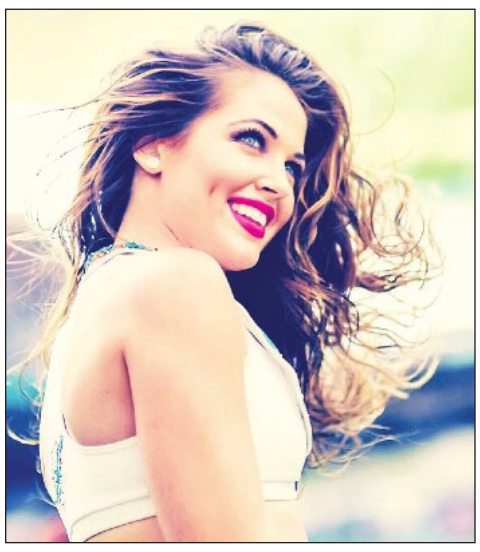
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BEN DICKMANN / SPECIAL TO *THE SUMTER ITEM*

Kristan Ann Ware, who grew up in Sumter, is a Miami Dolphins cheerleader co-captain.

Pure heart and a humble spirit

Sumter woman shares faith while cheering on Dolphins

BY KONSTANTIN VENGEROWSKY
konstantin@theitem.com

Kristan Ann Ware has kept her humble spirit and strong Christian faith while achieving success and fame as a Miami Dolphins cheerleader co-captain.

The Wichita Falls, Texas, native, who was raised in Sumter and attended high school at Thomas Sumter Academy, said she always knew she wanted to do something that was out of her comfort zone.

"I love spreading joy and wanted to get out there in the world and make a difference," she said. "It just so happened to be as an NFL cheerleader."

Ware has used her fame in a unique way to spread the message of Christ.

"My faith has been tested many times, but God is always going to be there with me," she said. "I've never felt closer to Him than I do now."

Ware said she wants to serve as a role model to girls, including her younger sister, Kenzie MacQueen, 15, a freshman at TSA.

She said her mother, Deborah MacQueen, has played a large role in inspiring her and instilling the faith in her. Her father is Kendall Ware and her stepfather is Scott MacQueen.

Ware's position as a Miami Dolphins cheerleader during the past three years has allowed her to pursue avenues that are important to her. She has conducted five worldwide military tours and traveled to 30 countries, sharing her talents in hospitals, schools and various communities.

"Growing up in a military home, I've seen the sacrifices that service men and women make," she said. "I can never find the right words to say to thank them for their service."

This past Christmas, Ware missed celebrating the holidays with her family while working on a military base overseas.

Even though she's found great success in the cheerleading profession, it was not something that Ware said she had planned early on in her life.

"It just kind of happened," she said.

Raised in a military family, she thought of joining the Navy or the Coast Guard after graduating from TSA in 2009.

Instead, she went off to college.

Ware attended Lander University in Greenwood for about a year before transferring to the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree in marine sciences with a biological emphasis.

Cheerleading and dance was something she participated in while a student at TSA and Lander University.

Growing up, she'd been told she had a raw talent for dance and entertainment.

SEE **SPIRIT,** PAGE A3

Awarding Quilts of Valor



JIM HILLEY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Harvey Mayhill watches as Linda Heyward wraps a Quilt of Valor around her father, Roy Weatherbee, of Sumter, during an Edwards High School reunion lunch on Wednesday at Golden Corral in Sumter.

4 World War II Navy vets receive honor

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

Four World War II Navy veterans were awarded Quilts of Valor during the monthly Edmunds High School reunion lunch on Wednesday at Golden Corral in Sumter.

The handmade quilts are awarded to veterans in recognition and thanks for service to country, according to material from the Quilts of Valor Foundation.

Jimmy Williams, of Rock Hill, and Murr Brown, of Mayesville, along with Thomas Ward and Roy Weathersbee of Sumter, were presented the quilts by Harvey Mayhill, a project specialist for the Quilts of Valor Foundation from Rock Hill.

Mayhill said the veterans were nominated for the award by Weathersbee's daughter Linda Heyward.

The quilts are handmade by Quilts of Valor volunteers for veterans they do not know, but Heyward sewed the one given to her father, he said.

Since the founding of Quilts of Valor in 2003, more than 150,000 quilts have been awarded, according to *www.QOVF.org*.

Mayhill said he and his wife, Lin, both volunteers, have traveled all over the nation to help with award ceremonies.

"Patriotism has no borders," he said.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation began when Catherine Roberts, the mother of a son who was serving in the Middle East, made a quilt to soothe her own nerves and anxiety about her son being in harm's way.

Since she could not give the quilt to her son, she took it to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland and gave it to a wounded soldier.

SEE **VALOR,** PAGE A3



JIM HILLEY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Harvey Mayhill wraps a Quilt of Valor around Navy veteran Jimmy Williams of Rock Hill. Williams and three other Edmunds graduates who served in the Navy during World War II received the gifts.

Father, son impressed by inauguration



PHOTO PROVIDED

Eric and Wilkes Burnette met Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam during their visit to Washington, D.C., to view the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

A 6-year old doesn't need a basketful of phrases to describe a historic event such as the inauguration ceremony for President Donald Trump.

While pundits and politicians have feuded over how big the crowds were, Wilkes Burnett, a Sumter first-grader who attended Friday's inauguration with his dad, Eric Burnette, didn't need to consult crowd-size experts or view aerial photographs to describe attendance at the historic event.

"It was crowded," he said.

The young Wilson Hall student said he and his dad went to the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial, while in Washington, D.C.

"We got to see a little bit of the White House," Wilkes added.

What was the most exiting?

"Probably the inauguration," he said.

Eric said they had decent seats, where they could see some of what was going on, but Wilkes had a better view.

"I had to sit on his shoulders so I could see, but you couldn't really see where he (the president elect) comes out and everything, you had to watch on the Jumbotron," he said.

Eric and Wilkes also visited the National Air and Space Museum and the Museum of Natural History, Wilkes said.

As anyone who has visited even a few of the museums on the National Mall knows, each museum has a mind-numbing, eye-glazing collection of treasures, leaving even the most

SEE **INAUGURATION,** PAGE A3

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Donald R. Christian
Effie Sims
Nell B. Wiggins
Thomas L. Geddings
Bonnie G. McLeod
Aline McIntosh

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the Sumter ITEM

SECOND FRONT

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

LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

AARP tax filing help set to start in February

Volunteers from AARP will begin assisting senior citizens and others in filing their income tax from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Shepherd's Center, 24 Council St. The program will continue on Mondays and Wednesdays through April 12.

In order to complete a tax return, several documents must be provided. These are a photo ID; Social Security cards for all household members being claimed; tax documents — W-2 forms, 1099R, 1099SSA, interest income and all other income statements; 2015 tax returns and power of attorney forms if filing for someone other than yourself.

Henry Dinkins, coordinator, said AARP has been providing the service for 20 years to seniors and low-income individuals and families. There is no charge for the service, and tax forms are completed by trained volunteers.

For more information, call Dinkins at (803) 499-4990 or Lula King at (803) 316-0772.

2 Lynchburg men charged with attempted murder

Sumter County Sheriff's Office charged two Lynchburg men with attempted murder on Tuesday for allegedly following and shooting at the victim.



MAJOR



EPPS

According to a news release from the sheriff's office, 18-year-old Trequane Major, of 1091 Narrow Paved Road, Lynchburg, followed the victim in a vehicle from S.C. 53, in Gable, to the 7800 block of Myrtle Beach Highway, where 27-year-old Michael Rayvon Epps, of 1085 Narrow Paved Road, Lynchburg, fired a weapon at the victim, striking the driver's side of the victim's vehicle on Saturday.

Major and Epps were transported to Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center where they are both awaiting bond.

United Ministries seeks help replenishing its pantry

Sumter United Ministries is asking for help in filling its food pantry, The Lord's Cupboard.

The pantry is low or out of the following staple food items: peanut butter and jelly; powdered milk, non-refrigerated pasteurized milk; canned meats — tuna, chicken, ham, Vienna sausage, etc.; tomato products — sauce, whole, diced, stewed, etc.; pasta — spaghetti, elbows, noodles, etc.; dry cereal — oatmeal, grits, farina, cream of wheat; rice, 2-pound bags; canned fruit; and macaroni and cheese.

Food donations can be dropped of at 36 Artillery Drive from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For additional information, call (803) 775-0757.

Employment rises in region by 2 percent year over year

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

The month of December capped off a positive year of employment growth for the tri-county region, according to the latest release from the state agency that monitors and tracks employed and unemployed residents in the state. South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce issued its final monthly numbers for the 2016 calendar year earlier this week, reflecting positive growth in the three counties and the state as a whole.

Small increases in the number of employed residents in December for Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties were part of larger 12-month hikes in employment for each county. The monthly data is subject to revision; so, often looking at a longer time frame — such as a year — provides a better perspective, according to Rick Kaglic, senior regional economist with the Charlotte branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, which researches economic activity in the Carolinas.

EMPLOYMENT RISE

Percentage increase in employed residents — Dec. 2015 to Dec. 2016

Sumter: 1.4%
Clarendon: 3.5%
Lee: 2.8%
TRI-COUNTY REGION: 2%
STATE: 3.3%

From December 2015 to December 2016, the number of employed residents in Sumter County increased by 591 to 42,011 (1.4 percent), according to SC DEW. The agency considers an employed resident as one who works in his home county of residence or a neighboring county — such as Richland or Florence — and commutes to work. Numerical breakouts of employed residents and counties where they work are not provided by the agency. Examining the changes from one December report to the next December, reflects 12 months of economic activity — that is January through December.

During the same 12-month period, employed residents in Clarendon County grew by 428 to 12,498 (3.5 percent). In Lee, the number of employed rose by 167 for the same time frame to 6,094 (2.8 percent).

During that period, the three counties together added 1,186 jobs, a 2 percent increase.

For the same time frame, the number of employed residents in the state as a whole rose by 3.3 percent, or 69,926, according to SC DEW.

Because of increases in the three counties in December in the total pool of people having work or actively searching for work, the unemployment rate rose slightly in each county. Sumter's unemployment rate for December was 5 percent, Clarendon recorded a 5.4 percent unemployment rate, and Lee was at 5.9 percent. The state's unemployment rate for the month was 4.3 percent, and the U.S. rate was 4.7 percent.

Pinewood celebrates community center

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The town of Pinewood celebrated the official opening of its first community center at 130 Epperson Ave. during a ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday afternoon.

The approximately $400,000 project is the final community center on the 2008 Capital Penny Sales Tax project list to be constructed.

Community centers were also constructed in Salterstown and the Concord-R.E. Davis area while existing centers in Cherryvale, Ebenezer, Spectrum, the Rembert-Rafting Creek area, Mayesville, and Shiloh were renovated.

The Pinewood center includes a meeting room, kitchen, offices and a classroom.

Pinewood Mayor Sarah Mathis said the community center will benefit the seniors and children in the area by providing a space for the groups to have activities. She said the center would serve as a location for tutoring for local children.

Mathis said local churches provided spaces for events in the past, but the center will provide more opportunities for members of the community to work together.



ADRIENNE SARVIS / THE SUMTER ITEM

Pinewood Mayor Sarah Mathis receives a key to the Pinewood Community Center from Sumter County Council Vice Chairman James Byrd during a ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday. The community center is a 2008 Capital Penny Sales Tax project.

There has never been anything like this before, she said.

The community center has been a milestone, Mathis said. This has really been a blessing for the town, she said.

Also, Sumter County Council Vice Chairman James Byrd presented Mathis with a key to the community center during the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Jack Osteen, editor and publisher at *The Sumter Item* and a member of the 2008 Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission, said the 2008 project list gave the commission a good idea of what the people of the county wanted.

At the time, people were nervous that the first sales penny tax would not pass because of the state of the economy, he said.

Osteen said he thinks the 2014 penny project list passed easily because of the success of the 2008 projects.

Wind destroys trailer in Lee County during Saturday's storms

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

No damage was reported in Sumter County from thunderstorms that rolled through the area Saturday evening, but a trailer in Lee County had its roof torn off, according to a report from the Sumter Red Cross.

Steve Shumake, a disaster action team member for Red Cross, said the mobile home was "totaled" with the roof ripped off and water inside.

He said the occupants had tried to seal the home with tarps but it was uninhabitable. Shumake said the Red Cross provided housing, food and clothing assistance for the family.

Lee County Emergency Management Director Mike Bedenbaugh said the damage was not reported until Sunday.

Bedenbaugh said the National Weather Service reported a 45-mph gust in the area about 5:30 p.m. Saturday. There were no other reports of damage or power outages in Lee County, he said.

Sumter County EMD Erik Hayes said he has not received any reports of damage in Sumter County.

The storms were the remnants of a system that spawned dozens of twisters across the South, killing 20 people in Georgia, Florida and Mississippi, according to The Associated Press.

The National Weather Service in Columbia confirmed a tornado in Barnwell and Bamberg counties in South Carolina Saturday.

Hundreds of trees were either snapped at the trunk or uprooted and numerous trees fell on homes, resulting in roof damage, the NWS said.

The NWS reported no fatalities in South Carolina but a resident of a mobile home that rolled was injured in Barnwell County.

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SPIRIT FROM PAGE A1

Andrea Govier, dance instructor at The Freed School of Performing Arts in Sumter and at TSA, was Ware's instructor in middle and high school. She said Ware stood out from the other students in her group.

"She was always smiling, her personality really shone through," Govier said. "She certainly had a talent for dance at a young age. You could really tell that she enjoyed what she did."

Ware said she grew up playing different sports, from softball to basketball.

In middle and high school, she played on the school's junior varsity and varsity basketball teams.

She was a starter on the school's basketball team, which won the state championship her senior year.

"Kristan's a phenomenal leader with unbelievable talent," said B.J. Reed, head coach of TSA's girls' varsity basketball team. "She did whatever was necessary to help her team."

Reed said Ware had quickness in her feet, which made her an extraordinary defensive player. But besides her athletic talents, she said Ware has a pure heart and dares to be different.

"She's an inspiration to young ladies everywhere," Reed said. "In this day and age, it's not politically correct to be different, to openly share your faith and live by it. Yet Kristan does just that."

Bobby Baker, TSA's former junior varsity basketball coach, described Ware as a player who had an eager ability to learn the game.

"She's a great athlete who became a very good basketball player in a short period of time," he said. "She was also very humble and put the needs of others before hers."

At Lander University, where she attended for one year, Ware joined the school's dance and cheerleading teams.

The dance team went on to win a national title in a college open championship in Myrtle Beach.

"Kristan had a lot of technical skills and a strong sideline presence," said Kim Schoolfield, head coach of Lander University's cheerleading and dance teams. "She's also one of those people who can lift your spirits by just being around her. She really sees the best in everyone."

Despite her talents, Ware said she was too intimidated to try out for the cheerleading team when she transferred to USC her sophomore year.

At USC, she pursued another one of her passions, marine biology. She majored in marine science with a biological emphasis. She even traveled to South Africa, where she completed an internship at a marine lab in that country. She conducted more than 600 hours of laboratory research, tracking great white sharks and working with other sea creatures.

Ware said she always wanted to do something to challenge herself and to break out of her comfort zone.

About a year after graduating from college, she decided to tryout for the Miami Dolphins.

Monica Fabunan-Ball, a hip-hop instructor at "United We Dance," a dance studio in Summerville, worked with Ware several weeks before her audition.

"She told me she was comfortable with hip-hop and jazz, and that's what we decided to do," Fabunan-Ball said. "She performed great under pressure."

Fabunan-Ball described Ware as a positive, self-aware person, who is confident and knows what she wants.

"I told only a few close friends that I was going to try out for the team," Ware said. "I drove down to Miami three days before the audition. In my mind, there was no way that I was going to make it."

But Ware did make it. She was one of 32 women selected for the team, out of 400 who tried out that day.

"It has been a crazy journey ever since," she said.

Being an NFL cheerleader is not an easy job, she said.

Cheerleaders must attend a 3-month training camp before the start of the season, where they learn and perfect about 30 dances.

During a game, they should be ready to perform any of the 30 dances on the spot, and end up working about eight hours during game days.

Ware said she is blessed for the opportunity she's been given as a Miami Dolphins cheerleader.

In the future, she is considering being a motivational speaker for women and girls.

"I've lived a lot of my life in younger girls' shoes," she said. "I've also had many strong women who've served as role models and grew up in a household where God was the center of my life."

POLICE BLOTTER

CHARGES

Willie O. Dean, 43, of 521 James St., Bishopville, was arrested on Monday and charged with stalking and two counts of violating an order of protection for allegedly contacting the victim and leaving messages saying he would cause harm or kill the victim between Jan. 18 and Jan. 23. According to a news release from Sumter County Sheriff's Office, Dean allegedly made numerous phone calls from a private number demanding to know the victim's location and also attempted to discover the victim's location through social media on Jan. 20.

STOLEN PROPERTY

A briefcase valued at $40; a black Dell laptop valued at $400; and a checkbook valued at $25 were reportedly stolen from a vehicle while it was parked in the 700 block of Longwood Drive between 10 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Sunday.

A camouflage Browning A5 12-gauge shotgun valued at $1,300 was reportedly stolen from a vehicle while it was parked in the 1700 block of U.S. 521 between 11 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday.

A 9mm SCCY CPX-1 handgun valued at about $330 was reportedly stolen from a vehicle while it was parked in the 700 block of Longwood Drive between 2:50 and about 3:30 p.m. Sunday.

A yellow Vermeer stump grinder valued at $5,000 was reportedly stolen from a residence in the 1200 block of Lewis Road about 5:50 p.m. Saturday.

A white 2007 GMC truck valued at $18,000 was reportedly stolen while it was parked in the 5900 block of Nazarene Church Road between 7 p.m. Sunday and 11 a.m. Monday.

Two red and gray Troy-Bilt weed eaters valued at $600; two white and orange Stihl weed eaters valued at $600; a white Apple iPad Mini valued at $400; a black Sony laptop valued at $500; two black and yellow 4500-Watt Champion generators valued at $1,000; a black Sony PlayStation valued at $200; a black cellphone, unknown make and model, valued at $100; and a flat-screen Sony TV valued at $900 were reportedly stolen from a residence in the 1800 block of Mallory Drive about 9:45 a.m. Monday. According to an incident report from Sumter County Sheriff's Office, approximately $200 in damage was caused to two doors and door frames at the rear of the residence during the incident.

Two DeWalt drills valued at about $500; a black and yellow DeWalt sawzall valued at $280; and two kerosene heaters valued at $418 were reportedly stolen from a residence on Vining Street about 10 p.m. Monday.

Approximately $6,700 in computer hardware was stolen from a storage facility in the 3700 block of Broad Street between midnight Sunday and about 2:40 p.m. Monday.

VALOR FROM PAGE A1

Soon she and her friends has sewn more than 100 quilts and given them to veterans, and the Foundation was born.

Mayhill said every quilt is unique.

"You may start with the same pattern, but when the artist takes over no two are alike," he said.

Williams said he was very thankful for the quilt.

"I am honored and proud," he said.

The quilts are meant to be used, Mayhill said.

"Don't put it in a box somewhere," he said. "Hopefully when you wrap this around you, you'll feel the love of a total stranger," he said. "Except for you," he said, turning to Weathersbee, "You'll feel the love of your daughter."

Anyone can nominate a U.S. veteran from any war for the award, Mayhill said.

"It is a lifetime achievement award," he said. "You can only win it once."

To nominate a veteran, visit *www.QOVF.org*.

INAUGURATION FROM PAGE A1

eloquent of pundits grasping for words to describe the enormity of exhibitions and displays.

One again, Wilkes hit the nail on the head.

"We saw a lot of stuff," he said.

He said he liked the Air and Space Museum the most.

"A lot of old planes and a lot of planes that weren't really old," he said.

And which was the oldest?

"Probably the one where the guy was laying on the plane driving it," he said.

"The Wright Brothers plane," Eric affirmed.

Eric said the pair went to the Tennessee delegation and met Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam, and "all of the Tennessee representatives," as well as Sens. Bob Corker and Lamar Alexander.

The elder Burnette said that the inauguration extremely impressed him.

"The crowd, the excitement of the day. It was definitely overwhelming," he said. "(It was) more exciting that I thought it would be — it was like a major football game."

He said he thinks the crowd was larger than some have reported.

"It took us forever to get in and out," he said. "What took us 30 minutes to get in and out to get our tickets to the capital on Thursday took us two and a half hours going in Friday."

He said he would definitely go to another inauguration.

"I would go back no matter if my candidate won or not," Eric said. "Just being there for the inauguration is an experience, no matter what party you are affiliated with.

"The transition of power, they kept talking about the peaceful transition of power and it really was," he added.

Being part of it was a "really cool" experience, he said.

"One walked in and another walked off with no coup. Nothing like that," Eric said. "It is definitely something worth going to."

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The world will never place as high a value on you as God

I was handed a program when I entered the room of the pastor's luncheon where I was scheduled to give a brief presentation on the use of social media by churches and other ministries. I scanned down the page and found my name and its accompanying description: Jamie Wilson, minister's wife.



Faith Matters
JAMIE H. WILSON

After reading the label, I physically flinched as I momentarily gave over the impulse that has been the hallmark of my generation: offense.

