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FOOD: *Beer makes bratwurst better* c4

Hundreds enjoy Duckfest in Summerton



PHOTOS BY SHARRON HALEY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Wesley Turner, 5, of Summerville wasn't interested in all the quacking going on during the 2017 Duckfest duck-calling contests. He was instead having fun playing with a black Labrador puppy that was resting in the shade.

The youngest and the shortest competitor in the youth division of the 2017 Duckfest duck-calling competition, Keegan Towne, couldn't be seen behind the duck blind, but his calling came across loud and strong. "You're gonna be a force to be reckoned with," event emcee Ed Paul told the youth after the competition. "You were consistent. You were impressive. You did a good job." Check Friday's edition of Clarendon Sun for more on the festival.



Dwight Stewart, chairman of Clarendon County Council and a resident of Summerton, only had to ride his bike a couple of blocks from home to participate in the 2017 Duckfest parade. Dozens of vendors and hundreds of people enjoyed a beautiful Saturday for the second-annual Duckfest.

DOT shares its plan for delayed S.C. road work

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Members of Sumter Urban Area Transportation Study met with employees of South Carolina Department of Transportation on Tuesday morning to learn about the agency's funding plans to address delayed road projects and a new system to prioritize local projects.

Leah Quattlebaum, Pee Dee regional production engineer for the department, said South Carolina is behind on many of its roadway improvement projects.

SEE **ROADS**, PAGE A8

District tries to fill vacancies, manage its other expenses

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Sumter School District is trying to balance filling necessary teacher and staff vacancies as best as possible while being as conservative with periphery expenditures as it can be at this time, according to the district's lead financial official.

District Chief Financial Officer Chris Griner made the comments Tuesday during Sumter School District's Board of Trustees' monthly Finance Committee meeting at the district office.

The district still has about 45 to 50 personnel vacancies across various categories to include classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians and others, Griner explained. He attributed the teacher vacancies to the teacher shortage,

SEE **DISTRICT**, PAGE A8

What is Sumter doing about illegal garbage dumping?

City manager works to educate public on what items city will pick up

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

Piles of mattresses, broken household furniture and other large debris can often be seen left by the side of

Sumter streets. Even though dumping of such items is not allowed, many residents throw out the unwanted refuse, hoping it will be picked up by the city's garbage trucks.

Usually, their hope is realized.

"You can't just leave it all out there because it only gets worse," Sumter Assistant City Manager Al Harris explained.

He said education is the main tool the city uses to stop people from dumping illegal garbage on the streets.

"We try to talk to them and try to explain what you are supposed to do and what you're not supposed to do," he said. "We put door hangers on the doors, (and) we go and talk to them at their house when we can catch them. We try to do all the fol-

low up we can."

For city utility customers, residential household garbage is picked up curbside once a week for a monthly \$10 charge. The fee covers curbside collection of garbage, recycling and yard debris. The city furnishes one 90-gallon roll-away cart and one 18-gallon recycling bin for each resident.

The city will pick up yard

debris "in reasonable quantities" at curbside, according to the city website.

Such things as furniture, building material, tires and appliances that can't be put in the roll-away carts are the responsibility of businesses and residents to dispose of, the website says. Such items may be taken to Sumter

SEE **GARBAGE**, PAGE A7

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DEATHS, B5

Betty Brody
Barbara D. Payne
Saretta L. Dwyer Pugh
Judith Davis Haskell
Joseph E. Taylor Sr.
Louise Andrews
Michael Williams

Barbara H. Francisco
James Sharpe Jr.
Johnnie M. McLeod
Waddell Williams
Berlie Taylor
Barbara Croskey

WEATHER, A10

QUITE NICE

Sunny and pleasant today;
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INSIDE

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

Classifieds B6 Opinion A9
Comics C2 Television C3

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LOCAL BRIEF

FROM STAFF REPORTS



PHOTOS PROVIDED

The suspect in a theft incident at Piggly Wiggly on Guignard Drive is seen.

Sheriff's office asks for help identifying suspect

Sumter County Sheriff's Office is asking for help in identifying a suspect thought by deputies to be involved in theft and robbery incidents at two Sumter grocery stores recently.

A man captured on video surveillance is suspected of taking cigarettes from Piggly Wiggly at 1455 S. Guignard Drive about 11:30 p.m. Friday. If you know this suspect, contact Sumter County Investigator Adams at (803) 436-2012, Crime Stoppers at (803) 436-2718 or 1-888-CRIMESC. You can remain anonymous and might receive a cash reward.

In a separate incident, a man reportedly presented a holdup note to a Food Lion money center desk clerk on Saturday between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. on U.S. 15 South. To see surveillance video of this incident, go to www.theitem.com.

The suspect is described from video at Food Lion as a white male wearing a black shirt, black shorts and black sneakers. If you know who this is, contact Investigator Washington at the sheriff's office at (803) 436-2011 or Crime Stoppers.

Police respond to vehicle break-ins

Chief asks residents to lock doors after about 30 weekend incidents reported

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A large number of vehicle break-ins in the city — including nearly 30 unlocked vehicles in a subdivision along Mason Croft Road — were reported during the weekend, prompting a call to residents by Sumter Police Chief Russell Roark to always lock vehicle doors.

In a news release from Sumter Police Department, Roark also pleaded with Sumterites to remove valuables from unattended vehicles.

"Vehicle break-ins continue to be one of the top concerns for our department," Roark said in the release. "More troubling is that many of these crimes could have been prevented.

It is imperative that residents help protect their belongings and communities by making sure valuables, especially firearms, are not left in your car, SUV or pickup and that 'You Lock It Before You Leave It.'"

Purses, wallets, money, electronic devices and even charging cords, when left in plain view, can

tempt a would-be thief.

Residents also should report a possible vehicle break-in as soon as it is discovered and leave the vehicle and its interior as it was found until officers say it is OK to enter.

For more information or to report a vehicle break-in, contact Sumter Police Department at (803) 436-2700.

Pocotaligo trail might be restored with grant

BY JIM HILLEY

jim@theitem.com

Tourism in the Manning area may get a hike.

A \$100,000 grant has been awarded to the City of Manning by Duke Energy to renovate the Pocotaligo Nature Walk, City Administrator Scott Tanner told Manning City Council on Monday. However, Tanner said the city must still come up with as much as \$400,000 in matching money.

Tanner said he sent a letter of intent to apply for a South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Undiscovered South Carolina grant and has received a full application from the agency. Some additional department money is also available to use as matching money, he said.

The 1,300-foot trail in Pocotaligo Swamp was built in 1976 by the department, Tanner said. He was unsure how long the trail has been closed.

He said that if funding is available, the renovation would include resurfacing the entrance roadway, better restroom facilities, lighting and picnic tables.

Also at the meeting, Manning was given a Tree City USA Award by the Arbor Day Foundation for the 17th year in a row. The award was presented by Lois Edwards, an urban forester with the South Carolina Forestry Commission.

A ceremony was held to present a service award to firefighter Thomas Ardis Jr., who is retiring after 23 years. Mayor Julia Nelson and Manning Fire Chief Mitchell McElveen presented the



JIM HILLEY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Thomas Ardis Jr. receives a service award on Monday at a Manning City Council meeting. Presenting the award were Mayor Julia Nelson and Fire Chief Mitchell McElveen. Ardis is retiring after 23 years with the city.

award.

Council heard a presentation from Susan Landfried, a regional planner with Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments. Landfried told council she is working on a community needs assessment survey for Harvin Clarendon County Library through the end of December. Landfried said she would be consulting with local teachers, librarians and others to assess what needs the library will have in the next five years.

A resolution to update the City of Manning Police Department Police Policy and Procedure Manual was tabled, while a resolution authorizing the city administrator to sign a mutual aid and assistance agreement with the S.C.

Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network was passed.

Work on the Mill Street streetscaping project has been delayed because of the discovery of an additional basement access to one of the adjacent buildings, Tanner told council. He said the S.C. Department of Transportation was modifying the design to accommodate the discovery. While the pouring of concrete has been delayed, Tanner told council the project's lighting has been installed.

Tanner also told council a new webpage for the city would be up in the next few weeks.

"I think it will be quite a difference," he said.

City approves contract for new water department building

BY JIM HILLEY

jim@theitem.com

Sumter City Council met Tuesday for a regular meeting, with Mayor Pro Tem Thomas Lowery taking the gavel in the absence of Mayor Joe McElveen.

Council passed several procurement resolutions, including one which authorized a contract for the construction of a new Water Department Building on Harvin Street. Council accepted a bid of \$2.1 million from Hawkins & Kolb Construction Co. Inc. The local firm was the low bidder out of five who submitted bids.

A bid of \$105,900 was accepted from Utility Service Co. Inc.,

of Perry, Georgia, for exterior painting of the Jefferson Road Elevated Water Tank.

Assistant City Manager Al Harris told council the company has performed satisfactory work for the city in the past. He said the tanks have typically been painted about every 10 years, but newer types of paints should last up to 16 years.

Council also passed procurement resolutions authorizing the purchase of three trucks, including a 10-item recycling garbage truck and a rear-loading garbage truck.

Harris told council that although some of the recommended bids were not the low bidder, the city would save

money in the long run by buying trucks made by the same manufacturer as the city already uses.

Council approved the procurement resolutions although councilman Calvin Hastie said he was concerned about not taking the low bid and that there were no South Carolina companies involved in the bidding.

During a public hearing on the 2017-18 Community Development Block Grant funding, council heard from several residents who expressed concerns about such things as dilapidated houses and streets that need paving.

Sumter County Sheriff's Deputy Joshua Dupree told council that several streets in

his Ivey Hall neighborhood such as Manchester Road, Huddersfield Drive and Vista Circle have not been paved in 40 years.

"Many roads have been resurfaced, but not ours," he said.

Speakers Mark Champagne of Sumter United Ministries and Carmelia Bankhead, youth development director for the Sumter YMCA, requested the city continue funding their work with the CDBG grant funding.

A request from Sarah Kingwood for help in repairing her mobile home damaged in the 2015 flood prompted council members Hastie and Ione Dwyer to suggest the City Housing Board should rethink

its decision not to fund reconstruction of mobile homes for residents in need of help.

During the resident comment period, 12-year-old Davis Edwards, a student at Bates Middle School, asked council to provide safe sidewalks for children to walk to school.

During council reports, Hastie and Dwyer said they both had met interim Sumter School Board Superintendent Debbie Hamm and were impressed.

"We are in good hands," Hastie said.

Hastie added that Hamm was scheduled to be guest speaker at the Sumter VIP meeting at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1, at the James E. Clyburn Intermodal Transportation Center, 129 Harvin St.

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Motor vehicle crashes of teens focus of week

3,500 lost lives in 2016 nationwide

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death for teenagers in the United States, and according to a news release from AAA Carolinas, Oct. 15-21, is National Teen Driver Safety Week.

According to the release, more than 3,500 teenagers lost their lives in car crashes in 2016 and 359,000 were injured nationwide. North Carolina had 67 fatalities as a result of teen driving crashes while South Carolina had 35.

Teenage drivers, 15-19, have higher rates of crashes per licensed driver and per mile driven than any other age group. The greatest threats behind the wheel for teens are alcohol, not wearing a seatbelt, speeding, distraction and drowsy driving.

Nationwide, approximately 58.5 percent of teen crashes are the direct result of some form of distracted behavior such as attending to passengers or cell-phone use according to the release.

In a 2015 survey of drivers sponsored by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, nearly 70 percent of drivers ages 16-18 reported they had talked on a cellphone, 42 percent had read a text or e-mail, and 32 percent had typed/texted while driving in the past 30 days.

A recent AAA Foundation study found new car technology, designed to curb handheld device use, are equally distracting. Voice-based and touch-screen features require high levels of visual and mental demand for usually more than 40 seconds to complete a task such as navigation or sending a text. However, removing eyes from the road for just two seconds doubles the risk for a crash. Responding to a text takes a driver's attention off the road for an average of five seconds. Traveling at 55 mph, motorists drive the length of a football field while responding to a text

— while essentially blindfolded.

This campaign aims to remind teens of the importance of taking precaution to and from school, as the majority of teen crashes (44.8 percent) occur between the hours of 6 and 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. during the week. It is during this time that traffic is usually the heaviest, and many teen drivers may not have their full attention on the road.

"We have seen distracted driving climb to the leading cause of crashes among motorists as technology becomes a more integral part of our lives," AAA Carolinas Foundation for Traffic Safety President Tiffany Wright said. "A second major contributor is alcohol-related crashes."

Close to 25 percent of fatal teen crashes nationwide were due to alcohol in 2016. Twenty percent of traffic fatalities for 18- and 19-year-olds were due to driving with a BAC more than .01 — despite being underage.

Ironically, 88 percent of teens support a law requiring all drivers convicted of a DWI use a device that won't let their car start if they have been drinking, as opposed to 81 percent of drivers aged 33-55. Additionally, 75 percent of teens support in-car technology that won't allow the car to start if the driver's blood alcohol level is over the legal limit, compared to 69 percent of drivers aged 35-55.

Parents and guardians are the first line of defense to curb the number of teen crashes that involve alcohol. Nationally, more than 80 percent of teens say parents are the leading influence in their decision about underage drinking. AAA Carolinas urges parents to educate their teens about the dangers of drinking and driving by having conversations early on and teaching by example. AAA Carolinas urges parents to fill out a parent-teen agreement or make their own version of one before their teens hit the road.

Highway patrol's 1st black commander to speak at Morris College on Thursday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Commander Christopher N. Williamson, the first black commander to lead the South Carolina Highway Patrol, will address Morris College at 10 a.m. Thursday in the Neal-Jones Auditorium as the keynote speaker

of the Honor's Convocation Assembly. Following the assembly, Williamson will give a lecture in the Forensic Science

Center at 11 a.m.

After completing college, he returned back home to Darlington County where he began his law enforcement career with the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

Williamson completed the Highway Patrol Academy in May of 1988. Williamson was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in 2011 and served as deputy commander of the South Carolina Highway Patrol until June 30, 2017, when he was named commander of the South Carolina Highway Patrol.

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Disabled chefs serve as model for change

BY REDA ZAIREG
The Associated Press

RABAT, Morocco — A remarkable restaurant in Morocco's capital offers its guests the opportunity to enjoy a full, fresh meal for just \$6. But what's most remarkable are its chefs: All are developmentally disabled.

Moroccan salad, grilled meat, Basque rice and lemon mousse are on the menu of the day at the restaurant, part of broader efforts by the Hadaf association that runs it to integrate disabled youth into Moroccan society and the job market and change perspectives on disability.

"At first it's not an easy thing to teach them cooking, but day after day, thanks to their desire for learning and their passion, they are really developing capacities in the cooking field," explains Nora Hachami, a specialist trainer at Hadaf.

Since its opening in April, the restaurant has enjoyed very favorable reviews. Its customers say they appreciate the quality of the food, the low prices and the commitment behind its creation. It was created in partnership with a Moroccan state project that aims to improve the economic and social conditions for the poor.

Twelve young disabled chefs work in the kitchen and prepare dishes for about 100 people, supervised closely by trainers, and disabled servers wait on customers. Clients from the public eat in one room, while beneficiaries of the association and their teachers eat lunch in a cheerful atmosphere in the Hadaf center's canteen.

"We are facing lots of challenges in this work, but it's not the disability itself," Hachami said. "We are trying to simplify the way we elaborate each menu, according to their capacities."

Hadaf supervises 85 people

suffering from moderate or mild developmental disabilities, many of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"It all started with my daughter, who has a mental disability," says Amina Mseffer, president of the association. When she could not put her daughter at school because people were scared to have a disabled person with the other children, Mseffer said, she decided to put her in a special institution. But this was expensive and stops when the person is 21 years old.

So she joined forces with relatives and friends and in 1997, they created Hadaf, which means "goal" in Arabic, but also stands for "Association of parents and friends of mentally disabled people."

Help and donations have come from official institutions, companies and even the Moroccan king and private donors, including nearby mosque-goers.

In 2005, Hadaf set up a social-professional center in the Hay Nahda neighborhood of the capital Rabat, housing various workshops and courses including jewelry making, sewing, decorative painting and carpentry.

In the restaurant kitchen, young people are busy working on crepes.

"I love cooking," says Saad Sahel, a 23-year-old chef who recalls helping his family in the kitchen before coming to the Hadaf center, where he takes part in both practical work and studies theory.

"I'm preparing salads, rice, desserts, pastries, all kind of things," he said. He hopes "that one day (he'll) be able to do something" with his life.

While Mseffer celebrates her group's progress toward integrating the disabled, she wants authorities to get more involved.

Moroccans with mental and developmental disabilities are almost exclusively assisted by



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zeinab Hawary, 25, prepares a dish at a restaurant in Rabat, Morocco. A remarkable restaurant in Morocco's capital offers its guests the opportunity to enjoy a full, fresh meal for just \$6. But what's most remarkable are its chefs: All are developmentally disabled.

charitable associations. According to 2014 figures by the National Union of Associations Working in the Field of Mental Disability (UNAHM), of the 347,000 people with mental disabilities in Morocco, only 10,000 are getting schooling or other help to assimilate into society. Half of them are supervised by charities, and the other half are in integrated classes financed by the state.

