue Griffin said the public is invited to attend the gala event.

Griffin said the Friends will begin the evening by serving refreshments to guests, who will be invited to visit several displays on the library's history, as well as pictures of the individuals responsible for the construction and the Dec. 4, 1917, opening of the original Carnegie Public Library at 219 N. Washington St., where the building still stands. Guests will also be invited to take a self-guided tour of the current library building.

Library director Robert Harden, Griffin and Frank Shuler, chairman of the Sumter County Library Board, will welcome guests and introduce current board members. A representative of Mayor Joseph T. McElveen's office will make an official proclamation.

Keynote speaker for the evening will be Katherine Richardson, director of the Camden Archives and Museum and former director of the Sumter County Museum, who had the Carnegie placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994. The official registration form describes the Carnegie as a "two-story, flat-roofed Beaux Arts building ... built with terra cotta tile bricks and the exterior covered with brick veneer."

Richardson said her talk will focus on the establishment of the library, whose construction was begun after several years' correspondence between Dr. S.H. Edmunds,

then superintendent of Sumter schools, and Andrew Carnegie, who gave his huge steel fortune for libraries around the country. He funded 1,689 in all.

"I'll base my talk on research done by Ruth Edens," she said, "and talk about why Carnegie funded all those libraries." According to a memo discovered after his death, Carnegie believed that after a wealthy man had provided for his family, it was his duty to dispose of his "surplus wealth" in the way that would "best aid in the well-being and happiness of others."

Descendants of the library's original board members — Edmunds, Edith DeLorme (also the first librarian), Francis M. Moise, Hubert G. Osteen, Mrs. H.C. Haynsworth, Mark Reynolds, Mrs. I.A. Ryttenberg and treasurer R.B. Jennings — will be present at the event and will be introduced by Nancy Wilson of the Friends of the Library board of directors.

Also present will be Faith Line, library director for 21 years, from the retirement of Chapman J. "Jimmy" Milling in 1985 until 2007. The library was on Harvin Street when she started. She recalled, "During my time we moved the children's area to the first floor, added computers for patrons, put in an elevator in the Main Library, added two branches — one in the South Sumter Resource Center and the one on Wesmark — a new bookmobile and then in 2007 a new Main Library."

Both Line and Harden, who started at the library in 1980 as a general assistant, had high praise for the Friends of the Library, the library boards and the library staff.

Harden, who worked on the reference desk, recalled several unusual requests from patrons, including one college student who wanted the library to purchase her textbooks, let her borrow them for the semester, then turn them in.

"I always wondered what career path she was pursuing," he said.

Line remembers when the library had the only county fax machine and the nearby



PHOTO PROVIDED

The original Sumter County public library opened Dec. 4, 1917, as the Carnegie Public Library, funded by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie. The building still stands at 219 W. Liberty St.



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

The interior of the Sumter County Library on North Harvin Street is shown in 2004. The current main library was built in 2007.

Sumter County Sheriff's Office would call her late at night to let them in to send faxes.

"I was fortunate to work with a wonderful group of people — from the staff, the board, the Friends and the county personnel," she concluded. "Everyone supported the library and helped us in so many ways. We couldn't have made it over the years without

all the support we received. It was a pleasure to work at the Sumter County Library."

Harden, who has worked at the library for 37 years, said he "looks forward to continuing to work at the library for the foreseeable future ... I do look forward to the library continuing to be an important part of the Sumter community and to provide a place for recreation, education and

knowledge in a variety of formats."

The Friends of the Library invite the public to attend the celebration of the Sumter County Library's 100th anniversary from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the main library, 111 S. Harvin St. Ample free parking is available, and refreshments will be served. For more information, call the library at (803) 773-7273.

## WEDDING

## Newman-Brown

Lauren Elizabeth Newman and Kirby Jacob Brown, both of Sumter, were united in marriage at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, at The Johannah House in Sumter.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lee Newman of Sumter and the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James "Mood" Newman of Sumter, Mr. James Wayne Allsbrook of Sumter and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Price Buschlen of New Smyrna Beach, Florida. She graduated from Laurence Manning Academy and the University of South Carolina Aiken with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She is employed by Lee Newman Farms in Sumter.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Raymond Brown of Sumter and the grandson of Ms. Madeline F. Brown and the late Mr. Andrew Brown of Sumter, Ms. Catherine "Kitty" Ellen Kirby of Greenville and the late Mr. Ellie Hue "E.H." Kirby. He graduated from Clarendon Hall. He is employed by Lee

Newman Farms of Sumter.

The Rev. John Edward McLeod Jr. officiated at the ceremony.

Music was provided by Taylor Jones, vocalist and guitarist.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore a strapless Stella York gown of ivory lace and tulle featuring a sweetheart neckline and an off-the-shoulder topper with fabric-covered buttons. She carried a hand-tied Southern-style bouquet of white hydrangeas and white Eskimo roses adorned with white peonies and white spray roses with seeded eucalyptus.

Mrs. Tiffani Newman Kruger, sister of the bride, served as matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Ashlee Rebecca Newman, sister of the bride; Hailey Morgan Johnson, cousin of the bride; Kelsey Jade Hughes; and Brittney Lynne Atkinson. Ariana Grace Allsbrooks, cousin of the bride, and Allyson Taylor Shropshire served as flower girls.

The bridegroom's father served as best man. Groomsmen were Mr. Joshua Raymond Brown, brother of the



MRS. KIRBY BROWN

bridegroom; Mr. Thomas Jaka Allen; Mr. Bryan Joseph Thompson; and Mr. James Tyler Newman Jr., cousin of the bride. Waylon Myles Shropshire served as ring bearer.

Also participating were Michael Dylan Johnson and Connor Michael Smith.

The bride's parents held the reception at The Johannah House.

The bridegroom's parents held the rehearsal party at The Cains Mill Pond House.

Following a wedding trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, the couple will reside in Sumter.

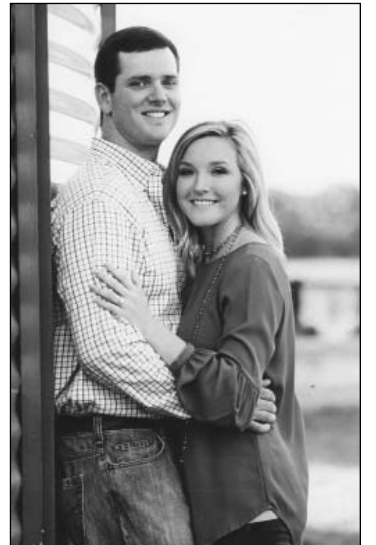
## ENGAGEMENTS

## Lamb-Stafford

The Rev. and Mrs. Jimmy Carl Lamb Sr. announce the engagement of their daughter, Samantha Katherine "Katie" Lamb, to Stephen Francis Stafford Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Francis Stafford, all of Sumter.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Avins and the Rev. Carroll D. Lamb and the late Eva Lamb, all of Sumter. She graduated from Laurence Manning Academy in 2010 and is pursuing a nursing degree from Central Carolina Technical College. She is employed by Sumter Urological Associates, PA.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of Mrs. Betty Trapp and the late Mr. Marvin D. Trapp and the late Mr. and Mrs. C. Ellis Stafford. He graduated from Sumter High School in 2010 and from the University of South Carolina



MR. STAFFORD, MISS LAMB

Columbia in 2014. He is employed by Unifirst Corp. of Sumter.

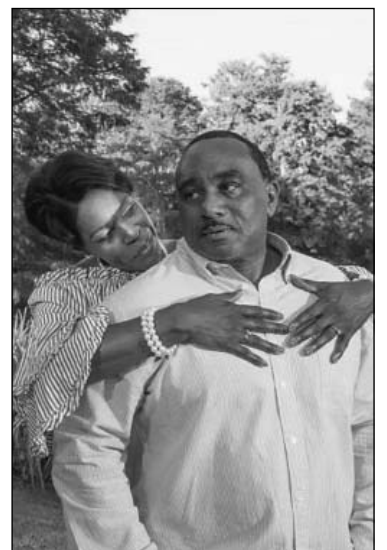
The wedding is planned for March 17, 2018, at The Sublette Pond House in Mayesville.

## Jackson-McKnight

Brenda Lynn Jackson of Sumter and Nathaniel "Randy" McKnight of Mayesville announce their engagement.

The bride-elect is the daughter of retired Chief Master Sgt. Larrie Jenkins and Mrs. Rebecca Jenkins of Tampa, Florida, and Mrs. Carrie B. Jackson and the late Mr. William Jackson of Sumter. She is the granddaughter of the late Robert and Albertha Illery Jackson and the late Mrs. Ida Mae Davis and the late Mr. Rufus Davis, all of Sumter. She attended Morris College and received a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Public Administration from University of Phoenix. She is employed as a human resources assistant with the 120th Reception Battalion, Personal Affairs Branch, Fort Jackson.

The bridegroom-elect is the son of Mrs. Thelma Hodge and the late Mr. Tom Hodge



MISS JACKSON, McKNIGHT

of Mayesville. He attended Central Carolina Technical College. He is employed by Otis Elevator in Florence.

The wedding is planned for Jan. 13, 2018, at The Loft of Serendipity Catering and Cafe.

## EARLY DEADLINES FOR ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, BIRTH AND ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Engagement, wedding, birth and wedding anniversaries (25th, 50th and above) of local interest are published on Sundays free of charge. The normal deadline is noon on the preceding Monday. **The deadline for the Dec. 24 edition is noon on Thursday, Dec. 14. The deadline for the Dec. 31 edition is noon on Thursday, Dec. 21.** Forms may be obtained at The Sumter Item, 36 W. Liberty St., or downloaded from [www.theitem.com](http://www.theitem.com). Click on the drop down arrow next to the Lifestyle tab on the navigation bar of the website.

When filling out form, please type or print all information, paying particular attention to names. Do not print in all capital letters.

Photographs must be vertical and of reproduction quality and must be received by the Monday noon deadline.

Email wedding and engagement forms and photos to [brides@theitem.com](mailto:brides@theitem.com). For additional information, call (803) 774-1264. Email birth and wedding anniversary forms and photos to [sandra@theitem.com](mailto:sandra@theitem.com). For additional information, call (803) 774-1226.

## Driver sends \$1,000 years after crash

SOUTH ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A person who apparently sped off after hitting a parked car in a Minneapolis suburb more than 30 years ago anonymously sent \$1,000 to local police this month and asked them to pass it on to the car's owner, if possible.

The sender also sent a letter to the South St. Paul police department asking for forgiveness, *The Pioneer Press* reported.

"I was quite shocked," police Chief Bill Messerich said. "It's not something you see every day."

The note says the anonymous driver hit a parked car one evening in 1985 or 1986. The sender expressed remorse and requested police try to track down the vehicle's owner. The note says the money could be donated to a police charity if the victim isn't located.

"I am sorry for any inconvenience that I have caused and I ask for your forgiveness," the letter says.

Police records don't go that far back so the money was put into the department's general account,

## Update on knitted prostheses program delivers good news

**DEAR READERS** — I am often asked, "Do you ever hear back from the people who wrote to you?" The answer is yes, I do.

A year ago, "Claire G. in California" wrote to bring awareness to a program called Knitted Knockers. Its members knit or crochet soft, lightweight prostheses for breast cancer survivors, and provide them at no cost to women who need them. A few weeks ago, I received this follow-up:

**DEAR ABBY** — Our whole world changed when you printed our letter last December. We now support more than 450 medical clinics nationwide. We are in 16 countries and give away 1,000 knockers a month free to women, provided by literally thousands of volunteer knitters and crocheters! The testimonies we receive from women who have received them, as well as those making them, are touching. Many tell us their lives have been changed.

Much of this occurred because of the huge response generated by the letter Dear Abby published on Dec. 6, 2016. Ten thousand knockers were given out as a result of that letter, and hundreds of knitters and crocheters



Dear Abby

ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

signed up to help their own communities. It took us three months to "dig out" from that huge response, but we did it.

Thank you, Abby, for making a difference in this challenging world we live in.

*Barbara D. in Washington*

**DEAR BARBARA** — You're welcome, and thank YOU for the update. Readers who are interested can go to [knittedknockers.org](http://knittedknockers.org) and learn more about

this worthwhile program, or volunteer to be a creator of these wonderful gifts of comfort and dignity.

**DEAR ABBY** — My husband and I have been hosting my in-laws for the holidays and really do enjoy it. However, one of them has picked up a respiratory virus. It wouldn't be a big deal, except no matter how often I talk about how important it is to cough into sleeves (rather than hands), they don't do it. They walk into the kitchen coughing and covering their mouths with their hands, then touch the food, the dishes, the cabinet doors and my infant's hands, face and food.

I mentioned it to my husband because I think it's his place to say

something, since my "kind reminders" and hints didn't work. How can I handle this tactfully and without offending?

*Cold and flu season*

**DEAR COLD AND FLU SEASON** — It is a big deal. You didn't mention whether your baby has picked up any viruses from his/her grandparents, but if it hasn't happened, you are lucky. Tell them that if either one of them is exhibiting cold symptoms to PLEASE not come over until they are well again.

**DEAR ABBY** — I was divorced more than 10 years ago. When I'm filling out forms, do I still have to check the box for divorced? I feel I am more happily single than unhappily divorced.

*Happily single*

**DEAR HAPPILY** — Your current state of mind has no bearing on this. If the forms are legal or medical in nature, it would be wrong to lie about your status, so tell the truth.

*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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

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## Wilson Hall

### CLARK PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Senior Courtney Clark, a member of the varsity volleyball team, was named the WLTX News 19 Player of the Week.



CLARK

For this program, News 19 honors exceptional high school seniors who participate in varsity sports, maintain a high GPA and are outstanding citizens in their community. Area coaches send

letters to News 19 recommending student athletes, and Clark was nominated by her coach, Rip Ripley.

News 19 Sports presents each winner with a letter jacket and a plaque, and the student is featured in a 30-second promotional announcement that airs for one week.

### COLONIAL DAY

As part of the "Why America is Free" curriculum used in their U.S. History class, the fourth- and fifth-grade students participated in Colonial Day held on campus Nov. 17. "Why America is Free" is a six-week program that offers a hands-on learning experience and covers the events, times and heroes of the American Revolution.

Dressed in period costume, the students participated in a wide variety of activities including colonial cooking for the girls and a militia drill for the boys. Students also learned how to make candles, cornhusk dolls, hand-painted floor cloths, string toys and silhouettes. Boys attended the class "Education of Young Gentlemen" while the girls attended "Lady of Genteel Refinement."

Also dressed in period costume, parent volunteers and teachers led the 10 different activities throughout the day. For Patriot Night, an evening reception held at the home of Ryan and Wendy McLeod on Nov. 16, students, faculty and parents also dressed in period costume.

### FIELD TRIPS

Second-grade students dressed in Halloween costumes visited Solomons Home on Oct. 31 to present a music program, directed by Frankie Eldridge, and visit with the residents. The pre-school, kindergarten, and first-grade classes visited Patriot Hall on Nov. 17 for the Columbia City Ballet production of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." The kindergarten students visited Covenant Place on Nov. 21 to sing for the residents. — *Sean Hoskins*

## Sumter Christian School

### WATER SAFETY DISCUSSED

The second- and third-grade classes received a visit from representatives from the City of Sumter Aquatics Center on Nov. 15 to discuss water safety as part of the Whales Tales program through the Red Cross. The theme was "Do Your Part, Be Water Smart."

Representatives spent time educating students about the dangers of drowning through a video presentation, student involvement and a question-and-answer session.

### THANKSGIVING CELEBRATED

On Nov. 21, the last day of school before Thanksgiving break, several classes took time to enjoy Thanksgiving festivities together. Second- and third-grade classes celebrated with a Thanksgiving Breakfast while fourth grade had a full Thanksgiving luncheon.

The pre-school, K5 and fifth-grade students went to Covenant Place to encourage residents by singing Thanksgiving songs and doing a Thanksgiving play as part of their Community Outreach project. The fifth-grade students took on various roles for the play: Larry Wayne Rogers played William Bradford; Jonathan Kannon played Squanto; JR Truett played an American Indian; and John Beck, Trinity Jones and Micah Wierschem played other Pilgrims. — *Miriam Marritt*

## University of South Carolina Sumter

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR SPRING

Did you go away to college and find yourself struggling? Or did you delay classes in the fall but feel ready to make a change now? USC Sumter welcomes all students, and it's not too late for spring 2018.

Visit [uscsu.edu](http://uscsu.edu) for a full listing of spring courses, and call our admissions office at (803) 938-3717 for more information on how to register.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

University of South Carolina Sumter will be closed for the holidays Dec. 21 through Jan. 1, 2018. We wish all of our students, alumni, employees and visitors warm holiday wishes and a Happy New Year. — *Misty Hatfield*

## Morris College

### FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Morris College will hold final examinations Monday through Thursday.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT, TREE LIGHTING

The annual Christmas Concert will be held at 6 p.m. today in Neal-Jones Auditorium. The lighting of the campus Christmas tree will follow the concert at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

### BASKETBALL

The Lady Hornets will take on Edward Waters College at 6 p.m. on Friday in Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center.

### SPRING SEMESTER ENROLLMENT

Spring semester enrollment is underway. Prospective students can contact the Office of Admission and Records at (803) 934-3225. — *Anika Cobb*

## Sumter School District

### PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY PROGRAM

The seventh-annual Principal for the Day program was held on Thursday. Each Sumter School District principal invited a community leader to serve as the school's "principal for the day," and the person shadowed the principal for the first half of the day. The 28 participants then met at the Crestwood High School Fine Arts Center for lunch and a recap of the day.

The leaders included those from business and industry, local and state government, the faith-based community, the military, print and TV media and law enforcement. The program is based on a national program that offers a unique, first-hand opportunity to appreciate the work done in the schools daily.

Following the lunch prepared by the District Food Services Department, volunteer participants shared their thoughts on the day and talked about things they observed and learned by taking on this role. Interim Superintendent Dr. Debbie Hamm then presented each participant with a plaque to commemorate the day.

Principals for the day at the elementary schools and their affiliations were Lefford Fate, support service director, City of Sumter, Alice Drive; Paul Robbins, First Citizens Bank, Cherryvale; Greg A. Thompson, president/CEO, Thompson Construction Group, Crosswell Drive; Dr. Brenda Williams, F.J. DeLaine; Chief Master Sgt. Gordon Comerford, 20th AMMO EMS, High Hills; Vince Johnson, editor and publisher of *The Sumter Item*, Kingsbury; Thomas Rhodes, Rhodes Graduation Services, Lemira; Victoria Bailey, CA Harler Trophies and Engraving, Manchester; William H. Croft, Curtis & Croft Law Firm LLC, Millwood; Chief Master Sgt. Daniel L. Hoggund, 20FW Command Chief, Oakland; Chris Spatola, Eaton, Pocalla Springs; Jay Linginfelter, Home for Heroes, R.E. Davis; Rep. J. David Weeks, D-Sumter, Rafting Creek; Pamela Brown, children's author, Shaw Heights; Jay Montgomery, SAFE Federal Credit Union, Wilder; and Susan B. Weston, Century 21 Hawkins and Kolb, Willow Drive.

Middle school principals for the day were Jay Schwedler, president and CEO of Sumter Economic Development/TheLINK, Alice Drive; Chuck Wilson, Universal Benefits Inc., Bates; Justin Rivers, Wells Fargo, Chestnut Oaks; Sen. Kevin Johnson, D-Manning, Ebenezer; Chuck Ringwalt, WLTX, Furman; Tracy Harrington, industrialization manager, Continental Tire the Americas, Hillcrest; and Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis, Mayewood.

At the high school level, the principals for the day were W. Jason Phelps, sales operational manager, Jostens, Crestwood; Cpl. Ernest McDowell Koty, S.C. Highway Patrol, Lakewood; David Merchant, Merchant Iron Works and Sumter City Council, Sumter High; Lt. Trevor Brown, Sumter Sheriff's Office, Brewington Academy; and Chief Russell F. Roark III, Sumter Police Department, Sumter Career and Technology Center.

### STAR TEACHER NAMED

Brian Gerard, a seventh-grade social studies teacher at Alice Drive Middle School, was named the November Star Teacher of the Month. The Star Teacher program is sponsored by Community Broadcasters and Staples.

Gerard and Sumter School District Executive Director of Human Resources Dr. John Koumas were guests on the Good Morning Sumter Show on WDXY AM 1240 and FM 105.9 with host Derek Burress. Burress asked Gerard a variety of questions about his career including why he chose the education profession, what his students are studying and his future plans.

Gerard was nominated by current and former students and/or members of the Alice Drive Future Engineers of Sumter Club Keller Thomas, Jenny Li and Natalie Leugers. The students touted his unique ability to present the social studies material in a way they can relate and remember. They also talked about his initiative in the Engineering Club and his ability to make all the members feel welcome.

In his comments about Gerard, Dr. Koumas said, "We are very fortunate to have Brian Gerard in Sumter School District. He moved to Sumter from Pennsylvania, and in the two years he has been with us, he has never failed to

surprise and entertain his students and his colleagues. He can often be seen dressed as the Pope, Napoleon and even a World War II soldier — complete in uniform and gas mask. He makes social studies come alive for his students. This type of engagement by a teacher fosters a love of the subject matter, and that is what education should be."

One teacher is chosen from a Sumter School District school monthly for the honor of being the Star Teacher of the Month. In addition to appearing on the Good Morning Sumter show, Staples gives a gift bag to the honoree.

### BOARD MEETING MONDAY

The Sumter School District Board of Trustees will meet on Monday at 6 p.m. at the District Office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road. This is the regular monthly board meeting, which would normally be held on the second Monday of the month but was changed this month. Persons who want to address the board during public participation are asked to sign up in the lobby before the meeting begins. — *Mary B. Sheridan*

## Central Carolina Technical College

### CENTRAL CHRISTMAS TREES

CCTC is starting a new tradition this year. From Dec. 4 through Dec. 15, the college will be displaying approximately 25 Christmas trees for public viewing and voting.

Stop by the college during normal operating hours to tour the trees and get in the holiday spirit. You can also vote for your favorite tree by visiting CCTC's Facebook page.

The winner will be announced at the college's annual Christmas luncheon. A kick-off event for Central Christmas Trees will be held on Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. in building M300 on Main Campus. Hot chocolate and cookies will be available, along with a gift for the first 50 people in attendance.

### SPRING SEMESTER REGISTRATION

Register now for spring semester at CCTC. Classes start Jan. 16. For more information on enrollment, visit [cctech.edu/how-to-enroll-5-easy-steps/](http://cctech.edu/how-to-enroll-5-easy-steps/), and to view the classes offered visit [cctech.edu/academics/class-schedule-search/](http://cctech.edu/academics/class-schedule-search/)

### MASSAGE THERAPY PROGRAM

Beginning this spring semester, CCTC's Massage Therapy Program will be offered during the evening and on Saturdays. Students can complete the program and obtain a certificate in as little as two semesters.

Upon successful completion of the Massage Therapy Certificate, students are eligible to apply to take the Federation of States Examination before applying for a South Carolina license.

Also, CCTC is the first school to offer a Specialty Certificate in Massage Therapy for Integrative Healthcare credentialled by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. Massage therapists enjoy a variety of job opportunities in health care, spas, rehabilitation clinics and cruise ships.

For more information, contact Massage Therapy Program Manager Brent Jackson at (803) 778-7857 or [jacksonbf@cctech.edu](mailto:jacksonbf@cctech.edu). Classes start Jan. 16, 2018. — *Catherine M. Wood*

## Thomas Sumter Academy

### STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN SCISA REGIONAL SPELLING BEE

Just before Thanksgiving, our students in grades three through eight participated in our Annual Spelling Bee Competition.

The following students will represent Thomas Sumter in the SCISA Regional Spelling Bee Competition on Jan. 24, 2018: third grade — Jack McGary, Madison Morrow and Grace Wyrick (alternate); fourth grade — Benjamin Kessinger, Tyler Walton and Anna Bell (alternate); fifth grade — Brynna Nedderman, Reed Dollard and Trenton Spilker (alternate); sixth grade — Connor Claus, LaRaya Suazo and Miriam Roberson (alternate); seventh grade — Annie Kessinger, Vaughn Nedderman and Riley Hyder (alternate); eighth grade — Landon Delavan, Sammy Kessinger and Leah Stokes (alternate).

Our school representative is Janice Warren. — *Frank Martin*

## Clarendon Hall

### STUDENTS IN ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY

Clarendon Hall Student Government, under the leadership of Melissa Moorer, has been very active not only at school, but in the community as well.

In September, students helped Summerton Presbyterian Church clean out its summer garden and plant a winter garden. The vegetables from the garden will be donated to the food bank at St. Mary's Catholic Church to be distributed to residents in need.

In October, students sponsored a "Dress Down Day" at school to raise money for the American Red Cross to benefit the victims of the recent hurricanes. A total of \$767 was raised for the cause.

A blood drive was held this month for the American Red Cross. Students, staff, parents and local residents all came out to give the gift of life.

### FCA SPONSORS OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This fundraiser has always been near and dear to our hearts here at CHS. Samaritan's Purse impacts the lives of children through ministry and many other wonderful outreach projects and critical relief aid including Operation Christmas Child.

Students were busy this year putting together 37 boxes to send to children who may not receive Christmas gifts at all. Students also raised \$1,420 to help buy animals, farm supplies and other items for families through Samaritan's Purse.

Candy Ashba, Liz Cila and Tammy Cogdill along with FCA members also held bake sales to help cover the postage for the boxes.

### VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

On Nov. 10, our music program under the direction of Mrs. Candy Ashba held a Veterans Day Assembly in the school gymnasium. We honored our veterans with songs, poems and praise to let them know that we appreciate all they do and all they sacrifice for us.

After the program, our high school chorus went to Summerton Park to participate in the annual Veterans Day Program. Thanks to all who have served or are serving.

We are proud of our students for their dedication in giving back to others. — *Susan Oswald*

## Lee County School District

### BISHOPVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Treats for Special Kids is a wonderful way for children with physical and mental disabilities from across the Carolinas to interact with one another in a nurturing environment. Bishopville Primary School's exceptional children attended Treats for Special Kids in Florence on Oct. 24, and the learning objectives were for the students to be exposed to a variety of social situations and to use their five senses to explore a new environment.

On Oct. 27, BPS hosted its first fall festival held in 10 years. The festival included many activities such as face painting, a basketball toss, The Ghost in Bucket, The Pumpkin Toss, Ring the Pumpkin, a photo booth, a cupcake walk and many others.

### LOWER LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fifth-grade students at Lower Lee Elementary School had the pleasure of participating in a field trip experience to South Carolina State University in Orangeburg on Nov. 9. During the field experience, the students toured the campus and explored the possibility of attending the institution after high school.

Lower Lee Elementary School showed local veterans that they truly make a difference by honoring them with a luncheon on Nov. 10. The event gave tribute to the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and the U.S. National Guard. Larry Frazier served as the guest speaker. Frazier along with other retirees of the United States Marine Corps performed a chant for the students and shared insight on their experiences in the military.

Second-grade students in Valerie Atlas' and Jacqueline Helton's classes recently learned about the three branches of the government.

### WEST LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Each month, the faculty and staff at West Lee Elementary School choose a writing topic. This most recent topic was "Fall into Writing." The faculty and staff wrote a variety of poems centered on the theme. The students enjoyed reading the faculty and staff's work.

### LEE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

The AVID students of Lee Central Middle School were afforded the opportunity to hear from Dr. Jennifer Evans, a chiropractor at Eastern Carolina Medicine. Evans thinks it's a necessity to come to Lee County to instill in students the consequences of choices, even in the eighth grade. "The decisions you make today are based upon a mindset that will change your future," she advised the students. "Don't limit yourself to a definition you have created in your mind."

### LEE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

On Nov. 1, Curtis Outen from the Tulsa Welding School presented the program benefits to Jamie Mack's automotive class at the Lee County Career and Technology Center. Solid preparation courses focus on structural welding, flux core welding and pipe welding as well as career success skills. Tulsa Welding School has been training students for successful careers since 1949. Outen discussed employer demand and gave students an opportunity to join the school. There are five graduates from Lee Central High School enrolled in the welding program. — *Shawnta McKenzie*



ABOVE: Mary Martin, left, holds burning hurricane warning flags set on fire to symbolize the end of the 2017 Atlantic Basin hurricane season Thursday in Key West, Florida.



Mariko Shimmi, right, helps carry items out of the home of Ken Tani in a neighborhood still flooded from Hurricane Harvey in Houston on Sept. 4.



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ABOVE RIGHT: Roberto Figueroa Caballero sits on a small table in his home that was destroyed by Hurricane Maria in La Perla neighborhood on the coast of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Oct. 5.

# Deadly, destructive 2017 Atlantic hurricane season ends

MIAMI (AP) — Thursday was the last day of an intense and destructive hurricane season with 17 named storms, 10 of which became hurricanes.

The 2017 Atlantic hurricane season will be remembered for a deadly trio of storms — Harvey, Irma and Maria — that ravaged Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and numerous other islands.

The storms killed at least 441 people and did about \$369 billion in damage. This season is one of only six years on record to include multiple Category 5 hurricanes.

It's only the second season to include two hurricanes making landfall at

that intensity.

Hurricane Harvey made landfall in South Texas on Aug. 25, leading to days of downpours that dumped more than 50 inches of rain. Harvey damaged or destroyed about 200,000 homes as the storm system flooded much of Houston and small-

er coastal communities.

Irma followed, hitting almost the entire state of Florida on Sept. 11. It had the strongest maximum sustained winds observed in the Atlantic since Wilma in 2005.

Maria caused widespread destruction in Puerto Rico

on Sept 20, leaving much of the island without power. It was the 10th most intense Atlantic storm by baromet-

ric pressure.

The Atlantic's hurricane season begins June 1 each year.

