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IVY MOORE / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Many passersby have long wanted to see the interior of the Greek Revival Home at 24 Warren St. On Friday, they'll have that opportunity during an open house sponsored by the Main Street Society. The home will open as a bed and breakfast in late June.

Historic home to be 1912 B&B Main Street Society hosting open house

BY IVY MOORE

Special to The Sumter Item

Many a person has driven or walked past the stately Greek revival home at 24 Warren St. wishing they could see the interior. From 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, thanks to the owners and the Main Street Society, that option will be available to the public for an open house.

Owners Tracey and Tommy McLaughlin did an extensive nationwide search for a large house "with character" they could turn into a bed and breakfast. About seven months ago, they found and purchased the house, which had been owned by the same Sumter family since it was built in 1912. When it opens in June, the house will be known as the 1912 Bed & Breakfast.

While the house was their main reason for moving to Sumter from the Atlanta area, the McLaughlins said Sumter itself was an important factor.

"There's so much going on here," Tracey McLaughlin said Friday. "We're going to the (Carolina Backcountry Springtime) tomorrow at the (Sumter County) Museum."

"The people are friendly. The neighborhood is nice," Tommy McLaughlin said. "We love this house, and we love the area."

He said he was also pleased to find the 106-year-old house had been very well taken care of.

"The original inlaid flooring is sturdy with no sagging at all, and you can see that each board

SEE B&B, PAGE A4

School district budget nears final approval

Next year's plan, mill request moves on to county council

BY BRUCE MILLS

bruce@theitem.com

Sumter School District's Board of Trustees gave unanimous approval of the second reading Monday to the district's balanced budget for next school year and a 5.48-mill increase request it plans to ask Sumter County Council for later this month.

Monday's regularly scheduled monthly board meeting at Chestnut Oaks Middle School served as the official public hearing on the 2018-19 budget.

Similar to what he did on April 30 at the first reading, district Chief Financial Officer Chris Griner initially presented a balanced \$131,854,396 general fund budget to the board that doesn't include the millage request. However, that budget forecast does not include certain major goals the district would like to achieve next year, such as adding teachers in a long-term process to inch down student-teacher ratios and adding money to the fund balance next year after it is projected to be \$6 million at the end of this fiscal year on June 30, 2018.

The 5.48-mill request — which translates to \$1,057,121

SEE BOARD, PAGE A5

Brewington Academy's relocation still up in air

BY BRUCE MILLS

bruce@theitem.com

In the school district's whirlwind of activities in the recent months, one important piece of the puzzle still remains unsolved — Brewington Academy.

Brewington is the district's alternative school for middle and high school children with disciplinary issues and is located on the campus of Mayewood Middle School.

With Mayewood closing at the end of this school year and its students consolidating onto the campus of R.E. Davis Elementary School about two miles away as a revamped K-8 school, what will happen to Brewington and its estimated 180 students?

Interim Superintendent

SEE BREWINGTON, PAGE A5

Carolina Backcountry entertains, teaches



David Barnes tests out Frank Holloway's period gun on Saturday afternoon at the Sumter County Museum's Carolina Backcountry Springtime program.

PHOTOS BY KAYLA ROBINS / THE SUMTER ITEM



Deborah Watts, manager of the event and homestead, prepares bites for attendees on Saturday.

Ryan Carter plays a traditional children's game at the Backcountry event.

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DEATHS, B5

Samuel Prioleau III
John W. Scarborough
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Ralph P. Cowley Jr.
Hattie P. Gibson
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WEATHER, A8

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INSIDE

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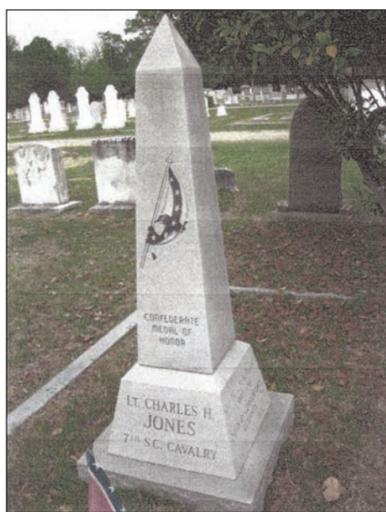


PHOTO PROVIDED

A monument to Lt. Charles H. Jones recognizes him as a recipient of the Confederate Medal of Honor.

Dingle's Mill battle topic at Monday meeting

BY IVY MOORE
Special to The Sumter Item

"Heroics at Manning the Day Before Lee Surrendered" is the topic for the Monday, May 21, meeting of the Sumter County Genealogical Society, its last until September.

Sumter native Bobby Thigpen will be the guest speaker at the 7:30 p.m. meeting at Swan Lake Presbyterian Church, 912 Haynsworth St.

Thigpen said his talk will be "about three men that by circumstance were in Sumter at the same time but had no prior connections and were brave enough to go on this scouting mission against overwhelming odds."

The most interesting fact about his talk, Thigpen said, is "the main character is Charles H. Jones, (my) wife's relative, and William Alexander Brunson and Jesse N. Hodge are my relatives. They just knew they were going to scout an army of Yankee invaders."

The men, motivated by their "loyalty to the cause of Southern independence," Thigpen said, took actions that led to the battle of Dingle's Mill.

Capt. Daniel Judson Bradham, who wrote an article about the incident for the September 1896 Manning Times, was married to a relative of Thigpen.

Thigpen was born in Sumter, grew up in Paxville and attended Edmunds (Sumter) High School before graduating from Manning High School in 1952. He lived in Mayesville for several years before moving in 1964 to Florence, where he still lives.

After more than 40 years as a locomotive engineer with CSX Railroad, Thigpen retired and began doing research on his family.

He is president of the Brewington Cemetery Association in Clarendon County. The association, he said, preserves the more than 200-year-old church building, the cemetery and church grounds.

Admission is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served. Those interested in joining the society may do so at the meeting.

CORRECTION

In Sunday's edition, CCTC's graduate count for 2018 of about 700 was given in error. About 600 students graduated.

2 mothers, newborns test positive for illegal drugs

Arrests made after amphetamine, opiates found in babies' systems

BY KAYLA ROBINS
kayla@theitem.com

Two new mothers in their 20s have been arrested on child neglect charges after they and their newborns tested positive for illegal drugs.

Both were arrested in the separate incidents on May 14 after warrants were issued on May 11, according to Ken Bell, public information officer for the Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

Sharli Camille Grimsley, 27, of Beulah Cuttino Road in southern Sumter County, and her newborn

daughter reportedly tested positive for amphetamine, according to the arrest warrant.

Taryn Leigh Giuffrida, 25, of Whisperwood Drive in Dalzell, and her newborn daughter reportedly tested positive for opiates and methadone, according to another arrest warrant.

While amphetamine and opiates can be used in prescription pills,



GRIMSLEY



GIUFFRIDA

Bell said both women tested for substances they are illegal.

Both women were tested at Palmetto Health Tuomey and face the charge of unlawful neglect of a child.

Both are scheduled to appear in general sessions court on June 8.

This is the second and third time in two months a mother has been arrested for her newborn child reportedly testing positive for illegal substances. An 18-year-old mother was arrested on April 13 after she and her newborn son tested positive for marijuana in October 2017. A warrant was issued in December 2017.

Sen. Johnson at prayer breakfast: We owe law enforcement a 'debt of gratitude'

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter's law enforcement officers from various agencies spent Tuesday morning in fellowship during the 2018 Police Week Prayer Breakfast at Church of the Holy Comforter.

Attendees listened to prayers from officers and a speech from Sen. Kevin Johnson, D-Manning, about owing a debt of gratitude to law enforcement.

"There seems to be a deep level of dissatisfaction with law enforcement, maybe because of incorrect perceptions of what law enforcement does and what law enforcement stands for," he said.

Bad apples exist in every profession, Johnson said, but the vast majority of officers are themselves law abiding and take their responsibilities seriously.

Officers take an oath to uphold the law, and that's exactly what they do, he said.

"Most law officials love what they do," he said, "They take pride in their job, and they do it well."

When events — fun gatherings like the Iris Festival or a disaster like a major flood — happen throughout our community, law enforcement is there, Johnson said.



JOHNSON

The community owes officers a debt of gratitude because they are brave and fearless, he said.

If anyone doubts the bravery of law enforcement officers, think back to Sept. 11, 2001, Johnson said.

While civilians ran away from that gruesome scene as fast as they could, officers and other first responders rushed toward the danger, he said.

"You have to be devoted and dedicated to do that," he said.

Officers show up to help families even though showing up means leaving their own families behind, Johnson said.

They go to work not knowing if that will be the shift where they make the ultimate sacrifice, he said, and some officers lay down their lives not just for friends but for strangers, no matter the color of their skin.

Sometimes, officers confront suspects who are larger, stronger, quicker and even more equipped, but they still show up to work with their agency badges and their badges of courage, Johnson said.

Law enforcement officers are regular people doing special things, he said.

Following Johnson's speech, Chief Deputy Hampton Gardner of the Sumter County Sheriff's Office conducted the final inspection for Sumter's fallen law enforcement officers, and a member of the sheriff's office's honor guard played taps.

2 plead guilty to federal drug, firearms charges

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Two Sumter men were sentenced in federal court in Columbia after they pleaded guilty earlier this year to various firearm and drug charges.

Chief United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten sentenced Brandon Leroid Cummings, 28, to 108 months of imprisonment with six years of supervised release and sentenced Brandon Christopher Craft, 31, to 63 months of imprisonment with three years of supervised release.

According to a news release from United States Attorney Beth Drake, Cummings is charged with intent to distribute and distribution of heroin and crack cocaine, and conspiracy to use, carry or possess a firearm during a drug trafficking crime. Craft was charged for being a felon in pos-

session of a firearm and conspiracy to use, carry or possess a firearm during a drug trafficking crime.

Evidence presented in court established Cummings distributed crack cocaine and four baggies of heroin to a confidential informant and undercover officer in exchange for \$400 in Sumter on May 17, 2017. The incident was recorded on audio and video.

On May 25, 2017, Cummings, accompanied by Craft, made arrangements to sell a firearm and heroin to the same informant and undercover officer in exchange for \$800.

Craft produced a Taurus .38 caliber revolver from a bag hidden in his waistband during the meeting and gave the weapon to the informant.

An investigation revealed the firearm had been reported stolen and that the heroin was actually cocaine. Cummings has prior state convic-

tions for possession with distribution of marijuana, two counts of possession of crack cocaine and a second offense of possession of a schedule I and schedule II controlled substance.

Craft has prior state convictions for two counts of second degree burglary, possession of crack cocaine, possession of a firearm, second degree assault and battery, and two counts of forgery.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) and Sumter County Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted as part of Project CeaseFire, a joint federal, state and local initiative focused on aggressively prosecuting firearm cases in an effort to reduce violent crime.

Assistant United States Attorney Stacey D. Haynes of the Columbia office handled the case.

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Nonprofit gives care packages to support military spouses

BY KAYLA ROBINS
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Diane Rumley knows that when a man or a woman enlists into the United States military, the person wearing the uniform is not the only one agreeing to make a sacrifice for this country.

Mothers, fathers, husbands wives and their children — a lot of their children — gathered at the Sumter Opera House on Tuesday for a Military Spouse Appreciation event hosted by Support Military Spouses, the self-proclaimed largest Christian nonprofit dedicated to serving military wives and husbands in the nation.

"Military spouses sacrifice a lot. Not only do they do the single parenting, but usually they do that away from their own immediate family," Rumley said. "A lot of times they're the mechanic if something goes wrong and they have to fix it. Many times, a lot of first experiences that we enjoy as a couple, as a family — first steps, first teeth, first words — a lot of that is done while their spouse who is serving is not with them. So they're having a lot of life's moments alone ... A lot of times, they have the worry of how is my spouse doing?"

Rumley's organization, which she and her husband, who is a pastor, began in 2009, gives out care packages to spouses. The packages handed to each spouse on Tuesday — the vast majority of whom were wives — contained jewelry, nail kits and personal hygiene items.

Every care package also has a Bible in it. Rumley said more than 58,000 have been given out since they started the nonprofit.

"And we're just scratching the surface," she said. "There are 750,000 spouses."

The group currently serves seven military bases in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia.

She said she and her husband, Steve, started the effort for a simple reason.

"The Lord just laid it in my heart and in my husband's heart," she said. "He really wanted them to know three things: that He loves them; that He hears their prayers; and that he cares about them."

The event Tuesday occurred on the same day Gov. Henry McMaster was joined by South Carolina Adjutant Gen. Robert Livingston to designate May as Military Spouse Appreciation Month.

Col. Daniel Lasica, commander of

the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw Air Force Base, said he often hears from his airmen that, in a lot of ways, their spouses' jobs are harder than their own.

"We can't have a mission without our airmen and soldiers, and we don't have airmen and soldiers without a strong family. And they're doing the heavy lifting and the difficult work. They're the ones left to take care of the household and take care of the children," Lasica said.

He said this nonprofit and care package distribution is "just one small way we can tangibly not just say thank you and we appreciate what they do, we can actually do something for them."

Cleo Klopffleisch, family readiness group leader at United States Army Central, which is located on Shaw, said the Bibles provide comfort for the spouses when they may feel lonely or searching for answers.

"Being in a military family is very unique and completely different than in the civilian world because about every two to three years, we have to pick up and move to a new duty station, and half the time when we do move, our spouses aren't even moving with us because they're deployed in a place where the spouses and

family can't go," she said.

Her role at ARCENT is to connect military families with the resources they need, such as certified babysitters, counseling, school representatives and community activities.

She said the packages are curated for the military spouse because they include pretty jewelry but also useful and necessary items, like the personal hygiene items and the Bible.

Being a military spouse may be trying at times, especially every time a family has to make new connections and friends in a new place, but Klopffleisch, who has been a military spouse for more than 20 years, said Sumter is easy.

"This is the South," she said. "When I first moved in, my husband was stationed in Jordan. I moved in by myself. I had someone knocking at my door within three hours of actually closing on the housing with bread, homemade bread and homemade jam, welcoming me to the neighborhood."

"It was simply amazing just having somebody come up to me and welcoming, not even knowing that I was military, and welcoming me into the community and having open arms, and since then, everybody in the neighborhood is like family to me."



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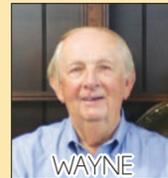


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The first thing visitors are likely to notice upon entering 24 Warren St. is the staircase leading to the second floor, which overlooks the neighborhood.

PHOTOS BY IVY MOORE / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

A sitting area on the left as one enters the house is furnished in comfortable period furniture. The entranceway separates the room from a sitting area with a more masculine feel, with leather furnishings.

B&B FROM PAGE A1

was placed carefully," he said. Both McLaughlins said they were impressed by the eight fireplaces, which they had cleaned and inspected so they can be used. There are four stories, including the finished attic and basement.

The house is more than 5,600 square feet, sits on 1.21 acres, has four bedrooms and baths and has a huge front entrance with Doric columns. An impressive staircase draws the eye immediately upon entering.

"We love to entertain," Tracey McLaughlin said, "and we've always wanted to have a bed and breakfast. The house is elegant but not so overboard that you can't have fun."

Breakfast, in fact, is her favorite meal to prepare, a task she looks forward to each morning before heading to her job at a local bank. Tommy McLaughlin works from home, so will be present at all times when they have guests, he said.

"It really doesn't feel so big since we've been living here," Tommy said. "It's a

work in progress that's almost finished. We look forward to having people come by on Friday."

The McLaughlins will be present to talk about their home and answer questions.

MAIN STREET SOCIETY

Neil "Mongo" Neaderhiser, Main Street Society chairman, said "Main

Street Society is a public-private partnership that promotes downtown Sumter. With all the construction of the past couple of years, we've taken a slight pause in our activities. Now with new businesses and other improvements

coming to fruition, we're excited to help feature them and look for new ways to enhance our amazing downtown."

He said the society hosts open houses twice a year, "usually in the spring and the fall. The events usually feature a downtown business or historic district home, offering an opportunity "to showcase a business, home, or in this case, both at once."

In addition to the open house events, the society has sponsored the Historic Downtown Sumter signs, hanging plants, bike racks and the new lamppost ban-

ners throughout downtown, as well as lending financial support to Art in The Park.

The society will announce plans for further downtown enhancements by fall.

Scheduling the event on a Friday offers an opportuni-

ty "to attend a fun event and then stay in the downtown area for the evening," Neaderhiser said.

Wine, cheese and fruit will be served, and non-members are asked to make a \$5 donation to the society.

Memberships in the society are \$35 a year for individuals and \$50 for families. Guests may join at the open house or by sending a check to: Main Street Society of Sumter, PO Box 1441, Sumter, SC 29151.

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BREWINGTON

FROM PAGE A1

Debbie Hamm has admitted in the past couple months it is not an easy issue to solve in finding enough self-contained space at another school to fit Brewington.

Initially, when she unveiled the administration's consolidation proposal on March 12, Hamm didn't have an identified school to relocate Brewington. At a March 26 board meeting, she proposed it be housed at Hillcrest Middle School in Dalzell for at least next school year. Hillcrest was where Hamm had also initially proposed Rafting Creek Elementary School be consolidated into as a third school closure. Along with Mayewood, F.J. DeLaine Elementary School was approved for closure and consolidation into Cherryvale Elementary School as a K-8 school.

After discovering significant facility upgrades would be needed at Hillcrest to get the school up to proper building code for adding new students, she

took Hillcrest off the table in early April.

The question of Brewington's relocation was brought up again during public participation at Monday's board meeting at Chestnut Oaks Middle School.

After the board meeting, Hamm addressed the issue.

"Given the number of students, the number of classrooms required and office spaces for guidance counselors and others who serve the kids, it takes a continuous (self-contained) space, and we're trying to look for the right place for that," Hamm said.

She said Brewington Academy will be housed at another school next year and that the district doesn't plan on purchasing a new facility.

Hamm said she plans to present a recommendation for Brewington to the school board at its next scheduled meeting on June 19.

"I have floor plans on my desk right now, and we continue looking at it," Hamm said. "I know time is running short to make a decision, but I don't have a decision at this point in time."