After all, I reasoned, the rest of the speakers (all male) weren't listed in association to their spouses. Pastor Robinson, PhD, wasn't listed as "Marian's husband" nor was Association Director Thames listed as "spouse of Christine." For Pete's wife's husband's sake, I thought, I'm a successful businesswoman and a published author. I've held tete-a-tete with presidential candidates and challenged the policies of congressmen during interviews. I write a weekly column on faith that rivals or exceeds that of those same pastors' congregations, yet I'm stripped of those accomplishments and labeled a wife.

I don't have to look far for those willing to join me in my momentary anger, especially now, as the topic of gender bias and prejudice is grabbing quite a few headlines.

I was decrying the injustice of it all when a friend pointed me to a higher perspective.

"Is that all you think you are?"

He was right. I was expecting those people to see my complete value, and that goal can only be accomplished by my Heavenly Father. The world will never place as high a value on me as my God. I'd rather focus on being identified by my association to Him. I want any notoriety to be directly linked to him.

We are in the most recent throes of that conversation where the role of women and various gender-related topics are at the forefront of our minds. This interests me greatly as I try to navigate my own place in this world, both as a believer and a female.

If I were to ask for it, there would be several competing ideologies ready to offer me their insight into what the role of the modern female is. My highest aim is wife and mother, so say some, while others tell me my goal as a woman is to fight until total gender equality is achieved for every woman and girl in the world.

I've decided the only worthy cause is the one where I rise to whatever task Christ Jesus has called me to, regardless of whether it abides or rejects cultural norms.

I don't have to worry about the challenges or obstacles ahead. God, after all, will establish the work of my hands (Psalm 90:17).

If my goal in life is to find my identity in my gender, I would imagine I would spend most of my time debating these issues, but I'd rather focus on serving God and His call on my life. In Him, I have no limits (Phil. 4:13). In Scripture, God has used women to lead his people, foreigners as the ancestors of His son, and the lowliest as the proclaimers of His word. Clearly, it's not one's physical attributes that determine one's spiritual worth. That designation comes from God.

I think it's a clever manipulation by the darkness to convince us that we need to be assigned our due credit by those in this. In reality, we need only one pursuit – that of a determined faith.

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

Be a light; talk positively

In Matthew 5:14 and 16 we can read these words: "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Over the last few weeks we have talked about letting our light shine by loving, investing, giving and honoring others. Today, as we consider letting our lights shine, I want us to consider the importance of talking positively.



Family Encouragement
RICHARD HOLMES

"Sticks and stones my break my bones but words will never hurt me." Did you ever use that phrase when you were a child? As a child, the words may have sounded good, but I am sure you soon discovered words hurt deeply. While physical wounds may heal, words stick with us and replay in our heads.

In the Bible we find the following words in Ephesians 4:29, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." This scripture reminds us how our mouths should be used. We should use our mouths to build others up, to encourage them, motivate and inspire them.

Our words should make our spouses feel loved, appreciated and admired. The words we speak to our children should be words that lift them up and help them know with hard work and determination, they can accomplish their goals. Home should be the place that families feel safe from criticism and hurtful words. Home should be a place where all look forward to going because it is a place where kind, loving, encouraging and inspiring words are spoken.

Tony Evans in his book, "Watch Your Mouth," states, "Season your speech with God's grace, and people will come back to you for more." People listen to those who inspire them and encourage them to make a difference. Today, make a commitment to be a light in your family and community by talking positively.

Family Encouragement Corner is a weekly inspirational thought from Richard Holmes. Holmes serves as a chaplain at Shaw Air Force Base. The opinions expressed in this article do not express the views of Shaw Air Force Base or the United States Air Force. For more information regarding Family Encouragement Corner or to offer your suggestions or comments please email family-encouragement2016@gmail.com.

CHURCH NEWS

Chapel Hill Baptist Church, 8749 Old Highway Six, Santee, announces:

* Sunday, Feb. 5 — Deacon Gerald Gilmore will deliver his initial sermon at 4 p.m. The combined choirs will provide music.

Concord Baptist Church, 1885 Myrtle Beach Highway, announces:

* Friday — Midnight Cry will perform in concert at 6 p.m. A love offering will be received.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 105 Dinkins St., Manning, announces:

* Sunday, Feb. 26 — Black history program at 11 a.m. The theme is "The crisis in black education". Dr. John Lesaine, assistant professor of sports profession of Newberry College, will speak.

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 182 S. Pike East, announces:

* Sunday — The 18th ministerial anniversary celebration of Pastor Hill will be held at 11:30 a.m.

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

* Sunday — Wateree Association, LD fifth Sunday program at 6 p.m.

* Sunday, Feb. 5 — Holy communion will be observed after the 10:15 a.m. worship.

* Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 11-12 — The second annual "Go Red for Women" weekend as follows: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, health fair; and 10:15 a.m. Sunday, worship. Elder Beverly Richbow will speak.

* Sunday, Feb. 19 — The YWA anniversary will be celebrated during the 10:15 a.m. worship.

* Sunday, Feb. 26 — Black history observance day and the male chorus anniversary celebration will be held during the 10:15 a.m. worship.

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

* Saturday, Feb. 11 — Knitting Hearts will meet from 10 a.m. to noon. Michelle Murray, of Fort Mill, will speak on "The Power of Your Words." Light breakfast included. A love offering will be received. Visit *knittingheartsministry.wordpress.com*

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

* Sunday, Feb. 5 — Black heritage / first Sunday worship celebration at 6 p.m. The Rev. Johnnie M. Gist will speak.

* Sunday, Feb. 12 — Youth black heritage worship celebration at 10:45 a.m.

* Sunday, Feb. 19 — Trustee ministry anniversary and black heritage worship celebration at 10:45 a.m.

* Sunday, Feb. 26 — Golden Age ministry anniversary and black heritage worship celebration at 10:45 a.m.

Pine Grove AME Church, 41 Pine Grove Road, Rembert, announces:

* Sunday — Fifth Sunday worship sponsored by the Women's Missionary Society and the young people's department at 11 a.m.

* Saturday, Feb. 4 — The Women's Missionary Society and the young people's department will hold a soup and cornbread lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m. There will be various soups available and meals will also be sent to the sick and shut-in. Donations will be made to local soup kitchens and food banks.

Pinewood Baptist Church, S.C. 261, Pinewood, announces:

* Sunday — The Crestwood High School Choir will provide music at 6:30 p.m. A chili cook-off will follow the concert. A love offering will be received. Call (803) 452-5373 or visit *www.pinewoodbaptist.org*

Providence Christian Church, 1100 Dozier Mallett Road, Manning, announces:

* Sunday, Feb. 5 — Family and friends day at 3 p.m. The Rev. Carnell Witherspoon will speak.

St. James United Methodist Church, 720 Broad St., announces:

* Wednesday, Feb. 1 — A contemporary worship service will be held at 7 p.m. The Rev. Abraham Temoney Jr. will speak.

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

* Saturday, Feb. 18 — Brotherhood recruiting breakfast 9-11 a.m. The Rev. Lee Timmons, of Jerusalem Association, will speak.

* Sunday, Feb. 19 — Black history program at 3 p.m.

* Saturday, Feb. 25 — Boys to men conference at 2:30 p.m. The Rev. Stukes will speak.

Sumter Baptist Missionary and Educational Association, 508 W. Liberty St, announces:

* Monday-Friday, March 6-10 — Congress Spring Institute Classes will be held 7-9 nightly at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 155 Wall St. Pastor M.H. Newton, Pastor W.T. Johnson and Pastor Sammie Simmons will speak. For details, call Ella Mathis James at (803) 305-1165 or the Rev. Alphonsa Barker at (803) 983-8905.

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

* Saturday — The 2017 Winter Solo Fest, presented by the Pastor's Aide ministry, will be held at 5 p.m. featuring some of Clarendon's best singers.

Truly Committed Missionary Baptist Church, 705 Oswego Road, announces:

* Sunday, Feb. 19 — Mary Smiling will deliver her initial sermon at 5 p.m. at Greater Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, 609 Miller Road.

Willow Grove AME Church, 8105 A/B Sumter Landing Road, Horatio, announces:

* Sunday — Fifth Sunday fellowship with officers in charge of worship. Church school begins at 8:45 a.m. followed by 10 a.m. worship.

* Saturday, Feb. 11 — Valentine banquet at 6 p.m. for singles or couples. Games, food and fellowship.

* Sunday, Feb. 12 — Lay organization's annual worship. Theme is "Love: Mother and Son; Grandmother and Grandson." Church school begins at 8:45 a.m. followed by 10 a.m. worship.

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Trump draft order pursues review on terror interrogations

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is considering a major review of America's methods for interrogating terror suspects and the possible reopening of CIA-run "black site" prisons outside the United States, according to a draft executive order obtained by The Associated Press.

The order would also reverse America's commitment to closing the U.S. detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and instruct the Pentagon to send newly captured "enemy combatants" to the site.

The document instructs top national security officers to "recommend to the president whether to reinitiate a program of interrogation of high-value alien terrorists to be operated outside the United States and whether such program should include the use of detention facilities operated by the Central Intelligence Agency."

The document says U.S. laws should be obeyed at all times and explicitly rejects "torture."

But its reconsideration of the harsh interrogation techniques banned by President Obama, and Congress is sure to inflame passions in the United States and abroad. While some former government leaders insist the program was effective in obtaining critical intelligence, many others blame it for some of the worst abuses in the "war on terror" after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States.

The AP obtained the draft order from a U.S. official, who said it had been distributed by the White House for consultations before Trump signs it. The official wasn't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity.

The reports of an upcoming order were already sparking significant alarm among Republicans as well as Democrats.

"The president can sign whatever executive orders he likes. But the law is the law," said Republican Sen. John McCain, who was held captive during the Vietnam War. "We are not bringing back torture in the United States of America."

The White House and Pentagon didn't immediately comment.

On the campaign trail, Trump spoke emphatically about toughening the U.S. approach to fighting the Islamic State group. He said he would interrogate terror suspects with the outlawed practice of waterboarding, which simulates drowning, and a "hell of a lot worse." Since becoming president, however, he has tempered those calls, noting his Defense Secretary James Mattis' advice that torture is ineffective.

President George W. Bush publicly acknowledged the clandestine CIA-run detention facilities in 2006. After condemnation in much of the world, Obama ended the program in his first days in office.



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

In this June 27, 2006, photo, reviewed by a U.S. Department of Defense official, U.S. military guards walk within Camp Delta military-run prison at Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba.

Church Directory

Adventist

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

African Methodist Episcopal

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist - Missionary

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

Salem Missionary Baptist Church
320 West Fulton Street
803-775-8054
Reverend Dr. Cartrell, Jr. Pasto
Sun. School 9:00 am
Praise Worship 9:55 am
Worship 10:00 am

Baptist - Southern

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

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

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

Catholic - Roman

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

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

Church of Christ

Plaza Church of Christ
1402 Camden Hwy. • 905-3163
Stewart Schnur cell 361-8449
Sunday School: 10 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 6 pm
Wed. Bible Class: 7 pm

Interdenominational

City of Refuge Church
16 Carolina Ave 938-9066
Barbara & Johnny Davis
Sun School 10:00 am
Worship 11:15 am
Bible Study (Wed.) 7:00 pm
www.cityofrefugeministry.com

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

Victory Full Gospel
Interdenominational Church
601 Pitts Rd • 481-7003
Joann P. Murrill, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 11:00 am
Youth Bible Study 7:00 pm

Lutheran - ELCA

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

Methodist - United

Aldersgate United Methodist
211 Alice Dr • 775-1602
David W. Day, Pastor
Traditional Service 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am
Contemporary Service 11:15 am

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

Trinity United Methodist Church
226 W Liberty St • 773-9393
Rev. Steve Holler
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
trinityumcsumter.org

Non-Denominational

Christ Community Church(CCC)
320 Loring Mill Rd., Sumter
www.cccsumter.com
803-905-7850
Sunday Worship 10:00 am

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

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

Sumter Bible Church
420 South Pike West, Sumter
803-773-8339 • Pastor Ron Davis
Sunday School 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am & 6:30 pm
Wed. Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 pm

Pentecostal

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

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

Presbyterian - ARP

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

Presbyterian PCA

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

Presbyterian USA

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



The full moon is a beautiful object, especially on a clear night. As the moon passes through it's phases, it reflects the light of the sun. Like the moon, we too can be a reflection…a reflection of the fullness of God's love. His love strengthens our spirit and lights our path through times of darkness and doubt. Visit your house of worship this week and discover the light of His love. Then you can pass it on!

Daily Devotional Reading

John	Matthew	Matthew	Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts
17:1-26	20:1-19	20:20-34	9:1-25	9:26-43	10:1-33	10:34-48

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The Cookie Box Etc. serves up treats



KONSTANTIN VENGEROWSKY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Above, a batch of freshly baked chocolate chip and gluten-free chocolate chip cookies tempts customers at The Cookie Box Etc. in Summerton.



Carol Myers, owner and baker of The Cookie Box Etc., right, rolls a batch of chocolate, which she will then freeze and use to make cookies at the bakery.

BY KONSTANTIN VENGEROWSKY
konstantin@theitem.com

SUMMERTON — From cookies, cakes and pies to homemade breads, sandwiches, soups, salads and pimiento cheese, The Cookie Box Etc. has favorite foods for everyone to enjoy.

The store, owned and operated by Summerton resident Leslie Coker-LeMense and her parents, Carol Myers and John Myers, opened in downtown Summerton in late October.

"I've always loved to cook and bake; it's my passion," Coker-LeMense said. "I thought it would be fun to do it full-time."

Carol Myers, Coker-LeMense's mom, said she always had a desire to open a bakery, but needed some encouragement to do it. She decided to pray about it and ask for a sign.

"I saw a movie about a bakery one day and prayed about the idea of opening one in Summerton," she said. "God gave me many signs before we made the decision to do it."

Most of the items are made from scratch and with natural ingredients, Myers said. Recipes for the foods include homemade secrets passed down from one generation to the next, she said.

Besides the traditional desserts, sandwiches, breads, soups and salads, the bakery offers many specialty homemade items such as butterfingers, caramel popcorn, homemade Chex mix, fudge and chocolate-covered strawberries. In the future, the bakery plans to offer doughnuts.

SEE **COOKIES,** PAGE A8

Cabela's King Kat Tournament Trail Super Event coming Feb. 17-18

BY KONSTANTIN VENGEROWSKY
konstantin@theitem.com

SUMMERTON — The Cabela's King Kat Tournament Trail will return to the Santee Cooper lakes, Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie, on Feb. 17 and Feb. 18, for its annual "Super Event."

The grand prize was $4,500 last year and is expected to be the same this year, but depends on the amount of participants, according to Darrell Van Vactor, the tournament's general manager.

The total cash prize, about $12,000, will be split among the top 15 percent of the winners, Van Vactor said.

About 165 participants from 10 states are expected to participate in the two-day catfish tournament event, he said. Teams are made up of two people. A third person is permitted, however, only if he or she is younger than 16 or older than 65 years old.

"There is a limit on the number of rods and reels used, however," he said.

Teams will compete each day and will be judged on a maximum of five fish caught each day, or a total of 10 for both days.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mark Stanley, left, and Owen Stanley won the 2016 Cabela's King Kat Tournament Trail Super Event on Santee Cooper lakes, receiving a cash prize of $4,500.

Van Vactor said the tournament is estimated to bring in about $180,000 in revenue to the local economy, including income from hotel rooms, restaurants, fuel and other expenses.

Tournament weigh-in will be held at John C. Land III Landing, 4404 Greenall Road, Summerton. Tournament hours each day are from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. All anglers must be in the weigh-in line by 4 p.m. Only live fish will be weighed in, and all fish will be released after the tournament, Van Vactor said.

Late registration for the event will be held the day before the competition from 5 to 7 p.m. at Manning High School, 2155 Paxville Highway. A captains' meeting and seminar will take place at 7 p.m. Participants must be members of the King Kat Association to fish in the event. A one-year membership costs $30.

To preregister, visit *www.kingkatusa.com* or call (502) 384-5924.

Children participating in the event will have an opportunity to win one of six $1,000 scholarships to be awarded in the fall.

Tournament participants will have a chance to advance to the Cabela's King Kat Northern and Southern Championship. This year's Northern Championship will be held Sept. 22 and Sept. 23 on the Cumberland River (Old Hickory Lake), Gallatin, Tennessee. The Southern Championship will be held Oct. 6 and Oct. 7 on Lake Wateree in Camden.

For more information, visit the tournament's website, *www.kingkatusa.com* or Cabela's King Kat Facebook page.

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Pets of the week

Cotton is a 5-year-old white male Chorkie. He weighs approximately 10 pounds and is current on his shots, has been neutered and tested negative for heartworms. He is a little timid, but he will come out of his shell in a new home. His adoption fee is $125 with an approved application. Stop by to see Cotton, Snow and their friends from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday through Saturday at A Second Chance Animal Shelter, 5079 Alex Harvin Highway (U.S. 301), which has numerous pets available for adoption. To drop off an animal, call (803) 473-7075 for an appointment. If you've lost a pet, check *www.ccanimalcontrol.webs.com* and *www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com*.



COTTON



SNOW

Snow is a 15-week-old female Golden Retriever mix. She is current on her age-appropriate shots and has already been spayed. She has lots of energy and lots of love to give. Please stop by the shelter to see this beautiful baby and all of our babies.You can visit *www.ASecondChanceAnimalShelter.com* to see all of our fur babies and complete an application if interested.

THE Clarendon Sun CLASSIFIEDS

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Estate Notice
Clarendon County

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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

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Leslie Coker-LeMense, owner/baker of The Cookie Box Etc. in Summerton, loads a tray of cookies into the oven at the bakery on Tuesday.

KONSTANTIN VENGEROWSKY
THE SUMTER ITEM

COOKIES FROM PAGE A6

Coker-LeMense said she enjoys operating a bakery in a small town. Many of the customers are regulars.

"I love talking to people," she said. "It's nice having repeat customers who will invite you to sit down with them just to catch up."

Coker-LeMense said she also enjoys meeting new customers, such as tourists who are passing through the town.

"It creates for a very friendly atmosphere," she said.

Angel Pifer, of Summerton, who owns a business next door to the bakery, comes into the store about three times a week.

Pifer said she enjoys trying new food items there.

"It seems as if there is always something new to try," she said.

Summerton resident Tom Spurrier said he's a customer at the bakery each morning.

"I enjoy everything about it," he said.

Summerton resident Noopur Patel described a "Black Forest" birthday cake that Coker-LeMense made for her as "the absolute best cake she's had in years."

The cake was a "specialty cake," an option the bakery offers for items not on the menu.

"Their customer service was great," Patel said. "They were very helpful and had a loving attitude."

The Cookie Box Etc. is located at 103 Main St. in Summerton. The phone number is (803) 485-8223, or contact them via Facebook, under the name, "The Cookie Box Etc."

Current hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hours of operation could potentially change in the near future, Coker-LeMense said.

Turbeville man killed in wreck

A Turbeville man was killed in a double fatal head-on wreck that happened Tuesday near Scranton in Florence County.

Both victims died at the scene of the collision.

Florence County Coroner Keith von Lutcken said Bill Welch, 67, of Turbeville was killed. The driver of the other vehicle has not been identified yet, he said.

The incident happened about 4:20 p.m. Tuesday near Creek Road, between Florence and Olanta, according to South Carolina Highway Patrol Cpl. Sonny Collins.

The driver of a 1998 Dodge pickup truck was traveling North on U.S. 301 when he crossed the center line and hit a 2007 GMC pickup traveling south, Collins said.

The incident remains under investigation by the South Carolina Highway Patrol and Florence County Coroner's Office.

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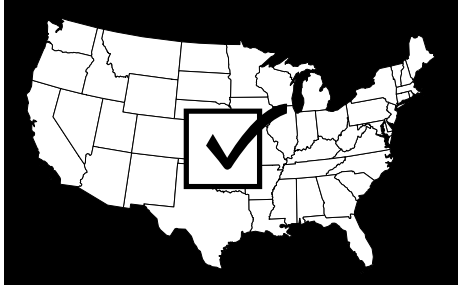
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OR	PA	RI	**SOUTH CAROLINA**	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT
VA	WA	WV	WI	WY				

NATIONWIDE – The phone lines are ringing off the hook.

That's because U.S. State Silver Bars sealed away in State Vault Bricks are being handed over to SC, NC and GA residents at just the state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury for the next 2 days.

This is not a misprint. For the next 2 days residents who find their state on the Distribution List above in bold are getting individual State Silver Bars at just the state minimum of $59 set by the Lincoln Treasury. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Bricks loaded with five U.S. State Silver Bars before the deadline ends.

And here's the best part. Every SC, NC and GA resident who gets at least two Vault Bricks is also getting free shipping and free handling. That's a real steal because all other state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each State Vault Brick.

Not long ago, nobody knew that the only U.S. State Silver Bars locked away in the private vaults of the Lincoln Treasury would be allocated to the Federated Mint for a limited release to residents in 3 states. Every single one of the 50 U.S. State Silver Bars are date numbered in the order they ratified the Constitution and were admitted into the Union beginning in the late 1700s.

"As Executive Advisor to the Lincoln Treasury I get paid to deliver breaking news. So, for anyone who hasn't heard yet, highly collectable U.S. State Silver Bars are now being handed over at just the state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury to residents in 3 states who beat the offer deadline, which is why I pushed for this announcement to be widely advertised," said Mary Ellen Withrow, the emeritus 40th Treasurer of the United States of America.