A bill currently going through parliament "will contribute to the strengthening and regulation of social welfare institutions for people with disabilities," said Rachid El Guenouni, who works on the rights of people with disabilities at the Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Equality and Social Development. And he said another bill aimed at social workers will "strengthen the care of people with mental disabilities in Morocco."

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Trump's claim about fallen troops, predecessors disputed

BY CALVIN WOODWARD
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For U.S. presidents, meeting the families of military personnel killed in war is about as wrenching as the presidency gets. President Trump's suggestion Monday that his predecessors fell short in that duty brought a visceral reaction from those who witnessed those grieving encounters.

"He's a deranged animal," Alyssa Mastromonaco, a former deputy chief of staff to President Obama, tweeted about Trump. With an expletive, she called Trump's statement in the Rose Garden a lie.

Trump said in a news conference he had written letters to the families of four soldiers killed in an Oct. 4 ambush in Niger and planned to call them, crediting himself with taking extra steps in honoring the dead properly. "Most of them didn't make calls," he said of his predecessors. He said it's possible that Obama "did sometimes" but "other presidents did not call."

The record is plain that presidents reached out to families of the dead and to the wounded, often with their presence as well as by letter and phone. The path to Walter Reed and other military hospitals, as well as to the Dover, Delaware, Air Force Base where the remains of fallen soldiers are often brought, is a familiar one to Obama, George W. Bush and others.

Bush, even at the height of two wars, "wrote all the families of the fallen," said Freddy Ford, spokesman for the ex-president. Ford said Bush also called or met "hundreds, if not



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Trump points to a reporter to ask a question during a media availability in the Rose Garden after a meeting at the White House on Monday in Washington, D.C. After being questioned about why he had not spoken about four soldiers who were killed in Niger on Oct. 4, Trump, who said he has written letters to the families of the four soldiers, said that his predecessors did not reach out to families of the dead and wounded the way he has.

thousands" of family members of the war dead.

Obama's official photographer, Pete Souza, tweeted that he photographed Obama "meeting with hundreds of wounded soldiers and family members of those killed in action." Others recalled his frequent visits with Gold Star families and travels to Walter Reed, Dover and other venues with families of the dead and with the wounded.

Retired Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, confirmed these contacts, tweeting: "POTUS 43 & 44 and first ladies cared deeply, worked tirelessly for the serving, the fallen, and their

families. Not politics. Sacred Trust."

Trump addressed the matter when asked why he had not spoken about the four soldiers killed in Niger. They died when militants thought to be affiliated with the Islamic State group ambushed them while they were patrolling in unarmored trucks with Nigerian troops.

"I actually wrote letters individually to the soldiers we're talking about, and they're going to be going out either today or tomorrow," he said, meaning he wrote to the families of the fallen soldiers. He did not explain why letters had not been sent yet after more than a week after the attack.

"If you look at President Obama and other presidents, most of them didn't make calls," Trump said.

Pressed on that statement later, he said of Obama: "I was told that he didn't often, and a lot of presidents don't. They write letters." He went on: "President Obama, I think, probably did sometimes, and maybe sometimes he didn't. I don't know. That's what I was told. ... Some presidents didn't do anything."

Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said later that Trump "wasn't criticizing predecessors, but stating a fact." She argued that presidents didn't always call families of those killed in battle: "Some-

times they call, sometimes they send a letter, other times they have the opportunity to meet family members in person."

She said anyone claiming a former president had called every family was "mistaken."

Bush's commitment to writing to all military families of the dead and to reaching out by phone or meeting with many others came despite the enormity of the task. In the Iraq war alone, U.S. combat deaths were highest during his presidency, exceeding 800 each year from 2004 through 2007. The number fell to 313 in Bush's last year in office as the insurgency faded. Bush once said he felt the appropriate way to show his respect was to meet family members in private.

Obama declared an end to combat operations in Iraq in August 2010, and the last U.S. troops were withdrawn in December 2011. As Obama wound down that war, he sent tens of thousands more troops into Afghanistan in 2009 and 2010, and the death count mounted. From a total of 155 Americans killed in Afghanistan in 2008, which was Bush's last full year in office, the number jumped to 311 in 2009 and peaked the next year at 498. In all, more than 1,700 died in Afghanistan on Obama's watch.

Among other rituals honoring military families, the Obamas had a "Gold Star" Christmas tree in the White House decorated with hundreds of photos and notes from people who had lost loved ones in war. Gold Star families visited during the holidays, bringing ornaments.

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PHOTOS PROVIDED

Sumter Civic Dance Company's first concert of the season will be held at 7 p.m. Friday at Patriot Hall and features six pieces choreographed by high school students.

'Life is a Journey' dance concert will be on Friday

Public invited to see work of young choreographers

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

The Sumter community is invited to attend Sumter Civic Dance Company's first concert of the season, the 17th-annual Contemporary Dance Concert at 7 p.m. on Friday at Patriot Hall.

This year, the concert will feature six pieces choreographed by five high school students — Mary Catherine Matthews, Mara Pierce, T.J. Warren, Brooke Delbocca and Hayden Kirkhart. Each student choreographer is a recipient of the Young Choreographer's Award and was selected by company director Andrea Freed-Levenson to choreograph pieces for the concert.

Guests will also enjoy eight other performances created by seasoned choreographers such as Freed-Levenson, Jasmine Thompson, Erin Levenson Harms and Caroline Mack of Caroline Mack Center for the Arts.

Freed-Levenson said this year's concert title and theme, "Life is a Journey," has a strong connection with the stories of the choreographed pieces. The theme was chosen after hearing the meanings behind the individual pieces, she said.

The piece "Book of Love" choreographed by Freed-



Levenson shows the journey from youth to marriage, while "People Help the People" choreographed by Mary Catherine Matthews shows the journey of someone who is ill as treatment is sought.

Freed-Levenson said the concert will conclude with a piece she choreographed called "End of the World," which will bring an end to the evening and the journey.

Freed-Levenson said the annual concert is an opportunity for some of the dance company members to work

outside of their comfort zones as they choreograph their own pieces.

The students presented their song choices and choreography ideas to Freed-Levenson, who then decided if the piece could successfully be brought to the stage.

"I did not want to set them up to fail," she said. "This is an important part of dance training."

The young choreographers learned if and how certain movements can be translated from their minds to the

stage, Freed-Levenson said. Conveying the meaning of a piece through movement is challenging, she said.

The choreographers were also tasked with selecting costumes and planning the lighting for their pieces.

"I am only their adviser," Freed-Levenson said.

Through this process, the students learned the different elements that bring a piece from the studio to the stage, she said.

"This is real-world experience," she said.

Freed-Levenson said the young choreographers also had to learn to work with the strengths of the dancers who were assigned to them. They may have had a specific dancer in mind for their pieces, but they had to make their pieces work with the dancers they have, she said.

She said this concert is also an opportunity for the dancers to learn to respect their peers. The choreographers are people the dancers go to school with or attend dance lessons with, so they have to learn to respect them as choreographers, she said.

Freed-Levenson said Friday's concert will have something for everyone in the family to enjoy.

Contemporary dance has become popular because of TV shows such as "So You Think You Can Dance," Freed-Levenson said. You don't have to be a dancer to enjoy it, she said.

She said some of the songs that will be featured may be very popular while others may be unknown to most of the audience. Two of the pieces are even choreographed to poems: "To This Day" by Shane Koyczan and "Life is a Journey" by Alvin Fine.

The concert will be very appealing for just about everybody, Freed-Levenson said.

Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased at Freed School of Performing Arts, 527 N. Guignard Drive. For more information, call (803) 773-2847.

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Files show new details of U.S. support for Indonesia bloodbath

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Declassified files have revealed new details of U.S. government knowledge and support of an Indonesian army extermination campaign that killed several hundred thousand civilians during anti-communist hysteria in the mid-1960s.

The thousands of files from the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta covering 1963-66 were made public Tuesday after a declassification review that began under the Obama administration. The Associated Press reviewed key documents in the collection in advance of their release.

The files fill out the picture of a devastating reign of terror by the Indonesian army and Muslim groups that has been sketched by historians and in a U.S. State Department volume that was declassified in 2001 despite a last-minute CIA effort to block its distribution.

In 1965, Indonesia had the world's third-largest communist party after China and the Soviet Union, with several million members, and the country's president, the charismatic Sukarno, was vociferously socialist and anti-American.

U.S. officials despaired of Indonesia's apparently unstoppable drift into the communist fold and were ecstatic when conservative generals imposed martial law in Jakarta, seized state radio and set out to annihilate the country's communist party on the pretext that it

had tried to overthrow the government. Within months, the army would prevail in its power struggle with Sukarno, shifting Indonesia's political orientation to the U.S. and opening its huge market to American companies.

The newly released files underline the U.S. Embassy's and State Department's early, detailed and ongoing knowledge of the killings and eagerness to avoid doing anything that would hinder the Indonesian army. Historians had already established that the U.S. provided lists of senior communist party officials, radio equipment and money as part of active support for the army.

The documents also show that U.S. officials had credible information that contradicted the Indonesian army's lurid story that the kidnapping and

killing of seven generals in an abortive coup by junior officers on Sept. 30, 1965, which paved the way for the bloodbath, was ordered by the Indonesian communist party and Beijing.

The documents specifically mention mass killings ordered by Suharto, a general who within months would seize total power and rule Indonesia for more than three decades, and the pivotal role in carrying out the massacres by groups that today remain Indonesia's biggest mainstream Muslim organizations: Nahdlatul Ulama, its youth wing Ansor and Muhammadiyah.

A Dec. 21, 1965, cable from the embassy's first secretary, Mary Vance Trent, to the State Department referred to events as a "fantastic switch which has occurred over 10

short weeks." It also included an estimate that 100,000 people had been slaughtered.

In Bali alone, some 10,000 people had been killed by mid-December, including the parents and distant relatives of the island's pro-communist governor, and the slaughter was continuing, the cable said. Two months later, another embassy cable cited estimates that the killings in Bali had swelled to 80,000.

A cable that was part of the 2001 State Department volume showed that by April 1966, the embassy was staggered by the scale of the murders and acknowledged, "We frankly do not know whether the real figure is closer to 100,000 or 1,000,000." Even the Indonesian government had only a "vague idea" of the true number, the cable said.

The release of the documents coincides with an upsurge in anti-communist rhetoric in Indonesia, where communism remains a frequently invoked boogeyman for conservatives despite the collapse of the Soviet Union nearly three decades ago and China's embrace of global capitalism.

Discussion of the 1965-66 period that departs from the Suharto era's partly fictional account of a heroic national uprising against communism is still discouraged. A landmark symposium last year that brought together aging survivors of the bloodbath and government ministers sparked a furious backlash. And last month, an anti-communist mob led by retired generals attacked a building in central Jakarta where activists had planned to discuss the killings.

GARBAGE

FROM PAGE A1

County Landfill, 2185 E. Brewington Road, but many times such junk is simply put on the street.

"People put out all kinds of stuff," Harris said.

The same trucks that are supposed to collect yard debris also pick up discarded mattresses and other large waste items, he said.

"It goes with the rest of the yard debris, and it goes straight to the landfill," he said.

Ideally, the clean yard debris can be recycled but not if it contains other forms of refuse.

"Any time we get what we call uncontaminated loads, which is mostly limbs and leaves, we carry it to one area, and other stuff just gets put in the landfill and buried."

Harris said one thing complicating the matter is a state law which says apartment owners or rental house owners who evict someone must put the former tenant's property out for a certain period of time so the evicted residents can reclaim it.

"Sometimes we have to get out there and get rid of it because it's not going anywhere," Harris said.

Harris said they are continually sending codes enforcement to people's houses to talk to them about violations.

"The main thing is schooling the public," he said. "We try to give them all the information of what they need to do, and hopefully you get most of them to cooperate."

It's not easy to get people to cooperate when the city eventually hauls away the junk.

"We don't want the people to think it is OK to do it, because it is not OK," he said. "It destroys the way the city looks, and we can't get to all of it the way it piles up."

He said if people abide by the rules it will make life better for everybody.

"The biggest challenge is just trying to get people to do the right stuff," he said.

For more information, visit www.sumtersc.gov.

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Otters: Oodles of Fun!

© 2017 by Vicki Whiting, Editor | Jeff Schinkel, Graphics | Vol. 33, No. 45

Sea otters spend a lot of time swimming and hunting for food, but still have plenty of time for play. And watching a sea otter at play brings a smile to nearly anyone's face.



Sea otters are mammals and need to breathe air. They rest on their backs riding the swells of the sea. To keep from floating away, they wrap themselves in kelp that is growing out of the sea floor.

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know that living organisms have distinct structures and body systems that serve specific functions in survival.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Solve problems using addition.

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

Food Rocks!

Sea otters eat crabs, clams and red sea urchins. Cracking the hard shells of these animals is a challenge, but the sea otter has found a solution. It is one of the few animals to use a tool.

A hungry sea otter finds a rock on the sea floor, tucks it beneath a flap of loose skin under a forelimb, grabs a few clams and swims to the surface. Once there, the otter rolls over onto its back and places the rock on its chest. It bangs a clam against the rock until it breaks open then scoops out and eats the morsel of meat.

Circle what should come next in each row.

Fabulous Fur

Sea otters have very little body fat and rely on their fabulous fur to keep them warm in the cold Pacific. Their fur is thick—really thick—perhaps the _____ fur in the world. If you were to put a penny on a sea otter, it would _____ about 250,000 hairs. That is more than twice the _____ of hair on your entire head.

Otter fur holds tiny air bubbles, which serve as insulation against the _____.

If a sea otter's fur gets _____ it won't hold air as well. These creatures clean themselves often so that their fur can do its job.

Draw a line to where each missing word belongs.

COLD

COVER

OCEAN

DENSEST

DIRTY

AMOUNT

Extra! Extra!
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Imagine a world without the letter O. Using an article from today's newspaper, cross out all the words containing the letter O. Give the article to a friend. Can your friend understand the article?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand word meanings from context clues.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Otter Appetite
Each day, a sea otter eats one-fourth of its own weight in food.

That would be like:

- ▶ a 60-pound person eating $5 + 5 + 5 =$ _____ pounds of food in one day.
- ▶ a 100-pound person eating $10 + 12 + 3 =$ _____ pounds of food in one day.
- ▶ a 148-pound person eating $15 + 17 + 5 =$ _____ pounds of food in one day.

Do the math to find out how many pounds of food each person would eat if he or she were a sea otter!



Kid Scoop Word Search

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

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

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

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Otter Home
Read the classified ads listing homes for sale. Based on what you learned from today's Kid Scoop page about otters, write a classified ad describing the perfect home for an otter.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write brief descriptions about objects.

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ROADS FROM PAGE A1

She said the state has been trying to maintain the fourth-largest infrastructure system in the country using 1987 dollars. The math just doesn't add up, she said.

Quattlebaum said after decades of deferred maintenance there are 750 structurally deficient bridges, 10 years of delayed widening projects and about 80 percent of roads in need of improvements throughout the state. She said the pavement issue alone is estimated to cost approximately \$11 billion.

She said the gas tax that was passed by the General Assembly in May will increase SCDOT's funding,

usually \$200 million annually, by \$600 million by the end of a 10-year period. During that time, the gas tax will increase by two cents each year, starting this year, for a total of 12 cents by 2022.

It took decades to get into this problem, and it will take some time to get out of it, Quattlebaum said.

She said with the increased funding SCDOT will continue bridge improvement and interstate widening projects, increase its road resurfacing program and target rural road safety.

Quattlebaum said first priority will be given to roads connecting rural and urban areas when tackling the state-wide resurfacing project.

In 10 years, Quattlebaum said SCDOT plans to reverse nearly 30

years of neglected roads, increase safety for 1,000 miles of rural roads, repair 465 structurally deficient bridges and improve 140 miles of interstate roadways.

She said the goal is to have about 50 percent of major roadways and nearly 90 percent of interstate roads in good condition by 2026.

For the Pee Dee region, Quattlebaum said more than 90 bridges will be replaced and safety features will be added to 15 deadly corridors.

Bill Jordan, with SCDOT's office of planning, said future roadway projects will be evaluated based on performance measures to ensure investments are spent on projects that have high possibilities of being beneficial to drivers and surround-

ing communities.

Jordan said SUATS and other metropolitan planning organizations and councils of governments in the state must establish and adopt performance measure targets that will focus on addressing driver safety, road conditions and traffic volumes.

He said those performance measure targets will help determine the priority of future roadway projects throughout the state.

Emily Thomas, with SCDOT's traffic safety office, said the performance measure targets will be based on a five-year data collection period between 2014 and 2018.