BOARD

FROM PAGE A1

in additional revenue from county taxes — would achieve some of those goals, according to Griner and Interim Superintendent Debbie Hamm.

As opposed to the first reading of the budget and millage request two weeks ago, this time the administration pinpointed specific recommendations, or best overall choices, for use of the potential additional county funding. At the first reading, the administration listed expenditure items for the board to consider but didn't necessarily rank them by a level of need.

The recommendations include adding five teaching positions (valued at \$400,000), a grant writer/development coordinator (\$80,000), a technology project manager (\$75,000) and making a \$502,121 contribution to the fund balance in an effort to get the district closer to having one month's operating expenditures on hand. One month's operational expenses on the district's \$131.8 million budget for

next year translates to about \$10.8 million.

If county council approves the request, the additional tax revenue would mainly affect commercial businesses and industries in Sumter and not home property owners, unless someone owns rental property.

Griner factored the millage increase on a commercial building valued at \$100,000 to be about \$22 in additional taxes per year.

District administration plans to present next year's budget to county council and ask for the 5.48-millage rate increase on May 29, Griner said. If council only approves a portion of the millage increase, then district administration and the school board would have to come back and rework its recommendations list to that lower value, he said.

The district plans to have third and final reading and adopt the budget at its next board meeting, scheduled for June 19. The state must approve the district's budget for next fiscal year by June 30, which is the last day of this fiscal year.



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Against the odds: 3 black doctors detail journey to success

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — One used to deal drugs on the streets of New Orleans. Another grew up in Chicago with two drug-addicted parents. A third survived the tough streets of New York and Washington, D.C., where he once stared down the barrel of a gun.

All three young black men became board-certified doctors.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Pierre Johnson, Maxime Madhere and Joe Semien Jr. said they knew the odds were stacked against them when they entered Xavier University of Louisiana in 1998 with hopes of becoming doctors. Black men make up a small percentage of doctors in America, and they knew getting through college and medical school wouldn't be easy.

Their early lives, college struggles, and victories are chronicled in "Pulse of Perseverance: Three Black Doctors on Their Journey to Success." They said they wrote the book to show black boys that athletes and entertainers aren't the only examples of black achievement and success.

Madhere, an anesthesiologist in Baton Rouge, said they're fortunate and have a responsibility to share their experiences with the next generation.

"Young boys need to know it's not a game in these streets. They need to know that we are completely marginalized as people of color when we mess up. They also need to know you don't have to rap or shoot a ball to get



AARON CORMIER VIA AP

From left, Joseph Semien Jr., Pierre Johnson and Maxime Madhere are shown on their book "Pulse of Perseverance: Three Black Doctors on Their Journey to Success."

out of their circumstances," said Madhere.

Semien, Johnson and Madhere each set a goal early on to become a doctor. Semien, an obstetrician/gynecologist from New Orleans who practices in Lake Charles, describes in the book how he became intrigued by a sixth-grade anatomy class. Madhere discovered his love for medicine after volunteering at a hospital. Johnson said he "just knew" he wanted to heal people after dealing with his parents.

Getting there, however,

wasn't easy. Four percent of doctors in the U.S. are black, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges. The men chose Xavier, knowing that the nation's only historically black Catholic institution consistently places black students in medical school.

Johnson, an obstetrician/gynecologist working in Chicago, writes about Xavier's nurturing environment, which helped spark the trio's friendship.

Johnson said he often saw Madhere in class and around

campus but noticed that he, too, was "always in the library."

"We started a conversation about how things were going and the struggles we were going through in class and ultimately decided we needed to band together ... and we saw that same energy in Joe," Johnson said.

"We held each other accountable," Semien recalled. "When one was falling short, the other would pick him up."

Semien had to shed a street reputation that included dealing drugs and an anger problem that got him in trouble. He dropped out of Xavier at one point, joined the military, re-enrolled, dropped out again and finally returned and met Johnson and Madhere.

Madhere describes in the book the troubled Brooklyn neighborhood where his mother lived after divorcing his father. He recalls one day when a young black man was shot in front of her apartment building.

"This was my first encounter with death. The image of this man dead on the pavement, with the police and paramedics swarming around

him, was immediately burned into my 7-year-old mind. It remains there to this day," he wrote.

Johnson writes of being 3 when he and his mother frantically ran from his father "who was high out of his mind."

"We sought refuge at my paternal grandparents' house ..." he writes. "We crawled under the covers; I thought for a moment that we were safe. A few minutes later, my father came into the bedroom, dragged my mom into the hallway by her ankle, and beat her."

Both parents struggled with addiction, and Johnson wrote: "I learned as a young boy that one of my purposes in life was to help others who could not help themselves."

The three doctors decided to tell their stories in one project because they'd already proven they could work together. Johnson said he plans to push his friends to write a follow-up.

"If this book does what we hope and plan, to inspire kids everywhere and to push people to achieve success through all circumstances, definitely a second book is in the making," he said.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
HUD HOME PROGRAM
Annual Action Plan
For the Period: April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., the Sumter County Regional HOME Consortium will hold a Public Hearing at Santee Lynches Regional Council of Governments' office, 2525 Corporate Way, Suite 200, Sumter, S.C.

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to review the Sumter County Regional HOME Consortium's 4th Year Annual Action Plan which will be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development on or about June 29, 2018. The Plan outlines the availability and utilization of HUD HOME funds for the period April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

The Annual Action Plan will be available for review at the Santee Lynches Regional Council of Governments' office, 2525 Corporate Way, Suite 200, Sumter, S.C., between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday from May 17, 2018 to June 15, 2018. Persons with questions or comments concerning the Public Hearing may contact Sharon Durden, Santee-Lynches RCOG, (803) 774-1988.

The Sumter County Regional HOME Consortium and its Member Local Governments do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or disability in the admission of, access to, or treatment regarding employment in its federally assisted programs or activities.

Sharon Durden, Santee-Lynches RCOG, (803) 774-1988, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the U.S. Department of HUD's regulations.

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Allied Health courses will be held at CCTC's Shaw Center Campus. Other courses will be held on the Main Campus.

For more information, visit:

cctech.edu/training-continuing-ed or stop by Building M600 on the Central Carolina Technical College Main Campus (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) for program enrollment information.

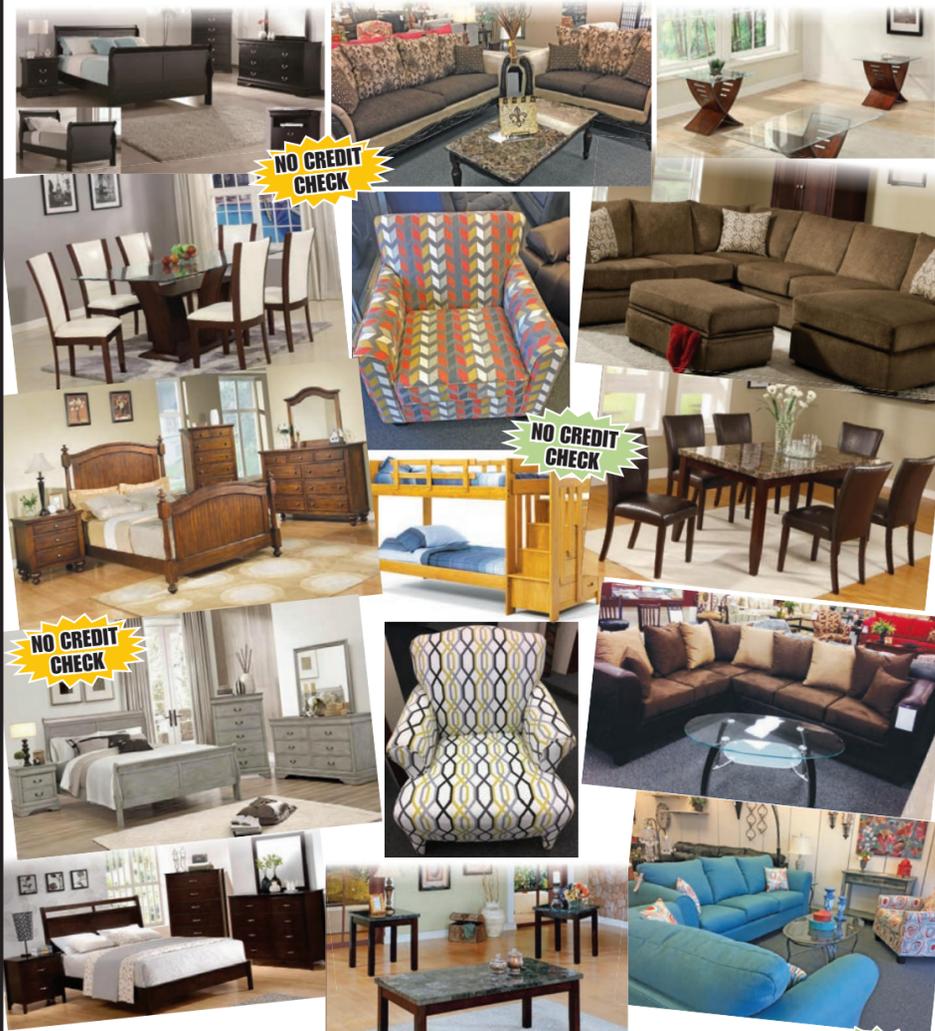
* Students are required to successfully complete a 12-hour Career Readiness training program. Depending on the program, eligible students may be required to pay for exam fees, physical exam, shots, uniforms, etc. Fees associated with meeting the basic requirements for a scholarship are the responsibility of the student and will not be reimbursed. Meeting basic requirements does not guarantee a scholarship. Prior scholarship recipients are not eligible. Scholarships are available for Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee and Sumter county residents only.

Central Carolina Technical College does not discriminate in employment or admissions on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, age, religion, disability, or any other protected class.

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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Kanye and Democrats

In the aftermath of the Kanye West dust-up, my heart goes out to the white people who control the Democratic Party. My pity stems from the hip-hop megastar's November announcement to his packed concert audience that he did not vote in the presidential election but if he had, he would have voted for Donald Trump. Then, on April 21, West took to his Twitter account, which has 28 million followers, to announce, "I love the way Candace Owens thinks." Owens is Turning Point USA's director of urban engagement and has said that former President Barack Obama caused "damage" to race relations in the United States during his two terms in office.

West's support for Trump, along with his criticism of the "plantation" mentality of the Democratic Party, has been met with vicious backlash from the left. In one song, West raps, "See, that's the problem with this damn nation. All blacks gotta be Democrats. Man, we ain't made it off the plantation." Rep. Maxine Waters said West "talks out of turn" and advised, "He should think twice about politics -- and maybe not have so much to say." The bottom-line sin that West has committed is questioning the hegemony of the Democratic Party among black Americans. The backlash has been so bad that West had to hire personal security to protect him against threats made against his life. Fortunately, the police are investigating those threats.

Kanye West is not saying anything different from what Dr. Thomas Sowell, Larry Elder, Jason Riley, I and other black libertarians/conservatives have been saying for decades. In fact, West has tweeted quotations from Sowell, such as "Socialism in general has a record of failure so blatant that only an intellectual could ignore or evade it" and "The most basic question is not what is best but who shall decide what is best." Tweeting those Sowell quotations represents the highest order of blasphemy in the eyes of leftists.

The big difference between black libertarians/conservatives and West is that he has 28 million Twitter followers and a huge audience of listeners whereas few blacks have even heard of libertarian/conservative blacks outside of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. (I might add in passing that Dr. Thomas Sowell is one of the nation's most distinguished and accomplished scholars alive today.)

The Kanye problem for the



Walter Williams

Democratic Party is that if the party doesn't keep blacks in line and it loses even 20 to 25 percent of the black vote, it can kiss any hope of winning any

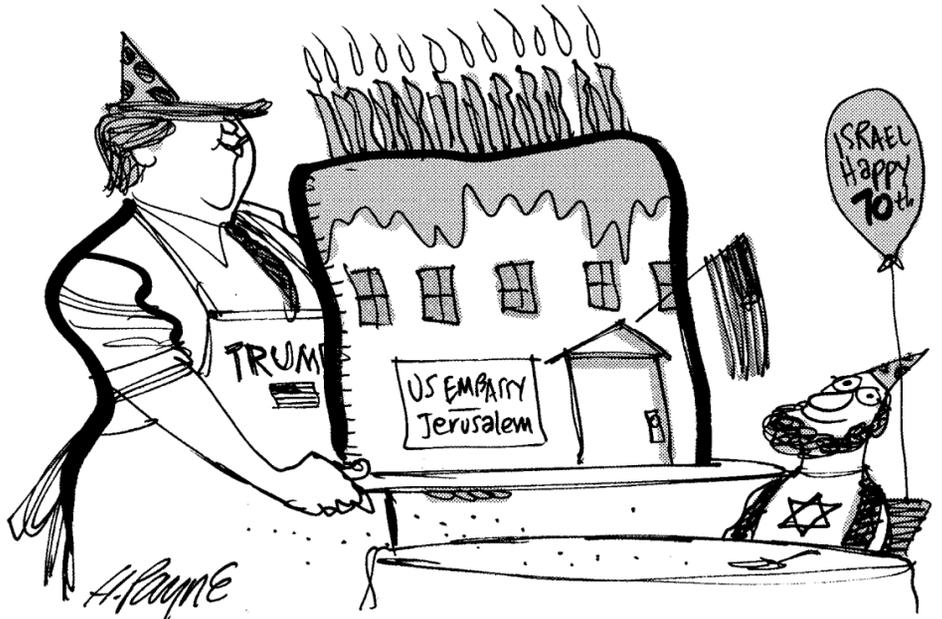
presidential and many congressional elections goodbye. Democrats may have already seen that threat. That's why they support illegal immigration and voting rights for non-citizens. Immigrants from south of the border who are here illegally may be seen as either a replacement for or a guarantee against the disaster of losing the black vote.

Keeping blacks blind to the folly of unquestioned support for the Democratic Party by keeping blacks fearful, angry and resentful and painting the Republican Party as racist is vital. Democrats never want blacks to seriously ask questions about what the party has done for them. Here are some facts. The nation's most troublesome and dangerous cities — Indianapolis, Stockton, Oakland, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Kansas City, Baltimore, Memphis, St. Louis and Detroit -- have been run by Democrats, often black Democrats, for nearly a half-century. These and other Democratic-run cities are where blacks suffer the highest murder rates and their youngsters attend the poorest-performing and most unsafe schools.

Democrats could never afford for a large number of black people to observe, "We've been putting you in charge of our cities for decades. We even put a black Democrat in the White House. And what has it meant for us? Plus, the president you told us to hate has our unemployment rate near a record low." It turns out that it's black votes that count more to black and white politicians than black well-being, black academic excellence and black lives. As for black politicians and civil rights leaders, if they're going to sell their people down the river to keep Democrats in power, they ought to demand a higher price.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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COMMENTARY

Collusion is usually a dirty word

So where's the outrage over Kerry's secret Iran deal meetings?

WASHINGTON — Democrats routinely express outrage over claims of collusion with a foreign power to undermine our democracy. So where is the outrage over revelations that former secretary of state John Kerry held not one but two secret meetings with Iran's foreign minister to strategize over how to undermine President Trump's plans to withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal?

An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed the meetings after the Boston Globe broke the news, declaring, "We don't see the U.S. just as Mr. Trump; the United States is not just the current ruling administration." Think about what this means. Iran is a terrorist state responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Americans in Iraq, whose leaders hold rallies where thousands chant "Death to America!" Kerry was working with a sworn enemy of the United States to try to undermine the foreign policy of the elected president of the United States.

I thought we didn't like Americans who colluded with our enemies.

Kerry's meetings with Iran's leaders were not isolated incidents, but part of a formal lobbying campaign that included phone calls with European Union leaders and meetings with the presidents of Germany and France in which, the Globe reports, he discussed "the details of sanctions and regional nuclear threats in both French and English."

On Twitter, Trump suggested that Kerry might have violated the Logan Act, which says: "Any citizen of the United States ... who, without authority of the United States, directly or indirectly commences or carries on any correspondence or intercourse with any for-



Marc Thiessen

ign government ... with intent to influence the measures or conduct of any foreign government ... in relation to any disputes or

controversies with the United States, or to defeat the measures of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both." In fact, no one has been prosecuted under the Logan Act in more than 160 years, and most conservative legal scholars consider it unconstitutional.

Although what Kerry did was probably not illegal, it was deeply hypocritical. Recall that in 2015, when Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., and 46 other Republicans wrote to Iran's leaders informing them of the Senate's constitutional role in approving international agreements, Kerry was incensed. "My reaction to the letter was utter disbelief," he said at the time. "To write leaders in the middle of a negotiation ... is quite stunning ... [and] ignores more than two centuries of precedent in the conduct of American foreign policy," Kerry said, adding that he would never have interfered in that way "no matter what the issue and no matter who was president." What a difference three years make.

Cotton is a sitting United States senator. The Senate has a constitutional role in foreign policy. Kerry is a private citizen.

He has a constitutional role in nothing.

Kerry's defenders compare him to Henry Kissinger and other former secretaries of state who regularly meet with world leaders.

"Secretary Kerry stays in

touch with his former counterparts around the world, just like every previous Secretary of State," a Kerry spokesman said. But Kissinger does not conduct rogue diplomacy. When he meets with foreign leaders, he usually coordinates with the White House, often carrying messages for the president, and then briefs administration officials afterward. Kerry did none of this.

This is not the first time Kerry has interfered in U.S. diplomacy as a private citizen. In 1970, he flew to Paris and met with the North Vietnamese while they were in the midst of negotiating the Paris Peace accords with Kissinger. Kerry admitted then that his actions were "on the borderline of private individuals negotiating." What he did last month was not on the borderline.

Kerry would not have had to resort to rogue diplomacy if he had negotiated a better deal. The agreement he struck could not even muster the support of a simple majority in the Senate, much less the two-thirds majority needed to ratify a treaty. As Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., correctly points out, the Obama administration "made a bad deal with Iran without support from Congress. ... American foreign policy makes lasting progress when it is led by the President, approved by Congress, and presented honestly to the American people." Kerry has no one to blame but himself for Trump's decision to withdraw. And he certainly has no business colluding with America's enemies against America's president.