"These bars are solid .999 pure fine silver and will always be a valuable precious metal which is why everyone is snapping up as many as they can before they're all gone," Withrow said.

There's one thing Withrow wants to make very clear. State residents only have two days to call the Toll Free Order Hotlines to get the U.S. State Silver Bars.

"These valuable U.S. State Silver Bars are impossible to get at banks, credit unions or the U.S. Mint. In fact, they're only being handed over at state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury to SC, NC and GA residents who call the Toll Free Hotline before the deadline ends two days from today's publication date", said Timothy J. Shissler, Executive Director of Vault Operations at the private Lincoln Treasury.

To make it fair, special Toll Free Overflow Hotlines have been set up to ensure all residents have an equal chance to get them.

Rapid shipments to state residents are scheduled to begin with the first calls being accepted at precisely 8:30am today.

"We're bracing for all the calls and doing everything we can to make sure no one gets left out, but the U.S. State Silver Bars are only being handed over at just the state resident minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury for the next two days. For now, residents can get the U.S. State Silver Bars at just the state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury as long as they call before the order deadline ends," confirmed Shissler.

"With so many state residents trying to get these U.S. State Silver Bars, lines are busy so keep trying. All calls will be answered," Shissler said. ■



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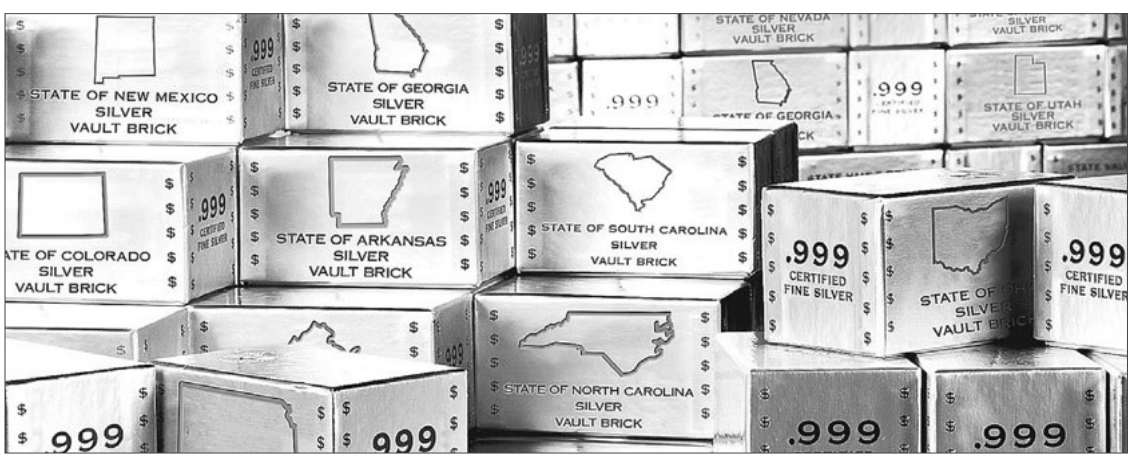
1. IF ALL LINES ARE BUSY CALL THIS SPECIAL TOLL FREE OVERFLOW HOTLINE: **1-888-414-3758 EXT.FMS1884**
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2. CALL THE NON-RESIDENT TOLL FREE HOTLINE BEGINNING AT 11:00AM AT: **1-888-414-3761 EXT.FMS1884**
3. IF YOU ARE A U.S. RESIDENT LIVING OUTSIDE OF THE STATES OF SC, NC OR GA YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PAY $134 FOR EACH STATE SILVER BAR FOR A TOTAL OF SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY DOLLARS PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING FOR EACH SEALED STATE VAULT BRICK LOADED WITH FIVE U.S. STATE SILVER BARS. THIS SAME OFFER MAY BE MADE AT A LATER DATE OR IN A DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION.

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■ **A SNEAK PEAK INSIDE SILVER VAULT BRICKS:** Pictured left reveals the valuable .999 pure fine silver bars inside each State Silver Vault Brick. Pictured right are the State Silver Vault Bricks containing the only U.S. State Silver Bars known to exist with the double forged state proclamation. SC, NC and GA residents are authorized to get individual State Silver Bars at just $59 state resident minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Bricks loaded with five State Silver Bars before they're all gone. And here's the best part. Every resident who gets at least two Vault Bricks is also getting free shipping and free handling. That's a real steal because all other state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each State Vault Brick.

	TW	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS													
WIS 10	3	10	**WIS News 10 at 7:00pm** Local news update.	**Entertainment Tonight** (N) (HD)	**Superstore:** Spokesman Scandal (HD)	**Superstore:** Dog Adoption Day (HD)	**Chicago Med:** Soul Care Rhodes' new fellowship brings tension. (HD)		**The Blacklist** Former agent Raymond "Red" Reddington offers to help track down a terrorist. (HD)		**WIS News 10 at 11:00pm** News and weather.	**(:35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon** Actor Danny DeVito visits the show. (N) (HD)	
WLTX 19	9	9	**News 19 @ 7pm** Evening news update.	**Inside Edition** (N) (HD)	**The Big Bang Theory** Baby's gender. (HD)	**The Great Indoors:** Step One: Shelter (HD)	**Mom:** Cinderella and a Drunk MacGyver (HD)	**Life in Pieces** Flirty salesman. (HD)	**Pure Genius:** Lift Me Up Angie's mother refuses nanobot treatment (N) (HD)		**News 19 @ 11pm** The news of the day.	**(:35) The Late Show with Stephen Colbert** Andrew Garfield; Erin Andrews. (HD)	
WOLO 25	5	12	**Wheel of Fortune** (N) (HD)	**Jeopardy!** (N) (HD)	**Grey's Anatomy:** You Can Look (But You'd Better Not Touch) Violent teen mom. (N) (HD)		**(:01) Scandal:** Survival of the Fittest Election results are announced. (N) (HD)		**How to Get Away with Murder:** We're Bad People Murder charges. (N) (HD)		**ABC Columbia News at 11** (HD)	**(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live** Celebrities and human-interest subjects. (HD)	
WRJA 27	11	14	**Europe:** European Travel Skills, Part 2	**Palmetto Scene:** Special Edition (HD)	**A Chef's Life** Farm-raised catfish. (N) (HD)	**Life on the Line:** The Lasting Impact (N) (HD)	**Reel South** (HD)		**Masterpiece:** Poldark II George herds Poldark into a checkmate. (HD)		**Tavis Smiley** (HD)	**BBC World News** International news.	**Charlie Rose** (N) (HD)
WACH 57	6	6	**The Big Bang Theory** (HD)	**The Big Bang Theory** Sleepover. (HD)	**Hell's Kitchen:** Tequila Shots? Contestants craft a unique experience. (N) (HD)		**(:01) My Kitchen Rules:** Andrew Dice Clay Hosts Dinner Andrew Dice Clay. (N) (HD)		**WACH FOX News at 10** Local news report and weather forecast.		**Overtime**	**2 Broke Girls** Caroline's birthday. (HD)	**Mike & Molly:** Mike Likes Cake (HD)
WKTC 63	4	22	**Last Man Standing** Birthday present. (HD)	**Last Man Standing:** Halloween (HD)	**Supernatural:** First Blood Attempted assassination of president. (N) (HD)		**Riverdale:** Chapter One: The River's Edge Death of golden boy strikes town. (N) (HD)		**Bones:** The Bone That Blew Marine's remains lead to privilege. (HD)		**Bones:** The Double Trouble in the Panhandle Undercover in traveling circus. (HD)		**Hot in Cleveland** Bad housekeeper. (HD)
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	**The First 48:** Killer Contact Murder web of lies. (HD)		**The First 48:** Deadly Favor; Just Kids (HD)		**The First 48:** Deadly Lies; Stay Down Conflicting stories. (N) (HD)		**Nightwatch:** Brotherhood Suicidal patient. (N) (HD)		**(:03) The First 48:** The Fighter; Final Ride Friends ambushed. (HD)		**(:03) The First 48** (HD)
AMC	48	180	**Gladiator** ('00, Drama) Russell Crowe. A warrior's revenge. (HD)		**Con Air** ('97, Action) ★★★ Nicolas Cage. An airplane transporting dangerous criminals is hijacked by the inmates. (HD)					**The Dark Knight** ('08, Action) ★★★★ Christian Bale. A new enemy attacks Gotham City and develops a personal enmity for Batman. (HD)			
ANPL	41	100	**River Monsters** (HD)		**(:01) River Monsters** (HD)		**(:01) River Monsters** (HD)		**(:01) River Monsters** (HD)		**(:01) River Monsters** (HD)		**Rvr Mnstrs**
BET	61	162	**The New Edition Story:** Part 2 In 1984, tensions between the band members lead to Bobby and Ralph's departure. (HD)				**The New Edition Story:** Part 3 After launching successful solo careers, all six members go their separate ways. (N) (HD)				**The New Edition Story:** Part 3 The six members go their separate ways. (HD)		
BRAVO	47	181	**The Real Housewives of Atlanta:** Uncharitable Behavior		**The Real Housewives of Atlanta:** Thelma and Louise Take Flint		**Top Chef:** For the Kids Chefs cook for children's hospital gala. (N)		**Top Chef:** For the Kids Chefs cook for children's hospital gala.		**What Happens** (N) (HD)	**Real Housewives Beverly:** Boys, Blades and Bag of Pills	
CNBC	35	84	**Super Rich**	**Super Rich**	**Shark Tank** (HD)		**Shark Tank** (HD)		**Super Rich**	**Super Rich**	**Trump**	**Super Rich**	**Super Rich**
CNN	33	80	**Erin Burnett OutFront** (HD)		**Anderson Cooper 360°** (N) (HD)		**Anderson Cooper 360°** (N) (HD)		**CNN Tonight with Don Lemon**		**CNN Tonight with Don Lemon**		**360°** (HD)
COM	57	136	**Futurama:** Godfellas (HD)	**(:27) Futurama** (HD)	**Daniel Tosh: Completely Serious** Jokes on Nebraska.		**Kevin Hart: Laugh at My Pain** ('11) ★★★ Kevin Hart. (HD)		**Jeff Ross Presents Roast Battle** Eight comics. (N) (HD)		**Daily Show with Trevor** (N)	**@midnight**	**Jeff Ross Roast Battle** (HD)
DISN	18	200	**K.C. Undercover** (HD)	**Good Luck Charlie** (HD)	**Stuck in the Middle** (HD)	**Good Luck Charlie** (HD)	**Liv and Maddie** (HD)	**Liv and Maddie** (HD)	**BUNK'D** Treasure hunt. (HD)	**BUNK'D** Eagle egg. (HD)	**Jessie:** Moby and SCOBY Jessie and Ravi share a class. (HD)		**Girl Meets World** (HD)
DSC	42	103	**Moonshiners** Law violated. (HD)		**Moonshiners** (HD)		**The Wheel:** Abandoned for 60 Days (N) (HD)				**Naked and Afraid** (HD)		**Nkd & Afrd**
ESPN	26	35	**Pro Bowl Skills** T (HD)		**College Basketball:** Virginia Tech vs North Carolina LIVE (HD)				**X Games Aspen 2017** LIVE (HD)				**SC** (HD)
ESPN2	27	39	**College Basketball:** Xavier vs Cincinnati LIVE (HD)				**College Basketball:** Indiana Hoosiers at Michigan Wolverines (HD)				**SportsCenter** (HD)		**Basketball**
FOOD	40	109	**Chopped:** Hero Chefs (HD)		**Chopped:** Wild Times (HD)		**Chopped** Former military. (HD)		**Beat Bobby**	**Beat Bobby**	**Beat Bobby**	**Beat Bobby**	**Chopped** (HD)
FOXN	37	90	**The First 100 Days** (N) (HD)		**The O'Reilly Factor** (N) (HD)		**Tucker Carlson Tonight** (N)		**Hannity** (N) (HD)		**The O'Reilly Factor** (HD)		**Tucker** (HD)
FREE	20	131	**(5:30) Save the Last Dance** ('01, Romance) ★★½ Julia Stiles. (HD)		**Love & Basketball** ('00, Romance) ★★★ Omar Epps. Two middle-class basketball players are recruited by USC and decide to put romance on the back burner to pursue their careers on the court. (HD)						**The 700 Club** Bringing clean water to those in need. (HD)		**Gilmore Girls** (HD)
FSS	31	42	**Wom. College Basketball:** North Carolina vs Miami LIVE				**The Auto Show** (HD)		**Access** (HD)	**Xterra Adv**	**World Poker Tour** R (HD)		**NHL Hockey**
HALL	52	183	**Last Man Standing** (HD)	**Last Man Standing** (HD)	**Last Man Standing** (HD)	**Last Man Standing** (HD)	**The Middle** (HD)	**The Middle** (HD)	**The Middle:** The Carpool (HD)	**The Middle** (HD)	**The Golden Girls:** The Actor	**Gold. Girl:** Before and After	**Gold. Girl** Abandoned infant.
HGTV	39	112	**Flip/Flop** (HD)	**Flip/Flop** (HD)	**Flip/Flop** (HD)	**Flip/Flop** (HD)	**Flip/Flop** (N)	**Flip/Flop** (HD)	**Hunters** (N)	**Hunters** (HD)	**Hunters** (HD)	**Hunters** (HD)	**Flip/Flop** (HD)
HIST	45	110	**The Curse of Oak Island** (HD)		**The Curse of Oak Island** (HD)		**Alone** Winter impact. (N) (HD)		**The Selection: Special Op** (N)		**Six:** Her Name is Esther (HD)		**Oak Island**
ION	13	160	**Blue Bloods:** Devil's Breath Disoriented man. (HD)		**Blue Bloods:** The Bitter End Danny's protection. (HD)		**Blue Bloods:** This Way Out Reagan's rally. (HD)		**Blue Bloods:** Unwritten Rules Police officer killed in robbery. (HD)		**Blue Bloods:** The City That Never Sleeps Actor stabbed. (HD)		**Blue Bloods** (HD)
LIFE	50	145	**Project Runway: Junior:** Step It Up From Day To Night (HD)		**Project Runway: Junior** (N) (HD)		**Project Runway: Junior:** Firefighting Clients (N) (HD)		**(:02) You Again** ('10, Comedy) ★★½ Kristen Bell. A young woman finds out her brother is going to marry her high school rival. (HD)				**Project Runway: Junior** (HD)
MSNBC	36	92	**Hardball with Chris** (N) (HD)		**All in with Chris Hayes** (HD)		**The Rachel Maddow Show** (N)		**Lawrence O'Donnell** (HD)		**11th Hour** (HD)	**Hardball** (HD)	**Maddow** (HD)
NICK	16	210	**Paradise** (N)	**Thunderman**	**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days** ('12, Comedy) Zachary Gordon.				**Full House**	**Full House**	**Nashville** (HD)		**Friends** (HD)
SPIKE	64	153	**The Expendables 3** ('14, Action) Sylvester Stallone. New blood. (HD)				**Lip Sync** (HD)	**Lip Sync** (HD)	**Lip Sync** (N)	**Caraoke** (N)	**Awkward** (N)	**The Expendables 3** ('14) (HD)	
SYFY	58	152	**Resident Evil: Apocalypse** ('04, Horror) ★★ Milla Jovovich. A woman battles zombies. (HD)				**Resident Evil: Retribution** ('12, Horror) ★★ Milla Jovovich. The Umbrella Corporation's T-virus has continued to ravage Earth.				**Resident Evil: Afterlife** ('10, Horror) ★★½ Milla Jovovich. Searching Los Angeles for survivors. (HD)		
TBS	24	156	**Seinfeld:** The Pool Guy (HD)	**Seinfeld:** The Sponge (HD)	**2 Broke Girls** (HD)	**2 Broke Girls** (HD)	**The Big Bang Theory** (HD)	**The Big Bang Theory** (HD)	**The Big Bang Theory** (HD)	**The Big Bang Theory** (HD)	**Conan** Chris Hardwick; Cody Jinks. (N) (HD)		**Billy On**
TCM	49	186	**(6:45) Border Treasure** ('50, Western) Tim Holt. Men rob a charity.		**Magnificent Obsession** ('54, Drama) ★★★ Jane Wyman. A rich, irresponsible playboy reforms after a young widow loses her sight.				**All That Heaven Allows** ('55, Romance) Jane Wyman. A wealthy widow falls in love with a younger nurseryman, shaming her children.				**Lucy Gallant** ('55) ★★½
TLC	43	157	**My 600-lb Life** (HD)		**My 600-lb Life:** Supersized: Kirsten's Story Weight control. (N) (HD)				**(:02) Extreme Weight Loss** (HD)		**My 600-lb Life:** Supersized: Kirsten's Story (HD)		
TNT	23	158	**NBA Tip-Off** LIVE		**NBA Basketball:** Dallas Mavericks at Oklahoma City Thunder from Chesapeake Energy Arena LIVE (HD)					**NBA Basketball:** Los Angeles Lakers at Utah Jazz from Vivint Smart Home Arena LIVE (HD)			
TRUTV	38	129	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)	**Jokers** (N)	**Comedy** (N)	**Comedy** (HD)	**Jokers** (HD)
TVLAND	55	161	**A Griffith** (HD)	**A Griffith** (HD)	**A Griffith** (HD)	**(:48) Loves Raymond** (HD)		**Loves Ray.**	**Loves Ray.**	**Loves Ray.**	**Queens** (HD)	**Queens** (HD)	**Queens** (HD)
USA	25	132	**Law & Order: Special Victims Unit:** Trophy Activist raped. (HD)		**Law & Order: Special Victims Unit:** Agent Provocateur (HD)		**Law & Order: Special Victims Unit:** A Misunderstanding (HD)		**Colony:** Sublimation Will, Devon and Charlie travel home. (N) (HD)		**(:01) Law & Order: Special Victims Unit:** Penetration (HD)		**(:01) Law & Order: SVU** (HD)
WE	68	166	**L.A. Hair:** Go Big or Go-Shady		**L.A. Hair:** Down Wright Shade		**L.A. Hair** (N)		**Ghosts in the Hood** (N)		**L.A. Hair**		**Ghosts**
WGN	8	172	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Cops** (HD)	**Outsiders**

'Riverdale' is dark, creepy take on Archie Comics

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Who knew Archie and Jughead lived in "Twin Peaks"? The lurid, silly and quite addictive new CW melodrama **"Riverdale"** (9 p.m., TV-14) reimagines the sunny comic book characters as residents of a doom-laden American town shot through with secrets, mysteries and murder. In addition to "Twin Peaks," it cleverly echoes other American movies from the 1980s, including "Heathers" and "River's Edge."

In this new incarnation, Archie Andrews (K.J. Apa) has become a brooding singer/songwriter. He's also catnip to the ladies and to Kevin Keller (Casey Cott), the gay and gossipy best friend of Betty Cooper (Lili Reinhart). Betty harbors an obvious crush on the boy next door. It seems Archie has become a muscular hunk after working all summer on a construction site for his father (Luke Perry!).

Betty has been waiting till September to confess her ardor, but Archie seems distracted by Veronica Lodge (Camila Mendes), the new girl in school, dripping with Manhattan sophistication. He's also confused about his choice between football and music, and is a bit torn up by his secret affair with the school's music teacher, Ms. Grundy (Sarah Habel). Readers of the comics may recall Grundy as a bit of a scarecrow, but here she's a beauty, all too eager to whip off her glasses and let down her hair.

And everyone in town is distracted by the summer's big news, the boating accident and death of Jason Blossom (Trevor Stines), the twin brother of Cheryl (Madelaine Petsch), Riverdale's cruel queen bee and head cheerleader.



DIYAH PERA / THE CW

KJ Apa, left, stars as Archie and Luke Perry as his father, Fred, in the pilot episode of "Riverdale," airing at 9 p.m. today on The CW.

The "Riverdale" pilot opens and closes with references to that murder mystery. It's the vehicle that drives the story forward. That, and the voiceover narration provided by Jughead Jones (Cole Sprouse), a brooding blogger/novelist-type who haunts Pop's chocolate shop, bitterly harboring a grudge against old Archie, his former friend.

You don't have to be familiar with the "Archie" canon to appreciate all this, but it helps. Riverdale High was built in 1941, the year Bob Montana launched the comic strip. In addition to Ms. Grundy's transformation into a stunner, the brawny Moose Mason (Cody Kearsley) spends a lot of time with Kevin, if you get my drift.

Ashleigh Murray portrays Josie McCoy, high school diva and head of the girl group the Pussycats. Look for Madchen Amick from "Twin Peaks" as Betty's cold, controlling mother, a woman with several grudges against Jason, the corpse at the center of the story.

"Riverdale" is a lot of fun if you don't take it too seriously.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

• Cliques collide on **"Grey's Anatomy"** (8 p.m., ABC).

• First impressions on **"Chicago Med"** (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14).

• Andrew Dice Clay hosts on **"My Kitchen Rules"** (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14). Oh!

• Clay and Maddie bond on **"Nashville"** (9 p.m., CMT, TV-PG).

• Flashbacks recall Olivia's schemes on the sixth season premiere of **"Scandal"** (8 p.m., ABC, TV-14).

• Angie's mother suffers on the season finale of **"Pure Genius"** (10 p.m., CBS, TV-PG).

• A bounty hunter has answers on **"The Blacklist"** (10 p.m., NBC, r, TV-14).

• Behind bars on **"How to Get Away with Murder"** (10 p.m., ABC).

• A voyage home on **"Colony"** (10 p.m., USA, TV-14).