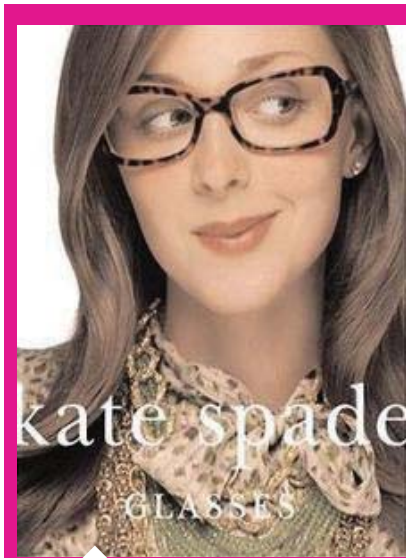
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**PATEL** FROM PAGE A1

ordered two customers to the ground before at least one of the suspects opened fire, reportedly shooting store owner Vijaykumar Patel in the chest multiple times, according to Sumter Police Department. Both men were reportedly wearing masks during the incident.

First appearance hearings for Hagood and Dinkins were held on Friday at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center, after they were arrested thanks to a tip to Crime Stoppers.

In the small courtroom of the detention center, Hagood sat across from Patel's daughter on the opposite side of the room — his face showing no emotion — while waiting for his hearing to start.

Dinkins made a much shorter appearance in the courtroom, with the same lack of emotion.

Patel's family sat together during both hearings next to the two women who were in the store the night the beloved father and store owner was killed.

Despite the suspects being handcuffed, at least one of the victims was afraid for the men to see her and was comforted by a victim's advocate.

The only words Hagood and Dinkins spoke during their hearings were affirmations to the questions asked by magistrate judge Larry Blanding, who set bond hearings for both suspects at 8:30 a.m. on Jan. 12 in general sessions court at Sumter County Judicial Center.

After the hearings, Patel's daughter — surrounded by her fiancé, brother and future father-in-law — thanked Sumter Police Department for its "wonder job" during the investigation.

And the community is the only reason both suspects were arrested, she said.

The family thought it would take months or years to catch the suspects, but thanks to the community, the search only lasted five days, she said.

It's unbelievable that the young suspects could carry weapons and do what they did, she said.

"I'm sure they feel guilty," she said, "they should."



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

The family of Vijaykumar Patel listens to questions from reporters after the first appearance hearing of Hagood and Dinkins at Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center on Friday.

She said her father — described as the family's No. 1 support system — was important to the community that he served.

"I'm sure my father is at peace," she said.

Patel's son — who traveled to Sum-

ter from India after hearing about his father's death — said the people of the Manning Avenue area accepted his family although they come from a different country and culture.

Everyone came together as humans, he said.

**FLU** FROM PAGE A1

report, with 3.72 percent of patient visits to reporting providers attributed to an influenza-like illness.

In Sumter County, the weekly influenza case rate as reported by DHEC is 29 per 100,000.

"We really want to stress the need for everyone to get their flu vaccine," Foo said. "Everyone six months of age and older."

That is especially important

for those people at higher risk, she said.

"Anyone over age 65, young kids and anyone with chronic medical conditions such as asthma, heart disease, diabetes or lung disease, those people have risks of complications," Foo said. "They can end up in the hospital or with pneumonia — those are most of our deaths."

Foo said the early season data also shows an unusual number of hospitalizations among people over age 65.

"Unfortunately, that is the

group that we see the most deaths each year," she said.

In addition to receiving an annual flu vaccination, South Carolinians are encouraged to take measures to avoid the flu:

- Stay away from people who are sick;
- Stay home from work, school and errands if you are sick;

• Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing;

• Use a tissue if one is handy, and throw it away immediately after use — otherwise, use the crook of your elbow;

• Wash your hands often and thoroughly; and

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

For information on the flu and where to get vaccinations, visit [www.scdhec.gov/flu](http://www.scdhec.gov/flu).

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## COMMENTARY

# Elizabeth Warren is a progressive fraud

BY DAVID FRENCH  
The National Review

My favorite Elizabeth Warren story involves a cookbook. Warren, who was at that time posing as a trailblazing Cherokee, actually contributed recipes to a recipe book with the name, I kid you not, “Pow Wow Chow.” But here’s the best part of the story. She plagiarized some of the recipes. Yes indeed, her version of “pow wow chow” came directly from a famous French chef.

My second-favorite Warren story involves breastfeeding. She once claimed to be the first “nursing mother” to take the New Jersey bar exam, making her, I suppose, the Jackie Robinson of lactating lawyers. The problem? There’s no evidence this is true. Women have been taking the New Jersey bar since 1895, and the New Jersey Judiciary was “not aware” whether they tracked the nursing habits of test-takers.

Warren is a bit of an academic grifter. She’s willing to fake her way to the top. When she came to Harvard Law School, she was — believe it or not — considered by some to be a “minority hire.” She listed herself as a minority on a legal directory reviewed by deans and hiring committees. The University of Pennsylvania “listed her as a minority faculty member,” and she was touted after her hire at Harvard Law School as, yes, the school’s “first woman of color.”

This was no small thing. At the time, elite universities were under immense pressure to diversify their faculties (as they still are). “More women”

was one command. “More women of color” was the ideal. At Harvard, the pressure was so intense that students occupied the administration building, and the open spaces of the school were often filled with screaming, chanting students. One of the law school’s leading black academics, a professor named Derek Bell, left the school to protest the lack of diversity on campus.

I remember it vividly. I was there. I arrived on campus in the fall of 1991, just after Bell left, and liberal activists were seething with outrage. They were demanding new hires, and the place almost boiled over when the school granted tenure to four white men. My classmate, Hans Bader, notes that the school wasn’t just under political pressure to make a “diversity” hire, but it was under legal pressure as well. The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination had issued a “probable cause finding” that the school had discriminated against a professor named Clare Dalton when it denied her tenure. In Bader’s words, “Harvard’s faculty badly wanted to racially and sexually diversify their ranks to show their commitment to diversity, so that MCAD would not view future denials of tenure to unqualified minorities and women as being motivated by a discriminatory animus.”

No one can know whether Warren would have landed at Harvard without faking her ethnicity (Harvard of course denies her alleged minority status was a factor), but we do know that she spent years holding herself out as a Native American. We do know those claims were extremely dubi-

ous. We also know that she made those claims exactly at the time when they could most help a young career.

These facts would be bad enough, but the great Warren con doesn’t end there. Let’s take, for example, her signature work of academic scholarship. She made a name for herself in the pre-Obamacare years with a pair of studies claiming that medical bills were responsible for an extraordinary share of American bankruptcies. This research presented the Left with an ideal talking point. The American medical system wasn’t just broken, it was oppressing the little guy.

No doubt medical bills do drive some bankruptcies, but you wouldn’t know how many from Warren’s scholarship. As Megan McArdle points out in a detailed takedown in *The Atlantic*, Warren and her co-authors not only classified a “medical bankruptcy” as any bankruptcy that included at least \$1,000 in medical debt (in her 2001 paper) or \$5,000 (in her 2007 paper), their methodology was “quite explicitly designed to capture every case where medical bills, or medical loss of income, coexist with some other causal factor — but the medical issues are then always designated as causal in their discussion.”

Warren’s work even obscured the fact that medical bankruptcies fell dramatically between 2001 and 2007. McArdle noted, “This is, to put it mildly, sort of a problem for the thesis that exploding medical bills are shoving people into bankruptcy.”

McArdle’s conclusion was

devastating:

*Does this persistent tendency to choose odd metrics that inflate the case for some left wing cause matter? If Warren worked at a think tank, you’d say, “Ah, well, that’s the genre.” On the other hand, you’d also tend to regard her stuff with a rather beady eye. It’s unlikely to have been splashed across the headline of every newspaper in the United States. Her work gets so much attention because it comes from a Harvard professor. And this isn’t Harvard caliber material — not even Harvard undergraduate.*

It’s a neat trick Warren’s accomplished. She’s likely leveraged her fictional Native American heritage into a plum spot at Harvard Law School. She leveraged her Harvard job to foist garbage scholarship on a gullible media. And now she has leveraged all of that into a plum Senate seat, from which a multimillionaire Ivy League professor has recast herself as progressive populist heroine.

But it turns out that past ideologically convenient incompetence is a good predictor of future ideologically convenient incompetence. Her signature public achievement (aside from trash-talking Donald Trump on Twitter) is proposing and helping establish the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), an unconstitutional monstrosity that was designed to exist above and outside our nation’s system of checks and balances.

Last year, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled that the CFPB was “unconstitutionally structured.” Its opinion was not subtle. According to the Court,

*The CFPB’s concentration of enormous executive power in a single, unaccountable, unchecked Director not only departs from settled historical practice, but also poses a far greater risk of arbitrary decisionmaking and abuse of power, and a far greater threat to individual liberty, than does a multi-member independent agency.*

But wait, there’s more: *In short, when measured in terms of unilateral power, the Director of the CFPB is the single most powerful official in the entire U.S. Government, other than the President. Indeed, within his jurisdiction, the Director’s view of consumer protection law that prevails over all others. In essence, the Director is the President of Consumer Finance.*

The Constitution doesn’t provide for bureaucratic god-kings. The CFPB’s structure was rotten from its inception — more bad fruit from Warren’s poisonous tree.

Recently Donald Trump made headlines when he once again called Warren “Pocahontas.” This time in front of Navajo “code talkers” — heroic veterans of World War II. Outrage abounded, but it was disproportionate to the offense. Yes, Trump was rude, but Warren is still the primary offender here. The desire to lionize the victims of Trump’s wrath should blind no one to Elizabeth Warren’s progressive fraud.

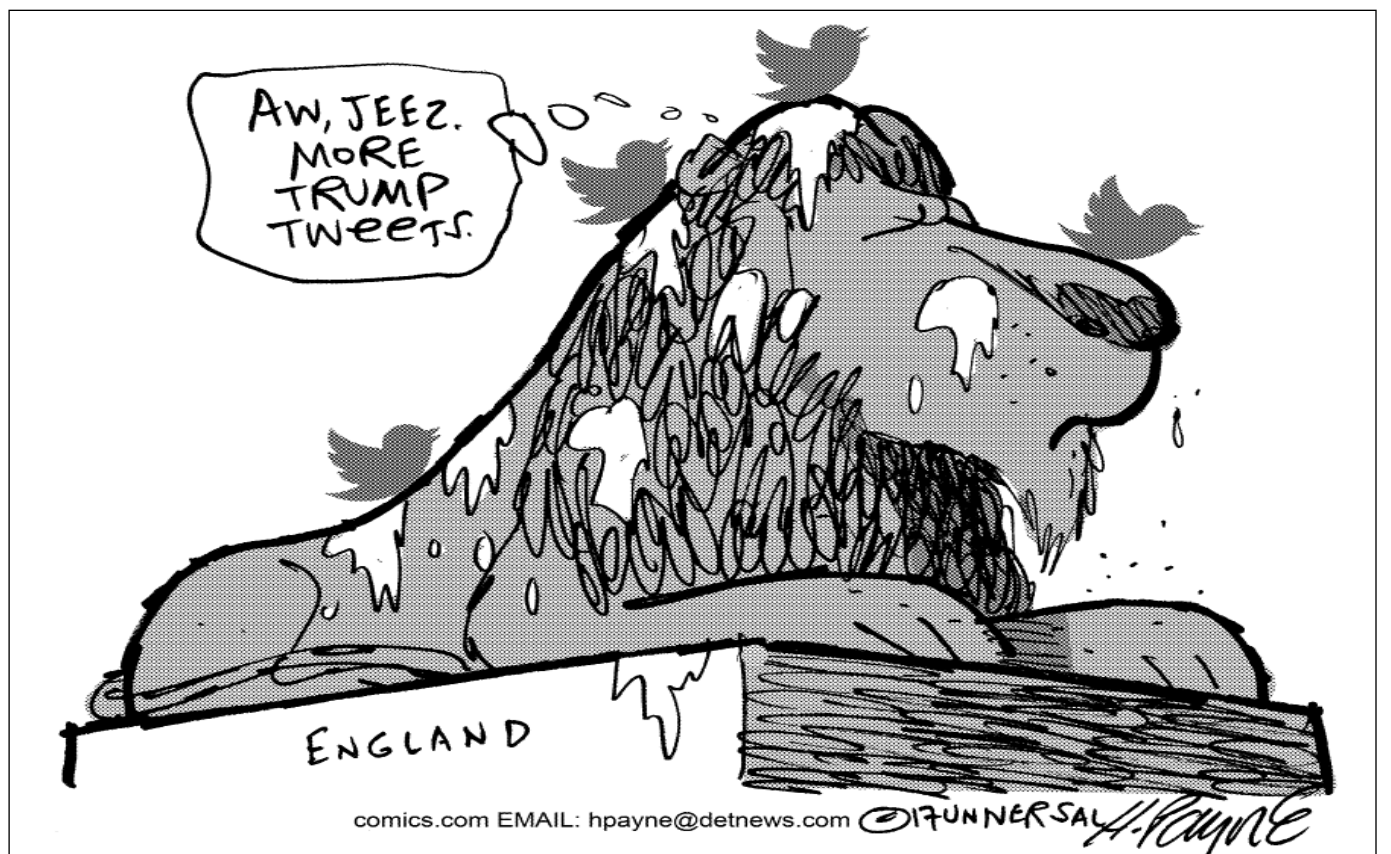
*David French is a senior writer for National Review, a senior fellow at the National Review Institute, and an attorney.*

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## COMMENTARY

# Small business owners oppose GOP tax plan

*Editor’s note: This originally ran in the Post and Courier as a letter to the editor on Nov. 30.*

The verdict of small business owners is in for the GOP tax reform plans that would give a permanent 43 percent tax cut to big corporations. That includes the Senate version possibly being voted on this week.

While bipartisanship has been absent in the tax reform plans, a national poll released recently by Businesses for Responsible Tax Reform finds that Republican, Democrat and independent small business owners overwhelmingly believe that they are not

being treated fairly by the plans.

Only 20 percent support the GOP plans to make the tax cut for big corporations permanent but only temporary for small business owners. Fifty-eight percent oppose.

Only 20 percent support the GOP plans to allow corporations to continue to deduct state and local taxes while not allowing small business owners to do so. Sixty-nine percent oppose.

Only 24 percent think that the GOP plans put small businesses on a level playing field with big businesses. Sixty percent disagree.

As a result, a majority of small business owners (51 percent) oppose the tax plans

in Congress. Support — 34 percent, not sure — 15 percent.

Here are some more of the poll results that should be setting off alarms in the U.S. Senate:

- Small businesses are harmed when large corporations can exploit tax loopholes to lower their tax rates. Seventy percent agree, 23 percent disagree, 7 percent unsure.

- Large corporations should not be able to choose to declare some or all their income in a foreign country to lower their taxes. Seventy-two percent agree, 20 percent disagree, 9 percent unsure.

- The tax plans increase the national debt by \$1.5 trillion

over the next 10 years. Do you support or oppose? Sixty-one percent oppose, 28 percent support, 12 percent not sure.

These proposals are a giant giveaway to big businesses and the wealthy and if passed will have serious and long-lasting ramifications for the majority of small business owners in this country — the very people creating new jobs and bolstering local economies.

Congressional efforts to quickly pass tax reform are clearly not in the best interest of small businesses. It is time for Washington to step back from doing the bidding of large corporations and focus on the needs of small

businesses.

Tax reform that simplifies the tax code and helps level the playing field for small businesses, while growing our economy by putting more money in the hands of the Main Street consumer, should be the goal. It’s time for Congress to scrap the current proposals and start over by writing tax reform in a bipartisan manner that allows input from all parties and restores regular order for developing legislation.

*Frank Knapp Jr.  
CEO and president  
S.C. Small Business Chamber  
of Commerce  
Gervais Street  
Columbia*

**RAYMOND E. MCINTOSH**

PINEWOOD — Raymond Eldrid McIntosh, 91, husband of Margaret Smith McIntosh, died on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, at his residence.

Born on Nov. 14, 1926, in Sumter, he was a son of the late William Lockette McIntosh and

Minnie Lee Evans McIntosh. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather. He was a member of Pinewood Baptist Church, where he was a member of the Forever Young Men's Sunday school class; a member of Manning Masonic Lodge; a former member of the Clarendon Hall School Board of Trustees; a member of the Saints Hall of Fame; and a former trustee of Brewington Presbyterian Church. He was a retired farmer.

He is survived by his second wife; two sons, Benny Ray McIntosh (Lois) and Leslie B. McIntosh (Elaine), both of Pinewood; one daughter, Sharon M. Lamb (Cecil) of Sumter; two stepchildren, Kelly Smith (Paul) of Sumter and Rhonda Harris (David) of Pinewood; two sisters, Eleanor M. Brunson of Summerton / Kingstree and Annetta Heath of Sumter; five grandchildren, Van Thames (Jennifer) and Chris Lamb (Jesseca), both of Sumter, and Benny McIntosh (Tracy), Travis McIntosh (Cyndi) and Joseph McIntosh (Christina), all of Pinewood; 19 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; four step-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife of 58 years, Gernell McLeod McIntosh; an infant daughter; a daughter, Gloria Jean McIntosh Thames; a son-in-law, Harold Thames; his only granddaughter, Teresa Elizabeth Thames Browder; three brothers, William McIntosh, H.L. McIntosh and Arthur McIntosh; and one sister, Elise M. Grant.

A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. today at Pinewood Baptist Church with the Rev. Bennie Barwick, assisted by the Rev. Casey Connors officiating. Burial will follow at Brewington Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Benny Ray McIntosh, Leslie McIntosh, Van Thames, Wayne Browder, Benny McIntosh, Chris Lamb, Travis McIntosh and Joseph McIntosh.

Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Forever Young Men's Sunday school class of Pinewood Baptist Church.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from 2 to 3 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Pinewood Baptist Church and other times at the home, 1675 Reynolds Road, Pinewood, SC 29125.

Memorials may be made to Pinewood Baptist Church, P.O. Box 176, Pinewood, SC 29125-0176 or Clarendon Hall, P.O. Box 609, Summerton, SC 29148-0609.

The family would like to extend special thanks to his caregivers, Gail Cannon, Carrie Freeman, Tina Medina and Embrace Hospice.

Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church St., Manning, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 435-2179. [www.stephensfuneralhome.org](http://www.stephensfuneralhome.org)

**REV. RICHARD W. HUDSON SR.**

The Rev. Richard Whitfield Hudson Sr., age 91, beloved husband of 53 years to the

late Alice Lewis Hudson, died on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017.

Born in Sumter, he was a son of the late Henry Whitfield Hudson and Lillie

Evans Hudson. He was a member of Southside Baptist Church. Richard was a 1943 graduate of Edmunds High School. He received an electrical engineering degree from Clemson A&M College in 1950 and received his divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1963. He spent three and half years in the United States Navy, serving during World War II in the Pacific Theater. Richard held

a Class A Teaching Certificate in mathematics and taught at Clarendon Hall, The Christian Academy, Furman High School and Central Carolina Technical College. Richard retired as chief of the engineering section of the civil engineering squadron of Shaw Air Force Base after 27 years of federal service. He was a master electrician and a licensed electrical contractor. He served as pastor of Paxville Baptist Church, Home Branch Baptist Church, Dalzell Baptist Church, Wedgefield Baptist Church and Calvary Bible Church. He also served as interim pastor of many churches in Sumter and Clarendon County. Richard dearly loved his family and the churches he served.

He is survived by two sons, Richard Whitfield Hudson Jr. and his wife, Zenda, of Sumter and Raymond Andrew Hudson of Greenville; one daughter, Lillie Angeline Thompson and her husband, Dr. Samuel C. Thompson, of Sumter; four grandchildren, Michael Hudson and his wife, Tracy, of Lancaster, Tracy Strickland of Dalzell, Joseph Curt Hudson and his wife, Shannon, of Sumter and Kevin Bozeman and his wife, Tonya, of Sumter; nine great-grandchildren, Sara Grace Hudson, Sally Hudson, Josh Strickland, Noah Strickland, Leslie Strickland, Santana Hardee, Katie Hudson, Zachary Cagle and Slade Bozeman; and a large number of nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Kathryn Dulce Hudson; three brothers, Lester A. Hudson, Samuel Benson Hudson and Louis David Hudson; and two sisters, Retus Hudson Grooms Jackson and Bessie Lee Hudson Player.

A funeral service will be held at 4 p.m. today at Bullock Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Dr. Samuel C. Thompson officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery with military honors.

The family will receive friends from 2:30 to 4 p.m. today at Bullock Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to Unity Baptist Church, 4000 U.S. 15 South, Sumter, SC 29150.

You may go to [www.bullockfuneralhome.com](http://www.bullockfuneralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**MARY LUE S. SINGLETON**

SIMPSONVILLE — Mary Lue Salters Singleton, 103, widow of Obie Singleton Sr., died on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017, at McCall Hospice House, Simpsonville.

She was born on Dec. 25, 1913, in the Sugar Hill community of

Manning, a daughter of the late Reese Napoleon and Lula Dixon Salters.

Funeral services for Mrs. Singleton will be held at 1 p.m. today at Mount Sinai FBH Church, Manning. Burial will follow at Scarborough Cemetery, Manning.

The family is receiving friends at her residence, 320 Canal St., Manning.

Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning is in charge of arrangements.

**JOSHUA D. NEVILLE**

Joshua Daniel Neville, age 36, died on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017.

Born in Orangeburg, he was a son of Daniel E. and Anita Faye McInnis Neville. Josh was a great student throughout his childhood and was a member of his high school

band, where he was honored to have performed in Washington. He was a loving father, who adored his children. He was a great debater and loved to talk about politics. He was known for his soft-spoken and kind words. He enjoyed racing

and working on cars. He had a deep-rooted belief in God. He was loved by all his family and will be remembered as a very loving father, son, brother and friend. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Surviving in addition to his parents are four children, Isaac Alexander Neville, Joshua Daniel Neville Jr., Ember McKenzie Neville and Skyler Raine Neville; stepmother, Giner Neville; four brothers, Jonathon Walter Neville, Jason Ronald Neville and his wife, Melissa, both of Sumter, and Enoch Matthew Neville and his wife, Yukimi, of Columbia; three sisters, Anna Katelin Neville of Sumter, Lisa Marie Cluff and her husband, Ryan, of Arizona and Georgia Leanne Youngblood and her husband, Michael, of Texas; and maternal grandparents, Walter Mac McInnis and Frances Faye McInnis.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Ronald Bernard Neville and Patricia Ann Neville.

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

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, one hour prior to the service, at Bullock Funeral Home.

You may go to [www.bullockfuneralhome.com](http://www.bullockfuneralhome.com) and sign the family's guest book.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**ROBERT O. FERRELL**

Robert "Bob" Olin Ferrell, husband of Judith Comley Ferrell, died on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born May 27, 1949, in Marietta, Georgia, he was the son of Hazel Saine Ferrell and the late Troy Stephen Ferrell. He

attended Kennesaw College and moved to Sumter in 1979. He was the engineering manager at H & R Metals and Sumter Metal Products division of EnerSys Delaware.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Andrew Stephen Ferrell (Brittany Hatfield), of Knoxville, Tennessee, and David Thomas Ferrell (Ryane Kinder), of Sumter; his daughter, Rebecca Lynne Ferrell, of Sumter; two beloved grandsons, Morgan Shane Ferrell and Jaxson Benning Ferrell; and his mother.

He was preceded in death by his father and two brothers, Stephen Troy Ferrell and Paul Thomas Ferrell.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday at Alice Drive Baptist Church with the Rev. Canon D. Joseph Rhodes and the Rev. Jock Hendricks officiating. Burial will follow in Sumter Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Woody Woodruff, Steve Catoe, Brian Gerlt, Rusty Dixon, David Thrower, Harold Hicks, Jay Britton and Bryan Hatfield.

The family will receive friends from 1-2 p.m. Monday at Alice Drive Baptist Church.

Memorials may be made to the Open Door Offering (Benevolence) of Alice Drive Baptist Church, 1305 Loring Mill Road, Sumter, SC, 29150.

**BARBARA ANN B. DUBOSE**

Funeral services for Barbara Ann Byrd DuBose, 87, who died peacefully on Friday,

Dec. 1, 2017, will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday at Bethlehem United Methodist Church. The Rev. Larry Watson and the Rev. Curtis DuBose will

officiate with burial to follow in Cypress Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 4-6 p.m. today at Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home. Flowers will be accepted, or memorials may be made to Bethlehem United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 167, Bishopville, SC, 29010 or Amedisys Hospice Care of South Carolina, 198 E. Westmark Blvd., Suite 2, Sumter, SC, 29150.

She was born on January

25, 1930, in Hartsville, a daughter of the late Ed and Marie Byrd. A graduate of Hartsville High School, she received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Winthrop College in 1951. She married the late Max Sheldon DuBose Sr. in 1953. She taught history at Bishopville High School, Bishopville Grammar School and Robert E. Lee Academy. She was a lifetime member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church in Bishopville. She had a special love for the beach, spending time with her family and the Clemson Tigers.

She is survived by her daughter, Marie (Pete) Player, of Bishopville; son, Max (Ginny) DuBose Jr., of Charleston; six grandchildren, Kayla and Kyle Player, both of Bishopville, Tyler (Joseph) Hardin, of Charlotte, North Carolina; and Bryce, Hunter and Heath DuBose, all of Charleston. The family would like to thank all of the nurses, aides and staff of Covenant Place and the staff of Amedisys Hospice Care.

**GEORGE S. WHAM**

HIGHTSTOWN, NJ — George Sims Wham, 97, a resident of Hightstown and East

**WHAM**

Windsor for 65 years, passed away in the comfort of his home on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017. He was born in Laurens on Jan. 27, 1920 and raised

in nearby Mountville. He was the middle child of seven.

After graduating ROTC from Clemson University in 1941, he served his country as a U.S. Army officer from 1941-46 during World War II and attained the rank of major. As Company Commander, 28th Infantry Regiment, 8th Infantry Division, he was shot in the neck on July 8, 1944, during the early stage of the successful Allied/U.S. Army breakout near La Haye du Paris, Normandy, France. He was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action "while leading his company's attack in the face of intense enemy artillery and machine gun fire." The accompanying citation continues: "Disdaining medical attention, Capt. Wham remained with his men and continued to lead the attack."

He was wounded again on Dec. 7, 1944 in the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest near Komerscheidt, Germany. This was an area the Germans were probing just prior to their attack to commence the Battle of the Bulge. He was subsequently awarded the Bronze Star.

For his combat injuries, he received the Purple Heart with bronze oak leaf cluster. Additional service medals included the American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three bronze service stars, World War II Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal with Germany clasp, Combat Infantryman Badge First Award and Honorable Service Lapel Button WWII. Notably, he was present and participated in the discovery and liberation of the Nazi concentration camp near Wobbelin. After receiving the surrender of major German forces at Schwerin in early May 1945, he served as economics officer in the U.S. Sector Military Occupation and Government at Karlsruhe into the fall of 1945. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army reserves in February 1953.

After the war, he completed a Master's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Tennessee in 1947 and then earned a PhD in Textile Chemistry from Penn State University in 1951. It was at the University of Tennessee where he met Beth Keeler, who was from Hightstown, New Jersey. They were married on Sept. 13, 1947.

He worked for the Hearst Corporation in New York City's Manhattan for 40 years, where he was vice president and technical director of the Good Housekeeping Magazine Institute. He and his co-workers were responsible for the technical evaluation and testing processes by which client companies earned the Good

Housekeeping Seal of Approval for their consumer products. He was recognized as an international expert in consumer product performance, testing and safety standards.

He, while at Good Housekeeping, assumed leadership roles with the American Association Textile Chemists and Colorists (president, 1975-76, Harold C. Chapin award) and the American National Standards Institute (chairman, 1986-88; Board of Directors, 1978-88; Howard Coonley medal, 1985; George S. Wham Leadership medal, 1990; Consumer Council, chairman, 1985; U.S. Delegation Leader, International Standards Conferences, 1968, 1971, 1986, 1987; chairman, Textile Standards Board, 1966-68). He received a distinguished service award from Underwriters Laboratories for 20 years of service to the Consumer Advisory Council. He was also an advisor to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Academy of Sciences and ASTM International. He was a guest lecturer at Purdue University, University of Maryland, Arizona State University, University of Connecticut, University of Delaware, Clemson University, University of Rhode Island and Michigan State University. He was a distinguished visiting professor at The University of North Carolina, 1987-1988.

He served locally on the Hightstown Town Council and the Hightstown School Board and was a member of the Cotterie Literary and Lions Clubs.

He is predeceased by his parents, George S. and Nellie (Mellette) Wham and four siblings, James Mellette Wham, Norman Wayne Wham, Eleanor James and Betty Wackerhagen. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Beth Keeler Wham; his children, Brent Wham and wife, Janet, of Paoli, Pennsylvania, Bonnie Prutow and husband, David, of Waikoloa, Hawaii, and Barry Wham and wife, Liz, of Robbinsville, New Jersey; his grandchildren, Michael, Scott and wife, Colleen, Lauren McKenna and husband, Greg, Erin, Brad, Amy Geiger and husband, Marty, and Christy; his great-grandchildren, Zoë, Avery and Finley; his siblings, Mary Wham James, of Sumter, and Robert Durant Wham of Pfafftown, North Carolina, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Interment will take place privately at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Hightstown. A public memorial service will be held on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at 300 Etra Road, Hightstown, NJ, 08520 (in the Meadow Lakes Community).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the Meadow Lakes Employee Education Fund, payable to Meadow Lakes Forum, with a memo denoting the Education Award Fund, 82 Meadow Lakes, Hightstown, NJ, 08520.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Glackin-Saul Funeral Home, 136 Morrison Ave., Hightstown, NJ, 08520.

**MARTHA LOU BRAILSFORD**

PINEWOOD — Martha Lou Brailsford, 70, died on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017, at her residence, 8572 Old River Road, Pinewood.

She was born on Dec. 24, 1946, in Rimini, a daughter of Richard and Lorena Richardson Brailsford.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her sister, Mae Richardson, 1267 Festival Drive, Summerton.

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

**JAMES D. HAMMETT**

MANNING — James Douglas Hammett, 86, widower of Lee Dupree Hammett and Sarah Jane Smith Hammett, died on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, at McLeod Regional Medical Center, Florence.

He was born on Feb. 21, 1931, in Manning, a son of the late Fredrick Douglas and Celia Elizabeth Samuels Hammett.

The family is receiving friends from 5 to 9 p.m. beginning today at his residence, 1845 Flinn Road, Manning.

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

## RUMPH FROM PAGE A1

arrived in Sumter barefooted.”

Scott Sr. made his way in turn-of-the-century Sumter and took over the local Western Union store on South Main Street at age 21.