Marc Thiessen writes a twice-weekly column for The Post on foreign and domestic policy and contributes to the PostPartisan blog.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SUMTER MAN HEAPS PRAISE ON LOCAL SHAKESPEARE PRODUCTION

Saturday night (May 12) I was looking for something to do and noticed that the Sumter Area Family Educators' (SAFE) Shakespeare Class was going to present Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" within the hour.

So I headed over to the First Assembly of God church on Alice Drive because I have enjoyed that particular production in the past at other venues and was curious.

But I wasn't prepared for a home-schooled class of potential thespians who acted that night.

Ms. Diane Parker and the entire cast are to be congratulated for providing an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

The cast took its production seriously and only a couple of giggles gave away the ad-libbing that happened sparingly.

Although there were no microphones, the cast projected its voices well enough that they could all be heard throughout the facility.

The scenery was beautiful and added greatly to the enjoyment.

Kudos, not only to Ms. Parker, but also the cast composed of Ethan Hall, Kieran Ullery, Micaiah Cohee, Jayde Torres, Christopher Sneider, Devany Ullery, Corbin Stewart, Gus Tuttle, Dean Banar, Cameron Stewart, Alicia Sneider, Ethan O'Shields, Josh Kovalcik, Madison Morehouse, Hannah Kovalcik, Caleb O'Shield and AJ Hinkle.

Thank you for providing an enjoyable evening. I only have one thing left to say: Bravo!

KEN BELL
Sumter

ATTENDEE APPRECIATES SUMTER CIVIC CHORALE PRESENTATION

I want to express my appreciation to the Sumter Civic Chorale for a wonderful afternoon of music on Sunday, May 6. Their presentation with the Sumter Honors Ensemble and the Lakewood High School Choir was most enjoyable.

Erik Hines and Herbert Johnson are to be commended for their fine work with the young people of Sumter.

Thank you to all those who participated.

EDITH W. TAYLOR
Sumter

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN:
AA — Monday-Friday, noon and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.
AA Women's Meeting — Wednesdays, 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.
AA Spanish Speaking — Sundays, 4:30 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.
AA "How it Works" Group — Mondays and Fridays, 8 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. (803) 494-5180.
441 AA Support Group — Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 p.m., Hair Force, 2090-D S.C. 441.
AA Summerton Group — Wednesday, 8 p.m., town hall.
Manning Al-Anon Family Group — Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Behavioral Health Building, 14 Church St., Manning. Call (803) 435-8085.
C/A "Drop the Rock" Group — Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call (803) 607-4543.

MONDAY MEETINGS:
Sumter Vitiligo Support Group — Second Monday, 5:45-6:45 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Call (803) 316-6763. The group is also on Facebook.

TUESDAY MEETINGS:
Celebrate Recovery — Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. coffee / snacks, 7 p.m. meeting, Alice Drive Baptist Church, Studio 4.3 (youth building), 1305 Loring Mill Road. For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, addictions, pornography, smoking, anxiety, etc.
Heroin Anonymous — Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 p.m., 4742 Broad St. Call (803) 494-5180.
Sumter Connective Tissue Support Group — First Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November, 7 p.m., 180 Tiller Circle. Call (803) 773-0869.
Sumter Combat Veterans Group Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.
"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Support group for teens and adults with special needs. Call (803) 972-0051 or (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.
Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.
Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) — Third Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m.,

Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. Open to anyone who has lost a loved one to murder in a violent way.
Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — Third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498 or (803) 316-4506.
EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call (803) 895-1252/1253 or (803) 847-2377.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:
Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call (803) 774-6181.
Divorce Care — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.
Grief Share — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

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

FRIDAY MEETINGS:
Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, Miller Road (across from Food Lion). Help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.
Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call (803) 778-0303.

SATURDAY MEETINGS:
Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Support Group — Third Saturday, 1:30 p.m., 3785 Blackberry Lane, Lot 7. Call (803) 481-7521.

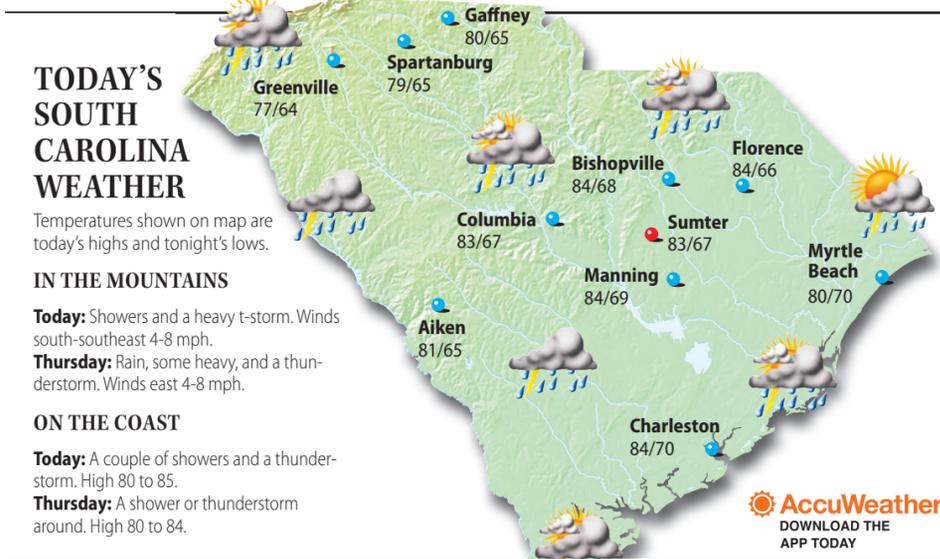
SUNDAY MEETINGS:
Sumter MS Support Group — First Sunday, 3 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church, 2751 S.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
83°	67°	82° / 66°	80° / 68°	80° / 68°	83° / 68°
Chance of rain: 65%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 65%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 55%
SSE 6-12 mph	SSE 4-8 mph	SSE 6-12 mph	S 7-14 mph	S 6-12 mph	S 6-12 mph



TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Showers and a heavy t-storm. Winds south-southeast 4-8 mph.
Thursday: Rain, some heavy, and a thunderstorm. Winds east 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A couple of showers and a thunderstorm. High 80 to 85.
Thursday: A shower or thunderstorm around. High 80 to 84.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
	80°	70°	82°	57°	95° in 1956	45° in 1997

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
	0.49"	0.49"	1.46"	9.96"	15.46"	15.81"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	358.05	-0.01
Marion	76.8	75.49	-0.05
Moultrie	75.5	75.07	-0.10
Wateree	100	97.33	-0.26

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	3.81	-0.37
Congaree River	19	5.01	+0.58
Lynches River	14	2.59	-0.14
Saluda River	14	6.68	+3.81
Up. Santee River	80	77.04	-0.10
Wateree River	24	8.68	+2.03

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:20 a.m.	Sunset	8:17 p.m.
Moonrise	7:30 a.m.	Moonset	9:45 p.m.

Phase	First	Full	Last	New
	May 21	May 29	June 6	June 13

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	10:30 a.m.	3.0	5:10 a.m.	-0.4
	10:50 p.m.	3.7	5:13 p.m.	-0.6
Thu.	11:21 a.m.	3.0	6:01 a.m.	-0.4
	11:41 p.m.	3.7	6:03 p.m.	-0.5

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	77/66/t	79/67/t
Chicago	76/55/pc	79/55/pc
Dallas	90/71/pc	93/73/s
Detroit	77/55/s	79/56/pc
Houston	95/68/s	95/71/s
Los Angeles	70/56/pc	69/57/pc
New Orleans	93/73/t	93/74/s
New York	65/57/sh	74/60/pc
Orlando	83/71/t	83/71/t
Philadelphia	67/58/sh	71/62/c
Phoenix	99/72/s	98/68/s
San Francisco	66/54/pc	65/55/pc
Wash., DC	77/65/t	71/64/t

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	74/61/t	74/62/r	Florence	84/66/t	82/67/t
Athens	79/63/t	77/62/t	Gainesville	84/69/t	83/67/t
Augusta	81/63/t	81/60/t	Gastonia	81/65/t	78/66/r
Beaufort	85/70/t	84/70/t	Goldsboro	82/69/t	80/70/t
Cape Hatteras	80/72/t	79/73/t	Goose Creek	84/69/t	82/70/t
Charleston	84/70/t	83/69/t	Greensboro	79/64/t	77/67/r
Charlotte	80/65/t	79/65/r	Greenville	77/64/t	76/66/r
Clemson	78/65/t	77/65/r	Hickory	77/63/t	75/64/r
Columbia	83/67/t	82/66/t	Hilton Head	83/72/t	82/71/t
Darlington	84/68/t	82/68/t	Jacksonville, FL	84/69/t	84/68/t
Elizabeth City	80/68/t	79/71/t	La Grange	78/66/t	82/66/t
Elizabethtown	82/69/t	81/70/t	Macon	81/64/t	79/62/t
Fayetteville	82/67/t	81/68/t	Marietta	77/64/t	79/63/t
			Marion	77/63/t	75/64/r
			Mt. Pleasant	83/71/t	82/71/t
			Myrtle Beach	80/70/t	81/70/t
			Orangeburg	82/67/t	82/68/t
			Port Royal	83/72/t	83/71/t
			Raleigh	82/66/t	80/68/t
			Rock Hill	81/65/t	79/66/r
			Rockingham	84/68/t	80/68/t
			Savannah	83/67/t	84/68/t
			Spartanburg	79/65/t	77/65/r
			Summerville	83/68/t	82/69/t
			Wilmington	81/71/t	80/71/t
			Winston-Salem	79/64/t	77/66/r

PUBLIC AGENDA

CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE AREA COMMISSION
 Thursday, 5:30 p.m., building M500, second floor, President's Conference Room, 506 N. Guignard Drive

CLARENDON SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
 Thursday, 7:30 p.m., district office, Turbeville

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stability will make a difference to the way friends or colleagues treat you. If you're reliable and offer suggestions and hands-on help, you'll gain allies and support when it comes to getting ahead. Actions speak louder than words.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Partnerships can make or break you. Offer an incentive and refuse to let stubbornness or anger interfere with your plans. Professionalism on your part will make a difference to the way situations unfold. Keep the peace.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Concentrate on finishing what you start. Don't let anyone mislead you. Pay attention to what's going on around you. Delays, detours and a last-minute change of plans will disrupt your day. Personal physical improvements can be made.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Secrets will be kept from you if you don't ask direct questions. Look at all aspects of a situation at work or at home before you make a decision that can change the dynamics of a relationship with someone you deal with daily.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Trust in what and who you know. Walk away from unstable situations and people. Put your energy into getting ahead by doing a thorough job and taking care of matters yourself. A little romance will brighten your day.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Learn as you go. Watching what others do will help you when it's your turn to present and promote what you have to offer. Networking, business meetings and trips will bring promising results. A change of scenery will do you good.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put more effort into the way you look or present what you know. Exploring your options and making personal changes that suit the goals you set will make a big difference to how far and fast you get ahead. Romance is highlighted.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Being open about what you want or how you feel will be in your best interest. Once you know where you stand, you'll be able to make an appropriate decision and take action. It's OK to be different. Do what suits you best.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Money, partnerships and keeping things open and honest will be in your best interest. If someone is being evasive, you are best to walk away if you feel the least bit uncomfortable. Know your limitations and avoid temptation.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Positive changes can be made at home or to the way you earn your living. Plan a celebration with someone you love or who has helped you along. Personal gains are within reach. Distance yourself from anyone who is problematic.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put more time and effort into home, family and personal finances. Refuse to get wrapped up in someone else's dilemma or extravagant plans. Live by your standards and stand by those who think and feel the same way you do.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Caution must be taken when it comes to money matters, joint ventures or dealing with close friends or relatives asking for a handout. Offer suggestions, but don't put your security in jeopardy for emotional reasons or someone else's gain.

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SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PETS OF THE WEEK



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

TOP: At roughly 6 months old, Ralphie has plenty of energy and a desire to interact with humans and other dogs. We don't know about cats, but Ralphie likes everybody he has ever met so far. Possibly with proper introductions, he will find a feline buddy too. What's important is this smart, handsome young boy will grow into a fine, loyal and loving dog with a bit of training and consistency. Are you the person who can provide Ralphie with a forever home?

BELOW: Did someone say water? Jones loves water. At approximately nine months old, Jones is a happy-go-lucky lab mix. We do not have a history on this boy, so we would advise a new owner to be cautious introducing him to large bodies of water until he is fully trained to come on command. Other than that, what's not to love about this curious, smiling smaller-sized young adult?

If you would like to meet Ralphie in kennel 18 or Jones in kennel 22 at Sumter Animal Control, 1240 Winkles Road, call the adoption coordinator at (803) 774-3232 or email at rescuesumtersc@gmail.com. As with all of our adoptable dogs, we do require a spay or neuter agreement, and it is strictly enforced. We have many other adoptable dogs as well as animals who were found and are waiting for their owners to claim them. Check Sumter Animal Control on Facebook.

PREP SOFTBALL

East Clarendon drops close one 9-7 to Lewisville in series opener

BY EDDIE LITAKER
Special to The Sumter Item

TURBEVILLE — Abby Rardon and Gracen Watts smashed home runs but it was not enough as East Clarendon fell to Lewisville 9-7 in nine innings on Monday in the opener of the best-of-3 1A softball state championship series.

Now the Lady Wolverines must travel to the Lady Lions' home field in Richburg on Wednesday and come away with a win in Game 2 to force a third and deciding game on Friday at a neutral site.



ARD

"They've got a great pitcher and good hitters," said EC head coach Lisa Ard, whose team dropped to 19-7 on the season. "We put a little pressure on them and they'd respond, then they put a little pressure on us and we'd respond. It was back and forth, and just some mental and physical errors right there were the difference in the ball game."

EC led 6-5 entering the seventh inning before Lewisville third baseman and No. 2 hitter Amber Bass lifted a Marleigh Floyd pitch over the leftfield fence to tie the score and force extra innings.

"That was my fault," Ard said. "I should've never let No. 2 (Bass) hit when I had my lead."

A pivotal play came in the top of the ninth, when the Lady Lions plated three runs after both teams failed to score even with a runner starting the inning at second base under international tiebreaker rules. With Ashley Wood opening the ninth at second, lead-off hitter Alexis Odum reached on an infield single, putting runners on the corners with one out. Ard elected to intentionally walk Bass, loading the bases and setting up what would prove to be a chaotic play.

Lewisville pitcher Chloe Thomas lifted a fly ball to right which was caught with runners breaking at each base. The throw coming into first was short, allowing Bass to return safely. As the ball was recovered, an offline throw came toward the plate and had to be chased down by Rardon, who gathered the ball as Wood had circled back and dove safely into third before briefly looking to make a move for home.

"We could have turned 20 double plays," Ard said. "What do you do? If we could have thrown to first and got the double play when we caught that ball, we would have been out of the inning. We just let them hang around and couldn't get them all at the end. Like I said, if we don't beat ourselves I think we'll be OK."

Failing to get that potential inning-ending double play proved costly for EC as Codi Horne followed with a single to left that plated Wood and Ivy McCall single to just about the same spot to bring home Odum and Bass, putting the Lady Lions up 9-6 heading to the bottom of the inning.

With Tristan Azurdia at second base, Hannah Hickman found a hole on the left side that advanced Azurdia to third. As leftfielder Paige Williamson took her time getting the ball back in, Azurdia rounded third and came home to pull EC within two. That would prove to be the last run of the game as Thomas recovered to strike out Britni Anderson, induce a fly ball to left from Elly Floyd and retire Caitlyn Timmons on a grounder to second.

SEE ECHS, PAGE B4

USC SUMTER BASEBALL

All coming together

Surging Fire Ants set for district tournament

BY TREVOR BAUKNIGHT
trevor@theitem.com

When the University of South Carolina Sumter baseball team takes the field today at 3:30 p.m. against ASA Brooklyn in the opening game of the Eastern District championship, it will do so as a different team than the one that lost five of its last seven games heading into the NJCAA Region 10 tournament in Lexington and fell into the loser's bracket of that tournament with a humbling 12-3 loss to USC Lancaster.

Instead, the Fire Ants hope they'll more closely resemble the team that strung together five straight wins to emerge with the region title and a ticket to upstate New York with a chance to get back to the NJCAA World Series.

"The biggest thing is that I'm just so proud of the way our young men overcame losing in the first round," said USC Sumter head coach Tim Medlin. "When you get into the loser's bracket like that and get beat the way we did - it was as poor a performance as we've had all year long. Don't get me wrong, part of that is due to the fact that Lancaster played about as well as they can play, and we didn't."

"But when you know that in order to do anything, you've got to win five games in a row, it's a daunting task," Medlin said. "I don't think they got caught up in that or got bogged down. They went out and literally



BY TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

The University of South Carolina's Lenny Gonzalez takes batting practice on Saturday in preparation for the Eastern District championship in Poughkeepsie, New York. The Fire Ants take on ASA Brooklyn today at 3:30 p.m. in its opening game in the 4-team, double-elimination tournament. The tourney winner advances to the Junior College World Series.

TUNE IN ONLINE

Follow the Fire Ants with streaming coverage of the NJCAA Eastern District championship, starting at 3:30 p.m. today at <https://team1sports.com/monroecollege/>

did the biggest cliché in baseball, they played it one pitch at a time. It was about as exciting as you can ask for in terms of the drama of the game and to watch them mature."

Indeed, the Fire Ants, which finished last season with a losing record and re-

bounded this year with a 36-21 mark so far, could call it a successful season just for responding the way they did against Florence-Darlington Tech, Medlin said.

"We had a phenomenal year when we could look and say we beat Florence-Darlington Tech two times

to win that tournament, because that is as talented a team as I've encountered in the five years I've been back in junior college baseball," he said. "They're very good. For us to go in there and beat them twice, that's very special."

Everything from here out is icing on the cake, but the Fire Ants are excited for the opportunity to carry off the sweets.

SEE ANTS, PAGE B3

PREP SOFTBALL

Game 2 between Lady Barons, CN rescheduled

Matchup set for today at 6 p.m.

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

While the process may not have been pretty, the final result for the Wilson Hall softball team on Monday was absolutely beautiful.