• Toni and Candace retire on **"Portlandia"** (10 p.m., IFC, TV-14).

SERIES NOTES

Cohabitation on **"The Big Bang Theory"** (8 p.m., CBS, r, TV-PG) * On two helpings of **"Superstore"** (NBC, r, TV-PG), bad PR (8 p.m.), worse advice (8:30 p.m.) * A need to escape on **"Supernatural"** (8 p.m., CW, TV-14) * A tight squeeze on **"The Great Indoors"** (8:30 p.m., CBS, r, TV-PG) * Christy reaches out on **"Mom"** (9 p.m., CBS, r, TV-14) * Clementine attracts attention on **"Life in Pieces"** (9:30 p.m., CBS, r, TV-PG).

CULT CHOICE

Jane Wyman and Rock Hudson star in the lush 1955 Technicolor melodrama **"All That Heaven Allows"** (10 p.m., TCM), directed by Douglas Sirk.

LATE NIGHT

Laurence Fishburne is booked on **"The Daily Show With Trevor Noah"** (11 p.m., Comedy Central) * Chris Hardwick and Cody Jinks appear on **"Conan"** (11 p.m., TBS) * Andrew Garfield, Erin Andrews and Cage the Elephant are booked on **"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"** (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Danny DeVito, Brit Marling, Ciro Ortiz and Jon Bellion on **"The Tonight Show"** (11:35 p.m., NBC) * Samuel L. Jackson, Jason Momoa and Kehlani appear on **"Jimmy Kimmel Live"** (11:35 p.m., ABC) * Timothy Olyphant, Lili Reinhart, Camila Mendes and Nelly Furtado visit **"Late Night With Seth Meyers"** (12:35 a.m., NBC) * Chris Pratt, Olivia Munn and She and Him appear on **"The Late Late Show With James Corden"** (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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COMMENTARY

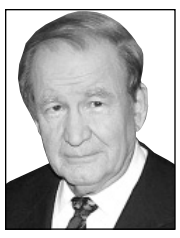
Trump: America for the Americans

As the patriotic pageantry of Inauguration Day gave way to the demonstrations of defiance Saturday, our new America came into view. We are two nations now, two peoples.

Though bracing, President Trump's inaugural address was rooted in cold truths, as he dispensed with the customary idealism of inaugurals that are forgotten within a fortnight of the president being sworn in.

Trump's inaugural was Jacksonian.

He was speaking to and for the forgotten Americans whose hopes he embodies, pledging to be their champion against those who abandon them in pursuit of higher, grander, nobler causes. Declared Trump:



Pat Buchanan

'We will no longer bleed and bankrupt our country for the benefit of others. Henceforth, America will be of, by, and for Americans.'

"For too long, a small group in our nation's capital has reaped the rewards of government while the people have borne the cost. Washington flourished, but the people did not share in its wealth. Politicians prospered, but the jobs left and the factories closed."

Is this not true? American wages have stagnated as scores of thousands of factories were shut down or shipped abroad. Five of the six wealthiest counties in the U.S. today, measured by median household income, are the suburbs of Washington, D.C.

Inaugurals should lift us up, wailed the media, this was "dark."

And Trump did paint a grim picture — of "mothers and children trapped in poverty in our inner cities; rusted-out factories scattered like tombstones across the landscape of our nation; an education system flush with cash but which leaves our … students deprived of all knowledge, and the crime and the gangs and the drugs …"

But is this not also a reality of America 2017?

Indeed, it carries echoes of FDR's second inaugural: "I see one-third of a nation ill-housed, ill-clad, ill-nourished. … The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

Some of the recoil to Trump's speech is surely traceable to an awareness by those covering and commenting upon it — that this was a searing indictment of them and their own ruling class.

With America's political elite sitting behind him, Trump accused them of enriching "foreign industry," not ours, of subsidizing other countries' armies but neglecting our own, of defending other nation's borders while leaving America's borders unprotected.

Then, in the line that will give his address its name in history, he declared: "From this day forward it's going to be only America First."

Prediction: Trump's "America First" inaugural will be recalled as the most controversial, but will be among the most remembered.

What did Trump mean by "America First?"

"Every decision on trade, on taxes, on immigration, on foreign affairs will be made to benefit American workers and American families."

What does it mean for the world?

"We will seek friendship and goodwill with the nations of the world, but we do so with the understanding that it is the right of other nations to put their own interests first. We do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone, but rather to let it shine as an example. We will shine for everyone to follow."

Denounced as isolationism, this is in an old and great tradition.

Ronald Reagan talked of America being a "shining city on a hill" for other nations to emulate.

John Quincy Adams declared:

"Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been or shall be unfurled there will America's hearts, her benedictions, and her prayers be. But she goes not abroad in search of monsters to destroy. She is the well-wisher of the freedom and independence of all. She is the champion and vindicator only of her own."

When the Hungarian patriot Louis Kossuth came to America seeking aid for the revolution of 1848, Henry Clay told him:

"Far better is it for ourselves, for Hungary, and for the cause of liberty, that … avoiding the distant wars of Europe, we should keep our lamp burning brightly on the western shore, as a light to all nations, than to hazard its utter extinction among the ruins of fallen or falling republics in Europe."

The charge of "isolationist" was thrown in the face of Clay. But he prevailed, and America stayed out of Europe's wars until 1917 when Woodrow Wilson, fatefully, plunged us in.

In 1936, FDR said, "We shun political commitments which might entangle us in foreign wars. … We are not isolationists except insofar as we seek to isolate ourselves completely from war. … I hate war."

What Trump was saying in his inaugural is that we will offer our free and independent republic as an example to other nations, but it is not our providential mission to reshape the world in our own image.

"We will reinforce old alliances" that are in our interests, Trump declared. But we are approaching the end of an era where we fought other nations' wars and paid other nations' bills.

We will no longer bleed and bankrupt our country for the benefit of others. Henceforth, America will be of, by, and for Americans.

Is that not what the nation voted for?

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of the new book "The Greatest Comeback: How Richard Nixon Rose From Defeat to Create the New Majority." © 2017 creators.com



COMMENTARY

Sumter School District's overage can be attributed to lack of adequate funding

In response to intense public pressure and a perceived mandate to address the district's $6.2 million deficit, the board announced recently that 47 jobs will be eliminated and that other freezes on spending will be instated in order to end the year with a balanced budget — at least to the extent that is possible.



Christian Compton

I cautioned the public in my last column to be wary of the ramifications of school budget cuts and how far-reaching the damages are. As unfortunate as these cuts are, they are entirely necessary in order to even have a chance at finishing the fiscal year with a balanced budget.

Sumter School District could not simply ignore the overage. The public and the media were swift in their rebuke of those who they felt were responsible for the overage. Some blamed the board itself, others blamed the superintendent. Only on a few occasions, however, did I see anybody placing the blame where it actually falls: a lack of adequate funding.

To the eyes of those in the community, the issue is simple: Sumter School District is given a certain amount of money and the people in charge are responsible for spending it in a way that is conducive to the mission of public education. Whenever there is an overage the size of this one, it seems logical to assume that the aforesaid individuals who are responsible for allotting the funds granted by the Department of Education haven't done their jobs, and therefore need to be reprimanded or even replaced.

In that frame, this makes sense and is simple. However, this conclusion is established on the premise that the local school district is receiving enough money to sustain itself and that the aforesaid overage was the result of irresponsible and unnecessary spending. This premise is simply untrue in both regards.

In order to make the case that Sumter School District is underfunded, it is important to establish a tangible number or average that can be used as a standard for comparison. That standard lies in the funding of the districts surrounding Sumter.

Sumter School District has roughly 17,000 students attending its 26 schools. Per student expenditure is $10,810. Closest in size to Sumter School District in the surrounding area is Florence 1, which has about 16,000 students among 21 different schools. Per student, Florence 1 gets $12,184. It may not seem like a major difference, but Florence 1 is receiving $1,374 more per student than Sumter. This difference multiplied by Sumter's 17,000 students is $23,358,000 — a very healthy boost that would merely bring Sumter School District in line with its neighbors.

There are many complex ways that the state and federal governments determine how much they grant to schools on a per student basis. The area where Sumter is among the lowest, though, is the amount of money it receives from its local county council.

In states like North Carolina, the state government acknowledges the differences between revenue generated from property tax from county to county. In order to level the playing field, these states channel additional funding from the state level to those districts whose county councils are unable to provide as much funding as neighbors with higher-value property.

I'm disappointed when I hear the community attribute this overage to financial waste and irresponsible spending. Stepping foot inside a public school in Sumter would immediately put concerns that the district was overzealous in its spending to rest. Sumter School District is not a well-financed district that is swimming in resources. Its officials are not living lavish lifestyles and making extravagant expenditures. Its employees are not being paid unsustainable amounts of money. If any of the former were true, I would agree with putting the district and its ability to manage finances under scrutiny. However, the $6.2 million overage occurred when the district spent what it needed to in order to just get by. The district is not being wasteful; it just isn't getting the funding it needs to sustain itself any longer.

Christian Compton is a senior at Lakewood High School. He is editor-in-chief of the school yearbook as well as the student body president.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEITHER BAKER NOR BYNUM SHOULD BE JUDGED BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN

In response to K. Reid and the question asked about Dr. Baker, if he were black. It is a shame you feel Mr. Bynum was removed due to his color and/or that Dr. Baker is not being removed because of it.

As to the deficit (over $6 million) I want to know why this happened as well as who is to be held accountable. In my opinion it is Dr. Baker; he is the person in charge. That has nothing to do with the color of his skin, just like it did not with Mr. Bynum. That you believe the Superintendent Bynum fiasco was simply over "asking for accountability" shows you really did not grasp all that went wrong under his reign.

So the only reason no one is calling for Dr. Baker's head and no rallies or signs around town is because he is white? Shameful, just like it is shameful to believe that Mr. Bynum was removed cause he was black.

Continue to find and question the color of someone's skin regardless of their competence, because of course, their ability has nothing to do with their performance. The only thing that matters is the color of their skin.

To individuals like you who see racism and bigotry at every opportunity: Why don't you and those that feel like you start a movement to remove Dr. Baker for his bad management? Oh wait, you can't, you would have to remove him for the color of his skin. I seem to remember people of "all colors" calling for Mr. Bynum's removal. Bad management and public trust is the same in all until someone decides, because of their own prejudice, that it might be because of race.

ROBERT ROBINSON
Sumter

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? Send your letter to *letters@theitem.com*, drop it off at *The Sumter Item* office, 36 W. Liberty St., or mail it to *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, SC 29151, along with the writer's full name, address and telephone number (for verification purposes only). Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at *www.theitem.com/opinion/letters_to_editor.*

AROUND TOWN

Hillcrest High School Class of 1975 will hold a class reunion meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28, at Golden Corral restaurant. For information, call (803) 499-1302 or (803) 795-7747.

The Ruach Bridal and Special Events Show will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 29, at 245 Oswego Highway. For information, call (803) 775-5416 or visit *theruach.org*.

McElveen Manor Assisted Living and Memory Care Community will host an American Red Cross blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 30, in the conference room of McElveen Manor, 2065 McCrays Mill Road. Walk-ins are welcome or you may reserve a time slot by calling Danielle Welch at (803) 651-0144.

Area residents are invited to participate in a three-day public workshop and discussion about the Shot Pouch Greenway, a 3.5-mile trail stretching from Dillon Park to Swan Lake. The public events are scheduled to be held at the Swan Lake Visitors Center as follows: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, Public Visioning Presentation; 9-10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, Property Owner Drop-In; and 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, Final Public Workshop Presentation. For more information about the Shot Pouch Greenway, contact Adams-Raczkowski at the Planning Department, 12 W. Liberty St., (803) 774-1639, or email *jadams-raczkowski@sumter-sc.com*.

The Sumter Branch NAACP will hold a community meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2, at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 155 Wall St. Dr. J. Frank will speak.

The Campbell Soup friends lunch group will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4, at Golden Corral. All former Campbell Soup employees are invited to share their memories as we celebrate our 25th anniversary.

The Sumter Branch NAACP's annual black program will be held at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 26, at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 155 Wall St. The Rev. Napoleon A. Bradford will speak.

FYI

The Rembert Area Community Coalition offers an after school program for students from kindergarten to sixth grade at the youth center in Rembert. Children receive assistance with homework, school projects, etc. A nutritious snack is served daily. There is a small monthly fee. Registrations are accepted 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 8455 Camden Highway, U.S. 521, Rembert, in front of the car wash. Call Dr. Juanita Britton at (803) 432-2001.

Mayewood High School Class of 1977 will hold its 40th class reunion during Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28. There will be a meet and greet reception on Friday, an "Evening of Elegance" on Saturday and worship service on Sunday. All events are scheduled to be held at the former Mayewood High School, currently Mayewood Middle School. Call Lois Dantzler-Durant at (703) 307-6342.

The Rembert Area Community Coalition (RACC) offers a senior citizens program 10 a.m.-noon each Monday and Wednesday at 6785 Bradley St. (behind community car wash), Rembert, SC 29128. Transportation is available. Call (803) 432-2001.

Connected Warriors Inc. offers yoga therapy to service members, veterans and their families at no cost to participants from noon to 1 p.m. on Mondays at Southern Bliss Yoga, 600 Bultman Drive, number 4. Call Melissa at (803) 468-1658 or email *southernblissyoga@yahoo.com* for details.

The Westside Neighborhood Association meets at 5:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St.

PUBLIC AGENDA

SUMTER COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Thursday, 7:30 a.m., Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce boardroom, 32 E. Calhoun St.

MID-CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
Tuesday, Jan. 31, USC Sumter, 200 Miller Road, Bultman Conference Room, Room 201

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Work through any discrepancies you face with thought and consideration. Ask pointed questions and reflect on past experiences to help guide you in a direction that will encourage gains instead of losses. Stay focused and practice moderation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't be driven to make an impulsive decision. Rely on your own experience and practicality to choose the time to make your next move. You will learn from the mistakes others make. Sit back and observe.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Observation coupled with subtle changes will be self-serving. A calculated approach to helping others will ensure that you receive something in return. Set reasonable expectations and don't back down. Don't let a personal matter lead to a dispute.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Relationships should be your priority. Whether dealing with a personal or business venture, be sure to strive for equality. An open conversation will help you avoid discord. Share your ideas and listen to suggestions, and perfection will be achieved.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Getting along with your peers will help you avoid controversy. It's important to hang back and observe for the time being. As long as you take care of your responsibilities, you will be able to avoid being taken advantage of.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep life simple and affordable. Making an impulsive purchase, lending or borrowing is not advised. Stay put and make do with what you have. Someone special will be happy to relax and enjoy a quiet day of togetherness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emotional situations will spin out of control if you aren't mindful. Changes at home may come as a surprise if you haven't been paying attention to how those around you are responding to what you do and say.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A short jaunt will lead to an experience you won't want to miss. The people you encounter and the things you learn will be instrumental in the choices you make moving forward. Self-improvement will lead to greater awareness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take better care of your health and the ones you love. Problems at home will mount if you are pushy or demanding. Offer incentives if you want help from someone. Reconnect with people from your past.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take action. Rely on your gut feelings and desires to push you in the right direction. Don't worry about what others do or say. Stay focused on the results you want to achieve. A childhood memory will inspire a workable solution.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can bring about positive change by combining the old with the new. Using one of your skills to rework a situation that needs adjusting will be valuable. Follow your heart and achieve your goals without hesitation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Make changes because you want to, not because you are emotionally caught up in a moment that leads to an impulsive decision. Having confidence, trust and faith in what you are capable of doing will ensure your success.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
A shower or two this morning	A star-studded sky and colder	Cooler with plenty of sunshine	Plenty of sunshine	Times of clouds and sun	Partly sunny
67°	35°	56° / 31°	52° / 35°	54° / 33°	52° / 31°
Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 25%
W 10-20 mph	WNW 4-8 mph	W 8-16 mph	WSW 8-16 mph	WSW 8-16 mph	NW 7-14 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

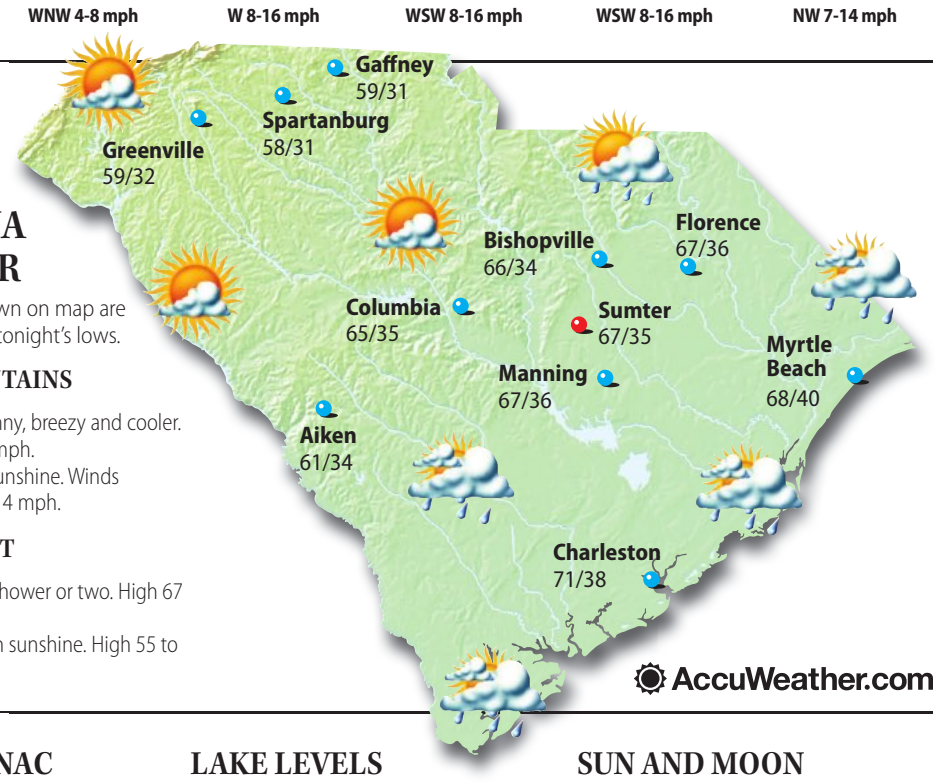
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Turning sunny, breezy and cooler. Winds west 10-20 mph.
Friday: Plenty of sunshine. Winds west-southwest 7-14 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A passing shower or two. High 67 to 71.
Friday: Cooler with sunshine. High 55 to 59.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 4 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	
High	75°
Low	41°
Normal high	55°
Normal low	33°
Record high	79° in 1949
Record low	13° in 2014

Precipitation	
24 hrs ending 4 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date	4.51"
Normal month to date	3.21"
Year to date	4.51"
Last year to date	2.09"
Normal year to date	3.21"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	356.68	+0.04
Marion	76.8	74.65	+0.03
Moultrie	75.5	74.52	+0.03
Wateree	100	98.64	+0.12

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	9.88	+0.10
Congaree River	19	5.90	-0.90
Lynches River	14	7.99	+0.01
Saluda River	14	6.36	-0.25
Up. Santee River	80	79.44	+0.54
Wateree River	24	20.12	+0.27

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	7:23 a.m.	Sunset	5:47 p.m.
Moonrise	6:10 a.m.	Moonset	4:48 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Jan. 27	Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 18

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	7:59 a.m.	3.1	2:04 a.m.	-0.1
	8:02 p.m.	2.7	2:48 p.m.	-0.1
Fri.	8:40 a.m.	3.2	2:47 a.m.	-0.3
	8:43 p.m.	2.7	3:28 p.m.	-0.2

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	55/34/pc	50/32/s
Chicago	35/24/sf	29/23/c
Dallas	54/33/s	56/32/s
Detroit	41/30/sn	35/28/sf
Houston	61/40/s	61/44/s
Los Angeles	63/44/s	66/44/s
New Orleans	60/43/s	57/42/s
New York	51/36/sh	44/32/pc
Orlando	82/55/c	68/44/pc
Philadelphia	56/36/pc	45/31/pc
Phoenix	57/37/s	58/37/s
San Francisco	55/41/pc	56/40/s
Wash., DC	58/37/pc	47/31/pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	49/30/pc	41/27/s
Athens	57/33/pc	51/30/s
Augusta	65/35/pc	58/31/s
Beaufort	70/40/pc	58/36/s
Cape Hatteras	65/43/sh	51/38/s
Charleston	71/38/sh	59/35/s
Charlotte	61/32/pc	51/30/s
Clemson	59/36/pc	52/34/s
Columbia	65/35/pc	55/32/s
Darlington	67/34/sh	54/32/s
Elizabeth City	63/35/sh	50/30/s
Elizabethtown	68/34/sh	54/32/s
Fayetteville	68/36/sh	54/32/s

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Florence	67/36/sh	55/31/s
Gainesville	79/46/sh	64/37/s
Gastonia	60/32/pc	50/30/s
Goldsboro	68/35/sh	53/31/s
Goose Creek	70/40/sh	58/36/s
Greensboro	57/32/pc	46/29/s
Greenville	59/32/pc	51/30/s
Hickory	54/32/pc	45/29/s
Hilton Head	69/42/sh	58/38/s
Jacksonville, FL	74/42/sh	62/36/s
La Grange	58/34/pc	52/32/s
Macon	60/34/pc	54/31/s
Marietta	53/32/pc	47/30/s

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Marion	53/31/pc	45/28/s
Mt. Pleasant	70/42/sh	59/38/s
Myrtle Beach	68/40/sh	56/36/s
Orangeburg	65/36/sh	54/33/s
Port Royal	70/41/pc	58/38/s
Raleigh	61/34/sh	51/31/s
Rock Hill	62/32/pc	51/29/s
Rockingham	66/32/pc	52/30/s
Savannah	70/39/pc	59/36/s
Spartanburg	58/31/s	49/29/s
Summerville	70/39/pc	58/36/s
Wilmington	69/35/sh	55/32/s
Winston-Salem	55/32/s	46/30/s

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PICTURES FROM THE PUBLIC



Lisa Davey comments on her photo submission, "Our 14-year-old son, Brandon Davey, was a patient (at Palmetto Health Children's Hospital) undergoing chemotherapy, when he got a surprise visit from three professional baseball pitchers!" From left are Colorado Rockies pitcher Tyler Anderson, Brandon, Chicago Cubs pitcher Carl Edwards Jr. and Boston Red Sox pitcher Drew Pomeranz.