SUATS will need to establish and adopt performance measure targets by Feb. 27, 2018.

DISTRICT FROM PAGE A1

which is being felt nationwide.

All classrooms without certified teachers have long-term substitutes until a certified teacher can be hired, according to Griner.

Griner said the district's goal is to have a certified teacher in every classroom.

In the long term with periphery expenditures outside the classroom, the district is trying to manage those costs as much as possible in order to build its savings account — better known as the general fund balance — back up after financial difficulties in recent years.

A new law in the state advises school districts to have at least one month's operating expenses in their general fund balance or face corrective measures. One month's operating expenses for Sumter School District's \$131 million budget this fiscal year translates to \$10.9 million.

In fiscal 2016, before Griner came on staff as CFO, the district overspent its budget by \$6.2 million and had an ending general fund balance of \$106,449 — a critically low level, according to the district's auditor, Robin Poston.

With the assistance of a financial consultant and an

Long term, we are trying to continue to be conservative and manage the expenses that we can control.'

CHRIS GRINER

Sumter School District chief financial officer

emergency financial plan implemented in January, the district's projected ending fund balance for fiscal year 2017 — representing July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017 — is \$665,165. Adding the

two ending fund balances together gives the district a total ending fund balance as of June 30, 2017, of about \$771,000 — therefore the need to manage secondary expenditures as much as

possible, according to Griner.

"Long term, we are trying to continue to be conservative and manage the expenses that we can control," Griner said.

Griner reiterated to the finance committee that in borrowing about \$2 million less for capital projects this school year, the district will add about \$2 million in revenue to its general fund balance this year through a "millage rate swap" that was approved by the school board last month.

In other matters, Griner

said Poston began her annual audit work with the district recently.

So far, Poston has not had any findings with purchase orders and invoices from fiscal 2017, according to Griner.

Poston will present the official fiscal 2017 audit report to the board of trustees at its regular monthly meeting on Monday, Dec. 4.

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COMMENTARY

Are rich paying their fair share?

Politicians exploit public ignorance. Few areas of public ignorance provide as many opportunities for political demagoguery as taxation. Today some politicians argue that the rich must pay their fair share and label the proposed changes in tax law as tax cuts for the rich. Let's look at who pays what, with an eye toward attempting to answer this question: Are the rich paying their fair share?



Walter Williams

According to the latest IRS data, the payment of income taxes is as follows. The top 1 percent of income earners, those having an adjusted annual gross income of \$480,930 or higher, pay about 39 percent of federal income taxes. That means about 892,000 Americans are stuck with paying 39 percent of all federal taxes. The top 10 percent of income earners, those having an adjusted gross income over \$138,031, pay about 70.6 percent of federal income taxes (<https://tinyurl.com/ydd-vee2o>). About 1.7 million Americans, less than 1 percent of our population, pay 70.6 percent of federal income taxes. Is that fair, or do you think they should pay more? By the way, earning \$500,000 a year doesn't make one rich. It's not even yacht money.

But the fairness question goes further. The bottom 50 percent of income earners, those having an adjusted gross income of \$39,275 or less, pay 2.83 percent of federal income taxes. Thirty-seven million tax filers have no tax obligation at all. The Tax Policy Center estimates that 45.5 percent of households will not pay federal income tax this year (<http://tinyurl.com/h8ks4ge>). There's a severe political problem of so many Americans not having any skin in the game. These Americans become natural constituencies for big-spending politicians. After all, if you don't pay federal taxes, what do you care about big spending? Also, if you don't pay federal taxes, why should you be happy about a tax cut? What's in it for you? In fact, you might see tax cuts as threatening your handout programs.

Our nation has a 38.91 percent tax on corporate earnings, the fourth-highest in the world. The House of Representatives has proposed that

it be cut to 20 percent; some members of Congress call for a 15 percent rate. The nation's political hustlers object, saying corporations should pay their fair share of taxes. The fact of the matter — which even leftist economists understand, though they might not publicly admit it — is corporations do not pay taxes. An important subject area in economics is called tax incidence. It holds that the entity upon whom a tax is levied does not necessarily bear its full burden. Some of it can be shifted to another party. If a tax is levied on a corporation, it will have one of four responses or some combination thereof. It will raise the price of its product, lower dividends, cut salaries or lay off workers. In each case, a flesh-and-blood person bears the tax burden. The important point is that corporations are legal fictions and as such do not pay taxes. Corporations are merely tax collectors for the government.

Politicians love to trick people by suggesting that they will impose taxes not on them but on some other entity instead. We can personalize the trick by talking about property taxes. Imagine that you are a homeowner and a politician tells you he is not going to tax you. Instead, he's going to tax your property and land. You would easily see the political chicanery. Land and property cannot and do not pay taxes. Again, only people pay taxes. The same principle applies to corporations.

There's another side to taxes that goes completely unappreciated. According to a 2013 study by the Virginia-based Mercatus Center, Americans spend up to \$378 billion annually in tax-related accounting costs, and in 2011, Americans spent more than 6 billion hours complying with the tax code. Those hours are equivalent to the annual hours of a workforce of 3.4 million, or the number of people employed by four of the largest U.S. companies — Wal-Mart, IBM, McDonald's and Target — combined (<http://tinyurl.com/y9dvbjza>). Along with tax cuts, tax simplification should be on the agenda.

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

Religious right is a tribe of sycophants

WASHINGTON — At the Family Research Council's recent Values Voter Summit, the religious right effectively declared its conversion to Trumpism.

The president was received as a hero. Steve Bannon and Sebastian Gorka — both fired from the White House, in part, for their extremism — set the tone and agenda. "There is a time and season for everything," Bannon said. "And right now, it's a season for war against a GOP establishment."



Michael Gerson

A time to live and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to uproot. A time to mourn and a time to embrace angry ethnonationalism and racial demagoguery. Yes, a time to mourn. There is no group in America less attached to its own ideals or more eager for its own exploitation than religious conservatives. Forget Augustine and Aquinas, Wilberforce and Shaftesbury. For many years, leaders of the religious right exactly conformed Christian social teaching to the contours of Fox News evening programming. Now, according to Bannon, "economic nationalism" is the "centerpiece of value voters." I had thought the centerpiece was a vision of human dignity rooted in faith. But never mind. Evidently the Christian approach to social justice is miraculously identical to 1930s Republican protectionism, isolationism and nativism.

Do religious right leaders have any clue how foolish they appear? Rather than confidently and persistently representing a set of distinctive beliefs, they pant and beg to be a part of someone else's movement. In this case, it is a movement that takes advantage of racial and ethnic divisions and dehumanizes Muslims, migrants and refugees. A movement that has cultivated ties to alt-right leaders and flirted with white identity politics. A movement that will eventually soil and discredit all who are associated with it.

The religious right is making itself a pitiful appendage to this squalid agenda. If Christian conservatives are loyal enough, Bannon promises that they can be "the folks who saved the Judeo-Christian West." All that is required is to abandon the best of the Judeo-Christian tradition: a belief in the inherent value and dignity of every life.

This belief in human dignity leads to a certain moral and political logic. It means

that the primary mission of Christians in public life is not to secure their own interests or to defend their own identity. It is to seek a society in which every person can flourish. This is the definition of the common good — which is not truly common unless it includes the suffering and powerless.

The common good is a neglected topic in our politics. It is not identical to market forces or to legal rules that maximize individual autonomy. It is the result of prudent public and private choices that strengthen community — the seedbed of human flourishing — and ensure the weak are valued and protected. The idea of the common good emerged from religious sources but provides a broad, political common ground.

If there is a single reason that Republican health care reform has failed, it is because party leaders could not make a credible case that the common good was being served. Even if individual elements of the various plans were rational, they did not add up to a more just, generous and inclusive society.

Who would now identify conservative Christian political engagement with the pursuit of the common good? Rather, the religious right is an interest group seeking preference and advancement from a strongman — and rewarding him with loyal acceptance of his priorities. The prophets have become clients. The priests have become acolytes.

It is possible for Christian conservatives to support the appointment of conservative judges without becoming a tribe of apologists and sycophants. It is possible to selectively endorse elements of the administration's agenda without becoming Bannon's foot soldiers.

There is more at stake here than bad politics. When Christians ally their faith with bias and exclusion, they are influencing how the public views Christianity itself. They are associating the teachings of Jesus Christ — a globalist when it came to the Great Commission — with ethnonationalist ideology. This should be a sobering prospect for any Christian. But few seem sobered. Instead, the faithful give standing ovations to the purveyors of division and prejudice.

When anyone or anything takes priority over the faith, there is a good, strong religious word for it: idolatry. And the word is unavoidable, as religious conservatives carry their golden calf into Bannon's battles.

Michael Gerson's email address is michaelgerson@washpost.com.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

LET'S GET ON WITH THE BUSINESS OF MAKING AMERICA STRONG AGAIN

When are our politicians, especially the Left, going to admit the election is over, and our president is Donald Trump, whether they like it or not? I'm not asking them to "join the ranks," just to govern for the people, as we asked you to. Give us the credit we deserve. We elected you for the representation we need. Unfortunately, we "ain't" getting our requests handled, as we wished. It's your way, not ours. It's too bad term limits will never pass because that leaves us stuck with you until someone else comes along. By the way, we're not "deplorables."

Now, regarding the budget: People, you must look beyond the numbers and realize that the Left is not giving you the full story. Listen carefully, and read between the lines. The cuts the Left is pushing are incorrect. Medicare will make some adjustments, and they're necessary due to all the fraud that is taking place within the system. Cuts will be made in other areas, again, because of fraud and abuse, so look and read carefully before getting up in arms over what the Left is telling you. Especially if you hear it from Pelosi (master legislator) or a Schumaker (oops Schumer). These are necessary adjustments for our system if we are

to someday balance our gone, wild budget. Veterans will get their benefits for their service to their country provided we get good leadership in that area and again stop the fraud and mismanagement that so flagrantly takes place. We must pull together and try to stop this, and I believe we are going in the right direction with this administration. We should stand together for a better and stronger America. Stop this "silly" bickering and infighting for special interests and get on with making this a "stronger and better America."

Again, the president's attempt to "drain the swamp" may not work be-

cause of the Left and its "we've always done it this way." Our legislators don't want to lose their jobs and therefore will resist any attempts to change the way Washington operates. I wonder if the Left would resist if a pay raise were suggested for our Washington elite. (Let's not go there.) Let's stop this foolishness of resist, resist as outlined by Schumer and get on with the business of making America strong again.

Our enemies are having a good time with our stupidity in our political arena.

God bless America.

PAUL KORZEC
Manning

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 Angie at (803) 435-8085.

C/A "Drop the Rock" Group — Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call Elizabeth at (803) 607-4543.

MONDAY MEETINGS:

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

TUESDAY MEETINGS:

Heroin Anonymous — Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 p.m., 4742 Broad St. Call (803) 494-5180.

Sumter Connective Tissue Support Group — First Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November, 7 p.m., 180 Tiller Circle. Call (803) 773-0869.

Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — First Tuesday at noon and third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498, (803) 469-4506 or (803) 938-8544.

Sumter Combat Veterans Group Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.

"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Support group for teens and adults with special needs. Call Joan at (803) 972-0051 or Carrie at (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.

Parkinson's Support Group — Second Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Carolinas Rehabilitation Hospital, 121 E. Cedar St., Florence. Call (843) 661-3746.

Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.

Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) — Third Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m., Birnie

HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. Open to anyone who has lost a loved one to murder in a violent way.

EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call Dorcus Haney at (803) 895-1252/1253 or Sue Zimmerman at (803) 847-2377.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:

Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call Bertha Willis at (803) 774-6181.

Divorce Care — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

Grief Share — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

THURSDAY MEETINGS:

TOPS S.C. No. 236 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) — Thursdays, 9 a.m., Spectrum Senior Center, 1989 Durant Lane. Call Diane at (803) 775-3926 or Nancy at (803) 469-4789.

Alzheimer's Support Group through S.C. Alzheimer's Association — First Thursday, 6-8 p.m., National Health Care, 1018 N. Guignard Drive. Call Cheryl Fluharty at (803) 905-7720 or the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 636-3346.

Journey of Hope (for family members of the mentally ill), Journey to Recovery (for the mentally ill) and Survivors of Suicide Support Group — Each group meets every first Thursday, 7 p.m., St. John United Methodist Church, 136 Poinsett Drive. Call Fred Harmon at (803) 905-5620.

FRIDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, Miller Road (across from Food Lion). For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.

Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call Kevin Johnson at (803) 778-0303.

SATURDAY MEETINGS:

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

SUNDAY MEETINGS:

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

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Sunny and pleasant	A starlit sky	Sunny and nice	Sunny and pleasant	Partly sunny and beautiful	Mainly cloudy
73°	49°	78° / 48°	79° / 51°	80° / 58°	80° / 63°
Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 25%
NE 6-12 mph	NNE 3-6 mph	NNE 4-8 mph	NE 3-6 mph	ESE 4-8 mph	ESE 6-12 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

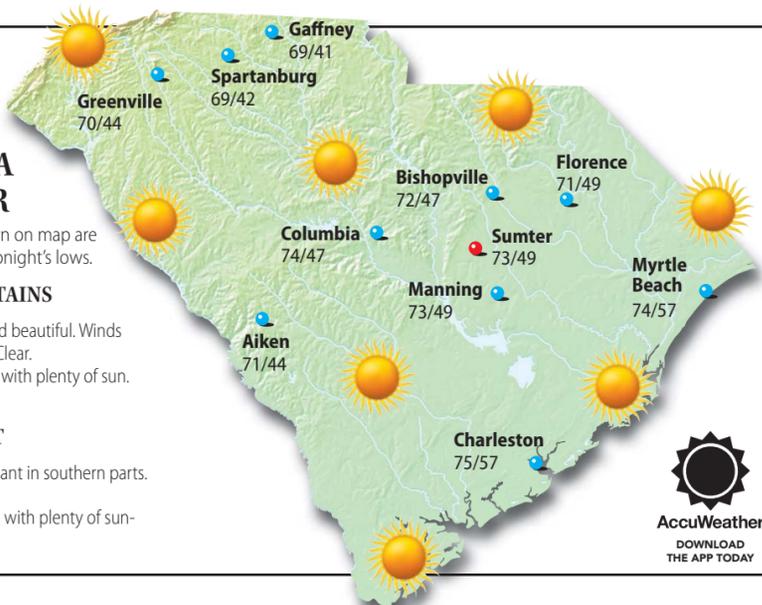
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Sunshine and beautiful. Winds northeast 4-8 mph. Clear.
Thursday: Pleasant with plenty of sun. Winds east 3-6 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Sunny; pleasant in southern parts. High 72 to 76.
Thursday: Beautiful with plenty of sunshine. High 77 to 81.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low
67°	67°	47°
Normal high	74°	50°
Normal low	50°	35°
Record high	88° in 2007	
Record low	35° in 1978	

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
trace	0.84"	2.02"	31.84"	44.55"	39.26"	

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	354.50	-0.05
Marion	76.8	74.30	-0.03
Moultrie	75.5	74.25	+0.08
Wateree	100	97.62	-0.10

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	3.92	-0.21
Congaree River	19	2.65	-0.35
Lynchies River	14	4.09	-0.26
Saluda River	14	1.69	none
Up. Santee River	80	75.27	-0.31
Wateree River	24	6.14	-0.46

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	7:29 a.m.	Sunset	6:44 p.m.
Moonrise	6:12 a.m.	Moonsset	6:28 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Oct. 19	Oct. 27	Nov. 4	Nov. 10

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	8:46 a.m.	3.5	3:08 a.m.	0.1
	8:58 p.m.	3.4	3:33 p.m.	0.0
Thu.	9:30 a.m.	3.6	3:51 a.m.	0.1
	9:40 p.m.	3.4	4:18 p.m.	0.1

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	71/49/s	75/49/s
Chicago	70/52/s	70/51/s
Dallas	83/57/s	83/63/pc
Detroit	69/50/s	71/44/s
Houston	83/62/s	86/66/pc
Los Angeles	86/64/s	78/63/pc
New Orleans	80/64/s	83/68/s
New York	72/55/s	72/55/s
Orlando	81/69/pc	83/71/pc
Philadelphia	72/52/s	73/54/s
Phoenix	97/70/pc	96/68/s
San Francisco	68/54/pc	66/54/c
Wash., DC	71/47/s	74/54/s