Kathryn Sistar's single back up the middle scored Becca Noyes with the winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning to give the Lady Barons a 6-5 victory over Cardinal Newman in the opening game of the SCISA 3A state championship series at Patriot Park SportPlex.

"The philosophy behind our team this year has been 'for each other,'" said WH head coach Teresa Alexander, whose team came from behind twice before winning. "I think that applies to tonight. First, we didn't hit the ball tonight. Second, we



Wilson Hall third baseman Madison Sliwonik, left, awaits a throw at third ahead of Cardinal Newman's Hannah Bostic during the Lady Barons' 6-5, 8-inning victory in the opening game of the SCISA 3A state championship series on Monday. Game 2, scheduled for Tuesday in Columbia, was postponed to today at 6 p.m. because of rain.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

didn't play clean defense. But when they had to do win." it came down to it, the girls were there for each other and did what

SEE HALL, PAGE B3

KEEPING UP

Philip Watcher having solid season for USC Aiken

BY BARBARA BOXLEITNER
Special to The Item

Philip Watcher has been a top offensive player for the USC Aiken baseball team.

The Sumter High School graduate started 53 of the first 54 games and batted .268 with 44 runs batted in, which ranked third on the team. The redshirt junior second baseman hit four home runs.

Watcher had 17 multihit games, including a season-



WATCHER

high five consecutive during February, when he had a season-best 7-game hitting streak. During a 12-7 loss to Mount Olive, he drove in a season-high five runs on a 2-run single and 3-run homer in five at-bats. He stole eight bases in 12 attempts.

MORE BASEBALL

Previously at Thomas

Sumter Academy, pitcher Shane Bishop was 1-0 with a 6.00 earned run average in eight games for North Greenville University.

Presbyterian College pitcher Will Smith was 2-4 with a 6.54 ERA in 15 games. He played for Sumter.

MEN'S TENNIS

USC freshman Thomas Brown had a 10-9 overall record. The Wilson Hall graduate was 4-1 in No. 6 singles in dual competition.

The Citadel junior Trey Davis had a 5-2 overall record. The past Baron won once at sixth singles and lost twice at fifth singles in dual play.

SOFTBALL

Mississippi University of Women junior Bailee Watts hit .313 in playing 35 of 36 games. The Robert E. Lee Academy graduate drove in 18 runs, fifth on the squad.

SEE SOFTBALL, PAGE B4

NBA PLAYOFFS

Rockets have much to improve upon in Game 2 versus Warriors

BY KRISTIE RIEKEN
The ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets have plenty of things to fix after squandering their coveted home-court advantage in the Western Conference finals.

Tops on their list: limiting turnovers, eliminating open 3s and making things tougher on the Golden State Warriors — particularly Kevin Durant.

"Kevin Durant and (Stephen) Curry, they're good. So they're going to make" shots, Houston coach Mike D'Antoni said. "Our head can't explode that they go one-on-one and make shots ... you have to be able to absorb some of their greatness; at the same time, don't make the mental errors that we did. That would accumulate for 15, 20 points, and that's the difference in the game."

Some almost sounds like the Rockets will have to play almost perfect beat the Warriors. They wouldn't go as far as to say that, but James Harden, who scored 41 in Game 1, did say that at this level the margin for error gets razor thin.

"It's the (conference) finals," he said. "There's four teams here for a reason. Obviously these four teams have done great things all year. You can't make the same mental mistakes like you're in a regular season."

There were plenty of Rockets miscues in Game 1.

They coughed up the ball 13 times on Monday and the Warriors outscored the Rockets 18-3 on fast break points



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golden State forward Kevin Durant (35) fouls Houston guard James Harden in the second half of the Warriors' 119-106 victory in Game 1 of the Western Conference Finals on Monday in Houston. Game 2 is today in Houston.

en route to a 119-106 victory. Klay Thompson scored 28 points and made 6 of 15 3-point attempts on a night Harden lamented that about 10 of those looks were wide-open. Thompson's performance came on top of Durant scoring 37 points, mostly by

knocking down long 2's when he was matched up against smaller defenders.

That said, what the Rockets won't do in Game 2 on Wednesday night is change what they've done all year and what led to them winning a franchise-record 65 games in

the regular season to earn the top-seed.

"We are who we are, and we're pretty good at it," D'Antoni said. "We can't get off who we are. Embrace it. Just be a better (version) of who we are and don't worry if somebody else solves the puzzle a different way ... we've got to play at our strengths."

For the defending champion Warriors, they masterfully answered the challenge of opening a playoff series on the road for the first time since 2014. After falling behind by nine points early in front of a raucous Houston crowd, they settled down and led for most of the second half en route to the victory.

But playing in a franchise-record fourth straight conference finals, the Warriors know that they can't let up after wrestling homecourt advantage away from the Rockets.

"That was a big win. We're not going to downplay it," Thompson said. "But we're not satisfied. We have a golden opportunity tomorrow to take a good lead. You have to have a short memory in the playoffs, because the next game will come at you fast, and it might feel good to win, but it's a seven-game series for a reason."

Now they believe they're up for an even bigger test in Game 2, with the Rockets desperate not to head to Oakland in a 0-2 hole. But they insist they won't approach this game any differently than they did the opener.

"I think the game really came down to staying solid

and allowing our talent to shine through," coach Steve Kerr said. "We have so many gifted players, that as long as we're solid with the ball, we don't make mistakes, defend with intensity, then our talent's going to take over."

To counteract all of that talent, the Rockets must find a way to get more players involved offensively to provide support for Harden. Chris Paul scored 23 points on Monday, but P.J. Tucker and Trevor Ariza, who combined to average almost 18 points in Houston's first 10 postseason games, managed just nine points combined in Game 1.

Part of the struggles came from Ariza getting into foul trouble early, picking up his fifth foul with about 10 minutes left in the third quarter. While the Rockets still expect Durant to get his points, they hope Ariza will be able to stay on the floor more on Wednesday to try and make him work harder for them.

The Rockets insist that they aren't going to let the disappointment of their loss in the opener bleed into Game 2. Harden took it upon himself to check in with his teammates after Game 1, calling them up to see if they had their heads in the right place and remind them that there's a lot more to play for.

"I wanted to make sure that they're good and they're in a good place," he said. "All the guys seem happy and motivated. So we watch film, we can correct some things, and (Wednesday) we should be better."

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
6 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Internazionali BNL d'Italia Early-Round Matches from Rome (TENNIS).
10 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Internazionali BNL d'Italia Early-Round Matches from Rome (TENNIS).
11 a.m. — Professional Golf: Asian Tour GS Caltex Maekyun Open Final Round from Seoul (GOLF).
1 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis at Minnesota or Chicago White Sox at Pittsburgh (MLB NETWORK).
2:30 p.m. — International Soccer: UEFA Europa League Final Match from Lyon, France — Atletico Madrid vs. Marseille (FOX SPORTS 1).
4 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Milwaukee at Arizona or Cincinnati at San Francisco (Joined In Progress) (MLB NETWORK).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: New York Yankees at Washington (ESPN).
7:30 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
9 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Stanley Cup Playoff Western Conference Final Series Match 3 — Winnipeg at Las Vegas (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
9 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Western Conference Playoffs Championship Series Game 2 — Golden State at Houston (TNT).
10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Houston at Los Angeles Angels (Joined In Progress) (MLB NETWORK).
5 a.m. — Professional Golf: European PGA Tour Belgian Knockout Day 1 from Antwerp, Belgium (GOLF).

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	28	12	.700	—
Boston	28	13	.683	½
Toronto	21	20	.512	7½
Tampa Bay	17	22	.436	10½
Baltimore	13	28	.317	15½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	20	20	.500	—
Minnesota	17	20	.459	1½
Detroit	18	22	.450	2
Kansas City	13	28	.317	7½
Chicago	10	27	.270	8½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	25	16	.610	—
Houston	26	17	.605	—
Seattle	23	17	.575	1½
Oakland	20	21	.488	5
Texas	16	26	.381	9½

MONDAY

Tampa Bay 2, Kansas City 1
Detroit 6, Cleveland 3
Oakland 6, Boston 5
Seattle 1, Minnesota 0
L.A. Angels 2, Houston 1

TUESDAY

Chicago White Sox at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Detroit, 7:10 p.m.
Oakland at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Toronto at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Angels, 10:07 p.m.
Texas at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY

Chicago White Sox (Fulmer 2-3) at Pittsburgh (Tailon 2-3), 12:35 p.m.
Philadelphia (Velasquez 3-4) at Baltimore (TBD), 12:35 p.m.
Cleveland (Bauer 2-3) at Detroit (TBD), 1:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Mikolas 5-0) at Minnesota (Lynn 1-3), 1:10 p.m.
Toronto (Happ 4-3) at N.Y. Mets (Wheeler 2-2), 1:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Faria 3-2) at Kansas City (Hammel 0-4), 2:15 p.m.
Texas (Colon 1-1) at Seattle (TBD), 3:40 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 2-0) at Washington (Scherzer 7-1), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Cahill 1-1) at Boston (Saling 3-1), 7:10 p.m.
Houston (Verlander 4-2) at L.A. Angels (Richards 4-1), 9:40 p.m.

THURSDAY

Oakland at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Baltimore at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Texas at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at L.A. Angels, 10:07 p.m.
Detroit at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	25	15	.625	—
Philadelphia	23	16	.590	1½
Washington	24	18	.571	2
New York	19	18	.514	4½
Miami	14	26	.350	11

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	25	17	.595	—
St. Louis	22	16	.579	1
Pittsburgh	23	17	.575	1
Chicago	21	17	.553	2
Cincinnati	14	28	.333	11

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	24	17	.585	—
Colorado	23	20	.535	2
San Francisco	21	21	.500	3½
Los Angeles	16	24	.400	7½
San Diego	17	27	.386	8½

MONDAY

Atlanta 6, Chicago Cubs 5
Milwaukee 7, Arizona 2
Colorado 6, San Diego 4
San Francisco 10, Cincinnati 7

TUESDAY

San Diego 4, Colorado 0
Chicago White Sox at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Miami, 7:10 p.m.
Toronto at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
St. Louis at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
Milwaukee at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
Cincinnati at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

TODAY

Chicago White Sox (Santiago 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Tailon 2-3), 12:35 p.m.
Philadelphia (Velasquez 3-4) at Baltimore (Castro 1-1), 12:35 p.m.
St. Louis (Mikolas 5-0) at Minnesota (Lynn 1-3), 1:10 p.m.
Toronto (Happ 4-3) at N.Y. Mets (Wheeler 2-2), 1:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Woodruff 1-0) at Arizona (Koch 2-1), 3:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Harvey 0-2) at San Francisco (Suarez 1-2), 3:45 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 2-0) at Washington (Scherzer 7-1), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Buehler 2-1) at Miami (Straily 1-0), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Chatwood 3-3) at Atlanta (McCarthy 4-2), 7:35 p.m.

THURSDAY

L.A. Dodgers at Miami, 12:10 p.m.
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at St. Louis, 7:15 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
Colorado at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

NBA PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

(Best-of-7)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Cleveland 4, Toronto 0
Tuesday, May 1: Cleveland 113, Toronto 112, OT
Thursday, May 3: Cleveland 128, Toronto 110
Saturday, May 5: Cleveland 105, Toronto 103
Monday, May 7: Cleveland 128, Toronto 93
Boston 4, Philadelphia 1
Monday, April 30: Boston 117, Philadelphia 101
Thursday, May 3: Boston 108, Philadelphia 103
Saturday, May 5: Boston 101, Philadelphia 98, OT
Monday, May 7: Philadelphia 103, Boston 92
Wednesday, May 9: Boston 114, Philadelphia 112

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Houston 4, Utah 1
Sunday, April 29: Houston 110, Utah 96
Wednesday, May 2: Utah 116, Houston 108
Friday, May 4: Houston 113, Utah 92
Sunday, May 6: Houston 100, Utah 87
Tuesday, May 8: Houston 112, Utah 102
Golden State 4, New Orleans 1
Saturday, April 28: Golden State 123, New Orleans 101
Tuesday, May 1: Golden State 121, New Orleans 116
Friday, May 4: New Orleans 119, Golden State 100
Sunday, May 6: Golden State 118, New Orleans 92
Tuesday, May 8: Golden State 113, New Orleans 104

CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston 1, Cleveland 0
Sunday, May 13: Boston 108, Cleveland 83
Tuesday, May 15: Cleveland at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 19: Boston at Cleveland, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, May 21: Boston at Cleveland, 8:30 p.m.
x-Wednesday, May 23: Cleveland at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
x-Friday, May 25: Boston at Cleveland, 8:30 p.m.
x-Sunday, May 27: Cleveland at Boston, 8:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Golden State 1, Houston 0
Monday, May 14: Golden State 119, Houston 106
Wednesday, May 16: Golden State at Houston, 9 p.m.
Sunday, May 20: Houston at Golden State, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, May 22: Houston at Golden State, 9 p.m.
x-Thursday, May 24: Golden State at Houston, 9 p.m.
x-Saturday, May 26: Houston at Golden State, 9 p.m.
x-Monday, May 28: Golden State at Houston, 9 p.m.

NHL PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

(Best-of-7)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Washington 4, Pittsburgh 2
Thursday, April 26: Pittsburgh 3, Washington 2
Sunday, April 29: Washington 4, Pittsburgh 1
Tuesday, May 1: Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3
Thursday, May 3: Pittsburgh 3, Washington 1
Saturday, May 5: Washington 6, Pittsburgh 3
Monday, May 7: Washington 2, Pittsburgh 1, OT
Tampa Bay 4, Boston 1
Saturday, April 28: Boston 6, Tampa Bay 2
Monday, April 30: Tampa Bay 4, Boston 2
Wednesday, May 2: Tampa Bay 4, Boston 1
Friday, May 4: Tampa Bay 4, Boston 3, OT
Sunday, May 6: Tampa Bay 3, Boston 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Winnipeg 4, Nashville 3
Friday, April 27: Winnipeg 4, Nashville 1
Sunday, April 29: Nashville 5, Winnipeg 4, 2OT
Tuesday, May 1: Winnipeg 7, Nashville 4
Thursday, May 3: Nashville 2, Winnipeg 1
Saturday, May 5: Winnipeg 6, Nashville 2
Monday, May 7: Nashville 4, Winnipeg 0
Thursday, May 10: Winnipeg 5, Nashville 1
Vegas 4, San Jose 2
Thursday, April 26: Vegas 7, San Jose 0
Saturday, April 28: San Jose 4, Vegas 3, 2OT
Monday, April 30: Vegas 4, San Jose 3, OT
Wednesday, May 2: San Jose 4, Vegas 0
Friday, May 4: Vegas 5, San Jose 3
Sunday, May 6: Vegas 3, San Jose 0

CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Washington 2, Tampa Bay 0
Friday, May 11: Washington 4, Tampa Bay 2
Sunday, May 13: Washington 6, Tampa Bay 2
Tuesday, May 15: Tampa Bay at Washington, 8 p.m.
Thursday, May 17: Tampa Bay at Washington, 8 p.m.
x-Saturday, May 19: Washington at Tampa Bay, 7:15 p.m.
x-Monday, May 21: Tampa Bay at Washington, 8 p.m.
x-Wednesday, May 23: Washington at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Winnipeg 1, Vegas 1
Saturday, May 12: Winnipeg 4, Vegas 2
Monday, May 14: Vegas 3, Winnipeg 1
Wednesday, May 16: Winnipeg at Vegas, 9 p.m.
Friday, May 18: Winnipeg at Vegas, 8 p.m.
x-Sunday, May 20: Vegas at Winnipeg, 3 p.m.
x-Tuesday, May 22: Winnipeg at Vegas, 9 p.m.
x-Thursday, May 24: Vegas at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

THURSDAY

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BASEBALL — Suspended Seattle 2B Robinson Cano 80 games after testing positive for Furosemide, a Diuretic, in violation of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Announced INF Renato Nunez cleared waivers and was assigned outright to Norfolk (IL).
BOSTON RED SOX — Placed RHP Carson Smith on the 10-day DL. Recalled LHP Bobby Poyner from Pawtucket (IL).
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Reinstated 2B Yoan Moncada from the 10-day DL.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Selected the contract of RHP Neil Ramirez from Columbus (IL). Placed OF Bradley Zimmer on the 10-day DL, retroactive to May 12. Transferred LHP Ryan Merritt from the 10- to the 60-day DL.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Recalled OF Clint Frazier from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Designated RHP David Hale for assignment.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Reinstated OF Stephen Piscotty from the bereavement list. Optioned RHP Kendall Graveman to Nashville (PCL).
SEATTLE MARINERS — Placed 2B Robinson Cano on the restricted list.
TEXAS RANGERS — Placed 3B Adrian Beltre on the 10-day DL, retroactive to May 14. Purchased the contract of INF Hanser Alberto from Round Rock (PCL).
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Claimed LHP Chad Bell off waivers from Detroit Tigers and optioned him to Winnett (IL).
CHICAGO CUBS — Activated RHP Yu Darvish on the 10-day DL. Optioned OF Mark Zagunis to Iowa (PCL).
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Activated 3B Justin Turner and 2B Logan Forsythe from the 10-day DL. Optioned INF/C Kyle Farmer and OF Tim Lincecum to Oklahoma City (PCL).
NEW YORK METS — Placed LHP Jerry Belevins on the paternity leave list. Recalled LHP Buddy Baumann and RHP Jacob Rhamer from Las Vegas (PCL). Optioned RHP Corey Oswalt to Las Vegas.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Sent RHP Jerad Eickhoff on a rehab assignment to Reading (EL).
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed RHP Adam Wainwright back on the 10-day DL. Recalled RHP Jack Flaherty from Memphis (PCL).
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Placed LHP Joey Lucchesi on the 10-day DL. Recalled INF Carlos Asuaje from El Paso (PCL).
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Optioned OF Austin Slater to Sacramento (PCL). Recalled INF Miguel Gomez from Richmond (SL).

PRO FOOTBALL

Tepper to buy Panthers for record \$2.2 billion

BY STEVE REED
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE — The Carolina Panthers are being sold for an NFL-record \$2.2 billion.