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

the Sumter ITEM SPORTS

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SECTION B

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017

PREP FOOTBALL

Twenty-nine athletes make *Sumter Item* All-Area team

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

Twenty-nine student-athletes from the seven local South Carolina High School League football schools have been selected to *The Sumter Item* All-Area football first team.

The teams are chosen based on nominations from the coaches at Sumter, Crestwood, Lakewood, Manning, Lee Central, East Clarendon and Scott's Branch. The team includes nine players from Sumter, eight from Crestwood, five from Manning, four from Lee Central, two from Lakewood and one from Scott's Branch.

Crestwood's **Tylas Green** is the All-Area quarterback for the second year in a row. Green completed 136 of 231 passes for 1,835 yards and 24 touchdowns. He also rushed for 359 yards and three scores on 51 carries.

Joining Green in the backfield are running backs **Rodney Pitts** of Sumter and **Michael Weston** and **Demetrius Dubose** of Lee Central.

Pitts rushed for 1,167 yards and 23 touchdowns on 190 carries. He caught 25 passes for 295 yards and another score and returned five kickoffs for 114 yards. He had 1,602 all-purpose yards for an average of 145.6 yards a game.

Weston rushed for 1,271 yards and 13 scores on 157 attempts. Dubose also rushed for 1,000 yards for the Stallions, picking up 1,022 and scoring 11 times on 119 carries.

The wide receivers are **David Fulton** of Manning and **Joshua Simon** and **Tyrese Felder** of Crestwood.

Fulton caught 45 passes for 982 yards and nine touchdowns. Simon had 40 catches for 714 yards (a 17.9 per-catch average) and 10 touchdowns. Felder had 38 receptions for 462 yards and three scores and returned three punts for 90 yards, taking one back for a TD.

The tight end is **Andre Brown** of Scott's Branch. Brown had 18 catches for 467 yards and two scores and graded out at 88 percent with nine knockdown blocks. As a linebacker on defense, Brown had 95 tackles, including 12 tackles for loss. He caused

SEE **ALL-AREA,** PAGE B3

RACING COMMENTARY

Sometimes winning isn't everything

BY ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

So you can't win for losing?

Sure you can, in the long run.

NASCAR this week became the latest sport to change its structure in an effort to keep fans engaged and sell the product. Races will be broken into three stages, and points will be awarded to the top 10 finishers in each. The hope is that drivers will be motivated to compete hard in the chase for in-race points and make the sport more exciting.

From a pure sports standpoint — one winner per contest — the new NASCAR system is counter-intuitive.

"It's like counting after a boxing match the winning rounds for the guy who got knocked out in the seventh round," said Daniel Durbin, director of the University of Southern California Institute of Sports Media and Society. "It doesn't make a lot of rational sense in terms of the winning and losing of the event itself, but presumably the long-term assumption would be this will keep better drivers in the hunt longer for the postseason."

The concept is similar to Olympic sports (skiing, bobsledding, etc.) where points are earned throughout a competition and the big winner at the end is the one with the highest total, or the Tour de France, which can be won without winning a single stage.

John Bloom, a Shippensburg University associate history professor specializing in sports, noted the difference in soccer cultures in the United States and Europe. Major League Soccer, for example, has a playoff system where 12 of its 20 teams qualified this year. One of them was the Seattle Sounders , who won just six of their first 20 matches and won the MLS Cup, too. In England, the top team in the Premier League is the champion — no playoff necessary — and the bottom three teams are relegated to a lower league the next season.

"In terms of the playoff structures in American sports, so much is based on television revenue, and they want to milk as much television revenue as they

SEE **WINNING,** PAGE B4



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steve O'Donnell, executive vice president and chief racing development officer of NASCAR, announced NASCAR's approach to modernizing its series with a new format on Monday in Charlotte.

PREP WRESTLING

Pointing the way



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Tywionne Williams tries to position Socastee's Merino-Lopez for a pin in the 182-pound match on Wednesday at the SHS gymnasium. Williams' victory helped secure a 37-36 win by the Gamecocks.

Williams' victory seals Sumter's 37-36 comeback win over Socastee

BY PATRICK ENZOR
Special To The Sumter Item

Tywionne Williams knew what he had to do as he stepped on the mat for the Sumter High School varsity wrestling team on Wednesday.

His Gamecocks trailed Socastee 36-27, but had six points in the bank with a forfeit victory in the evening's last match. But for those six points to matter, Williams needed a pin or a major decision at the 182-pound weight class.

He needed nearly all six minutes, but secured a 12-4 major decision as the Gamecocks rallied for a 37-36 victory at the SHS gymnasium.

"I told him we needed six, but as soon as I realized he wasn't going to be able to turn him, I told him to just cut him and point him all day," said SHS head coach Josh Williams. "It was really impressive. He went out there in his first year of wrestling and won it for the team."

SEE **POINTING,** PAGE B3

USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Staley keeping Gamecocks grounded

BY PETE IACOBELLI
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — No. 5 South Carolina won't get a break from SEC opponents — or its head coach, Dawn Staley.

Now that the Gamecocks (17-1, 7-0) have gained control of the Southeastern Conference with an emotional, last-second win over No. 4 Mississippi State, Staley wants them to understand the task gets no easier going forward. The next hurdle is against Georgia tonight.

The three-time defending SEC champion Gamecocks have had a target on their back for several seasons.

"If you were in our practice today, you'd see we're not going to let them off the hook," Staley said Wednesday.

The coach said the team had an extra spark Monday night in the 64-61 victory, its fourth win over a top 10 opponent this season. The buzz heading into that showdown had been about how maybe it was Mississippi State's time to take down the champs and that didn't sit well, Staley said, with her players.

"We're going to keep pulling that out of them, to keep competing for 40 minutes," Staley said. "It's there, but that's the thing we've been struggling with all season long."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina head coach Dawn Staley, center, is keeping the fifth-ranked Gamecocks grounded after their big victory over Mississippi State on Monday. USC plays Georgia today.

Struggling doesn't seem an appropriate term for the group Staley has on the court. Forwards A'ja Wilson and Alaina Coates are two of the country's premier players while former All-ACC first

SEE **GAMECOCKS,** PAGE B4

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
6 a.m. – Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Qatar Masters First Round from Doha, Qatar (GOLF).
11:30 a.m. – LPGA Golf: Pure Silk-Bahamas LPGA Classic First Round from Paradise Island, Bahamas (GOLF).
Noon – Figure Skating: European Championships from Ostrava, Czech Republic – Short Dance Competitions (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
1 p.m. – College Football: Senior Bowl Practice from Mobile, Ala. (ESPNU).
2 p.m. – Professional Tennis: Australian Open Men's Semifinal Match from Melbourne, Australia (ESPN2).
2 p.m. – Figure Skating: European Championships from Ostrava, Czech Republic – Pairs Free Competitions (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
3 p.m. – PGA Golf: Farmers Insurance Open First Round from La Jolla, Calif. (GOLF).
3 p.m. – College Football: Senior Bowl Practice from Mobile, Ala. (NFL NETWORK).
4 p.m. – College Football: Senior Bowl Practice from Mobile, Ala. (ESPNU).
6:05 p.m. – Talk Show: Sports Talk (WPUB-FM 102.7, WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
7 p.m. – College Basketball: Robert Morris at Mount St. Mary's (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
7 p.m. – NFL Football: NFL Pro Bowl Skills Showdown from Orlando, Fla. (ESPN).
7 p.m. – College Basketball: Xavier at Cincinnati (ESPN2).
7 p.m. – College Basketball: Campbell at Radford (ESPNU).
7 p.m. – NHL Hockey: Los Angeles at Carolina (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
7 p.m. – Women's College Basketball: North Carolina at Miami (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
7 p.m. – Women's College Basketball: South Carolina at Georgia (SEC NETWORK).
7 p.m. – College Basketball: Grand Canyon at Kansas City-Missouri (TIME WARNER 1250).
8 p.m. – College Basketball: Virginia Tech at North Carolina (ESPN).
8 p.m. – NBA Basketball: Dallas at Oklahoma City (TNT).
8 p.m. – NHL Hockey: St. Louis at Minnesota (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
8:30 p.m. – College Basketball: Oregon State at Colorado (FOX SPORTS 1).
9 p.m. – Women's College Basketball: Santa Clara at Brigham Young (BYUTV).
9 p.m. – College Basketball: Tennessee-Martin at Austin Peay (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).
9 p.m. – College Basketball: Indiana at Michigan (ESPN2).
9 p.m. – Professional Basketball: NBA Development League Game – Northern Arizona at Austin (ESPNU).
9 p.m. – Women's College Basketball: Alabama at Vanderbilt (SEC NETWORK).
9 p.m. – College Basketball: Louisiana Tech at Alabama-Birmingham (TIME WARNER 1250).
10:30 p.m. – College Basketball: Oregon at Utah (FOX SPORTS 1).
10:30 p.m. – NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Utah (TNT).
11 p.m. – College Basketball: Brigham Young at Santa Clara (ESPNU).
11 p.m. – Professional Tennis: Australian Open Women's Doubles Final Match and Mixed Doubles Semifinal Match from Melbourne, Australia (TENNIS).
3:30 a.m. – Professional Tennis: Australian Open Men's Semifinal Match from Melbourne, Australia (ESPN2).
4 a.m. – Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Qatar Masters Second Round from Doha, Qatar (GOLF).

NFL PLAYOFFS
By The Associated Press

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS
Houston 27, Oakland 14
Seattle 26, Detroit 6
Pittsburgh 30, Miami 12
Green Bay 38, N.Y. Giants 13

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS
Atlanta 36, Seattle 20
New England 34, Houston 16
Green Bay 34, Dallas 31
Pittsburgh 18, Kansas City 16

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Atlanta 44, Green Bay 21
New England 36, Pittsburgh 17

PRO BOWL
Sunday
At Orlando, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

SUPER BOWL LI
Sunday, Feb. 5
At Houston
Atlanta vs. New England, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

NBA STANDINGS
By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	28	17	.622	—
Boston	26	18	.591	1½
New York	20	26	.435	8½
Philadelphia	16	27	.372	11
Brooklyn	9	35	.205	18½

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	26	19	.578	—
Washington	25	20	.556	1
Charlotte	23	22	.511	3
Orlando	18	29	.383	9
Miami	15	30	.333	11

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	30	13	.698	—
Indiana	22	22	.500	8½
Chicago	23	23	.500	8½
Milwaukee	21	23	.477	9½
Detroit	21	25	.457	10½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	36	9	.800	—
Houston	34	14	.708	3½
Memphis	26	20	.565	10½
New Orleans	18	27	.400	18
Dallas	15	29	.341	20½

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	29	18	.617	—
Oklahoma City	26	19	.578	2
Denver	19	25	.432	8½
Portland	19	27	.413	9½
Minnesota	17	28	.378	11

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	38	7	.844	—
L.A. Clippers	30	17	.638	9
Sacramento	17	27	.386	20½
Phoenix	15	30	.333	23
L.A. Lakers	16	32	.333	23½

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Chicago 100, Orlando 92
Philadelphia 121, L.A. Clippers 110
San Antonio 108, Toronto 106
Washington 123, Boston 108
Denver 103, Utah 93
Minnesota 112, Phoenix 111

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Sacramento at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Houston at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Charlotte, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Memphis, 8 p.m.
New York at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES
Dallas at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Denver, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Sacramento at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Miami at Chicago, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Portland, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Sacramento at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Minnesota, 9 p.m.
Denver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Memphis at Utah, 9 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS
By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	49	29	13	7	65	149	122
Ottawa	46	26	15	5	57	125	120
Boston	51	24	21	6	54	127	132
Toronto	45	22	14	9	53	140	131
Florida	49	20	19	10	50	114	136
Buffalo	47	20	18	9	49	115	132
Detroit	48	20	19	9	49	123	140
Tampa Bay	49	22	22	5	49	135	144

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	48	32	10	6	70	155	104
Columbus	47	32	11	4	68	157	110
Pittsburgh	47	30	12	5	65	169	137
N.Y. Rangers	48	31	16	1	63	167	127
Philadelphia	48	23	19	6	52	136	154
N.Y. Isles	46	20	17	9	49	133	135
Carolina	47	21	19	7	49	126	137
New Jersey	49	20	20	9	49	111	139

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	47	31	11	5	67	155	108
Chicago	50	30	15	5	65	139	127
Nashville	48	23	17	8	54	134	127
St. Louis	48	24	19	5	53	137	147
Dallas	49	19	20	10	48	131	154
Winnipeg	51	22	25	4	48	145	158
Colorado	45	13	30	2	28	91	153

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	49	31	16	2	64	134	112
Anaheim	50	27	14	9	63	133	125
Edmonton	49	26	15	8	60	144	131
Calgary	51	24	24	3	51	131	147
Los Angeles	48	23	21	4	50	120	121
Vancouver	48	22	20	6	50	116	135
Arizona	47	15	26	6	36	105	152

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

TUESDAY'S GAMES
St. Louis 3, Pittsburgh 0
N.Y. Islanders 4, Columbus 2
Los Angeles 3, New Jersey 1
Boston 4, Detroit 3, OT
Montreal 5, Calgary 1
Ottawa 3, Washington 0
Buffalo 5, Nashville 4, OT
San Jose 4, Winnipeg 3
Tampa Bay 5, Chicago 2
Minnesota 3, Dallas 2, SO

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Toronto at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES
Montreal at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Boston, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Washington at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Columbus at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Buffalo at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
No games scheduled

TRANSACTIONS
By The Associated Press

BASEBALL
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL — Named Jennie Finch youth softball ambassador.
American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Claimed OF/1B Steve Selsky off waivers from Cincinnati. Agreed to terms with LHP Drew Pomeranz on a one-year contract.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with OF Austin Jackson on a minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Assigned RHP Blake Parker outright to Salt Lake (PCL).
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Assigned RHP Zach Neal outright to Nashville. Traded OF Brett Eibner to the L.A. Dodgers for INF Jordan Tarsovich. Designated LHP Dillon Overton for assignment. Agreed to terms with INF Adam Rosales on a one-year contract.
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with C Josh Thole on a minor league contract.
ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with LHPs John Danks, Sam Freeman, Adam Kolarek and Eric O'Flaherty; RHPs Blaine Boyer, Rhiner Cruz, Joel De La Cruz, Jordan Walden; Cs David Freitas and Blake Lalli; and OF Emilio Bonifacio.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Designated RHP Carlos Frias for assignment.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Agreed to terms with C Ryan Hanigan on a minor league contract.
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Assigned OF Jabari Blash outright to El Paso (PCL).

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA — Fined Golden State C Zaza Pachulia $15,000 for striking Miami F Luke Babbitt in the face.
DALLAS MAVERICKS — Signed G Pierre Jackson to a second 10-day contract.
MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Recalled F Troy Williams from Iowa (NBADL).

FOOTBALL
National Football League
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Named Sanjay Lal wide receivers coach.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Named Greg Lewis wide receivers coach.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Placed F Beau Bennett on injured reserve, retroactive to Friday. Claimed F Stefan Noesen off waivers from Anaheim.
ST. LOUIS BLUES — Assigned G Pheonix Copley to Chicago (AHL).
WINNIPEG JETS — Placed F Mathieu Perreault on injured reserve, retroactive to Tuesday.Recalled D Brian Strait from Manitoba (AHL).

OLYMPICS
IOC — Announced Jamaica has been stripped of its 2008 gold medal for the men's 4x100 relay after Nesta Carter tested positive for a banned stimulant.

COLLEGE
DELAWARE — Named Levern Belin defensive line coach.
NORTH CAROLINA — Named Deke Adams defensive line coach and Terry Joseph defensive backs coach.
RICE — Named Wesley Beschorner quarterbacks coach.
TEXAS-ARLINGTON — Named J.T. Wenger volleyball coach.
WINTHROP — Suspended women's basketball coach Kevin Cook. Named women's assistant basketball coach Lynette Woodard acting head coach.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Three of top four teams suffer losses on Tuesday

BY JIM O'CONNELL
The Associated Press



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennessee's Robert Hubbs III (3) shoots over Kentucky's De'Aaron Fox (0) during the Volunteers' 82-80 victory on Tuesday in Knoxville, Tenn. The No. 4 Wildcats were one of three top four teams to fall on Tuesday along with top-ranked Villanova and No. 2 Kansas.

It was not a good night to be at the top of the AP Top 25.

For the first time in five years, three of the top four teams in the poll lost on the same day.

No. 1 Villanova was beaten 74-72 at Marquette on Tuesday, No. 2 Kansas fell 85-69 at No. 18 West Virginia, and No. 4 Kentucky lost 82-80 at Tennessee.

That left No. 3 Gonzaga with a good chance to move up to No. 1 next week. The only undefeated team in Division I, the Zags (20-0) still face San Diego and Pepperdine this week.

It was on Jan. 21, 2012, that No. 1 Syracuse lost 67-58 to Notre Dame, No. 3 Baylor fell 89-88 to No. 5 Missouri and No. 4 Duke was beaten 76-73 by Florida State.

Kentucky was No. 2 that day and, after beating Alabama 77-71 on the night of upsets, the Wildcats ascended to No. 1.

Syracuse fell to third after the loss, Baylor dropped to sixth and Duke plunged to eighth.

On Tuesday, Marquette (14-6, 5-3 Big East) rallied from a 17-point deficit for the win over the Wildcats (19-2, 7-2).

It was the second time Marquette defeated a No. 1-ranked team. The Golden Eagles beat Kentucky in the 2003 Final Four.

Their fans partied at the Bradley Center in a court-storming frenzy, celebrating as if coach Al McGuire was still pacing the Marquette sideline.

"I don't even know what to say," said Katin Reinhardt, who made two free throws with 11.6 seconds to play. "You dream of these types of moments."

Villanova's Jay Wright, the coach of the defending national champions, said: "You've got to put a whole 40 minutes together. Sometimes you get on the road and a team gets hot. If you don't finish the 40 minutes, they'll get you."

West Virginia pulled away to a victory that snapped Kansas' 18-game winning streak.

Esa Ahmad scored a career-high 27 points for the Mountaineers (16-4, 5-3 Big 12), who broke a two-game losing streak that dropped them 11 spots in the AP Top 25.

Josh Jackson matched his season high with 22 points for Kansas (18-2, 7-1).

Robert Hubbs III scored 25 points as Tennessee snapped Kentucky's seven-game winning streak.

Tennessee (11-9, 4-4 Southeastern Conference) beat Kentucky (17-3, 7-1) in Knoxville for the second straight season and earned its first victory over a top-five team since an 83-76 triumph over No. 3 Pittsburgh on Dec. 11, 2010.

"We just wanted to go out and make a statement," Hubbs said. "I think we did that tonight."

Kentucky coach John Calipari said: "Tennessee was better than us tonight. They deserved to win the game. It would have been a shame if we'd made a 3 or something crazy and had won the game. ... From the start, they deserved to win."

PRO GOLF

More curiosity, less expectations for Tiger's return

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tiger Woods will be playing in his first PGA Tour event since August of 2015 when he tees off in the Farmers Insurance Open on Thursday in San Diego.

SAN DIEGO — With the Pacific Ocean behind him, Tiger Woods drew back his driver and sent it soaring across the blue sky Wednesday at Torrey Pines.

Watching from 50 yards away was Jay Monahan, the new commissioner of the PGA Tour.

"That's a nice sight, isn't it? Monahan said.

He wasn't referring to the sun shining down on the rugged coastline. His eyes were fixed on Woods, in perfect balance on the 17th tee of the North Course.

This will be the ninth time that Woods returns to the PGA Tour following a lengthy layoff — more times than all but three players at Torrey Pines have PGA Tour victories — and this one brings as much curiosity as excitement at the Farmers Insurance Open.

Not even Woods knows what to expect.

"We all know I haven't played a full schedule in a very long time, so this is an unknown," Woods said. "I've been away from it for so long. I've played one tournament in that 15-month span and I haven't played a full-field event. I haven't got into the rhythm of playing weeks on end in a season."

Woods last played a PGA Tour event at the Wyndham Championship in August 2015 in a last-minute effort to qualify for the tour's postseason. He tied for 10th, and then had two more back surgeries a few months apart that sent him to the sidelines for an entire season.

He returned at his Hero World Challenge in early December, an unofficial event with an 18-man field and no cut. Woods finished 15th, though it was considered a success because of his 24 birdies, no issues with his back and no stress on his swing.

This one counts, and it won't be long before Woods is measured against the rest of the field.

He will play the opening two rounds with Jason Day (No. 1 in the world) and Dustin Johnson (PGA Tour player of the year). Both are among the biggest hitters in golf, playing a style that Woods once had to dominate the sport.

That brought the biggest smile to his face.

"That's two guys that are the best in the world and they're up there and playing some unbelievable golf and they're good friends of mine," Woods said. "I couldn't have asked for a better pairing. ... Those guys will bomb it out there. That's fine. I'll just play my game and the name of the game is low score. It's not a long drive contest."

Woods has never waited this long to return to a full field of PGA Tour competition. This is twice as long as he sat out after reconstructive surgery on his left knee following his 2008 U.S. Open victory at Torrey Pines.



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Steven Little, left, tries to pin Socastee's Savion Hage in the 132-pound match on Wednesday at the SHS gymnasium. The Gamecocks rallied for a 37-36 victory.

POINTING

FROM PAGE B1



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Michael Spurling puts a move on Socastee's Don Smolenski as he prepares to pin him less than one minute into their 220-pound match in the Gamecocks' 37-36 victory on Wednesday at the SHS gymnasium.

Williams jumped out to an early lead, but couldn't work Socastee's David Merino-Lopez over for a pin. Despite close calls for pins, Williams had to resort to letting Merino-Lopez up off the mat - giving up a point in the process - to try and take him down again for two points.

"It shouldn't be (hard to tell a wrestler to let his opponent up)," Josh Williams said with a laugh. "But tonight it was a little bit."

It worked. Barely.

"This one had a lot of pressure because we needed the points," said Tywionne Williams. "Coach said we needed the points, so I had to go get the points any way I could."

Sumter jumped out to a 12-0 lead with pins by Michael Spurling (1 minute, 1 second into the first period) and heavyweight Alex Perales (1:52 into the second period). Socastee tied it up immediately with wins by forfeit at the 106 and 113 flights.

The Braves took the next two matches by decision to push the lead to 18-12. At 120, Eugene Utley got past Sumter's Sean Goodwin 4-2 and Freddie Edwards was a 7-1 winner over Deon Wise in the 126 flight.

Sumter's Steven Little tied it back up at 18 after pinning Savion Hager just 30 seconds into the match at 132. Socastee's Dakota Beahn pinned Hannah McElroy at 138 to push the lead back to six at 24-18.

At 145, Tyler Williams of Sumter and Kyle Macalincag of Socastee went to overtime, with Williams coming out on top to cut the lead back to 24-21. However, Socastee won 152 by forfeit and Brandon Rogers pinned Sumter's Elijah Bisel at 160 for a 36-21 lead.

Andre Amaker gave the Gamecocks hope of a comeback by pinning Jacob Mor with 29 seconds left in the first period to cut the lead to 36-27 and set the stage for Tywionne Williams.

"He's come a long way," Coach Williams said of Tywionne Williams. "He started the year wrestling a junior varsity match because he was late coming out because of football. He takes a starting job and has done very well.

"I knew he had a chance as soon as he got out there - he's the most physical kid I've seen," the coach added. "He may not know what he's doing, but he's going to do his doggone best to do it."

Sumter's Dane Bailey won by forfeit at 195 for the final tally.

The Gamecocks participate in the Region VI-5A quad on Friday for seeding purposes in the state tournament. Coach Williams' goal is simple:

"The expectation is to at least finish second in the region and win the first round in the state playoffs," he said. "I want at least four state qualifiers (in duals) like we did last year."

SPORTS ITEMS

Bolt loses medal in teammate's doping case

GENEVA — Usain Bolt has lost one of his nine Olympic gold medals because of a doping case involving Jamaican teammate Nesta Carter.

The IOC said Wednesday that Carter tested positive for methylhexaneamine, a banned stimulant, in reanalysis of samples from the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

MUSBURGER RETIRING FROM SPORTSCASTING

NEW YORK — Brent Musburger, 77, is calling it a career at ESPN and his years at CBS.

Musburger will call his last game for ESPN on Jan. 31, a college basketball contest pitting Kentucky against Georgia.

GEORGIA TECH 78

(6) FLORIDA ST. 56

ATLANTA — Josh Okogie scored 35 points, Ben Lammers added 18 and Georgia Tech pulled its second home upset of a Top 10 opponent with a 78-56 victory over No. 6 Florida State on Wednesday night.

GEORGETOWN 71

(16) CREIGHTON 51

WASHINGTON — L.J. Peak scored 20 points and Georgetown held No. 16 Creighton to its lowest scoring game of the season in a 71-51 victory Wednesday night.

From wire reports

ALL-AREA

FROM PAGE B1

four fumbles, recovered two fumble and had two interceptions, returning one for a score.

The all-purpose player is Crestwood's **Julius Pearson**. A first-team pick for the second straight year and a North-South All-Star selection, Pearson caught 45 passes for 632 yards and nine scores. He returned five kickoffs for 220 yards, scoring on two of them, and rushed for 58 yards and two scores on eight carries.

The offensive line is made up of **Khalil Moore** and **Daviyon McDaniel** of Sumter, **Javon Smith** of Lee Central, **Darrell Ragin** of Manning, **Zyrica Rufus** of Crestwood and **Zaire Cain** of Lakewood.

Moore, a North-South selection, had the highest season grade for the Gamecocks. He was a 3-year starter and never missed a game.

McDaniel switched from tight end to tackle this season and ended up as a Shrine Bowl selection. SHS head coach Mark Barnes said McDaniel was the best pass blocker on the team.

Smith graded out at 87 percent with 11 knockdown blocks. Ragin graded out at 80 percent or better in seven of Manning's 11 contests. Rufus had 18 knockdown blocks and allowed just two quarterback sacks and Cain graded out at 75 percent with 14 knockdown blocks.

The placekicker is Crestwood's **Aaron Griffin**. Griffin was 23-for-25 on extra-point attempts and was 2-for-3 on field goals. As a punter, he averaged 35.7 yards on 34 punts, four of them being downed inside the opposition's 20-yard line.

The defensive line is made up of **Raymond Johnson** of Sumter, **Tyreek Johnson** of Lakewood, **DJ Felder** of Manning and **Richburg Canty** of Sumter.

Raymond Johnson, a North-South pick and a repeat All-Area performer, had 62 tackles for the Gamecocks, including 20 1/2 for loss. He also had 9 1/2 sacks, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble.

Tyreek Johnson, a Shrine Bowl pick and another All-Area repeat performer, had 91 tackles for Lakewood, 43 of them solo and 23 for a loss. He had six sacks and blocked six kicks.

Felder had 63 tackles and 21 assists to go along with seven sacks. Canty, also a first-team pick last year, had 37 tackles, including 18 for loss, to go along with 3 1/2 sacks, one forced fumble and a blocked kick.

The linebackers are **Kenjae Rose** and **Cooper Mota** of Sumter, **Jabril Wilson** of Manning and **Michael Huffman** of Crestwood.

Rose, a first-team pick last year, had 74 tackles despite missing three games with an injury. He had three tackles for loss, one sack, broke up three passes, recovered a fumble and blocked two kicks.

Mota led Sumter in tackles with 113, including four for loss. He forced three fumbles, recovered one and returned an interception for a touchdown.

Wilson, a North-South selection, had 63 tackles for Manning, including 46 solo stops. He had two sacks and returned a fumble for a touchdown. Huffman had 84 tackles in nine games, 16 of them for a loss. He had two sacks and forced a fumble.

The defensive backs are **Melvin Lundy** of Sumter, **Shykeem Cooper** of Lee Central, **Keliah Dupree** of Manning and **Sheddrick Ervin** of Crestwood.

Lundy had five interceptions and broke up five passes while recording 33 tackles and forcing a fumble. He also returned 12 punts for 122 yards. Cooper had 54 tackles and one interception while breaking up four passes and forcing two fumbles.

Dupree had 55 total tackles, including 45 solo stops, and two interceptions. Ervin had 57 tackles, two TFLS, one sack and two fumble recoveries.

The punter for the second straight year is Sumter's **Pressley Harvin.** The Shrine Bowl selection averaged 42.3 yards on 33 punts with a long of 72 yards. Fourteen of them were downed inside the opponent's 20 and he forced 10 fair catches.

ALL-AREA FOOTBALL TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

QB – Tylas Greene, Crestwood
RB – Rodney Pitts, Sumter
RB – Michael Weston, Lee Central
RB – Demetrius Dubose, Lee Central
WR – David Fulton, Manning
WR – Joshua Simon, Crestwood
WR – Tyrese Felder, Crestwood
TE – Andre Brown, Scott's Branch
OL – Khalil Moore, Sumter
OL – Daviyon McDaniel, Sumter
OL – Javon Smith, Lee Central
OL – Darrell Ragin, Manning
OL – Zyrica Rufus, Crestwood
OL – Zaire Cain, Lakewood
All-Purpose – Julius Pearson, Crestwood
PK – Aaron Griffin, Crestwood

DEFENSE

DL – Raymond Johnson, Sumter
DL – Tyreek Johnson, Lakewood
DL – DJ Felder, Manning
DL – Richburg Canty, Sumter
LB – Kenjae Rose, Sumter
LB – Michael Huffman, Crestwood
LB – Jabril Wilson, Manning
LB – Cooper Mota, Sumter
DB – Melvin Lundy, Sumter
DB – Keliah Dupree, Manning
DB – Sheddrick Ervin, Crestwood
DB – Shykeem Cooper, Lee Central
P – Pressley Harvin, Sumter

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

QB – Jalen White, Manning
RB – Lamont Dudley, Lakewood
RB – Kevin Johnson, Scott's Branch
RB – Deondraye Moses, Lee Central
WR – Jalen Rouse, Sumter
WR – Javontae Jones, Lakewood
WR – Trevon Cowell, Lakewood
OL – Nic Johnson, Crestwood
OL – Edward Neiswonger, Crestwood
OL – Jaquan Dingle, Scott's Branch
OL – Zacharie Flyte, Lakewood
OL – Jamel Wilson, Lee Central
OL – Zurich Scarbough, Lee Central

DEFENSE

DL – Tyshawn Brown, Manning
DL – Joshua Goodman, Crestwood
DL – Deonte Lowery, Lee Central
DL – Corey Goodman, Lakewood
LB – Shileake Albert, Lee Central
LB – Raquan James, Lakewood
LB – Corey King, Lee Central
LB – Jalen Owens, Crestwood
DB – Nyjeil Lindsay, Crestwood
DB – Javarius Bradley, Crestwood
DB – Jaron Richardson, Lakewood
DB – Kashawn Garris, Manning

HONORABLE MENTION

Drequan Bess, Lakewood; Camron Blanding, Crestwood; Leroy Blanding, Lakewood; Anthony Bradley, Crestwood; Tyreek Butler, Lakewood; Johnnie Gilliam, Manning; Travis Hickson, Lee Central; Zykiem Jackson, Sumter; Deandre Mack, Lakewood; Allen McMillian, Lee Central; DeAndre Oliver, Lee Central; Malik Richardson, Lakewood; Treyshawn Scarborough, Crestwood; Kevin Sharper, Crestwood; Christopher Simon, Crestwood;



WINNING
FROM PAGE B1

can," Bloom said.

A look at some other sports and how a loss today doesn't mean you won't win a championship tomorrow:

THE NHL

The National Hockey League in 1999-2000 broke with its two-points-for-a win, none-for-a-loss tradition and started awarding one point in the standings to the loser of a game that goes to overtime. Previously, one point was awarded to each team in the case of an overtime tie. The change was made to motivate teams to play more aggressively on offense in overtime — and go for two points — rather than play a defensive style that would secure the one point from settling for a tie. Shootouts started in 2004-05.

The Los Angeles Kings capitalized on the system in 2011-12. They amassed 15 points from overtime and shootout losses, enough to push them into eighth place in the Western Conference — the last playoff spot. They ended up winning the Stanley Cup.

GOLF'S FEDEX CUP

With casual golf fans tuning out in August after the PGA Championship, the PGA Tour in 2007 started the FedEx Cup to provide a big finish to the season.

Points are awarded based on a golfer's finish, with majors worth slightly more. At the end of the regular season, the top 125 advance to the four-tournament FedEx Cup playoffs, where points continue to be accumulated on a different scale. The field of competitors is trimmed as the playoffs continue.

Each golfer in the top five controls his destiny, winning the FedEx Cup if he wins the final event, the Tour Championship. However, each of the 30 golfers who make the Tour Championship has a mathematical chance.

One victory in a playoff event, where four times the points are available, would move a player up a lot. In 2009, Heath Slocum came out of the regular season No. 124, won the first playoff event and moved up to No. 3.

It's conceivable that a player who didn't win a tournament all year could still win the FedEx Cup and the $10 million prize. It almost happened last year with Paul Casey. He was at No. 59 after the first playoff event, moved up to No. 10 after a runner-up finish in the second event, and up to No. 5 after another runner-up finish in the third one. Had all four players ahead of him in the standings faltered at the Tour Championship, Casey would have needed to finish only second to win the FedEx Cup.

QUARTER POINTS

The old Continental Basketball Association used a seven-point system to determine standings from 1983 until the league folded in 2009. One point was awarded for each quarter a team won, and three points went to the winner of the game. A team could outscore the opponent in each of three quarters, lose the game and earn three points to the winner's four. The idea was that the chance to earn quarter points would keep players and fans engaged in blowouts.

This meant that a team could be higher in the standings than a team with more wins. In 1990-91, a 25-win Grand Rapids team finished second in its division ahead of 27-win Pensacola. Grand Rapids, however, had 191.5 quarter points and Pensacola had 189. The quarter points allowed Grand Rapids to make the playoffs. Pensacola stayed home.

PRO TENNIS

Serena, Lucic-Baroni win in throwback Australian Open

BY JUSTIN BERGMAN
The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — When Mirjana Lucic-Baroni served out her victory over Karolina Pliskova at the Australian Open on Wednesday, making an unlikely return to the semifinals of a Grand Slam after nearly 18 years, she fell to her knees, placed her forehead on the court and wept.

Few expected her to ever have this chance at a major again. Lucic-Baroni, however, never gave up believing in herself.

It was a heartfelt scene that touched even Serena Williams, her opponent in the semifinals at Melbourne Park, who started her career at the same time as Lucic-Baroni.

"I'm so proud of Mirjana," Williams said after her 6-2, 6-3 victory over ninth-seeded Johanna Konta. "It's so good to see her back out and to see her in the semifinals really just is so inspiring for me.

"No matter what happens, someone 34 or older will be in the final and that's just really awesome."

Williams, 35, and Lucic-Baroni, 34, will meet Thursday in the semifinals of a tournament that's starting to have a distinct throwback feel.

With 36-year-old Venus Williams also reaching the semifinals, it's the first time in the Open era that two players 35 or older have reached the final four of a Grand Slam. Venus next plays another American, 25-year-old CoCo Vandeweghe.

On the men's side, three players 30 and over also reached the semifinals — matching an Open era record set at the 1968 French Open. Roger Federer, 35, and Stan Wawrinka, 31, booked their spots on Tuesday, and 30-year-old Rafael Nadal joined them with a 6-4, 7-6 (7), 6-4 win over Milos Raonic on Wednesday. He'll play 25-year-old Grigor Dimitrov, who beat David Goffin 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

Of all the 30-somethings playing well in Melbourne, Lucic-Baroni's performance is perhaps the most astonishing.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Serena Williams celebrates her 6-2, 6-3 win over Johanna Konta during their quarterfinal match in the Australian Open on Wednesday in Melbourne, Australia.

She was once considered a prodigy with as much promise — and power — as the Williams sisters. When she was 15, she won the first tournament she entered in 1997 and several months later captured the 1998 Australian Open doubles title with Martina Hingis.

She and Serena played each other twice in 1998, including in the second round of Wimbledon. They haven't played on tour since.

"It was on Centre Court," Williams said of the Wimbledon match. "I remember winning. I was so excited because I was so young. She obviously was super young, too."

The following year, a 17-year-old Lucic upset Monica Seles en route to the Wimbledon semifinals, where she lost to Steffi Graf. Soon after, however, came a career tailspin due to personal issues and financial problems. Within a few years she was out of the sport completely.

She still doesn't like to talk about those dark years, but the pain was evident in her tears on Wednesday.

"I know this means a lot to every player to reach the semifinals, but to me, this is just overwhelming," she said, choking up after beating Pliskova 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. "This has truly made my life. And everything bad that happened, it has made it OK."

PRO FOOTBALL

Little-known Vellano goes for second Super Bowl ring

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press



VELLANO

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — His timing is impeccable.

A lot of guys slog through an entire career without coming close to a Super Bowl ring.

Joe Vellano is going for a matching set.

And who is Joe Vellano?

Maybe one of the most fortunate players in the NFL.

A 300-pound defensive lineman, Vellano wasn't drafted out of college and he's spent much of his pro career either as a backup or the totally thankless role of practice-squad player.

But there he was, in just his second season, popping up like Forrest Gump on a championship-winning team at New England.

Even got a ring to prove it.

Now, after bouncing around the last couple of years and barely playing at all, Vellano is heading to the Super Bowl again, this time with the Atlanta Falcons.

To face the Patriots, no less.

"There's a lot that goes into getting to this point in the season," Vellano said Wednesday before heading out to the practice field as a full-fledged member of the Falcons, a promotion he earned just over a week ago.

"But it's more about the group that you're with, the sacrifices they've put out all year and the effort, the work that this whole organization has really done. So we're ready to go and we're going to be really excited."

Unlike his first trip to the big game, chances are he'll be in uniform for this one, having been bumped up to the active roster just before the NFC championship game .

"I remember having a conversation with him about six weeks ago, 'Joe, I don't know if your time is going to come this year, but I do know that you're ready. Keep putting the work in because when the time does come, you want to stay ready,'" Falcons coach Dan Quinn said.

The 28-year-old Vellano knows how blessed he is to have an opportunity at a pair of championships when so many players — many of them much more accomplished than he is — never even got their first.

But it's not as if this has been a smooth ride.

Not by a long shot.

Following a stellar career at Maryland, Vellano's name was never called in the 2013 draft, though his disappointment was softened a bit when he hooked on with the Patriots — not a bad landing spot considering he won a title.

GAMECOCKS
FROM PAGE B1

teamers and transfers Kaela Davis and Allisha Gray have gradually found their niche on the Gamecocks.

All four are double-digit scorers this year as South Carolina leads the SEC in scoring. The Gamecocks are second in the league, behind Mississippi State, in points allowed this season. Still, Staley said her group has at times thought it would outtalent opponents instead of out-work them.

"We were on the other side of out-working people when others out-talented us," Staley said of her team's SEC rise the past five years. "I just don't want us to have that mindset."

Such a mindset almost cost the Gamecocks when they played Georgia at home two weeks ago. Yes, South Carolina played its first of two games without injured All-American Wilson, but Georgia overcame a rough start and took the Gamecocks to the wire before losing 66-63.

Wilson's back — she had 26 points in the Mississippi State win — and eager to have an impact in the rematch.

"I'm very excited," she said. "It was a close one last time and I'm hoping I can change that."

Wilson said the team has had its ups and down this season, but understands that it takes maximum effort every night to make it through the SEC schedule. South Carolina has won its last 29 games against SEC competition, yet has several potential land mines ahead.

After Georgia, the Gamecocks return home to face a dangerous Tennessee squad. South Carolina has two games upcoming against Kentucky, the last team to defeat the Gamecocks during the regular season (in 2014-15). There's also a next-to-last road game at Texas A&M, the last SEC team that beat the Gamecocks on their home court way back in 2013.

Oh, and of course there's the nonconference showdown at No. 1 UConn where, if the Huskies win streak continues, it will going for its 100th straight victory when South Carolina shows up on Feb. 13.

"We're not thinking about anything else than what we have to do next," Wilson said.

That's just what Staley wants. She acknowledged surprise at times at her team's so-so play, particularly when she expected first-year Gamecocks like Davis, Gray and freshman point guard starter Tyasha Harris to be "amped up" to hit the court.

Staley strives to have what she saw Monday night on display each time the Gamecocks play.

"We've got the talent. We've got the ability," she said. "I want that working night in and night out."



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AREA ROUNDUP

Barons beat Florence Christian 47-38

Wilson Hall improved to 2-0 in SCISA Region II-3A with a 47-38 victory over Florence Christian School on Tuesday at Nash Student Center.

The Barons, who are 9-7 overall, were led in scoring by Greyson Sonntag with 10. Easton Ward added nine and Grant DeVarona had eight.

E.J. Porter led FCS with 18 points.

Wilson Hall plays at Laurence Manning on Friday.

FLORENCE CHRISTIAN
E.J. Porter 18, Watson 7, McDuffie 7, Nowlin 6.
WILSON HALL
Greyson Sonntag 10, C. Scott 4, Ward 9, Talley 6, VanPatten 4, DeVarona 8, Cotton 3, L. Scott 3.

B TEAM BASKETBALL

CARDINAL NEWMAN 33

WILSON HALL 25

COLUMBIA -- Tate Sistare and Michael Towery had six points each, but Wilson Hall fell to Cardinal Newman 33-25 on Wednesday at the CN gymnasium.

Doc Walker added five points for the Barons and also had seven rebounds. Heath Watson also finished with seven rebounds and Wade Payne added five.

WH drops to 9-5 overall and will host Orangeburg Prep on Monday.

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY
Varsity and JV Basketball
South Florence at Sumter (Boys Only), 6 p.m.
Thomas Sumter at Florence Christian, 4 p.m.
Junior Varsity Basketball
Darlington at Lakewood, 6 p.m.
North Central at Lee Central, 6 p.m.
Wilson Hall at Laurence Manning, 6 p.m.
B Team Basketball
Sumter at Fairfield Central (Boys Only), 6 p.m.
Robert E. Lee at Dillon Christian, 4 p.m.
Middle School Basketball
Mayewood at Alice Drive, 5 p.m.
Bates at Ebenezer, 5 p.m.
Furman at Chestnut Oaks, 5 p.m.
Manning at Hillcrest, 5 p.m.
East Clarendon at Lee Central, 5:30 p.m.
Varsity Bowling
Wilson Hall, Laurence Manning in SCISA Individual State Championship (at Gamecock Lanes), 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
Varsity Basketball
Lakewood at Darlington, 6 p.m.
Lee Central at North Central, 6 p.m.
East Clarendon at Creek Bridge, 6 p.m.
Cross at Scott's Branch, 6:30 p.m.
Wilson Hall at Laurence Manning, 6 p.m.
Varsity and JV Basketball
Sumter at South Florence (Girls Only), 6 p.m.
Manning at Lake Marion, 4 p.m.
Williamsburg at Thomas Sumter, 4 p.m.
Robert E. Lee at Calhoun Academy, 4 p.m.
Clarendon Hall at Andrew Jackson Academy, 4 p.m.
Sumter Christian at Calvary Christian (No JV Girls), 4 p.m.
Varsity Wrestling
Sumter in Region VI-5A Tournament (at Carolina Forest in Myrtle Beach), 6 p.m.

SATURDAY
B Team Basketball
Sumter, Crestwood JV in Sumter Tournament (Boys Only), TBA

SCBCA POLLS

As of Jan. 24

BOYS
5A
1. Dorman
2. West Florence
3. Goose Creek
4. Wade Hampton
5. Dutch Fork
6. Irmo
7. Sumter
8. Lexington
9. Conway
10. Blythewood/Gaffney

4A
1. Wilson
2. Crestwood
3. Lower Richland
4. Lakewood
5. Wren
6. Ridge View
7. Greenville
8. North Augusta
9. Aiken
10. Eastside

3A
1. Southside
2. Seneca
3. Clinton
4. Bishop England
5. Brookland-Cayce
6. Berea
7. Lake City
8. Ridgeland-Hardeeville
9. Wade Hampton
10. Emerald

2A
1. Gray Collegiate
2. Keenan
3. Burke
4. Lee Central
5. Whale Branch
6. Marion
7. Andrew Jackson
8. Central
9. Fox Creek
10. Landrum

1A
1. Hemingway
2. Hunter-Kinard-Tyler
3. Williston-Elko
4. Lewisville
5. Calhoun Falls
6. Great Falls
7. McCormick
8. Bethune-Bowman
9. Scott's Branch
10. Timmonsville

GIRLS
5A
1. Goose Creek
2. Wando
3. Spring Valley
4. Rock Hill
5. Dorman
6. Conway
7. Nation Ford
8. Woodmont
9. Wade Hampton
10. T.L. Hanna

4A
1. North Augusta
2. Myrtle Beach
3. Ridge View
4. Greenville
5. Crestwood
6. Richland Northeast
7. Greer
8. Wilson
9. Lower Richland
10. Westwood

3A
1. Swansea
2. Bishop England
3. Manning
4. Newberry
5. Emerald
6. Pendleton
7. Battery Creek
8. Strom Thurmond
9. Ridgeland-Hardeeville
10. Seneca

2A
1. Christ Church
2. Mullins
3. Landrum
4. Academic Magnet
5. Andrew Jackson
6. Burke
7. Southside Christian
8. Keenan
9. Batesburg-Leesville
10. Marion

1A
1. McCormick
2. Timmonsville
3. Ridge Spring-Monetta
4. Denmark-Olar
5. Green Sea Floyds
6. Lamar
7. Estill
8. Palmetto Scholars Academy
9. Charleston Math & Science
10. Hemingway

OBITUARIES

RICHARD E. LEE JR.

COLUMBIA — Richard "Ricky" Ernest Lee Jr., age 69, died on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017.

Born in Savannah, Georgia, he was a son of Marjorie Mixon Sickelsmith and the late Richard Ernest Lee Sr.


LEE

Ricky's children were his pride and joy. Prior to his illness, Ricky spent countless hours with them, never missing any activities from tea parties to baseball games. He was a loving father and his children will cherish their memories of him. Ricky also enjoyed sports cars, watching boxing and spending time in the outdoors. He was the former owner of Rags Men Clothing Store.

Surviving are two children, Richard E. "Tripper" Lee III and his wife, Laurin, and Norwood Kathryn "Katie" Lee, all of Sumter; one brother, Robert Doyle Lee of Columbia; one sister, Cindy Lee Strickland and her husband, Paul, of Dalzell; and three grandchildren, Marley Gillespie, Lainey Lee and Cooper Lee.

A funeral service will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday at the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel.

Interment will be held on Saturday at Forest Lawn Memory Garden in Savannah, Georgia.

The family will receive friends on Friday one hour prior to the service from 3 to 4 p.m. at Bullock Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 400 Percival Road, Columbia, P.O. Box 6604, Columbia, SC 29260-6604 or to the JDRF, 26 Broadway, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10001.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

Bullock Funeral Home & Crematorium

SHIRLEY ANN EVANS

MANNING — Shirley Ann Evans, age 68, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017, at McLeod Hospice House, Florence.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. today at Brewington Presbyterian Church with burial in the church cemetery, directed by Floyd Funeral Home of Olanta.

The family will greet friends one hour prior to the service at the church.

Born in Clarendon County, she was a daughter of the late Genie and Eva Lawrence Hodge.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Eugene "Buck" Evans.

Surviving are her daughter, Anna DuBose (Ryan) of Olanta; a son, Dustin Evans of Manning; two brothers, Willie Hodge (Cheryl) of New Zion and James Hodge of Manning; a godmother, Nancy Lorenz of Greenville; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank McLeod Hospice for all of the care they provided.

Memorials may be made to McLeod Hospice, P.O. Box 100551, Florence, SC 29502.

BARBARA JEAN K. KEELS

GREELEYVILLE — Barbara Jean Kennedy Keels died on Friday, Jan. 20, 2017.


KEELS

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday at Long Branch United Methodist Church, 1476 Long Branch Road, Greeleyville, with the Rev. William Simon James, pastor, presiding, and the Rev. Bennie McCants officiating.

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

DONALD R. CHRISTIAN

Donald Ray Christian, 68, husband of Linda Hopkins Christian, died on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017, at the Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia.


CHRISTIAN

Born in Nashville, Tennessee, he was a son of Mildred Jones Christian and the late Ray Christian. Mr. Christian was member of Long Branch Baptist Church. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He, along with his wife, owned and operated the D and L Diner.

Survivors include his wife of 25 years; one son, Paul Christian (Michelle) of Nashville; two brothers, Rick Christian (Charlyn) of Crossville, Tennessee, and Jeffrey Christian of Nashville; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Long Branch Baptist Church with the Rev. Jonathan Bradshaw officiating.

Burial with military honors will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. on Saturday at Long Branch Baptist Church.

Memorials may be made to the Warriors Walk Hospice Unit at William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Medical Center Volunteer Services, 6439 Garners Ferry Road, Columbia, SC 29209 or Long Branch Baptist Church, 2535 Peach Orchard Road, Dalzell, SC 29040.

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

EFFIE SIMS

Effie Sims, 54, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017, at her home in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Born on Aug. 27, 1962, in Sumter, she was a daughter of William Sims Jr. and the late Dorothy Mae Blyther Sims. Effie moved to Worcester in 1964, where she received her education in the public school system. She worked as a nurse's assistant for different nursing homes. In 1997, she moved back to Sumter, where she worked at Gold Kist and other jobs taking care of the elderly. She moved back to Worcester in 2016.

She leaves to cherish her memories: a son, Elijah A. Sims (Laticia) of Worcester; a daughter, Ebony M. Sims of Worcester; four grandchildren; five brothers, Willie (Diane), Rudy, Michael and Shawn, all of Worcester, and Matthew of Sumter; two sisters, Jackie Sims-Bowman (Elijah) of Sumter and Millie of Houston, Texas; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She will be laid to rest on Saturday in Worcester.

This is a courtesy announcement of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

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

NELL B. WIGGINS

HEMINGWAY — Nell Bushardt Wiggins, 90, widow of Robert Franklin Wiggins, now joins her beloved husband of 39 years, having passed away on Jan. 23, 2017, at McLeod Hospice House.

Mrs. Wiggins was born in Hemingway and was the youngest daughter of the late James Baruch Bushardt Sr. and Agnes Morris Bushardt. Nell will be remembered for many wonderful things: her fearlessness as a child hanging from the limbs of tall trees or leaping between rafters in a tobacco barn; her uncanny ability to remember birthdays and anniversaries with just the right card and a delicious, homemade iced pound cake; her love for animals, whether Butter Cup the cow, Mac, Sue and Rebel the dogs, or her cats Cricket and Blue Belle; and her skill as an elementary school teacher, which earned her a place in the Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Most of all, though, she will be remembered for her ceaseless devotion to and boundless love for her husband, Bob.

Survivors include her son, Robert B. "Barry" Wiggins; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins, all of whom loved their "Aunt Nell."

She was predeceased by two brothers, James Bushardt Jr. and Joseph Daniel Bushardt; and three sisters, Mary Janese Hannah, Betty Agnes Poston and Elsie Earl Hill.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Evergreen Memorial Park in Sumter, directed by Morris Funeral Home of Hemingway.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to local animal shelters or humane societies, given Nell's love for animals.

Please sign the guestbook at *www.morris-funeralhome.com*.

THOMAS L. GEDDINGS

TURBEVILLE — Thomas Levy Geddings, age 77, passed away on Jan. 23, 2017, at his home.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. today at Pine Grove United Methodist Church with visitation one hour prior to the service, directed by Floyd Funeral Home of Olanta.

Born in Sumter, he was a son of the late Lee and Eleanor Pritchard Geddings. He retired from Sumter County Public Works and Sumter County Correctional Department. He was a member of Pine Grove United Methodist Church; an Army Reserve veteran; and member of the American Legion.

He was preceded in death by two sisters and one brother.

Surviving are his wife, Lois Gardner Geddings of Turbeville; two stepdaughters, Linda L. Harrington of New Zion and Katherine L. Grainger of Hartsville; one stepson, Joey Lavender of Hartsville; four step-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren; and numerous special nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Pine Grove United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 144, Turbeville, SC 29162.

Please visit *www.floydfuneral.com* for online condolences.

BONNIE G. MCLEOD

PINEWOOD — Bonnie Grubb McLeod, 52, wife of Mark A. McLeod, died on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

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

ALINE MCINTOSH

BISHOPVILLE — Funeral services for Aline Elizabeth Robertson McIntosh, 95, will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday in the chapel of Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home. The Rev. Dr. William H. "Rusty" Wilson III will officiate. Burial will follow in Hebron Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 2 until 3 p.m., prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011 or to South Carolina Educational Television, ETV Endowment of South Carolina, 401 E. Kennedy St., Suite B-1, Spartanburg, SC 29302.

Mrs. McIntosh died peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017.

Born in Sumter, she was a daughter of William Eugene Robertson and Janie Elizabeth Scarborough. She married Plummer Luther McIntosh on Aug. 15, 1944. She was the owner and operator of Ashwood General Merchandise, until her retirement in 1974.

She loved gardening and taking care of her home. She spent several years as a caretaker for her invalid sister while also operating her business. She was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, Hebron Presbyterian Church.

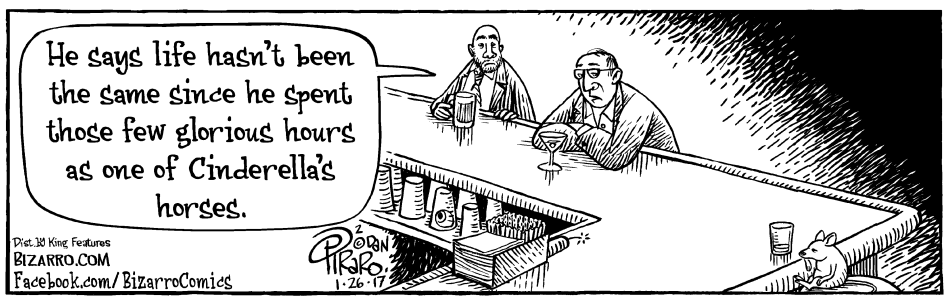
She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth M. (Byran) DuRant of Sumter; grandchildren, David Colclough (Pam) DuBose of Sumter and Lauren DuBose (Wesley) Neese of Mount Pleasant; and great-grandchildren, McIntosh Raymond Neese and Marion Elizabeth Neese.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, William "Bill" Robertson, Alfred Stafford, Lawrence Stafford and Millard Stafford; and sisters, Addie Adrian Robertson, Eula Stafford Baker and Odessa Stafford Beasley.





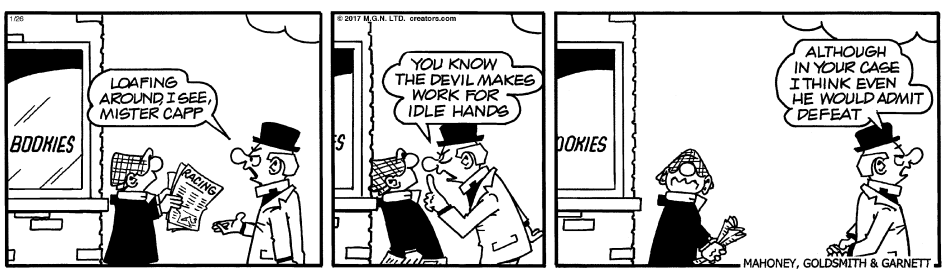
BIZARRO



SOUP TO NUTZ



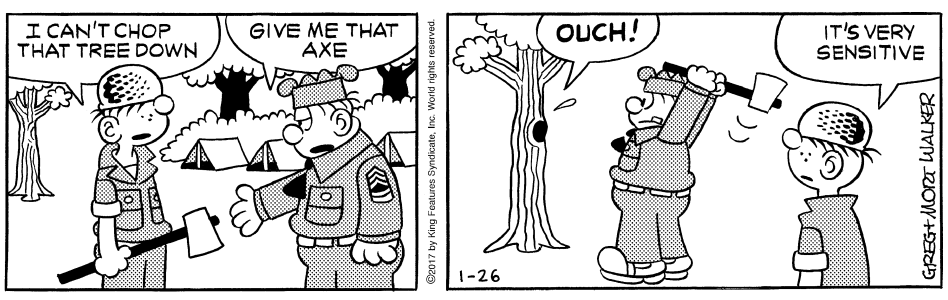
ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



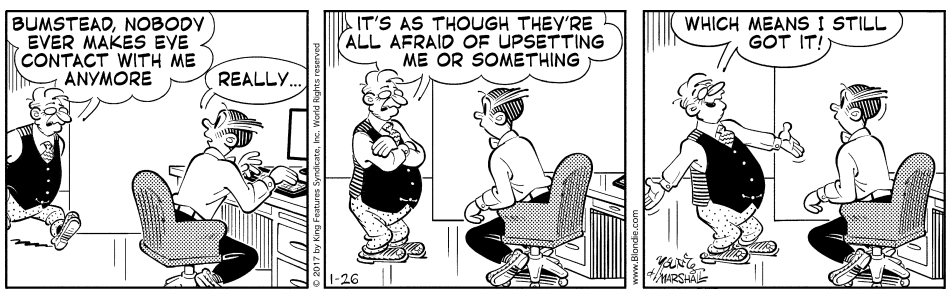
BEETLE BAILEY



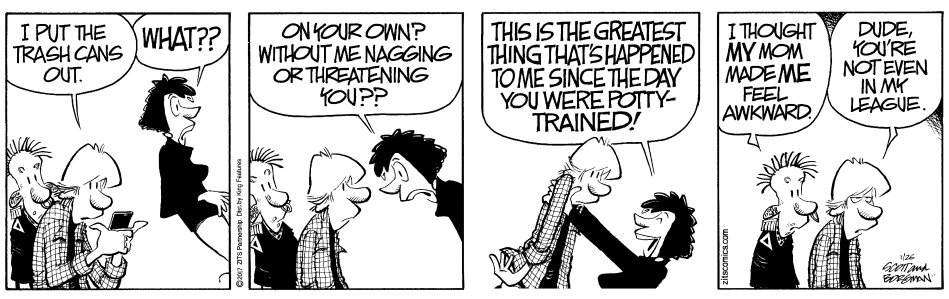
BORN LOSER



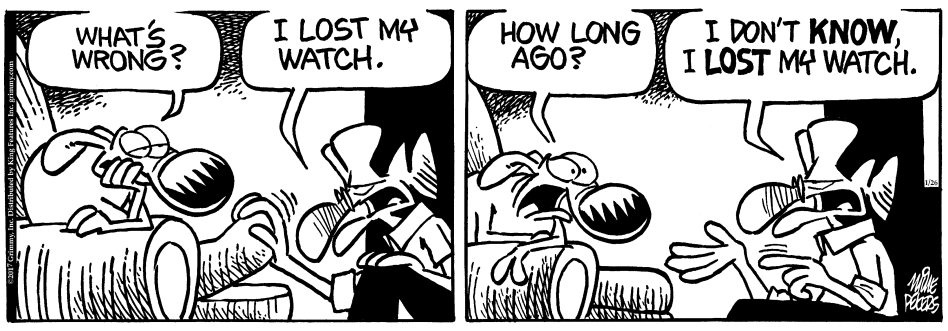
BLONDIE



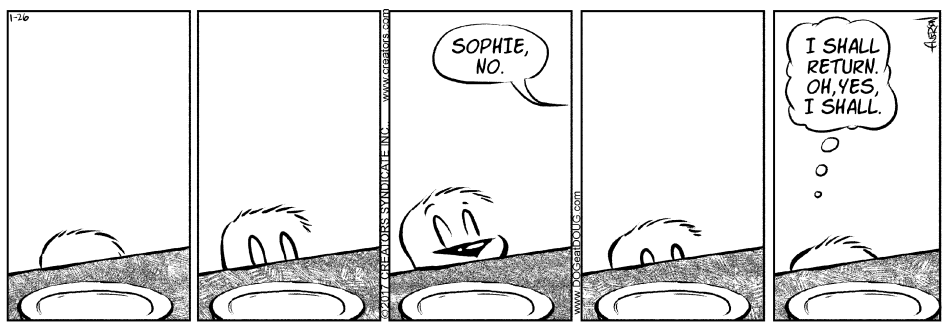
ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Man's dream car doesn't pass muster with his wife



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: I am a successful business professional in my mid-50s. I have put my children through college, and they have no student loans. (My wife did not help with any of the college expenses. It was all on me.)

I am finally at a point in my life that I can pursue my passion of buying a sports car. I have always been a car guy, and my wife knows it. When I bring up the subject of purchasing the car of my dreams, which is not very expensive, she tells me I will look like an idiot. In her next breath she says it's OK if I buy a sports car if it is the one she wants, and of course, the one she wants is very expensive.

No matter how I broach the subject, she does not "get" that it is not about her but about my passion as a car guy. How do I get her to see my side?

Revving up in New York

DEAR REVVING UP: If it's your money paying for the car, you don't have to get her to see your side. It will be yours — not hers — and you should buy the one that gives you pleasure and drive it to your heart's content.

DEAR ABBY: My mother was a stickler when it came to table manners. She had a little 1-inch-long ceramic pink pig that she placed in front of me every time I did something Emily Post would frown on. I HATED that little pig.

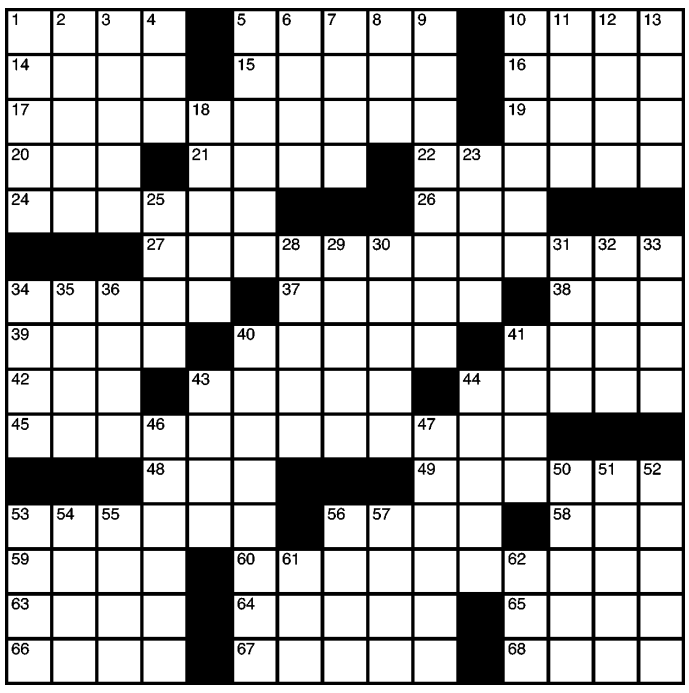
Ralph in Arroyo Grande, California

DEAR RALPH: Now, now. You should have been grateful to that little pig, because it kept you from becoming a BIG one.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By Jerome Gunderson — 1/26/17

ACROSS
1 Hindu noble
5 Like pastrami
10 Rum cake
14 "O no! it is an __-fixed mark ...": Shak.
15 "SNL" alum Cheri
16 Restaurant in the same corporate group as Applebee's
17 What rattlers that never bask in the sun may get?
19 Pool element
20 Vegetable __
21 Sore
22 Oaf
24 Careless
26 "This __ test"
27 Strikebreakers at a brewery?
34 "Curb Your Enthusiasm" creator
37 Different
38 By way of
39 Controversial sightings
40 Demonstrators, often
41 Grammy category
42 Budgetary waste
43 Allen who managed the Beatles and Stones
44 Farmyard noises
45 What berets cover?
48 Wee battery
49 Odorless gas
53 Declare
56 Comic actor Jacques
58 Words in praiseful titles
59 Track component
60 Angry looks in the hayloft?
63 Military wind
64 African herbivore
65 Lot
66 Lost traction
67 Quaker in the forest
68 Adele's brother

DOWN
1 They get carried away
2 Be of use to
3 Pudding snack cup maker
4 It may come after you
5 Bone below the sacrum
6 State on the Colorado Plateau
7 Fall back (on)
8 Before, in verse
9 Doesn't care for
10 Lunch order with "special sauce"
11 "May I speak?"
12 Pro __
13 High point
18 Flavorful
23 Cold War letters
25 Trident-shaped letters
28 Johnnycakes
29 Top story
30 Fine __
31 Lady's company?
32 Take to the cleaners
33 Fifth Avenue store
34 Keister
35 Miles off
36 Suffrage, with "the"
40 Moorish palace of southern Spain
41 Sneakily seek, with "for"
43 Dodge Aries, e.g.
44 Eye-related
46 Aced
47 Shows one's feelings
50 Battling
51 "48 HRS." co-star
52 Moved carefully
53 Stray sounds?
54 Epic __
55 Name for a poodle
56 Vacation plan
57 Diarist Frank
61 "I get it" sounds
62 Not quite right

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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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.

LRUBT

KALYE

BEMMEL

DARWIN

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app



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

"◯◯-◯◯◯◯-◯◯◯◯"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LIMIT HOBBY UNEVEN STOOGE
Answer: The greenskeeper was upset when a gopher made a — HOLE IN ONE

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

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

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11:30 a.m. Friday for Sunday's edition.

We will be happy to change your ad if an error is made; however we are not responsible for errors after the first run day. We shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from the printing or omission of an advertisement. We reserve the right to edit, refuse or cancel any ad at any time.



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H.L. Boone, **Contractor:** Remodel paint roofs gutters drywall blown ceilings ect. 773-9904

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Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

Dining room table and chairs. Excellent condition. 803-757-4896 Mark

Electric lift chair, good condition. $250 OBO 803-757-4896 Mark

Yard Sale! Wed-Sat, 7-5 at 1944 Pinewood Rd. Everything must go!!

Estate Sale, Fri. 10-5, Sat. 8-5. 117 Adams Ave. Furniture, crafts, pool table and lots of household items.

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

Washer-Dryer good condition. $200 OBO 803-757-4896

Bedroom suite solid oak, excellent condition. $800 OBO 803-757-4896 Mark

LARGE GARAGE SALE
Every Weekend
Tables $2 & $3
FLEA MARKET BY SHAW AFB
Open every weekend. Call 803-494-5500

Pool table, auto return, good condition. $350 OBO 803-757-4896 Mark

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

For Sale or Trade

Kimball Piano with stool. Very good condition $100 Call 803-469-2105

China and crystal, beautiful condition. 803-757-4896 Mark

Bassett crib, solid wood, brown with best mattress. $95 803-469-2958

Gold rocker recliner, good condition. $100 803-469-2958

Sofa, Lazyboy End Recliners, like new. $425 Call 239-560-7224

Framed pictures, wide variety. 803-757-4896 Mark

Maple coffee table w/ matching end tables, solid wood. $100 803-469-2958

Double door refrigerator. $199 803-757-4896 Mark

Home office desk.. Good condition. $25 Call 803-469-2105

Oak table with 4 oak chairs Call 803-506-2286

Recliner, good condition, you move. $50 Call 803-494-9610

Honda Odyssey Floor Mats, All 3 Seats Call 803-506-2286

Wood bookcase with drawers. 803-757-4896 Mark

Sofa bed, good condition, queen size, you move. $200 OBO Call 803-494-9610

Rocking chair solid oak, excellent condition. 803-757-4896 Mark

Computer desk. Good condition. $25 Call 803-469-2105

For Sale or Trade

New & used Heat pumps & A/C. Will install/repair, Call 803-968-9549 or 843-992-2364

Table, 6 chairs, 40x48 & 18in leaf. $275 Call 239-560-7224

Dining room table w/4 chairs and china cabinets. $500 803-469-2958

Conn. Elec. Organ with touch -n-play keyboard and Different sound effects. $100 Call 803-469-2105

Computer desk, excellent, 71x24. $60 Call 239-560-7224

Desk and book case. White with gold trim. Like new. $140 803-469-2958

Barca lounger rocker/recliner, burgundy, good condition. $150 803-469-2958



Help Wanted Full-Time

Seeking a FT maintenance person for Apartment Communities located in Bishopville and surrounding areas. Successful candidate will perform various maintenance duties necessary to maintain and enhance the value of the communities. Duties include plumbing, light electrical, painting, cleaning, etc. Applicant must have own tools and reliable transportation. M-464 c//o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

Spring Hill Suites by Marriott on Broad St. is seeking a front desk clerk and house keeper. Previous hotel exp. required. Please apply in person at 2645 Broad St. Sumter, SC

The #1 Furniture Retail Company in the U.S. is seeking highly motivated individuals with outgoing personalities to join our Sales Team. Candidates must have a working knowledge of computers. They will be required to build sales volume by providing superior customer service and knowledge of product and finance options. This full time position is based on a flexible work schedule that includes evenings, Saturdays and some holidays. Offering unlimited income potential based on commission and bonuses. Guaranteed salary during training process. Send resume to 2850 Broad St., Sumter, SC 29150 or email to sperkins@ashleysumter.com

Help Wanted Full-Time

McCormick County School District Announcement of Vacancies

Vacancies:
Middle School Math/Science Teacher

Secondary Positions
English Teacher
Math Teacher

Qualifications:
Applicants must hold a valid SC Certification in the appropriate area.

How to apply:
Applicants are asked to complete an on-line application through the *www.mccormick.k12.sc.us website*.

SEEKING A HIGHLY MOTIVATED RESIDENTIAL PLUMBER WITH A STRONG PROFESSIONAL WORK HABIT. Must have at least 5 years of experience and a valid driver's license. HILL PLUMBING offers competitive pay, incentives and health insurance. Come join Sumter's leading plumbing contractor by filling out an application at:
438 N. Main St., Sumter SC EOE

Medical practice seeking someone w/exp as a Medical Assistant. Send resume to:
carofamilypractice@gmail.com

Top pay for Roofers with flat roof experience TPO, Aspalt, mod bit, epdm, Only Experience roofers need apply. Call 803-968-9833.
Btwn 8am-5pm only

Medical Assistant / Scribe needed for specialty medical practice. Must have experience with in-office patient care, strong communication skills, detailed-oriented, time management, computer skills to include the use of EMR. Salary based on experience. Full-Time with Benefit. Send resume to Box 466 c//o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

Wrecker driver needed. Good driving record. Class A license, dependable & willing to work. Call Sumter Wrecker 803-773-4955
8 am - 5 pm Monday - Friday.

ATTENTION : NOW HIRING
Packers - Cooks - Cashiers
Cooks must have 2 yr exp. Interviews will be every Thurs. beginning 1-26-17 @ 2-3pm
Location: Golden Chick,
807 Broad St. Sumter, S.C.

Trucking Opportunities

Truck Driver needed for hauling chips. Must have CDL & min. 3 years exp. Call 803-804-4742.



Unfurnished Apartments

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

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

2BR/2BA, Willow Run Apt., 900sqft, very nice & clean, washer & dryer included. $550+$550 deposit. Background check required and references. Call Kim 803-294-0925

Unfurnished Homes

3BR/2BA DW, large private lot, between Sumter and Manning. $600mo+$600dep Call 803-473-7577

Mobile Home Rentals

Oaklawn MHP: 2 BR M.H.'s, water//sewer//garbage pk-up incl'd. RV parking avail. Call 803-494-8350

American MHP, 2 & 3/BR, lot rentals, water/sewer/garbage pkup inc'd. Sec. 8 ok. 803-494-4300.

STATEBURG COURTYARD
2 & 3 Br, Sec. 8
803-494-4015

3BR & 2BR, all appliances, Sumter area. Section 8 accepted. 469-6978 or 499-1500



Homes for Sale

Investors Dream! Located on Sampson St. Buy 3 houses & get the 4th house free! Call 775-4391 or 464-5960 for more information.



6 Middle St. Price reduced. 3 or 4 Br. 2 Ba. C/H/A. New construction. Financing avail. Call 464-5960



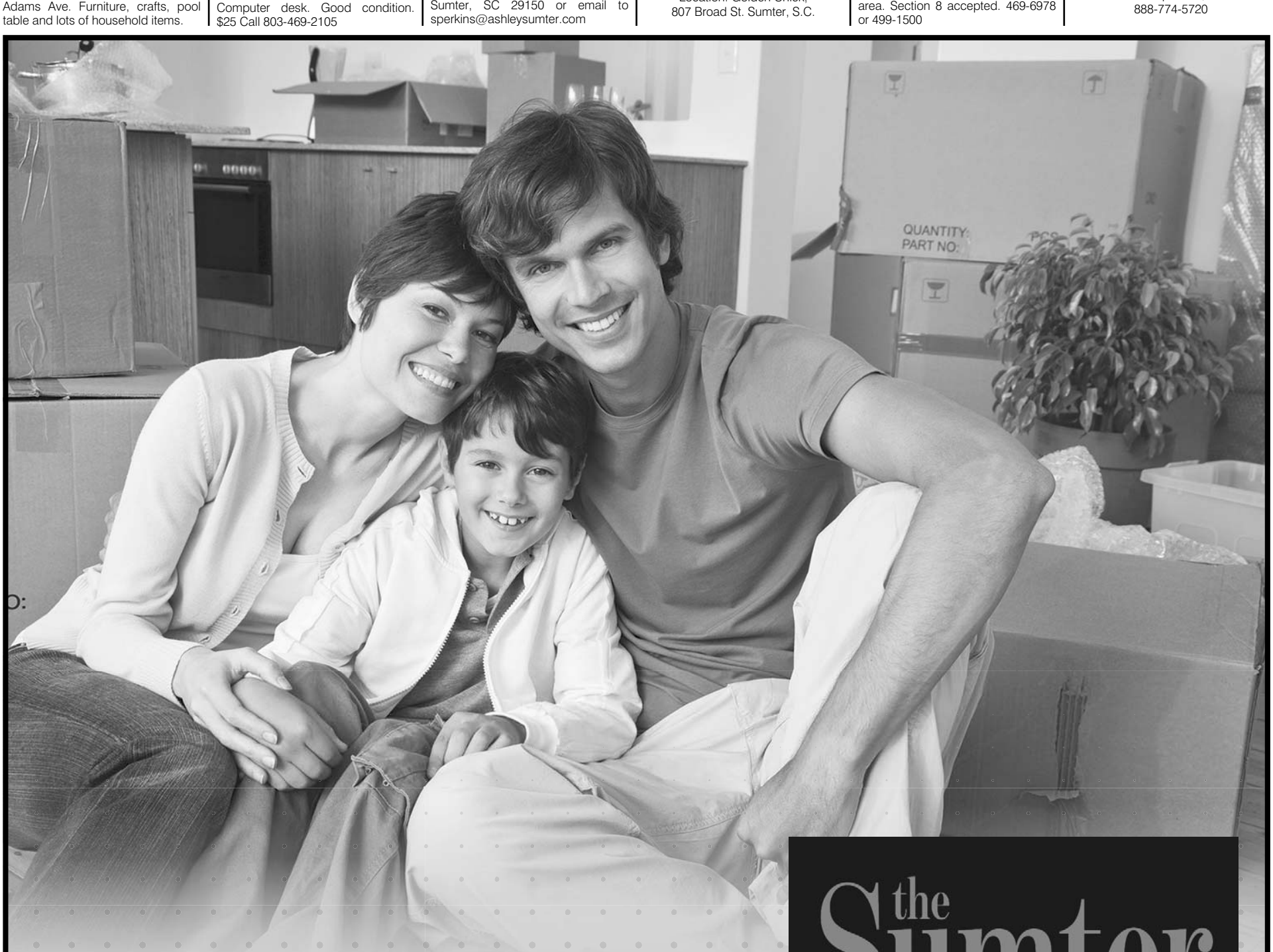
401 Albert Dr., near Morris College, 3 Br. Financing available. Call 803-775-4391 or 464-5960

Manufactured Housing

M & M Mobile Homes, Inc. Now selling New Wind Zone II Champion and Clayton Homes. Lots of floor plans available to custom design your home. Nice used refurbished homes still available also. Bank and Owner financing with ALL CREDIT SCORES accepted. Call 1-843-389-4215 Like us on Facebook M & M Mobile Homes.

Land & Lots for Sale

Acre Minutes from Walmart/Shaw, all hookups. $12,900. 888-774-5720



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TRANSPORTATION

Autos For Sale

2003 Jeep Liberty Sport Good Cdnt. Asking $3600 OBO 803-486-9254

Miscellaneous



Refurbished batteries as low as $45. **New batteries** as low as $59.95. Auto Electric Co., 102 Blvd Rd. 803-773-4381

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

A-1 Self Storage
Public Auction
February 10, 2017 @ 10 am.
3501 Broad Street Ext.
Sumter, SC 29150

The following units are up for auction:

Gloria Torres - B07 - Misc. boxes, Party/decorating supplies.
Alicia Farmer - C10 - furniture, desk, dresser, makeup stand, baby toys, clothes steamer, misc. boxes and clothes.
Lakesha Spann - C19 - Living room furniture, end tables, couches, chairs, lamp, ironing board, computers, clothes.

Bid Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The County of Sumter is accepting separate sealed proposals from qualified contractors to provide on-site random drug and alcohol testing. Proposal packages may be obtained from the Office of the Purchasing Agent, Sumter County Administration Building, 13 East Canal St., Sumter, SC 29150 or by calling (803) 436-2331or via email: Sgregory@sumtercountysc.org.
Sumter County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any and all technicalities.

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the Sumter ITEM
774-1234

Summons & Notice

SUMMONS AND NOTICE

IN THE FAMILY COURT
16-DR-40-4543

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND

Nicole Jeffcoat,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Marvin McFadden
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 upn you, and to serve a copy of your answer on the subscriber in his office, 5115 Forest Dr., Suite G-1, Post Office Box 6833, Columbia, South Carolina, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Summons in the above captioned action, of which the foregoing is a copy, together with the Complaint, therein was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Richland County on the 23 day of November, 2016.

Melvin D. Bannister
5115 Forest Dr., Suite G-1
Post Office Box 6833
Columbia, South Carolina 29260
(803) 782-8688
Attorney for the Plaintiff

SUMMONS AND NOTICES

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CIVIL ACTION NO: 2016-CP-43-01314

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER

Santee Lynches Community Development Corporation,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Shirley Lipinski, Eddie Dees Jr., Mamie Dees, and any children and heirs at law, distributes and devisees, and if any be deceased, then any persons entitled to claim under or through them; also all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, Interest or lien upon the real property described in the Complaint herein, any unknown adults being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under disability or in the military service being a class designated as Richard Roe; and One Stop Mortgage Inc., and Aames Capital Corporation
Defendants.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the complaint herein, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to this complaint upon the subscriber, at the address shown below, within thirty (30) days after service hereof, exclusive of day of such service, and if you fail to answer the complaint, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

LIS PENDENS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an action has been commenced by the Plaintiff against the Defendants, to quiet title to property described as follows:

All that piece, parcel of lot of land together with improvements thereon, lying, being and situated in the City and County of Sumter, State of South Carolina which is designated as Lot No. 12 on a plat made by Shand and Lafaye, Surveyors, dated April 4, 1906 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County in Book XXX at page 105.

This lot is designated on the Auditor's Tax Map for Sumter County as Parcel # 2291405016 and known as 14 Hatfield Street.

This is the same property conveyed to Shirley Lipinski by deed of Caroline B. Richardson, Sumter County Treasurer and Tax Collector, hereafter Richardson, dated and recorded December 21, 2010 in the ROD office for Sumter County in Volume 1148 at Page 2572.

NOTICE OF FILING AND OF APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM NISI

Please take notice that an action has been commenced and is now pending to quiet title to property as described above. James A. Stoddard, Sumter attorney, has been appointed Guardian ad Litem Nisi for unknown defendants.

The Plaintiff will move to refer the case to the Master in Equity with any appeal to the South Carolina Supreme Court. The pleadings in this case are on file in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County.

A. Paul Weissenstein, Jr.,
SC Bar #: 6013
Attorney for Plaintiffs
P.O. Box 2446
Sumter, SC 29151
(803) 418-5700

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
C/A #: 2016-CP-43-02232

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SUMTER

TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK,
Plaintiff,
vs.
KATHERINE M. HULL A/K/A KATHERINE MCKAYE HULL AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE M. HULL A/K/A GEORGE MCDONALD HULL AND AS HEIR AT LAW OF GEORGE M. HULL A/K/A GEORGE MCDONALD HULL, DECEASED, AND ANY OTHER HEIRS-AT-LAW OR DISTRIBUTEES OR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND THEIR SPOUSES, IF ANY THEY HAVE, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WITH ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; ALSO ANY UNKNOWN ADULTS AND THOSE PERSONS WHO MAY BE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ALL OF THEM BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN DOE; AND ANY UNKNOWN MINORS OR PERSONS UNDER A DISABILITY BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE; and SAFE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,
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, 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 December 7, 2016.

NOTICE OF ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM NISI AND ATTORNEY

TO: THE DEFENDANTS HEREIN, NAMES AND ADDRESSES UNKNOWN, INCLUDING ANY THEREOF WHO MAY BE MINORS, IMPRISONED PERSONS, INCOMPETENT PERSONS, UNDER OTHER LEGAL DISABILITY OR IN THE MILITARY SERVICE, IF ANY, WHETHER RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO THE NATURAL, GENERAL, TESTAMENTARY GUARDIAN OR COMMITTEE, OR OTHERWISE, AND TO THE PERSON WITH WHOM THEY MAY RESIDE, IF ANY THERE BE:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Motion for an order appointing Kelley Y. Woody, Esquire, as Guardian ad Litem Nisi, for all persons whomsoever herein collectively designated as Richard Roe or John Doe, defendants herein, names and addresses unknown, including any thereof who may be minors, imprisoned persons, incompetent persons, or under other legal disability, and as Attorney for said parties who may be in the military service, whether residents or non-residents of South Carolina, was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County.

YOU WILL FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that unless the said minors or persons under other legal disability, if any, or someone in their behalf or in behalf of any of them, shall within thirty (30) days after service of notice of this order upon them by publication, exclusive of the day of such service, procure to be appointed for them, or either of them, a Guardian ad Litem to represent them for the purposes of this action, the appointment of said Guardian ad Litem Nisi and Attorney shall be made absolute.

LIS PENDENS

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an action will be commenced in this Court upon the Complaint of the above-named Plaintiff against the above-named Defendants for the foreclosure of that certain Mortgage of Real Estate given by George M. Hull a/k/a George McDonald Hull, now deceased, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Trustmark National Bank, its successors and assigns, dated January 27, 2012, and recorded on February 1, 2012, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County, South Carolina in Book 1166 at Page 615 (the "Mortgage").

By Mortgage Assignment (the "Assignment"), Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Trustmark National Bank assigned the Mortgage to the Plaintiff, and the Assignment was recorded November 17, 2016, in Book 1227 at Page 3320 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County, South Carolina.

At the time of the filing of this notice, the premises affected by the said action were situated in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, and are described as follows:

All that certain piece, parcel and lot of land with improvements thereon situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina identified as Lot No. 1 of Boykin Estates Subdivision Phase I and being more fully shown on a plat prepared by Louis W. Tisdale, R.L.S. dated February 10, 2003 and recorded in plat book 2003 at page 200, records of Sumter County. This property is known as 3340 Sportsman Dr. and is further identified as Sumter County Tax Map Parcel No. 151-13-01-057.

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

This being the same property conveyed to George M. Hull by deed of B&M Builders, Inc. dated March 9, 2004 and recorded on March 9, 2004 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Book 928 at Page 1449.

TMS#: 151-13-01-054

For a complete description of the property encumbered by the Mortgage, the undersigned craves reference to the Mortgage, the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference.

GRIMSLEY LAW FIRM, LLC
P. O. Box 11682
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(803) 233-1177
Edward L. Grimsley
S.C. Bar No. 2326
egrimsley@grimsleylaw.com
Benjamin E. Grimsley
S.C. Bar No. 70335
bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com
Attorneys for the Plaintiff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements

Cancer Benefit Concert & Silent Auction
for **Jerry Blaylock** (a former Sumterite) will be on Friday, Jan. 27th from 4 pm - 8 pm at The Tin Roof - Columbia. 1022 Senate St. Music by The Rhythm Method. $25 at the door. Call 803-917-4710 for info. Cash Bar.

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