“I’m not sure exactly what year,” he said, “you’ll have to get Sammy Way to figure that out.”

...

Scott Sr. started the Sumter Petroleum business on Harvin Street in 1934 with a T-Model Ford Truck.

“He carried 400 gallons of gas that they would deliver to local stores all over,” Rumph said.

He grew up driving those trucks, pumping gas and oil and developing relationships. With his innate mechanical abilities and curiosity, he could fix anything.

He graduated from Edmunds High School in 1945 after going through 11 grades and arrived at The Citadel in 1945 at age 16 along with fellow Sumterites W.A. McElveen, Ernest Stroman, Ray Segars and Jimmy Westbury. All would go on to shape Sumter’s progress for decades.

After an adventurous and successful academic career at The Citadel, which included hitchhiking from Charleston to Sumter and back on numerous occasions with “Ashby,” as he referred to Mayor Bubba, he “came back with a degree in Civil Engineering and built some houses on Maplewood, Frank Clarke, Westhaven and Wactor Street,” he said.

That’s when life ramped up.

He married the woman he loved, Dorothy “Dot” Broadwell, on April 29, 1950.

“I met her at 310 West Hampton Ave. when I was 13. Riding a bicycle and selling Script Ink from Galloway and Moseley. It was a Dayton Bicycle.”

His father died in 1951, which was the same year he began a 21-month Air Force military career that took him through Memphis, San Antonio, Hawaii and Korea.

He was responsible for “POL Ground Support” — Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants — primarily servicing the F-84, a single-engine fighter plane. He was a 2nd lieutenant, and “out of 150 people I was the only one who had ever seen a gas pump,” he said.

By 1953 he was out of the service and back to business in Sumter. Along the way came four children.

Scott III was born in 1951; next came Emily in 1954, Edwin in 1957 and Robert in 1963.

...

### THE PLANES

In 1946 he soloed with Sumter’s Phil Booth at age 18, and went on to log more than 7,000 hours owning and piloting a wide range of airplanes.

“I paid \$1.25 for 15 minutes of flying lessons, and I was hooked,” he said. “I had two Mooneys, six Beechcrafts with the twin engines, a King Air F90 for nine years and a Premier 1A for three years. I miss the jet,” he said.

...



Scott Rumph, and his wife, “Dot,” are shown in the earlier years of marriage.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



Rumph, center, began at The Citadel at age 16 in 1945.

### THE BUSINESSES

Rumph started, developed, bought and sold so many different businesses in his lifetime that even he had a hard time remembering them all.

A typical conversation turned into more of a list of names, and we’d often get off on tangents about what a certain business did, why it came about at the time and what became of it.

Here’s the basic list he usually reeled off:

Sumter Petroleum, Sumter Transport, Southeastern Chemical and Solvent, DriRex (dry cleaning supply), Palmetto Gas, Fort Sumter Petroleum, Rest Stop (never materialized, and that’s another story altogether), Gasoline Supermarket, North-South Petroleum, Market Express, STC Refinery Services, Kiln Direct, GRR (Giant Resource Recovery) and many others along the way.

...

### ANECDOTES & OBSERVATIONS

• When asked to define the attributes of how he judged a successful business opportunity, he was quick to write down four key points on a piece of scrap paper, which I have in my office:

1) Repeat customers; 2) High Margin; 3) Unlimited Territory; 4) Element of Monopoly

...

• Back to his love of calculators, particularly the Sinclair Calculator



S.W. Rumph, Scott’s father, stands in front of the Western Union on Main Street in 1911. Rumph was the manager of the store.



Rumph, left, is shown at his American gas station on Liberty Street in 1967.

(circa 1972) referenced at the beginning of this report: “Normally before you’d go into First Federal, it’d take you a month to figure out how much your payments were and all that. I could figure all that out and do a mortgage in a minute and a half. It was a simple calculator. It just blew my mind. I think I had the first one in South Carolina. My friend Laverne Griffin sent it to me.”

...

In case you missed it, LaVerne Griffin wrote a letter to the editor to *The Sumter Item* this week that I’ll include here because it’s worth re-reading:

*I am very sorry to learn of Scott Rumph’s death. He was one of my oldest friends, a man who had the respect of all who knew him, and a wonderful role model for our younger generation.*

*I always admired his ability to “think outside the box” and develop new and better ways to get the job done. Generous to a fault, always considerate of others, a charitable contributor to multiple causes, he will always be remembered for these positive traits.*

*He has inspired me to pursue such a lifestyle, and I shall miss him greatly. I am proud that I had something to do with inspiring him to learn to fly some 60 years ago.*

**LAVERNE GRIFFIN**  
Colonel, USAF, retired  
Portage, Wisconsin

...

Laverne Griffin is one of the most important American aviators in history. Google him yourself. He spent a lot of time in Sumter, South Carolina, living in a room at Scott’s mother’s house and running Shaw Air Force Base. And that was before he was spying on the Russians.

...

### EPILOGUE

Scott Rumph inspired all of us who were fortunate enough to know him in various ways. Among the most important is a person who knew him and his family for more than 40 years, and lived with Mr. Rumph the last two years of his life. Her name is Martha Ann Prince of Dabbs Crossroads, South Carolina.

Here’s what she told me:

“I lived with Mr. Rumph for over two years. He was a perfectionist, even down to how he liked his eggs cooked and how he liked his sheets pressed and turned on his bed a certain way. So he asked a lot, but he gave a lot. For example, he invited me down to his boat. I got up in the morning to make the beds. He said, ‘No Martha Ann, you are a guest here!’ He never saw himself above others. He was the most decent man I ever worked for.”

...

*If you have stories or memories about Mr. Rumph, please share them with me at [graham@theitem.com](mailto:graham@theitem.com).*

## OBITUARIES FROM PAGE A12

### JOSEPH L. FOHNER JR.

Joseph Lawrence “Jay” Fohner Jr., 88, husband of Gayle Turbeville Fohner,



FOHNER

passed away Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, at Covenant Place in Sumter. Born in Beaumont, Texas, to the late Joseph Lawrence and Julia Ruth Moore Fohner, he was a graduate of the University of Maryland and retired from the USAF after 20 years of active service as a navigator and meteorologist. Following his time in the military, he went on to enjoy a career in civil engineering and land surveying.

He loved being on the water and outdoors. Of all the boats he had, his prize was a sailboat named Fantasea on which he and Gayle lived and sailed for five years. They went everywhere from Annapolis to Granada. He made wonderful drawings of the people and places he visited. He was always kind and giving of himself. A strong Christian soldier, he was always thinking of others’ needs. A husband, father and friend to many, those who knew him will have many happy memories.

Surviving are his wife of 41 years; two sons, Joseph L. “Joe” Fohner III and Thomas A. “Tom” Fohner and wife Mary, of Omaha, Nebraska; and a daughter, Deborah S. Valez, of Chesapeake, Virginia; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

In addition to his parents,

he was predeceased by his first wife, Addie B. Fohner; and two sisters, Anna May Bunker and Ellen Ballsmith.

Memorial services will be 1 p.m. Wednesday at The Church of the Holy Comforter with the Rev. John Sosnowski and the Rev. Canon D. Joseph Rhodes officiating.

The family will receive friends from 2-3 p.m. Wednesday in the church parish hall. Burial will follow the visitation in Sumter Cemetery with full military honors.

The family is at the home.

If you would like to make a memorial, please consider The Church of the Holy Comforter, 213 N. Main St., Sumter, SC, 29150, or to The American Cancer Society, 128 Stone Mark Lane, Columbia, SC, 29210.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.sumterfunerals.com](http://www.sumterfunerals.com).

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



**ELMORE HILL MCCREIGHT FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY**

### RICHARD SWINTON

Richard “Peter” Swinton entered eternal rest on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017, at his residence on South Main Street, Sumter.

He was born on Dec. 2, 1946, a son of the late Richard and Julia Mae James Swinton. Peter or Pete, as he was fondly called, received his education in the public schools of Sum-

ter County. He worked at Pioneer for many years and was later employed with Gold Kist, where he retired from in 2006.

Peter committed his life to Christ at an early age. He first attended Salem Baptist Church, Sumter, for many years. He later became a member of Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church and was a devoted and faithful member until his death. He was also a faithful and loyal member of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Golden Age Ministry and the kitchen committee. Peter was a dedicated member of the choir and other ministries as well. Peter loved the Lord, his family and church members. He was an honest and straightforward person in his interactions with everyone. He was there for anyone who needed help and spiritual encouragement.

Peter was a great singer and loved singing with the church choir. He will be sorely missed but never forgotten by his family, friends, church and community.

He leaves behind: uncles, Benjamin (Dollie) Swinton of Sumter, Roosevelt (Naomi) Swinton of Sumter, Harry (Daisy) Swinton of Huntsville, Alabama, and Robert Lee (Genevieve) Swinton of Portsmouth, Virginia; sister, Thomasina Swinton of Sumter; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Edward “Bubba” Swinton and Allen Swinton; and four sisters, Lucille “Cille” Swinton, Mary Lee Ramsey, Janie Mae Swinton and Loretta Isaac.

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

Mr. Swinton will be placed in the church at 11 a.m. on Monday until the hour of service.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Monday at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Marion H. Newton officiating. Interment will follow at Walker Cemetery.

The family will be receiving friends at the home of his nephew, 35 Albert Spears Drive, Sumter.

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

Online memorials may be sent to the family at [jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com](mailto:jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com) or visit us on the web at [www.jobsmortuary.net](http://www.jobsmortuary.net).

### JO ELLEN M. BROOKS

Jo Ellen Maxson Combs Brooks, 82, widow of Richard T. Combs and Linsay Brooks, died Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born in Cumberland, Maryland, she was a daughter of the late Lawrence Maxson and Esther Robinson Maxson. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother.

Survivors include one son, Richard Dale Combs (Meng), of San Diego, California; three daughters, Nancy Beben (Leslie), Tammy Stone (Charles), and Kimberly Combs, all of Sumter; 10 grandchildren, Jeremy Beben (Brenda), Thomas Beben (Monica), Aaron Beben, Matthew Beben, Jade Frilles (Chris), Jasmine Combs, Richard J. Combs, Bryant Stone, Nate Stone (Beth), and Elizabeth Stone; seven great-grandchildren, Hannah, Austin, Grace, Jaden, Kenji, Huntley and Alex; one aunt, Edna Weisenmiller, of Keyser, West Virgin-

ia; a sister-in-law, Jane Maxson, of Rigeley, West Virginia; a number of special nieces and nephews; and other special family and grandchildren in Savannah, Georgia.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Paul Goff officiating.

The family will receive friends from 3-4 p.m. Tuesday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, 5808 Brookland Drive.

Memorials may be made to the Tuomey Foundation, 102 N. Main St., Sumter, SC, 29150, or the ETV Endowment of South Carolina, 401 E. Kennedy St., Suite B-1, Spartanburg, SC, 29302.

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

### JULIA S. BRUNSON

Julia S. Brunson, 94, died on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017, at Pruitt Health Care Hospice in Ridgeway.

Born in Sumter County, she was a daughter of the late Edgar and Annie Sharpe. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc.

### JIMMIE DOW

MANNING — Jimmie Dow, 64, died Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, at his residence, 1252 Joseph Lemon Dingle Road, Manning. He was born Feb. 24, 1953, in Manning, a son of the late Charlie Dow and Mary Gilyard Dow.

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



## CLEMSON FOOTBALL



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clemson running back Adam Choice (26) runs against Miami during the second half of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game on Saturday in Charlotte.

# No doubt about it

## Tigers score on 1st 3 possessions, earn 3rd straight CFP berth

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

CHARLOTTE — The Clemson Tigers quickly alleviated any doubts on Saturday as to whether they would be going to their third straight College Football Playoff.

Clemson scored on its first three possessions of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game against Miami and never looked back. It led 21-0 at halftime on the way to a 38-0 victory at Bank of America Stadium.

The Tigers improved to 12-1 on the season in winning its third straight ACC title. Clemson secured a spot in the CFP with the win; now it waits until this afternoon to see if it will still be seeded No. 1 when the four teams are announced.

The Hurricanes, who could have earned a CFP berth with a victory, instead suffered their second straight loss. Miami, which is now 10-2, awaits its bowl

fate today.

Tiger quarterback Kelly Bryant had a big game, completing 23 of 29 passes for 252 yards and one touchdown. He completed passes to 10 different receivers. Wide receiver Ray-Ray McCloud had six catches for 100 yards.

Bryant actually connected on his first 15 passes of the game and was 15-for-20 for 164 yards. Five of the completions went to wide receiver Ray-Ray.

Clemson outgained Miami 231-64 in total yards in the first half, picking up 12 first downs to just three for the Canes. Miami finished with just 214 yards of offense and 10 first downs.

After Miami won the toss and deferred, Clemson took the opening kickoff and drove 68 yards on 10 plays for a touchdown. Running back Travis Etienne scored on a 4-yard run and place-kicker Alex Spence booted

SEE ACC, PAGE B3



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clemson's Adam Choice (26) runs against Miami during the second half of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship NCAA college football game.

## USC MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Silva gets hot late, Carolina beats UMass

COLUMBIA (AP) — Freshman Justin Minaya scored 17 points, Chris Silva had 12 of his 14 points in the second half and South Carolina defeated UMass 76-70 on Saturday.

Silva, coming off a two-point performance in a Thursday loss to Temple at Madison



SILVA

Square Garden, was in foul trouble for most of the game. He and Maik Kotsar entered the game with 5:40 remaining with four fouls apiece and Silva delivered

back-to-back dunks in 34 seconds to put USC up by six.

The Minutemen cut the advantage to two with 19.4 seconds remaining on a 3-pointer by Carl Pierre, but Hassani Gravett made four straight free throws to seal it.

Gravett finished with 14 points for South Carolina (6-2), while freshman Felipe Haase chipped in 11.

"The job me and my staff are doing right now is pathetic," South Carolina coach Frank Martin said. "We regressed this week. We're a worse basketball team than we were eight days ago. That's my job to make sure that doesn't happen."

Luwane Pipkins led UMass (3-5) with 25 and Pierre added 12. The Minutemen have lost four straight.

"I thought our guys were prepared. I thought our guys were excited. I thought they were ready to play . but, in order to win a game like this, it starts with your approach every single day," UMass coach Matt McCall said.

### UP NEXT

UMass returns home following a four-game road stretch to host Holy Cross on Wednesday. It is the first of five straight home games.

The Gamecocks host Wyoming on Wednesday in their second of a three-game home stand.

## PREP BASKETBALL

# Sumter boys, girls get past Knights



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Tyree Smalls, left, drives to the basket in the Gamecocks' 53-40 victory over Crestwood on Saturday at the SHS gymnasium.

### BY EDDIE LITAKER

Special to The Sumter Item

It was a tale of two halves on Saturday as Sumter High School's varsity girls basketball team outscored Crestwood 21-9 in the third quarter and continued to pull away down the stretch, erasing a 19-12 halftime deficit to come away with a 48-32 victory at

the SHS gymnasium.

"We talked about it at halftime and we made a couple of little adjustments," said SHS interim head coach Jeff Schaffer, whose team ran its record to 2-1. "The biggest thing in the first half was we could have been standing at the beach and not hit the ocean if we had been there. I told them you missed a lot of

shots, I said we've got to get to the rim in the second half and maybe get them in a little bit of foul trouble. So we started attacking the basket a little bit more."

Crestwood's offense revolved around Destinee Jamison, who had eight of her team's 19 first-half points and

SEE SHS, PAGE B3

## SEC CHAMPIONSHIP



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Georgia running back Nick Chubb (27) runs against Auburn during the second half of the Bulldogs' 28-7 victory in the Southeastern Conference championship game on Saturday in Atlanta.

# No. 6 Georgia makes playoff bid, routs No. 4 Auburn 28-7

ATLANTA (AP) — Shaking off a blowout loss to Auburn just three weeks ago, Jake Fromm threw two touchdown passes and No. 6 Georgia made its bid for a spot in the College Football Playoff with a 28-7 victory over the No. 4 Tigers in the Southeastern Conference championship game Saturday.

Auburn (10-3) was the

hottest team in the country, rolling into Atlanta after wins over Georgia and then-No. 1 Alabama in its last three games. But the Tigers were stymied by two crucial turnovers, a blocked field goal and a Georgia team eager to make up for its embarrassing 40-17 defeat on the Plains.

SEE SEC, PAGE B2

SPORTS ITEMS

# Morgan helps Wofford top Furman 28-10

SPARTANBURG — Blake Morgan had one touchdown rushing and another receiving and seventh-seeded Wofford defeated Southern Conference rival Furman 28-10 on Saturday in the second round of the FCS playoffs.

Chase Nelson and Miller Mosley also ran for touchdowns for the Terriers (10-2), who beat the Paladins (8-5) 24-23 in the season opener by intercepting a two-point conversion attempt in the final minute.

Wofford plays at second-seeded North Dakota State in the quarterfinals next weekend.

Morgan scored on a 5-yard run in the first quarter and a 33-yard catch-and-run connection from Brandon Goodson in the second quarter after Furman had taken the lead. Goodson finished 8 of 11 for 88 yards.

Nelson scored in the third quarter and Mosley in the fourth, both on 2-yard runs. Wofford finished with 291 yards on the ground.

Furman finished with 309 yards, 257 through the air as

P.J. Blazejowski completed 18 of 30 passes, including a 20-yard touchdown pass to Logan McCarter for a 10-7 lead.

**HOFFMAN BUILDS 5-SHOT LEAD AS WOODS FADES IN BAHAMAS**

NASSAU, Bahamas — Charley Hoffman handled the blustery conditions with a 2-under 70 for a five-shot lead in the Hero World Challenge as Tiger Woods fell 10 shots behind.

The wind was the strongest it has been all week at Albany Golf Club, and it took the air out of hopes that Woods' return to competition would find him in the mix at his holiday tournament. Instead, Woods shot 40 on the front nine, didn't make a birdie until the 14th hole and wound up with a 75.

Hoffman overcame a double bogey from a wild tee shot on No. 10 by closing with three birdies over his last five holes. His 70 matched the best round of the day, and only three other players broke par.

Hoffman was at 14-under 202.

**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PLAYER-COLLAPSES IN LOSS AT N.C. STATE**

RALEIGH, N.C. — A South Carolina State player collapsed on the court and was taken to a hospital during the first half of the Bulldogs' 103-71 loss at North

Team spokesman Kendrick Lewis said Tyvoris Solomon was "stable and conscious." Emergency medical personnel administered chest compressions before he was removed from the court on a stretcher.

Solomon collapsed near the bench at the 13:08 mark. The arena went silent. Cries rang out from people around the Bulldogs' bench as staff members fanned Solomon with a jacket.

The game resumed after a 40-minute delay. Lewis said S.C. State coach Murray Garvin went with Solomon to the hospital. Assistant Rio Pitt led the team for the rest of the game.

Lennard Freeman scored 19 points and Omer Yurtseven added 17 to lead the Wolfpack (7-2).

Donte Wright scored 16 points and Rayshawn Neal had 12 for the Bulldogs (1-7).

**(2) OKLAHOMA 41 (10) TCU 17**

ARLINGTON, Texas — Baker Mayfield threw four touchdowns and No. 2 Oklahoma staked claim to a playoff spot with a 41-17 win over No. 10 TCU in the return of the Big 12 championship game Saturday.

With their record 11th Big 12 title, the Sooners (12-1, No. 3 CFP) are a lock to in the College Football Playoff for the second time in three seasons. They are the only Big 12 team to make the four-team playoff format that started in 2014.

Oklahoma jumped out to a quick 17-0 lead, including Caleb Kelly's 18-yard fumble return for a touchdown after running back Kyle Hicks' turnover on the first offensive play by TCU (10-3, No. 11).

Kenny Hill threw two TD passes to get the Horned Frogs within 24-17 at halftime,

but Oklahoma scored twice on its first three offensive plays after the break.

**(12) UCF 49 (12) MEMPHIS 42**

ORLANDO, Fla. — Central Florida for the second straight week prevailed in a shootout on its home field.

The 12th-ranked Knights captured the American Athletic Conference championship on Saturday as they defeated No. 16 Memphis 62-55 in double overtime. It is the Knights' third AAC crown in the past five years.

They won the East Division last Friday with a 49-42 win over South Florida.

It was a wild game and quite possibly the last at UCF for coach Scott Frost. After it was over, the second-year coach and Nebraska native was asked about reports that he would become the Cornhuskers next coach.

Frost, fighting back tears, said: "I'm going to go celebrate with my team."

*From staff and wire reports.*

**SEC** FROM PAGE B1

Nick Chubb, Sony Michel and freshman D'Andre Swift provided a much more effective running game for Georgia than the first meeting, which opened up things for the freshman quarterback. Fromm completed 16 of 22 passes for 183 yards, including a 2-yard touchdown to Isaac Nauta in the second quarter and a 6-yarder to Terry Godwin with just over 13 minutes remaining that essentially sealed Georgia's victory.

The Bulldogs claimed their first SEC title since 2005 and capped an impressive rise in Kirby Smart's second

season as coach. Georgia went 8-5 a year ago, but Nick Saban's former defensive coordinator insisted he was establishing a culture that would return the team to national prominence.

It happened in Year 2. Georgia (12-1), which was No. 6 in the latest CFP standings, will surely move into the top four after its dominating performance against the Tigers. Auburn was ranked second in the CFP poll but managed only 259 yards after piling up 488 in the Nov. 11 rout.

Swift, another impressive Georgia freshman, finished off the Georgia's rout by breaking loose for a 64-yard touchdown run with 10:34 remaining. The Georgia line opened up a huge hole

through the left side, receiver Javon Wims made a key block on the perimeter and Swift dashed to the end zone without being touched, sending the Georgia fans into a raucous celebration that figured to go on well into the night.

Swift rushed for 88 yards, Chubb had 77 and Michel added 45. In the first game, Chubb was held to 27 and Michel 21 — the lowest outputs of the season.

Auburn started out the game like it was headed for another big win.

The Tigers moved 75 yards in 10 plays, capped by Jarrett Stidham's 6-yard scoring pass to Nate Craig-Myers. Early in the second quarter, Auburn pushed into position to extend its lead, facing second-and-6 at the Georgia 14.

That's when the game suddenly turned. Stidham dropped back to throw, couldn't find anyone open and didn't sense Davin Bellamy coming up behind him. The Georgia linebacker stripped the ball away and Roquan Smith fell on it for the Bulldogs at the 16.

Georgia drove the other way for the tying score and tacked on the first of two field goals by Rodrigo Blankenship for a 10-7 lead at the half.

Auburn wasted another scoring opportunity in the third quarter when Daniel Carlson's 31-yard field-goal attempt was blocked by DaQuan Hawkins-Muckle. Then, trailing 13-7, another turnover on the first play of the fourth quarter finished off the Tigers.

**SCOREBOARD**

**TV, RADIO**

**TODAY**  
**8:25 a.m.** — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — Southampton vs. Bournemouth (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**9:30 a.m.** — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Eintracht Frankfurt vs. Hertha Berlin (FOX SPORTS 1, UNIVISION).  
**10:55 a.m.** — International Soccer: English Premier League Match — West Ham vs. Manchester City (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**11 a.m.** — PGA Golf: Hero World Challenge Final Round from New Providence, Bahamas (GOLF).  
**Noon** — College Football: College Football Playoff Selection Show (ESPN).  
**Noon** — Women's College Soccer: NCAA College Cup Championship Match from Orlando, Fla. (ESPN).  
**Noon** — Women's College Basketball: Duke at South Carolina (SEC NETWORK, WNKT-FM 107.5).  
**Noon** — International Soccer: Bundesliga League Match — Borussia Monchengladbach vs. Wolfsburg (FOX SPORTS 1, UNIVISION).  
**1 p.m.** — PGA Golf: Hero World Challenge Final Round from New Providence, Bahamas (WIS 10).  
**1 p.m.** — NFL Football: New England at Buffalo (WLTN 19).  
**1 p.m.** — NFL Football: Minnesota at Atlanta (WACH 57).  
**2 p.m.** — College Basketball: Tulane at North Carolina (ESPN2).  
**2 p.m.** — College Basketball: Central Florida at Alabama (ESPN).  
**2 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Stanford at Baylor (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**2 p.m.** — Professional Basketball: NBA G-League Game — Raptors 905 at Long Island (NBA TV).  
**2 p.m.** — College Basketball: Oklahoma State at Mississippi State (SEC NETWORK).  
**3 p.m.** — College Basketball: Mississippi Valley State at Oklahoma State (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).  
**3 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Florida at Oklahoma (FOX SPORTSOUTH).  
**3 p.m.** — College Basketball: North Carolina-Asheville at Clemson (WWBD-FM 94.7).  
**4 p.m.** — NFL Football: Carolina at New Orleans (WLTN 19, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).  
**4 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Notre Dame at Connecticut (ESPN).  
**4 p.m.** — College Basketball: Seton Hall at Louisville (ESPN2).  
**4 p.m.** — Women's International Hockey: United States vs. Canada (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**4 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Texas at Georgia (SEC NETWORK).  
**4:30 p.m.** — College Basketball: Nebraska at Michigan State (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**6 p.m.** — College Basketball: Tennessee at Georgia Tech (ESPN).  
**7 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: San Antonio at Oklahoma City (NBA TV).  
**6:30 p.m.** — College Basketball: Coppin State at Georgetown (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**8 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: West Virginia at Texas A&M (ESPN).  
**8 p.m.** — College Basketball: Dayton at Mississippi State (SEC NETWORK).  
**8:20 p.m.** — NFL Football: Philadelphia at Seattle (WIS 10, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).  
**9:30 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Houston at Los Angeles Lakers (NBA TV).

**MONDAY**  
**11 a.m.** — Professional Golf: Ladies European Tour The Queens Second Round (GOLF).  
**6:05 p.m.** — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).  
**6:30 p.m.** — College Basketball: Michigan at Ohio State (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**7 p.m.** — College Basketball: Wisconsin at Penn State (ESPN2).  
**7 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Orlando at Charlotte (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).  
**7:30 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Milwaukee at Boston (NBA TV).  
**8 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Texas (San Antonio) at Oklahoma (FOX SPORTSOUTH).  
**8:15 p.m.** — NFL Football: Pittsburgh at Cincinnati (ESPN, NFL NETWORK, WWFN-FM 100.1, WNKT-FM 107.5).  
**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Florida State at Florida (ESPN2).  
**9 p.m.** — College Basketball: Northern

Illinois at Iowa State (ESPN).  
**WEST**  
 L.A. Rams 8 3 0 .727 329 206  
 Seattle 7 4 0 .636 266 212  
 Arizona 5 6 0 .455 203 278  
 San Francisco 1 10 0 .091 187 284

**PREP SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY**

**VARSITY AND JV BASKETBALL**  
 Laurence Manning at Trinity-Byrnes, 4 p.m.

**JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
 Crestwood at East Clarendon, 6 p.m.  
 Lakewood at Camden, 6 p.m.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL**  
 Alice Drive at Bates, 5 p.m.  
 Hillcrest at Chestnut Oaks, 5 p.m.  
 Mayewood at Ebenezer, 5 p.m.  
 Furman at Manning, 5 p.m.  
 Spaulding at Lee Central, 5:30 p.m.  
 East Clarendon at Hannah-Pamplico, 5:30 p.m.

**VARSITY BOWLING**  
 Wilson Hall, Robert E. Lee, Laurence Manning vs. Thomas Sumter (at Gamecock Lanes), 5 p.m.

**TUESDAY**

**VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
 Lee Central at Sumter, 6 p.m.  
 Camden at Lakewood, 6 p.m.  
 Thomas Sumter at Richard Winn, 6 p.m.  
 Calvary Christian at Sumter Christian (Boys Only), 4 p.m.

**VARSITY AND JV BASKETBALL**  
 Manning at East Clarendon, 4:30 p.m.  
 Scott's Branch at Timmonsville, 4 p.m.  
 Hammond at Wilson Hall, 4 p.m.  
 Ben Lippen at Laurence Manning, 4 p.m.  
 Robert E. Lee at The King's Academy, 4 p.m.  
 Clarendon Hall at St. John's Christian, 4 p.m.

**B TEAM BASKETBALL**  
 Hammond at Wilson Hall, 4 p.m.

**NFL GLANCE**

By The Associated Press  
 All Times EST

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**East**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	9	2	0	.818	325	220
Buffalo	6	5	0	.545	224	260
N.Y. Jets	4	7	0	.364	228	257
Miami	4	7	0	.364	174	289

**South**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	7	4	0	.636	242	269
Jacksonville	7	4	0	.636	269	168
Houston	4	7	0	.364	283	285
Indianapolis	3	8	0	.273	195	300

**North**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	9	2	0	.818	258	193
Baltimore	6	5	0	.545	246	284
Cincinnati	5	6	0	.455	199	215
Cleveland	0	11	0	.000	166	289

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	6	5	0	.545	272	236
L.A. Chargers	5	6	0	.455	249	202
Oakland	5	6	0	.455	225	261
Denver	3	8	0	.273	197	280

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**East**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	10	1	0	.909	351	191
Dallas	6	6	0	.500	286	284
Washington	5	7	0	.417	272	314
N.Y. Giants	2	9	0	.182	172	267

**South**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	8	3	0	.727	322	207
Carolina	8	3	0	.727	248	202
Atlanta	7	4	0	.636	265	230
Tampa Bay	4	7	0	.364	223	262

**North**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	9	2	0	.818	271	195
Detroit	6	5	0	.545	294	264
Green Bay	5	6	0	.455	232	261
Chicago	3	8	0	.273	177	252

**THURSDAY'S GAMES**

Dallas 38, Washington 14

**TODAY'S GAMES**

Tampa Bay at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Baltimore, 1 p.m.  
 Denver at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Kansas City at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Cleveland at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.  
 Carolina at New Orleans, 4:25 p.m.  
 L.A. Rams at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Oakland, 4:25 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Seattle, 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY'S GAMES**

Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 8:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 7**

New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:25 p.m.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 10**

Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Chicago at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Green Bay at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Dallas at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 Washington at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Denver, 4:05 p.m.  
 Seattle at Jacksonville, 4:25 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m.  
 Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, DEC. 11**

New England at Miami, 8:30 p.m.

**NBA STANDINGS**

By The Associated Press  
 All Times EST

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	20	4	.833	—
Toronto	14	7	.667	4½
Philadelphia	12	9	.571	6½
New York	11	10	.524	7½
Brooklyn	8	14	.364	11

**Southeast Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	12	10	.545	—
Miami	11	11	.500	1
Orlando	9	14	.391	3½
Charlotte	8	13	.381	3½
Atlanta	5	17	.227	7

**Central Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	15	7	.682	—
Detroit	14	7	.667	½
Milwaukee	11	9	.550	3
Indiana	12	11	.522	3½
Chicago	3	18	.143	11½

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	17	4	.810	—
San Antonio	15	7	.682	2½
New Orleans	11	11	.500	6½
Memphis	7	14	.333	10
Dallas	6	17	.261	12

**Northwest Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	13	9	.591	—
Denver	12	9	.571	½
Minnesota	13	10	.565	½
Utah	12	11	.522	1½
Oklahoma City	9	12	.429	3½

**Pacific Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	17	6	.739	—
L.A. Clippers	8	13	.381	8
L.A. Lakers	8	13	.381	8
Phoenix	8	16	.333	9½
Sacramento	7	15	.318	9½

# SHS FROM PAGE B1

scored nine of the Lady Knights' 13 second-half points. "Defensively, I thought we did a better job in the second half of containing Destinee," Schaffer said. "She's a great player. You've got to keep her in front of you, because she's going to hurt you if you let her get by you."

For Sumter, Nina Edlow definitely picked up her offensive game in the second half. After a quiet first half with just an old-school 3-point play on the books, Edlow pressed the issue down low and on the fast break in the second half. She earned 12 trips to the free throw line, connecting on seven shots to close the game 8-of-13, while adding three baskets for a team-high 16 points.

"She was one I talked to at halftime a little bit," Schaffer said of Edlow. "In the first half, when they kind of manned up on us, she was just kind of standing around a little bit. I told her you've got to get your hands on the ball and go to the basket a little bit. So in the second half she obviously did that, got to the foul line and was able to knock down some foul shots."

Crestwood's last lead was 23-22 with 4:57 to go in the third quarter, after two Kionna McElveen free throws.



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

**Sumter's ??? shoots as Crestwood defenders look on during the Gamecocks' 48-32 victory over the Knights on Saturday at the SHS gym.**

Sumter closed the quarter on an 11-5 run and scored the first six points of the fourth to build a 39-28 lead before a Jamison basket broke a 7-0 Lady Gamecock run. The Lady Knights, now 2-1, added a Moenijah Lewis follow to cut the lead to seven before Sumter scored the game's final nine points.

Tamerah Brown added 12 for the Lady Gamecocks, who close out a 4-game season-opening homestand on Tuesday against Lee Central.

In the varsity boys game, Sumter broke open a close game with a strong second-half effort, pulling away for a 53-40 win.

Crestwood had the advantage early in what turned out

to be a 3-point shooting contest in the first half. Kwalick Jones drained three treys, all in the opening half, among his game-high 17 points, but seven threes from Sumter, including four from Jaylen Johnson, gave the Gamecocks a 28-21 halftime lead.

Two Isaih Moore threes to close the half gave Sumter a cushion that it would build on with a 5-0 run to open the third quarter. The lead was 18, 45-27, heading to the final quarter and peaked at 20 on two occasions in the fourth.

Moore closed with 15 for the Gamecocks, now 3-0, while Carl Benjamin had nine and Nazir Andino eight, including two threes, for the Knights, who dropped to 0-3.

## Clemson's Dexter Lawrence (90) celebrates his sack of Miami's Malik Rosier (12) during the second half of the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game in Charlotte on Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## ACC FROM PAGE B1

the extra point to make it 7-0 with 10:36 remaining in the first quarter.

Miami had to punt after three downs on its first possession, but it caught a break when McCloud fumbled the punt and the Hurricanes recovered at the Tiger 37-yard line. The Hurricanes couldn't move the ball though, and placekicker Michael Badgley missed a 46-yard field goal.

The Tigers responded with a 71-yard scoring drive. Bryant connected with McCloud

on passes of 12 and 25 yards and ended the drive with an 11-yard scoring run.

Clemson got a short field on its next possession, starting at the Miami 41-yard line thanks to a 16-yard Hurricane punt. The Tigers needed seven plays to get in the end one with running back Adam Choice scoring from a yard out with 12:52 left in the first half.

Clemson's defense continued to dominate in the second half as it forced three turnovers.

Spence booted a 46-yard field goal with 10:14 left in the third quarter to put the Tigers up 24-0. Running back Tavien Feaster scored on an 11-yard run and Bryant threw a 27-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Deon Cain to make it 38-0.

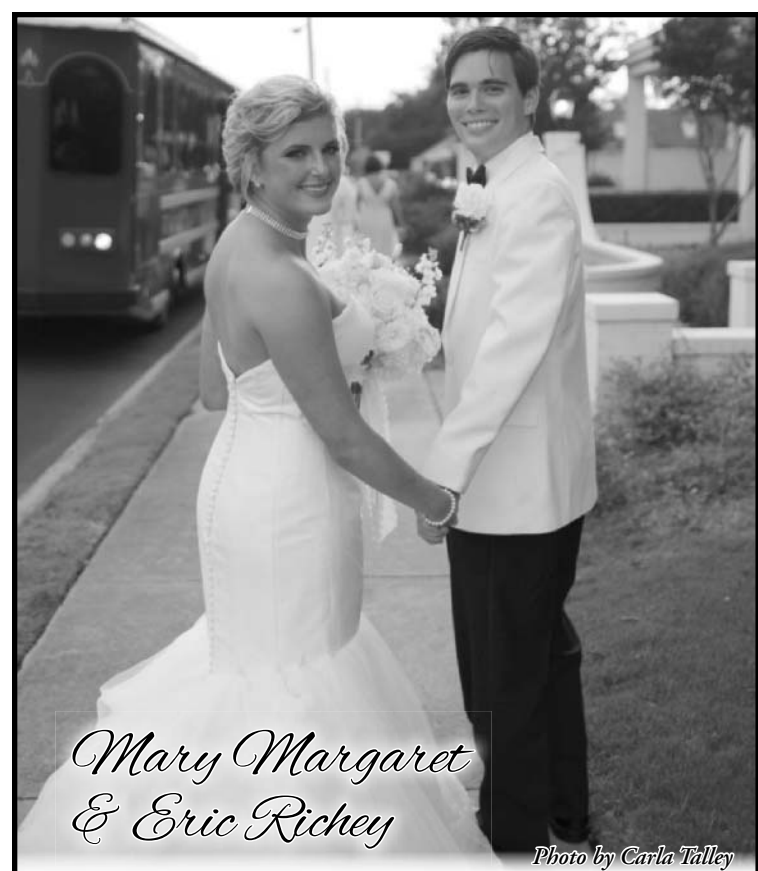
**(1) CLEMSON 38, (7) MIAMI 3**

Miami	0	0	0	3	-3
Clemson	14	7	17	0	-38

First Quarter  
CLE Etienne 4 run (Al.Spence kick), 10:36  
CLE K.Bryant 11 run (Al.Spence kick), 3:02  
Second Quarter  
CLE Choice 1 run (Al.Spence kick), 12:49  
Third Quarter  
CLE FG Al.Spence 46, 10:14  
CLE Feaster 11 run (Al.Spence kick), 3:17  
CLE Cain 27 pass from K.Bryant (Al.Spence kick), 1:01  
Fourth Quarter  
MFL FG Badgley 22, 3:29

	MFL	CLE
First downs	10	18
Rushes-yards	30-104	41-77
Passing	110	254
Comp-Att-Int	14-29-2	25-34-0
Return Yards	106	64
Punts-Avg.	9-34.116-31.33	
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties-Yards	4-30	2-13
Time of Possession	25:54	34:06

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS  
RUSHING\_Miami, Dallas 6-44, Homer 14-41, Rosier 10-19, Clemson, Etienne 6-24, Feaster 4-22, Choice 7-21, K.Bryant 9-7, R.McCloud 3-6, Fuller 11-5, Anchrum 0-0, H.Johnson 1-(minus 8).  
PASSING\_Miami, Rosier 14-29-2-110, Clemson, K.Bryant 23-29-0-252, H.Johnson 1-3-0-(minus 4), Cooper 1-2-0-6.  
RECEIVING\_Miami, Berrios 7-51, Irvin 3-18, J.Thomas 2-20, Cager 1-11, Harley 1-10, Clemson, R.McCloud 6-100, H.Renfrow 5-45, Cain 3-39, Rodgers 3-11, Etienne 2-8, Overton 1-15, Choice 1-11, Feaster 1-8, Richard 1-7, Chase 1-6, Fuller 1-4.  
MISSED FIELD GOALS\_Miami, Badgley 46.



Mary Margaret & Eric Richey

Photo by Carla Talley



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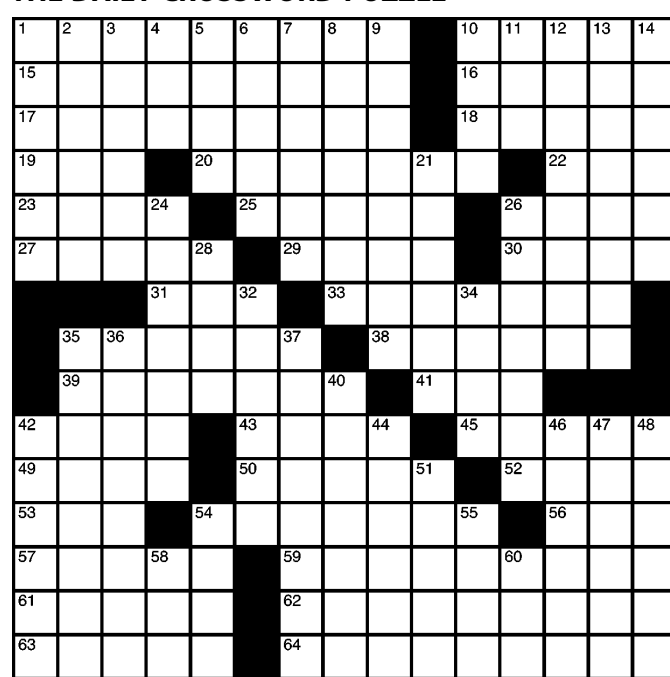
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# SATURDAY PUZZLES

## THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By D. Scott Nichols and C.C. Burnikel 12/2/17

- ACROSS**
- 1 Stay in the big house
  - 10 Beach pretender
  - 15 [Yawn]
  - 16 Many a Studio Ghibli film
  - 17 Fund for incidentals
  - 18 Character who dances on the beach at Stavros
  - 19 Supporting
  - 20 Evil skill
  - 22 Talbot Jr. or Sr. on "Rectify"
  - 23 Obstacles on the set
  - 25 Confident response to "Your opponent is ready"
  - 26 Funeral rite heap
  - 27 Poet Thomas
  - 29 "Baby Blues" baby
  - 30 Maranjab Desert country
  - 31 Empty out badly?
  - 33 Repertoire
  - 35 Skeleton's place?
  - 38 Do maintenance on, as a putting green
  - 39 Card carrier
  - 41 Convene
  - 42 Chill (with)
  - 43 Kate of "House of Cards"
  - 45 Grouses
  - 49 Welding sparks
  - 50 Better
  - 52 Tar on the ocean
  - 53 Compete
  - 54 Like free-range chickens
  - 56 West of Tinseltown
  - 57 Country album?
  - 59 History buff's artifacts
  - 61 Tearful queen
  - 62 Big brother, often
  - 63 First chips
  - 64 Chaotic places
  - 8 It runs in the shower
  - 9 Short-lived things
  - 10 Indistinct
  - 11 Noted resident of The Dakota in Manhattan
  - 12 Singer?
  - 13 Pale order
  - 14 Tone down
  - 21 Washes out cover-ups
  - 24 South Seas
  - 26 They're beaten at parties
  - 28 Intrusive
  - 32 Tough guy's exhortation
  - 34 Church of country
  - 35 Allergy sufferer's choice
  - 36 Legendary court figure
  - 37 Mine carriers
  - 40 "As if!"
  - 42 Caribbean city with cocotaxis
  - 44 German chancellor Merkel
  - 46 City west of Baghdad
  - 47 Mercury, e.g.
  - 48 Bargains beyond belief
  - 51 Teammate of Mariano for 19 years
  - 54 Exploits
  - 55 Small change
  - 58 #16, familiarly
  - 60 Booking agent?

### Friday's Puzzle Solved



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## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

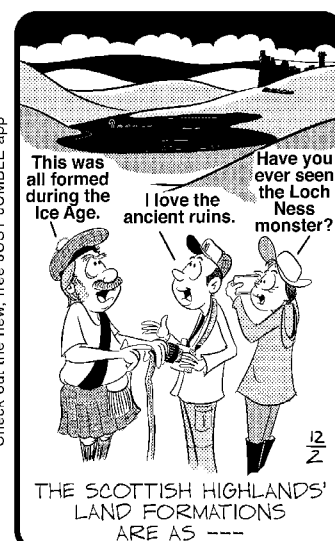
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LHYYS

OTBUD

ALENDH

GLEHIS



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

AS

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DITTO FRESH ABOUND BEMOAN  
 Answer: When Velcro was invented, people were — "FASTEN-ATED"

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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THE ANSWERS TO THESE PUZZLES CAN BE FOUND ON TODAY'S DAILY PLANNER PAGE.

# Bennett's double-double lifts LMA to 58-50 win over Oakbrook Prep

DARLINGTON — Brooke Bennett had a double-double of 18 points and 10 rebounds to lead Laurence Manning Academy to a 58-50 victory over Oakbrook Prep on Saturday in the Trinity-Byrnes Christmas Tournament.

Abbie Patrick, Olivia Coker and Sarah Frazier each had 10 points for the Lady Swampcats, who evened their record at 2-2 on the season.

On Friday in the tournament, LMA defeated Beaufort Academy 57-43.

Coker led LMA with 17 points. Bennett followed with 13, while Frazier had 12 and Lexi Bennett nine.

**CRESTWOOD 56**  
**LEE CENTRAL 15**

Crestwood improved to 2-0 with a 56-15 victory over Lee Central on Friday at The Castle.

Destinee Jamison had a big game for the Lady Knights, who led 28-1 at halftime. Jamison scored 18 points with nine steals and five assists.

Ashanti Washington added 11 points, Sedajah Rembert had 10 and Brittany Epps had eight.

Kendra Lesane led 0-2 LC with eight points.

## GIRLS AREA ROUNDUP

**PINEWOOD PREP 39**  
**WILSON HALL 34**

SUMMERVILLE — Wilson Hall suffered its first loss of the season, falling to Pinewood Prep 39-34 on Friday at the PP gymnasium.

The Lady Barons, who fell to 3-1 on the season, were led by Madison Elmore and Natalie Jackson, both of whom had nine points. Courtney Clark had seven points and 11 rebounds and Cameron Duffy also had seven points.

Amanda King led Pinewood with 17 points.

**WILSON HALL**  
Elmore 9, Clark 7, Jackson 9, Duffy 7, Hutson 3.

**PINEWOOD PREP**  
Lerales 1, Powell 6, King 17, Bryant 10, Bennett-Shafer 3.

**EAST CLARENDON 56**  
**LAKE CITY 25**

LAKE CITY — East Clarendon High School improved to 2-0 with a 56-25 victory over Lake City on Friday at the LC gymnasium.

Talayshia Cooper led the Lady Wolverines with 17 points. Valencia Garriss added 11 and Kaitlin Timmons had nine.

Tierra Burgess had 10 points to lead Lake City.

**EAST CLARENDON**  
Cooper 17, Garriss 11, Timmons 9, Watts 8, Anderson 5, Scott 2, Floyd 2, Whack 2.

**LAKE CITY**  
Burgess 10, Brayboy 5, Dixon 4, Epps 3, Montgomery 3.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

**ALICE DRIVE 42**  
**MANNING 25**

Alice Drive evened its record at 1-1 with a 42-25 victory over Manning Junior High School on Thursday at the AD gymnasium.

Stevye Sinkler led the Lady hawks with 26 points. Dayziana McCray added seven and Angela Dennis had six.

**BATES 26**  
**HILLCREST 21**

DALZELL — Bates improved to 1-1 with a 26-21 victory over Hillcrest on Thursday at the HMS gymnasium.

Alicia Spann led the Lady Bantams with 14 points.

**CHESTNUT OAKS 44**  
**EBENEZER 11**

Antiyona Roach scored 20 points to lead Chestnut Oaks to a 44-11 victory over Ebenezer on Thursday at the EMS gymnasium.

Avianna Johnson and Nay Vanburen both had five points

**RONALD MCNAIR 17**  
**LEE CENTRAL 12**

BISHOPVILLE — Lee Central lost its season opener to Ronald McNair Middle, 17-12, on Thursday at the LC gymnasium.

Kamonie Charles led the Lady Stallions with six points.

## JV BASKETBALL

**LEE CENTRAL 40**  
**LAKESWOOD 9**

Lee Central defeated Lakewood 40-9 on Saturday at The Swamp.

Brianna Jenkins led the Lady Stallions with nine points while grabbing seven rebounds. Trastaria McCants added eight points while Nichah Johnson and Fantasia Gardner both had six points.

On Thursday in Sumter, Crestwood defeated Lee Central 42-28.

Shaniyah Davis led CHS with 12 points.

# Three Stallions reach double figures in 70-51 win over Crestwood

Lee Central High School's varsity boys basketball team had three players score in double figures as it defeated Crestwood 70-51 on Friday at The Castle.

DeMarcus Smith led the Stallions, who improved to 2-2 on the season, with 21 points. DaVeon Thomas added 18 points and Amadric Mixon had 15. Mixon connected for four 3-point baskets.

Nazir Andion led 0-2 Crestwood with 19 points.

**PINEWOOD PREP 58**  
**WILSON HALL 31**

SUMMERVILLE — Wilson Hall lost to Pinewood Prep 58-31 on Friday at the PP gymnasium.

Daulton Dabbs led the Barons with 11 points, while Grant DeVarona had six. WH fell to 1-3.

**LAURENCE MANNING 49**  
**OAKBROOK PREP 46**

DARLINGTON — Laurence Manning Academy defeated Oakbrook Prep 49-46 on Thursday in the Trinity-Byrnes Christmas Tournament.

Jerrel Kelley led the Swampcats with 15 points. Dawson Hatfield had 12 and Grayson Dennis had nine.

**THOMAS SUMTER 49**  
**PEE DEE 33**

DALZELL — Thomas Sumter Academy improved to 2-1 with a 49-33 victory over Pee Dee Academy on Tuesday at Edens Gymnasium.

Dante Linder led the Generals with 17 points. Zach Fugate had 15 and Eli Kessinger 10.

On Nov. 21 in Dalzell, TSA opened its season with a 67-34 victory over Richard Winn. Linder led in scoring with 16, while Fugate had 14. Kessinger had seven points and four assists.

**MANNING 55**  
**EDISTO 43**

MANNING — Manning High School improved to 2-0 with a 55-43 victory over Edisto on Wednesday at Thames Arena.

Israel Brown led the Monarchs with 13 points. Jayquan Pendergrass had eight and DeJuan Wilson had seven.

## BOYS AREA ROUNDUP

### JV BASKETBALL

**PINEWOOD PREP 33**  
**WILSON HALL 30**

SUMMERVILLE — Wilson Hall fell to 3-1 with a 33-30 loss to Pinewood Prep on Friday at the PP gymnasium.

Miller Jones led the Barons with 10 points. Nathan Harris added nine.

On Thursday in Sumter, Wilson Hall beat Camden Military 48-26.

Evan Hoffman led the Barons with nine points while Wise Segars had eight and Jones seven.

**LAKESWOOD 40**  
**LEE CENTRAL 32**

Lakewood High School defeated Lee Central 40-32 on Saturday at The Swamp.

KJ Holloman led 1-2 LC with 11 points. Daurrion Kelly added 10.

On Thursday in Sumter, the Stallions lost to Crestwood 72-38.

Kelly led Lee Central with 13 points. Holloman and Naquan Peoples both had eight and Omarion Martin had six.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

**BATES 51**  
**HILLCREST 37**

DALZELL — Zyeir Gamble scored 13 points to lead Bates to a 51-37 victory over Hillcrest on Thursday at the HMS gymnasium.

Kayshawn Boyd added 10 points for the Bantams, who improved to 1-1. Brenden Gathers and Devin Quattlebaum both had seven.

Leslie Owens led the 0-2 Wildcats with 12 points. Justin Rembert added 10.

**ALICE DRIVE 67**  
**MANNING 52**

Nakeem Isaac scored 22 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead Alice Drive 1 to a 67-52 victory over Manning Junior High School on Thursday at the AD gymnasium.

Joseph Durant added 15 points and five assists for the Hawks, who improved to 2-0 on the season. Dubose Rembert, Marquis Lane-Owens and Brandon Oliver each had six.

Junior High 44-30 on Thursday at the SB gymnasium.

Tariq Coard led the Eagles with 15 points. Terrence Pusher had eight and Randy Gibson seven.

**CHESTNUT OAKS 68**  
**EBENEZER 35**

Chestnut Oaks had three players score in double figures as it defeated Ebenezer 68-35 on Thursday at the EMS gymnasium.

Khalil Peoples led the Falcons with 16 points. Requan Baker added 12 and Zayveon

Wells had 10.

### B TEAM BASKETBALL

**WILSON HALL 49**  
**CAMDEN MILITARY 24**

Jackson Duvall scored 25 points and had seven steals to lead Wilson Hall to a 49-24 victory over Camden Military on Thursday at Nash Student Center.

Dylan Richardson added seven points and five steals for the 3-0 Barons. Skyler Netchaeff had seven points while Tate Sistare had eight assists and three steals.



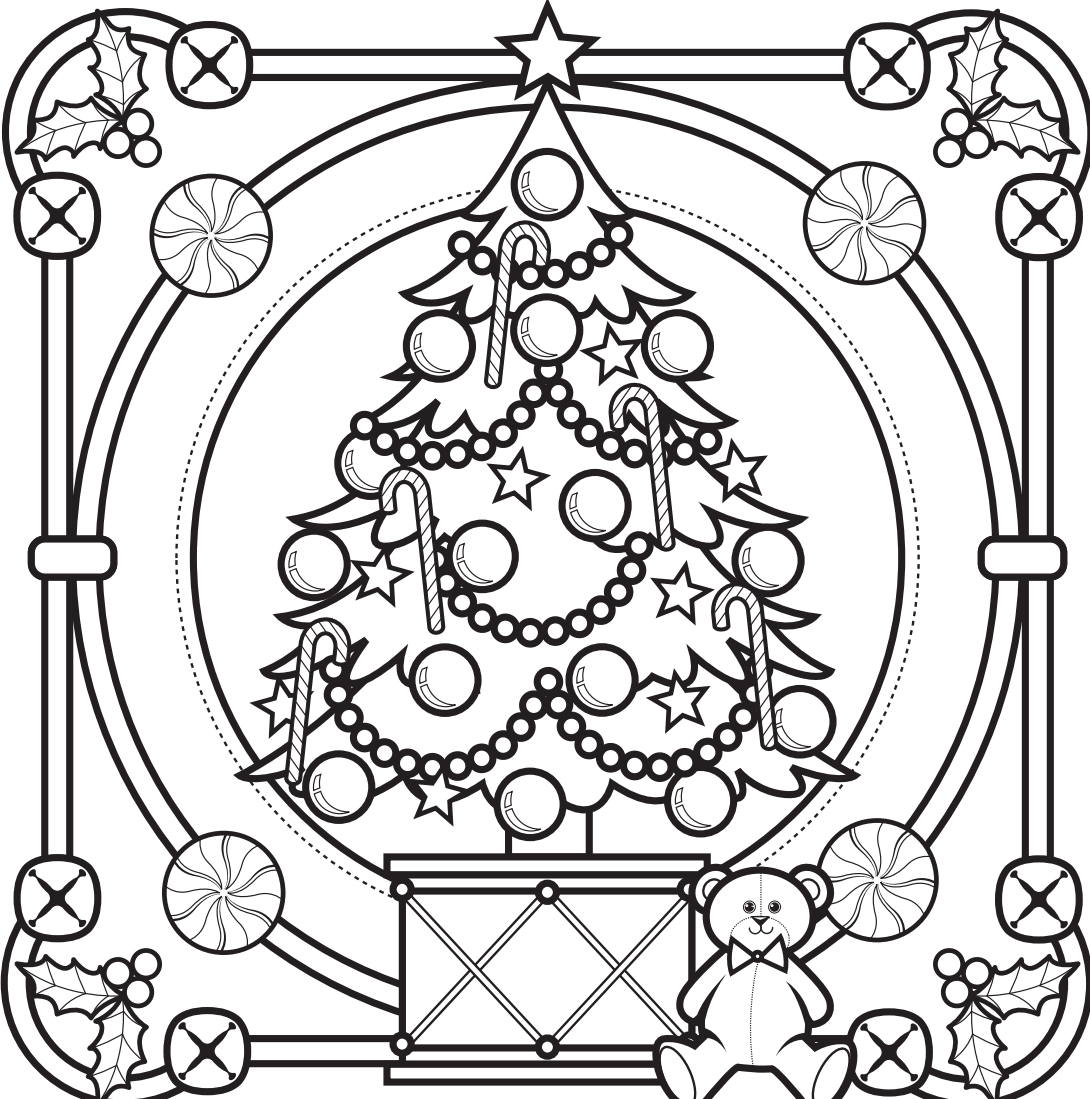
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## Christmas Coloring Contest



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
**Sumter ITEM**  
PO Box 1677  
Sumter, SC 29151

To enter, just color the picture and submit it, along with the entry form, to the newspaper no later than 12:00 Noon, Monday, December 18, 2017. A panel of judges will choose one winner from each age group. Ages 5-7, 8-10 and 11-12. Winners will be contacted by phone and announced in the newspaper on Friday, December 22, 2017. Each winner will receive a prize. No Photocopies Accepted Please.

## ALL ABOARD the Santa Express!




Take the family on a scenic train ride, meet **Santa** and receive a treat!

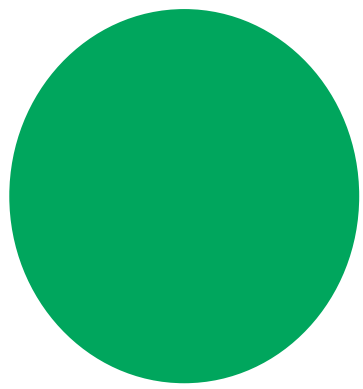
**December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**  
10 am, 10:45 am, 11:45 am,  
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# USA TODAY PERSONAL FINANCE



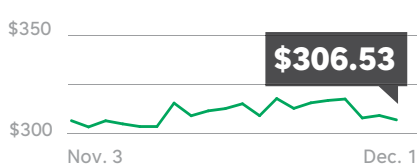
## THIS WEEK

- **96%** of Americans say they make donations.
  - **40%** typically donate money; **35%** like to contribute clothes/food/other goods; **19%** prefer to volunteer their time.
  - **22%** of American adults are giving more in 2017 than they did last year; **12%** say they are giving less in 2017 than they did last year.
- Source: Bankrate.com

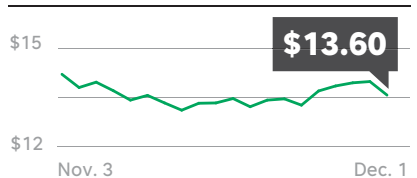
### ON THE MOVE

Stock stories of the week

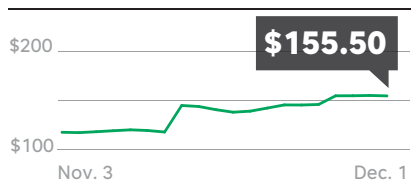
**TESLA**  
**TESLA** The electric-car maker's new semi-truck is cheaper than expected. The base price is \$150,000 for a 300-mile range version, \$180,000 for one with 500-mile range.



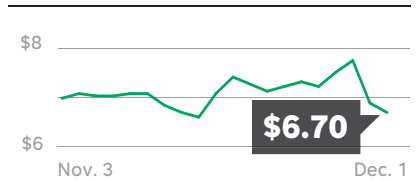
**AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS**  
**AMERICAN OUTDOOR BRANDS CORPORATION** Shares of the outdoor sports products maker rose after requests for federal background checks for gun purchases jumped 9% on Black Friday from a year earlier.



**BUFFALO WILD WINGS**  
**BUFFALO WILD WINGS** The chicken wings restaurant chain agreed to a sale to the owner of Arby's and Cinnabon, Roark Capital Group, for a \$157-per-share deal, or \$2.9 billion.



**BARNES & NOBLE**  
**BARNES & NOBLE** After posting a wider loss last quarter, the bookseller says it will focus firmly on reading and narrow its non-book assortment, such as toys and games.



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**USA SNAPSHOTS®**

**49%** of workers are very/extremely confident in making the right investment decisions on their own.

SOURCE Schwab Retirement Plan Services survey of workers 25-70  
 Jae Yang; Karl Gelles/USA TODAY

### TAMING YOUR BUDGET-BUSTING BILLS

## Dining in or out? Take a bite out of food costs

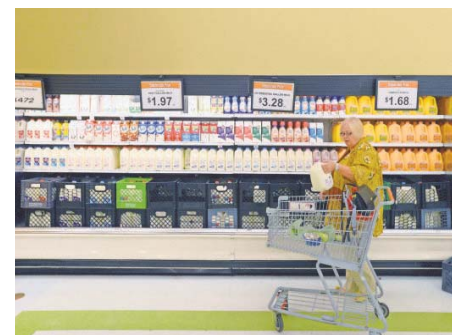
There are ways to cut back and eat well at the same time

**N'dea Yancey-Bragg**  
 USA TODAY

In this week's installment of USA TODAY's *Taming your budget-busting bills* series, we look at how to cut your food costs and still eat well.

Food can take a serious chunk out of your budget, whether you're a college student or you're cooking for a family of five. The average American household spent about \$600 a month on food in 2016, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. About 44% of that was spent outside the home at restaurants and bars.

Americans are spending more on food each year and may soon spend more on dining out than groceries. Millennials in particular have been criticized for prioritizing avocado toast over home ownership. The good news is your food budget is a lot more flexible than fixed costs such as rent.



Food costs can take a big chunk out of family budgets. SPECIAL FOR USA TODAY

#### Plan your meals

If you want to cut down your grocery bill, planning ahead is the only way to do it. Start small by planning out your meals one week at a time. Joanie Demer, co-founder of a couponing site, recommends building a menu around the sales and coupons already out there. Check websites such as Demer's The Crazy Coupon Lady and Coupon-s.com, and apps such as Ibotta.

#### Shop strategically

Be selective about what you buy: Go for generic instead of name brands and only buy organic items that are the most perishable. Once you enter a store, look for the coupons and the latest deals. Annette Economides, co-author of *Cut your Grocery Bill in Half with America's Cheapest Family*, recommends buying sale items in bulk and locking in the discount price by stocking both your pantry and freezer.

#### Dining out: Cut back

If you're going to eat out, lunch deals and happy hours are often much cheaper than regular dinner prices.

Demer recommends sites such as Restaurant.com and Gift Card Granny that sell discounted gift cards to major eateries.

Set a budget for dining out and stick to it.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

# 'Tis the season for giving

## Holiday tipping: A no-fuss guide on how much to pay and to whom

**Caren Weiner Campbell**  
 NerdWallet

Does holiday tipping make you tense? Join the club. Last year, 11% of Americans admitted they dreaded handing out year-end gratuities in a Consumer Reports survey.

But with a few simple guidelines and a slight shift in perspective, you can manage this situation with grace.

"Holiday tipping is really holiday thanking," says manners maven Daniel Post Senning, co-author of *Emily Post's Etiquette*, 19th edition. "The principles of good etiquette are consideration, respect and honesty, and part of that honesty is honesty with yourself about what you can afford."

What you can afford depends on how many people you plan to thank. Start with people who help you care for yourself, your family and your home. That might include your barber or hairstylist, massage therapist, house-cleaner, lawn and garden workers, babysitter and dog walker.

The amount you give each person should vary. As a general rule, tip an occasional service provider approximately the cost of one session. And aim to give each person who helps around your home or takes care of your family members about a week's pay. Simply allow for "about the same amount as you'd spend on these expenses in an average month," Senning says.

Cash is ideal for holiday gratuities, but prepaid gift cards also work. "It's a way to personalize it, if you know somebody likes a certain thing," Senning says.

In the case of your mail carrier, steer clear of greenbacks: U.S. Postal Service regulations forbid employees from accepting cash tips and specify gifts should cost no more than \$20.

For the professionals in your life, non-monetary gifts are best. Giving your child's teacher a present instead of cash will help you avoid any perception of trying to curry favor. For the staff at grandma's retirement home, a group gift — such as a shareable basket of sweet treats — is more appropriate.

If money is tighter than usual, or you didn't include these tips in your holiday budget, don't fret. A batch of home-baked cookies or another heartfelt present can be perfectly nice. Whatever you give, "a handwritten note is really important," Senning says. "Part of any good tip is a genuine expression of thanks."

"But don't underestimate the meaningfulness of that crisp \$50 in the envelope."

Caren Weiner Campbell is a writer at NerdWallet, a USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage from around the Web. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY. Email: [ccampbell@nerdwallet.com](mailto:ccampbell@nerdwallet.com).

### MARKET ROUNDUP

<b>Dow Jones</b> industrial average ▲2.9% week ▲3.4% month   ▲10.2% 3 months	<b>S&amp;P 500</b> ▲1.5% week ▲2.4% month   ▲6.7% 3 months	<b>Nasdaq</b> composite index ▼0.6% week ▲2.0% month   ▲6.4% 3 months	<b>Wilshire 5000</b> ▲1.4% week ▲2.4% month   ▲6.7% 3 months	<b>Gold</b> Ounce, Comex ▼0.7% week ▲0.1% month   ▼3.6% 3 months	<b>Oil</b> Light sweet crude ▼1.0% week ▲7.5% month   ▲23.4% 3 months	<b>Euro</b> Dollars per euro ▼0.0034 week ▲0.0273 month   ▲0.0024 3 months	<b>Yen</b> Yen per dollar ▲0.47 week ▼2.17 month   ▲1.81 3 months
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ISTOCK IMAGE

## Don't panic over late-in-life relationships

**Dear Pete:** I am a senior who has recently met a widower. Both of us are in our 70s and in good health. We enjoy each other's company, live nearby but in separate homes and want to travel together. He has a huge appetite for travel and has done so extensively. I have not traveled much but would enjoy joining him. But the problem lies in that he has much more discretionary funds than I. We are trying to set up a plan that is fair and will allow us to travel together. Could you respond with tips on how late-in-life couples can share life expenses when there is a wide discrepancy of funds?

— Brenda, Fort Myers, Fla.

### Goal is to remain solvent while having a good time



**Pete the Planner**

Peter Dunn  
USA TODAY

Half the battle is already won, Brenda. The mere fact you and your friend have discussed this is not only healthy, but honest in a way that respects both of your realities.

Sharing financial responsibilities with a person you didn't "grow up" with is surprisingly difficult. Each of you has more than 50 adult years of habits, lifestyles, goals, failures and successes. There may be some overlap of sensibility and values, but that doesn't necessarily mean your financial lives have much in common.

You probably have already taken time to examine what could go wrong. The first and most obvious concern is running out of money. This concern isn't unique to you as a 70-something, but the fact that your money is now being asked to do something (fund travel) it previously hadn't been tasked with makes this situation delicate.

The next concern is exactly why your email is my favorite one that I've received in quite some time. You enjoy your friend's companionship way too much to risk ruining everything with the perception that you're in this for the money. You aren't, by the way. And you know that. You wouldn't have brought up the topic to your friend or emailed me if you were only interested in being wine and dined. Nonetheless, it's a concern. You obviously don't want to be perceived as a freeloader.

The goal is to find a way to remain financially solvent, all the while allowing you to enjoy what should be the most peaceful and carefree moments of your life with someone you really enjoy spending your time with, all the while paying your way the best you can.

Maybe you didn't think at age 70 you'd find yourself with a new set of financial priorities, but that's exactly what you're dealing with here. Prior to spending time with your new friend, assigning money to travel didn't necessarily move you to action. Now you're moved. It's no different than watching your priorities change from your teens,

into your 20s and throughout your pre-retirement life. Financial problems arrive when you don't shift money from your old priorities to your new priorities. For example, my wife and I spend money much differently now that we have children. In order to fund gymnastics lessons or whatever else, we cut out things that used to be important to us, but are no longer. You need to see if this shift is prudent for you too.

Like you, I want to know how much discretionary income you have to work with. Do you have hundreds of dollars per year? Thousands? You need to know how much money you can travel with in the next 12 months. The total you have available might result in a few small trips, or maybe it results in one big trip. The good news is your friend seems like a seasoned traveler and should know where you can save money throughout the travel experience.

**Being a conservative spender certainly is a positive quality, but if you can still remain financially stable and loosen the purse strings a bit, then you should do it.**

If you haven't already, talk to a financial adviser. The adviser will help you understand whether you should fund your travel with your monthly income, your assets, both or neither. There is nothing wrong with spending more aggressively now and then cutting back as the travel slows down, but you should make sure your finances truly support that plan. It's possible you're being too conservative with your spending. Being a conservative spender certainly is a positive quality, but if you can still remain financially stable and loosen the purse strings a bit, then you should do it.

The reason you were so conservative with your finances all these years is so you can make decisions like this. Keep the conversations with your friend honest and transparent, and enjoy your new priority. Bon voyage.

*Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host, and he has a free podcast: Million Dollar Plan. If you have questions email him at AskPete@petetheplanner.com*

### DIGITAL DOLLARS

## Google can help you donate to your favorite non-profit

Internet giant makes it easy with a few clicks

Jessica Guynn  
USA TODAY

SAN FRANCISCO — A new Google donate button is making it easier to give money to a non-profit organization in Google search.

This week, to coincide with Giving Tuesday, a new "donate" option became available when users were hunting online for a non-profit. Google says users were able to complete the donation with a few clicks or taps.

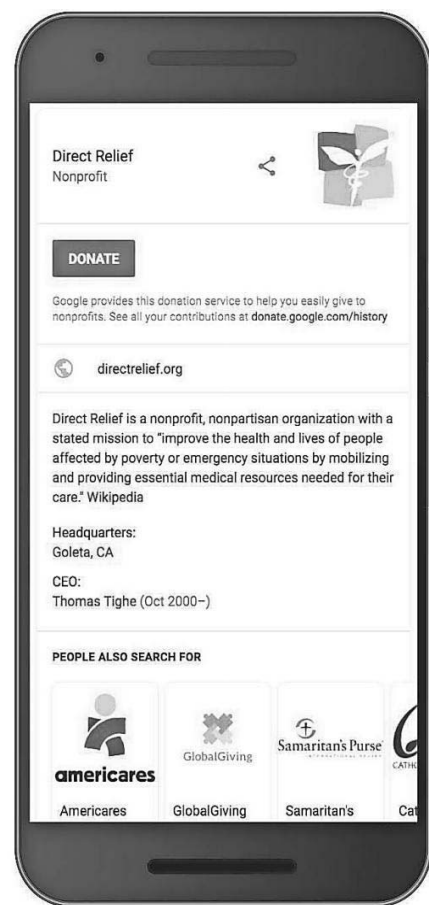
On the sixth annual #GivingTuesday, individuals, civic coalitions, non-profit organizations, schools and businesses in all 50 states raised more than \$274 million online to benefit a broad range of causes and gave much more in volunteer hours, donations of food and clothing — even random acts of kindness. The total number of donations reported is more than 2 million.

According to Google, nearly 30% of giving happens during the holiday season. That's when people search Google for ways to donate to and support non-profits.

"We're starting with organizations in the U.S. across causes and locales who have opted in through Google for Non-profits, and we hope that more opt in moving forward," Google product manager Prem Ramaswami said in a blog post.

Internet giants Google and Facebook are playing up their philanthropic efforts as scrutiny of their businesses intensify after fake Russian accounts linked to the Kremlin used their advertising systems to interfere with the U.S. presidential election.

Google is under fire on a number of other fronts, from a Labor Department investigation and a lawsuit by former employees alleging systemic pay discrimination, to the proliferation of misinformation in search results to harmful content for kids on YouTube. As the controversies have multiplied, so too



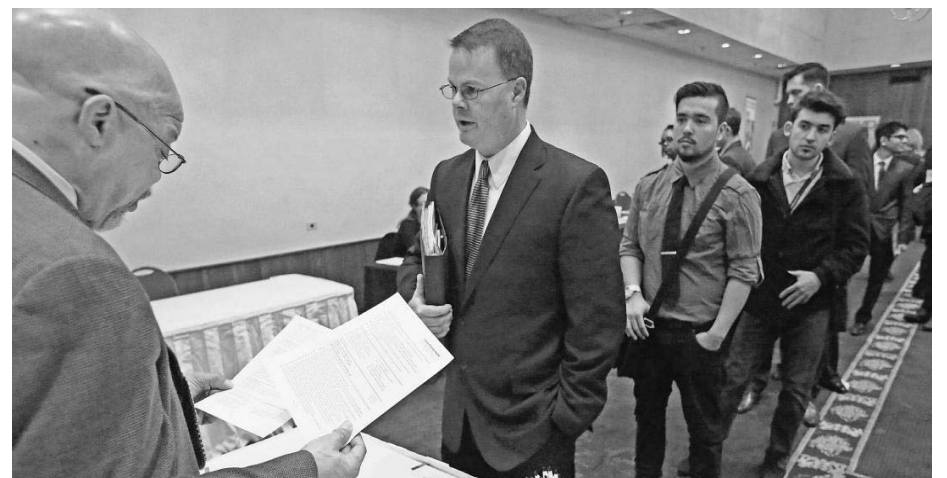
Google search is introducing a donate button for non-profits ahead of the holiday season. GOOGLE

**On the sixth annual #GivingTuesday, individuals, civic coalitions, non-profit organizations, schools and businesses in all 50 states raised more than \$274 million online to benefit a broad range of causes and gave much more in volunteer hours, donations of food and clothing — even random acts of kindness.**

have calls for Washington to regulate Google because of its massive scale and global reach.

In October, Google pledged \$1 billion in grants over five years to non-profits around the world and 1 million volunteer hours from Google employees.

### THE WEEK AHEAD



Economists figure Labor will report employers added 210,000 jobs last month. M. SPENCER GREEN/AP

## November jobs report tops light week of economic news

Paul Davidson  
USA TODAY

After a couple of months of hurricane-related volatility, this week's report on November payrolls could provide the first largely untainted reading of the labor market since summer.

A relatively light week of economic news also features data on the service sector and consumer credit.

In October, a closely-watched index of service-sector activity reached the highest level on records dating to 2008, reflecting an economy that has been firing on all cylinders lately. Services — such as construction, mining, transportation, retail, insurance and real estate — make up about 80% of the economy. The strong October performance was partly inflated by weather-related disruptions that increased supplier delivery times, and so a modest pullback is likely, Nomura economist Lewis Alexander says. Economists estimate the Institute for Supply Management will announce Tuesday that its non-manufacturing index fell modestly in November to a level that still signifies robust growth.

Consumers have been reaching for their credit cards more frequently over the past year or two as a result of solid job and income growth. That has added to steady increases in auto and stu-

dent loans. The trend has slowed somewhat recently, possibly because rising delinquencies by less credit-worthy borrowers have prompted some lenders to tighten their standards. Still, Alexander says credit levels "remain in healthy territory." Economists expect the Federal Reserve on Thursday to report outstanding consumer credit grew by \$16.8 billion in October, following a \$20.8 billion increase the prior month.

Hurricanes Harvey in Texas and Irma in Florida pummeled employment in September, with the U.S. economy adding just 18,000 jobs. October brought the inevitable rebound, with 261,000 jobs gained, but that was significantly less than the 313,000 projected. Payroll growth averaged just 140,000 for the two months, below the pace of 176,000 for the first eight months of the year. It's possible that not all of the idled workers in Texas and Florida were back on the job by the time the Labor Department conducted its survey in early October. Their subsequent return could provide some extra boost to the November tally, economist Jim O'Sullivan of High Frequency Economics says, though the report should mostly be free of weather-related distortions. Economists figure Labor on Friday will report that employers added a sturdy 210,000 jobs last month despite a tight labor market that's making it tougher to find workers.

# Price protection a key shopping tool

## Make the most of it, and you could save hundreds of dollars each year

Gregory Karp  
NerdWallet

Holiday shopping is stressful enough without worrying about price reductions on yuletide treasures you already bought.

You might be able to avoid that regret by paying with a credit card featuring free price protection, a kind of time machine that lets you get today's lower price for something you bought in the past. Consider it a *Christmas Carol* for your wallet.

It's "one of the most important benefits of any card that I am thinking of switching to," says Edgar Dworsky, founder and editor of consumer news and advice site ConsumerWorld.org.

Dworsky recently used his credit card to buy a TV at a warehouse club — then saw it for \$32 less at Walmart. He uploaded the Walmart ad to his credit-card issuer's price protection site and received the credit in a few days, he says.

Price protection is potentially worth hundreds of dollars per year, but filing a claim isn't always worth the effort, especially for small refunds. And if you're already in credit-card debt, charging holiday gifts is generally a bad idea. But a credit-card safeguard against falling prices can be a valuable savings tool, according to savings expert Andrea Woroch.

Here's how to make the most of it.

### How it works

If you buy an item with your credit card and find it for a lower price within a specific period — such as 60 or 90 days — price protection will refund the difference, excluding surcharges such as taxes and shipping. The lower-priced item must match the one you purchased exactly — same manufacturer and model.

The catch?

Price protection isn't automatic. You typically have to monitor competing prices yourself (unless you have a Citi card with a helpful Price Rewind tool). Some issuers require you to phone a claims administrator to start the process, then file paperwork online or by mail. You'll probably need to provide a claim form, itemized receipt, card statement showing the purchase and a dated advertisement for the same item.



Prices on electronics and big-ticket items such as appliances can experience big cuts. A 15% discount on a \$1,000 washer-and-dryer set could bring a \$150 refund. CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

### How to use it strategically

Use it for holiday shopping. You can buy Aunt Gertrude a crock pot in early December, then apply for a price protection refund in January if it goes on sale after the holidays. More generally, price protection lets you shop without time-consuming bargain hunting.

Make the effort matter. Prices on electronics and big-ticket items, such as appliances, can experience big cuts. Both are worth tracking. A 15% discount on a \$1,000 washer-and-dryer set means a \$150 refund.

Compare with retailer policy. Many retailers have low-price guarantees or price-matching policies. They might involve less hassle than applying for a refund via credit-card price protection. But credit cards typically give you two to three months to file a claim vs. one to

two weeks for retailers, Woroch says. Leverage sketchy retailers. You might find a low price at an online retailer you don't trust. Price guarantees, whether from your credit card or a retailer, allow you to buy the item from a trusted seller for the same price, Dworsky says.

### Limitations

Price protection is typically capped.

For example, a maximum claim might be \$500, with a yearly limit of \$2,500 in refunds. It applies mostly to goods bought in the U.S., not services, and might exclude certain items, such as food, jewelry and event tickets. Refunds are usually paid by statement credit or mailed check.

Many mainstream credit cards offer price protection, even those without an annual fee — although cards from American Express don't offer it. To find out whether your card does — and how to use it — call your issuer at the phone number on the back of the card.

Karp is a writer at NerdWallet, a USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage from around the Web. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY. Email: gkarp@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @spendingsmart.

## RETIREMENT

# 6 year-end tips and techniques to save money

If you haven't done so already, now — as in before the end of the year — would be a good time to review your financial plan and take advantage of any last-minute retirement-planning tools and techniques.

So, what are some of those tools and techniques?

**Robert Powell**  
Columnist  
USA TODAY

### 1 Think taxes now and later

"At the end of the year, we try to bring down the adjusted gross income — the AGI — of our clients to minimize their exposure to taxes," says Kathi Grace, a managing director at United Capital Financial Advisers and author of *Prince Not So Charming: Cinderella's Guide to Financial Independence*.

"We also look for ways to minimize the amount of taxes they will pay later, upon retirement."

### 2 Consider Roth IRA conversions and recharacterizations

If you have designs on converting some or all of your traditional IRA into a Roth IRA, it's best you do it quickly.

"For a 2017, conversion funds must be out of the account by Dec. 31, 2017," says Beverly DeVeney, director of retirement education for Ed Slott and Company. "You cannot do a conversion in 2018 for 2017."

Grace is also among those who recommend converting traditional IRAs into Roth IRAs.

"You can use your tax bracket today to position yourself at an advantage for tomorrow," she says. "If you believe your tax bracket will be higher later on, converting traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs will reduce the taxes you will ultimately pay when it's time to retire."

One caveat about recharacterizations of Roth conversions and rollovers: The House Republicans' proposed tax reform bill does away with recharacterization. A recharacterization allows you to "undo" or "reverse" a rollover or conversion to a Roth IRA, according to the IRS.

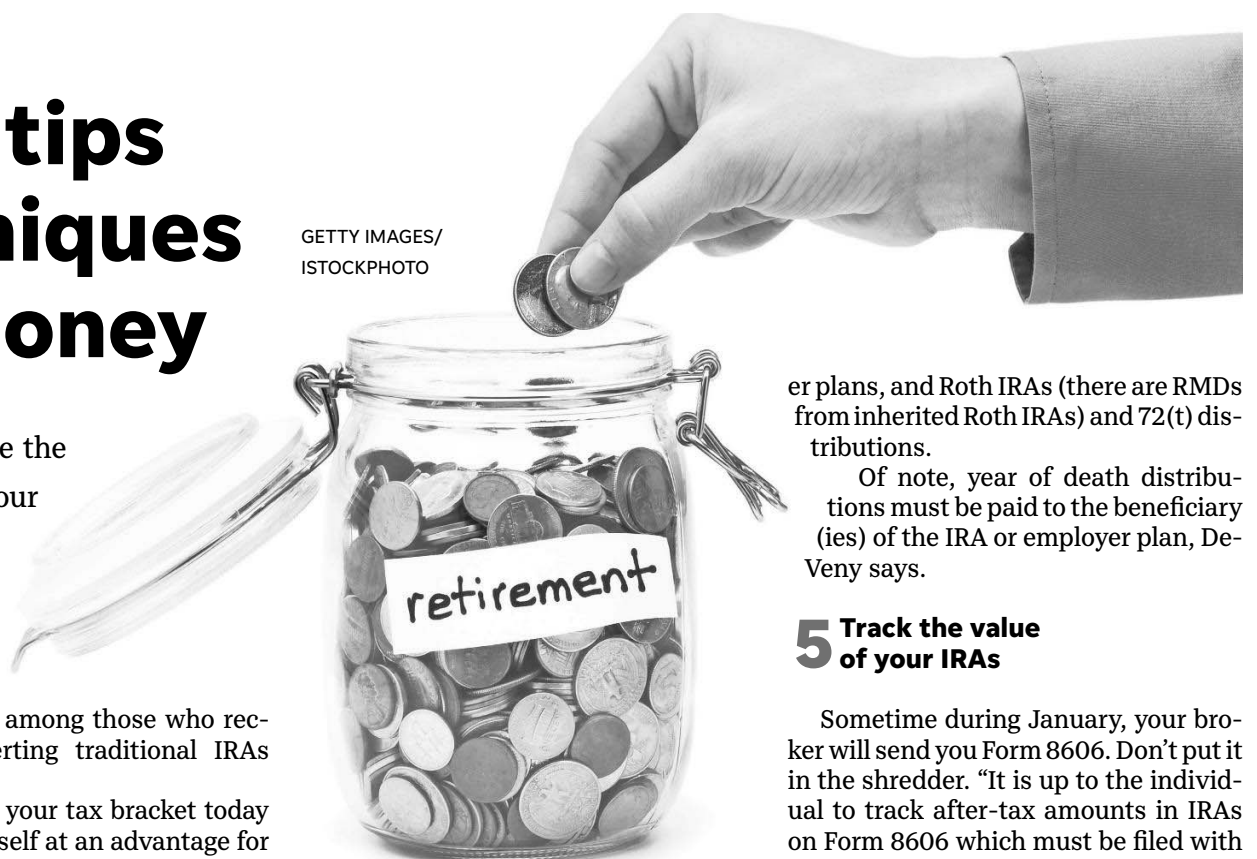
"If included in a bill that is passed, as written today there will be no Roth recharacterizations in 2018," DeVeney says.

So, for anyone who did a Roth IRA conversion in 2017 that they might want to recharacterize, they should consider doing the recharacterization now, DeVeney says.

"In 2018 they could reconvert the assets if the Roth remains a better option, but they may not be able to recharacterize," she says.

And, anyone considering a Roth conversion before year-end should keep in mind that they might not be able to recharacterize in 2018, DeVeney says.

GETTY IMAGES/  
ISTOCKPHOTO



er plans, and Roth IRAs (there are RMDs from inherited Roth IRAs) and 72(t) distributions.

Of note, year of death distributions must be paid to the beneficiary (ies) of the IRA or employer plan, DeVeney says.

### 5 Track the value of your IRAs

Sometime during January, your broker will send you Form 8606. Don't put it in the shredder. "It is up to the individual to track after-tax amounts in IRAs on Form 8606 which must be filed with the tax return," DeVeney says.

What's more, she says individuals under age 59½ must track Roth IRA contributions and conversions to comply with the "ordering" rules for early Roth distributions, which are reported on Form 8606, which must be filed with the tax return.

### 6 Make a list and check it twice

Make sure all funds transferred or rolled over went to the right accounts, "Make sure there are no unexplained distributions from accounts," DeVeney says.

Year-end is also a good time to check beneficiary forms and, DeVeney says, make sure the custodian has them and that the right beneficiaries are named on the forms for both primary and contingent beneficiaries.

Powell contributes regularly to USA TODAY, TheStreet and "The Wall Street Journal." Got questions about money or retirement? Email Bob at rpowell@allthingsretirement.com.

### 3 Contribute to your IRAs and Roth IRAs now

DeVeney recommends making your 2017 contributions to IRAs and Roth IRAs before year-end so your money has a chance to start growing tax-deferred right away.

"The compounding on those assets and their growth can mean a larger account at retirement," she says.

Also, teenagers and young adults who had a paying job during the year should open and contribute to a Roth IRA, DeVeney says.

**Note:** You can contribute to an IRA or Roth IRA even if you are covered by an employer plan at work, says DeVeney.

### 4 Make sure you take all of your distributions

Those would include required minimum distributions (RMDs) from IRAs or employer plans, required minimum distributions from inherited IRAs, employ-

# REFLECTIONS



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

The Cantey-Plowden Co. building is seen at the corner of Hampton and Sumter streets in 1943.

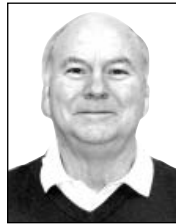
## Cantey-Plowden opens cash and carry grocery store

This issue of Reflections remembers the early development of the Cantey-Plowden grocery store located in downtown Sumter during the 1920s and into the '40s.

The Cantey-Plowden family store met the criteria expected of the typical "mom-and-pop" store. These businesses were expected to offer personal service, feature fresh, local products, have social connections between management and customers and guarantee quality and ethical treatment of their customers.

The Cantey-Plowden store was organized in 1926 after the liquidation of the Neill O'Donnell Co. "In February of that year, W.R. Plowden and Dr. E.P. DuRant, owners of the People's Grocery since its inception on June 1, 1920, went into business with B.O. Cantey, who had been with the O'Donnell Co. for many years. Several other Sumter citizens were included to form the new Cantey-Plowden firm." The business offered quality service "to Sumter, Sumter County and other points within a radius of 40 miles of the city."

"On Sept. 7, Cantey-Plowden opened their first cash-and-



Sammy Way  
REFLECTIONS

carry store at 33 S. Main St. The venture was a success from the first and was managed by Sidney White. In November of 1929, the popular Cantey-Plowden Grocery store opened 'a second member of this chain located at 14 W. Liberty St., in the Osteen Building.' The Cantey-Plowden Co. took over the grocery store recently operated by the O'Donnell & Co. when this firm retired from business."

Their reputation for retaining a high level of respectability was instituted by the officers who ran this company. The officials were J.A. McKnight, president; B.O. Cantey, vice president and manager, and W.R. Plowden, secretary. The three stores maintained "a full-line of staples and fancy groceries and vegetables. One consistent feature of all three stores was a reputation of being clean and spotless."

In January of 1942, Cantey-Plowden moved into its new home at the corner of Hamp-

ton Avenue and Sumter streets, what was once the old Polly Prentiss Building. "This new building was designed to make shopping easy and was considered modern in every respect. It featured a stock room at the rear and a second floor used for storing reserve stock. A freight elevator facilitated rapid transfer from one floor to the other, and the store also featured a modern meat market selling western meats, poultry and dairy products. The building was 96 feet long and 36 feet wide. The plans called for the construction of a parking lot to allow for ample parking for the store's patrons."

"Cantey-Plowden featured one of the state's largest and most attractive arrays of staple and fancy groceries, vegetables and fruits. The store prided itself on having an efficient delivery service at all times." In addition to Cantey-Plowden, several local "mom-and-pop" grocery stores flourished in the Sumter community until the arrival of chain supermarkets.

Information and photos used to prepare this article were taken from Sumter Item archives.

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at [waysammy@yahoo.com](mailto:waysammy@yahoo.com) or (803) 774-1294.

### Cantey-Plowden Co.

<b>Swift Premium HAMS</b> Pound 20c	<b>Week-End Savings</b>	<b>Dreher's Sausage MEAT</b> Pound 25c
<b>KREMEL</b> 2 Pkgs. and Boys' Steel Helmet—27c	<b>SHORTENING</b> 8-lb. carton 77c 4-lb. carton 39c	<b>FLORIDA ORANGES</b> Peck 35c <b>GRANULATED SUGAR</b> 10 lbs. 48c 25 lbs. \$1.23
<b>Ballard's BUCKWHEAT FLOUR</b> Pkg. 10c	Calumet <b>BAKING POWDER</b> 1 lb. can 25c	Ballard's Table Talk <b>GUARANTEED FLOUR</b> 24 lbs. \$1.00 12 lbs. 55c
<b>Battle Creek GLUTEN FLOUR</b> Government Standard Bag \$1.40	<b>Baker's Dot CHOCOLATE</b> ½ lb. 22c	Webster's <b>PORK AND BEANS</b> 2 cans 9c
<b>Our All Star COFFEE</b> We grind it fresh Lb. 22c	<b>BAKER'S COCOA</b> ½ lb. 12c	Fancy <b>WHOLE GRAIN RICE</b> Lb. 5c
<b>KENCO COFFEE</b> Vacuum Packed Lb. tin 28c	<b>Wright's Silver Cream POLISH</b> Jar 22c	<b>Fat, Plump, Eared Rock BROILERS OR FRIERS</b> Average 1½ lbs. Per lb. 24c
<b>SELOX</b> The Speed Soap Large Pkg. 10c Medium size, 5c	Dreamland, Cane <b>Flavored SYRUP</b> 1½ lb. size can 10c	<b>FUL-O-PEP EGG MASH</b> Hens on Ful-O-Pep mash cost 12c per bird more but give an additional income of 63c per bird or 51 cents extra profit over some mashes that sell for less.
	Home Made Brand <b>FLOUR</b> 24 lbs. 85c 12 lbs. 48c 48 lbs. \$1.65	We sell Full-O-Pep Feeds

CASH & CARRY—39 SOUTH MAIN ST.  
 —Home Owned Stores—  
 Free Delivery From Both Stores—Phones 706-707



The Cantey-Plowden Co. store, seen here in 1942, was equipped with new and modern fixtures and included a complete meat market department. A large parking lot at the rear of the building was an added convenience to customers. B.O. Cantey and W.R. Plowden were active managers of the company.

### In The Grocery and Market Business

#### Our Grocery Department

Is one of the largest and most attractive in South Carolina

- STAPLE and FANCY GROCERIES
- VEGETABLES and FRUITS

LARGE PARKING LOT AT REAR OF BUILDING

#### Our Meat Department

Is Modern in Every Respect  
 we carry a Full Line of Native and Western Meats, Poultry and Dairy products

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT OUR STORE!

## CANTEY-LOWDEN CO.

ABOVE and LEFT: Cantey-Plowden Co. advertisements urge people to purchase groceries at the South Main Street store. "Cantey-Plowden featured one of the state's largest and most attractive arrays of staple and fancy groceries, vegetables and fruits. The store prided itself on having an efficient delivery service at all times."



# YESTERYEAR

## Former police officer seeks to unseat Sheriff Parnell

75 YEARS AGO — 1943

June 26 — July 2

Staff Sgt. William E. Bell, 24, of Sumter, is one of 37 officers and 50 enlisted men to receive the Air Medal at a base in the Caribbean area for meritorious achievement while participating in long-range ocean patrol flights.

• South Carolina motorists getting rationing certificates for Grade III tires will soon be able to buy some of 1,500,000 "emergency" used tires made available by rubber director William M. Jeffers for rationing as spares, it was announced by the state Office of Price Administration. Selling for \$1,



Yesteryear in Sumter

SAMMY WAY

plus the rationing certificate and branded with an "O" pressed into the sidewall to identify them, these "emergency" tires may be purchased from regular dealers. None of the "O" branded tires are to be recapped prior to sale.

• Burton M. Hovey Jr., who left his post as commanding officer of Shaw Field, was the guest of city officials at a barbecue dinner at Yank's Place. Col. Hovey was presented a handsome watch by Mayor F.B. Creech, who was toastmaster at the farewell dinner, on behalf of the residents of Sumter. ... A special guest was Maj. William A. Thompson, who was awaiting a new assignment after having attended the Army's Staff and General Command school.

• The Boyle Construction Co. of Sumter was awarded an Army contract amounting to more than \$50,000 during the period from June 19 to 21, headquarters, Fourth Service Command announced. The contract calls for the construction of a rifle range in Greenville County, and the work will be supervised by the Army Engineers office in Charleston. The cost was designated as from \$50,000 to \$99,999.

• Henry Shelor and Gene Moses were scheduled to play in the semi-finals of the annual Coca-Cola golf handicap tourney with the winner meeting Ryan Kennedy either Sunday or Monday. The three golfers are the survivors in the qualifying field of 19. Others who qualified were: Luther Wimberly, N.E. Osteen, Dr. C.R.F. Baker, W.O. Staley, B.H. Love Jr., A.T. Heath Jr., H.A. Hickson Jr., Isadore Denmark, Frank Girard, R.G. Rae, J.P. Lawson, Frank Thorne Jr., H.Q. Heath, Ray Penny, F.M. Moise and F.A. Cribb Jr.

• C.W. Blessley, who this week assumed command of Shaw Field, has been a flyer for more than 25 years and is credited with destroying four enemy planes over France in World War I. Like Lt. Irvin Shaw, the Sumter flyer for whom Shaw Field is named, Col. Blessley served with the Royal Air Force in 1918 and went to France a month after the Sumter pilot met his death there. He was assigned to the 60th Squadron and served until September 1918 when he was wounded in action. In his last engagement, Col. Blessley shot down one plane after being wounded and was awarded the Purple Heart for a wound coupled with valor.

• Mayor F. B. Creech issued a proclamation designating July 5 as War Bond Rally Day in Sumter and urging residents of the city to cooperate by buying bonds as liberally as possible. On that day, a bicycle parade and races will be held, beginning at 5 o'clock, and at 7:30, United States District Attorney Claude N. Sapp of Columbia will address a gathering from the courthouse steps.

• In one of the longest and closest golf matches ever played at the Sunset Country Club, Gene Moses defeated Henry Shelor on the 36th hole to win the right to meet Ryan Kennedy in the finals of the annual Coca-Cola Handicap tourney. Finishing the 35th hole all even, Moses scored a birdie on the 36th hole to win the match. Moses had to give Shelor seven strokes in the handicap play having a 79 against Shelor's 87.

50 YEARS AGO — 1968

Feb. 25 — March 2

With the 6-A Conference Championship once again in mind this year, Manning's girls took their third straight tourney victory, downing favored Southside 46-40. As the other teams lost ground in the competition, the Manning girls are still undefeated in the double elimination tourney at the Southside gym as the affair nears its conclusion. Giving

their usual outstanding performances Gay Herlong and Deloris McCord paced their squad with 18- and 17-point efforts respectively.

• Morris College, in cooperation with the National Urban League and funded by the Ford Foundation, will hold a two-day New Career Opportunities Session. Orientation will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Wilson-Booker Science Building. The general assembly will begin at 11 a.m. in E.D. White Memorial Hall. Participating on this program will be Rev. Bert D. Lewis, college minister; the Morris College Choir; Dr. Anna D. Reuben, conference chairman; and Dr. H.E. Hardin, acting president.

• M.B. Randle of Cities Supply Co. was recognized in the March issue of "Willing Water," a national publication of the American Water Works Association, along with others, for his long-time interest in water and its uses. Randle, who has operated his firm in Sumter since 1940, has been named a life member of the American Water Works Association.

• R.D. "Jack" Farmer, 38, a former city policeman, officially began his campaign to unseat incumbent Sheriff Byrd Parnell. In announcing his candidacy, Farmer issued a lengthy statement calling for "a firmer grip of the crime problem ... on the local level to prevent federal intervention," criticizing the five escapes from the county jail and urging better guidance to young people as a means of preventing crime. Farmer is a Georgia native and has lived in Sumter for the past 20 years. He was a member of the city police department for four-and-a-half years before resigning to run for sheriff.

• City council approved the general concept of a new \$461,657 civic center plan and authorized the Housing Authority to proceed with plans for the first phase, a \$135,000 pedestrian mall near the new library.

• Sumter was represented at the 13th-annual Conference of the South Association of Credit Women-International by Mrs. Harold Wright, president of the Sumter Club, Mrs. Wilbur Ardis, past club president. Mrs. William Henry, past state president and Betty Pritchard, newly elected second vice president of the state association. Also attending from Sumter was Bill Dendy, sponsor, and Wilbur Ardis. Other special guests were Mrs. Beulah Sullivan of Burlington, North Carolina. Dixie Council President Earline Lonquist, also of Burlington, recording secretary of Dixie Council, and Florence Austin of Greenville, second vice president of the Dixie Council.

• In a nip-and-tuck battle from start to finish, Lake City's Panthers edged Hillcrest, 55-51, to eliminate the Wildcats from the conference 6-A tournament at the Southside gym. Neither team held more than a five-point lead throughout the contest. Currie Fun sparked the Panthers with 14 points and put Lake City ahead by one by making two free throws with two minutes remaining in the contest.

• Sgt. John P. Pringle, a native of Sumter, was selected the "Outstanding Sergeant" for the period of July 1 to Dec. 31, 1967, while assigned to the 295th Military Police Company at Seneca Army Depot, Romulus, New York. Col. Howard Metzger, depot commander, presented him with a trophy and a \$25 savings bond. He entered the service in September of 1964 at Fort Jackson and took basic training at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

• Sgt. Jimmy Hutley, dock chief with the 4414th Combat Crew Training Squadron, was elected "Maintenance Man of the Month," for the 363rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. A native of Sumter, Sgt. Hutley came to Shaw in June 1967 from Korat AB Thailand, where he was a crew chief on the F-105 Thunder chief. The sergeant was cited by his supervisor for his ability in scheduling maintenance, equipment and work facilities to prevent bottlenecks in inspections on the RF-101.

• Thomas Edward (Tommy) Wilson, 56, a Sumter County grain dealer and real estate operator and a newcomer to politics, announced that he will seek to unseat U.S. Rep. Tom Gettys in the June Democratic Primary. In making his announcement, Wilson said, "The Fifth Congressional District has a good congressman. I cannot find anything wrong with him. I just think I can do the job better."

• Col. Felix "Doc" Blanchard, 43, one of the Army's all-time football greats, flies an F-105 Fighter-bomber out of Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand. "Mr. Inside" in the famed



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Sgt. Maxie Connor of Sumter Police Department comforts a pony that was rambling around in the proposed civic center in 1968. Its owner was notified and came to carry the animal home.

West Point backfield during unbeaten seasons in 1944, 1945 and 1946 has logged several missions "inside" North Vietnam as an Air Force pilot. His family was staying in Sumter while he was overseas.

• Martha Stoddard and Grady Locklear of Edmunds High School were named Sumter County's Star Student and Teacher, respectively, at a recent special academic recognition banquet. Miss Stoddard, a native Sumterite, plans to be a premedical student in college next year, was chosen for her academic ranking in the Edmunds senior class and her outstanding score on the Scholastic Aptitude Test. She chose Locklear as the teacher who most contributed to her education, praising him for enthusiasm he exuded as an adviser to the high school newspaper and literary magazine and as an English teacher.

• After a tight first half, Coach John Thames' strong Manning girls simply walked away from a dejected Southside team in the second half, to take the 6-A conference crown after their 43-28 victory in the Southside gym. Weak foul shooting in the first half told the story, but some sparkling outside shots by Gay Herlong, who paced the Monarchs with a tremendous 23-point effort, and some tough lay-ups by Deloris McCord, who scored 17 points, broke the contest wide open in the final half.

25 YEARS AGO — 1992

Nov. 27 — Dec. 3

• Johnny Jackson had no idea he would end up investing his hard-earned money in drug dealers and an assortment of criminal elements. But in 1975, he began doing just that by becoming Sumter County's first bail bondsman. Ever since, he has made his living by making loans to suspected criminals who want to pay their way out of jail. Eighteen years ago, Jackson closed shop at his two downtown office supply stores in search of something more exciting. And according to him, his reign as owner of the J&J Bail Bond Co. has brought more excitement than he ever bargained for.

• Special teams' mistakes put Hillcrest in an early hole, and a talented Hartsville defense kept the Wildcats bottled up for most of the evening as the Red Foxes held on for a 14-12 win in the 4 Division II lower state championship game at the Hartsville field. The game began on an ominous note for Hillcrest when Marc White fumbled the opening kickoff and was swarmed under at the Wildcat seven-yard line.

• For the first 1½ quarters of the 4A Division I lower state championship football game between Sumter and Spring Valley, it looked like a replay of the Gamecocks' 34-0 loss to Hillcrest to end their regular season. The final four minutes of the first half was a repeat of the SHS' 31-14 win over Summerville. The second half just looked like a hard-hitting football game. What it looked like when all was said and done though was a 31-14 Gamecock victory to send the Gamecocks to the state championship contest for the third consecutive year.

• Dr. W.H. Neal will speak during this year's annual Pre-Christmas Worship service. Neal is the chairman-emeritus of the Morris College Board of Trustees and pastor of St. John Baptist Church in Hopkins. The program will be held in the W.H. Neal-Iola Jones Auditorium.

• The Sumter High School Symphonic Band will travel to the "Windy City" to perform center stage with musical giants from across the United States in the 1993 National Concert Band Festival. Band members and directors Joe Allison and Brian Lambeth are gearing up for this prestigious festival, which drew applications from award-winning high school concert bands from throughout America. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Allison. "This is the kind of honor high school band directors dream about."

• An exquisite rendition of the "Fantasia on Christmas Carols" highlighted the Sumter Civic Chorale's program Tuesday at Patriot Hall. The composition by Ralph Vaughan Williams was, in fact, the centerpiece of a crown of musical gems that comprised the middle section of the hour-long concert ... The entire concert, labeled "We Give You Music," was a showcase of peerless talent. Pat Veltre and Julie Dwight divided the conducting duties and both, as usual, were in full control of their material and musicians.

• Sumter School District 2's newly elected trustees will be sworn in, taking office after a month-long series of election appeals. Trustee Naomi Sanders, Trustee Elizabeth Kilgore, Elizabeth Kyler and Roland Robinson will take the oath of office in a meeting that begins at 5:30 p.m. at the district office. The four, elected during the Nov. 3 general election, will join the board after the current trustees complete their last remaining duties.

• Sumter High jumped out to a 22-point halftime lead and then held off a mild Furman uprising in the fourth quarter to claim a 86-67 win over the Indians in the Sumter High Tipoff Classic Tuesday night at the Sumter High gym. Furman and Sumter played on even terms for the first five minutes of the contest, with the Gamecocks holding a 12-10 lead. A jumper by Chris Carter, a free throw by Heyward McFadden and a three-pointer by Clifton Howard, however, increased the Sumter lead to 18-10.

• What is Tom Lewis' secret? Over the past three seasons, Sumter High School has compiled a 37-7 record and is preparing this week for its third consecutive visit to the 4A Division I state championship. The Gamecocks will be making their fifth championship appearance in the last eight years when they step onto the field at Williams-Brice Stadium against Gaffney. Is it the uniform? "It's a tradition," Lewis admitted. "We explain that when you are wearing a Sumter uniform you have a tradition to carry on. Many of the players who have played for us over the past 10 years have graduated to the next level and been successful."

Reach Sumter Item Archivist Sammy Way at [waysammy@yahoo.com](mailto:waysammy@yahoo.com) or (803) 774-1294.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

- **Hunter James Guarinio and Shyan Jeanay Herman**
- **Shawn Travis Hoyle and Kelly Brooks Hinson**
- **Mico Dominique Nixon and Candice Adriana Williams**
- **Jeremy Fulton Gibbons and Hunter Lee Green of Asheville, North Carolina**
- **Brad Allen Gerft and Emily Richardson Dooley**
- **Dennis Blanding of Manning and Frances Brown**
- **Kirby Jacob Brown and Lauren Elizabeth Newman**
- **Mauriel Antwian Tomlin and Candace Aubrey Chatman**
- **Jawan Louis Artis and Jassime Gwendolyn Bradford of Cassatt**
- **Kevin Lee Sargent Jr. and Morgan Ashley Blanton**
- **Shaquawn Verntrell Muldrow and Rayshari Tatianna Oliver**
- **Daniel Jacob White and Amanda Michelle Seay**
- **Johnathan Tyler Cash and Brandi Renee Earles**
- **Leonardo Saquic Gomez and Maria DeLeon Gutierrez**
- **Jerome Robinson Jr. and Crystal Bowman Reed of Bishopville**
- **Eric Daniel Capell and Whitney Jean Gosnell of Landrum**
- **Lewis Jamal Green and Zephrah Andrea Conyers**
- **Johnson Kevin Chege Kabubei and Ann Wanjiru Maina**
- **Lawrence Franklin Preast IV of Timmons-ville and Emily Ruth Griffin of Pinewood**
- **Jackie Jerome Williams and Carolyn Orline English, both of Rembert**
- **David Sylvester Prescod and Lalonda Evonne Burgess, both of New Zion**
- **Jordan James Hilliard and Ryan Christopher Trenck, both of Virginia Beach, Virginia**
- **Richard Allen Wright and Shelby Taylor Webster**
- **James Earl Amerson Jr. and Lori Ann Edwards**
- **Howdy Leigh Morris and Melissa Hope Baxley**
- **Roger Dale Hill II and Bridgett Ann Burrows, both of Dalzell**
- **Nashawn Terrell Ortiz and Deja Monique Shadé Pringle of Manning**
- **Terry Lamar McDaniel and Yana Elizabeth Clark**
- **Lionel Dozier and Cindyella York**
- **Elwood Durmant Stone and Whitney Marie Grubbs of Dalzell**
- **Daniel Ramos and Melissa Diane Izquierdo**
- **Rosser Kennedy Legrand and Ann Brown Caldwell**
- **Jerrod Paul Adams and Melissa Michelle Proffitt**
- **David Patrick Schweikert Jr. and Kelsey Marie Cox**
- **Justin Warren Dancer of Mountain Home, Idaho, and Samantha Nicole Sherod**
- **Danzel Capers and Jasmika Chambré Wallace**
- **Jahrod Wallace Meyers of Columbia and Courtney Alicia McBride**

## BUILDING PERMITS

- **Todd Dwin and Paula A. Murray**, owners, Malon L. Snider dba Palmetto Exteriors, contractor, 1339 Warwick Drive, \$4,950 (replace 14 windows, residential).
- **Martha P. Shaw (trustee)**, owner, Danny Marshall, contractor, 321 W. Calhoun St. (A), \$2,950 (10 vinyl replacement windows / caps same size and style, residential).
- **Wayne Beasley**, owner, Aycock Construction LLC, contractor, 2891 Broad St., \$4,500 (stucco work on front of building, commercial).
- **Palmetto Properties of Sumter**, owner, Shawn Carter, contractor, 4915 Silo Road, 1,381 unheated square feet, \$29,000 (turn existing house into detached storage building / no plumbing / electric / HVAC, residential).
- **Grover E. and Lori L. Rabon**, owners, Sun Pools & Spas of Sumter, contractor, 2840 Loretto Drive, \$41,000 (swimming pool, residential).
- **David Crouse / Rosanna Crouse**, owners, David Crouse, contractor, 658 Henderson St., \$1,500 (above ground swimming pool, residential).
- **SLS Co. LTD (C. Stewart)**, owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 1013 Acres Ave. (mobile home, residential); SLS Co. LTD (Lessie Harris), owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 1870 Amberwood Drive (mobile home, residential); SLS Co. LTD (C. Stewart), owner, Jacob Randall, contractor, 362 McDuffie St. (mobile home, residential).
- **John and Sharon Smith**, owners, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 362 McDuffie St. (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).
- **Edward and Roberta Spry**, owners, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 1013 Acres Ave., \$2,000 (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).
- **Lessie M. Harris**, owner, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 1870 Amberwood Drive, \$5,000 (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).
- **Jerry and Cora L. Baker**, owners, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 930 Salterstown Road, \$33,766.89 (drywall / flooring / insulation / roofing / framing, residential).
- **Audrey Covington**, owner, George Wilson dba Wilson Roofing and Bui, contractor, 713 S. Harvin St., \$6,700 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Mae Frances McQuillar**, owner, George Wilson dba Wilson Roofing and Bui, contractor, 118 Laurel St., \$5,000 (remove / replace shingles, residential).
- **Strip & Flip LLC**, owner, Jonathan Brent Waynick, contractor, 109 Mood Ave., \$1,000 (tear down chimney, residential).
- **Santee Lynches Regional Development,**

owner, JMEC Construction LLC, contractor, 15 Levi St., \$5,050 (residential demolition of residence, residential); Santee Lynches Regional Development, owner, JMEC Construction LLC, contractor, 704 Broad St., \$4,225 (residential demolition of residence, residential); Santee Lynches Regional Development, owner, JMEC Construction LLC, contractor, 509 Oakland Ave., \$6,400 (residential demolition of residence, residential); Santee Lynches Regional Development, owner, JMEC Construction LLC, contractor, 230 W. Williams St., \$4,150 (residential demolition of residence, residential); Santee Lynches Regional Development, owner, JMEC Construction LLC, contractor, 420 N. Magnolia St., \$4,450 (residential demolition of residence, residential); Santee Lynches Regional Development, owner, JMEC Construction LLC, contractor, 429 Loring Drive, \$4,525 (residential demolition of residence, residential).

• **Larry K.W. and Charlotte Stewart**, owners, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 125 Radcliff Drive, \$4,656 (reroof only, residential).

• **United Bonded Warehouse Inc.**, owner, Rob Morris Construction, contractor, 100 S. Main St. East, Mayesville, 15,000 unheated square feet, \$50,000 (ag storage building, commercial).

• **Gabriel Contreras**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 4310 Confederate Road (mobile home, residential).

• **Kathy Y. Carroll**, owner, Larry Timmons dba T&T Metal Roofing, contractor, 104 Morgan Ave., \$4,700 (install metal roof, residential).

• **Robert A. Burleson**, owner and contractor, 112 Haynsworth St., \$1,500 (residential demolition of old falling down addition on home, residential).

• **Herbert P. Lee III**, owner, Hoover Buildings of Lexington, contractor, 3425 Sawmill Drive, 1,000 heated square feet and 4,000 unheated square feet, \$95,000 (detached enclosed storage building, residential).

• **Willie D. and Shawn R. Hall**, owners, Homestar Solar Solutions, contractor, 2275 Drexel Court, Dalzell, \$23,500 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).

• **Mae Frances McQuillar**, owner, Michael A. Walters Builders, contractor, 118 Laurel St., \$1,100 (add eight feet top to porch install shingles, residential).

• **Tina Washington**, owner, Steppnay Blackwell dba Blackwell Builder, contractor, 3745 Katwallace Circe, 1,901 heated square feet and 585 unheated square feet, \$150,000 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Brenda and Ronnie Brunson**, owners, Michael Partin dba Partin Construction, contractor, 281 Gamble St., \$8,000 (remove / install roof, residential).

• **Mount Franklin Foods SC LLC**, owner, Thompson Construction Group Inc., contractor, 2720 Southgate Drive, \$50,000 (installing dust collection, commercial).

• **Kent S. Lundy et al**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 605 Bell Road, \$6,380 (reroof, residential).

• **Larry D. Knopsnider / Arlene**, owners, Larry D. Knopsnider, contractor, 2735 Circleview Drive, 280 unheated square feet, \$6,355.80 (enclosed detached storage building, residential).

• **Mary Miller Hudson**, owner, John Paul Smith, contractor, 3905 Mt. Sinai Church Road, Lynchburg, 835 heated square feet and 50 unheated square feet, \$91,100 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Barbara Ann Harris**, owner, John Paul Smith, contractor, 7 Charles St., 835 heated square feet and 50 unheated square feet, \$91,100 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Great Southern Homes Inc.**, owner and contractor, 2665 Old Field Road, 2,272 heated square feet and 352 unheated square feet, \$95,823.50 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 2717 Magnum Drive, 1,748 heated square feet and 341 unheated square feet, \$84,933.42 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 2718 Magnum Road, 2,125 heated square feet and 363 unheated square feet, \$93,830.89 (new dwelling, residential); Great Southern Homes Inc., owner and contractor, 260 Lagavulin Drive, 1,661 heated square feet and 424 unheated square feet, \$95,461.80 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Sumter Family Health Center**, owner, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 370 S. Pike West, 5,000 heated square feet, \$4,600,000 (complete interior renovations and add 5,000 square feet to existing building, commercial).

• **Shawn Thomas Moore and Julie Ann Moore**, owners, Gene Altman Construction, contractor, 11190 Douglas Swamp Road, Olanta, 2,500 heated square feet and 850 unheated square feet, \$225,000 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Dianne Griffin**, owner, Welch's Quality Builders & Roofers LLC, contractor, 115 Winn St., \$4,925 (reroof, residential).

• **Alfreda Johnson**, owner, Carolina Carports, contractor, 20 Boots Branch Road, 378 unheated square feet, \$858.60 (detached open carport, residential).

• **Island Investments of Sumter**, owner, Hardee Construction Co. Inc., contractor, 575 Broad St., \$5,000 (construction of wall to separate into two rental units, commercial).

• **Debra L. and Mark E. Anderson**, owners, Alton Douglas Nelson, contractor, 1277 Barnwell Drive, \$17,320 (kitchen renovation, residential).

• **Mitchell A. Monroe**, owner, Alton Douglas Nelson, contractor, 2392 Chinquapin Drive, \$14,565 (kitchen renovation, residential).

• **Billy D. and Peggy S. Morgan**, owners, Alton Douglas Nelson, contractor, 319 Robbins Ave., \$6,545 (bathroom reno-

vation, residential).

• **Prit One LLC**, owner, JJ Hardee Construction and Design, contractor, 3660 Pinewood Road, \$40,000 (12x37 storage building — new metal roof, commercial).

• **Isaac McCullum**, owner, James E. Standley, contractor, 2890 Janie St., \$6,930 (remodel bathroom, residential).

• **Shavonne M. and Kewana S. Williams**, owners, Michael Porcher, contractor, 22 Burkett Drive, \$6,000 (replace sheet-rock three feet from floor, residential).

• **May B. McMillan**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 3005 Oswego Highway, \$7,975 (reroof, residential).

• **David D. Peebles**, owner, Square It Up Roofing Inc., contractor, 17 W. Charlotte Ave., \$5,425 (reroof, residential).

• **Ernest Jenkins**, owner, Cherokee Builders LLC, contractor, 3055 Socrates Lane, Dalzell, 720 unheated square feet, \$4,750 (detached / enclosed metal garage, residential).

• **Nelson E. and Elizabeth Nelligan**, owners, James E. Standley, contractor, 11 Glade Drive, Wedgefield, \$6,600 (replace roof, residential).

• **Denise P. Morgan and William R. Morgan Jr.**, owners, John F. Carey, contractor, 2162 Kingsbury Drive, \$45,482 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).

• **Santee Lynches Regional Development**, owner, Digging Deep Construction LLC, contractor, 708 N. Main St., \$3,800 (residential demolition of single story wood home, residential); Santee Lynches Regional Development, owner, Digging Deep Construction LLC, contractor, 617 N. Magnolia St., \$7,800 (residential demolition of single story brick home, residential).

• **Santana Hilton**, owner, Dee & Gee Builders LLC, contractor, 113 Little John Lane, 400 unheated square feet, \$800 (detached enclosed shed, residential).

• **Linda M. Andrews**, owner, Sumter Home Insulators Inc., contractor, 210 N. Purdy St., \$20,000 (new roof / paint / repair / refinish floor / new HVAC unit, residential).

• **Carolina Investment Corp.**, owner, Michael A. Walters Builders, contractor, 416 N. Salem Ave., \$9,500 (completion of walls, floors, sheetrock, roofing, electric, plumbing, HVAC, residential).

• **Curtis L. and Dawne C. Helms**, owners, Palmetto South Carolina Solar LLC, contractor, 4220 Cobblestone Road, \$22,080 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).

• **Federal National Mortgage**, owner, Charles M. Smith, contractor, 2156 Bob White Drive, \$2,500 (remove / replace shingles, residential).

• **James B. and Kathy S. Cole**, owners, J. Henry McLeod Jr. dba McLeod Landscaping, contractor, 611 E. Liberty St. (10), \$380 (replace front steps, residential).

• **Frierson MBH Park LLC**, owner, J. Henry McLeod Jr. dba McLeod Landscaping, contractor, 3290 Starview Drive, Dalzell, \$380 (replace front steps, residential).

• **Yu Hsueh Lee Patterson**, owner, David Windham Roofing & Remodeling, contractor, 5 Thomas Drive, \$3,500 (reroof, residential).

• **Mungo Homes**, owner and contractor, 2145 Watersong Run, 3,241 heated square feet and 472 unheated square feet, \$298,000 (new dwelling, residential); Mungo Homes, owner and contractor, 2849 Old Field Road, 2,268 heated square feet and 737 unheated square feet, \$166,000 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Robert S. Thames Sr. and Evelyn C. Thames**, owners, Abel Building Systems, contractor, 8505 Camden Highway, Rembert, 720 unheated square feet, \$12,312 (detached enclosed storage building, residential).

• **Valerie E. Brown**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 28 Hudson St. (mobile home, residential).

• **Keith A. and Judith A. Pandorf**, owners, Homestar Solar Solutions, contractor, 5693 Cold Stream Drive, Dalzell, \$37,890 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).

• **Clinton Jim McLeod**, owner, J. Henry McLeod Jr. dba McLeod Landscaping, contractor, 5265 Panola Road, Pinewood, \$380 (replace front steps, residential).

• **Richard L. Whitt**, owner and contractor, 1020 Barnwell Drive, 1,375 heated square feet, \$75,000 (kitchen, living room and bedroom addition, residential).

• **Cynthia W. Morris and Norman C. Morris Jr.**, owners, Welch's Quality Builders & Roofers LLC, contractor, 4 Lyname Road, \$3,545 (reroof, residential).

• **Earline J. Holland**, owner, CTEH Holdings LLC, contractor, 328 Love St., \$9,315.01 (repairs to floor / ceiling covering / roof, residential).

• **Eartha Lee Frierson**, owner, CTEH Holdings LLC, contractor, 1010 White Horse St., \$5,221 (repairs to drywall, paint and roofing, residential).

• **Luefenia M. Glisson**, owner, CTEH Holdings LLC, contractor, 170 N. St. Pauls Church Road, \$1,571.29 (repairs to drywall and painting, residential).

• **Lula L. Conyers**, owner, CTEH Holdings LLC, contractor, 402 Sanders Drive, \$4,314.20 (repairs to drywall, paint and roofing, residential).

• **Willie Ruth Pringle**, owner, CTEH Holdings LLC, contractor, 40 Webb Ave., \$1,322.16 (repairs to drywall and painting, residential).

• **H. Graham Hill Jr.**, owner, Homestar Solar Solutions, contractor, 406 N. Purdy St., \$41,000 (roof mount solar panel system, residential).

• **Forfeited Land Commission / Bobb**, owner, Buddin's Mini Excavator Work, contractor, 10 Monroe St., \$1,925 (residential demolition, residential).

• **Marcella and Alma Bradley**, owners, Stars and Stripes Contracting LLC, contractor, 250 Sandy Run Drive, 84 unheated square feet, \$2,400 (front

porch addition, residential).

• **David Smith Jr. and Sarah B. Smith**, owners, Charles D. Epting dba Taurus Construction Inc., contractor, 1137 Furman Drive, \$11,039.07 (roof, residential).

• **Franklin Richardson et al**, owner, Louis Richardson, contractor, 264 E. Red Bay Road, \$1,500 (remodel existing detached building, residential).

• **Job's Mortuary Inc.**, owner, Goines Construction LLC, contractor, 9 Dingle St., \$45,000 (new roof / metal, commercial).

• **Gainey Construction Co. LLC**, owner and contractor, 2365 Beachforest Drive, 2,652 heated square feet and 860 unheated square feet, \$193,092 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Emily B. Sanders Estate**, owner, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 44 Riley St., \$5,500 (reroof, residential).

• **WRB Holdings LLC**, owner, Shelwood China dba China Home Improvement, contractor, 4260 Broad St., \$5,600 (vinyl siding, residential).

• **Robert and Beverly M. Perry**, owners, Fort Roofing & Sheet Metal, contractor, 1370 Narrow Paved Road, Lynchburg, \$7,500 (reroof, residential).

• **Robert L. and Lillie R. Jordan**, owners, Chris Muenzer, contractor, 3112 Longleaf Drive, \$8,486 (remove / replace nine windows, no change to structure, residential).

• **Lester J. Gravermoen Jr. and Debor Gravermoen**, owners, Chris Muenzer, contractor, 3656 Oatfield Road, \$4,300 (remove / replace four windows, no change to structure, residential).

• **Thomas E. Player Jr. and Kolb O Ma**, owners, Hawkins and Kolb Construction Co., contractor, 2106 McCrays Mill Road, \$4,500 (reroof, residential).

• **L. Travis and Cynthia C. McIntosh**, owners, Charpy's Pool Service, contractor, 109 N. Hampton St., Pinewood, \$40,000 (swimming pool, residential).

• **Jamison Byron Carver**, owner, Trent Avin, contractor, 307 Adams Ave., \$8,000 (roofing, residential).

• **Jean Shannon Rhodes**, owner, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 339 North St., \$2,000 (residential demolition, residential).

• **Joyce Davis**, owner, SLSCO Ltd., contractor, 1877 Amberwood Drive, \$2,000 (residential demolition of mobile home, residential).

• **Emma H. English**, owner, Williamson Home Improvements, contractor, 20 Phyllis Lane, Wedgefield, \$30,000 (replace 12 windows, three doors, box eaves, rewire, repairs, residential).

• **Kayla Tisdale / Sebastian Collet**, owners, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 50 Abingdon Court, Wedgefield (mobile home, residential).

• **Joe and Joseph A. Palmer**, owners, Print Pros, contractor, 336 Manning Ave., \$300 (wall sign — Four Flats, commercial).

• **Vestco**, owner, J. Henry McLeod Jr. dba McLeod Landscaping, contracting, 4015 Third St., Mayesville, \$2,550 (reshingle roof, residential).

• **Carter Grading & Paving Co.**, owner, Sign Wave, contractor, 1087 Alice Drive B, \$927.80 (change face of wall sign — Sumter Laundry, commercial).

• **GP2 LLC**, owner, Sign Wave, contractor, 1251 Hastings Drive, \$630.80 (change face of wall sign — Sumter Laundry, commercial).

• **JMJ Homes LLC**, owner, Johnny M. James, contractor, 2565 Foxcroft Circle, 1,730 heated square feet and 425 unheated square feet, \$115,000 (new dwelling, residential).

• **Mickey A. and Victoria L. Robinson**, owners, Chris Muenzer, contractor, 6710 Fish Road, Dalzell, \$9,000 (remove / replace 10 windows with no structural change, residential).

• **Annie M. Toney**, owner, Golden Construction, contractor, 16 Walsh Grove, \$4,500 (remove and install shingles, residential).

• **Freddie and Margaret Ann Lang**, owners, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 415 Tampa Gold Road, Wedgefield (mobile home, residential).

• **Joey Carmon**, owner and contractor, 2895 Ithica Drive, \$1,200 (four foot chain link fence, residential).

• **Marilyn E. Hodges**, owner, Randolph Wells dba Wells Builders, contractor, 385 Mockingbird Lane, \$4,800 (remove / replace shingles, residential).

• **Costella Pack**, owner, SLS Co. Ltd., contractor, 560 Old Manning Road, \$12,521.31 (roofing / flooring / soffit / fascia / carpentry, residential).

• **Judy Barker**, owner, Harvey McDonald, contractor, 2974 Dalzell St., Dalzell (mobile home, residential).

• **Van Bulck Hendrikus Real Estate**, owner, John W. Ratliff, contractor, 15 Broad St. (13), \$500 (add one reception door / replace front counter — no electric, plumbing or HVAC, commercial).

• **Thelma Wigfall-Miner**, owner, Dylon Graham dba Graham Construction, contractor, 1320 Crowndale Drive, 260 heated square feet, \$22,000 (13x20 sunroom on back of house — attached, residential).

• **David Reeser and Pennry R. Smith**, owners, Larry Timmons dba T&T Metal Roofing, contractor, 1377 Camden Highway, \$2,400 (replace shingles, residential).

• **Bradford J. Smith and Jane McElwe**, owners, Michael D. Linville, contractor, 1 Tucson Drive, \$7,500 (reroof, residential).

• **John A. and Christy L. Truett**, owners, James P. Dennis, contractor, 1530 Airport Road, 3,200 unheated square feet, \$12,500 (open pole building with lean-to, commercial).

• **Jacqueline D. Fretwell**, owner, Dylon Graham dba Graham Construction, contractor, 23 Briarwood Drive, \$40,000 (interior flood damage repairs / floors / sheetrock / interior trim, residential).

• **Richard Lee and Ethel Lee Gavin**, owners, Ethel Gavin, contractor, 140 A L G Road, Wedgefield, 480 unheated square feet, \$9,200 (detached storage unit, residential).

# Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

Call the newsroom at: (803) 774-1226 | E-mail: [pressrelease@theitem.com](mailto:pressrelease@theitem.com)

## Some late-season scouting in the woods

The narrow path was trodden with scores of tracks, winding around the old bleached skeleton of a fallen tree, coming up out of the deep thickets and crossing this old lane — then heading out toward the agricultural fields. Just ahead another trail led up from some impenetrable briar patches. This was a good sign.

I was making my way along an old lane that I had cut into the thicket some years before. It was overgrown now but still passable enough to walk. There were rubs on some of the saplings along the trail.

My progress was slow and deliberate. I wanted to look this area over carefully, and I had my rifle with me if anything appeared.

The wind was in my face, and I was headed through these woods to one of our stands situated toward the back of the property. I was actually hunting my way toward the stand and gathering some MRI (most recent information) along the way.

Portions of the property have been flooded the last few winters, and we

have had some good duck hunts here. This year has been dry, and I was taking the opportunity to do some scouting on the deer movements.

The lane that I was walking down ended just ahead, and I needed to get to the more open woods that lay beyond. Thickets and briars blocked the way. I didn't want to turn around, and I didn't want to make a lot of noise crashing through the tangles. Another deer path just ahead offered a route.



**Dan Geddings**

This path led through the briars into the edge of the sawgrass flats. The area is an old Carolina Bay that had been partially drained many years before. It is the only section of the property that hasn't changed in more than 50 years. The ditches aren't deep enough to completely drain this area, and it holds water — most of the time.

The ground was soft and moist but not boggy. Many deer tracks were punched deep into the black earth. More saplings in this area showed scars from bucks rubbing their antlers against the soft bark. I was pleasantly surprised.

Just ahead was a mixed grove of big loblolly pines and hardwoods of oak,

sassafras and sweet gum. The understory is open here, and sight distances are greater. I stopped and stood for a while, looking.

Squirrels scampered along the ground and up and down the tree trunks. Birds flitted among the branches. A soft blanket of pine needles carpet the forest floor here. It is a remote area, and it is a beautiful place. I just stood in one spot and took it all in for a long while. There was no hurry.

The stand was just ahead in a big pine, and I eventually headed in that direction. I noticed a new scrape under a scraggly holly bush. A buck had recently marked his territory here, and his tracks were left in the soft exposed ground.

At the stand, I tied my rifle to the pull-up cord and climbed the ladder to the seat. I took my backpack off and hung it on a screw-in hook. From the pack, I removed my jacket and binoculars. I laid the jacket across the seat and hung the binoculars on the same hook, then I sat down and pulled the rifle up by the cord. I could see the corn pile and mineral rock at the end of my shooting lane out front.

The wind was from the north and blew my scent straight back in the direction that I had used to approach the stand. Perfect.

Shafts of sunlight pierced the canopy of the timber and slanted through the understory to the ground below. To the north, a large bean field glowed in the golden light and stretched off into the distance. Unseen blue jays called from the treetops.

I sat for about an hour looking and listening to the woods and marveling at the changing light. When the sun dipped below the trees and the light retreated across the bean field I decided to head back out. I wanted to go out by a different route and wanted to go before it got too dark to see.

From the pines, I headed back through the hardwoods toward the truck. The woods here are dominated by large hardwoods, cypress trees and an occasional pond pine. I was delighted to see all the young cypress trees scattered throughout the woods. They were easy to see with their cloak of copper-colored needles in stark contrast to the gray boles of the hardwoods. One day I think they will dominate these woods.

At one spot, I noticed that a buck had rubbed and broke several of these small cypress trees. I wasn't happy about that. Look out buck! I've got some MRI on you.

Reach Dan Geddings at [cdgeddings@gmail.com](mailto:cdgeddings@gmail.com).



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A large supply of vegetables await transplanting into home gardens near New Market, Virginia, in 2010. Buying supplies in bulk and then dividing them with your neighbors will provide a healthy financial return.

## Plan, budget for a good return on your gardening investment

BY DEAN FOSDICK

The Associated Press

The first of the 2018 seed catalogs will be arriving soon in the mail, signaling the start of another growing season. Savvy vegetable gardeners pore over the pages while choosing plants and drafting budgets.

Planning ahead provides healthier returns for what can become a costly investment.

"Food gardening, like any hobby, can get as expensive as you wish, but there are many ways to have a productive garden at a reasonable cost," said Brooke Edmunds, an Extension community horticulturist with Oregon State University. "Setting a budget can be helpful," Edmunds said. "Keep in mind that many of the costs are upfront (bulk soil amendments and tools), and then smaller annual costs — items like seed and fertilizer — can even be further managed by being a smart shopper."

Don't overdo it. Planting a garden too large for your needs depletes pocketbooks and leads to food waste and unnecessary work. Determine what you eat the most, and stick to the basics.

Some additional tips for

keeping costs down while enriching family nutrition:

- Buy small. Use seeds rather than seedlings. "You'll get a lot more plants. Some (seed) packets have 100 seeds," Edmunds said.
- Select vegetables with a long shelf life or that can easily be preserved or dried. Potatoes, apples, onions and winter squash can be shelved safely for several months after being harvested.
- Choose items that cost the most at the grocery store, such as tomatoes and melons. Or "grow things you won't find in the produce sections," said George Dickert, an Extension director with Clemson University. "Most heritage varieties taste a great deal better than the commercially grown hybrids."
- Attend plant and seed swaps. Collect cuttings. Shop the sales. Buy out of season when items have been marked down. Dig through the bargain bins at nurseries.
- Reduce inputs. Use rain barrels for irrigation, and convert kitchen scraps to compost. Reuse bricks, cement chunks and stones for retaining walls and trails. Make trellises and fencing from bamboo poles.

- Grow organic. Stop using expensive chemical pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers that may be harmful to the environment and your health.

- Share the workload. "Get together with other families," Dickert said. "Everybody can have their own garden or a central garden where everyone has their own crops. One family does the watering, another the weeding. It makes for a very nice arrangement and can be as large or as small as you want."

- Buy in bulk. Soil mixes, mulch, yard debris and leaves, rocks and wood chips can be had for little or nothing by contacting arborists, landfills and landscape companies. Split the loads and delivery costs with neighbors. "Find a central location and divide it up," Dickert said.

Another way to shave costs and stock your larder at the end of the growing season? "After you've brought in the harvest, it makes sense for people to gather for some canning and preserving," Dickert said. "Get together and buy together — jars and other materials. Meet in somebody's kitchen, get it all done and share it."

## OUTDOORS BRIEFS

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS

### Hunter shot when dog steps on shotgun trigger guard in Iowa

WOOLSTOCK, Iowa — Authorities said a pheasant hunter in north-central Iowa was accidentally shot when a dog stepped on a shotgun trigger guard and the gun fired.

The Iowa Natural Resources Department said the shooting occurred about 1:20 p.m. Wednesday at a public hunting area near Woolstock in southwestern Wright County. The department said four hunters and two dogs were looking for the game birds when one of the hunters placed a loaded 12-gauge shotgun on the ground.

It went off when one of the dogs stepped on the trigger guard, and shotgun load sprayed another hunter.

The department said several pellets lodged in the back of William Rancourt, of Lebanon, New Hampshire, but he was able to walk soon after being wounded.

He was taken to a hospital in Fort Dodge for treatment.

### New England shrimp fishing closed for at least 1 more year

PORTLAND, Maine — New England shrimp will be unavailable to seafood consumers for at least another year as the fishery struggles with environmental changes, regulators decided on Wednesday.

An arm of the regulatory Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission made the decision at a meeting in Portland.

New England shrimp fishing historically has been based in Maine and has been shut down since 2013.

Scientists have said the shrimp are suffering from warming ocean temperatures and poor survival of young, and prospects for recovery in the immediate future are poor. The Atlantic States panel was tasked with determining if the shrimp population has recovered enough during the moratorium to withstand commercial fishing pressure and decided that it has not.

"Are we ever going back? I don't know," said Mike Armstrong, a member of the shrimp panel. "Mother nature has a remarkable ability, if we leave some spawning stock in the water, to recover."

### Chronic wasting results delayed by shortage of testing kits

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Michigan officials said a national shortage of testing kits for chronic wasting disease will mean delays in getting test results to deer hunters.

The Department of Natural Resources announced the update on Friday, the day after the end of Michigan's 2017 firearm deer hunting season.

The DNR Wildlife Disease Laboratory continues to collect and submit samples to Michigan State University.

Samples will be processed by the university as soon as testing kits arrive, which is expected next week. The delay affects deer brought to the lab in late November.

The DNR said it's been processing more than 1,000 deer heads per day for testing.

The neurological disease affects white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk and moose. It's spread through saliva and other body fluids of infected animals.

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**We buy pecans! \$1 per pound.** Warren E. Coker Farms, 341 W. Main St. Olanta. 843-319-1884.

**For Sale or Trade**

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

**4 Cemetery Plots** in Evergreen Cemetery \$6000 for all 4 Call 803-775-4045

**Need a truckload of firewood?** \$60 delivered to Sumter or Manning. Call State Tree Service at 803-773-1320.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**Help Wanted Full-Time**

**Roper Staffing** has multiple job openings in the following areas:

- Dental Medical Coder
- Maintenance Coordinator
- Project Engineer
- Bank Teller/CSR
- CSR/Collections
- Quality Technicians
- Billing Specialist
- Administrative Assistants
- Manual CNC Machinist
- Lab/Excel
- Shift Supervisor
- Chemist
- Welders
- CNC Operators/MAOPs
- Quality/ISO Manager

**APPLICATION TIMES:** Monday-Wednesday from 8:30-10:00am and 1:30-3:00pm. Please call the Sumter office at 803-938-8100 to inquire about what you will need to bring with you when registering. For more detailed information on the job listings go to [www.ropersstaffing.com](http://www.ropersstaffing.com)



**Help Wanted Full-Time**

**LOCAL CORPORATION** seeking upbeat, highly motivated, and detailed oriented individual for Full Time Position to handle Administrative and Customer Service duties. Must have proficient computer skills, have merchandising & management skills, be able to work well in a team-oriented environment, be adaptable to a flexible work schedule, possess excellent communication skills and have the ability to multi-task. **MUST** be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point. College degree preferred but not mandatory. Please send your resume to: [sperkins@ashleysumter.com](mailto:sperkins@ashleysumter.com) or 2850 Broad St., Sumter, SC 29150.

**RENTALS**

**Unfurnished Apartments**

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

**Unfurnished Homes**

**3 & 4 Br** homes & MH, in Sumter County & Manning area. No Sect. 8. Rent + dep. req. Call 803-460-6216

**Near Shaw AFB** 2BR 1BA Duplex \$475 Mo.+1 Mo. Dep Call 803-458-8333

**Houses for rent 2 & 3BR** Call 773-7789

**Nice 3BR/2BA house w/ large back yard for rent.** \$800mo. \$800 deposit, and \$400 first months rent. 3255 Kim St. Dalzell SC. Contact Nancy 301-848-0083

**Stop renting** when you can buy. Home Buyer Seminar. Learn what it takes to get in your dream home. Come by North Hope Center 904 N Main Dec 5th 5:30pm-6:30pm. Four Seasons Realty 803-236-3230

**Office Rentals**

**50 Wesmark Ct.** 1,177 sq ft. \$1000/mo. + \$100 CAM. Reception area, 3 office space, breakroom, 1/2 ba, file/storage room. 773-1477

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

**Mobile Home Rentals**

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

**Clean 3BR 2BA MH.** C/H/A close quarters, mature couple only \$475/mo + \$450 Dep, 803-775-0492 Lv Msg

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

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Autos For Sale**

**2011 BMW** 5 Series, 45k Mi., garage kept, non smoker, flawless, \$19,900 803-565-4359

**6x12 V Nose** inclosed trailer, in excellent condition. Asking \$1650, 803-459-3057

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**Summons & Notice**

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

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SUMTER, COUNTY (Plaintiff)

Vs. LaBanta Butler Donald Bush John Doe Calvin Singletary

**Summons & Notice**

Michael Singleton Susie Dinkins (Defendants)

**IN THE INTEREST OF** Minor Child Born 9/17/2013 Minor Child Born 5/21/2015 Minor Child Born 4/29/2009 Minor Child Born 2/7/2011

**TO DEFENDANTS:** LaBanta Butler Donald Bush John Doe Calvin Singletary Michael Singleton Susie Dinkins

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** And required to answer the complaint in the above referenced concerning the minor child above and that you have failed to contact the agency in regards to your whereabouts in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for James C. Campbell, Sumter County, on October 30, 2017 a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff at Steven B. Suchomski, 105 N. Magnolia Street, Sumter, SC 29150 within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the statutory time allotted, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Complaint. A pre-trial conference hearing has been scheduled for December 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. A Final Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights has been scheduled for February 1, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.

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

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT (Non-Jury) Foreclosure**

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT** C/A #: 2017-CP-43-02042

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,

vs. BRADLEY M. BARKER, Defendant.

**TO THE DEFENDANT ABOVE NAMED:** YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint upon the subscribers, at their office, 1703 Laurel Street (29201), Post Office Box 11682, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint in the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the original Complaint in the above entitled action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on October 26, 2017.

Benjamin E. Grimsley S.C. Bar No. 70335 Attorney for the Plaintiff P.O. Box 11682 Columbia, S.C. 29211 (803) 233-1177 [bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com](mailto:bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com)

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT (Non-Jury) Foreclosure**

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT** C/A #: 2017-CP-43-01842

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,

vs. RICHARD GODWIN JR and TUDOR PLACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION,

**WE WILL BUY YOUR CAR OUTRIGHT!**

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

**Summons & Notice**

Defendants.

**TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:**

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint upon the subscribers, at their office, 1703 Laurel Street (29201), Post Office Box 11682, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint in the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the original Complaint in the above entitled action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on October 11, 2017.

Benjamin E. Grimsley S.C. Bar No. 70335 Attorney for the Plaintiff P.O. Box 11682 Columbia, S.C. 29211 (803) 233-1177 [bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com](mailto:bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com)

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

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SUMTER, COUNTY (Plaintiff)

Vs. Ronnie Stukes (Defendant)

**IN THE INTEREST OF** Minor Child DOB 1/19/2010 **TO DEFENDANT:** Ronnie Stukes

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED**

And required to answer the complaint in the above referenced concerning the minor child above and that you have failed to contact the agency in regards to your whereabouts in this action, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for James C. Campbell, Sumter County, South Carolina, on October 31, 2016 a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff at Steven B. Suchomski, 105 N. Magnolia Street, Sumter, SC 29150 within thirty (30) days following the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the statutory time allotted, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Complaint. A hearing has been scheduled for February 1, 2018 at 2:15 P.M.

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

**AMENDED SUMMONS IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS** C/A NO.: 2017-CP-43-01067

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Plaintiff,

vs. D. Ahtonen, a minor, C. Barno, a minor, E. Behuniak, a minor, E. Brarens, a minor, M. Brarens, a minor, S. Brarens, a minor, J. Card, a minor, T. Carter, a minor, A. Costa, a minor, N. Cribb, a minor, Z. Cribb, a minor, Z. Davis, a minor, C. De La Cruz, a minor, A. Franklin, a minor, S. Frierson, a minor, M. Fullard, a minor, R. Geddings, a minor, E. Green, a minor, M. Harvin, a minor, M. Harvin, a minor, L. Jiang, a

**Summons & Notice**

minor, N. Jiang, a minor, K. Lowery, a minor, R. Martinez, a minor, W. Maya Santos, a minor, J. McLeod, a minor, D. Polite, a minor, R. Polite, a minor, Z. Ricklin, a minor, H. Ridgeway, a minor, A. Rudd, a minor, K. Rudd, a minor, Z. Rudd, a minor, C. Ruighaver, a minor, P. Ruighaver, a minor, R. Ruighaver, a minor, D. Smalls, a minor, J. Smith, a minor, D. Stevenson, a minor, K. Svenningsen, a minor, S. Cauty Thomas, a minor, A. Viperman, a minor, H. Yackeschi, a minor, Shakara Portee, and John Doe, a class designated to represent any unknown minor claimants, Defendants.

**TO THE DEFENDANTS HEREIN:**

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to appear and defend by answering the Amended Complaint in this action, of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to the said Amended Complaint on the undersigned attorneys at their offices, 935 Broad Street, Post Office Drawer 39, Camden, South Carolina, 29021, within the time remaining for a response of the original pleading or within fifteen (15) days after service of the named amended pleading, whichever period may be longer, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

**YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE** the Plaintiff will move for a general Order of Reference of this cause to the Master in Equity or Special Referee for Sumter County, which Order shall, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, specifically provide that the said Master in Equity or Special Referee is authorized and empowered to enter a Final Judgment in this case with appeal directly to the Supreme Court of South Carolina or to the Court of Appeals, whichever is appropriate.

**NOTICE OF FILING OF AMENDED COMPLAINT IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS** C/A NO.: 2017-CP-43-01067

**NOTICE OF FILING OF AMENDED COMPLAINT TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND THE PERSONS WITH WHOM THEY RESIDE OR THEIR LEGAL GUARDIANS:**

**YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the original Amended Summons and Amended Complaint in the above entitled action were filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County, South Carolina on September 13, 2017.

Please take notice that the Plaintiff herein filed a declaratory judgment action and has asked the court to adjudicate the rights of the Defendants herein who were involved in an automobile accident on January 3, 2017 while riding a Sumter County school bus.

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT AND ORDER OF APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM NISI**

**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND THE PERSONS WITH WHOM THEY RESIDE OR THEIR LEGAL GUARDIANS:**

**YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that Kenneth R. Young, Jr., Attorney at Law, 23 W. Calhoun Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29150 has been appointed Guardian ad Litem Nisi for said minor Defendants or those other Defendants, residents or non-residents, who are minors under legal disability, if any, who are not represented by Guardian ad Litem.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED,**

**Summons & Notice**

That the said Kenneth R. Young, Jr., Attorney at Law, be and he is hereby, designated and appointed Guardian ad Litem Nisi, for said minor Defendants resident or non-resident, who are minors or under other legal disability, if any, who are not represented by a guardian and who cannot be personally served and he is hereby authorized to appear and defend said action on behalf of said Defendants, unless said minor Defendants or other Defendants under legal disability or the persons with whom they reside or their legal guardians, if any, or either of them, shall within thirty (30) days after notification of the appointment by service of process, exclusive of the day of service, as herein provided, procure to be appointed a Guardian ad Litem for said minor Defendants or other Defendants under legal disability, if any, for the purposes of this action. In the event any of said Defendants shall fail within the time aforesaid to have another Guardian appointed, the appointment of Kenneth R. Young, Jr. as Guardian ad Litem for said Defendants shall become absolute.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED.** That Notice of Appointment shall be served upon said minor Defendants, their legal guardians or the person(s) with whom they reside and other Defendants under legal disability, if any, by publication of such notice of this Order as is required by law in the The Item, a newspaper published in Sumter County, South Carolina, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks.

**JAMES C. CAMPBELL** SUMTER COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

**DuBOSE-ROBINSON, PC** John K. DuBose, III J. Kennedy DuBose, Jr. Jonathan M. Robinson H. Thomas Morgan, Jr. J. Alexander Hooks ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF PO Drawer 39 (935 Broad Street) Camden, South Carolina 29021 (803) 432-1992

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**ADVERTISING WITH US WILL GROW YOUR SALES!**

**the Sumter ITEM**  
[WWW.THEITEM.COM](http://WWW.THEITEM.COM)

**Public Notice**

**City of Manning General Election**

**NOTICE:** The Municipal Election Commission of the City of Manning announces the general election for the City of Manning to be Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

The following offices shall be included in this election:

- Councilmember from District 2 for term expiring April 2018.
- Councilmember from District 3 for term expiring April 2018.
- Councilmember from District 5 for term expiring April 2018.

People desiring to vote in the upcoming election must be registered by March 4, 2018. To register, one must contact the County Board of Voter Registration.

**POLLING PLACES:**

Manning #2	Cypress Center 50 Hospital Street
Manning #3	Clarendon County Administration 411 Sunset Drive
Manning #4	Billie S. Fleming Protective Services Bldg. 42 West Boyce Street Building (Fire and Police building)
Manning #5	Manning Methodist Church 17 Rigby Street

The polls listed above will be open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

At 9:00 a.m. on said election day, the poll managers will begin examination of the absentee ballot return envelopes. This examination will be held at the Clarendon County Administration Bldg., Office of Voter Registration, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, South Carolina.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATES:**

Citizens desiring to be candidates for one of the above listed offices may file at City Hall at 29 West Boyce Street. Books will be open for filing at noon on January 8, 2018, and remain open until noon January 12, 2018. The filing fee for the office of Council is \$50.00.

This is a nonpartisan election and no party affiliation shall be placed on the ballot.

People desiring to qualify by petition must file their petition by noon on February 16, 2018. There is no filing fee for petition.

The unofficial results of the election will be announced at Election Central, 20 West Keitt Street, on April 3, 2018 following the closing of the polls.

On Thursday, April 5, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at Election Central, 20 West Keitt Street, the Municipal Election Commission will hold a hearing to determine the validity of ballots challenged in this election. After the hearing on challenged ballots, the Municipal Election Commission will certify the results of the election.

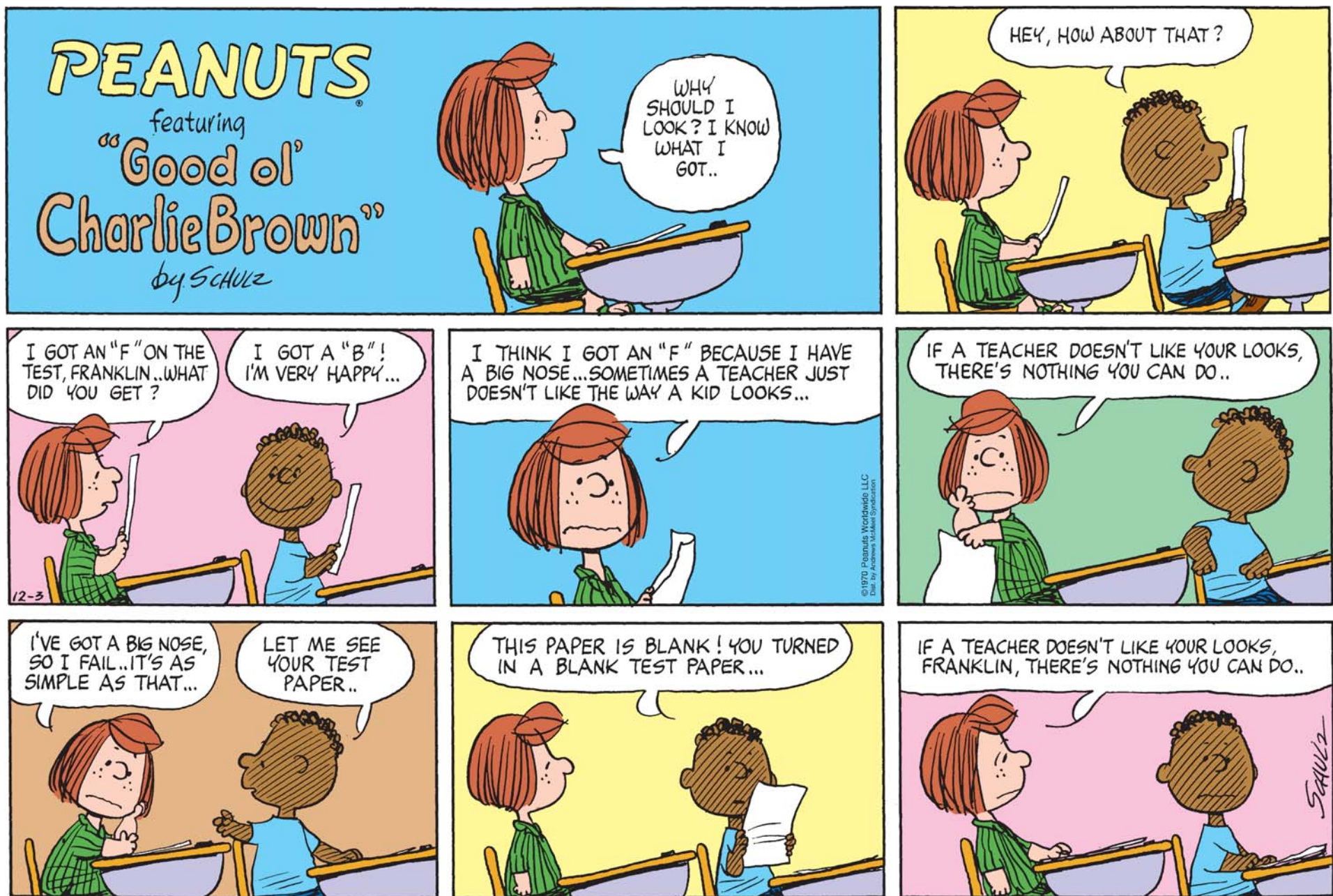
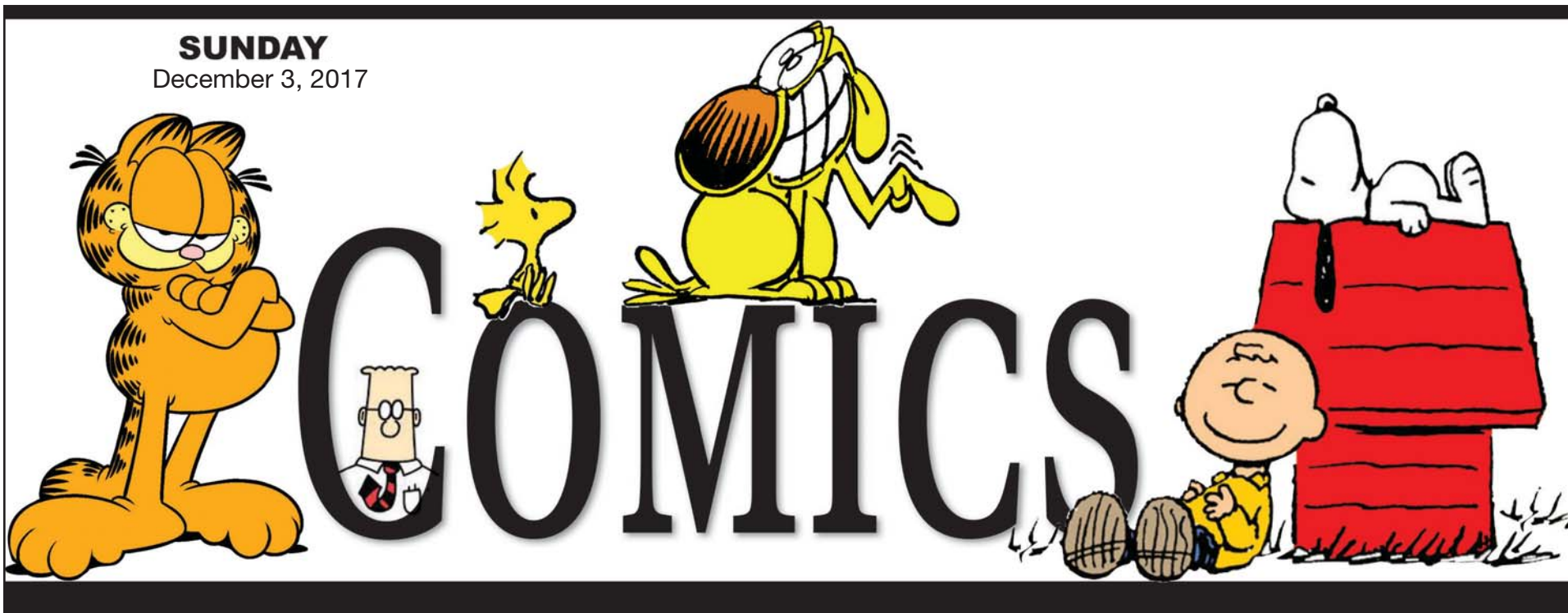
Any run-off will be held two weeks after the election on Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

City of Manning Municipal Election Commission:  
Margaret Walker  
Glyn Oliver  
Barbara Hussey

**Customer Service Representative**

FTC is seeking a Customer Service Representative to join our team at the Wesmark Store in Sumter. The successful candidate must meet the following requirements: high school diploma; working knowledge of computers; data entry skills; two years ewxpérience in customer service; excellent verbal communication skills; personality for dealing with the public; excellent organizational skills.

The following requirements are desired: associate degree or minimum of two years of college; proactive selling skills. Excellent benefits package. Send resume to: Human Resources Representative, P.O. Box 588, Kingstree, SC. or apply online at [ftc-i.net](http://ftc-i.net). FTC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**GARFIELD**

BY JIM DAVIS



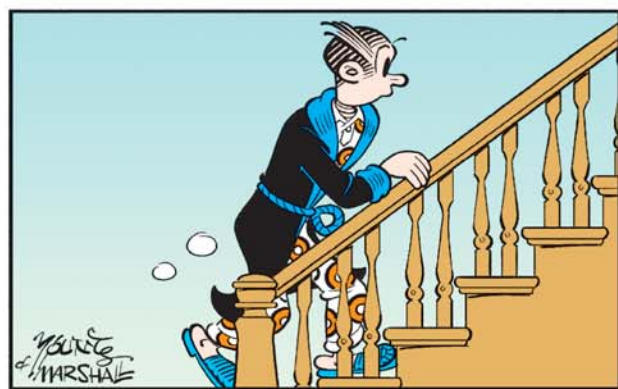
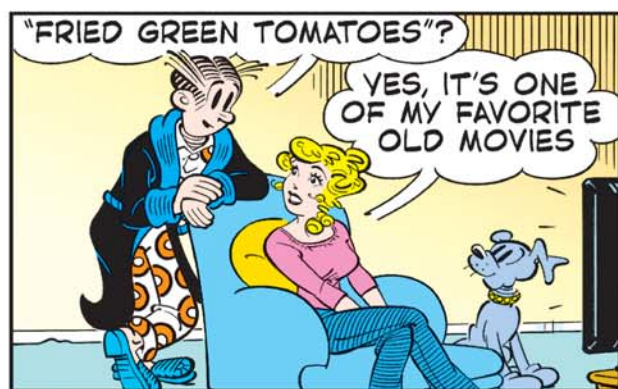
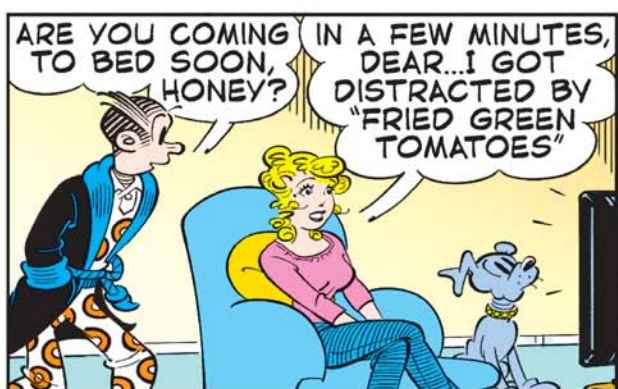
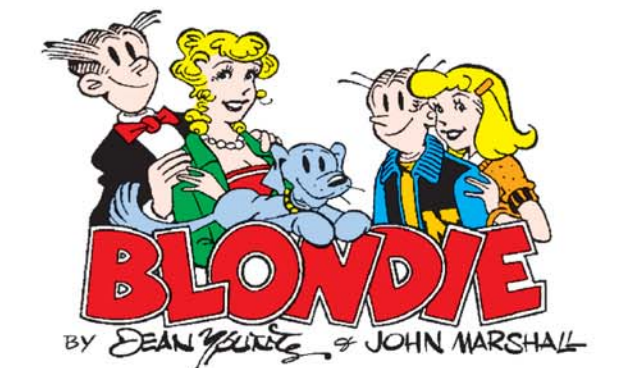
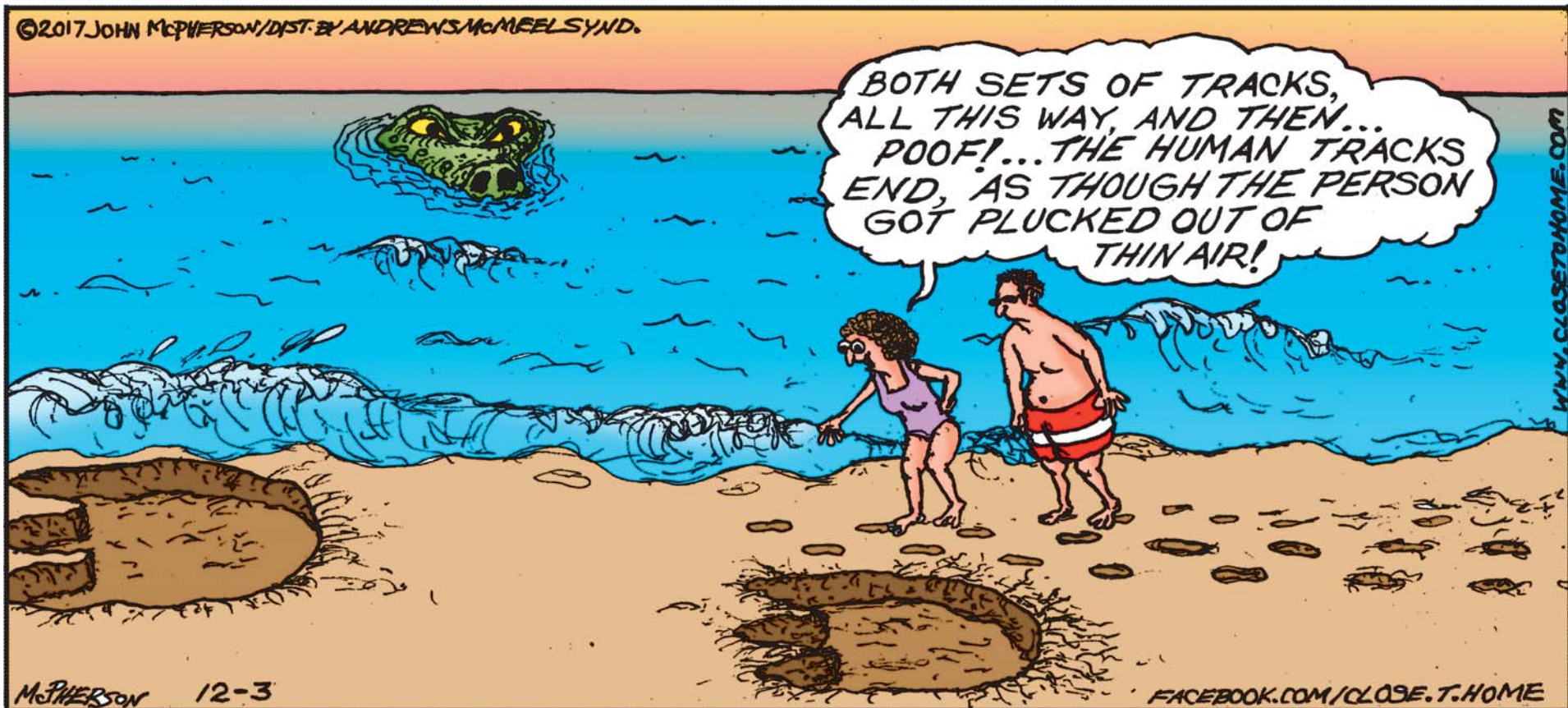
**DILBERT**

BY SCOTT ADAMS



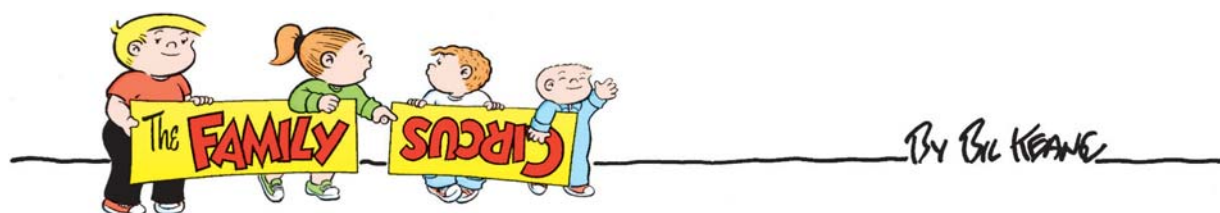
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



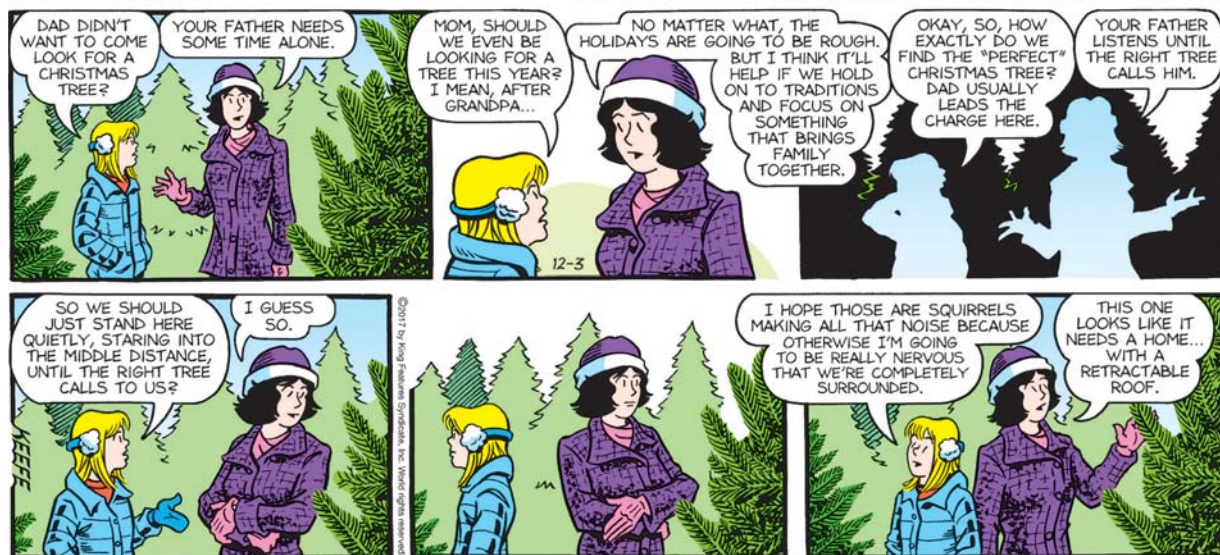
FoxTrot

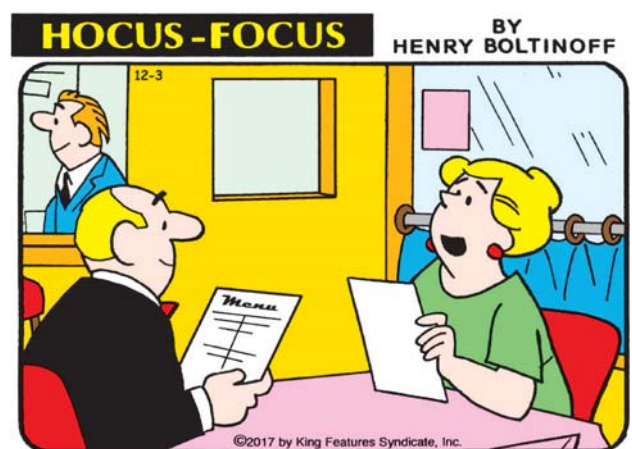
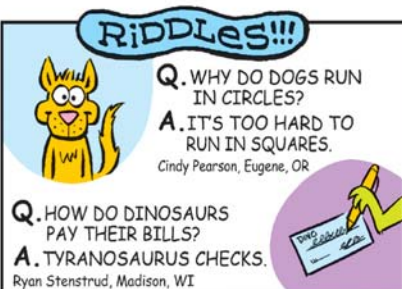
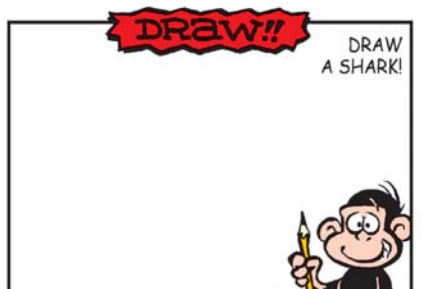
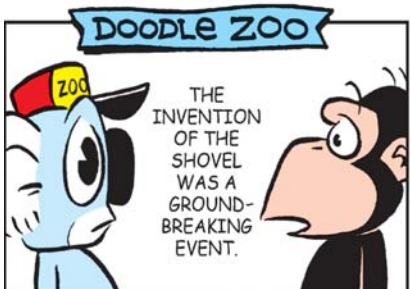
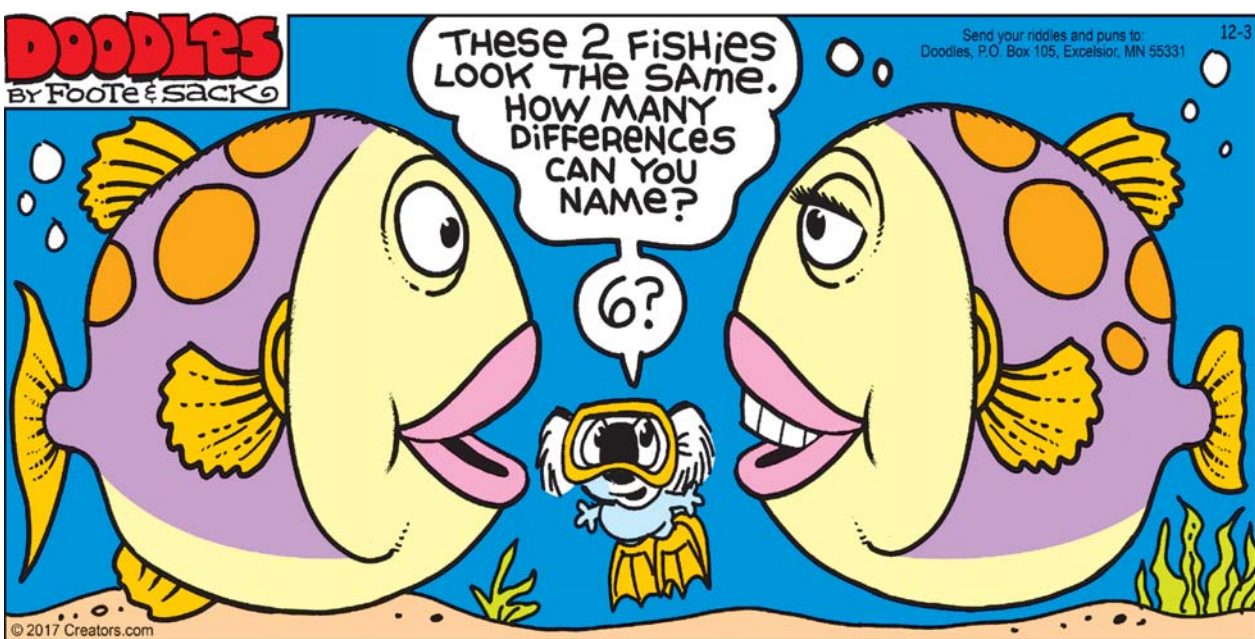
by Bill Amend



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

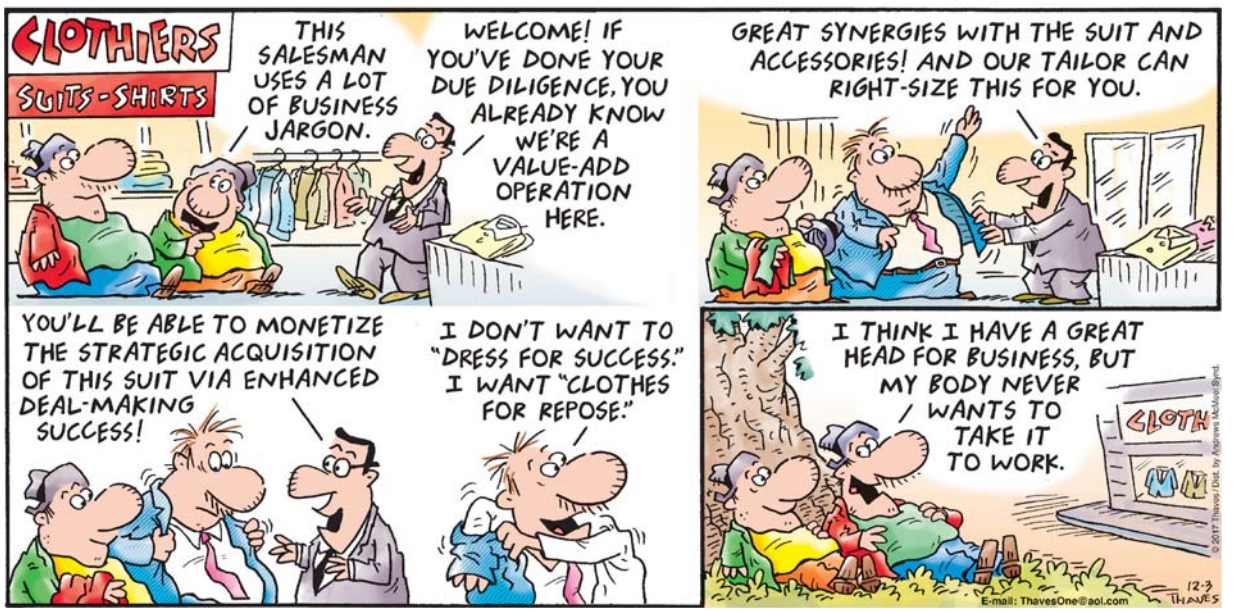




Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Menu is larger. 2. Man has less hair. 3. Window is smaller. 4. Nose is smaller. 5. Table is not as wide. 6. Bow tie is missing.

**FRANK AND ERNEST**

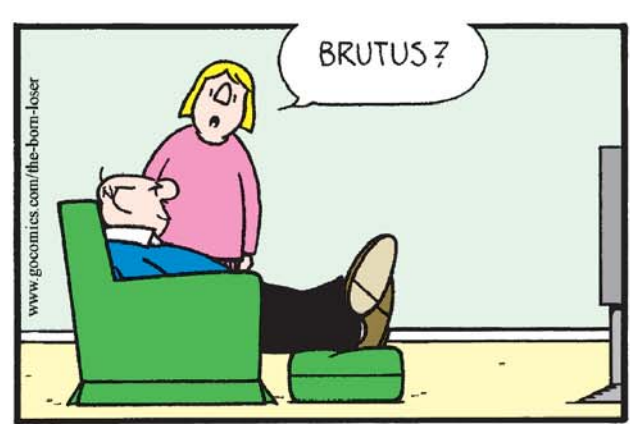


**THE BORN LOSER**

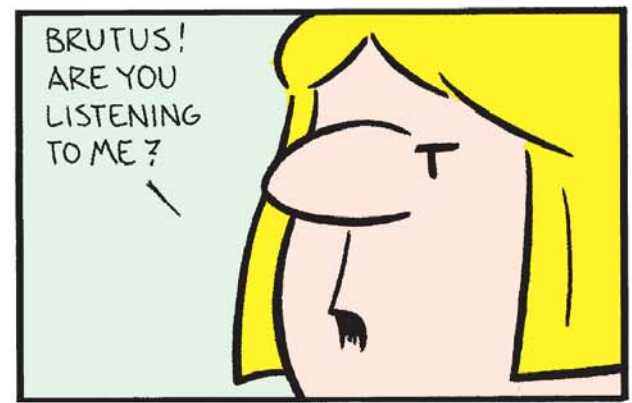
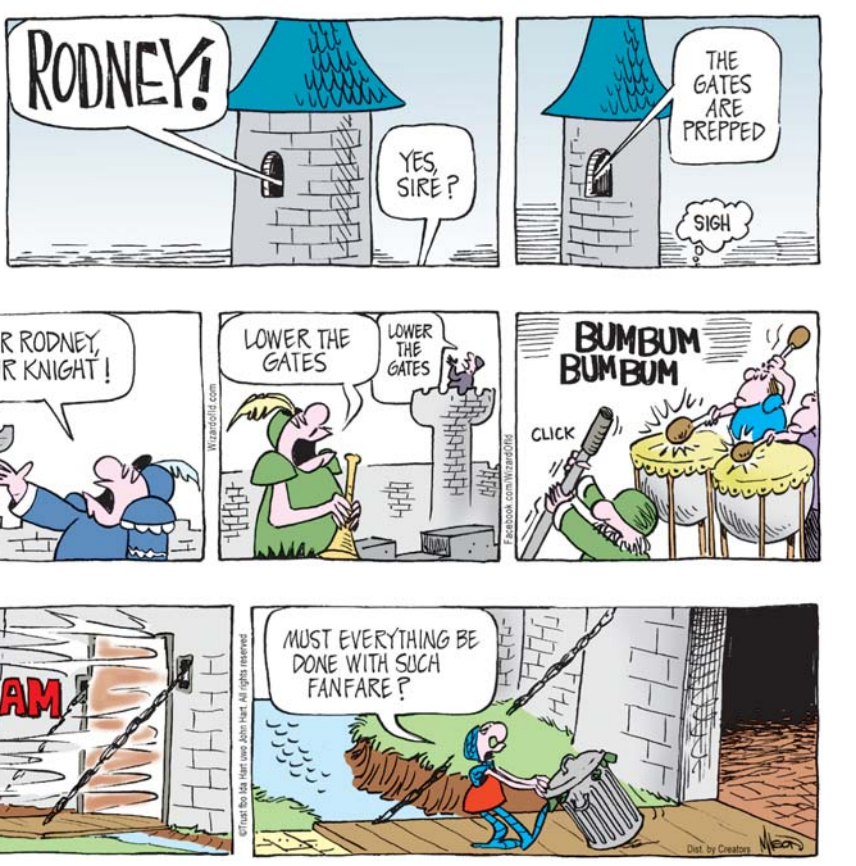
by Art & Chip Sansom



**MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM** BY MIKE PETERS



**Wizard of ID**  
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

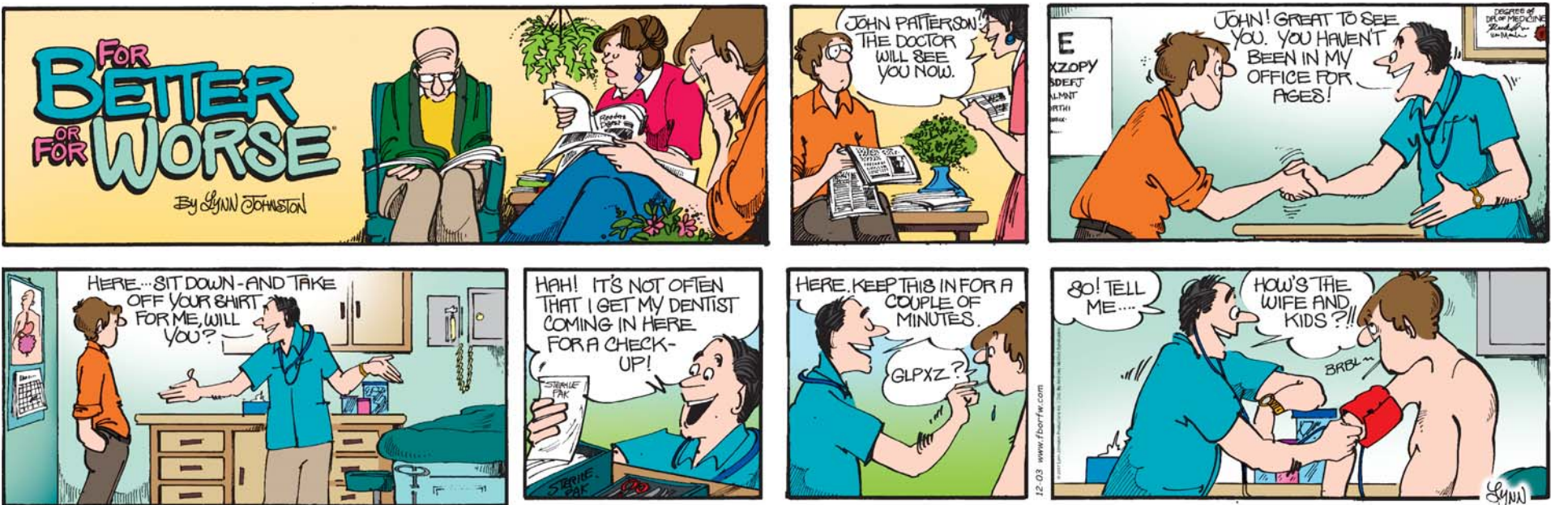
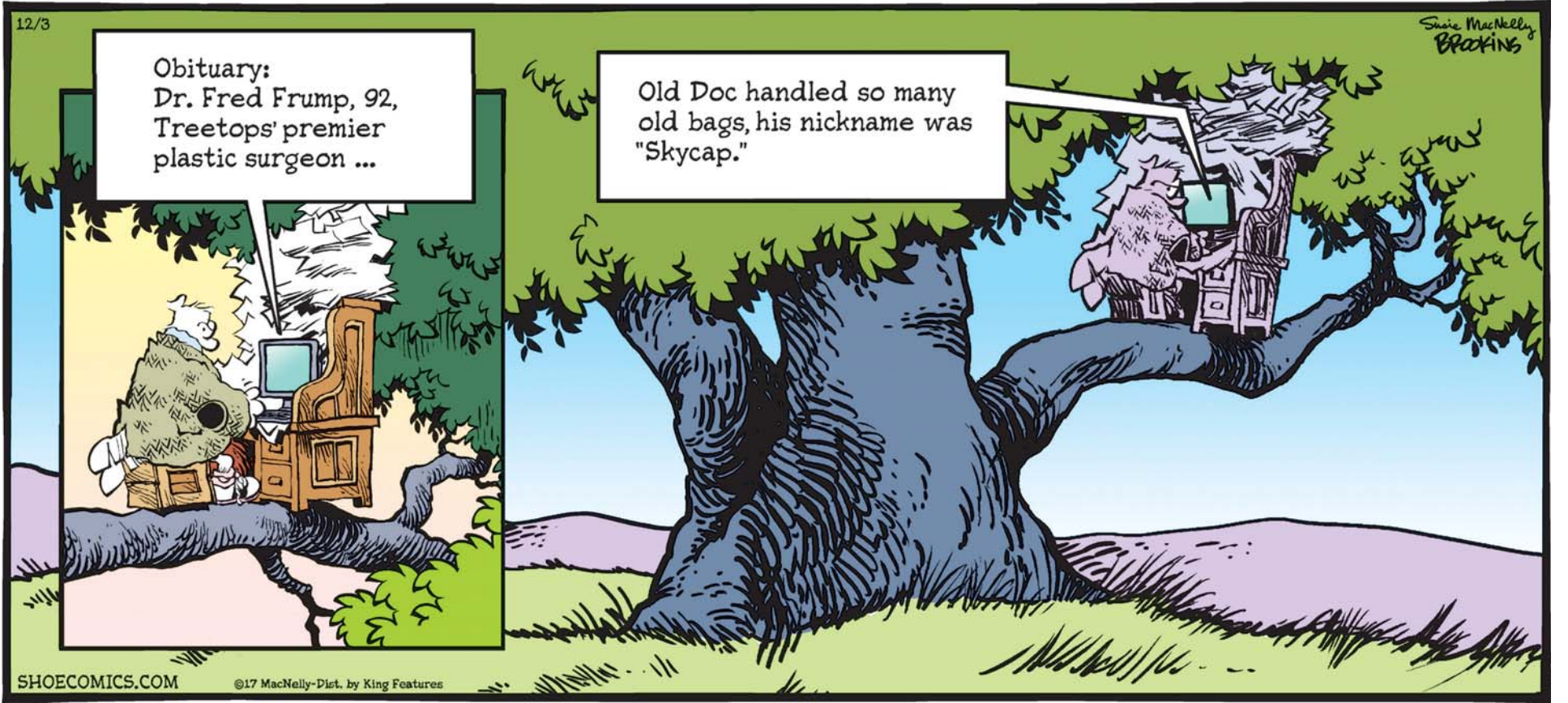


**GET FUZZY** BY DARBY CONLEY



SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