Hedge fund manager David Tepper has agreed to buy the Panthers from team founder Jerry Richardson, two people familiar with the situation said Tuesday. The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the team has not yet announced the sale.

The purchase is subject to a vote at the NFL owners meeting next week in Atlanta.

Richardson announced in December he was selling the team amid an NFL investigation into sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace. That decision came after a report by Sports Illustrated detailing Richardson's alleged misconduct.

The league's investigation into the allegations is still ongoing.

The price tag is the most ever paid for an NFL franchise, eclipsing the \$1.4 billion the Pegula family paid to purchase the Buffalo Bills in 2014.

Ben Navarro, the founder and CEO of Sherman Financial Group, was considered Tepper's biggest competitor in the bid to purchase the Panthers. He conceded Tuesday that he'd lost the bid.

"My family and I are grateful to have had the opportunity to be included as a potential buyer of one of the premier assets in all of the Carolinas — the Panthers football team," Navarro said in an email to The Associated Press. "It would have been a privilege to become the stewards of this iconic franchise to ensure its home remains in the Carolinas where it belongs, to establish a new era of leadership and excellence on and off the field, and to leverage the team's NFL platform to further our quest to help all children gain access to a great education."



TEPPER

ANTS FROM PAGE B1

"Everybody's excited for it. It's been a long year," said ace right-hander Blake Robinson, a sophomore out of Florence. "A lot of people doubted us, I guess, but we're here now. I've never been to New York, and most of these guys haven't been. It's going to be exciting. Last year we ended up with a losing record, and this year we're 36-21, so it's been a bounce-back season. Nobody expected it, but we have high expectations."

Robinson attributed the team's success on the field to contributions from everyone on the team.

"We've got some great hitters - (Eric) McGirt, Donta (Green), Lenny (Gonzalez), Tyler Mangum - we've got guys swinging the sticks and our pitching has improved quite a bit. As a pitcher, I can't say we carry the team because we've got some great sticks and defense behind us."

Medlin said the team seemed to coalesce as a family almost overnight after the Lancaster loss.

"Believe me, it was not a family atmosphere up until this weekend," Medlin said. "That is something that really formed after that whipping we took on Saturday night. That's a Lancaster team that we had soundly beaten three out of four times during the season, that came in as the bottom seed. I really feel like our guys took it for granted heading into the game, and I made them stand there and watch them celebrate. I told the guys 'You created that celebration, and that's not the kind of team we are.' To watch them going forward was really a special treat."

"I said all year that I thought the thing that got in the way of our being the kind of team we could be was our immaturity," Medlin said. "We didn't handle some situations well or show up ready mentally to play every day. I told them going into that last game that win or lose, this team has earned my respect and has shown the kind of determination I always felt like was there."

USC Sumter has played two of the three teams in the tournament, splitting games with both Harford Community College and Monroe. The Fire Ants' opening-game opponent, ASA Brooklynn, is 19-17 on the season, while Harford is 47-12 and Monroe is 33-14-1. The four teams will play a double elimination tournament with the winner heading for the JUCO

World Series in Grand Junction, Colorado.

"We have already played Harford and Monroe this year," said Medlin, whose team split four games with Harford and two games with Monroe early in the season. "They're both very good clubs, but we know what we're capable of and there's no reason for us to think we can't go up there and win it. Right now we're playing with such confidence, even if we get behind and no matter who the opponent is, I really feel like the team trusts themselves and trusts one another."

The Fire Ants are aiming for their second Eastern District title after earning a trip to the JUCO World Series in 2015. The team's second-year players are hoping to avoid another letdown next season by developing a sense of camaraderie.

Sumter's own Lenny Gonzalez, a former Lakewood High standout catcher and infielder, said he and the other second-year players have taken it upon themselves to keep it going, bringing along the freshman class and instilling the same work ethic that has Gonzalez himself looking at playing at the next level.

"It's been pretty amazing. In high school, I didn't consider myself a very good player because I had a lot of development to do," Gonzalez said. "Coming here was a great choice. I came here I was 255 pounds, and coach Medlin said 'You're going to have to lose weight, because we're going to get you to the next level,' and I said 'Yes sir.' I left here last year at 215 pounds, so he had me working."

"The returners have been a big part of it, holding people accountable and trying to take the first-year guys under our wings and just show leadership," he said. "We try to set an example. I'm leaving this year, but I'm working with the freshmen to get them to do what I did and keep it going."

McGirt, a second-year outfielder from Latta, said the team is on much better footing this season and going forward.

"Our team is together in this now, and last year it wasn't like that," McGirt said. "We just have to do what we did this past weekend, just stay hyped in the dugout and keep everybody up and I don't see anybody stopping us if we do what we know how to do."



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Wilson Hall pitcher Drake Ives delivers a pitch during the Lady Barons' 6-5, 8-inning victory over Cardinal Newman in the opening game of the SCISA 3A state championship series on Monday at Patriot Park SportPlex. Game 2 was postponed on Tuesday and has been rescheduled for today at 6 p.m. in Columbia.

HALL FROM PAGE B1

The Lady Barons improved to 25-9 on the season while taking a 1-0 lead in the best-of-3 series. Game 2 was scheduled for Tuesday in Columbia but was postponed because of rain. It has been rescheduled for today at 6 p.m. at the CN field. If a third game is needed, it will be played on Thursday at a neutral site.

Monday's game went to extra innings tied at 5-5 after both teams scored a run in the seventh. With the international tiebreaker rule in place, that meant each team started the eighth with a runner at second.

Karen Hocutt started at second for CN in the top of the inning. She moved to third on a wild pitch, but the Lady Cardinals popped up three times on bunt attempts against the offerings of Wilson Hall pitcher Drake Ives.

Noyes started on second for the Lady Barons in the bottom of the inning. Madison Sliwonik popped up her attempt, but Sistare dropped a single into center against CN pitcher Jasmine Hogan, and Noyes easily beat the throw home.

"I just went up there and cleared my mind," Sistare said. "This was all about the team. Everything we did led to that moment."

"Winning the first game is huge," Alexander said. "I think it allows you the opportunity to refocus, to prepare for the next game without as much pressure. It allows you to prepare with maybe some different strategies."

In the seventh, Cardinal Newman's Hannah Bostic singled to right with two outs. The ball got by rightfielder Caitleigh Bryant and Bostic went all the way to third. She scored on Hogan's single.

Hogan retired Madison Elmore to start Wilson Hall's half of the seventh. However, Carly Allred slapped a single into short left field to reach base. Ives, who had hit a game-tying, 3-run home run in the fifth, walked on four pitches to move Allred to second.

A fly to right by Sydney Jarecki moved Allred to third and brought Liza Lowder to the plate. She hit a chopper that went halfway down the third base line. Lady Cardinals third baseman Maddie Dinkins chose to field the ball and Lowder beat the throw to first as Allred scored the tying run.

Allred was 3-for-4 with three runs scored. Ives struck out 13 in her complete game performance, but had an uneven game. She didn't record a 1-2-3 inning.

The Lady Cardinals got runners to third in each of the first four innings against Ives, but couldn't push a run across.

Ives walked leadoff batter M.K. Gillespie to start the game. She was on third two pitches later on a wild pitch and a passed ball. Ives responded by striking out Kaytlin Greenwood, Dinkins and Bostic.

Ives walked Hogan to start the second. Hogan advanced to second on a passed ball and was sacrificed to third by Hocutt. Ives responded again, striking out Cam Argoe

and Erin Boyer.

With one out in the third, Gillespie hit a grounder down the third base line that the home plate umpire initially called a foul ball. After a consultation with the third base umpire, the ball was called fair and Gillespie was awarded second with a double.

That brought a heated discussion from Alexander, but to no avail.

"I told him there's no doubt the ball was fair, but it was called foul and that means it's a dead ball," Alexander said.

Ives got out of the jam by getting Greenwood to ground out, moving Gillespie to third. She struck out Dinkins for the final out.

Bostic dropped a single into shallow center to start the fourth. Ives proceeded to strike out Hogan and Hocutt, but Bostic got to second on a passed ball and to third on a wild pitch. Ives got out of trouble again by catching Argoe looking at a called third strike.

Ives looked to be heading to her easiest inning in the fifth when she retired the first two trying to bunt. However, things turned quickly.

Gillespie was hit by a pitch and Greenwood hit one just behind the circle that neither third baseman Sliwonik nor shortstop Elmore could reach. Dinkins hit a line drive that hit off the glove of first baseman Noyes that loaded the bases.

Bostic followed with a slicing line drive to right. Lady Barons rightfielder Amelia Weston came in on the ball, but it hit her glove and then her face as well. The bases were cleared with Bostic ending up on third to make it 3-1.

After a delay as Weston was taken care of and removed from the game, Hogan singled back up the middle to drive in Bostic and make it 4-1.

Wilson Hall didn't stay down long though. Bryant, who replaced Weston in right, hit a shot to right just inside the line that ended up as a ground rule double. After an out, Allred reached on a bunt single.

That brought Ives to the plate, and she hit a 1-2 pitch to straight center that easily cleared the fence for the game-tying homer.

"I just love being in those kind of pressure situations," Ives said. "When I saw Amelia go down, that made me think of 'for each other.' She's my best friend, and I did that for her."

Wilson Hall's first run came in its half of the first. Allred legged out a bunt for an infield single with one out. She stole second and scored on a 2-out double to the gap in right-center field by Sydney Jarecki to make it 1-0.

The Lady Barons looked to have another run in the fourth when Madison Sliwonik hit a line drive into the gap in left-center. Centerfielder Hogan laid out while running to the gap and made a diving grab to keep Jarecki, who had walked, from scoring.

Bostic was 2-for-4 with two runs scored for CN, while Hogan was 2-for-3 with two RBI.



BY TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

USC Sumter takes infield during a recent practice after the team's improbable 5-game run through the losers bracket of the NJCAA Region X tournament to claim the title and earn a trip to the Eastern District Championships, which start today in Poughkeepsie, New York.



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Sumter High boys golf finishes tied for 11th in 5A state tournament

FLORENCE – The Sumter High School varsity boys golf team finished in a tie for 11th among 16 teams in the 36-hole 5A state tournament played on Monday and Tuesday at Country Club of South Carolina.

The Gamecocks had a 2-round score of 637, tying with Wade Hampton of Greenville. SHS shot a 319 in the first round and 318 in the second round. WH shot 320 in the opening round and 317 in the second round.

Gaffney with a 27 under par score of

AREA ROUNDUP

549. It easily outdistanced second place Boiling Springs, which shot a 577.

Evans Lewis led Sumter in the first round with a 77. Dixon Flowers followed with a 79, Dwight Jenkins shot an 81, Bradley Coulter an 82 and Michael Solberg an 84.

Lewis led Sumter in the second round with a 75. Flowers followed with a 78, Coulter a 79, Solberg shot an 86 and Jenkins an 87.

Lewis had a 36-hole score of 152. Flowers followed with a 157, Coulter a 161 Jenkins a 168 and Solberg a 170.

PEE DEE ACADEMY 2
ROBERT E. LEE 0

BISHOPVILLE — Pee Dee Academy scored two runs in the top of the seventh inning to beat Robert E. Lee Academy 2-0 in the opening game of the SCISA 2A baseball state championship series on Monday at the REL field.

Austin Windham was the hard-luck

loser for the Cavaliers. He pitched a complete game, allowing five hits while striking out five and walking two.

Garrett McDaniels tossed the shut-out for the Golden Eagles. He allowed four hits while striking out nine and walking three.

The Cavaliers dropped to 23-4 on the season, while Pee Dee improved to 20-2.

The teams were playing Game 2 on Tuesday in Mullins.

From staff reports

ECHS FROM PAGE B1

For such a high-scoring game, it took both teams a while to get going. Thomas and Marleigh Floyd both opened with two shutout innings, with Thomas striking out three and allowing just a leadoff single to Elly Floyd in the first during that span. Marleigh Floyd's only baserunner during that span came on an infield error.

"Since the regular season, which has been almost a month, we haven't seen any pitching," Ard said. "It takes a while to catch back up to it. Even when we do it in practice, that's one thing, but having to come out in the game and see live pitching like that, it's a different story. It took a little while but we started catching on."

Lewisville struck first with three runs in its half of the third as Wood walked, Lauren Crocker singled to right-center and Odum hit into a fielder's choice, with Wood being forced out at third. Thomas came through with a 2-out single up the middle to plate Crocker with the game's first run. Horne followed with another single into right-center that gave the Lady Lions a 3-0 lead after Odum and Bass came around to score.

The Lady Wolverines put up two runs in the bottom of the third as Watts

reached on an infield error to score Hickman and Timmons, who had walked and singled. Reardon's homer tied the score in the fourth.

The Reardon home run came a few pitches after the EC catcher had called time and stepped out of the box. Thomas, who was working in her pitches at a fairly

rapid rate, seemed thrown off by the delay, even looking at and making a motion toward her wrist.

"Once she (Reardon) got in the box, she (Thomas) was getting quick to the plate," Ard said. "That didn't give the batter a lot of time to get ready and look at (the pitch). She (Reardon) want-

ed some extra time and she called it. I guess she (Thomas) got upset with it. It just happens."

Lewisville regained the lead with two runs in the fifth, but would not hold it for long. A Thomas ground-er and a Horne triple to right-center scored Odum and Bass, who got on due to

an infield error and a fielder's choice. EC then tied the score with Watts' 2-run homer in the fifth and took its 6-5 lead in the sixth as Olivia Singletary reached on an infield single, stole second on a wild pitch, stole third and came around as catcher McCall's throw to third got away.

SOFTBALL FROM PAGE B1

The infielder had a .920 fielding percentage in 137 chances, second most on the team.

USC Upstate freshman Logan Morris batted .357 in 46 games. The Thomas Sumter alumna had five home runs and a team-high 39 RBI.

Also from Thomas Sumter, Haley Hawkins hit .253 in 41 games for USC Beaufort. She had one home run and 10 RBI.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sophomore Shaquanda Miller-McCray started 13 of 27 games for Georgia State University. The 6-foot-3 center out of Crestwood High averaged 3.1 rebounds and 2.7 points, but led the team with 35 blocked shots. Twice she led the squad in rebounds, with 12 against North Greenville and 10 against South Alabama.

Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at jdanddoc@gmail.com.

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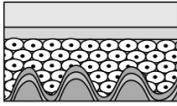
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SUNBURNS!

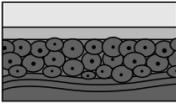
OUCH! Hot fun in the summertime can be painful! Too much fun in the sun can burn your skin.

How does the sun burn skin?

Normal skin cells.



Cells that get too much sunlight swell and fill with blood.



This turns the skin red and makes it hurt.



Find: • banana • watermelon • moon • dolphin • car • bat • bowling ball • crocodile • ice cream • octopus

To burn or not to burn?

Everybody has tiny grains of color called **melanin** in their skin.

Melanin grains are like a screen. They protect the body from the burning rays of sunlight. Everybody's skin makes melanin. Melanin grains are brown. When your skin is exposed to the sun, it makes more melanin. That is why your skin gets darker when you play in the sunshine.

Different skin types

Tanya has a lot of melanin in her skin. Andy and Melody have a little. Amy has very little. Some parts of Amy's body make more melanin than others. These dark spots are called freckles.



Lifesaver Letters

What should you look for when you are getting too much sun? Cross out every letter that is printed twice on the innertube. The five letters left spell your answer!

V B S R M H V M R O A Y K Y B D O K E

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions; identify common sight words.

Which two bottles of sunscreen are exactly the same?









Extra! Extra!

How Hot Are You?

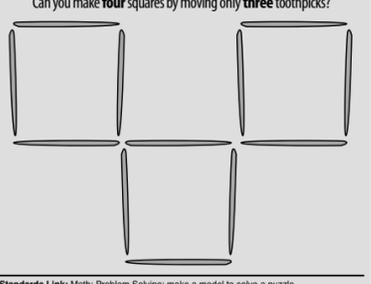
How many words can you find in today's newspaper that mean the same as **HOT**? Score yourself:

1-3: Pretty Cool
4-6: Hot Stuff!
7+: Steamin' Hot!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify synonyms in reading.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Using 12 toothpicks, try this puzzle. Lay out the toothpicks as shown below. Can you make **four** squares by moving only **three** toothpicks?



Standards Link: Math: Problem Solving; make a model to solve a puzzle.

Kid Scoop Word Search

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

BURN	L S U R A Y S C D N
LIFESAVER	B I C N D B U O A R
SKIN	R N F O Y O U O R M
MELANIN	O R B E A C H L K E
SUNSHINE	W S U N S H I N E L
DARKER	N P S K K A I N R A
BEACH	H O T I E V T H N
BODY	U T T I N Y R E T I
COOL	S S H U R T B U R N
SPOTS	
HOT	
RAYS	
BROWN	
TINY	
HURT	

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Sun Safety Scavenger Hunt

In today's newspaper, find pictures of:

- Something to protect you from the sun.
- Something to cool you on a hot day.
- Something you do on a sunny day.

Standards Link: Health: Practice safe behaviors during recreation.



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PRO BASEBALL

Albies, Bautista homer as Braves outslug Cubs 6-5

BY MIKE HELFGOT

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Nobody expected 5-foot-9 Ozzie Albies to be among the major league home run leaders. Same with the Atlanta Braves' rise to the top of the NL East.

They've made a believer of Cubs manager Joe Maddon.

Albies hit a leadoff drive for his 13th homer, Jose Bautista connected for a three-run shot and the Braves held off Chicago 6-5 on Monday.

Julio Teheran (4-1) pitched six innings and Tyler Flowers hit his first homer this season as NL-leading Atlanta (25-15) won for the sixth time in seven games. The Braves moved 10 games over .500 for the first time since July 28, 2014.

"It's one of those things because the names aren't big — they're going to be big names in a couple years," Maddon said. "They'll be more easily identifiable. They have some really great talent there. I'm a big fan."

A.J. Minter worked a shaky ninth inning for his second save in the makeup of an April 15 rainout. Minter hit Ian Happ to force in a run with two out, but Kris Bryant lined out to left to end the game.