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thu. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	68/35/s	74/43/s	Florence	71/49/s	76/48/s
Athens	71/44/s	75/44/s	Gastonia	70/42/s	74/45/s
Augusta	76/45/s	81/46/s	Goldsboro	70/48/s	75/48/s
Beaufort	76/59/s	81/58/s	Goose Creek	74/56/s	79/54/s
Cape Hatteras	74/64/s	77/65/s	Greensboro	68/43/s	73/48/s
Charleston	75/57/s	80/55/s	Greenville	70/44/s	73/48/s
Charlotte	71/42/s	75/47/s	Hickory	68/39/s	73/45/s
Clemson	71/45/s	74/48/s	Hilton Head	74/61/s	79/59/s
Columbia	74/47/s	79/48/s	Jacksonville, FL	80/66/pc	80/67/pc
Darlington	72/47/s	76/46/s	La Grange	73/46/s	77/47/s
Elizabeth City	70/53/s	76/52/s	Macon	75/46/s	80/46/s
Elizabethtown	71/51/s	76/48/s	Marietta	70/45/s	74/45/s
Fayetteville	71/47/s	77/47/s	Marion	68/36/s	73/42/s
			Mt. Pleasant	74/60/s	80/58/s
			Myrtle Beach	74/57/s	78/55/s
			Orangeburg	73/49/s	77/48/s
			Port Royal	75/60/s	79/60/s
			Raleigh	69/43/s	74/46/s
			Rock Hill	69/41/s	73/44/s
			Rockingham	71/44/s	76/45/s
			Savannah	77/58/s	82/57/s
			Spartanburg	69/42/s	72/45/s
			Summerville	73/55/s	79/52/s
			Wilmington	74/55/s	79/52/s
			Winston-Salem	68/39/s	73/46/s

PUBLIC AGENDA

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

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You shouldn't have to use force to get your way. Gentle persuasion and offering something in return will help you keep the peace and reach your objective. Partnerships look promising and a joint venture will lead to a bright future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll face problems with a relative, neighbor or mentor. Listen to the information offered, but don't feel the need to voice your own opinion. Keeping the peace will give you more time to work on what's really important to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can improve your relationships by addressing the issues that concern you. Knowing where you stand and what those you deal with daily are thinking or trying to achieve will help you figure out what you can contribute.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Handle touchy situations carefully. Be secretive about what you are doing if it will help you avoid conflict or interference. Once you are fully prepared to discuss your options, it will be easier to persuade those influenced by your decisions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use your Leo charm. If you want something, offer incentives and show others you care. You can offer suggestions that are impossible to turn down, but first make sure you can live up to your promises.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You don't have to spend money to make an impression. In fact, handling money cautiously will make you look good. Anyone trying to persuade you to spend more is not someone looking out

for your best interests.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Mull over all your options. Change is encouraged, but only if it will be conducive to getting the end results you are looking for. Use your insight to find your footing in a time when uncertainty prevails.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Walk away from demanding people. Do your homework and you'll discover how much validity there is behind a proposal you are offered. Change can be good, but only if it is within reason and affordable. Trust your instincts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get along with your peers if you want to get ahead. Showing that you can be a team player will help you gain respect. An opportunity will crop up if you get together with someone from your past. Embrace change.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Poor choices regarding love, physical and emotional alterations will develop if you aren't discreet or you allow others to interfere in your life and your plans. Avoid impulsive people, decisions or moves.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Positive change is heading your way. Don't sabotage your chance to get ahead by taking on too much or overreacting because you think you deserve more. Less talk and more action will help you get to where you want to go.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't lose control of pending financial, medical or legal matters. Regroup and look for a way to avoid loss. Cut corners and use your intelligence and intuition to help you make wise choices. Negotiate on your own behalf.

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803-774-2100

www.BrownsOfSumter.com

New Fall Selections

SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PET OF THE WEEK



Look at this stunning young lady. Kiwi is not only easy on the eyes, but she is also loving and playful. She enjoys time around the other pups and gobbles up attention from the volunteers. If you would like to learn more about Kiwi and arrange a meet and greet, contact the Sumter Animal Control adoption coordinator at (803) 774-3232 or rescuesumtersc@gmail.com. Sumter Animal Control is located at 1240 Winkles Road.

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

PREP FOOTBALL

The Sumter Item bestows honors on quartet

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Carolina Forest High School football team was able to get off 60 plays in its game against Sumter last Friday, six more than the Gamecocks. The Panthers though had just 230 yards of total offense compared to 305 for SHS in its 29-20 victory.

One man who had a lot to do with limiting CF's offensive output was outside linebacker Antonio Roach. The junior finished with 15 tackles, two quarterback sacks, two tackles for loss, one forced fumble and one pass breakup. Because of his per-

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

			
RICHARDSON	ROACH	JACKSON	WALTERS
OFFENSIVE PLAYER	DEFENSIVE PLAYER	OFFENSIVE LINEMAN	SPECIAL TEAMS

formance, Roach has been selected as *The Sumter Item* Defensive Player of the Week. Lakewood quarterback

Malik Richardson was named the Offensive Player of the Week, Robert E. Lee Academy offensive tackle Billy Jackson

was selected as the Offensive Lineman of the Week and C.E. Murray's Tyrese Walters was chosen as the Special Teams Player of the Week.

Players are selected based on nominations from local high school coaches. Selections are made by *The Sumter Item*.

The quartet will be honored at the weekly meeting of the Sumter Touchdown Club presented by Farmers Telephone Cooperative on Friday. The meeting will be held at the Swan Lake Visitors Center beginning at 7:15 a.m. The visitors center is located inside the gates of Swan Lake-Iris Gardens on West Liberty Street.

The guest speaker on Friday will be Kyle Krantz, a defensive analyst for the University of South Carolina football team.

Gamecock head coach Mark Barnes said Roach has been solid for his defensive unit the entire season.

"He played strong safety on junior varsity last year, but we moved him to outside linebacker," Barnes said. "He plays with a strong motor every game and he plays hard. He's very physical, especially for his size (5-feet-8-inches, 175 pounds), and he plays very well in space."

SEE WEEK, PAGE B2

USC FOOTBALL

Bigger goals



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina linebacker Skai Moore (10) and the rest of the Gamecocks are looking for bigger things after going into the bye week with a 5-2 record.

South Carolina looks to keep improving through bye week

BY PETE IACOBELLI
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina has been one of the Southeastern Conference's biggest surprises this fall heading into its bye week. Gamecocks coach Will Muschamp believes his players will keep working hard during the time off to continue surprising people when they get back on the field.

Muschamp said he'll give his banged-up players like offensive line starters Zack Bailey, Cory Helms and Malik Young time to heal from their injuries. He expects the rest of the Gamecocks (5-2, 3-2 SEC) to keep grinding to improve for the stretch run, which starts at home against Vanderbilt on Oct. 28.

"It's about working on South

Carolina," Muschamp said. "It's not about working on any opponents right now. We have plenty of time next week to get ready for Vanderbilt. We need to work on South Carolina on Wednesday and Thursday. The guys who are nicked up, we will be smart with them in practice, but we need to continue to progress and improve."

Few were quite sure what direction the Gamecocks were headed at times this season. They opened by defeating North Carolina State, which has won its six games since and is tied for No. 16 in this week's Top 25. Then came SEC losses at home to Kentucky and on the road to Texas A&M to end September as South Carolina's of-

fense struggled to move the ball and score points.

That's when South Carolina's defense stepped up for this latest surge. The Gamecocks had a school-record three defensive touchdowns in a 48-22 rout of Arkansas two weeks ago, then followed that up by limiting Tennessee to nine points and keeping the Vols out of the end zone with a last-second goal line stand to preserve the 15-9 victory.

"Anytime you get a win, especially like that, it takes the weight off of your shoulders and then you feel a lot more confident," South Carolina receiver Bryan Edwards said. "We can go into the open week with a good feeling and get a good week of practice in and come out next week ready to play."

SEE USC, PAGE B2

PREP TENNIS

Wilson Hall knocks off Hammond

7-2 victory propels tennis team into SCISA 3A semifinals

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Wilson Hall varsity girls tennis team defeated Hammond for the third time this season on Monday, winning 7-2 in the first round of the SCISA 3A state playoffs at Palmetto Tennis Center.

While the final score indicates an easy win for the Lady Barons, head coach Debby Williams thought her team had a gut check.

"Our No. 3 player (Emily Anne Beasley) had to fight through a tiebreaker," Williams said. "(No. 5 player) Carly (Allred) got sick after the first set - she went to the bathroom and got sick - and she came back and won the second set and the match. I thought our girls really battled through some tough things."

With the victory, WH improved to 15-0 on the season and advanced to the semifinals, which will be played on Friday at Cayce Tennis Center beginning at 2:15 p.m. Wilson Hall will take on Ashley Hall, which defeated Cardinal Newman 8-1.

The Lady Barons won five of the six singles matches. Zan Beasley, the No. 1 player, defeated MiKenzie Turner 6-0, 6-1. Shelby Guldán, the No. 2 player, defeated Adeline Lundy 6-0, 6-0.

Emily Anne Beasley and No. 4 singles player Lizzy Davis remained undefeated as singles players. Emily Anne topped Claire Lewis 6-1, 3-6, 12-10, while Davis whipped Marchant Harris 6-0, 6-2.

Allred topped Maggie Irvin 6-0, 6-2 at No. 5.

With the five singles victories, the match could have ended at that point. However, Williams was able to persuade Hammond to play the doubles matches.

"I felt like we needed to play those for practice," Williams said. "When we practice, it's Zan and Shelby (the No. 1 team)

SEE TENNIS, PAGE B2

PREP FOOTBALL

Lee Central, Sumter rise in polls, Manning hangs on

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

The Lee Central High School football team moved up a spot in the 2A poll because of its Region IV victory over Cheraw, and Sumter moved up a spot in the 5A poll as it awaits its Region VI showdown with Conway on Friday in the S.C. Prep Media Football Poll released on Tuesday.

Two other local teams are ranked the top 10 in their respective polls as well. Scott's Branch reentered the 1A poll, while Manning stayed in the 3A poll despite suffering its second straight loss.

Lee Central moved from sixth to fifth thanks to its 14-7 victory over

then No. 4 Cheraw. LC moved up as the Braves fell to No. 7.

The 8-1 Stallions can capture a share of the region title and the region's No. 1 seed in the state playoffs with a road victory at Andrew Jackson High on Friday.

Chesterfield, a region foe of both Lee Central and Cheraw, held steady at No. 10 in the 2A poll.

Sumter moved up a spot from No. 7 to No. 6 because then No. 6 Spartanburg lost to Dorman last week. Conway stayed right behind Sumter in the poll, moving up from eighth to seventh. The Gamecocks and Tigers are both 7-1 overall and 3-0 in region play as they meet on Friday at Sumter Me-

morial Stadium's Freddie Solomon Field for a 7:30 p.m. game. The winner will claim at least a share of the region title and the region's No. 1 playoff seed.

Manning managed to stay in the 3A poll despite suffering a 48-25 loss to Region VII foe Timberland, the team with which it was tied for sixth in the poll. The 6-2 Monarchs dropped into a tie for 10th with Pendleton, while Timberland is now No. 6 alone.

Scott's Branch is tied with Ridge Spring-Monetta for ninth in the 1A poll. The Eagles defeated St. John's 8-7 last week for their third straight victory.

SEE POLLS, PAGE B2



MARK MORGAN / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

Lee Central's Demetrius Dubose runs with the ball during the Stallions' 14-7 win over Cheraw on Friday at Stallions Stadium. Lee Central moved up a spot to fifth in the 2A poll of the S.C. Prep Media Football Poll.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina quarterback Jake Bentley (19) throws a pass in the first half of the Gamecocks' 15-9 victory over Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee, on Saturday. South Carolina figured to be a work in progress in coach Will Muschamp's second season, but headed into their bye week the Gamecocks are among the Southeastern Conference's biggest surprises at 5-2 and have their sights set on even bigger things the rest of the way.

USC FROM PAGE B1

And perhaps with more to play for. South Carolina's final two conference games after Vanderbilt are at Georgia and Florida at home. With a strong finish, the Gamecocks could certainly have something to say about the SEC Eastern Division and who heads to Atlanta for the title game. The Gamecocks haven't had a winning SEC record since going 6-2 in 2013, the last of three straight 11-2 overall seasons under Steve Spurrier. Muschamp has had just one winning league season in five previous years as an SEC head coach, going 7-1 with

Florida in 2012.

Muschamp said he and his team won't worry about anything beyond the here and now.

"I think every week is a season and our guys understand that part," Muschamp said.

South Carolina has hung together despite several key injuries. Receiver Deebo Samuel was lost for an extended period after a left leg fracture in mid-September in the Kentucky loss. Senior linebacker Bryson Allen-Williams went down with a shoulder injury and will not play again this fall. And just last week, starting tailback Rico Dowdle fractured a bone in his

left leg. He'll need surgery and be out for several games.

Muschamp will use to the open week to get his younger guys not in the regular rotation some extra, intense practice time. When the Gamecocks take the practice field this week, the offense will focus on executing especially on third downs. The Gamecocks are ninth in the SEC in third-down conversions at 38 percent this season, a number Muschamp would like to see go up.

"I really think that our guys will handle things well as far as the open week and heading into the final five games of the season," he said.

WEEK FROM PAGE B1

"He's certainly been a strong player for us all season."

Richardson completed 7 of 14 passes for 149 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for 108 yards and another score on 13 carries in the Gators' 38-35 loss to Dartington.

"Malik has been solid for us all season," said first-year LHS head coach Larry Cornelius. "He has around 1,500 yards of total offense (passing for 886 yards and running for 733 for 2-7 Lakewood). He's not quick, but he's fast; he runs a 4.6 (seconds) 100-yard dash. So when you've got 6-4, 200 pounds running a 4.6 right at you, he's tough to bring down.

"He's very durable and he doesn't shy away from contact."

Jackson graded out a 88 percent and had two knockdown blocks in REL's 35-20 victory over Florence Christian School. The Cavaliers rushed for 210 yards on 37 carries and finished with 287 yards of total offense.

"He has really good feet," Robert E. Lee head coach David Rankin said of his 6-3, 260-pound left tackle, who is getting looks from Newberry and North Greenville.

"When he gets on you, he stays on you. He can really play."

Walters connected on a 37-yard field goal, was perfect on all five of his extra point attempts and had four touchbacks on kickoffs in C.E. Murray's 40-8 victory over Branchville.

"He's a huge advantage for us," War Eagles head coach Chad Wilkes said of Walters. "He has missed just one extra point this season, and 75 percent of his kickoffs are touchbacks. That's a huge weapon for us, him being able to put it in the end zone."

"We haven't needed him to kick any field goals because of our offense, but he drilled this one. It's nice to know you have him there."

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL players, owners hold 'constructive' talks on issues

BY BARRY WILNER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — NFL players and owners held an unusual meeting Tuesday to discuss social issues, a session both sides termed positive and productive.

What was not discussed at any length was the divisive topic of the national anthem that has caught the attention of President Donald Trump.

"We spent today talking about issues that the players are trying to bring attention to," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said. "That was the entire focus."

Asked if the players committed to standing during the anthem, Goodell responded: "We did not ask for that."

A group of 11 owners and more than a dozen players met for more than two hours at the league's headquarters. Among the topics discussed was enhancing the players' platforms for speaking out on social issues.

"We heard what they had to say and they heard us," Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross said. "It's open talks and that's a good thing."

The NFL's policy on the national anthem did not come up. That policy states that the players "should" stand for the anthem, and some have suggested the league would seek to change that to "must" stand. Goodell said in a memo to the teams last week that the NFL prefers for players to stand during "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"Very little of the meeting was about the actual anthem," Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins said. "We were really more talking about solutions and how we get the results that we want to get."

Ross called the session "constructive," and Colts defensive back Darius Butler termed it "positive."

Goodell spoke briefly before heading to further league meetings. He emphasized the commitment on the part of the players and the NFL "to work together on issues of social justice."

"Our players are men of great character," he added, "and they have a deep understanding and tremendous knowledge of the issues going on in all our communities. This is something our owners said we want to support you in."

Butler, who played Monday night in Nashville before attending the meeting hours later, said both sides are headed in the right direction. He said the players delivered "our perspective. Obviously it's a different perspective. I think that's the most important thing when it comes to these issues is perspective and respecting everyone's rights regardless of how they feel."

The players' union and the league issued a joint statement just before the annual fall owners meetings began. The owners meetings continue Wednesday, when the anthem could be discussed.

"Today owners and players had a productive

meeting focused on how we can work together to promote positive social change and address inequality in our communities," the statement said. "NFL executives and owners joined NFLPA executives and player leaders to review and discuss plans to utilize our platform to promote equality and effectuate positive change. We agreed that these are common issues and pledged to meet again to continue this work together."

"As we said last week, everyone who is part of our NFL community has a tremendous respect for our country, our flag, our anthem and our military. In the best American tradition, we are coming together to find common ground and commit to the hard work required for positive change."

On hand at the meeting were Goodell and the league's football operations chief, former player Troy Vincent; and owners Michael Bidwill (Arizona), Arthur Blank (Atlanta), Terry Pegula (Buffalo), Robert McNair (Houston), Shad Khan (Jacksonville), Ross, Robert Kraft (New England), John Mara (New York Giants), Art Rooney (Pittsburgh), Jeffrey Lurie (Philadelphia) and Jed York (San Francisco).

Representing the players were NFLPA Executive Director DeMaurice Smith, union president Eric Winston, former player Anquan Boldin, and current players Butler (Indianapolis), Russell Okung (Los Angeles Chargers), Kenny Stills, Julius Thomas and Michael Thomas (Miami), Mark Herzlich (New York Giants), Kelvin Beachum and Demario Davis (New York Jets), Jenkins and Chris Long (Philadelphia), Eric Reid (San Francisco) and Josh Norman (Washington).

Jenkins has been one of the leading spokesmen among the players, as well as highly active in the community. He said the discussion was about "everything to do with the state of the NFL now, obviously anthem protests, activism that players have been doing, and how we can move this forward to really amplify players' voices and amplify these issues and make some long sustainable changes."

"I'm not sure we're close to a resolution, but conversations are ongoing," he added. "It went from just phone calls to obviously this is the first time meeting. So I don't think we could come up with a whole plan and solution in two hours, but we are happy that these things are happening. We're looking forward to the opportunity to really put a good plan together."

Earlier, outside of the hotel where the owners are meeting, two dozen supporters of Black Lives Matter New York held a rally backing the players for speaking out — particularly former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick for kneeling during the anthem last year in protest of racial injustice in America. Demonstrations during the anthem increased when Trump called the players unpatriotic if they knelt during the anthem, with both players and league executives saying the meaning of the protests has been misconstrued by the president and his supporters.

POLLS FROM PAGE B1

Hartsville, a Region VI-4A foe for both Lakewood and Crestwood, remained at No. 3 in the 4A poll. The Red Foxes travel to Dalzell on Friday to take on Crestwood.

Scott's Branch joined Region V foe C.E. Murray in the 1A poll. The War Eagles moved from No. 7 to sixth. Two of East Clarendon's Region VI foes, Hemingway and Lake View, remain second and third, respectively in the 1A poll.

The No. 1 team remained

the same in each of the five classes with three of them — Fort Dorchester in 5A, South Pointe in 4A and Lamar in 1A — unanimous choices.

Chapman remains atop the 3A poll, getting 13 of the first-place votes with Dillon getting the other. Abbeville is still No. 1 in the 2A poll, but it got 11 first-place votes after getting nine last week. Barnwell remained in second, picking up three No. 1 votes after getting five last week.

STATE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL POLLS

5A
1. FORT DORCHESTER (14)
2. T.L. HANNA
3. DUTCH FORK
4. SPRING VALLEY
5. BYRNES
6. SUMTER
7. CONWAY
8. SUMMERVILLE
9. DORMAN
10. SPARTANBURG
Receiving votes: Greenwood, Hillcrest.

4A
1. SOUTH POINTE (14)
2. NORTH MYRTLE BEACH
3. HARTSVILLE
4. NORTH AUGUSTA
5. BELTON HONEA PATH
6. GREER
7. BERKELEY
8. YORK
9. SOUTH AIKEN
10. GREENVILLE
Receiving votes: Cane Bay, Beaufort.

3A
1. CHAPMAN (13)
2. DILLON (1)
3. NEWBERRY
4. GILBERT
5. CHESTER
6. TIMBERLAND
7. BROOME
8. FAIRFIELD CENTRAL
9. BROOKLAND-CAYCE
10. MANNING AND PENDLETON (TIE)
Receiving votes: Emerald, Walhalla, Bishop England, Bluffton, Seneca, Strom Thurmond.

2A

1. ABBEVILLE (11)
2. Barnwell (3)
3. CARVERS BAY
4. BAMBERG-EHRHARDT
5. LEE CENTRAL
6. SOUTHSIDE CHRISTIAN
7. CHERAW
8. SALUDA
9. ANDREWS
10. CHESTERFIELD
RECEIVING VOTES: Latta, Buford.

1A
1. LAMAR (14)
2. HEMINGWAY
3. LAKE VIEW
4. LEWISVILLE
5. WILLISTON-ELKO
6. C.E. MURRAY
7. BAPTIST HILL
8. WAGENER-SALLEY
9. RIDGE SPRING-MONETTA AND SCOTT'S BRANCH (TIE)
Receiving votes: McCormick, Cross, Hannah-Pamlico.

Voters: Chris Dearing, The State; Bret McCormick, The Herald; Lou Bejak, The State; Joe Hughes, The Sun News; Tyler Cupp, WPUB radio; Travis Jenkins, Chester News Reporter; Jed Blackwell, Spartanburg Herald-Journal; Bob Castello, Greenville News; Chris Burgin, 100.1 The Fan; Eric Russell, Aiken Standard; Scott Chancey, Florence Morning News; Chris Clark, Orangeburg Times and Democrat; Dennis Brunson, Sumter Item; David Roberts, Greenwood Index-Journal; David Shelton, Charleston Post and Courier; Lake Morris, Anderson Independent Mail.

TENNIS FROM PAGE B1

playing against (No. 2) Emily and Lizzy. I felt like the girls needed a change of scenery."

Both teams lost the first game in the 8-game pro set before rallying to win the set.

WILSON HALL 7 HAMMOND 2

SINGLES
1—Zan Beasley (WH) defeated Mikenzie Turner 6-0, 6-3.

2—Shelby Guldán (WH) defeated Adeline Lundy 6-0, 6-0.
3—Emily Anne Beasley (WH) defeated Claire Lewis 6-1, 3-6, 12-10.
4—Lizzy Davis (WH) defeated Marchant Harris 6-0, 6-2.
5—Carly Allred (WH) defeated Maggie Irvin 6-3, 6-3.
6—Mikayla Turner (WH) defeated Bella Land 3-6, 6-1, 10-7.

DOUBLES
1—Z. Beasley/Guldán (WH) defeated Mike. Turner/Lewis 8-3.
2—E. Beasley/Davis (WH) defeated Lundy/Harris 8-1.
3—Mika. Turner/Madeline Lencke (H) defeated Land/Steph Areford 8-4.

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Judge's 2B helps Yankees rally for 6-4 win to even ALCS

BY JAKE SEINER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With a soaring shot headed for Yankee Stadium's Monument Park, Aaron Judge got New York back on track for another memorable October.

Judge ignited a rousing rally with a home run, then doubled during a four-run eighth inning to spur the unflappable New York Yankees over the Houston Astros 6-4 Tuesday night and tie the AL Championship Series 2-2.

The Baby Bombers trailed 4-0 against starter Lance McCullers Jr. until Judge homered leading off the seventh. He tied it with a line drive that nearly left the park in the eighth and scored when Gary Sanchez hit a go-ahead two-run double off loser Ken Giles.

The Yankees overcame three errors and have roared back from a second straight 0-2 series deficit — they beat Cleveland in the Division Series by winning three in a row to take that best-of-five matchup.

Aroldis Chapman struck out two in a perfect ninth to cap a three-hitter. New York improved to 5-0 at home in the playoffs and won for the 18th time in their last 21 home games.

Yankee Stadium will be rocking again when Masahiro Tanaka pitches for New York against Dallas Keuchel in Game 5 Wednesday. It's a rematch of the series opener, when Keuchel outdid the Japanese right-hander in a 2-1 Astros win.

An AL MVP candidate



New York Yankee Aaron Judge hits an RBI double during the eighth inning of the Yankees' 6-4 victory over Houston in Game 4 of the American League Championship Series in New York on Tuesday. The series is tied 2-2 entering today's Game 5.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

marred in a sluggish October, Judge sparked the Yankees by chasing McCullers, who baffled the Yankees with his power breaking ball.

Except for the last one, Judge launched a curveball into the netting above center field's Monument Park for New York's second hit.

"Once we're within striking distance like that, anything can happen," Judge said.

Houston manager A.J.

Hinch pulled McCullers after 81 pitches, Didi Gregorius tripled off Chris Devenski and Sanchez brought Gregorius in with a sacrifice fly.

"I thought Aaron's home run just lit a little spark," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said.

Todd Frazier led off the eighth with a double to left, and pinch hitter Chase Headley then did the same — only after falling between first and second base, taking one step

back, then heading for second and sliding in ahead of Jose Altuve's tag.

"Panic," Headley recalled. "I went from one of the best feelings of my career to one of the worst in just a matter of seconds, but fortunately it worked out."

Brett Gardner brought in Frazier on a groundout, and Judge came to bat with the bundled crowd on its feet.

He reached down to stay

with a slider and drilled a double high off the left-field wall as a fan in a long-sleeve yellow shirt reached down and touched the ball. Gardner came home with the tying run, and Gregorius grounded a single just beyond shortstop Carlos Correa's reach to put runners at the corner. Sanchez, who had been 0 for 13 in the series, scored them both with a slicing drive that skipped to the wall in right-center.

SPORTS ITEMS

S.C. State Marching '101' to perform at Sumter football game on Friday

The South Carolina State University Marching "101" Band will perform at halftime of Sumter High School's home football game against Conway on Friday.

The game is scheduled for a 7:30 p.m. start at Sumter Memorial Stadium's Freddie Solomon Field.

The game will be for the Region VI-5A championship and a No. 1 seed in the state playoffs.

WH CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS WIN

The Wilson Hall boys and girls cross country teams both won their SCISA Region II-3A meets on Tuesday at Patriot Park SportPlex.

In the boys meet, Wilson Hall took the top five individual spots to defeat Laurence Manning Academy and Orangeburg Prep. Bryce Lyles won the race in a time of 17 minutes, 20 seconds. Matthew Taveraz was second (18:25), Layton Creech third (18:48), Matthew Blankenship fourth (19:48) and Drew Davis fifth (20:28).

The Lady Barons also took the top five spots as well.

Kirsten Fisher was first in 20:16. Molly Moss was second (20:48), Margeret Kelly third (21:25), Haley Roone McCaffrey fourth (22:12), and Chandler Curtis fifth (22:05).

SUMTER MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAYOFFS SET

Bates Middle School will play host to Mayewood and Alice Drive will be at home against Manning in the semi-final games of the Sumter Middle School Conference playoffs.

The games will be played today beginning at 5 p.m.

The championship game will be played on Wednesday, Oct. 25.

USC PICK TO WIN 5TH STRAIGHT SEC TITLE

BRIMINGHAM, Ala. — South Carolina is the pre-season favorite to win its fifth straight Southeastern Conference women's basketball crown while Gamecocks cen-

ter A'ja Wilson is projected to win her third consecutive SEC player of the year award.

A panel of SEC and national media voted on the pre-season rankings that the league released on Tuesday.

National champion South Carolina was picked ahead of

Mississippi State, which lost to the Gamecocks in both the SEC women's basketball tournament final and the NCAA Tournament final.

Missouri is third, followed by Tennessee and Texas A&M. Wilson, the 6-foot-5 senior, was picked for the pre-

season all-SEC team. Others on the preseason SEC team include: Victoria Vivians and Morgan William of Mississippi State, Missouri's Sophie Cunningham and Tennessee's Mercedes Russell.

From staff and wire reports

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SCOREBOARD

TV SPORTS

TODAY
6 a.m. — Professional Tennis: Stockholm Open Early-Round Matches from Stockholm, Sweden (TENNIS).
7:20 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA U-17 World Cup Round-of-16 Match from Navi Mumbai, India — Niger vs. Ghana (FOX SPORTS 2).
10:20 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA U-17 World Cup Round-of-16 Match from Kochi, India — Brazil vs. Honduras (FOX SPORTS 2).
12:30 p.m. — Professional Tennis: Stockholm Open Early-Round Matches from Stockholm, Sweden (TENNIS).
2:30 p.m. — International Soccer: UEFA Champions League Group D Match — Olympiacos vs. FC Barcelona (FOX SPORTS 2).
2:30 p.m. — International Soccer: UEFA Champions League Group C Match — Roma vs. Chelsea (FOX SPORTS/OUTBACK).
4:30 p.m. — Professional Tennis: Kremlin Cup Early-Round Matches from Moscow (TENNIS).
5 p.m. — Major League Baseball: American League Championship Series Game 5 — Houston at New York Yankees (FOX SPORTS 1).
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Philadelphia at Washington (ESPN).
7 p.m. — Women's College Volleyball: Michigan at Michigan State (ESPN).
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Detroit (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).
7 p.m. — Women's College Soccer: Boston University at Army (SPECTRUM 1250).
8 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Chicago at St. Louis (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
8 p.m. — Women's College Volleyball: South Carolina at Auburn (SEC NETWORK).
9 p.m. — Women's College Volleyball: Mississippi at Louisiana State (ESPN).
9 p.m. — Major League Baseball: National League Championship Series Game 4 — Los Angeles Dodgers at Chicago Cubs (TBS).
9:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Minnesota at San Antonio (ESPN).
10 p.m. — PGA Golf: CJ Cup @ Nine Bridges First Round from Jeju Island, South Korea (GOLF).
10:30 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Montreal at Los Angeles (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).
4 a.m. — International Soccer: FIFA U-17 World Cup Round-of-16 Match from Goa, India — Iraq vs. Mali (FOX SPORTS 2).

NFL STANDINGS

Table with columns for Conference (American, National), Division (East, South, West, North), and Team. Includes win/loss records, percentages, and points for/against.

Table with columns for Division (Northwest, Pacific), Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists teams like Denver, Minnesota, Oklahoma City, etc.

MONDAY'S GAMES

No games scheduled.
TUESDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES

Brooklyn at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Miami at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Utah, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at San Antonio, 9:30 p.m.
Houston at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Portland at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Chicago at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Atlanta at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Washington, 7 p.m.
Portland at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Golden State at New Orleans, 9:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

Table with columns for Conference (Eastern, Western), Division (Atlantic, Central, Pacific), and Team. Includes win/loss records, percentages, and points for/against.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for Division (Central, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Rank, Team, W, L, T, Pct, GF, GA. Lists teams like South Dakota, Wofford, Central Arkansas, etc.

TOP 25 SCHEDULE

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
THURSDAY
No. 25 Memphis at Houston, 8 p.m.
SATURDAY
No. 1 Alabama vs. Tennessee, 3:30 p.m.
No. 2 Penn State vs. No. 19 Michigan, 7:30 p.m.
No. 4 TCU vs. Kansas, 8 p.m.
No. 5 Wisconsin vs. Maryland, Noon
No. 8 Miami vs. Syracuse, 3:30 p.m.
No. 9 Oklahoma at Kansas State, 4 p.m.
No. 10 Oklahoma State at Texas, Noon
No. 11 Southern Cal at No. 13 Notre Dame, 7:30 p.m.
No. 14 Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina, 3:30 p.m.
No. 15 Washington State vs. Colorado, 10:45 p.m.
No. 16 South Florida at Tulane, 7 p.m.
No. 18 Michigan State vs. Indiana, 3:30 p.m.
No. 20 UCF at Navy, 3:30 p.m.
No. 21 Auburn at Arkansas, 7:30 p.m.
No. 23 West Virginia at Baylor, 8 p.m.
No. 24 LSU at Mississippi, 7:15 p.m.

MLB POSTSEASON

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Houston 2, New York 1
Friday, Oct. 13: Houston 2, New York 1
Saturday, Oct. 14: Houston 2, New York 1
Monday, Oct. 16: New York 8, Houston 1
Tuesday, Oct. 17: Houston (McCullers 7-4) at New York (Gray 10-12), 5:08 p.m. (FS1)
Wednesday, Oct. 18: Houston (Keuchel 14-5) at New York (Tanaka 13-12), 5:08 p.m. (FS1)
x-Friday, Oct. 20: New York (Severino 14-6) at Houston (Verlander 15-8), 8:08 p.m. (FS1)
x-Saturday, Oct. 21: New York at Houston, 8:08 p.m. (FS1)

WORLD SERIES
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
All Games Televised by Fox
Game 1: Tuesday, Oct. 24
Game 2: Wednesday, Oct. 25
Game 3: Friday, Oct. 27
Game 4: Saturday, Oct. 28
Game 5: x-Sunday, Oct. 29
Game 6: x-Tuesday, Oct. 31
Game 7: x-Wednesday, Nov. 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Los Angeles 2, Chicago 0
Saturday, Oct. 14: Los Angeles 5, Chicago 2
Sunday, Oct. 15: Los Angeles 4, Chicago 1
Tuesday, Oct. 17: Los Angeles (Darvish 10-12) at Chicago (Hendricks 7-5), 9:08 p.m. (TBS)
Wednesday, Oct. 18: Los Angeles (Wood 16-3) at Chicago (Arrieta 14-10), 9:08 p.m. (TBS)
x-Thursday, Oct. 19: Los Angeles at Chicago, 8:08 p.m. (TBS)
x-Saturday, Oct. 21: Chicago at Los Angeles, 4:08 or 8:08 p.m. (TBS)
x-Sunday, Oct. 22: Chicago at Los Angeles, 7:38 p.m. (TBS)

TRANSACTIONS
TUESDAY
By The Associated Press
BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Assigned LHP Jason Gurka outright to Salt Lake (PCL).
BASKETBALL
WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
WNBA — Announced the San Antonio Stars are being purchased by MGM Resorts International and will move to Las Vegas.

FOOTBALL
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
ATLANTA FALCONS — Released PK Mike Meyer from the practice squad. Placed QB Trevor Knight on the practice squad injured list. Re-signed RB Brian Hill, DL Joey Ivia and QB Garrett Grayson to the practice squad.
BUFFALO BILLS — Signed WR Deonte Thompson. Released RB Joe Banyard. Signed S L.J. McCray to the practice squad. Released OL Jordan Mudge and DE Marquavious Lewis from the practice squad.
DETROIT LIONS — Removed P Sam Martin from the reserve/non-football injury list.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed QB Jerod Evans to the practice squad.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Waived PK Jason Myers. Signed PK Josh Lambo.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Waived/injured CB Michael Hunter. Reinstated CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie from the reserve/suspended list.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Released QB Joel Stave from the practice squad.

HOCKEY
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
LOS ANGELES KINGS — Recalled F Justin Auger from Ontario (AHL). Assigned F Jonny Brodzinski to Ontario.
NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Placed D Yannick Weber on injured reserve. Recalled F Frederick Gaudreau from Milwaukee (AHL).

COLLEGE
BIG TEN CONFERENCE — Named A.J. Edds assistant director of sports administration and Jerrell Price assistant director of basketball and football operations.
AUBURN — Dismissed WR Kyle Davis from the football team.
SIENA — Named Brandon Sweet intramural coordinator.

PRO FOOTBALL



AP FILE PHOTO

Carolina linebacker Luke Kuechly (59) is helped off the field after being injured in the first half of the Panthers' 28-23 loss to Philadelphia in Charlotte on Oct. 12. For the third time in three years, the Panthers have to find a way to replace Kuechly because of a concussion. Only this time, they don't have A.J. Klein to turn to since he signed with New Orleans. It's David Mayo's turn to anchor the defense.

Panthers look to fill void left by Kuechly

CHARLOTTE (AP) — The Carolina Panthers are faced with the difficult task of replacing three-time All-Pro Luke Kuechly for the third time in three seasons.

Only this time they don't have A.J. Klein to fill in at middle linebacker.

Kuechly is back in the NFL concussion protocol after taking a blow to the head in Carolina's 28-23 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles on Thursday night. He attended practice on Tuesday but did not participate. Coach Ron Rivera said Kuechly is "advancing" in the NFL protocol,

but said his status remains unclear for Sunday when the Panthers (4-2) visit the Chicago Bears (2-4).

Kuechly spent three weeks in the NFL concussion protocol in 2015 and 2016 and has missed nine games altogether in the previous two seasons.

"You can't replace Luke Kuechly," said Julius Peppers. "... He leaves a void in the defense. He's the main communicator, his leadership, all of those things we miss out there. ... But you can't replace players like that. He's a special guy."



Amanda McNulty, County Extension Agent

Litter Triage

Palmetto Pride, our state beautification and anti-litter organization, has a pledge we all should follow. "I promise not to litter." (That one is easy for most of us; there are people who still casually throw any trash out the window of their car or truck and shame on them). "I promise to always put litter in its proper place." (This is a little trickier; on litter cleanups we often find whole bags of garbage — the convenience center was closed so a bag of properly collected trash ended up on the roadside where animals chewed through the plastic to get to the chicken bones inside.) "I promise to pick up at least one piece of litter every day." (This is the hurdle; I've had cousins fuss at me for bending over and scooping up trash as we walked across a parking lot — "You'll get germs on your hands!"

I've changed the way I pick up litter. At the grocery store, the place I most commonly stoop over and retrieve something from the pavement, I now practice litter triage. Paper receipts, ad flyers on newspaper, and cardboard candy boxes aren't my first priority even though they are easy targets. Instead, I focus on plastics.

We produce 300 million tons of plastic every year and half of that is for single use items. Single use items include those flimsy plastic bags I wrote about recently; they never decompose but break down into tiny particles that many eventually wash into surface water and from there to the oceans.

Here is a part of my recent article. Researchers have found that between 50,000 and 100,000 bag fragments are floating in every square mile of water. The nature of the plastic is such that they absorb pollutants like PCBs and PAHs; as marine animals ingest these plastic particles while feeding, these compounds are stored in their flesh. Think eating fish is healthy? Well, not if you are transferring those hormone-disrupting chemicals to your body.

The other biggie in single use plastics is plastic bottles for water or soft drinks. A million plastic bottles are bought every single minute, 24-7, around the world. Although most of these are recyclable, less than half of them made it to a recycling facility and only 7% of those became another plastic bottle.

As I cross the parking lot on my way to get something for supper, fabric bags in hand, I bend over to retrieve plastic bags and plastic bottles. Sometimes the store has a recycling container out front — but if not I can at least put them in the trash can and they won't add to the worldwide health problem of plastics in the ocean. The bottle you pick up was handled by one person, the grocery cart you are pushing has had thousands of hands on it so don't let false ideas about germ concentrations keep you from doing your part.

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

COLLEGE FCS POLLS

FCS COACHES POLL

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (AP) — The top 25 teams in the Coaches Football Championship Subdivision poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 15, points and previous ranking:
Rec P t s

Table with columns for Rank, Team, W, L, T, Pct, GF, GA. Lists teams like James Madison, North Dakota State, Jacksonville State, etc.

STATS FCS POLL

The top 25 teams in the STATS Football Championship Subdivision poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 15, points and previous rank:
Rec P t s

Table with columns for Rank, Team, W, L, T, Pct, GF, GA. Lists teams like James Madison, North Dakota State, Jacksonville State, etc.

NFL STANDINGS

Table with columns for Conference (American, National), Division (East, South, West, North), and Team. Includes win/loss records, percentages, and points for/against.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Central, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

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Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Table with columns for Division (Atlantic, Pacific), Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA.

Advertisement for Xerox Solid Ink Printer and Sumter County Public Works. Includes phone number 436-2241 and a recycling logo.

Advertisement for outdoor appearance services. Includes phone number 499-9312 and website outdoorappearance.com.

Advertisement for advertising services. Includes phone number 803-774-1212.

BETTY BRODY

Betty Brody, a resident of Coral Gables, Florida, for almost 40 years, passed away on Oct. 16, 2017, after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer. Born in Sumter in 1953, she was the daughter of Sara and Abram

BRODY

Brody. She graduated from Sumter city schools and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees and continued on to earn a juris doctor at the University of Baltimore in Maryland. She served as an assistant state attorney in Baltimore and is a former member of the Maryland and Florida bar associations.

In Miami, Betty was active for many years on the boards of Vizcaya Museum, the Coconut Grove Playhouse, the Dade Heritage Trust and Beaux Arts, a support group for the Lowe Art Museum of the University of Miami. She was also a member of the Red Cross Ball Committee, the Two Hundred Club, the Junior League of Miami, the Historical Museum of South Florida and Young Patronesses of the Opera. She was a member of Riviera Country Club of Coral Gables and the Metropolitan Club of New York City and was a founder at Baptist Hospital in Miami.

Her interest in the fine arts was fueled by a passion for the theater, in which she participated wholeheartedly as an actor as well as a patron to multiple theater companies in South Florida as well as in New York City.

Betty is survived by a daughter, Amy Brody Poliakoff of Miami, and a brother, Dr. Harold Brody of Atlanta. Betty was blessed to have shared her life for 14 years with her beloved partner, Paul Frascella.

In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center to support ovarian cancer research in memory of Betty Brody. Please send check made payable to UM Sylvester to the following address: Sylvester Development Office, P.O. Box 016960 (M-867), Miami, FL 33101. Be sure to note on the memo line of check: In memory of Betty Brody. Or, gifts may be made online: <https://advancement.miami.edu/Net-Community/SSLPage.aspx?pid=204> (under tribute section please include Betty Brody's name) or by calling the Sylvester Office of Advancement at (305) 243-9088.

Funeral services will be graveside at Temple Sinai Cemetery, 700 W. Oakland Ave. in Sumter, at noon on Sunday. A reception will be held after the services.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**BARBARA D. PAYNE**

SUMMERTON — Barbara Dickerson Payne, 82, widow of retired Master Sgt. Jackie Lee Payne, died Monday, Oct. 16, 2017, at her home in Summerton.

PAYNE

Born April 29, 1935, in Columbia, she was a daughter of the late John Hugh Dickerson Sr. and Elizabeth Bradley Dickerson. She was of the Presbyterian faith.

She is survived by three daughters, Pamela Jackson Stukes (Lionel) of Summerton, Sherry Jackson Johnson (Don) of Mayesville and Vikki Jackson Bryant (Dennis) of Bloomville; a brother, John Hugh Dickerson (Bootsie) of Sumter; six grandchildren, Dr. Betsy Johnson Sumner (David) of Durham, N.C., Chalmers Stukes (Dixie), Dr. Lil Stukes Douglas (Jordan), both of Summerton, Babs Johnson of Greenville, Joseph Stukes (Brandee) and Caroline Stukes, both of Summerton; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded

in death by a sister, Betsy Dickerson Hatcher.

A private graveside service will be held on Thursday at Mayesville Black River Cemetery with the Rev. Brian Peake officiating.

The family would like to thank Embrace Hospice and Visiting Angels for all of their loving care and attention.

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

SARETTA L. DWYER PUGH

Saretta L. "Ret" Dwyer Pugh, 35, wife of Marqus Pugh, departed this life on Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017, at MUSC Hospital in Charleston.

She was born on July 31, 1982, in Sumter, to the late Sarah L. Williams and Jimmy Dwyer. Saretta was an employee of Sumter School District One for over 5 years. She was affectionately known as "Ret" and was loved by many.

She is survived by her husband, Marqus Pugh; two daughters, Zariah and Aiyana Pugh; two brothers, Cedric Williams and Corey (Rio) Dwyer; one nephew, Mekhi Dwyer; and a host of aunts, uncles and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at The Church God By Faith No. 1, 609 Atlantic Ave., Sumter, with Pastor Mack S. Wilson Sr., Bishop Jeffery Johnson, eulogist, assisted by Pastor Bennie Bradley and Minister Brut Grayer. Interment will follow at Bradford Cemetery.

A public viewing will be from 2 to 7 p.m. today at the mortuary.

The family is receiving friends at 859 S. Harvin St.

Services entrusted to Whites Mortuary LLC of Sumter.

JUDITH DAVIS HASKELL

Judith Davis Haskell, 69, of Summerville, South Carolina, wife of Samuel R. Haskell Jr., entered into eternal rest Friday, Oct. 13. Her cryptside service will be held Saturday in Magnolia Cemetery, 70 Cunningham Ave., at 11 a.m. Arrangements by J. Henry Stuhr Inc., West Ashley Chapel.

Judith was born Feb. 9, 1948, in Guyton, Georgia, daughter of the late Theodore Davis and Arlene Gracen Davis.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel R. Haskell Jr.; three sons, Samuel R. Haskell III (Andrea) of Isle of Palms, Adam Haskell (Roni) and Carter Haskell, all of Summerville; six grandchildren; and two sisters, Joy Glenn (Clyde) of Greenville and Sandra Beatley (Irv) of Charleston.

Flowers will be accepted, or memorials may be made to Kairos Ministry, kairosprison-ministry.org.

A memorial message may be sent to the family by visiting our website at www.jhenrystuhr.com.

JOSEPH E. TAYLOR SR.

Joseph E. Taylor Sr., 87, widower of Margaret Howard Taylor, died Monday, Oct. 16, 2017, at his home. Born Nov. 16, 1929, in Sumter County, he was the son of Edwin and Rhodie Maple Taylor.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 435 Tampa Gold Road, Wedgefield.

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

LOUISE ANDREWS

BISHOPVILLE — Lillian Louise Andrews, 86, widow of Roy E. "Andy" Andrews, died Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017, at McCoy Memorial Nursing Center.

Born March 20, 1931, in Land O Lakes, Florida, she was a daughter of the late Charles H. Meyer and Lillie Stringer Meyer. She was a member of Grace Baptist Church and retired from the banking industry.

Survivors include three sons, Harold Andrews of Bishopville, Earl Andrews (Tammy) of Zephyrhills, Florida, and Carl Andrews (Dean) of Sumter; a daughter, Julie Bradley (Jeff) of Lawrenceville, Georgia; 11 grandchildren; and numerous great-

grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Eula M. Williams (Allen).

A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday in the Fort Jackson National Cemetery with the Rev. Mark Partin officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Andrews, 3350 Southern Hills Drive, Sumter.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 4124 Clemson Blvd., Suite L, Anderson, SC 29621.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the staff of McCoy Memorial Nursing Center and Amedisys Hospice for all of their loving care and compassion.

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

MICHAEL WILLIAMS

Michael Williams, 57, son of the late Frank B. and Bessie James Williams, was born on May 11, 1960, in Sumter. He departed this life on Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2017, at his residence.

Family will be receiving friends at the home of his sister, Rosetta Lowery, 875 Unity Court, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

BARBARA H. FRANCISCO

Barbara Helen Shofner Francisco, age 83, beloved wife of the late Willie Jean Francisco, died on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017, at Morningside of Sumter.

She was the daughter of the late William A. Shofner and Polly Ellen Thompson Coan. Barbara was a member of Westside Baptist Church, where she was actively involved throughout the years. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Surviving are: one daughter, Maria Caldwell and her husband, Steve, of Columbia; two sisters, Sharon Cusac and her husband, Ray, and Charlotte Smith and her husband, Jerry; six grandchildren, Michael, Eric, Amanda, Samantha, Frankie and Andreil; and two great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Daniel Francisco, and one brother, Arlin Shofner.

A memorial service will be held on Friday at 2 p.m. at Westside Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends, one hour prior to the service, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Westside Baptist Church Sanctuary Fund, 554 Pinewood Road, Sumter, SC 29154.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**JAMES SHARPE JR.**

James Sharpe Jr., husband of Laura Mae Winn Sharpe of Sumter, died on Monday, Oct. 16, 2017, at the Palmetto Baptist Continuous Care of Co-

lumbia. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by Sumter Funeral Service Inc. The family will receive friends at the home, 103 East Patricia Drive, Sumter.

JOHNNIE M. MCLEOD

Johnnie M. McLeod, 84, widower of Patricia Pauline Dantzer McLeod, died Monday, Oct. 16, 2017, at his home.

Born in Sumter, he was a son of the late Joe McLeod and Evie B. Geddings McLeod.

Mr. McLeod was a member of Alice Drive Baptist Church. He was a retired postmaster and received numerous postal awards, and he was also a Mason.

Surviving are a son, Johnnie M. McLeod Jr. (Gina) of Sumter; two daughters, Deborah M. Zolninger (Greg) of Lincolnton, N.C., and Dale M. Morris of Manning; five grandchildren, Ashleigh Church (Matt), Anna Mink (Thomas), Johnathon Zolninger (Kristina), Brendon Roof (Erin) and Austin McLeod; three step-grandchildren, James Edens Rabon, Fletcher Rabon and Mary Margaret Rabon; and eight great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday in Sumter Cemetery with the Rev. Clay Smith and Chaplain Ed Cheek officiating.

Pallbearers will be Perry Morris, Johnathon Zolninger, Matthew Church, Glen Ogle, Andrew Morris and Woody McLeod.

The family will receive friends from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to Alice Drive Baptist Church, 1305 Loring Mill Road, Sumter, SC 29150.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com.

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



Elmore Hill McCreight
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

WADDELL WILLIAMS

Waddell Williams, 86, entered eternal rest on Friday, Oct. 13, 2017, at National Health Care Facility, Sumter. Born on March 12, 1931, in Lee County, he was the son of the late Robert Henry Palmer and Marie Williams Lucus. He was reared in a Christian home by his grandparents, Joe and Mary Wilson Williams.

At an early age, he accepted Jesus Christ as his savior and joined Unionville A.M.E. Church, where he was a dedicated and faithful member of several organizations. He was educated in the public school system of Lee County. After graduating from high school, he worked on the farm, and for a few years he was employed with Addlestone Co. of Sumter as a heavy truck driver.

Affectionately called "Boone" and "Slim," later Waddell was drafted by the United States Army. After serving his term with the Army, he joined the United States Marine Corps. Upon completion of this term, he joined the United States Air Force, from which he received numerous medals and retired as a technical sergeant.

He leaves to cherish his

memories: his wife of 60 years, Vinia Mae Gamble Williams; three daughters, Lorese Williams of Dalzell, Colette Terrell of McDonough, Georgia, and Connie Williams of Sumter; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two sisters, Naomi Hudson and Deloris Cox, both of Sumter; two special nephews, Henry Williams of Sumter and Harold Marshall Sr. of Mayesville; and a host of nieces, other nephews, brothers and sisters-in-law, cousins, friends, co-workers, military and church family.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 3115 Georgia St., Dalzell.

Homegoing celebration will be held at noon Thursday at Unionville A.M.E. Church, 1330 Swimming Pen Road, Mayesville, with the Rev. Alvin E. Webb, pastor, eulogist.

The remains will be placed in the church at 11 a.m.

The funeral procession will leave from the home at 11:15 a.m.

Burial will be in the Unionville A.M.E. Churchyard Cemetery.

These services have been entrusted to the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

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

Visit us on the web at www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com.

BERLIE TAYLOR

LYNCHBURG — Mrs. Berlie Taylor died Oct. 16, 2017, at her home.

The family is receiving friends at the residence, 2965 Trinity Road in Lynchburg.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Jefferson Funeral Home Service Inc. of Lynchburg.

BARBARA CROSKY

Barbara Croskey, 60, departed this life on Friday, Oct. 13, 2017, at Pruitt Healthcare Blythwood of Columbia. Born April 20, 1957, in Sumter County, she was the daughter of Jimmy and Maybelle Williams Croskey. She attended the public schools of Sumter County.

She leaves to cherish her memories: two daughters, Darlene Croskey (Tye Johnson) and Paulesha Croskey (Terrance Epperson), both of Sumter; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Viola Chilsom of New York and Gloria (Thomas) Wimberly of Sumter; two brothers, Robert Brand of Ladson and Jimmy Croskey of Sumter; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Homegoing services will be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel, Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter, with Elder Terrance Frederick, officiating, eulogist.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 528 S. Sumter St., Sumter.

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

Burial will be in Walker Cemetery.

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

Visit us on the web at www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com. Services directed by the staff and management of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Memory



In Loving Memory Of Elijah Hodge
Gone but not forgotten The Hodge Family
Deloris, Valerie Hodge Lane, Debra Hodge Sanders



In loving Memory of Rev. Dr. Cokley Richburg
Its been one year since you left me, but you're still in my heart. I will always love you. I miss you so much.
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Attorney Timothy L. Griffith 803-607-9087, 360 W. Wesmark. Criminal, Family, Accident, Injury

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MERCHANDISE

Auctions

Living Estate Action of L.C. McKenzie Oct. 21 10:00AM 9050 Summerton Hwy W. Bryant 803-795-5828. SCAL#4176.

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

HUGE Lawn Sale, 3124 Dingle Pond Rd. Summerton, Oct. 20 & 21st, 8 am - ? No early sales. No clothing, no baby items.

Garage Sale! Oct. 20th & 21st 8-6 at 1150 Gala Cir. Anything and everything MUST GO!

For Sale or Trade

Season Oak wood Full size truck load, 4x8 stack, split and delivered \$90. 843-229-5629

Coin Show 2730 Broad ST Sat Oct 21 9am-4pm Bethesda Church Of God, next to Honda Dealership. Buy, Sell or Trade Coins. Free Appraisals up to 10 coins. Drawing for a gold coin. For more info call 803-775-8840

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Ashley Furniture HomeStore of Sumter is searching highly motivated individuals to join our team. Must be goal-oriented and have exceptional interpersonal skills; basic computer skills, financing knowledge, and a passion for building strong client relationships. **Ashley Furniture Industries is the #1 selling brand of furniture in the World.** Join our team today. Send resumes to 2850 Broad Street, Sumter, SC 29150 or email to sperkins@ashleysumter.com No Phone Calls, Please.

Exp. framing & siding carpenter needed. 803-473-4246 leave your name & phone number.

Manning Garden is seeking a qualified maintenance technician. Successful applicants will have experience & skills in general maintenance repair. Plumbing, electrical, punch out, HVAC experience, strong work ethic and a desire to serve the customer. HVAC certified is preferred but not required. We offer an exciting work environment with competitive base salary and benefits. Please apply on-line www.ambling.com/career. Drugs don't work!

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

Nesbitt Transportation is now hiring Class A CDL Drivers. Must be 23 yrs old and have 2 yrs experience. Home nights and weekends. Call 843-621-0943 or 843-659-8254

RENTALS

Unfurnished Apartments

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

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

Swan Lake Apts. Accepting applications. 2BR 1BA in quiet scenic neighborhood. No Section 8. No Smoking, No Pets 803-775-4641.

Unfurnished Homes

5BR/2.5BA for rent in Sumter. Section 8 ok. Call 803-464-1948

House on Burgess, 3 Br, 1 Ba, CHA, \$545 mo. Sec. Dep. neg. 803-983-5691 or 803-305-1581.

Mobile Home Rentals

3BR/2BA DW, private lot, between Sumter and Manning. Clarendon Co. \$650mo+\$650dep **Call 803-473-7577**

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

Singlewide, 2BR/1BA, Behind Shaw \$375 mo + dep. No pets. No Sec 8, Adults only, 2 people max. water sewage/garbage incl. 803 236-3780



Homes for Sale



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

Townhome for sale by owner. 38 Cumberland Way. 3BR/2BA, Central H/Air. Has had pre-sale inspection. \$99,500. 803-840-4564

TRANSPORTATION

Autos For Sale

Cars, Trucks and Vans starting at \$999
Price is Right Auto Sales 3210 Broad St 803-494-4275

Miscellaneous



Refurbished batteries as low as \$45. **New batteries** as low as \$59.95. 6v golf cart battery as low as \$59.95. Auto Electric Co., 102 Blvd Rd. 803-773-4381

Abandon Vehicle / Boat

Abandoned Boat Notice
To all persons claiming an interest in: 1982 13' Plastic-Crow-XET 010620485, William Callen will apply to SCDNR for title on watercraft/outboard motor. If you have any claims to the watercraft/outboard motor, contact SCDNR at (803) 734-3858. Upon thirty days after the date of the last advertisement if no claim of interest is made and the watercraft/outboard motor has not been reported stolen, SCDNR shall issue clear title. Case No: 20170620950395.

Summons & Notice

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

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
C/A #: 2017-CP-43-01421

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,

vs. JOSHUA D. JACOB, RANDY L. MCFADDIN and CATHERINE B. MCFADDIN, Defendants.

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the

LEGAL NOTICES

Summons & Notice

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 July 26, 2017.

GRIMSLEY LAW FIRM, LLC
P. O. Box 11682
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(803) 233-1177
Benjamin E. Grimsley
Attorney for the Plaintiff



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March for Babies



PHOTOS BY BRUCE MILLS / THE SUMTER ITEM

University of South Carolina Sumter student volunteers and others pose for a picture on Saturday at the March of Dimes' March for Babies event at the college.



Disc Jockey Hank McCollum of Orangeburg performs Saturday at the March for Babies event at USC Sumter. McCollum volunteers as a DJ at all March of Dimes events in the Sumter, Orangeburg and Columbia areas.



USC Sumter student Autumn Ferzley paints the face of fellow student Joel Daniels on Saturday in preparation for the March of Dimes' March for Babies event on the campus. March for Babies events raise money to fund vital research into the causes of premature birth and to fund community programs aimed at healthier pregnancies, according to a March of Dimes representative. Local sponsors for Saturday's event were Carolina Children's Dentistry, USC Sumter, NBSC, Becton Dickinson (BD) and *The Sumter Item*.

Sumter Coin Club hosts 14th coin show on Saturday

IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

Coin collectors frequently look for old coins for their collections. Several members of the Sumter Coin Club do just that, and some of them have especially old coins. On Saturday, Oct. 21, during the club's 14th annual coin show, some of them will be showing off their collections of ancient coins, this year's focus.

David Durham is one whose collection includes many ancient coins. A collector since about the age of 5, he said he's always been interested in the history associated with coins, and there is more history in the ancient ones.

While ancient coins are a focal point of Saturday's show, Durham said that most of the club members are gen-

eralists, interested in all types of coins.

"I specialize in proof-type coins," he said.

Among the ancient coins in his collection, Durham said, is a "widow's mite," a Roman coin from the time of Pontius Pilate. This is the coin Jesus tells about in his parable in Mark 12:41-44. The mite was the lowest in value of any of the coins at that time, yet the widow gave all she had to the temple, whereas rich donors gave much more. Jesus said, "this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury."

Durham said he will also show a proof set from 1861, "the first year of the Civil War. It was made for special collectors during that period."

Admission is free, and visi-



Sumter Coin Club member David Durham appraises part of Donna Parker's coin collection during a past Sumter Coin Club Show. Dealers and collectors, members of clubs from Sumter and other areas will be available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Bethesda Church of God, 2730 Broad St., to sell, trade, answer questions and appraise coins for the public. Durham said this is the Sumter club's 14th coin show.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

tors to the show can buy, sell or trade coins, as well as get appraisals by experts on up to 10 coins.

"We'll have a door prize every 30 minutes," Durham said, "and a grand prize drawing for gold coins."

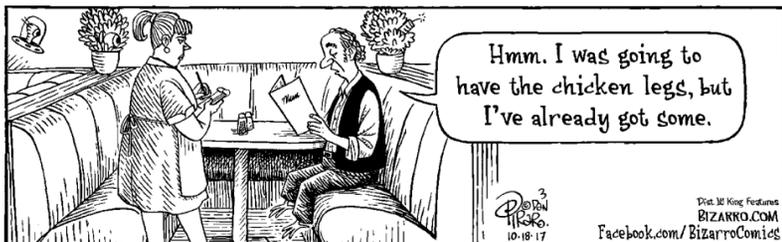
In addition, supplies for coin collectors, also known

as numismatists, will be available.

The club "encourages young people to take up the hobby," Durham said. "The value of coins has held up well, so it's a good investment, too. They've really provided a good return on the investment."

Several clubs and collectors from out of town will join Sumter Coin Club members for the 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sumter Coin Show at Bethesda Church of God, 2730 Broad St. Admission is free, and visitors to the show can buy, sell or trade coins, as well as get appraisals.

BIZARRO



SOUP TO NUTZ



ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



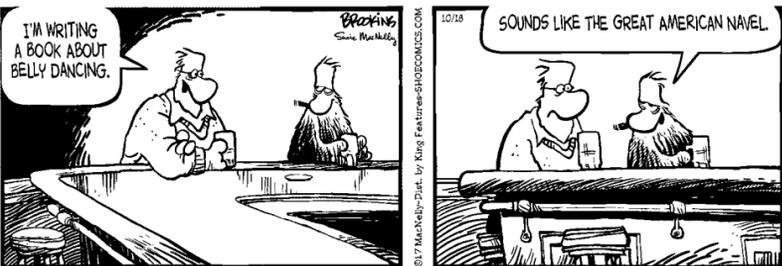
DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Bachelor party causes anxiety for man's girlfriend



DEAR ABBY — My boyfriend of two years will be attending a bachelor party in Las Vegas. We've never had any issues of infidelity, yet I can't help but feel anxious about his upcoming trip.

other person when you're in a long-term, serious relationship. I don't want him to feel he has to tell his friends he can't go to those things. What are your thoughts on this?

What happens in Vegas ...

DEAR WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS — You and your boyfriend are both adults. Viewing topless entertainment or attending a topless pool party is not infidelity. If he hasn't given you any reason to worry so far, give him the benefit of the doubt.

P.S. By the way, I have heard that some bachelorette parties can be equally wild. Do you plan to swear off them yourself?

DEAR ABBY — I'm a doctor. I give free medical advice to my cousin and her mother several

times a month, and have for quite some time now. I do it free of charge because we are family and there's a close bond between us.

My cousin works in marketing, so I asked her if she could help me design my presentation card. She replied that she would give me three designs to choose from, and it would cost roughly \$100. I feel it's wrong for her to charge me for her service since I've never charged her.

Free of charge in California

DEAR FREE OF CHARGE — It's possible your cousin was asking to be reimbursed for the cost of the materials involved in creating the cards for you. Before you allow yourself to get into a snit, perhaps you should clarify exactly what you would be paying for.

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.

KHAYS

TPRAA

CYRITK

ICEJNT

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLAZE AWAIT PARDON MEDIUM Answer: To create the painting of the hog, the artist needed just the right — PIGMENT

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

10/18

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THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17			18							19		
22	23	24			25	26	27					
28				29	30		31					
32						33			34	35	36	
37						38			39			40
41				42				43				
46	47	48	49			50	51		52			
53						54		55	56			
57						58	59			60	61	62
63					64						65	
66						67						68

By Robin Stears

10/18/17

- ACROSS**
- 1 Back (out)
 - 4 Go by
 - 10 Peak in Thessaly
 - 14 Can. neighbor
 - 15 City on the Liffey
 - 16 Performs like Kanye
 - 17 Eastern seaboard, facetiously
 - 19 Frantically
 - 20 Out in the open
 - 21 Open in the garden
 - 22 Narrow opening
 - 25 Unlikely to run
 - 28 Insinuate
 - 31 Kitchen gadgets brand
 - 32 Sneak attack
 - 33 Dryly amusing
 - 34 "More info later": Abbr.
 - 37 Increase security twofold ... and what 17-, 25-, 46- and 58-Across literally do
 - 41 Radical '60s gp.
 - 42 Besides
 - 43 Scramble, as a secret message
 - 44 Tile container in Scrabble
 - 45 Write, as music
 - 46 Secret overseas cash stash site
 - 52 Japanese noodle
 - 53 Leg bone
 - 54 Midwestern city associated with steaks
 - 57 Additionally
 - 58 What Aladdin craved and Jasmine wanted to escape, in the Disney film
 - 63 Abbr. on a city limits sign
 - 64 What's for dinner
 - 65 Speed (up)
 - 66 Piece of glass
 - 67 Radical in aspirin and vinegar
 - 68 Spot on a peacock's tail
 - 12 "Blazing Saddles," for one
 - 13 "Shoot!"
 - 18 Après-ski amenities
 - 21 Dude
 - 22 Herring prized for its roe
 - 23 Long rides?
 - 24 Preparing to flower
 - 26 Handed-down tales
 - 27 Gas in a tank
 - 29 Syst. with hand signals
 - 30 What a treator picks up
 - 33 "Says _?"
 - 34 Touch-related
 - 35 In _ daylight
 - 36 Supplement
 - 38 Garment worn in HBO's "Rome"
 - 39 108-card game
 - 40 Not hidden
 - 44 Merit badge org.
 - 46 Expensive
 - 47 "My Antonia" novelist Cather
 - 48 "Hedda Gabler" playwright
 - 49 It won't hold water
 - 50 Nick of "Hotel Rwanda"
 - 51 Chain with a Smart Sense store brand
 - 55 _-deucey
 - 56 Scoundrel
 - 58 Stew vegetable
 - 59 Mandela's org.
 - 60 15-Across locale: Abbr.
 - 61 2000s "SNL" notable Tina
 - 62 Wrapping time
- DOWN**
- 1 Taylor Swift's " _ Song"
 - 2 Trident-shaped letter
 - 3 "You're it!" game
 - 4 1999 Ron Howard satire
 - 5 Journalist Clare Boothe _
 - 6 Multiple choice choices
 - 7 "Republic" philosopher
 - 8 Family gal
 - 9 MD treating canals
 - 10 Postgrad tests
 - 11 South Pacific island nation
- Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | R | O | P | U | C | L | A | S | P | E | A | S |
| F | E | N | D | S | L | A | B | T | A | X | E | D |
| C | A | L | P | R | A | O | S | E | U | L | T | R |
| S | P | Y | F | I | M | A | T | D | E | R | E | K |
| I | D | T | A | G | T | Y | R | A | | | | |
| A | S | L | I | X | N | A | Y | M | F | A | S | |
| S | T | E | A | M | A | I | R | F | O | R | C | E |
| N | I | A | L | E | D | D | A | B | O | C | E | |
| B | A | B | O | I | G | H | T | N | I | C | I | E |
| A | N | E | A | L | O | F | T | O | S | A | | |
| A | L | A | P | P | A | S | T | A | | | | |
| R | A | P | T | S | T | I | C | M | C | R | I | B |
| U | N | I | T | S | F | A | I | R | S | H | A | K |
| E | E | I | E | A | R | A | Y | E | V | E | N | |
| S | W | E | E | P | T | L | Y | L | E | S | E | A |

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10/18/17

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS												
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	The Blacklist "The Ending" Tom investigates the bones. (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "No Good Reason" A bullied teenager disappears. (N) (DVS)	Chicago P.D. "Snitch" Investigating a drug-related homicide. (N) (DVS)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Ben Stiller; Fred Armisen.		
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Survivor "I Don't Live Having Snakes Around" (N)	SEAL Team "Ghosts of Christmas Future" Clay's father comes to town. (N)	Criminal Minds "Killer App" Investigating a workplace shooting. (N) (DVS)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Bernie Sanders; Caitriona Balfe.		
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "Show You the World" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs Beverly decides to reinvent herself. (N)	Speechless Jimmy takes J.J. camping. (N) (DVS)	Modern Family Jay's friend Shorty visits. (N)	(:31) American Housewife "The Lice Storm" (N)	Designated Survivor "Equilibrium" Tensions rise with Mexico. (N)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live
WRJA	27	11	14	Weekends With Yankee Gingerbread cottages.	Expeditions With Patrick McMillan The Mayan Forest.	Nature "Animal Reunions" Wild animals and caregivers reunite.	NOVA "Secrets of the Forbidden City" Beijing's ancient palaces and temples. (N)	Frontline "Mosul" Iraqi special forces unit. (N)	Tavis Smiley (N)	BBC World News	Charlie Rose (N)	
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory Sheldon gets locked out.	The Big Bang Theory "The Prom Equivalency"	Empire "Bleeding War" Lucius finds himself at a crossroads. (N) (DVS)	Star "It Ain't Over" An opportunity is put into jeopardy. (N) (DVS)	WACH FOX News at 10 (N)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing Campaign signs go missing.	Last Man Standing "Shoveling Snow"	Riverdale "Chapter Fifteen: Nighthawks" Archie's friends worry about him. (N)	Dynasty "Spit It Out" Fallon helps cover up Cristal's affair. (N)	Dateline "Rear Window" The murder of a young Florida woman.	Dateline "The Informant" A story helps reopen an old case.	The Game Jason's jersey is retired. (Part 1 of 2)		
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	46	130	Storage Wars			Storage Wars: Biggest Discoveries			Storage Wars: Biggest Discoveries			
AMC	48	180	(:03) The Walking Dead "This Sorrowful Life" A truce requires a sacrifice.			(:04) The Walking Dead "Welcome to the Tomb" The defense of the prison.			(:06) The Walking Dead The group settles into the prison.			
ANPL	41	100	Too Cute! "Kittens in Wonderland"			Too Cute! OMG! "Episode 1" (N)			My Big Fat Pet Makeover			
BET	61	162	** "Mada's Family Reunion" (2006, Comedy) Tyler Perry, Blair Underwood, Lynn Whitfield. A matriarch must keep the peace through family strife.			Super Posh Pets			Super Posh Pets			
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New Jersey Danielle Staub makes her return.			The Real Housewives of New Jersey Margaret and Sissy's rift turns ugly. (N)			The Real Housewives of New Jersey Teresa begins to work on a new book.			
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank			Shark Tank			Shark Tank			
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)			Anderson Cooper 360 (N)			Debate Night: The Trump Tax Plan:			
COM	57	136	(6:50) South Park "The Cissy"			(25) South Park "The Magic Bush"			South Park "Butters' Bottom Bitch"			
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd Three cabins compete.			Bunk'd			Andi Mack			
DSC	42	103	Misfit Garage "Muddy Payday"			Misfit Garage: Fired Up (N)			Misfit Garage "Stars Align" (N)			
ESPN	26	35	NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at Washington Wizards. (N) (Live)			NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at San Antonio Spurs. (N) (Live)			NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at San Antonio Spurs. (N) (Live)			
ESPN2	27	39	NFL Live			The Fantasy Show '30 for 30			SportsCenter (N) (Live)			
FOOD	40	109	Halloween Baking Championship			Halloween Baking Championship			Halloween Baking Championship			
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)			Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)			Hannity (N)			
FREE	20	131	(6:00) ** "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1" (2011) Kristen Stewart, Bella and Edward marry.			** "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2" (2012, Romance) Taylor Lautner. The Cullens gather other vampire clans to protect Renesmee.			Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Renesmee.			
FSS	21	47	Driven			Hawks Live! Pregame (N)			NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Dallas Mavericks. From American Airlines Center in Dallas. (N)			
HALL	52	183	Last Man Standing "Voting"			Last Man Standing			Last Man Standing			
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers: Buying & Selling			Brothers Take New Orleans			Property Brothers			
HIST	45	110	American Pickers (DVS)			American Pickers			American Pickers "Brothers in Pick"			
ION	13	18	Law & Order "Cost of Capital" A wealthy young banker dies.			Law & Order "America, Inc." A contractor's murder.			Law & Order "Positive" Gunman seeks revenge for baby's death.			
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: Dallas "Girl Code" The ladies divide into two groups.			Little Women: Dallas Amanda embarks on a new career. (N)			Little Women: Dallas Caylea, Emily and Amanda get heated. (N)			
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)			All In With Chris Hayes (N)			The Rachel Maddow Show (N)			
NICK	16	210	Henry Danger			Dude Perfect			Full House			
SPIKE	64	153	(6:00) *** "The Dark Knight Rises" (2012, Action) Christian Bale. Batman faces a masked villain named Bane.			*** "Sissi" (1955, Romance-Comedy) Romy Schneider, Karlheinz Böhm, Magda Schneider. An emperor falls in love with his fiancée's sister.			"Sissi: The Young Empress" (1956, Historical Drama) Romy Schneider, Karlheinz Böhm, Magda Schneider. Sissi adapts to life as Austria's empress.			
SYFY	58	152	(5:30) "Lake Placid vs. Anaconda" (:35) ** "Jennifer's Body" (2009, Horror) Megan Fox, Amanda Seyfried, Johnny Simmons. A possessed cheerleader has an insatiable appetite for her classmates.			MLB Baseball Los Angeles Dodgers at TBA. National League Championship Series, Game 4. (N) (Live)			The Shannara Chronicles "Wraith" (N)			
TBS	24	156	The Big Bang Theory			MLB Postseason Pre-Game (N)			Channel Zero: No-End House Margot, Jules and Seth face new horror. (N)			
TCM	49	186	(6:15) ** "The Golden Fleecing"			MGM Parade Gene Kelly, Little Leo.			*** "Batman Begins" (2005) Christian Bale.			
TLC	43	157	7 Little Johnstons			7 Little Johnstons			7 Little Johnstons			
TNT	23	158	Bones "The Pathos in the Pathogens" A journalist killed by a mutated virus.			** "Shooter" (2007, Suspense) Mark Wahlberg, Michael Peña, Danny Glover. A wounded sniper plots revenge against those who betrayed him. (DVS)			(:31) ** "Shooter" (2007, Suspense) Mark Wahlberg, Michael Peña. A wounded sniper plots revenge against those who betrayed him. (DVS)			
TRUTV	38	129	Carbonaro Eff.			Carbonaro Eff.			Carbonaro Eff.			
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H			(:36) M*A*S*H			(:12) Everybody Loves Raymond			
USA	25	132	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit			*** "Mad Max: Fury Road" (2015, Action) Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult. Mad Max must outrun a warlord and his men in a desert chase. (DVS)			Mr. Robot "Eps3.1undo.gz" Elliot tries to undo five/nine. (N) (DVS)			
WE	68	166	** "Eat Pray Love" (2010) Julia Roberts. A divorcee embarks on a global quest to change her life for the better.			** "Eat Pray Love" (2010, Drama) Julia Roberts, James Franco, Javier Bardem.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A young boy is abandoned.			
WGNA	8	172	*** "Edge of Tomorrow" (2014) Tom Cruise. A soldier in an alien war gets caught in a time loop.			*** "Edge of Tomorrow" (2014) Tom Cruise. A soldier in an alien war gets caught in a time loop.			Rules/Engagement			

'Mosul' offers intimate look at Iraqi Special Forces

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

War movies don't appeal to everyone. But they often include action scenes, harrowing tales of combat, intimate scenes of brothers in arms and touching moments of civilians saved by brave men putting their lives on the line.

The "Frontline" (10 p.m., PBS, check local listings) film "Mosul" includes all those elements and more.

With less than a 40-minute running time, "Mosul" is eligible for this year's Documentary Short Subject Academy Awards.

"Mosul" follows four young soldiers from the Iraqi Special Forces as they engage in the nine-month street battle to drive ISIS from the large northern city. Director Oliver Sarbil uses handheld digital cameras and smartphones to offer startling intimacy and a gruesome, close-up look at machine gunners and snipers in action as they battle from street to street and house to house. Some military experts have described the battle for Mosul as the deadliest urban combat since World War II.

Like most war movies, "Mosul" is about the men and the bonds they form as they fight, sleep, eat, survive, grieve and mourn together under horrific conditions.

We meet Anmar, the leader, out to avenge his father's murder; Jamal, the wise-cracking joker; Amjad, the sensitive soul often on the phone with his pregnant wife. There's also Hussein, the sniper whose bravado often betrays the psychic cost of prolonged combat. "For the ISIS guys I kill, I feel very happy I killed them," Hussein declares. "It's fun. It's not like a war, but a wedding party." His words say one thing, but his 10-mile stare reveals a very wounded soul.

As I expected, last week's debut of "Dynasty" was a bit of a ratings dud. More surprising was the fact that the audience for "Riverdale" (8 p.m., CW, TV-14) increased from last season.

In many ways, "Dynasty" is the worst of both worlds. It sticks fairly close to the original story, which was shocking

in 1981, but over-familiar now. At the same time, it makes references to contemporary figures and events.

In contrast, "Riverdale" seems to take place in a twilight zone that's neither contemporary nor period. Veronica (Camila Mendes) may talk and act like a very 21st century teen, following a blood-splattered Archie (KJ Apa) into the shower (more psycho than sexy), but many of the sets and decor seem taken from another era. Archie drives a vintage pickup to check his dad (Luke Perry) into a hospital right out of the 1940s.

I think viewers enjoy the timelessness of "Riverdale" and reject "Dynasty" and its stabs at modernity. Who wants to be reminded of a world dominated by Kardashians and Trumps?

Just in time for Halloween, Hulu streams the second season of "Freakish."

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Cookie welcomes competition on "Empire" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14).
- CMT Artists of the Year 2017 (8 p.m.) honors country musicians.
- Never say die on "SEAL Team" (9 p.m., CBS, TV-14). This series has been renewed for a second season.
- A neighborhood's code of silence hampers an investigation on "Chicago PD" (10 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- A border clash on "Designated Survivor" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-14).

SERIES NOTES

"Survivor" (8 p.m., CBS, TV-PG) * In the Red on "The Blacklist" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-14) * The new Beverly on "The Goldbergs" (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Under the stars on "Speechless" (8:30 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * A bullied victim vanishes on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14) * Daddy's home on "Star" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14) * Jay's old pal on "Modern Family" (9 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Matthew's death reeks of con-

spiracy on "Dynasty" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14) * Cooties on "American Housewife" (9:30 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Death by drone on "Criminal Minds" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).

CULT CHOICE

Actress Romy Schneider portrays Austria's Empress Elisabeth in the popular Austrian 1955 biography "Sissi" (8 p.m., TCM), followed by "Sissi: The Young Empress" (10 p.m.) and "Sissi: The Fateful Years of an Empress" (midnight) released in 1956 and '57. The 1962 film "Forever My Love" (2 a.m.) condensed the "Sissi" trilogy into one movie.

LATE NIGHT

Conor McGregor, James Van Der Beek and Dan St. Germain are booked on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS, r) * Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Caitriona Balfe and the National on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS, r) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes Ben Stiller, Fred Armisen, Little Big Town, Kacey Musgraves and Midland on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC, r) * Emma Stone, Kaitlin Olson and Blondie visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC, r) * Mindy Kaling, Olivia Munn and Fifth Harmony appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS, r).

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Aldean addresses the crowd about the shooting in Las Vegas during his concert in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Thursday.

Aldean resumes tour after Vegas shooting

BY ADAM KEALOHA CAUSEY
The Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Country star Jason Aldean brought the party back Thursday in his return to the stage following the deadly mass shooting that broke out while he was performing in Las Vegas, but the fun was tempered by the sting of the tragedy.

Three songs into his show in Tulsa, the singer launched into a five-minute speech that honored the 58 killed and nearly 500 hurt in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history. But Aldean took a defiant tone in telling concertgoers to resist living in fear, and he called for more of the national unity he's seen since the attack.

"These people are going to continue to try to hold us

down," Aldean said. "To those people that keep trying to do that, I say (expletive) you, we don't really care."

Fans agreed. They pumped their fists and held up American flags as Aldean continued.

"I want to play the show for you guys that the people in Las Vegas came to see and didn't get a chance to," he said.

Friends Audra Miller, Lee Holstein and Amanda Zmak were some of those fans. They were in the audience when the shooting happened and ran for cover like thousands of others.

They traveled from Dallas for the Tulsa show and wore T-shirts they decorated themselves that said "Vegas Strong," a popular meme since the attack.

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Don't toss that old beer Make some delicious bratwurst

BY ELIZABETH KARMEL
The Associated Press

When I first moved to Chicago from North Carolina, I was amazed at the variety of sausages. There were polish sausages, bratwurst, bockwurst, Italian; sweet and hot, among others. At that time, the sausage that I knew best was knackwurst which is smoked like a hot dog, only thicker and made from all beef. When I visited a German-style butcher shop in the city, I was intrigued by the uncooked, unsmoked sausages and couldn't wait to taste the "beer brats" as they are called in Chicago and the Midwest.

I thought that my sausage ignorance was just because I was from the South, but often, even today, when I mention my love of beer brats, people respond with a "what's that?" Back then, I worked with a woman who was from an old German family in Wisconsin, and she schooled me on the correct way to make beer brats. She explained that you grilled the uncooked bratwurst first over indirect heat until the sausage was burnished brown and cooked through. Then you remove them from the grill and place them in a simmering pot of beer. She made sure that I understood that most people make the mistake of simmering the sausages first in beer and then grilling them. If you do that, the flavor of the uncooked sausages melts into the simmering beer leaving the sausages tasteless, and it is almost impossible to get good grill marks on the boiled sausages.

Wanting to make sure what she said was correct, I

tried it both ways, and she was 100 percent right. Even though most people boil the sausages and then grill them, a taste test proves her theory right. You must grill first and simmer second for optimum flavor, texture and caramelization. Besides a better flavor, this method is more convenient.

You can grill the brats in advance and keep them warm in simmering beer for 1-2 hours. You can even re-heat any leftovers the next day or make them a day in advance for a tailgate. Just be sure to simmer the hot sausages in the beer right after you take them off the grill and then cool them, and store them in the refrigerator in the simmering liquid.

Serve the brats with your favorite buns and condiments such as potato rolls, pretzel rolls, spicy mustard, grainy mustard, sauerkraut or my favorite, Fennel Apple Sauerkraut for those looking for a tangy topping but don't like traditional sauerkraut.



BEER BRATS WITH APPLE FENNEL SAUERKRAUT

Servings: 8-10
Start to finish: 30 minutes
 8-10 pork bratwursts, uncooked
 1/2 stick unsalted butter
 1 large white or yellow onion, divided
 2-3 bottles or cans of beer, whatever you drink
 8-10 hoagie, pretzel or potato rolls
 2 cups Apple Fennel Sauerkraut, warmed or other favorite condiments
Special Equipment: 5-8 quart Dutch oven
 Preheat the grill.
 Melt the butter in the Dutch oven or heavy duty saucepan. Cut the onion in half, and cut into half-moon slices. Place in the bottom of the Dutch oven, and let cook for about 5 minutes or until translucent. Add the beer, and bring to a simmer. Set aside.
 Meanwhile, remove brats from packaging, and set in the center of the cooking grate over indirect heat. Turn occasionally, and let cook for about 20 minutes or almost cooked through. I like to cook them until they are a deep brown color.
 Remove from grill and place into the simmering beer and onion mixture. Bring the liquid back to a gentle boil. Immediately reduce the heat to very low, and simmer with the lid on for at least 15 minutes. The brats are now ready to serve directly from the stockpot. If you are going to serve them later, turn off the heat but leave them in the liquid. Either refrigerate or simmer them again just before serving.

APPLE FENNEL "MOCK" SAUERKRAUT:

The dressed-up mock sauerkraut substitutes grated apple and fennel for the traditional cabbage. The result

is a fresher, sweeter alternative to ballpark sauerkraut.

Serves: 8-10
 1 large fennel bulb
 1 tablespoons olive oil
 1 Large Vidalia onion, chopped
 5 Granny Smith apples, grated
 1/2 lemon, juiced
 1 1/2 tablespoons butter
 2 teaspoons caraway seeds
 1/2 cup hard cider or apple juice
 Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
 Clean and cut the fennel bulb in long strips (julienne), and trim tops. Reserve furry leafy part that resembles dill and chop finely for later use.
 Heat oil in heavy-bottomed sauce pan over medium heat, add onion and kosher salt. Cook until onion begins to brown, add strips of fennel, stir, and let cook covered for about 5 minutes or until fennel begins to wilt. Reduce heat to medium-low.
 Meanwhile, mix grated apple with lemon juice, and add to pan. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, for 15 minutes. Add butter, mixing well. Add caraway seeds, reserved fennel tops and hard cider or apple juice. Cook for an additional 5 minutes, uncovered. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
 Remove from heat, and let it sit to allow the flavors to mingle. The sauerkraut can be made up to two days in advance and kept covered in the refrigerator until ready to use.
Nutrition information per serving: 558 calories; 286 calories from fat; 32 g fat (13 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 63 mg cholesterol; 1176 mg sodium; 48 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 11 g sugar; 17 g protein.
EDITOR'S NOTE: Elizabeth Karmel is a barbecue and Southern foods expert. She is the chef and pit master at online retailer CarolinaCueToGo.com and the author of three books, including "Taming the Flame."

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