Chicago closed out a 5-2 homestand with its second straight loss. Bryant and Albert Almora Jr. each hit a two-run homer, but Jose Quintana (4-3) al-



Atlanta's Jose Bautista celebrates with teammates after hitting a 3-run home run off the Chicago Cubs' Jose Quintana during the fifth inning of the Braves' 6-5 victory on Monday in Chicago. The Braves' Nick Markakis and Tyler Flowers scored on the play.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

lowed all three Atlanta homers after pitching six sparkling innings against Miami in his previous start.

The 21-year-old Albies drove Quintana's second pitch the opposite way

into the bleachers in right for his fourth career leadoff homer. The rookie second baseman tied Manny Machado, Mookie Betts and Bryce Harper for the major league lead in

homers. He also doubled and singled.

"A lot of quality at-bats throughout the whole ballgame, especially against Quintana," Flowers said. "Right out of the gate, too. It's always nice to get him on the ropes a little bit, get a couple runs across and give Julio something to work with."

Almora went deep in the second, and Bryant connected in the third, but the Cubs were unable to keep up with the slugging Braves.

Flowers, Quintana's former batterymate with the Chicago White Sox, hit a two-run shot in the third, a towering drive over the wall in left-center. Bautista lifted Atlanta to a 6-4 lead in the fifth, belting a drive to left for his second homer since joining the club on May 4.

Teheran allowed four runs and four hits, struck out one and walked three. The 27-year-old right-hander had a scoreless streak of 16 2/3 innings before Almora's second homer of the season.

Sam Freeman replaced Teheran and got one out before departing with runners on first and second. Shane Carle then came in and retired each of his five batters while extending his scoreless streak to 13 innings.

Quintana was tagged for six runs and nine hits in 4 2/3 innings against a Braves team that has been feasting on left-handed pitching. Atlanta is 8-3 against lefty starters.

SPORTS ITEMS

Ex-Clemson scoring leader Perry joins South Carolina, Staley

COLUMBIA — Former Clemson leading scorer Nelly Perry is changing sides in the Palmetto State's biggest sports rivalry.

South Carolina coach Dawn Staley announced that Perry is joining the Gamecocks as a graduate transfer. Perry had led the Tigers with 12.7 points a game in the 2016-17 season, but missed last year with a shoulder injury. Perry, a 5-foot-10 guard, decided to leave Clemson after coach Audra Smith

was let go in March.

Smith is a friend, ex-Virginia teammate and one-time roommate of Staley.

Staley says Perry is an impact player "who will bring a wealth of experience" to South Carolina.

Perry averaged 14.3 points a game as a sophomore in 2015-16. She bolsters a backcourt that lost Bianca Cuevas-Moore and Victoria Patrick to transfers and this year's grad transfer Lindsey

Spann.

MARINERS' CANO VIOLATES DRUG AGREEMENT

Seattle Mariners second baseman Robinson Cano has joined a lengthy list of players who have been suspended for violating baseball's drug agreement.

Cano was suspended for 80 games after testing positive for Furosemide, a diuretic. The 35-year-old was the 87th player suspended since 2005,

when testing with penalties for first violations began. He said the substance was given

to him by a licensed doctor in the Dominican Republic to treat a medical problem.

OBITUARIES

SAMUEL PRIOLEAU III

Samuel Prioleau III, 56, husband of Christine Stavis Prioleau, died on Monday, May 14, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on Jan. 18, 1962, in Sumter County, he was a son of the late Samuel Prioleau Jr. and Janie Lee Davis-Prince.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 5620 Kenrose Lane, Rembert.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Williams Funeral Home Inc.

JOHN W. SCARBOROUGH

John W. "Noot" Scarborough, 80, husband of Marie Copeland Scarborough, departed this life on Monday, May 14, 2018, in Sumter.

He was born on March 17, 1938, in St. Charles, a son of the late Maggie Scarborough Copeland and George Gregg.

The family is receiving friends at 870 Boulevard Road.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and are entrusted to Whites Mortuary LLC.

GLORIA JEAN C. SUMPTER

Gloria Jean Cummings Sumpter, 55, wife of Charles Sumpter, departed this life on Sunday, May 13, 2018, at her residence.

She was born on March 30, 1963, in Sumter, a daughter of the late James and Matilda Anderson Cummings.

The family will receive friends at the home, 611 E. Liberty St., Lot 43, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

RALPH P. COWLEY JR.

Ralph Priddy Cowley Jr., age 95, beloved husband of the late Carolyn Boykin Cowley, died on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, in New Born, North Carolina.

Arrangements will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.



HATTIE P. GIBSON

MANNING — On Thursday, May 10, 2018, Hattie Prince Gibson, widow of Ronald Elijah Gibson, heard her master's call in Manning.

Born on Oct. 4, 1947, in the Jordan community of Manning, she was a daughter of the late Jonathan and Roberta Mack Prince.

Service of remembrance

will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday at Society Hill AME Church, 1030 Morello Road, S.C. 260 South, in the Jordan community of Manning, where Evangelist Shirley Waiters will preside.

Words of consolation will be brought by the Rev. Dr. Mary Rhodes, pastor of the Society Hill AME Church. The service of committal will follow in the family plot located in the Society Hill AME Church Cemetery.

The family is receiving relatives and friends from 2 to 7 p.m. at the residence, 9290 Raccoon Road, Manning.

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

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

JOSEPH WRIGHT

Joseph Wright, 63, died on Monday, May 14, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born in Sumter County, he was a son of the late Theodore and Hester Nixon Wright.

The family will receive friends at the home, 7365 Scales Road, Rembert, SC 29128.

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

Keeping Sumter Beautiful

Katie Altman-Goff, Water Resources Extension Agent

Slip and Slide

Not many of us need a huge area of lawn. People who complain about the lack of diversity that comes from commercial agriculture often overlook the fact that in the 'burbs there's the same basic scenario as that of thousands of acres of a monocrop — lawns.

A yard with a small amount of beautiful turf grass, located in fun sun, leaves room for shrubs and small and large trees that support wildlife on the other parts of your property. If you haven't read Doug Tallamy's Bringing Nature Home, take time to do so. When I was little, we scouted our yard for birds' nests and were enthralled by watching the progress of the nestlings. Make your yard a haven for birds and the insects and plant life that support them.

So how much lawn do you need? Well, if you have kids or grandchildren, you certainly want enough to set up a Slip and Slide on special occasions. WARNING — think twice about throwing yourself on that long sheet of plastic! I've had some surprisingly rough landings in the past.

You'll want enough space to spread a cloth for picnics

and room for kids to romp while you assemble the sandwiches, deviled eggs, and pickles you've prepared. And if you are feeling competitive, a larger space lets you play croquet; a game that individuals of all ages and skill can enjoy together — although it may take some restraint not to "send" your opponent too far if you want everyone to end up in a cheerful frame of mind.

We're entering the time when warm-season grasses, the ones we grow in this part of the state, are going into their active growth phase. Now's the time to fertilize and to tweak your irrigation system. Your lawn needs an inch of water a week — rainfall usually supplies most of this so get a rain gauge. On medium or light textured soils, you'll do best by applying one-half inch twice a week, remembering to reduce that by the amount of rain you recorded. You want to water deeply, five to six inches, to encourage the roots of your grass to also grow to that depth. Water naturally moves downward in the soil profile after rain or irrigation and you want roots positioned to keep those leaf blades well hydrated as hotter and drier days come.

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Ads



Happy 20th Anniversary to my husband Jerry Simon. Love Always, Judy Simon

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For Sale: AKC registered Lab pups, 11 wks old, records provided. \$400 Call David 803-983-6894

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May 11th- May 25th 8 am - ? 2 Old antiques, Tom's snack machine, Coke machine, piano and more. **BIG SALE!**

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Three grave plots, Hillside Memorial Park. \$2200 ea. Contact David Benjamin 803-397-1700



For Sale 1995 Searay 23 ft cuddly cabin cruiser. 175 hp v-8 excellent condition, low hours, great family boat. \$10,000. 803-481-8357 or 803-840-5780.

Commercial Speed Queen Washers and Dryers, Multiple Frontload Units Available. \$350 Set or \$275 Washer & \$150 Dryer Call 803-775-4119 M-F, 8-5

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

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Rusty's Diesel Service is looking for a FT Diesel Mechanic, Must have at least 2 yrs exp. Must have own Tools. Please apply in person @ Rusty's Diesel @ 874 S Guignard Dr. Sumter No Phone Calls Please

Cashier needed full time. Must have some computer knowledge, be self-motivated, dependable & energetic. Apply at Wally's Hardware 1291 Broad St.

Barnette's Auto Parts seeking someone to drive tow truck. Clean driving record req. CDL preferred but not required. Apply in person at Barnette's Auto Parts 1370 N St. Paul's Church Rd.

Holiday Inn Express seeking front desk manager, front desk clerk, maintenance & housekeepers. Please apply in person at 2490 Broad St.

PT MAINTENANCE personnel needed at local apt. complex. Must have drivers license & own tools. HVAC exp. a plus. Apply in person at 625 S. Mill St. Manning or call 803-435-2751.

Help Wanted Part-Time

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

Help Wanted Part-Time

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

Trucking Opportunities

FT / PT Class A CDL Drivers Must possess haz mat & tanker endorsements & TWIC card. Clean 10 Yr MVR. Applicant must be 23 years of age with at least 2 years driving experience of any kind. Home daily, operate on ELD system. Sign on bonus of \$3000 Call (803) 473-6553.

RENTALS

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Mobile Home Rentals

Clean Spacious 3bd 2ba MH on single lot in Granada MHP. 10 mins from Shaw. \$575 mth + \$575 Dep. 803-651-1564.

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Nice 3BR 2BA SW on 1 acre. 5 min. to Shaw. Priv lot. \$650mo. + dep. 803-983-0371

Mobile Home Lot Rentals

Mobile home lot. Rent \$165/mo. Includes water & Sewage. Peaceful neighborhood. Off 521 N. 1.5 miles passed Kmart Call. 803-983-3121

Office Rentals

Offices-\$300-600. 803-983-7330

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Miscellaneous



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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

PUBLIC AUCTION
Sumter Self Storage, 731 Broad St. Sumter, S.C. will have an auction 10:00 am., Saturday, May 26, 2018.

These units to be sold:
#332 Teresa Fullard
#382 Monica Gibson
#427 Matilda McFadden
#453 Robin Michael
#516 Reda Holliday
#527 Diane Herrington
#542 Devonte Lowery
#606 James Steplight
#713 Leonard Brailsford
#812 Matilda McFadden
#906 Lancaster Moses
Auction to be conducted by Dinkins Auction SCAL #3696

Sumter Treatment Specialists plans to submit a certificate of need application to South Carolina DHEC to establish an outpatient narcotic treatment program. In Sumter County. The estimated cost of this project is \$156,500.00.

Summons & Notice

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT (Non-Jury) Foreclosure

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
C/A #: 2018-CP-43-00395

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
DAVID G. SMITH III, CONNOR CONSULTING & RENTALS and SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Defendants.

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint upon the subscribers, at their office, 1703 Laurel Street (29201), Post Office Box 11682, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint in the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the original Complaint in the above entitled action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on March 8, 2018.

Benjamin E. Grimsley
S.C. Bar No. 70335
Attorney for the Plaintiff
P.O. Box 11682
Columbia, S.C. 29211
(803) 233-1177
bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com

SUMMONS AND NOTICES (Non-Jury) FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
C/A NO.:
2018-CP-43-00555

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York As Trustee For The Certificateholders Of CWABS, Inc., Asset Backed Certificates, Series 2004-3, Plaintiff,

vs.
Joyce S. Hallums, Defendant(s).

Summons & Notice

TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer on the subscribers at their offices at 3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110, Columbia, SC 29210, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; except that the United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

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

YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by Attorney for Plaintiff.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference or the Court may issue a general Order of Reference of this action to a Master-in-Equity/Special Referee, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 29-3-100, effective June 16, 1993, any collateral assignment of rents contained in the referenced Mortgage is perfected and Attorney for Plaintiff hereby gives notice that all rents shall be payable directly to it by delivery to its undersigned attorneys from the date of default. In the alternative, Plaintiff will move before a judge of this Circuit on the 10th day after service hereof, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, for an Order enforcing the assignment of rents, if any, and compelling payment of all rents covered by such assignment directly to the Plaintiff, which motion is to be based upon the original Note and Mortgage herein and the Complaint attached hereto.

NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the original Complaint, Cover Sheet for Civil Actions and Certificate of Exemption from ADR in the above entitled action was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on March 29, 2018. A Notice of Foreclosure Intervention was also filed in the Clerk of Court's Office.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110
Columbia, SC 29210
Phone 844-856-6646
Fax 803-454-3451
Attorneys for Plaintiff

AMENDED SUMMONS IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DOCKET NO. 2017-DR-43-468

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Harold Heyward, Plaintiff,
vs.
Letisha Davis and Roland Dwight Bostic, Defendants.

In the Interest of:
M.J.D.B (DOB 04/24/15)
a minor under the age of seventeen(17) years.

TO: THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE-NAMED: LETISHA DAVIS AND ROLAND DWIGHT BOSTIC

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified that an action has been filed against you in this Court. Within thirty (30) days of the day you receive this Summons, you must respond in writing to this Complaint by filing an Answer with this Court. You must also serve a copy of your Answer to this Complaint upon the Plaintiff(s) or the Plaintiff's Attorney at the address shown below. If you fail to answer the Complaint, judgment by default could be rendered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

HEARING NOTICE

TO: Roland Dwight Bostic.

A Hearing has been set in the above

Summons & Notice

matter for the 4th day of June, 2018 at 12:00 o'clock P. M.

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

TYPE: ADOPTION HEARING
TIME ALLOTTED: 1 Hour

THIS CASE WILL BE HEARD BY
JUDGE Jerry D. Vinson, Jr

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

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

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

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

TO: THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE-NAMED: LETISHA DAVIS AND ROLAND DWIGHT BOSTIC

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an adoption action involving the above child has been filed in the Sumter County Family Court under the above docket number.

YOU MUST RESPOND within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this Notice of Adoption by filing with the above court a written Answer stating whether you contest, intervene, consent or respond otherwise to the pending adoption and further stating your reasons for same.

YOU MUST THEN request a hearing if you file a written Answer to contest the adoption.

YOU MUST PROVIDE the above court of your current address and changes in address during the adoption proceeding.

SHOULD YOU FAIL to file an Answer or response within the stated thirty (30) days of your receipt of this Notice, then you will be deemed to have consented to the adoption by Plaintiff and you will be deemed to have forfeited and relinquished all of your parental rights to the above child, should you have any.

YOU MAY QUALIFY for court-appointed counsel to assist and represent you in this matter under certain circumstances. You must make your application for appointed counsel within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this Notice with the Sumter County Family Court, 215 N. Harvin Street, Sumter, South Carolina, (803)436-2366.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS

TO: DEFENDANTS, LETISHA DAVIS AND ROLAND DWIGHT BOSTIC:

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that unless you apply and have some person appointed as Guardian ad Litem for you in the above action within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the date of such service, the Plaintiff(s) will apply to have some suitable person appointed as Guardian ad Litem for the minor Defendant.

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM

On consideration of the Notice of Motion and Motion for Appointment of Guardian ad Litem and Consent by Attorney, Michael M. Jordan, Esquire of the Sumter County Bar, to be appointed to represent the interests of the minor child in the above cause of action.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Michael M. Jordan, Esquire shall serve as the Guardian ad Litem for the minor child, M.J.D.B.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED!

Sumter County Family Court
Third Judicial Circuit

Dwight C. Moore, Esquire
26 North Main Street
Post Office Box 1229
Sumter, South Carolina 29151
(803) 778-6520 (office)
(803) 775-6364 (fax)
Attorney for Plaintiff



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Pageant benefits

HOMELESS FEMALE VETS

Palmetto Health Tuomey tech, drill sergeant will compete

BY IVY MOORE
Special to The Sumter Item

Bryanna Smith is a busy woman. She works as a histology technician at Palmetto Health Tuomey, serves as a U.S. Army drill sergeant at Fort Jackson, and she's a mom. Add to that her preparation for participating in the Ms. Veteran America 2018 Competition in June.

She's used to having a full load of responsibilities, Smith said.

She worked as a medical specialist in Infectious Disease and Blood Support during her 2014 deployment in Afghanistan — all of the blood and blood products in that country were her responsibility.

While she speaks with some humor of her pageant competition, Smith sees it as an important responsibility.

She is passionate about representing women in the armed services.

"This is my first pageant. I had to work up to the task of competing," Smith said. "I have to be able to represent drill sergeants and the Army as a whole; every branch of the service competes."

It's worth all the work and time she's putting into preparation, she said.

The competition, she said, "has more to do with how you help military women in the coming years. Let's see how we can represent females."

That said, Smith noted that many of the areas in which she'll be judged are similar to those in other pageants.

"There is an interview relating to things plaguing our vets, like the V.A. (Veterans Administration), PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder)," she said. "We also compete in a physical competition — strength and agility."

For her talent competition, Smith said she will demonstrate her skill in advanced "riffing." It's like a drill, or drill ceremony. There are a lot of different maneuvers."

She laughed. "I can't sing or dance. Right now, I'm practicing walking in heels instead of combat boots."

Smith said she was drawn to the Ms. Veteran America Competition because its purpose is to encourage women to support each other and because it highlights attributes beyond the strength, courage and sacrifice of military women —

"These women are mothers, daughters, sisters and wives," the

MVA mission states.

"There are more than 50,000 homeless female veterans in the U.S., most with kids," Smith said. "They're the fastest-growing segment of the population. A lot of them don't think they deserve anything for their service and sacrifice."

"It only costs \$25 to put homeless female vets and their families" in secure housing for one day, she said.

Smith has already raised funds for several months' housing.

"We need to find a solution to this problem," she said. "The

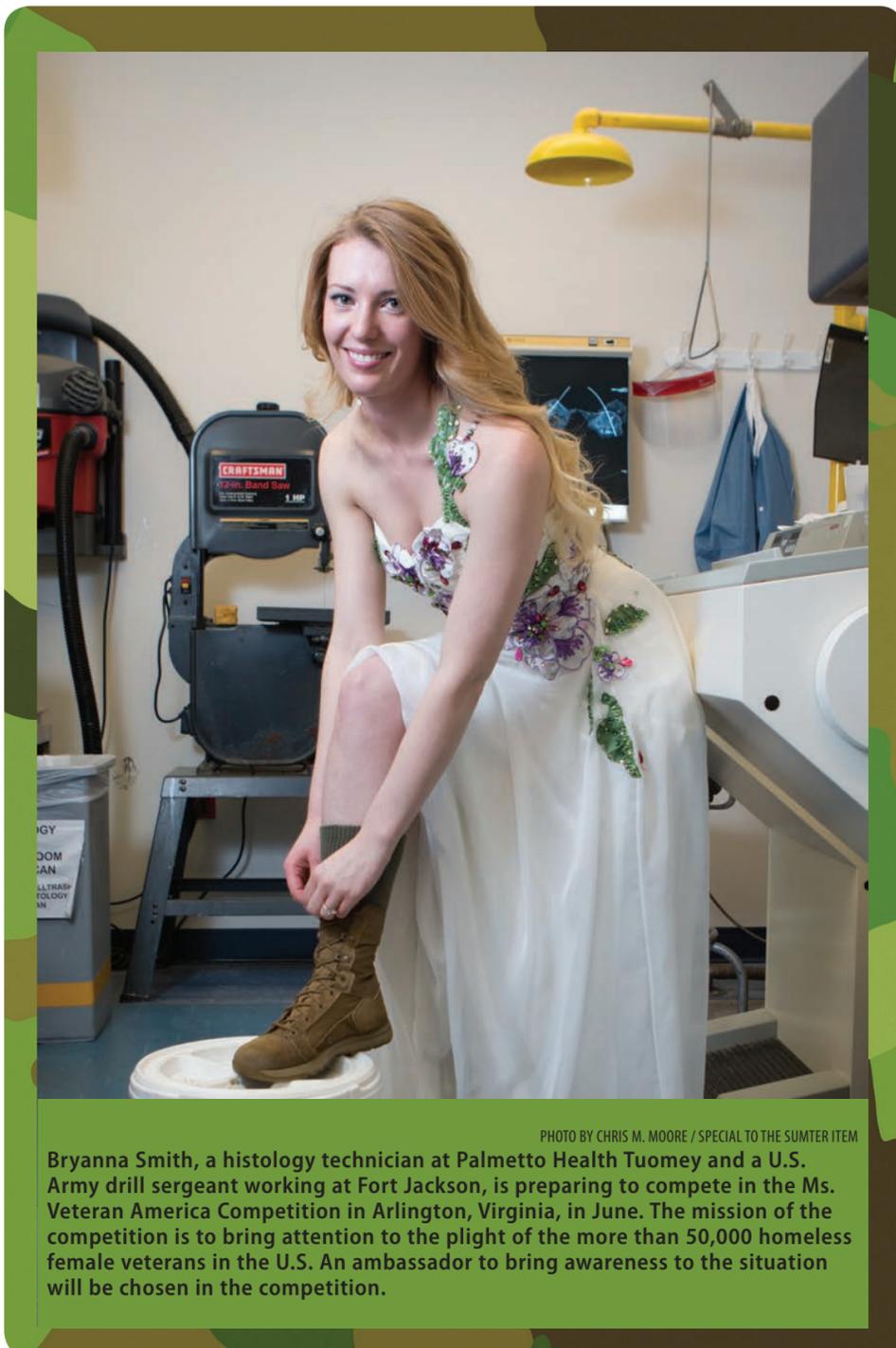


PHOTO BY CHRIS M. MOORE / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Bryanna Smith, a histology technician at Palmetto Health Tuomey and a U.S. Army drill sergeant working at Fort Jackson, is preparing to compete in the Ms. Veteran America Competition in Arlington, Virginia, in June. The mission of the competition is to bring attention to the plight of the more than 50,000 homeless female veterans in the U.S. An ambassador to bring awareness to the situation will be chosen in the competition.

competition is built around this."

Smith will compete in June in Arlington, Virginia, where she will be scored and ranked

on her interview, talent, military history and advocacy. The scoring criteria include grace, poise, confidence and personality, and the judges also consid-

er contestants' activity, interaction and participation during the competition.

For more information, visit www.finalsaluteinc.org.

CLUB DIGEST

SUMTER ART ASSOCIATION

The Sumter Art Association meeting was held April 17 at the Parish Life Building of the Church of Holy Comforter. President Patti Sosnowski welcomed 42 members. Ginger Jones gave an inspiring devotion on God's promises. Sue Towery read the May minutes in the absence of recording secretary Andrena Ray. Exhibits chairwoman Linda Hogan announced several cultural events and activities taking place in our community during the coming month. Corresponding secretary Vicki Goodwin read several acceptance notes from newly elected members.

Following the business meeting, Debbie Thomas introduced violinist Heidi Wilson, who entertained the members with a melodic rendition of Bach music. President Patti Sosnowski adjourned the business meeting and invited everyone to the tea table. Hostess chairwoman was Mary Dallery. Co-chairwoman Linda Hogan. Committee members assisting were Emily Boykin, Jayne Collins, Ginger Jones, Mary Reed, Betty Brogdon, Caren Durant, Jackie Gamble, Emily Stroman, Sue Towery and Hazel Walker.

Liam, Emma lead top baby names in 2017

BY TERRY TANG
Associated Press

Emma and Liam were the most frequently chosen baby names for 2017.

For the fourth year in a row, Emma was the top girl's name according to the annual list of the most popular baby names released by the Social Security Administration on Friday. Liam pushed last year's champ, Noah, to second to claim the top spot.

The Social Security Administration releases the 1,000 most popular baby names each year. They trumpeted the name reveals Friday with a Facebook Live announcement. The agency uses the announcement to draw traffic to its website, where workers can begin tracking their benefits long before retirement.

When it came to girls' names, Emma was followed by Olivia, Ava, Isabella and Sophia.

For the boys, Liam and Noah were followed by William, James



and Logan.

Other trends last year included a rise in the use of Melania for a girl, likely influenced by first lady Melania Trump.

Pamela Redmond Satran, who blogs about baby-naming and is also co-founder of the baby name site Nameberry.com, said the rise of Liam reflects the large population of Irish people in the U.S. who may not speak Irish, but

have ethnic pride.

"I think you see ethnic influences coming into play in a more indirect way. You see more parents looking back and looking for places in their lives that hold meaning that can be translated into names," said Satran, who also co-wrote the books "The Baby Name Bible" and "Cool Names for Babies."

Ethnic pride could also be a factor for parents of Hispanic descent. A lot of new parents "are using Hispanic names rather than trying to pick more Anglo-fied names," Satran said.

She also says Hispanic culture has become more ingrained in the food, music and television that Americans consume. So, names such as Sofia and Ariana become more well-known.

"As cultures of various Spanish-speaking countries become more familiar to mainstream America, I think the names start being used beyond the Hispanic population."



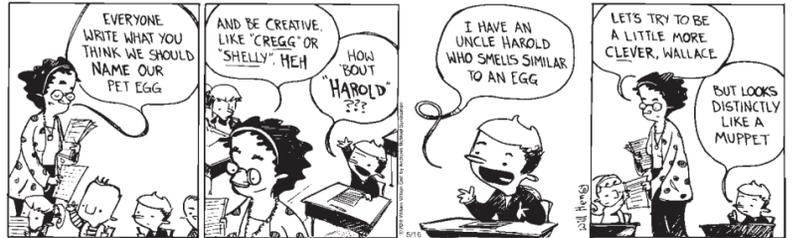
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ITEM

On Newstands... Now.

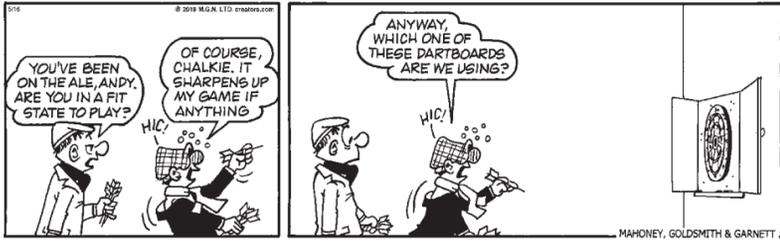
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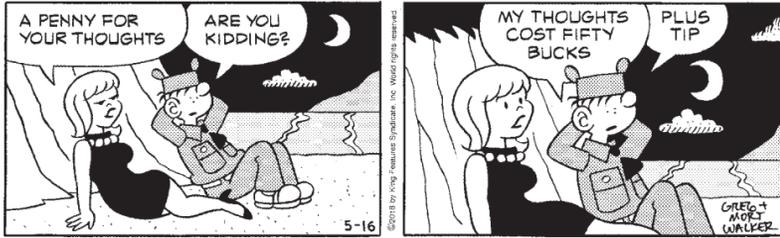
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GARFIELD



BETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



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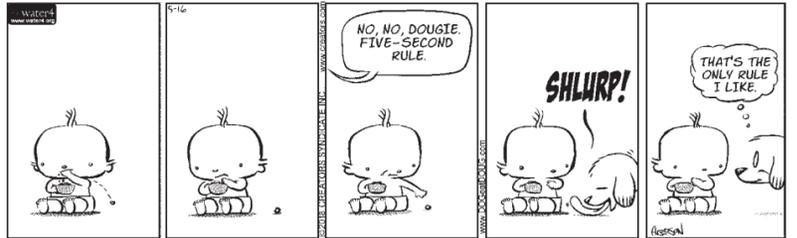
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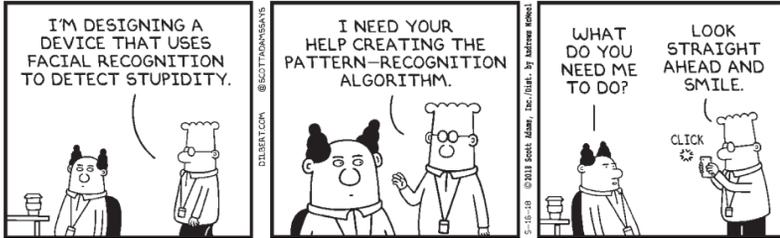
MOTHER GOOSE



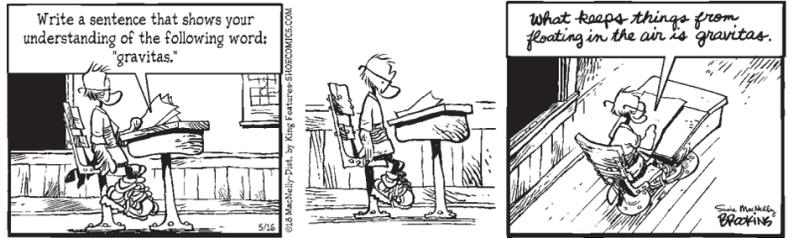
DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Search begins for recipes to replace lost heirlooms



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — Due to some unfortunate family circumstances, I was devastated to discover that nearly all of my boxes of cherished recipes had been destroyed. I'm now starting over from scratch to collect special recipes I can pass down to my children.

cost? It would mean a lot to me to be able to share some of your favorite recipes with my kids and younger relatives.
Lorie in Encino, California

DEAR LORIE — Having been a compulsive recipe collector for many years, I can imagine how frustrating it was to discover your recipes were gone. I hope my recipe booklets will start you on your way to rebuilding your collection.

My cookbooklet set contains more than 100 recipes for soups, salads, appetizers, main courses and desserts that can be used when friends and family get together to celebrate holidays and special occasions. Once you start reviewing "Cookbooklet II," you will see that a sweet tooth runs in my family. The cookbooklets are sold as a set and can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for \$14 to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.

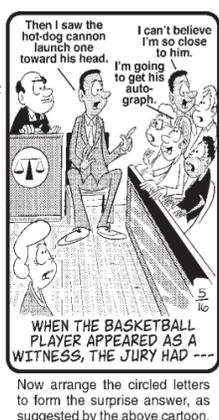
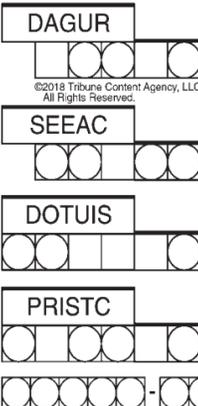
Included in this collection are tips on entertaining for those who are inexperienced or nervous about it. Remember, although what you put on the table is important, it's who you put in the chairs that makes a great party.

Most of my family members have died, so they can no longer be a resource for the traditional dishes I grew up with. I saw a post online a while back about a cookbooklet set you were offering. Is it still available, and how much does it

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ENVOY SLUSH DIVINE WANTED
Answer: The customer was a pessimist and ordered his eggs — SUNNY-SIDE DOWN

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

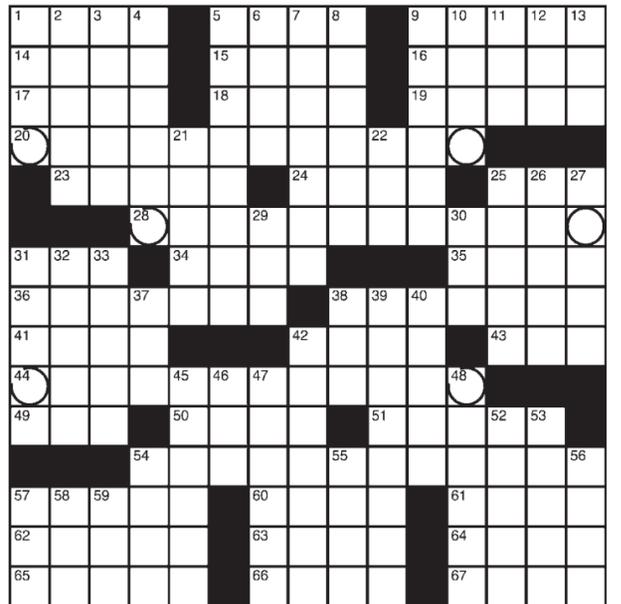
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Jared Tamarkin

5/16/18

- ACROSS**
- 1 media
 - 5 Last year's frosh
 - 9 With 65-Across, it has a 54-Across, so they say
 - 14 Bug bite symptom
 - 15 Indonesian boat
 - 16 British prime minister before Brown
 - 17 "Cooking From the Hip" chef
 - 18 Prilosec target
 - 19 Well-manored men?
 - 20 Old Glory
 - 23 Pigs and hogs
 - 24 Nov. voting time
 - 25 Dead heat
 - 28 "Don't incriminate yourself!"
 - 31 Platters from the past
 - 34 "Otello" baritone
 - 35 " and Louis": 1956 jazz album
 - 36 Marjoram kin
 - 38 Like the Constitution, 27 times
 - 41 "Unforgettable" father or daughter
 - 42 Nerve cell transmitter
 - 43 Sci-fi extras
 - 44 1983 Lionel Richie #1 song
 - 49 Guitar great Paul
 - 50 Bring in the sun: Abbr.
 - 51 New, to Neruda
 - 54 Upside of 9-Across/65-Across ... and, chemically speaking, what each pair of circles represents
 - 57 Storage towers
 - 60 City on its own lake
 - 61 Morally repugnant
 - 62 Fill with delight
 - 63 Pie containers
 - 64 "La Dolce"
 - 65 See 9-Across
 - 66 Ford contemporary
 - 67 Eden exile
 - 10 YouTube journal
 - 11 Musical gift
 - 12 Relieved (of)
 - 13 Trips around the sun: Abbr.
 - 21 Gandhi's land
 - 22 Early-to-mid-August baby
 - 25 El Niño feature?
 - 26 Shoreline recess
 - 27 "Jeepers!"
 - 29 "May now?"
 - 30 Lady bird
 - 31 From this area
 - 32 Humble worker, briefly
 - 33 Succeeds commercially
 - 37 Bk. with the ark story
 - 38 Rocker Rose
 - 39 Like a particularly dark sky after sunset
 - 40 The blahs
 - 42 In imminent danger
 - 45 Opened or closed, as a lens aperture
 - 46 Hairdresser's goop
 - 47 Must
 - 48 Swiss convention city
 - 52 Brilliantly colored
 - 53 Soul singer Baker
 - 54 Annual Jan. speech, in Twitter hashtags
 - 55 Orange skin
 - 56 Flashy rock genre
 - 57 "Wait a...!"
 - 58 Under the weather
 - 59 Poet —tzu

Previous Puzzle Solved



SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS												
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	The Blacklist "Sutton Ross (No. 17)" (Season Finale) A race to find the duffel bag of bones. (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Mama" An Alzheimer's patient alleges rape. (N) (DVS)	Inside the Royal Wedding: Harry and Meghan: Royal insiders prepare for the big day.	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Will Ferrell; Molly Shannon. (N)		
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Survivor "Always Be Moving" (N)	(:01) SEAL Team "The Cost of Doing Business" (Season Finale) Jason makes plans to avenge Echo Team. (N)	Code Black "The Same as Air" Elliot doubts his ability as a doctor. (N)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Chadwick Boseman; Erik Bergstrom. (N)		
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Shopping Spree" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs Barry asks Lainey to prom.	Alex, Inc. A company offers Alex money to expand.	Modern Family Mitchell sneaks out with Phil.	(:31) American Housewife Greg adopts a dog.	Designated Survivor "Run" (Season Finale) Kirkman makes an announcement. (N)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N)
WRJA	27	11	14	Travels With Darley Bandlerier National Monument.	Expeditions With Patrick McMillan	Nature "Super Hummingbirds" High-speed cameras capture hummingbirds. (DVS)	NOVA Wonders "Can We Build a Brain?" Artificially intelligent machines. (N)	Royal Wedding Watch "Ceremony" Royal wedding ceremony and traditions. (N)	Amanpour on PBS (N)	BBC World News	NHK Newsline	
WACH	57	6	6	2018 Republican Gubernatorial Debate	The Big Bang Theory "The Isolation Permutation"	Empire "Bloody Noses and Crack'd Crowns" Cookie and Lucious fight to keep Empire. (N) (DVS)	Star "Mrs. Rivera" Alex and Noah attend an important event. (N) (DVS)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Ryan and Kristin find a secret safe.	Last Man Standing Boyd a shotgun.	Riverdale "Chapter Thirty-Five: Brave New World" (Season Finale) Archie helps with his dad's campaign. (N)	The Originals "Don't It Just Break Your Heart" Klaus gets a mysterious clue. (N)	Dateline "The Night Before Halloween" Murderer found two decades later.	Dateline "The Night Brianna Vanished" A college student disappears.	The Game Jason confronts a steroid provider.		
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	46	130	Storage Wars	Storage Wars "Vamos a Placencia"	Storage Wars "A Fistful of Dollar"	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	(:01) Flip Wars "Cats in the Attic" House with a leaky roof and feral cats.	(:04) Storage Wars "Buyerina"	(:34) Storage Wars	(12:04) Storage Wars	
AMC	48	180	(5:25) *** "The Bourne Ultimatum" (2007) Matt Damon, Julia Stiles.	** "Escape Plan" (2013, Action) Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jim Caviezel. A security expert must break out of a formidable prison.			** "Soul Plane" (2004, Comedy) Kevin Hart, Tom Arnold, Method Man. Passengers and crew party aboard an airliner.			(:35) *** "The Rock" (1996, Action) Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage, Ed Harris. Alcatraz Island terrorists threaten to gas San Francisco.		
ANPL	41	100	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools: Off the Deep End	Insane Pools		
BET	61	162	** "Takers" (2010, Action) Matt Dillon, Paul Walker, Idris Elba. Skilled thieves plan the biggest heist of their careers.									
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New York City Tinsley gets a surprise delivery.	The Real Housewives of New York City Carole reveals shocking news.	The Real Housewives of New York City "On an Island" (N)	The Real Housewives of New York City "On an Island" (N)	The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills "Secrets Revealed"	Watch What Happens Live	The Real Housewives of New York City "On an Island"			
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank (DVS)	Shark Tank A unique dating service.	Shark Tank			
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)	Anderson Cooper			
COM	57	136	(6:50) South Park "Eat, Pray, Queef"	(:25) South Park "The Entity"	South Park "The Ring"	South Park	South Park "All About Mormons"	South Park "Lil' Crime Stoppers"	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	The Opposition w/ Jordan Klepper (N)	(12:01) South Park "Inspection"	
DISN	18	200	Gravity Falls	Gravity Falls	DuckTales	Gravity Falls	Bunk'd Ravi starts dating a girl.	Bunk'd	Raven's Home Nia contacts her father.	DuckTales		
DSC	42	103	Misfit Garage	Misfit Garage: Fired Up "Blaze It Up"	Misfit Garage "Episode 3" (N)	Misfit Garage "Episode 3" (N)	Sticker Shock (N)	Sticker Shock (N)	Misfit Garage "Episode 3"	Sticker Shock		
ESPN	26	35	MLB Baseball New York Yankees at Washington Nationals. From Nationals Park in Washington, D.C. (N) (Live)									
ESPN2	27	39	NFL Live	World/Poker	World/Poker	World/Poker	World/Poker	World/Poker	Around the Horn	NBA at the Mic (N) (Live)		
FOOD	40	109	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games (N)	Guy's Grocery Games (N)	Guy's Grocery Games "Grill Masters"	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Games		
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)	Hannity (N)	The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News at Night with Shannon	Tucker Carlson			
FREE	20	131	(6:00) * "10 Things I Hate About You" (1999) Heath Ledger.	Famous in Love "Look Who's Stalking" The police try to find Paige's stalker. (N)	(:01) * "Zookeeper" (2011, Comedy) Kevin James, Rosario Dawson, Leslie Bibb. Talking animals teach their shy caretaker how to woo a woman.							
FSS	21	47	Braves Live!	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Atlanta Braves. From SunTrust Park in Atlanta. (N) (Live)	Braves Live! Post.	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Atlanta Braves.						
HALL	52	183	Last Man Standing "Co-Ed Softball"	Last Man Standing "Home Security"	The Middle "The 100th"	The Middle	The Middle "The Jump"	The Middle Sue hides a secret.	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls "Snap Out of It"	The Golden Girls	
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers: Buying & Selling	Property Brothers at Home	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	House Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	Boise Boys (N)	Property Brothers		
HIST	45	110	American Pickers "My Sweet Ford"	American Pickers "Hot Rod Hero"	American Pickers "Man Cave Mania"	American Pickers (DVS)	(:03) American Pickers	(:03) American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers		
ION	13	18	Ghost Whisperer "Horror Show" Melinda checks on a college student.	Ghost Whisperer "Deadbeat Dads" Melinda helps professor Payne.	Ghost Whisperer "Stranglehold" Melinda's father's disappearance.	Ghost Whisperer "Pater Familias" Melinda learns about her family's past.	Ghost Whisperer "Firestarter" Jim saves a professor.	Ghost Whisperer "Firestarter" Jim saves a professor.	Ghost Whisperer "Big Chills"			
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: LA "Sober Celebration" Christy celebrates her sobriety.	Little Women: LA Terra throws an old-fashioned sleepover. (N)	Little Women: LA "Lil' Party Droppers" The girls gather for a charity walk. (N)	Little Women: LA "The girls gather for a charity walk."	(:14) Little Women: LA The girls gather for a charity walk.	(:12) Little Women: LA	(12:01) Little Women: LA			
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Last Word	The 11th Hour With Brian Williams (N)	Rachel Maddow			
NICK	16	210	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	** "Evan Almighty" (2007) Steve Carell, Friends	Morgan Freeman. Premiere.	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Friends	Friends	Friends	
PARMT	64	153	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	** "Fast Five" (2011) Vin Diesel, Paul Walker. Dom Toretto and company ramp up the action in Brazil.	The Transporter				
SYFY	58	152	(6:30) *** "Hellboy II: The Golden Army" (2008) Ron Perlman, Selma Blair, Doug Jones. Hellboy and his team battle an underworld prince.	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	Conan Actor Joel McHale; actor Anna Paquin.	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee	
TBS	24	156	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	
TCM	49	186	(6:30) ** "Andy Hardy Comes Home" (1958) Mickey Rooney.	** "Five Little Peppers and How They Grew" (1939) Edith Fellows.	(:15) ** "Five Little Peppers at Home" (1940) Edith Fellows. Five children try to save their mother from bankruptcy.	** "Out West With the Peppers" (1940, Comedy-Drama) Edith Fellows.	(:45) * "Five Little Peppers in Trouble" (1940) Edith Fellows.					
TLC	43	157	Long Lost Family	Long Lost Family (Season Finale) (N)	This Is Life Live (Season Finale) A woman reunites with her birth mother. (N)	NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Houston Rockets. Western Conference final, Game 2. (N Subject to Blackout) (Live)	(:02) Long Lost Family	Inside the NBA (N) (Live)				
TNT	23	158	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.	NCIS: New Orleans "Watch Over Me" A Navy Officer is murdered.
TRUTV	38	129	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H
USA	25	132	NCIS "The San Dominick" A vessel is commandeered by pirates.	NCIS "Parental Guidance Suggested" A therapist is murdered. (DVS)	NCIS "The Searchers" The team uncovers a fraudulent charity. (DVS)	NCIS "The Searchers" The team uncovers a fraudulent charity. (DVS)	Colony "Sierra Maestra" Will assesses the camp's safety. (N) (DVS)	Colony "Sierra Maestra" Will assesses the camp's safety. (N) (DVS)	(:01) Modern Family "Patriot Games"	(:31) Modern Family (DVS)	(12:01) Modern Family	
WE	68	166	CSI: Miami "Hard Time"	CSI: Miami "The Best Defense"	CSI: Miami "Hurricane Anthony"	CSI: Miami "Grand Prix"	CSI: Miami "Grand Prix"	CSI: Miami "Grand Prix"	CSI: Miami "Big Brother"	CSI: Miami "Bait"		
WGNA	8	172	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Rules/Engagement

Galecki hosts science-themed prank series 'SciJinks'

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Stars of long-running hit series can do pretty much anything they want. Johnny Galecki moves from a sitcom about scientists on "The Big Bang Theory" to a cable series that uses real science to comic effect. On "SciJinks" (10:07 p.m., Science, TV-PG), the actor assembles a team of experts with a taste for practical jokes. They punk and prank unsuspecting strangers in ways that show off the principles of chemistry, physics and medicine.

Galecki isn't the first TV star to promote science. "House" star Kal Penn hosted the Fox game show "Superhuman," which showcased neuroscience by featuring contestants with remarkable memories and other mental skills. "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane produced a remake of the multipart science series "Cosmos," made famous by the late Carl Sagan.

Science also airs the third season opener of "BattleBots" (9 p.m., TV-PG), seen last week on Discovery.

On a similar theme, "NOVA Wonders: Can We Build a Brain?" (9 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings) visits scientists on the verge of creating artificial thinking machines. Is this a good thing?

Some have predicted that artificial intelligence will transform society unlike any change since the Industrial Revolution. We already share our cars, phones, bank accounts and doctor's offices with intelligent machines and systems, and assistants like Siri and Alexa gather information about us and make profiles from our questions and web searches.

"NOVA Wonders" offers a scary look at programmers who are mapping the human brain in order to reverse-engineer that flesh and blood organ to build faster and more efficient devices that can learn, adapt and improve themselves.

Many experts interviewed predict a future where AI makes our lives better, where machines can do grunt work or diagnose illnesses at lightning speed. Others see a dark side — a time not that far off when military drones start choosing targets on their

own, independent of human oversight. You don't have to be a fan of "The Terminator" to find that chilling.

TONIGHT'S SEASON FINALES

- The owner of the bag of bones is revealed on "The Blacklist" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- A prom date jilt drives Barry to extremes on "The Goldbergs" (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).
- Archie campaigns hard for his dad's (Luke Perry) mayoral bid on "Riverdale" (8 p.m., CW, TV-14).
- A rival may poach the podcast's talent on "Alex, Inc." (8:30 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).
- Jason covers up his concussion on "SEAL Team" (9:01 p.m., CBS, TV-14).
- Jane Krakowski guest-stars as Gloria's rival on "Modern Family" (9 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).

- A local party sparks contention on "American Housewife" (9:31 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).
- Kirkman's announcement takes the world by surprise on "Designated Survivor" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-14).

CULT CHOICE

An ordinary guy (Tom Hanks) falls for a mystery woman (Daryl Hannah) who turns out to be a mermaid in the 1984 comedy fantasy "Splash" (8:30 p.m., Pop). The film turned Hanks and Hannah into major stars and revived the fortunes of the floundering Disney studio. But some contend that its greatest impact was the popularization of "Madison" as a girl's name.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Cookie and Lucious take a desperate step to save the



MONTY BRINTON / CBS
David Boreanaz stars as Jason Hayes in "The Graveyard of Empires" season finale episode of "SEAL Team," airing at 9 p.m. today on CBS.

company on "Empire" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14).

• A malpractice suit has Elliot doubting his abilities on "Code Black" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).

• "Inside the Royal Wedding: Harry and Meghan" (10 p.m., NBC) anticipates the big event by interviewing celebrities. How special! Not to be confused with "Royal Wedding Watch" (10 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings).

• Philip reveals jarring secrets on the eve of Elizabeth's assignment at the big summit on "The Americans" (10 p.m., FX, TV-MA).

• Will makes a safety inspection on "Colony" (10 p.m., USA, TV-14).

SERIES NOTES

Easy money on "Survivor"

(8 p.m., CBS, TV-PG) * A dementia patient's rape claims go unheeded on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14) * Brandy Norwood and Stevie J guest-star on "Star" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14) * Klaus finds a clue on "The Originals" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14).

LATE NIGHT

Terry Crews is booked on "The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) * Joel McHale, Anna Paquin and Alex Edelman appear on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS, r) * Chadwick Boseman and Erik Bergstrom appear on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Will Ferrell, Molly Shannon, Chrissy Metz and Florence & the Machine on "The Tonight

Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) * Josh Brolin, Ella Purnell, The Aces and Matt Byrne visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC) * Diane Keaton, Andy Garcia and James Acaster appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS).

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A "Skinny" Mango Margarita is garnished with a slice of citrus dipped in cinnamon in Amagansett, New York. The recipe by Elizabeth Karmel calls for a tequila-based mango liqueur for flavor and sweetness, plus silver tequila and fresh-squeezed Meyer lemon juice.

Make a killer margarita with tequila-based liqueur

BY ELIZABETH KARMELE

The Associated Press

I recently had the pleasure of traveling to Mexico to learn how to make tequila. I always liked sipping on tequila, but now I am in love with it.

Tequila is like wine; it is a simple process. It is made by hand and reflects both the terroir of the highlands or the valley soil in which the blue agave plant is grown and the heart and soul of the distillers. It is a fascinating industry that combines old-fashioned traditional methods and new science and technology in equal parts. It is also delicious and fun to drink.

While I was in Jalisco — the state that almost all tequilas come from — I visited the Patron distillery. Among the many things that I learned, I discovered that they have four tequila-based liqueurs called Patron Citronge. As I tasted, it occurred to me that the tequila liqueur might be a great substitution for the Grand Marnier that I usually use in a margarita. I liked the idea that the primary spirit stayed the same. (Tequila with the Patron liqueur vs. Brandy in Grand Marnier).

'SKINNY' MANGO MARGARITA

Servings: 2 drinks

1.5 ounces favorite Silver Tequila
1 ounce Patron Mango Liqueur
2 ounces fresh-squeezed Meyer lemon juice
Ground cinnamon
Meyer lemon or orange slice, cut in half for garnish

Shake all ingredients with ice and strain into a short "rocks" glass filled with crushed ice. Dip the side of the Meyer lemon or orange slice into the cinnamon and garnish the glass. I make a cut in the center of the slice with a paring knife so that it slips over the rim of the glass more easily.

Chef's Note: One ounce is equal to 2 tablespoons. If you don't have an ounce measure, you can use a tablespoon.

Nutrition information per serving: 101 calories; 0 calories from fat; 0 g fat (0 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 1 mg sodium; 7 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 5 g sugar; 0 g protein.

My thought was that the tequila liqueur would add just the tiniest amount of sugar and a fruity component to complement the tequila and citrus juice. So, the skinny margarita would be a little smoother than the traditional tequila and lime juice version with no need to add agave syrup or sugar. I couldn't wait until I got home to test my theory, so that night, I asked Oscar, the bartender,

to help me make "skinny margaritas" with the four flavors of the liqueurs: orange, lime, mango and pineapple.

Oscar happily agreed and made four margaritas, the only difference being the flavor of the liqueur. A group of us tasted them all blind, and the overwhelming winner was the mango liqueur. When I came home, I made a batch of the margari-

tas using Meyer lemons because they are sweeter than a traditional lemon or lime, and the juice would highlight, not overpower, the delicate mango flavor.

The results were even better than what I envisioned, and I hope that you will agree.

The drink is refreshing and smooth without being sweet at all. You can taste the real ataulfo (a.k.a. champagne) mangoes that the liqueur is made with, and the sweet-tart Meyer lemon juice is just sour enough to make it a margarita.

When I thought about how to garnish the margarita, I decided to incorporate a tip from the master tequilier of Cazadores. Tania Oseguera is one of the few female tequiliers, and her favorite accompaniment to sipping tequila is to dip the edge of a cut orange in ground cinnamon. This beats the heck out of the lime and salt tradition and complements the rich, fresh flavors of the tequila.

Even though it was designed for a glass of neat tequila, I decided to try it with my Mango Margarita. I used a slice of the Meyer lemon since I already had one cut, but you could use

Broccoli Strascinati is simple, full of flavor

BY KATIE WORKMAN

The Associated Press

One of the amazing things about Italian food (besides it being, you know, Italian food) is that the best dishes are often so completely, refreshingly simple. Like, four-ingredients simple. (No, we don't count olive oil and salt. Or water. Or air.)

I love broccoli. I can roast broccoli with olive oil and salt all day long. I use it in stir-fries too, and casseroles, and quesadillas, et cetera, et cetera. I rarely just steam or blanch it, however, because I find steamed broccoli to be kind of disappointing. But this dish? This is the opposite of disappointing.

The "dragged" (strascinati) technique is most often used with broccoli in Italy, though other vegetables can be prepared the same way,

such as broccoli rabe or cauliflower. With this method, the common step of par-boiling the vegetable before sauteeing is skipped, and the result is that the vegetables stay firmer and the flavor is more concentrated.

A generous amount of olive oil along with hot peppers and garlic are usually used, and I saw no reason to tamper with tradition there. You'll see that the garlic and pepper flakes are added toward the end — this lets you cook the broccoli over nice high heat without the garlic and pepper flakes burning.

Don't keep flipping and fussing with the broccoli too often or it won't brown, which gives it that nutty caramelized flavor that makes this dish pretty sublime. Also, this dish works best when there is a little crunch left in the broccoli

BROCCOLINI STRASCINATI ("DRAGGED" BROCCOLI)

Servings: 4 to 6

Start to finish: 20 minutes

1-1/2 pounds broccolini
3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
Kosher salt to taste
3 cloves garlic, very thinly sliced
1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes, or to taste
1/4 cup dry white wine

Trim the broccolini and cut it into 1-inch pieces, using the stems and the florets.

Heat the olive oil over medium-high heat in a large skillet (with a lid), the biggest one you have. Add the broccolini and cook, stirring to flip the pieces around occasionally, until they start to turn golden brown but are still crisp tender, about 8 minutes.

Season with salt; add the garlic and red pepper flakes, and saute for 30 to 60 seconds, until you can smell the garlic.

Add the wine and cover the pan for 2 minutes, allowing the liquid to come to a simmer. Remove the lid and saute for another minute until the liquid is almost evaporated and the broccolini is as tender as you like it. Remember that it will soften a bit more off the heat. Serve hot.

Nutrition information per serving: 86 calories; 58 calories from fat; 6 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 198 mg sodium; 4 g carbohydrate; 3 g fiber; 0 g sugar; 4 g protein.

— though you should feel free to cook it until it is as tender as you like.

I made this with regular

broccoli first, then with broccolini, which is like broccoli but with longer, slimmer stalks and a small-

er head of florets, all of which are edible and have a slightly milder flavor than broccoli.



SARAH CROWDER VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS