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Weekend Edition

3 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES | VOL. 125, NO. 191

STATE



AP FILE PHOTO

An honor guard from the South Carolina Highway Patrol removes the Confederate battle flag from the Capitol grounds in Columbia, ending its 54-year presence there, on July 10, 2015.

Protesters gather on 5-year anniversary of flag's removal from Statehouse

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An afternoon storm in some areas on Saturday; mainly clear and humid at night

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Sumter fair will not fly this year

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

COVID-19 has canceled yet another opportunity for families and friends to gather and have fun. The Sumter American Legion Fair has brought "family oriented entertainment" to guests from across the Midlands every fall since 1916. This year, it will not. "While some restrictions have recently been lifted and businesses are beginning to reopen, most are requiring strict safety measures, including social distancing, the wearing of masks and temperature checks. The evidence that this

disease spreads quickly and easily when people are in densely populated areas has led several agencies to continue their recommendation to avoid mass gatherings," Fair Manager Peter St. Onge wrote to *The Sumter Item* on Friday. He said the decision was not taken lightly and that months of deliberation took place, "considering all options to host a fair that adheres to the highest standard of safety without compromising the experience." The fair usually hosts a variety of entertainment and food vendors, from the famous Potato House fries to a petting

SEE **FAIR**, PAGE A8



Kaylin Vazquez-Epperson performs with hula hoops as her dad, Jonathan Vazquez, and one of her sisters look on in the background in 2019 during the annual fair.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

A beer is poured at Sumter Original Brewery on its opening night, March 16.

S.C. shuts off alcohol sales in restaurants, bars at 11 p.m.

BY MEG KINNARD
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — In an effort to stem South Carolina's raging coronavirus outbreak, particularly among young adults he says are gathering in unsafe groupings, Gov. Henry McMaster is shutting off the late-night sale of alcohol at bars and restaurants across the state.

McMaster on Friday said that, starting on Saturday, the 8,000 bars and restaurants across the state licensed to sell alcoholic beverages would have to shut off those sales at 11 p.m. each night.

"We are saying emphatically, it's

SEE **ALCOHOL**, PAGE A8

'We just wanted to do something where (his wife) could see when she comes home every day, she just knew she is supported.'

MIMI CLIPPER, Schmitzes' neighbor

A show of support



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SHAW AIR FORCE BASE / FACEBOOK

First Lt. David Schmitz's fellow airmen, family and friends gathered at Shaw Air Force Base on Friday to say goodbye to the pilot whose F-16 crashed at Shaw during training. He came to Shaw with his wife in January.

Shaw, Sumter community honor fallen airman

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

He lived a fairytale life of travel and adventure. He took off from picturesque landscapes and helped load nuclear weapons onto military aircraft.

That life was cut short last week when First Lt. David Schmitz's F-16 crashed at Shaw Air Force Base during a training routine, killing the 32-year-old pilot who in January 2020 saw his lifelong dream of flying fulfilled

when he was assigned to the Fighting Falcon and arrived at the Sumter base after a decade in the Air Force.

On Friday, fellow airmen, his commander at the 77th Fighter Squadron, his parents, his wife and other family and friends gathered the day after his funeral at a hangar on base to say goodbye one last time.

He was the "glossy brochure" of the Air Force, 77th FS Commander Lt. Col. David

SEE **SCHMITZ**, PAGE A8



Red ribbons and American flags can be seen throughout the Schmitzes' neighborhood. Red is the color of his squadron, the 77th Fighter Squadron Gamblers.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MIMI CLIPPER

Filing opens Wednesday for Sumter city, school board races

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

Filing for council and mayoral races in the City of Sumter and school board opens on Wednesday.

The election for these non-partisan races will be held on Nov. 3 in the general election.

The seats up for election are:

- Mayor of Sumter;

- Sumter City Council Ward 2;
- Sumter City Council Ward 4;
- Sumter City Council Ward 6;
- Sumter School District Board Seat 5;
- Sumter School District Board Seat 6;
- Sumter School District Board Seat 7; and

- Pinewood Town Council, 2 seats.
- Mayor Joe McElveen announced earlier this year he will not seek re-election after 20 years in the city's lead role.
- Ward 2 Councilman Ione Dwyer has also announced she will not seek re-election.
- Steve Corley holds the seat for Ward 4.
- David Merchant holds the

- Ward 6 seat, and he has announced he intends to run for mayor.
- The school board members up for election are the Rev. Daryl McGhaney, the Rev. Ralph Canty and Barbara Jackson for seats 5, 6 and 7, respectively.
- The Pinewood Town Council members up for election are Betty Jones and Gary Nesbitt.

Filing opens at noon on Wednesday and closes at noon on Monday, Aug. 17. Filing fees are \$240 for city council and \$400 for mayor. There is no fee to file and run for school board or Pinewood's council seats.

Filing for the mayor and city council races will take place

SEE **FILING**, PAGE A8



SECOND FRONT

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

SCHP searching for vehicle involved in fatal hit and run

BY SHARRON HALEY
Clarendon Sun contributor

MANNING — A 59-year-old Manning man riding his bicycle along Moses Dingle Road between Davis Station and Jordan on Thursday evening was struck by a vehicle and left beside the roadway injured.

“Harvin Watson died from multiple blunt-force trauma at McLeod Health Clarendon at 10:27 p.m.,” Clarendon County Coroner Bucky Mock said Friday morning.

Mock said an employee of the Clarendon County Sheriff’s Office spotted a person lying beside the roadway about 9 p.m. and called for medical assistance.

Cpl. Sonny Collins with the South Carolina Highway Patrol said no information is available yet on what type of

vehicle struck Watson.

“We have no information on the vehicle at this time other than it appears that it may have heavy front-end or windshield and side mirror damage,” Collins added. “Once we have more information on a particular kind of vehicle that we are looking for, that information will be provided.” The vehicle is thought to have after-market tinted windows with one broken side window.

Collins said the SCHP MAIT (Multi-disciplinary Accident Investigation Team) is investigating the incident.

Anyone with information on the vehicle or who may have been in the vehicle at the time of the incident is asked to call CRIMESTOPPERS at 888-274-6377, SCHP at (803) 896-7603 or local authorities. Callers may remain anonymous.



Medical group cited by Trump denounces school funding threat

BY COLLIN BINKLEY
AP Education Writer

A medical association that the White House has cited in its press to reopen schools is pushing back against President Donald Trump’s repeated threats to cut federal funding if schools don’t open this fall.

In a joint statement with national education unions and a superintendents group, the American Academy of Pediatrics on Friday said decisions should be made by health experts and local leaders. The groups argued that schools will need more money to reopen safely during the coronavirus pandemic and that cuts could ultimately harm students.

The statement comes at a time when schools across the nation are weighing decisions for the fall as Trump pushes them to reopen. Millions of parents are still waiting to hear if their children will be returning to school, but some of the nation’s largest districts have said students will be in the classroom only a few days a week.

“Public health agencies must make recommendations based on evidence, not politics,” the groups wrote in the statement. “Withholding funding from schools that do not open in person full-time would be a misguided approach, putting already financially

strapped schools in an impossible position that would threaten the health of students and teachers.”

Trump, however, repeated his threat on Friday, saying on Twitter that virtual learning has been “terrible” compared with in-person classes.

“Not even close! Schools must be open in the Fall. If not open, why would the Federal Government give Funding? It won’t!!!” he wrote. Trump issued a similar warning on Twitter on Wednesday, saying other nations had successfully opened schools and that a fall reopening is “important for the children and families. May cut off funding if not open!”

Trump has not said what funding he would withhold or under what authority. But White House spokeswoman Kayleigh McEnany has said the president wants to use future coronavirus relief funding as leverage. McEnany said Trump wants to “substantially bump up money for education” in the next relief package but only for schools that reopen.

“He is looking at potentially redirecting that to make sure it goes to the student,” McEnany said at a Wednesday press briefing. She added that the funding would be “tied to the student and not to a district where schools are closed.”



Free mobile testing sites coming to Rembert, Dalzell

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

MUSC Health will be holding two testing sites in Sumter County next week.

The sites will be in Rembert on Wednesday, July 15, at Rafting Creek Elementary School, 4100 S.C. 261 North, and in Dalzell on Friday, July 17, at Hillcrest Middle School, 4355 Peach Orchard Road. Both sites will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., but sites may close early if weather conditions become unsafe for care team members or if patient volume exceeds reasonable wait times.

The Charleston-based health care system has been partnering with the state Legislature to set up mobile testing sites in rural and underserved communities across the state that experience disparities in access to COVID-19 screening, testing, prevention and treatment. Collectively, the MUSC Health ambulatory, telehealth,

information solutions, emergency management and operations, finance, laboratory and leadership teams were first in the nation to launch a combined virtual urgent care platform and drive-through specimen collection site.

Tents will be set up outside to collect samples from both walk-up and drive-through patients.

Pre-screening is not required, and it is free to get tested.

Patients will be contacted within five to seven days with results, if not sooner, according to MUSC. Patients are asked to bring photo identification and an insurance card if they have one. Insurance is not required to get tested, but the CARES Act requires MUSC to bill insurance providers if patients do have insurance.

Email drivethruresults@musc.edu or call (843) 985-8888 with questions regarding your results.

S.C. HBCUs including Morris get \$2.4M to boost distance learning

COLUMBIA (AP) — The eight historically black colleges and universities in South Carolina are getting more than \$2 million for technology upgrades, part of emergency relief parceled out from a federal funding package related to the coronavirus outbreak.

Gov. Henry McMaster’s office said Thursday that the money would be used to upgrade the schools’ abilities to conduct on-line learning, a need revealed during the switch to distance learning earlier this year. Funding is expected to be used on hardware, software, distance-learning resources and electronic textbooks.

Roslyn Clark Artis, president of Benedict College in Columbia, made an original request for the funding, which is coming from

the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund, awarded to each state through the CARES Act. Artis served as a member of AccelerateSC, McMaster’s task force created to advise him on matters related to reopening the state’s economy following shutdowns related to efforts to stem the outbreak.

McMaster’s office said the allocations of the total of \$2.4 million were based on a formula taking into account student enrollment and the institutions’ percentages of Pell Grant recipients. The funding is going to Allen University, Benedict College, Clafalin University, Clinton College, Denmark Technical College, Morris College, South Carolina State University and Voorhees College.

S.C. will pay postage for all mail-in ballots in November

COLUMBIA (AP) — The South Carolina State Elections Commission has agreed to provide prepaid return postage for all absentee ballots by mail this November.

The joint agreement, filed in federal court Wednesday, follows a lawsuit by individual voters and multiple Democratic party groups earlier this

year over voting access and safety in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plaintiffs argued the requirement for voters to pay the return postage was akin to a poll tax. They said people buying stamps would likely have to break social distancing protocols and interact with other people to do so, thus potentially furthering the spread of COVID-19.

The election commission estimates providing the postage will cost the state between \$750,000 and \$1.2

million, commission spokesman Chris Whitmire told the *Post and Courier*.

The suit is one of several filed over voting-related issues in the state this year.

Voters in the state usually have to provide a specific reason for voting absentee, such as being 65 or older or having a physical disability. State lawmakers agreed to allow all voters to cast absentee ballots in this year’s June primary but have not done so for the general election.

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months - \$69; one month - \$23

The Sumter Item is published five days a week except for July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day (unless those fall on a Saturday or Wednesday) by Osteen Publishing Co., 36 W. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150. Periodical postage paid at Sumter, SC 29150.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Osteen Publishing Co., 36 W. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150

Publication No. USPS 525-900



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We check in with Jerome Robinson at Team Robinson MMA to see how he has adapted his business to COVID-19 safety guidelines.

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PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Demonstrators dressed in Civil War attire participate in a flag ceremony in front of a Confederate statue at the Statehouse on Friday in Columbia, left, as more demonstrators protest in front of the statue. Demonstrators gathered for the five-year anniversary of the Confederate battle flag being removed from the Statehouse grounds after a two-thirds vote by the Legislature.

Protesters: Man pulls gun on anniversary of flag's removal

BY MICHELLE LIU
The Associated Press/Report for America

COLUMBIA — Counterprotesters said a passing driver pointed a gun at them Friday and said “All Lives Matter” as competing groups gathered in front of South Carolina’s capitol building to mark the five-year anniversary of the state’s removal of the Confederate battle flag from Statehouse grounds.

The driver stopped in the middle of the road and stuck his middle finger out at several demonstrators who were on a road median shortly before noon, protester Kamison Burgess told *The State* newspaper. He then said “All Lives Matter” — a phrase used by critics of the Black Lives Matter movement — before pointing the gun and driving away, Burgess said.

Two Columbia police officers responded once the victims yelled out for assistance, said Jennifer Timmons, a Columbia Police Department spokeswoman. Timmons said the vehicle driven by the man

was described as possibly being a silver Kia and that police are reviewing video of the incident and confirming the license plate information.

A handful of members of the State House Honour Guard, supporters of the emblem, had gathered outside the state capitol in the morning. A separate group, the Columbia Racial Justice Coalition, was scheduled to hold an event in the afternoon.

The flag held by one of the Honour Guard members, clad in dress uniform, was not the battle emblem, with its red field topped by a blue X and 13 white stars, as expected. Instead, the group unfurled the official state flag, with its iconic palmetto tree and white crescent.

A woman with the group did not answer questions about their choice of flag Friday. She said they were not speaking with reporters.

The group’s decision not to unfurl the Confederate battle flag prompted one counterprotester, Tori Hyder, to call

the Honour Guard members “cowards.”

Two sets of barricades set up by law enforcement separated the Honour Guard from Hyder and about two dozen other counterprotesters, who lined the sidewalk carrying signs that read “Black Lives Matter” and other slogans that have been associated with demonstrations nationwide against racial injustice and police brutality following the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd in May.

Counterprotesters interviewed said they were taking a stance against the Confederate flag, widely seen as a symbol of racism and hatred. Some of the demonstrators

said they had gathered at the Statehouse daily since late May.

South Carolina pulled down the rebel banner from the Capitol grounds in 2015, a month after a white supremacist slaughtered nine Black church members during a Bible study at a Charleston church.

Since then, groups for and against the Confederate battle flag have regularly gathered on the anniversary of its removal from South Carolina’s Statehouse.

On Friday, the Honour Guard blasted music from its speakers, including “The Star-Spangled Banner” and songs from the Confederacy such as “Join the Cavalry!”

At one point, counterprotesters on the opposite side of Gervais Street blared heavy metal, each side attempting to drown the other out.

Both the State House Honour Guard and the Columbia Racial Justice Coalition attempted to reserve a permit for the grounds at the same time on Friday, news outlets reported. State officials scheduled the Honour Guard’s gathering in the morning and the coalition’s event in the afternoon.

A third group, Flags Across the South, aims to fly the Confederate flag from a temporary flagpole by a monument dedicated to Confederate soldiers Saturday, *The State* newspaper reported.

S.C. court temporarily bans no-knock warrants

COLUMBIA (AP) — The South Carolina Supreme Court has temporarily ordered judges to stop issuing “no-knock” search warrants.

The announcement, signed by Chief Justice Donald W. Beatty on Friday, said circuit and summary judges cannot sign off on the warrants until they receive further instruction from the state’s judicial branch on how to issue the warrants.

“A recent survey of magistrates revealed that most do not understand the gravity of no-knock warrants and do not discern the heightened requirements for issuing a no-knock warrant,” the order reads. “It further appears that no-knock search warrants are routinely issued upon request without further inquiry.”

The court acknowledged the dangers that executing such warrants can pose to both members of the public and to law enforcement. Law enforcement officers seek “no-knock” warrants from judges that allow them to enter homes and other build-

ings without announcing their presence prior to entry. Many police departments across the country have used them to serve people accused of drug crimes.

“No-knock” warrants have come under scrutiny nationwide following the death in March of Breonna Taylor, a woman fatally shot in her home by Louisville, Kentucky, police officers who had secured such a warrant.

Protesters against police brutality and racial injustice in South Carolina have called for ending the practice, one of a set of demands presented to lawmakers in June.



Sandy Wilson

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Catholic Church lobbied for taxpayer funds, got \$1.4B

BY REESE DUNKLIN
AND MICHAEL REZENDES

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. Roman Catholic Church used a special and unprecedented exemption from federal rules to amass at least \$1.4 billion in taxpayer-backed coronavirus aid, with many millions going to dioceses that have paid huge settlements or sought bankruptcy protection because of clergy sexual abuse cover-ups.

The church's haul may have reached — or even exceeded — \$3.5 billion, making a global religious institution with more than a billion followers among the biggest winners in the U.S. government's pandemic relief efforts, an Associated Press analysis of federal data released this week found.

Houses of worship and faith-based organizations that promote religious beliefs aren't usually eligible for money from the U.S. Small Business Administration. But as the economy plummeted and jobless rates soared, Congress let faith groups and other nonprofits tap into the Paycheck Protection Program, a \$659 billion fund created to keep Main Street open and Americans employed.

By aggressively promoting the payroll program and marshaling resources to help affiliates navigate its shifting rules, Catholic dioceses, parishes, schools and other ministries have so far received approval for at least 3,500 forgivable loans, AP found.

The Archdiocese of New York, for example, received 15 loans worth at least \$28 million just for its top executive offices. Its iconic St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue was approved for at least \$1 million.

In Orange County, California, where a sparkling glass cathedral estimated to cost over \$70 million recently opened, diocesan officials working at the complex received four loans worth at least \$3 million.

And elsewhere, a loan of at least \$2 million went to the diocese covering Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia, where a church investigation revealed last year that then-Bishop Michael Bransfield embezzled funds and made sexual advances toward young priests.

Simply being eligible for low-interest loans was a new opportunity. But the church couldn't have been approved for so many loans — which the government will forgive if they are used for wages, rent and utilities — without a second break.

Religious groups persuaded the Trump administration to free them from a rule that typically disqualifies an applicant with more than 500 workers. Without this preferential treatment, many Catholic dioceses would have been ineligible because — between their head offices, parishes and other affiliates — their employees exceed the 500-person cap.

"The government grants special dispensation, and that creates a kind of structural favoritism," said Micah Schwartzman, a University of Virginia law professor specializing in constitutional issues and religion who has studied the Paycheck Protection Program. "And that favoritism was worth billions of dollars."

The amount that the church collected, between \$1.4 billion



AP FILE PHOTO

Cardinal Timothy Dolan delivers his homily over mostly empty pews as he leads an Easter Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. The Archdiocese of New York received 15 loans in taxpayer-backed coronavirus aid worth at least \$28 million just for its top executive offices. St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue was approved for at least \$1 million.

and \$3.5 billion, is an undercount. The Diocesan Fiscal Management Conference, an organization of Catholic financial officers, surveyed members and reported that about 9,000 Catholic entities received loans. That is nearly three times the number of Catholic recipients the AP could identify.

The AP couldn't find more Catholic beneficiaries because the government's data, released after pressure from Congress and a lawsuit from news outlets including the AP, didn't name recipients of loans under \$150,000 — a category in which many smaller churches would fall. And because the government released only ranges of loan amounts, it wasn't possible to be more precise.

Even without a full accounting, AP's analysis places the Catholic Church among the major beneficiaries in the Paycheck Protection Program, which also has helped companies backed by celebrities, billionaires, state governors and members of Congress.

The program was open to all religious groups, and many took advantage. Evangelical advisers to President Donald Trump, including his White House spiritual czar, Paula White-Cain, also received loans.

'TRULY IN NEED'

There is no doubt that state shelter-in-place orders disrupted houses of worship and businesses alike.

Masses were canceled, even during the Holy Week and Easter holidays, depriving parishes of expected revenue and contributing to layoffs in some dioceses. Some families of Catholic school students are struggling to make tuition payments. And the expense of disinfecting classrooms once classes resume will put additional pressure on budgets.

But other problems were self-inflicted. Long before the pandemic, scores of dioceses faced increasing financial pressure because of a dramatic rise in recent clergy sex abuse claims.

The scandals that erupted in 2018 reverberated throughout the world. Pope Francis ordered the former archbishop of Washington, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, to a life of "prayer and penance" follow-

ing allegations he abused minors and adult seminarians. And a damning grand jury report about abuse in six Pennsylvania dioceses revealed bishops had long covered for predator priests, spurring investigations in more than 20 other states.

As the church again reckoned with its longtime crisis, abuse reports tripled during the year ending June 2019 to a total of nearly 4,500 nationally. Meanwhile, dioceses and religious orders shelled out \$282 million that year — up from \$106 million just five years earlier. Most of that went to settlements, in addition to legal fees and support for offending clergy.

Loan recipients included about 40 dioceses that have spent hundreds of millions of dollars in the past few years paying victims through compensation funds or bankruptcy proceedings. AP's review found that these dioceses were approved for about \$200 million, though the value is likely much higher.

One was the New York Archdiocese. As a successful battle to lift the statute of limitations on the filing of child sexual abuse lawsuits gathered steam, Cardinal Timothy Dolan established a victim compensation fund in 2016. Since then, other dioceses have established similar funds, which offer victims relatively quick settlements while dissuading them from filing lawsuits.

Spokesperson Joseph Zwilling said the archdiocese simply wanted to be "treated equally and fairly under the law." When asked about the waiver from the 500-employee cap that religious organizations received, Zwilling deferred to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

A spokesperson for the bishops' conference acknowledged its officials lobbied for the paycheck program but said the organization wasn't tracking what dioceses and Catholic agencies received.

"These loans are an essential lifeline to help faith-based organizations to stay afloat and continue serving those in need during this crisis," spokesperson Chieko Noguchi said in a written statement. According to AP's data analysis, the church and all its organizations reported retaining at least 407,900 jobs with the

money they were awarded.

Noguchi also wrote the conference felt strongly that "the administration write and implement this emergency relief fairly for all applicants."

Not every Catholic institution sought government loans. The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy based in Stamford, Connecticut, told AP that even though its parishes experienced a decline in donations, none of the organizations in its five-state territory submitted applications.

Deacon Steve Wisnowski, a financial officer for the eparchy, said pastors and church managers used their rainy-day savings and that parishioners responded generously with donations. As a result, parishes "did not experience a severe financial crisis."

Wisnowski said his superiors understood the program was for "organizations and businesses truly in need of assistance."

LOBBYING FOR A BREAK

The law that created the Paycheck Protection Program let nonprofits participate, as long as they abided by SBA's "affiliation rule." The rule typically says that only businesses with fewer than 500 employees, including at all subsidiaries, are eligible.

Lobbying by the church helped religious organizations get an exception.

The Catholic News Service reported that the bishops' conference and several major Catholic nonprofit agencies worked throughout the week of March 30 to ensure that the "unique nature of the entities would not make them ineligible for the program" because of how SBA defines a "small" business. Those conversations came just days after President Trump signed the \$2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, which included the Paycheck Protection Program.

In addition, federal records show the Los Angeles archdiocese, whose leader heads the bishops' conference, paid \$20,000 to lobby the U.S. Senate and House on "eligibility for nonprofits" under the CARES Act. The records also show that Catholic Charities USA, a social service arm of the church with member agencies in dioceses across the country, paid \$30,000 to lobby on the act

and other issues.

In late April, after thousands of Catholic institutions had secured loans, several hundred Catholic leaders pressed for additional help on a call with President Trump. During the call, Trump underscored the coming presidential election and touted himself as the candidate best aligned with religious conservatives, boasting he was the "best (president) the Catholic church has ever seen," according to Crux, an online publication that covers church-related news.

THE LOBBYING PAID OFF

Catholic Charities USA and its member agencies were approved for about 110 loans worth between \$90 million and \$220 million at least, according to the data.

In a statement, Catholic Charities said: "Each organization is a separate legal entity under the auspices of the bishop in the diocese in which the agency is located. CCUSA supports agencies that choose to become members but does not have any role in their daily operations or governance."

The Los Angeles archdiocese told AP in a survey that reporters sent before the release of federal data that 247 of its 288 parishes — and all but one of its 232 schools — received loans. The survey covered more than 180 dioceses and eparchies.

Like most dioceses, Los Angeles wouldn't disclose its total dollar amount. While the federal data doesn't link Catholic recipients to their home dioceses, AP found 37 loans to the archdiocese and its affiliates worth between \$9 million and \$23 million, including one for its downtown cathedral.

In 2014, the archdiocese paid a record \$660 million to settle sex abuse claims from more than 500 victims. Spokespeople for Los Angeles Archbishop Jose M. Gomez did not respond to additional questions about the archdiocese's finances and lobbying.

In program materials, SBA officials said they provided the affiliation waiver to religious groups in deference to their unique organizational structure and because the public health response to slow the coronavirus' spread disrupted churches just as it did businesses.

A senior official in the U.S. Department of the Treasury, which worked with the SBA to administer the program, acknowledged in a statement the wider availability of loans to religious organizations. "The CARES Act expanded eligibility to include nonprofits in the PPP, and SBA's regulations ensured that no eligible religious nonprofit was excluded from participation due to its beliefs or denomination," the statement said.

Meanwhile, some legal experts say that the special consideration the government gave faith groups in the loan program has further eroded the wall between church and state provided in the First Amendment. With that erosion, religious groups that don't pay taxes have gained more access to public money, said Marci Hamilton, a University of Pennsylvania professor and attorney who has represented clergy abuse victims on constitutional issues during bankruptcy proceedings.

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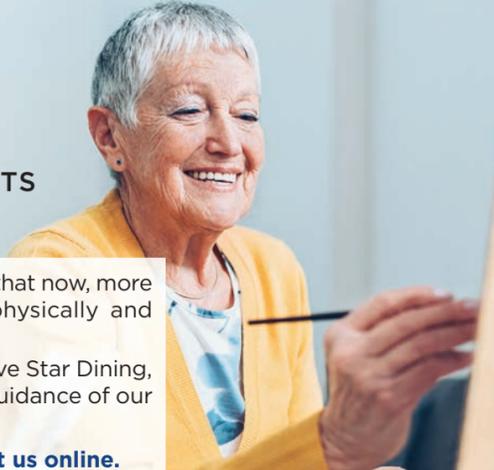
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U.S. bets on small company to deliver COVID-19 vaccine

BY MARTHA MENDOZA and JULIET LINDEMAN
The Associated Press

EDITOR'S NOTE — This story is part of an ongoing investigation by The Associated Press, the PBS series *FRONTLINE* and the Global Reporting Centre that examines the deadly consequences of the fragmented worldwide medical supply chain.

When precious vats of COVID-19 vaccine are finally ready, jabbing the lifesaving solution into the arms of Americans will require hundreds of millions of injections.

As part of its strategy to administer the vaccine as quickly as possible, the Trump administration has agreed to invest more than half a billion in tax dollars in ApiJect Systems America, a young company whose injector is not approved by federal health authorities and that hasn't yet set up a factory to manufacture the devices.

The commitment to ApiJect dwarfs the other needle orders the government has placed with a major manufacturer and two other small companies.

"The fact of this matter is, it would be crazy for people to just rely on us. I would be the first to say it," said ApiJect CEO Jay Walker. "We should be America's backup at this point but probably not its primary."

Trump administration officials would not say why they are investing so heavily in ApiJect's technology. The company has made only about 1,000 prototypes to date, and it's not clear whether those devices can deliver the vaccines that are currently in development. So far, the leading candidates are using traditional vials to hold the vaccine and needles and syringes in their clinical trials.

RELUCTANT SUPPLIER

ApiJect founder Marc Koska

never intended to vaccinate the United States. For the past five years, he's been working on his lifetime mission of creating an ultra low-cost prefilled syringe that would reduce the need to reuse needles in the developing world.

Instead, the company's biggest customer has become the U.S. government.

ApiJect received a no-bid contract earlier this year from the Defense Department under an exception for "unusual and compelling urgency." Authorities said the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, tasked with buying the necessary supplies, "does not have the resources or capacity to conduct procurements necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic," according to a June 5 military document.

The government promised ApiJect \$138 million to produce 100 million of its devices by the end of the year, which will require the company to retrofit new manufacturing lines in existing factories. And it's offered an additional \$456 million as part of a public-private partnership contract to bring on-line several new factories to make an additional 500 million devices to "contain the pandemic spread to minimize the loss of life and impact to the United States economy," said the document.

These amounts are more than double the per-syringe cost the government is paying other companies for the work.

ApiJect first appeared on the U.S. government's radar almost two years ago when the company piqued the interest of Admiral Brett P. Giroir, HHS' assistant secretary for health, at the World Health Organization's Global Conference on Primary Health Care in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Koska said Giroir was "blown away" by their technology and told them that if a pandemic hit, the strategic national stockpile was going to need a

very fast way to get injections filled with vaccines or therapeutics and ready to deliver.

According to Walker, the CEO, ApiJect wasn't interested in a federal contract — they were aiming to change the developing world with quick, inexpensive injection devices that could save millions of lives.

But at the conference, Walker found himself at a table with Giroir at a luncheon, just two seats apart. The admiral was fascinated by the low-cost injection technology, Walker said, and when Walker showed him the prototype that he always carries in his pocket, Giroir asked how they plan to do this in the U.S.

Walker said he told the admiral that the company wasn't planning to operate in the U.S. but was struck by Giroir's enthusiasm.

"He was the first person, if not the only person at the event, who understood the revolutionary nature of this platform," Walker recalled in an interview with AP. "And he said, 'Wow, this is amazing. You need to do this in the U.S.'"

Walker continued to resist, he said, but Giroir — who is also a doctor specializing in pediatric critical care — "wasn't big on taking no for an answer," Walker said.

At Giroir's urging, they presented the prototype injector to U.S. officials. HHS declined to make agency officials available for interviews.

It wasn't until later, when Walker was introduced by a friend to Col. Matthew Hepburn at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, that a plan for ApiJect to work in the United States began to take shape, he said.

HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Robert Kadlec approved a \$10 million contract for ApiJect for research and development in January 2020, according to a document in the federal procurement data system.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Croskeys celebrate 60 years

Gary and Judy Croskey of Sumter celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Friday, June 19, 2020.

Their two children are Yvette White and Jacqui Croskey Hawkey.

The couple has five grandchildren.



MR., MRS. GARY CROSKEY

ENGAGEMENT

Glaze-Burr

Lee and Fran Glaze of Sumter announce the engagement of their daughter, Sally Glaze of Conway, to John Aaron Burr IV of Conway, son of John Burr III of Conway and Melody Carter of Longs.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Regi and Yvonne Thackston of Sumter and Brenda Glaze of Pendleton. She graduated with a Bachelor of Performing Arts in Dance Performance from Oklahoma City University. She is employed as sales lead at ISI Elite Training and is a professional dancer, singer, actor and master dance teacher.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of Carl O'Neil of Sumter. He attends Coastal Carolina University, where he is finishing his degree in theater. He is also a professional dancer, singer, actor and master dance teacher.

The couple has lived and performed in New York City for the past six to seven years but have returned home to pursue their academic goals.

The wedding will be held at John Wesley United Methodist Church in Charleston.



MR. BURR, MISS GLAZE

The couple is registered at Zola, zola.com; Williams-Sonoma Inc., www.williams-sonoma.com; and Amazon, www.amazon.com.

Experts: Floyd's pleading didn't mean he could breathe

BY AMY FORLITI
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — As George Floyd repeatedly pleaded "I can't breathe" to police officers holding him down on a Minneapolis street corner, some of the officers responded by pointing out he was able to speak. One told Floyd it takes "a lot of oxygen" to talk, while another told angry bystanders that Floyd was "talking, so he can breathe."

That reaction — seen in police restraint deaths across the country — is dangerously wrong, medical experts say. While it would be right to think a person who can't talk also cannot breathe, the reverse is not true — speaking does not imply that someone is getting enough air to survive.

"The ability to speak does not mean the patient is without danger," said Dr. Mariell Jessup, chief science and medical officer of the American Heart Association.

"To speak, you only have to move air through the upper airways and the vocal cords, a very small amount," and that does not mean that enough air is getting down into the lungs where it can supply the rest of the body with oxygen, said Dr. Gary Weissman, a lung specialist at the University of Pennsylvania.

The false perception that someone who can speak can also take in enough air is not part of any known police training curriculum or practices, according to experts on police training and use of force.

"I'm not aware of any standard training of police officers that lets them know, 'Hey, if someone is still able to talk they are not having difficulty breathing, so you can just keep doing what you are doing,'" said Craig Futter-

'To speak, you only have to move air through the upper airways and the vocal cords, a very small amount.'

DR. GARY WEISSMAN

A lung specialist at the University of Pennsylvania

man, professor at University of Chicago Law School and an expert on use of force.

Floyd, a Black man who was handcuffed, died May 25 after Derek Chauvin, a white police officer, pressed his knee on Floyd's neck for nearly eight minutes, keeping Floyd pinned even after he stopped moving. In the moments before he died, Floyd told police he couldn't breathe more than 20 times.

A transcript from one of two police body camera videos released Wednesday shows that at one point after Floyd said he couldn't breathe and was being killed, Chauvin said: "Then stop talking, stop yelling. It takes a heck of a lot of oxygen to talk."

Widely viewed bystander video shows Tou Thao, the officer who was managing people who had gathered, told the concerned crowd, "He's talking, so he can breathe."

The medical community disagrees.

In a recent article in the medical journal *Annals of Internal Medicine*, Weissman and others wrote that when air is inhaled, it first fills the upper airway, trachea and bronchi, where speech is generated. The article says this "anatomical dead space" accounts for about one third of the volume of an ordinary breath, and only air that gets beyond this space goes to air sacs in the lungs for gas exchange, which is when oxygen is sent to the bloodstream and carbon dioxide is re-

moved as waste.

The volume of an ordinary breath is about 400 to 600 mL, but normal speech requires about 50 mL of gas per syllable, so saying the words "I can't breathe" would require 150 mL of gas, the authors wrote.

A person can utter words by exhaling alone, using reserve left over after a normal breath is exhaled. But, the article says, "adequate gas exchange to support life requires inhalation. ... Waiting until a person loses the ability to speak may be too late to prevent catastrophic cardiopulmonary collapse."

Minneapolis police spokesman John Elder said there is nothing in current training that instructs officers that a person who can talk while restrained is able to breathe. He said training surrounding the issue of talking and ability to breathe comes up only when discussing whether someone can speak or cough while choking on a foreign object — and even then, the person's condition must be reassessed. Chief Medaria Arradondo has also said the restraint used by Chauvin was not taught by his department.

But the misperception that a talking person is able to breathe has also come up in other high-profile in-custody deaths.

Craig McKinnis died in May 2014 in Kansas City, Kansas, after he was restrained by police during a traffic stop. According to a federal lawsuit, McKinnis'

girlfriend said that after McKinnis cried "I can't breathe," one of the officers said, "If you can talk, you can breathe."

Eric Garner cried out "I can't breathe" 11 times on a street in Staten Island, New York, in July 2014 after he was arrested for selling loose, untaxed cigarettes. Video shot by a bystander showed officers and paramedics milling around without any seeming urgency as Garner lay on the street, slowly going limp.

Officer Daniel Pantaleo, who performed the chokehold, was fired. Pantaleo's defenders have included Rep. Peter King, a New York Republican, who said at the time that police were right to ignore Garner's pleas that he couldn't breathe.

"The fact that he was able to say it meant he could breathe," said King, the son of a police officer.

"And if you've ever seen anyone locked up, anyone resisting arrest, they're always saying, 'You're breaking my arm, you're killing me, you're breaking my neck.' So if the cops had eased up or let him go at that stage, the whole struggle would have started in again."

Futterman said best practices offer police training on positional asphyxiation and teach officers to roll a person onto his or her side for recovery, if necessary. And, he said, chokeholds or other re-

straints that restrict oxygen are considered deadly force and can only be used as a last resort to prevent imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm.

He said just because a person is struggling does not give an officer the right to use deadly force.

According to a transcript of his interview with state investigators, Thomas Lane, the officer who was at Floyd's legs, said that he'd had past experiences in which someone who was overdosing would pass out and then come to and be more aggressive. He told investigators that he asked if Floyd should be rolled onto his side, and after Chauvin said they would stay in position, he thought it made sense since an ambulance was on the way. Lane said he watched Floyd and thought he was still breathing.

Randy Shrewberry, executive director of the Institute for Criminal Justice Training Reform, said officers are supposed to ease up on any restraint once a person is under control.

"In the moment they are under control, or the moment you have someone restrained, is when everything stops," Shrewberry said. AP Medical Writer Marilyn Marchione contributed to this report from Milwaukee. Colleen Long contributed from Washington.

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REFLECTIONS



Boys' High School is seen in its 1936 yearbook photo.

SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS



Girls' High School, left, and Lincoln High School, right, were started in the 1870s in Sumter. Both were public schools for local students.

The history of Sumter-area schools, part III

Reflections remembers the development of Sumter's education system and the construction of numerous schools attended by local students. The author used historic data retrieved from *The Sumter Item* archives. An article written by John Mitchell in the 65th Anniversary-Progress Edition in 1959 also made extensive use of the writings of Dr. Anne King Gregorie and Cassie Nicholes. Due to the length of the data used, a degree of editing was required. This is part three in a series; read the first two parts at www.theitem.com. Parts four and five will appear at a later date.



Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"During the 1870s, public schools in Sumter developed rapidly, with a White Girls School, White Boys School, Black Girls School and Black Boys School (Lincoln School)." In 1908, Morris College began what was known as Morris College High School. It featured a rigorous curriculum for young Black males and females from the community. Students who attended the school were also allowed to board on the Morris campus. Morris College High School had a highly respected academic program which served the Black students for a number of years.

"The first superintendent of the city schools was J. B. Duffie of Columbia, a graduate of Union College. He resigned in 1895 and was succeeded by S. H. Edmunds, a graduate of Davidson College and a former assistant principal of the Sumter High School Department. His first assistant, D. L. Rambo, received \$60 a month, while the seven women teachers got \$35 a month each."

"In the fall of 1896, Miss



Linnie McLaurin

Linnie McLaurin was elected as an additional assistant. She resigned the following spring but returned in 1906 as a seventh-grade teacher, and when the Girls High School was built in 1917, she became principal, a position she held for 20 years. When death ended Dr. Edmunds' career in 1935, she became acting superintendent until March 1, 1936."

FRUITFUL YEARS



S. H. Edmunds

ment in the Sumter city schools. At the time of his

"The 40 years of Dr. Edmunds' administration brought many changes and tremendous growth and development in the Sumter city schools. At the time of his



Washington School is seen in 1936. This photo was published in the school's yearbook that year.



Hampton School's students are all seen in 1936.

death, enrollment was 3,898 pupils with 92 teachers and property valued at \$417,950."

Between 1891 and 1937, graduates of the high school totaled 2,632. Since then, the school system has continued to grow in step with the population.

Superintendents since Dr. Edmunds have been W.F. Loggins, William Henry Shaw, E. R. Crow, James D. Blanding, John L. Southwell and Dr. L. C. McArthur.

Until 1952, schools in the county functioned under the county superintendent of edu-

cation. After consolidation of the rural schools, Dr. Hugh T. Stoddard, a former coach and principal of Boys High, was named superintendent of District 2, rural schools.

Buford S. Mabry would become superintendent of county schools.

'Best midway yet' comes to Sumter; kids create Recycle Rob

75 YEARS AGO - 1945

Feb. 1 - 7

• Tuomey Hospital has been awarded Full and Provisional Approval by the American College of Surgeons for the year 1945, as revealed through an annual survey which was conducted in December. The results of this, the 28th-annual hospital standardization survey, show 3,181 hospitals, or 80.8 percent of those under survey, as meeting the minimum standard for approval.

• The doors of the USO club will be open wide to the public for the annual open house program which marks the kickoff of USO's fifth birthday celebration. Three days of events are planned here, throughout the nation and overseas in approximately 2,000 USO operations.

• Unfolding a real-life drama of the fight against tuberculosis, the Healthmobile of the Brooklyn Tuberculosis and Health Association will be on display here, it was announced by the Sumter County Tuberculosis Association. The huge vehicle which houses 52 displays will be parked at the post office, where free admission performances will be presented.

• The staff of the Council Street USO has made every effort to make its 5th anniversary program entertaining. Highlighting the activities for the three-day celebration was an informal dance held at the Catholic Hall on West Oakland Avenue with dancing to the music of the First Regiment's Orchestra of Fort Jackson.

• The Rotary program is in the charge of George D. Levy, chairman, who has asked Col. C. E. Hughes, commanding officer, Shaw Field, to speak. The Kiwanis Club and their guests heard an interesting and instructive address at their meeting on the Vocational feature of the G.I. Bill of Rights delivered by Kiwanian Hugh Stoddard, who has charge of the program at the city schools.

• The Sumter Y Midgets eked out a 23-22 victory over the New Zion High School second team in the first game of a doubleheader at the Y gym. In the second game, between the Y Juniors and the New Zion first five, the Y Juniors finally won 21-17, but it took two overtime periods.

• "Ladies in Waiting," a highly entertaining mystery play in two acts, will be presented at the Edmunds High School auditorium by members of the Edmunds High School Dramatics Club. Talented high school students are given an opportunity to develop their talents in the productions put on by the Dramatics Club.

• The first game of the newly formed YMCA men's volleyball league will be played. The opener will pit G. Werber Bryan's team against G. Billy Graham's outfit. In the second game, Capt. Billy Gibson's spikers will be lined up against Capt. Jesse James' squad.

• The Sumter High School Gamecocks will play the Dreher High team of Columbia at Edmunds High School. Both teams have good records for the season, so a real battle on the court is expected. The Gamecocks will have their top scorer, Jack Chandler, back in the lineup after he has missed two games because of illness.

• Coach Jesse Rushe of Sumter High School said that his team will play the University of South Carolina "B" team as a preliminary to the South Carolina-Georgia Tech game.

• Lt. Col. George L. Mabry Jr., holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star and Bronze Star Medals, has been appointed athletic director in the G-3 section of First Army headquarters here.

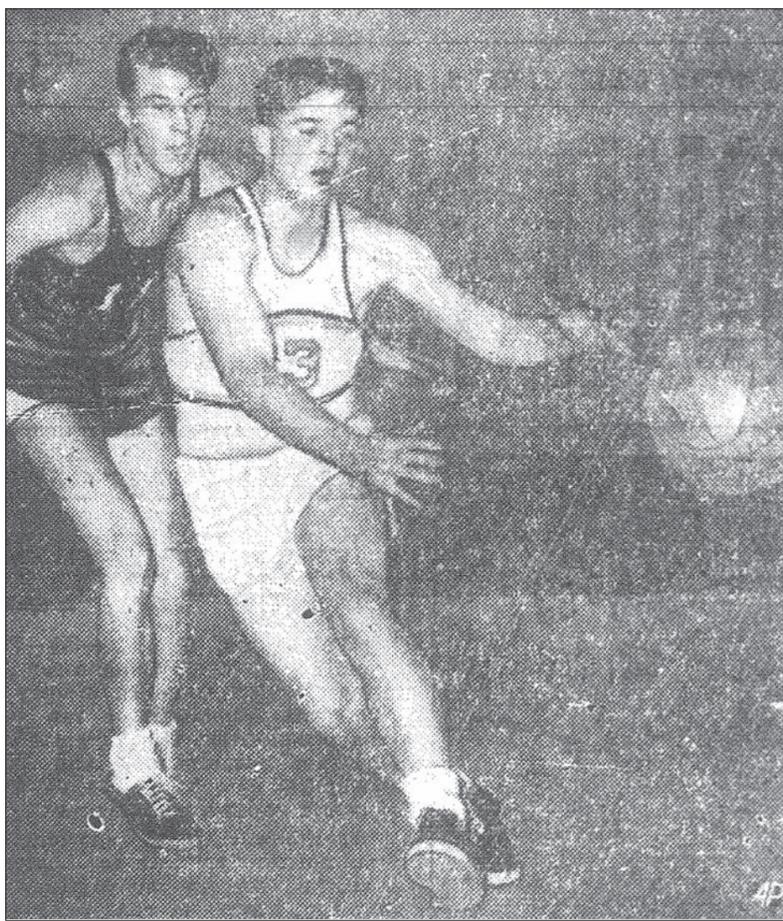
• A.L. Edwards, horticulturist and landscape gardener of Columbia, spoke before a meeting of the Gardenmakers and their guests, the Sumter Garden Club and Sumter Art Association at the Community Center. Mr. Edwards, who is the gardener at the Veterans Hospital at Columbia, told the group of the importance of the soil in growing plants.

• The 1945 Clemson College report to the General Assembly revealed the possibilities of two new South Carolina crops — Hegart variety of grain sorghum and Leconte vetch. State farmers have become interested in grain sorghums because grain endures drought better than corn.

50 YEARS AGO - 1970

Oct. 5 - 11

• This week has been proclaimed by Mayor Robert E. Graham as "Lions Week for the Visually Handicapped." During this week, the more than 150 Lions Clubs of South Carolina, including the Sumter Lions Club and the Gamecock Lions Club, are sponsoring a statewide campaign to aid



Glenn Davis, regarded by many as "the fastest thing in football shoes," is about to get his hands on the basketball despite guarding by No. 11, E. Wilby of RPI. Davis and Felix "Doc" Blanchard were Army's two All-America backs but also played other sports.

the blind and to help conserve sight.

• Amusements of America began erecting its midway for the opening of the Sumter County Fair. "The best midway yet" is predicted by fair executive secretary T.O. Bowen. Amusements of America has wintered in Sumter for the past 15 years.

• In this tricentennial year, South Carolinians have particular cause to be proud of their state library system — the most recent addition to which is a new State Library building in Columbia. In the floor of this new structure rests a plaque tracing its origin back to 1698, when the first public library in America was established in Charles Town.

• A new type of customer service in the form of a mobile van will be inaugurated by Seaboard Coast Line Railroad to serve Sumter and outlying communities. Operating out of Sumter, the mobile agent will serve customers in Mayesville, Lynchburg, Timmonsville, Pinewood, Alcolu and Cartersville. The air-conditioned van will actually be a fully equipped office, with a two-way radio, typewriter, copying machine and other necessities.

• Shaw's NCO and Officers Wives' Clubs joined efforts to pack "ditty bags" for U.S. servicemen overseas as their part of a national Red Cross-sponsored program. Mrs. Mary Martin, NCO Wives' Club president, worked very hard toward the ditty bag success. Mrs. Ruth Hoyt, the overall base chairperson for the program, was very pleased with the cooperation of both the wives' clubs.

• TSgt. Harry H. Faulk was named as the 307S Field Training Detachment (FTD) October Instructor of the Month. Sgt. Faulk came to Shaw and the 307S FTD in 1969. He currently teaches on the J79 jet engine, which powers the RF-4C Phantom II aircraft.

• The annual college night program will be held at Edmunds High School with representatives of 41 universities, colleges, technical and business schools present to furnish information to prospective students and their parents. All juniors and seniors of Edmunds, Furman, Hillcrest and Mayewood schools interested in furthering their education are invited along with their parents.

• The campaign kickoff of the Sumter United Fund drive will be held at Riley Park. A kickoff rally is planned, and the Rev. George Maxwell will be the featured speaker. Boxed lunches will be served by several civic groups.

• For the second consecutive week and the third time this season, Sumter High quarterback Freddie Solomon repeats as *The Item* Player of the Week. Solomon ran for two touchdowns and passed for two more in Sumter's 44-6 win over conference foe Dillon. His runs went for 65 and 55 yards while his pass plays covered 65 and 10 yards. Solomon was also the game's leading rusher with 139 yards.

• A showdown for the point championship in the claim division will take place at Sumter Speedway, and one of

three drivers will go home with the title in his pocket. To date, Rat Morris leads the chase with 210 points, and Jerry Buckner is second with 202. Guy Gamble is the only driver with a chance, and he trails Buckner by four points.

• There is, in Sumter, a group of teenagers involved in a positive movement that is growing daily. Their enthusiasm is catching. These teenagers are putting on a Teen Crusade for Christ. It is for Sumter and surrounding areas, and it is aimed at harvesting young people for Christianity. Working through the national organization, Teen Crusade, which has its headquarters in Sumter, these youths are coordinating plans for the upcoming October crusade.

• Conway Head Coach Buddy Sasser has not let the No. 3 ranking in the state produce any false confidence. He looks upon the crucial contest with Sumter High very matter-of-factly and is equally certain about what he feels his Tigers must do to win. Sasser's forces enter the big 4-A Region V showdown with a 2-0 family mark and a 5-0 overall record. Sumter is 3-2 overall (including a forfeiture) and 2-0 in the loop.

• Morris Mazursky, Sumter's mayor pro tem, officiated at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the grand opening of the Associates office in Westmark Plaza. The ribbon of 50 \$1 bills was donated to Crosswell Children's Home.

• A random telephone survey of Sumter citizens shows that most of them approved President Nixon's new policies given in a speech. Out of at least 30 people called, 17 missed the event. However, those who did hear the president outline plans for a cease-fire in Vietnam and list proposals for more talks had definite opinions on the matter.

• The office of Congressman L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.) informed *The Item* that \$522,000 in renovations to an air reconnaissance support facility at Shaw Air Force Base has been restored to the Military Appropriations Bill. This amount was put back into the bill during a House-Senate Conference Committee meeting. It had been excluded in the Senate version of the bill.

25 YEARS AGO - 1995

July 5 - 11

• Ray Guest will not give up on chasing his dream on a bicycle. Guest, a 69-year-old cyclist from Sumter, has a goal of either winning or placing in the top three of the United States Cycling Federation Masters National Championships later this summer in Nashville, Tennessee. This won't be his first try. Guest has been to the nationals six other times. The closest he has been was a fourth-place finish.

• Teenagers stand around the long tables in clumps talking about the day's coming events. The ones who have been with the program since its start explain to the new recruits what to expect. They are role models for children in the second through

fifth grade who are touring Sumter as part of the Me and My Community program, started last summer by Sumter Volunteers and School District 17 to educate children about their hometown.

• More than 2,000 delegates are expected to attend the 89th session of the South Carolina Baptist Sunday School Congress for Christian Education in Summerton. The week-long Christian education training seminar is open to the public, as well as the congress' 1,700 Missionary Baptist Church members. It will be held at Scott's Branch High School and will mark the first time the annual conference has been held in Clarendon County.

• Bishopville City Council has named Cayce's assistant director of public safety as the city's new police chief. Thomas Pye was chosen from a pool of 28 applicants, City Administrator David Bushyager said. He will start work July 17. "We will work to build a department that you can be proud of, we can be proud of and certainly that the community can be proud of," Pye told council, formally accepting the job.

• Early during his freshman season at North Carolina State University, former Sumter High School pitcher Chad Hoshour came to grips with a new role. Hoshour, a regular in the starting rotation as a Gamecock and for the American Legion P-15's for the previous four seasons, found himself in the Wolfpack bullpen. He doesn't plan to stay there. He is transferring to the University of South Carolina for his sophomore season. An opportunity to start was the biggest reason.

• We have all driven out into the dark night of Sumter County, begun to look hard for the white or yellow lines on the road and wondered why we could see so little. So why doesn't somebody light up the county's dark corners? Simple; most county roads — and state roads in rural areas — aren't lighted simply because of the expense.

• The Sumter P-15's faced a must-win situation as they entered the American Legion baseball game against the Dalzell Trail Boss at Riley Park. If Sumter hoped to have a chance to make the state playoffs and win a fifth-straight state championship, a victory over Dalzell was a necessity. The P-15's picked it up in convincing fashion with a 14-0 win that was called after seven innings because of the 10-run rule.

• The headmaster of Wilson Hall is rallying his troops to help keep traffic, noise and trash problems associated with major traffic arteries from affecting his school. Fred Moulton is asking parents and supporters of the private school to voice opposition to the state transportation department's plan to run a two-lane parkway in front of the school, which serves about 600 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12. State highway officials showed Sumter residents their plan last month to build Shaw Parkway south of U.S. 76/378.

• The Sumter P-15's accomplished the first part of their mission by pounding out 16 hits in seven innings, giving Camden a 15-2 drubbing. The win leaves both teams tied for second place in League III with 12-5 records. Now on to the second part. They will meet Camden again in a special playoff game to decide the second-place team and who moves on to the playoffs.

• Kids at Grace Baptist Summer Day Care really know how to recycle. They've been studying the issue and decided to make something from the items they've saved this summer. Enter Recycle Rob, a 5-foot-tall recycled man. Kids 6 years old and up helped build the robot-like creation.

• The principals may have changed at Sumter's oldest jeweler, but the new owners say the company's business philosophy will be kept intact. H. Daniel Chandler and George Britton Moseley III became principal owners of Sumter's Galloway & Moseley jewelry store after buying out the interest of Moseley's father, George Moseley Jr. Though only half of the new ownership team is a descendant of the company's founders, both Chandler and Moseley III have promised to stick with the founders' philosophy.

• Amanda Elizabeth Spivey, Miss Southern 500, was crowned Miss South Carolina. Spivey, 22, of Spartanburg, bested nine other finalists to win the title at Greenville Memorial Auditorium to close the week-long competition. She will represent South Carolina at the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City.

ALCOHOL FROM PAGE A1

time for our younger adults to behave like mature adults," McMaster said, noting that, while younger people may not get seriously ill from the virus, they could spread it to more vulnerable, older adults. "This is very serious. Wear your mask. Keep that distance."

For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. But for others, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, the highly contagious virus can cause severe symptoms and be fatal.

McMaster's move comes less than a week after a deadly shooting at a Greenville nightclub, where two people were killed and eight others injured. Greenville County Sheriff Hobart Lewis said a "very large crowd" of about 200 people were at the Lavish Lounge on Sunday to see trap rapper Foogiano, an event that went against South Carolina gathering or-

ders because of the pandemic. "That club should not have been opened," McMaster said Friday, asked if the violence prompted his move.

Director of Public Health Joan Duwve said Friday that the 11,090 confirmed positive tests in South Carolinians between the ages of 21 and 30 represent 22% of the state's total. Since June 1, she said, the number of confirmed cases in that age group has gone up more than 436%.

"The ages of people who are dying remain predominantly of those who are 65 years of age or older," Duwve said. "If we all work together now, in six weeks, we will be a healthier, safer South Carolina."

State health officials said South Carolina has recorded more than 52,000 cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic, reporting 1,725 new confirmed cases and 26 additional confirmed deaths on Friday. Thus far, 52,273 cases have been confirmed, and 922 in the state have died.

Two of the deaths announced Friday were Sumter County residents, bringing the countywide death toll to 28. Sumter has had 1,311 residents test positive for the virus.

Duwve noted that, in the past two weeks alone, South Carolina has tallied 42% of its total number of confirmed coronavirus cases.

As the state, along with others, struggles to balance economic and health concerns in the continuing outbreak, McMaster and other state leaders have repeatedly indicated they would not resubmit the economy after businesses began reopening earlier this year. Asked Friday if the state's skyrocketing confirmed case numbers — hospitalizations are also increasing toward capacity — are evidence that South Carolina began reopening too early, McMaster again said shutting the economy back down isn't an option.

"We're not going back and closing businesses," he said. "We cannot do it."

FAIR FROM PAGE A1

zoo to chainsaw sculpting demonstrations to games and rides to high-flying child acrobatics.

St. Onge said he and the fair's Board of Directors explored "countless" models for ways to adjust the Wednesday-Sunday event in September, but "ultimately safety cannot be compromised."

"The risks associated with hosting an event of this size and scope right now are just too great," he said.

South Carolina has recently seen a surge in new cases and hospitalizations, making the state one of the world's hot spots. In the state, Sumter County is among the highest risk, according to public health officials.

In past years, the fair has welcomed between 21,000 and 25,000 attendees, and proceeds benefit American Legion Post 15, which supports Boy Scout Troop 339, Cub Scout Troop 339, the P-15's summer baseball team and Legion Riders.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SHAW AIR FORCE BASE / FACEBOOK

Attendees of the memorial service at Shaw Air Force Base on Friday stand in attention as four F-16s fly overhead in the missing man formation. The formation represents the idea that while they will never be complete again, they will continue to dominate the skies in honor of those they have lost.

SCHMITZ FROM PAGE A1

Bennett said. Special among a group of extremely special people.

As the service went on, mailboxes and street signs throughout Schmitz's neighborhood sported ribbons and American flags in honor of the fallen Gambler, red for his squadron's color.

"We just wanted to do something where (his wife, Valerie Schmitz,) could see when she comes home every day, she just knew she is supported," said Mimi Clipper, a neighbor who helped start the trend.

She said the Schmitzes moved into the neighborhood in January and "immediately immersed themselves into our community." Most of the little more than 100 households have some affilia-

tion to the military, whether active duty, spouses of deployed airmen or retirees.

When the pandemic hit, Valerie offered free quarantine photoshoots to her neighbors, families she had met only a few weeks prior. The resulting photos ranged from tender family portraits to scenes laden with toilet paper, wine and Lysol.

Just like the person behind the lens, Clipper said, genuine.

In the short time they got to know the two, Clipper said, "they were always a very sweet couple."

Clipper put a bucket of American flags by her mailbox for people to take and display. She said the neighborhood and the Sumter community at large has always shown support

for military families, and that has been proven by the Go Fund Me accounts that have raised money since his death, the food that is dropped off for

Valerie.

Clipper and her neighbors realized a lot had quickly been taken care of, so the ribbons were their communal way to show the sudden widow "she's not alone."

"Almost every single house has something," Clipper said. That kind of community support, however big or small, is what makes Sumter stand apart, Mayor Joe McElveen said.

"It's that spontaneous showing of love and concern. No one told them to do it. It's just what people in Sumter wanted to do," he said.

Sumter's patriotism is apparent every day and has been for decades since Shaw moved in, he said, but tragedies like Schmitz's death make it even clearer.

"It makes it even more personal," McElveen said. "At the end of the day, it's the family next door that helps the spouse and children when the airman is deployed."

A physically bigger display on Friday, Schmitz's two aircraft, a C-17 and an F-16 that now has his call sign emblazoned on the side, sat outside the hangar as the crowd moved near them for two final speeches and a flyover featuring those



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MIMI CLIPPER

Red ribbons and American flags can be seen throughout the Schmitzes' neighborhood.



First Lt. David "MEZ" Schmitz's name is revealed on the side of an F-16.

two aircraft and the missing man formation.

"I don't know how you all do it," said his father, Brian Schmitz, referring to the call sign and noting military service sadly skipped his generation, "but on the count of three I'd like to hear, 'To MEZr.'"

Schmitz's call sign was bestowed upon him on Monday night, the night before the accident. How do you give a call sign to someone who's so good, his commander said. How do

you encapsulate a top-notch pilot who sports a "ridiculous mustache," who wears a headband under his helmet and ends up with the best hair during debriefing, who buys a hat for every jet he flies?

An acronym in an acronym, "MEZ" is short for missile engagement zone. He was the MEZ ranger.

His father told the audience he loves hearing it. It's so cool. On the count of three. One. Two. Three.

"To MEZr!"

FILING FROM PAGE A1

with the city clerk, Linda Hammett, on the fourth floor of the Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Hammett said temperatures will be checked before entering, and masks must be worn.

Enter through the front of the opera house on Main Street. Because the opera house is closed to the public due during the pandemic, call Hammett at (803) 436-2578 to be let in. You can schedule an appointment or call prior to arrival.

Filing for school board and Pinewood seats will take place with the county at the Voter

Registration and Elections Office, 141 N. Main St. Director Pat Jefferson said temperatures will be checked before entering the building at the old courthouse, and entrants will be given masks.

Anyone who lives in the City of Sumter can vote for mayor. Voting for other seats is open to those who live in each district.

GET INVOLVED!

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION



Community Involvement Plan

- What:** Shaw AFB requests your input for its Environmental Restoration Program Community Involvement Plan.
- Why:** Community input is a critical element of the environmental cleanup process. Your input will provide Shaw AFB leaders with information on how best to keep the community actively involved and well informed about the status of site cleanup.
- How:** You may provide your feedback through a survey seeking your opinions on the cleanup program and communication preferences. The online survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and is available at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020_Shaw_CIP_Survey
Schedule taking the survey by phone or request a hard copy of the survey by calling (402) 952-2673 between July 8, 2020 and August 9, 2020.
- When:** Phone interviews and hard copies will be available on request July 8, 2020 to August 9, 2020. Hard copies must be returned by August 9, 2020. A self-addressed, stamped envelope will be provided to return the hard copy survey to the Shaw CIP Update Team. Online Surveys will be available starting July 8, 2020 and must be submitted by August 9, 2020.
- Questions?** If you have any questions about the CIP update or the Shaw Air Force Base Environmental Restoration Program, please contact 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs at (803) 895-2019 or 20FWPublicAffairs@us.af.mil

Phone interviews and hard copies are available by phone at 402.952.2673 or online at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020_Shaw_CIP_Survey

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

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

H.D. Osteen 1904-1987
THE ITEM

Margaret W. Osteen 1908-1996
THE ITEM



OPINION

36 W. LIBERTY ST., SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA 29150 • Founded October 15, 1894

Hubert D. Osteen Jr. CHAIRMAN & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Graham Osteen CO-OWNER

Kyle Osteen CO-OWNER

Jack Osteen CO-OWNER

Vince Johnson PUBLISHER

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Recent editorials from South Carolina newspapers:

THE TIMES AND DEMOCRAT

July 5

Removing statues is misguided effort to erase U.S. history

The rush to remove monuments and statues around the country has become a misguided effort to remove the nation's history. What long has been a focus on memorials to the Civil War Confederacy has become much more.

When statues to abolitionists and figures such as Union Gen. and former President Ulysses S. Grant are singled out, it is clear the Confederacy alone is no longer the target. Either those ready to remove monuments do not know history or they are simply determined to judge every figure by some undefined standard of the 21st century.

The disturbing push to remove, destroy, rename and otherwise do away with elements of U.S. history has lawmakers looking for ways to safeguard monuments including such icons as Mount Rushmore. It appears such legislation will be needed.

In South Carolina, the General Assembly in 2000 passed the Heritage Act in conjunction with removal of the Confederate flag from the Statehouse dome. The legislation was aimed at protecting war memorials. The act put into law the requirement for a two-thirds vote of the legislature to remove or alter monuments.

While the underlying purpose was to prevent wholesale removal of Confederate monuments, there since 2000 has been controversy surrounding other memorials from different wars. Local governments contend they, not the General Assembly, should have control over monuments in their jurisdictions.

That is the position of Orangeburg City Council, which via resolution has called for action by the General Assembly to alter the Heritage Act to allow it to remove the Confederate memorial statue from downtown. Local lawmakers have indicated they would support changes.

But in the current environment, it may be difficult to get a majority of state legislators in both houses to agree, and total abandonment of the Heritage Act is unlikely.

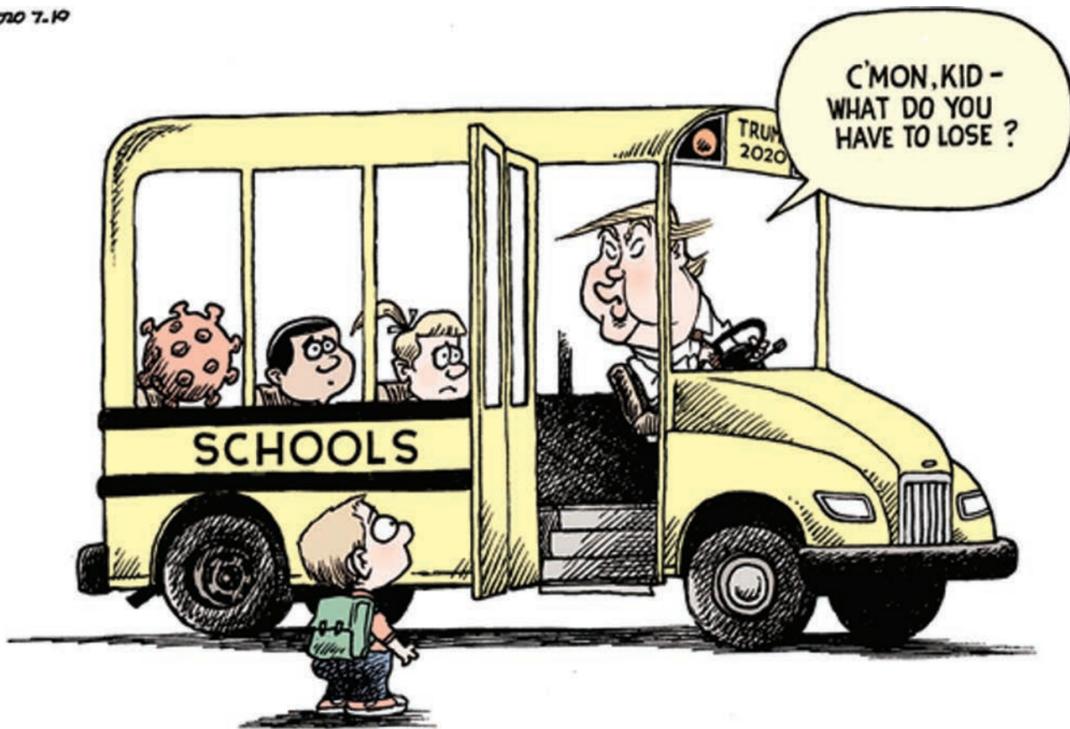
More likely is a court challenge to the law, which Attorney General Alan Wilson has stated via general opinion is constitutional. At the same time, Wilson said the law's requirement for a two-thirds vote likely would be found unconstitutional. A simple majority vote in both houses would be required to remove or change a monument.

His opinion clearly sides with the state having authority over monuments.

"Only an act by the South Carolina General Assembly can remove a monument. This is a position we are prepared to support in court," Wilson said in a video statement released with the opinion.

As to Charleston's removal of a statue of slavery advocate and former U.S. Vice President John C. Calhoun, Wilson said he would not challenge the action. The city argued the statue didn't fall under the Heritage Act because it was a privately owned statue on public land. Wilson agreed, adding Calhoun's

ARIM 7.10



statue wasn't a war memorial or an honor for a Native American or African-American, which are all mentioned specifically in the act.

Orangeburg Mayor Michael Butler has said he believes any statue or memorial to a person who owned slaves should be removed.

As much as his opinion is shared by many as a concern larger than any worry about preserving history, there are legitimate historical concerns to be addressed. Consider these quotes from a recent opinion piece by Orangeburg's William Green. They are worthy of contemplation as local leaders seek to make changes:

"When you erase your history, you have nothing to look back to and nothing to look forward to your future. You have to know where you have been to know where you are going.

"For the city to take charge into demolishing a (building) with this historical value is unjust to the citizens of Orangeburg.

"This is one more plague to erase the history of a people.

"I never thought I would see the city turn its back on the citizens of Orangeburg — past and present. We need (The State Theater) as standing proof of what happened to a race of people in Orangeburg, South Carolina."

Green's quotes referenced the building that once housed The State Theater on Railroad Corner, an African-American landmark. Now substitute "monuments" for his reference. Are they worthy of the same contemplation?

THE STATE

July 6

Requiring people to wear face coverings levels playing field

It's now been 10 days since the city of Columbia enacted a law requiring people to wear face masks in public places in an effort to help stem South Carolina's soaring COVID-19 rates.

So has the sky come falling toward Earth in Soda City over the last 10 days?

No.
Nope.
Not at all.

Given that fact, isn't it time for all of the critics who erupted in rage when Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin and City Council passed the face mask requirement — and who predicted it would have a negligible or even negative effect — to admit they're wrong?

There's no other conclusion to reach at the 10-day mark of Columbia's face mask law.

CHANGING BEHAVIOR

Has the law changed behavior in Columbia?

Yes.
It became official on June 26, and almost overnight there was a striking, visual increase in the number of people wearing face masks in public places and on public streets all across the city.

PREDICTABLE HOLDOUTS

Are there people in Columbia who still aren't wearing masks?

Yes.
But that was always to be expected — and for two reasons:

- No law generates 100% compliance because no law is enforced 100% of the time.

- There will always be people who will reflexively defy anything that seeks to change individual behavior — even to the point where if you simply told these folks to have a nice day, they'd resentfully accuse you of threatening their cherished right to have a horrible one.

So let's face it: These people will never be swayed to wear face masks no matter how often they're told that doing so could reduce the threat of COVID-19 in Columbia.

That's reality.
That's why Columbia's stubbornly mask-free population should not be publicly confronted or harassed by fellow citizens who are wearing masks: While refusing to use a face covering during a raging pandemic is clearly a display of poor judgment, it shouldn't lead to another that sees people assume the role of the "face mask police."

But that's also why Columbia's face mask law shouldn't be judged on whether it leads every person in the city to wear a mask; rather, it should be judged on whether it motivates more people who weren't wearing masks to start doing so.

Is the law meeting that reasonable goal? Without a doubt, it is.

IT'S INFLUENCING OTHERS

Has Columbia's face mask law had a clear influence on others?

Yes.
In the days since Columbia put its requirement in effect, Forest Acres, Lexington and Richland County have passed similar laws directing citizens to wear face coverings in public places.

So much, then, for the naysayers' argument that Columbia's move would be an empty gesture given Gov. Henry McMaster's ongoing refusal to implement a statewide face mask requirement.

LEVELING THE FIELD

Has Columbia's face mask law had an obvious, ominous negative impact on area businesses? Has it placed an obvious, onerous burden on area businesses seeking to, well, do business?

No and no.
It certainly hasn't deterred people from flocking to establishments in downtown Columbia over the past 10 days, as anyone who has traveled the city's main streets can attest.

And the fact is the city's requirement on face masks in public places has actually helped Columbia businesses by putting them all on level footing.

The law has taken the onus off individual businesses that were previously under immense pressure to make their own decisions on whether to have their employees wear masks — much of that heat, by the way, coming from customers alarmed that workers weren't wearing face coverings while interacting with the public.

SCOREBOARD DOESN'T LIE

In sports, it's often said that the scoreboard never lies — and it's fair to use that same adage in judging the effectiveness of Columbia's face mask law 10 days into its introduction.

It's changing the behavior of individuals in Columbia in a constructive way but without infringing on individual rights of Columbia residents in an intrusive way.

It's stirring others in the area's public sector to act but without hindering the ability of those in the area's private sector to operate.

So the scoreboard suggests that Columbia's face mask requirement has been a winning move by the city — and for those who live, work and carry out business in it, too.

And, no, the scoreboard isn't lying.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

LOVE IS THE ANSWER BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

During the last few weeks in light of George Floyd's death, with peaceful protests, and sometimes violent protesters, the demands seem to be about "racism," "reform" but not "reconciliation" nor "love." One of the most popular of the biblical proverbs is Proverbs 10:12, "Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs."

"Hatred" is contrasted with "love." The "stirring up" is contrasted with a "covering over." And "conflict" is what hatred is promoting, whereas love seeks to make peace by covering "all wrongs." To pro-

vide an expanded paraphrase: "Hatred looks for a fight and refuses to smooth things over, but love desires peace between warring parties and will not be involved in provoking dissension."

Love conquers all wrongs, but the wicked find motivation from hatred or spite toward others. In contrast, the righteous are motivated by love. Hatred seeks ways to cause trouble, but love looks for ways to forgive.

This same proverb is quoted in 1 Peter 4:8, "Above all, love each other deeply, because love conquers over a multitude of sins." In this context, the proverb emphasizes that love is expressed through forgiveness of sins.

The idea of love being associated with forgiveness is found frequently in Scripture. One important example is found in 1 John 4:10, "This is love: not that we love God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

In our own personal relationships, we also show love in our forgiveness of others. One of love's characteristics is that "it keeps no record of wrongs" (1 Corinthians 13:5). Love has no list of how or how often it has been offended. Love forgives. However, the greater context is this: John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him

should not perish but have everlasting life."

Also, 1 John 4:17-21: "Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: Because as he is, so are we in this world."

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because death hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

"We love him because he loved us first."
"If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God, whom he hath not seen?"

"And this commandment we have from him. That he who loveth God love his

brother also."

Our lives are to be characterized by godly love that forgives the sins of others. Our extending of forgiveness is motivated by the truth that God has forgiven our sin through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:32). How many times should we forgive? Up to seven times? That was Peter's question in Matthew 18:21. Jesus' answer: "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:22). Where sin increases, grace increases all the more (Romans 5:20). Love covers a multitude of sins — and it keeps on covering.

THE REV. JOSHUA DUPREE JR.
Sumter

FYI

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please note that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, some of the following meetings/events may be cancelled, rescheduled or held virtually.

CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL
Monday, July 13, 6 p.m., Administration Building, Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning

LEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 9:30 a.m., council chambers

SUMTER COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, July 14, 5 p.m., library, 111 N. Harvin St.

LYNCHBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 6 p.m., Teen Center on Magnolia Street, Lynchburg

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 6 p.m., Sumter County Council Chambers

SUMMERTON TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 6 p.m., town hall, 10 Main St., Summerton

PINEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 6:30 p.m., town hall, 16 E. Clark St., Pinewood

TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 6:30 p.m., town hall, 1400 Main St., Turbeville

MAYESVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 14, 7 p.m., town hall, 23 S. Main St., Mayesville

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stop before you say something

you'll regret. Handle pent-up energy wisely. Do something physical that will help ease stress and take your mind off your worries. Offer peace and love, and you'll get the same in return. Romance is in the stars.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Say less and do more. The way you handle situations will be impressive and encourage others to take note and learn from your actions. Take the role of leadership in order to make a difference. A change you make will get compliments.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look for effective ways to help others without jeopardizing your health or well-being. Doing what's right and verifying information before you share will help you ward off anyone trying to take advantage of you. Self-improvement and romance are favored.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stick to the rules to avoid consequences. Don't argue with someone who can disrupt your life or future. Make positive changes that will encourage you to associate with the people who bring out your best qualities, not those enticing you with temptation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Swing into action, be productive and take care of physical tasks. Don't think about making a change until you tidy up loose ends. Your reputation and peace of mind depend on your ability to keep up and surpass your expectations. Romance is encouraged.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): When boredom sets in, it's time to make adjustments. Look for a new way to add some excitement to your life. Reach out to people who inspire you, and get the lowdown on something

that interests you. Expand your mind.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Stick to personal projects. Self-improvement, individual growth and adjustments to the way you live or how you handle your relationships with others will lead to a better life. Don't debate with someone who doesn't share your opinions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Something unfamiliar will tempt you. Follow the path that will lead to knowledge, wisdom and experience, and it will motivate you to use your skills and talents in unique ways. Promote what you have to offer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make someone you love happy. Making home improvements, adding to your entertainment system or spending more time building a pleasant environment will bring you closer to the ones you love. Keep your distance from outsiders, and avoid meddling.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Not everyone will agree with you, especially if you try to make changes that affect others. Get approval before you start a project that will lead to opposition. Have your facts, figures and incentives ready to present. Keep the peace.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll have plenty of energy, ideas and plans that make your place a happy, fun-loving environment. How you respond to the ones you love will add to the admiration and respect you deserve. A romantic gesture is encouraged.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Do whatever you can to make a difference. Put a smile on someone's face, and you'll feel good. Show strength and courage when dealing with people trying to entice you with temptation. Positive change begins within. Do your best.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
An afternoon t-storm in spots	Mainly clear and humid	Mostly sunny and humid	A p.m. shower or t-storm	Mostly sunny and humid	A shower and t-storm around
94°	73°	94° / 74°	91° / 73°	93° / 73°	95° / 74°
Chance of rain: 45%	Chance of rain: 0%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 60%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 60%
NNW 4-8 mph	SSW 3-6 mph	SE 4-8 mph	WSW 6-12 mph	SW 4-8 mph	ESE 4-8 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

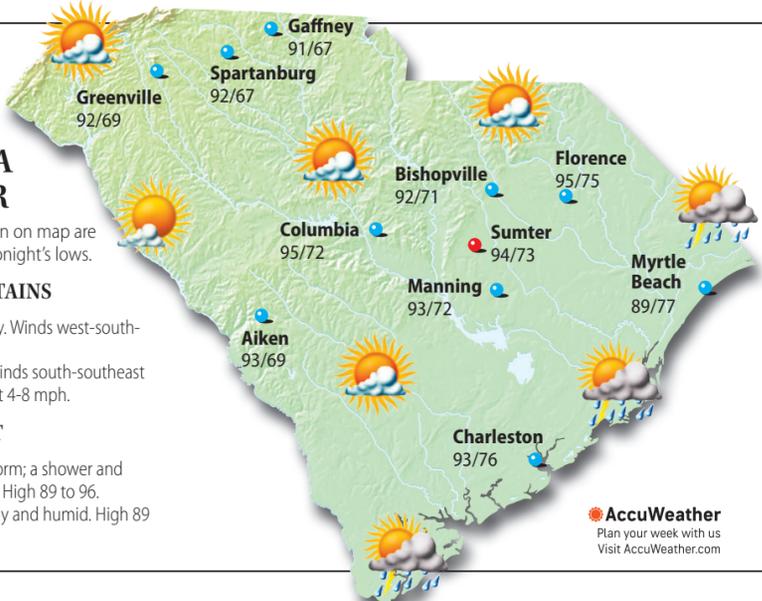
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Mostly sunny. Winds west-southwest 4-8 mph. Clear.
Sunday: A storm. Winds south-southeast becoming southwest 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A thunderstorm; a shower and thunderstorm north. High 89 to 96.
Sunday: Partly sunny and humid. High 89 to 96.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
High	91°		91°		104° in 1986	
Low	73°		73°		58° in 1961	
Normal high	91°		91°			
Normal low	70°		70°			
Record high	104° in 1986					
Record low	58° in 1961					

Precipitation

24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	trace
Month to date	1.60"
Normal month to date	1.56"
Year to date	32.88"
Last year to date	19.30"
Normal year to date	24.48"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.66	-0.01
Marion	76.8	75.72	+0.08
Moultrie	75.5	75.40	none
Wateree	100	96.88	+0.06

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	7.46	+0.22
Congaree River	19	5.83	+2.15
Lynches River	14	8.25	-0.44
Saluda River	14	4.39	-0.83
Up. Santee River	80	78.32	-0.36
Wateree River	24	10.04	-0.34

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:20 a.m.	Sunset	8:35 p.m.
Moonrise	12:25 a.m.	Moonset	12:23 p.m.



TIDES

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	2:10 a.m.	2.9	9:03 a.m.	0.4
	2:35 p.m.	2.7	9:19 p.m.	0.9
Sun.	2:54 a.m.	2.7	9:46 a.m.	0.4
	3:24 p.m.	2.7	10:13 p.m.	1.0

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sun.
Atlanta	92/72/s	93/72/s
Chicago	88/70/s	80/64/pc
Dallas	102/81/s	101/82/pc
Detroit	85/65/c	80/63/t
Houston	99/81/s	101/82/pc
Los Angeles	91/68/s	93/69/s
New Orleans	98/82/s	96/80/c
New York	88/74/t	90/75/pc
Orlando	89/78/t	92/76/t
Philadelphia	91/73/c	93/75/pc
Phoenix	115/92/s	116/93/s
San Francisco	70/51/s	74/55/s
Wash., DC	93/74/pc	94/74/s

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sun.
Asheville	87/63/s	87/65/pc
Athens	95/69/s	94/70/s
Augusta	97/70/pc	97/74/s
Beaufort	96/76/pc	96/77/s
Cape Hatteras	89/79/pc	92/82/pc
Charleston	93/76/t	95/76/pc
Charlotte	93/70/s	93/70/pc
Clemson	92/68/s	91/68/s
Columbia	95/72/pc	96/74/s
Darlington	93/72/pc	93/75/s
Elizabeth City	93/76/t	94/77/c
Elizabethtown	92/73/t	94/75/pc
Fayetteville	94/73/c	95/75/s

City	Today	Sun.
Florence	95/75/pc	95/76/s
Gainesville	92/75/pc	93/74/pc
Gastonia	92/68/s	92/70/pc
Goldboro	92/73/t	94/77/pc
Goose Creek	92/75/t	95/76/pc
Greensboro	91/69/pc	90/70/s
Greenville	92/69/s	92/69/pc
Hickory	89/68/s	89/69/pc
Hilton Head	90/77/t	91/77/s
Jacksonville, FL	91/71/t	94/74/pc
La Grange	93/69/s	93/70/pc
Macon	97/69/pc	98/72/s
Marietta	91/69/s	90/68/s

City	Today	Sun.
Marion	88/63/pc	89/65/pc
Mt. Pleasant	90/77/t	93/77/s
Myrtle Beach	89/77/t	89/79/pc
Orangeburg	93/72/pc	94/74/s
Port Royal	93/75/pc	94/76/s
Raleigh	93/70/pc	94/73/s
Rock Hill	92/68/s	92/71/pc
Rockingham	93/69/pc	94/71/s
Savannah	97/74/pc	96/76/s
Spartanburg	92/67/s	91/70/pc
Summerville	92/74/t	95/74/pc
Wilmington	90/76/t	91/79/pc
Winston-Salem	90/68/pc	90/70/pc

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

HAVE YOU TAKEN PICTURES OF INTERESTING, EXCITING, BEAUTIFUL OR HISTORICAL PLACES?

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the Sumter ITEM



THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

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- 95 Legendary jazz saxophonist
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- 103 Creator of The West Wing
- 104 Early PC screen
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Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

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

Our backyard visitors

They come for the food and are a constant delight. We get a variety of types.

Some are regulars, and some are more seasonal. They are all welcome.

I'll start with the red ones. They are the most numerous. We've had as many as 18 in our backyard garden at one time. The male Cardinals are fire-truck red, and the females are a mix of reds and tans. They fly in from the woods behind our house. They come for the sunflower seed in our feeders.



Dan Geddings

They will pick up a single sunflower seed and chew the husk off, then swallow the seed. Then get another one.

We have two tray-type feeders with wire bottoms. I usually put a nut and fruit mix in those feeders. The red birds will use any of the feeders, but they prefer the more open tray type. All the birds will use the tray feeders, but the smaller birds prefer the tube feeder or a smaller jar-type feeder.

Another red type that we get are the House Finches. The males have a varying amount of red on the head, chest and sides. The females are a mix of browns. They use any of the feeders and prefer the millet and other small seed.

The most beautiful bird that we get has a bright red chest and belly. It is the Painted Bunting. They are the most colorful with a blue head and a yellow and green back. The small females are lizard green. They are seasonal visitors. The first ones show up at our feeders in mid-April. They stay until late summer and are gone before winter. Their winter home is Central and South America.

In the winter, we get Red-winged Blackbirds. The brilliant red patch on the wing is bordered by a tawny yellow strip. The red patch can not be seen when the birds are standing with their wings folded. Only the yellow strip is visible against their jet-black bodies. Brown-headed cowbirds are with us year 'round. They are shiny black with rusty brown heads.

The nut-and-fruit mix attracts the



PHOTOS BY DAN GEDDINGS / THE SUMTER ITEM
ABOVE: A woodpecker is seen on a tray-type feeder just outside our kitchen window.

RIGHT: Sparrows eat on a tube feeder, including one with a white head.



Red-Bellied Woodpeckers. They only eat the peanuts in the mix. They will pick up and swallow three or four peanuts, then take one and fly back to the woods. Their name is a little odd to me. They have a very small, dull red patch on the belly, but the top of the male's head is a brilliant red cap. The females have a smaller red cap.

There are some blue-type birds. The Blue Jay is my favorite. It is slightly larger than the others. The blue body is accented with a variety of black and white markings. They come for the peanuts, eating several, then taking one back to the woods with them.

Blue Grosbeaks come to the feeders in the summer. They are not regular visitors. They are sized between the sparrows and the red birds. They are solid blue with black facial markings and dull brown wings. The Indigo

Buntings are smaller and rarer at our feeders. They are electric blue. They shine and glitter with iridescent color. They only eat the small millet seeds.

Eastern Bluebirds visit our garden but do not use the feeders. They are insect eaters. We have a bluebird house on our garden fence that is used by the bluebirds every year.

The gray birds include Mourning Doves. They land on the feeders and walk around on the ground under the feeders picking up spilled seed. They are surprisingly aggressive toward the other birds. I've also had a few White-Winged Doves at my feeders. They are native to the Southwest and Mexico and are considered vagrants here.

Another gray bird that we get is the Tufted Titmouse. They prefer the nut-and-fruit mix. They will pick up a

peanut and hold it with one or both feet and chip away at it with their beak until they break off a piece small enough to eat. The Carolina Chickadee is another small gray bird with a black throat and a black cap. We get many at our feeders. They are somewhat noisy.

We get a variety of sparrows that are cloaked in browns and grays. One small sparrow that has been at our feeders for several years has a mostly white head.

There are many other species that only come occasionally, and we are delighted to see them at our feeders and in our backyard garden. They come from the woods out back and the fields in the front and are always welcome visitors.

Reach Dan Geddings at cdgeddings@gmail.com.

Bassmaster releases its rankings of best bass lakes

Santee Cooper, Murray make the lists

BY B.A.S.S.

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama — Since 2012, Bassmaster Magazine has released annual rankings of the country's best bass fisheries. While tournament data could not be gathered because of the COVID-19 pandemic, crunching numbers gathered over the past eight years revealed a surprising Best Bass Lake of the Decade — California's Clear Lake.

While Alabama's Lake Guntersville at No. 2 was the highest-placing lake in the Southeast, overall the region had six fisheries on the Top 25 list: Guntersville, Okeechobee (Florida); Pickwick (Alabama/Mississippi/Tennessee); Chickamauga (Tennessee); Seminole (Georgia/Florida); and Santee Cooper (South Carolina).

"Typically, creating the rankings takes more than two months as we dig through current tournament data as well as state fishery information on stocking efforts, catch rates and angler access," explained Bassmaster Magazine Editor-in-Chief James Hall. "Instead, we used all of this research and rankings from the past eight years to create an incredible — and somewhat surprising — ranking of bucket-list

destinations for anglers."

While long considered a West Coast powerhouse, Clear Lake has never topped the Best Bass Lakes list until this year. However, in the past decade, California's largest natural lake has also never ranked below 10th in the country and has been the top-ranked Western fishery for the past three years. Anglers can expect to consistently catch big bass in a fishery where an average bass weighs in at more than 5 pounds. In fact, a bass more than 16 pounds was landed at Clear Lake last year. Combine that production with a pristine setting in California's wine country, and you have the definition of a bucket-list fishing destination.

Lake Guntersville, home of the 2020 Academy Sports + Outdoors Bassmaster Classic presented by Huk, took the No. 2 spot, matching its 2019 rank. Like Clear Lake, the Big G has never been named the Best Bass Lake in the nation, but it is rarely out of contention. Guntersville is known for its breathtaking scenery and easy access, but big fish swim there as well. Most big-bass prizes are awarded to fish topping the 8-pound mark, with 10-plus-pounders taking center stage on occasion.

True giants call our third-place fishery, Lake Erie, home. While most of the tournament data comes out of Buffalo, New York, anglers can expect smallies in the 6-pound range anywhere along the shoreline, which includes New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan. Michigan's Lake St. Clair, where you can catch the smallmouth of a lifetime surrounded by Instagram-worthy scenery, is in the fourth spot.

Rounding out the remainder of the Top 10 lakes are California's Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta at fifth; Toledo Bend, on the Louisiana/Texas border, at sixth; Texas' Sam Rayburn Reservoir at seventh; Texas' Falcon Lake at eighth; Idaho's Lake Coeur d'Alene at ninth; and Florida's Lake Okeechobee at 10th.

The rankings identify the Top 25 lakes in the nation based on head-to-head comparisons, as well as the top lakes in four geographical regions — Central, Western, Southeastern and Northeastern.

"We divide the nation into four regions and rank the lakes in each region to give anglers perspective on the fisheries they can most likely reach," Hall explained.

As for bragging rights on which state has the most fisheries in the all-decade rankings, that title goes to Michigan with seven lakes.

Right behind the "Great Lake State" there is a three-way tie with California, Florida and Texas each placing six lakes on the list.

BASSMASTER MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST BASS LAKES OF THE DECADE

Top 25

1. Clear Lake, California
2. Lake Guntersville, Alabama
3. Lake Erie, New York/Ohio/Pennsylvania/Michigan
4. Lake St. Clair, Michigan
5. Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta, California
6. Toledo Bend, Louisiana/Texas
7. Sam Rayburn Reservoir, Texas
8. Falcon Lake, Texas
9. Lake Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
10. Lake Okeechobee, Florida
11. Lake Champlain, New York/Vermont
12. St. Lawrence River (Thousand Islands), New York
13. Pickwick Lake, Alabama/Mississippi/Tennessee
14. Grand Lake O' The Cherokees, Oklahoma
15. Chickamauga Lake, Tennessee
16. Lake Fork, Texas
17. Lake Havasu, Arizona/California
18. Oneida Lake, New York
19. Candlewood Lake, Connecticut
20. Columbia River, Oregon/Washington
21. Mille Lacs Lake, Minnesota
22. Lake Seminole, Georgia/Florida
23. Santee Cooper Lakes (Marion/Moultrie), South Carolina

24. Lake Charlevoix, Michigan
25. Sturgeon Bay (Lake Michigan), Wisconsin

BEST BASS LAKES OF THE DECADE — SOUTHEAST REGION

1. Rodman Reservoir, Florida
2. Lake Murray, South Carolina
3. Lake Tohopekaliga, Florida
4. Lake Istokpoga, Florida
5. Lake Eufaula, Alabama/Georgia
6. Falls Lake, North Carolina
7. St. Johns River, Florida
8. Shearon Harris Lake, North Carolina
9. Clarks Hill Lake, Georgia/South Carolina
10. Lake Hartwell, Georgia/South Carolina

ABOUT B.A.S.S.

B.A.S.S. is the worldwide authority on bass fishing and keeper of the culture of the sport, providing cutting-edge content on bass fishing whenever, wherever and however bass fishing fans want to use it. Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, the 515,000-member organization's fully integrated media platforms include the industry's leading magazines (Bassmaster and B.A.S.S. Times), website (Bassmaster.com), television show (The Bassmasters on ESPN2 and The Pursuit Channel), radio show (Bassmaster Radio), social media programs and events. For more than 50 years, B.A.S.S. has been dedicated to access, conservation and youth fishing.

Zion's stepfather accused of soliciting, accepting \$400,000 payment



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Orleans forward Zion Williamson (1) has a growing legal fight that now includes an allegation that his stepfather, Mayesville native Lee Anderson, accepted a \$400,000 payment from a marketing agency while the Pelicans rookie was at Duke

BY AARON BEARD
The Associated Press

The legal fight over NBA rookie Zion Williamson's endorsement potential now includes an allegation that his family received \$400,000 from a marketing agency before his lone season for Duke.

According to ESPN's Mark Schlabach, Williamson's stepfather, Mayesville native Lee Anderson, solicited and accepted a \$400,000 payment from a marketing agent in October 2018 prior to Williamson's only season with Duke according to a court motion and sworn affidavit filed by his former marketing representative's attorneys in federal court on Thursday.



ANDERSON

Prime Sports Marketing and company president Gina Ford filed a lawsuit last summer in a Florida state court, accusing Williamson and

the agency now representing him of breach of contract. That came a week after Williamson filed his own lawsuit in a North Carolina federal court to terminate a five-year contract with Prime Sports after moving to Creative Artists Agency LLC.

In court filings Thursday in North Carolina, Ford's attorneys included a sworn affidavit from a California man who said the head of a Canadian-

based firm called Maximum Management Group (MMG) told him he paid Williamson's family for his commitment to sign with MMG once he left Duke for the NBA.

The documents include a marketing agreement signed by Williamson with MMG from May 2019, a December 2019 "letter of declaration" signed by Williamson and his stepfather agreeing to pay \$500,000 to MMG president Slavko Duric for "repayment of a loan" from October 2018, and a copy of Williamson's South Carolina driver's license — which listed Williamson's height as "284" and his weight as "6'06."

SEE ZION, PAGE B5

Robert E. Lee uses small groups to safely work out during pandemic

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

The Robert E. Lee Academy football team is trying to keep things simple as it goes through summer workouts during the pandemic. For head coach David Rankin, the key has been small group sizes. The Cavaliers may even keep those groups small when the South Carolina Independent School Association allows them to expand because of how well things are working for the Cavaliers.

"I've got them in three groups of five and a group of eight and two groups come at 8:30 (a.m.) with one in the weight room and one outside running and then at 9:45 another group comes," said Rankin. "We haven't done a whole lot throwing the ball or anything like that. We're just in the weight room and getting in shape basically."

"SCISA said we can go to 15 next week, next Thursday, I don't know that I am. Maybe we'll do 7-on-7 and stuff like that. Most of my offensive people are back, my linemen are back. I've got new receivers, a running back and a quarterback, but the ones that are going to play have been in the system and know what we do, so I don't think that it's



imperative that we get out there and do a whole lot before the first day of practice."

One of the biggest benefits to having smaller groups -- other than making it easier to social distance -- has been personal accountability. Rankin loves having a maximum of nine people in the weight room or in a group running at once because he can make sure each one of them is putting in the work they need to.

"The other thing it's done for us is that the weight room,

nine in the weight room has really worked well, because you can focus more with them. The less people in there, the more you can have them do it the right way. They can't, I don't wanna say cheat, but cheat themselves I reckon," said Rankin. "You don't have to stay so hard on them, because you can see all of them, so it keeps them from cheating the system a little bit I reckon. I've enjoyed having nine in the weight room."

Those smaller groups have also made Rankin and his

staff keenly aware of how they are using their time. REL has very specifically regimented workout days, because it wants to keep things clean and efficient. SCISA has allowed teams 12 practice days -- practices that involve a football in any way -- this summer, but the Cavaliers have mostly stuck to basic workouts because it's the easiest way to keep everyone healthy.

"We're supposed to get 12 practices where we can run all we want to. If you take a

ball out, that's a practice and you get 12 of those. I've kinda held onto those, we've kinda thrown the ball around three or four days, but we haven't done a whole lot of that," said Rankin. "If you take a football out and use it in your drills, that counts as one of your days. If you line up on defense, that counts as one of your days because of that. I only get 12 of those and I still have eight of those left."

"I'm probably going to have some left when we start because I'm going to stay at nine (people at a time), we're checking temperatures, we're washing hands big time, wiping everything down in the weight room. We've stayed as careful as we can and on the field we stay spread out pretty good."

While REL has been efficient with its workouts, there have been challenges to practicing during the pandemic. Rankin said the biggest challenge has been the lack of team building, especially with the younger players.

"One of the negatives is that we're not getting any team building, no leadership," said Rankin. "Our younger guys don't lift as much as our older guys, so our younger

SEE REL, PAGE B5

NASCAR's Johnson confused, frustrated after virus scare

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — Jimmie Johnson is just as confused as everyone else about his plight with the coronavirus. A positive test caused the seven-time NASCAR champion to miss the first race of his career, and it was followed three days later by a negative test.

He never suffered any symptoms and was tested only after his wife, bothered by seasonal allergies, received a positive test.

Was it a false positive? Were he and wife, Chani, carrying the virus for some time before their tests?

He has no answers. "There's a lot of speculation there," Johnson said Friday, a full week after testing positive. "I'm the most frustrated person out there, especially living in a world of facts that we do. To not have the facts drives me bananas."

Johnson sat out last Sunday's race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, which snapped his streak of 663 consecutive starts, longest

among active drivers. But he tested negative Monday and Tuesday and was cleared by NASCAR to race again this weekend at Kentucky Speedway.

That first negative test sent his constantly changing emotions to a different level.

"My first response was just anger. I started cussing and used every cuss word that I knew of and I think invented a few new ones," Johnson said Friday. "It was just so weird — the anger — because I've been asymptomatic. Anger hits. And then speculation in my mind. And then it's, 'Wait a second, there is nothing good that can come of this. No one knows. I don't know. It's just time to move on.'"

"Then I got very excited and starting looking at the facts that I've only missed one race," he added. "I feel like I am more on the optimistic side of things and out of the dark head space that I was in and moving in the right direction."

Both and he and his wife isolated from their two

SEE JIMMIE, PAGE B4

Practices begin at Disney as teams begin restart routines

BY TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

Nikola Vucevic had to raise his voice a bit to answer a question. He had just walked off the court after the first Orlando Magic practice of the restart, and some of his teammates remained on the floor while engaged in a loud and enthusiastic shooting contest.

After four months, basketball was truly back.

Full-scale practices inside the NBA bubble at the Disney complex started Thursday, with the Magic — the first team to get into the campus earlier this week — becoming the first team formally back on the floor. By the close of business Thursday, all 22 teams participating in the restart were to be checked into their hotel and beginning their isolation from the rest of the world for what will be several weeks at least. And by Saturday, all teams should have practiced at least once.

"It's great to be back after four months," Vucevic said.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant (12) and his NBA counterparts have arrived in Orlando, Florida as the league begins practices ahead of its return to action.

"We all missed it."

The last eight teams were coming in Thursday, the Los Angeles Lakers and Philadelphia 76ers among them. Lakers forward LeBron James lamented saying farewell to his family, and 76ers forward Joel Embiid — who raised some eyebrows earlier this week when he said he was "not a big fan of the idea" of restarting the season in a bubble — showed up for his

team's flight in what appeared to be a full hazmat suit.

"Just left the crib to head to the bubble. ... Hated to leave the (hashtag)James-Gang," James posted on Twitter.

Another last-day arrival at the Disney campus was the reigning NBA champion Toronto Raptors, who boarded

SEE NBA, PAGE B5

USC gets commitment from Marion DE Sanders

There were plenty of recruiting fireworks for the University of South Carolina football program in the days leading up to the Fourth of July holiday.

Head coach **Will Muschamp** added three more of his targets to the 2021 class, bringing the class total to 14 pledges. Eight have come in since the first of June. Add in the three enrollees who count on the '21 class, and USC has 17 of the 25 spots allocated at this point.



Phil Kornblut
RECRUITING CORNER

Marion High School defensive end **TJ Sanders** (6-feet-4-inches, 285 pounds) announced a commitment to USC on Saturday over North Carolina State, West

Virginia and Vanderbilt. Sanders also had offers from Coastal Carolina, Wake Forest, Syracuse, Tennessee, Duke, Virginia, Virginia Tech, East Carolina and others.

Sanders got the chance to visit USC prior to the coronavirus-imposed dead period, and from that and follow-up conversations with the coaching staff, he felt USC offered him his best opportunity.

"They kept it real, and the conversations we've been having have not all been about football," Sanders said. "It feels like the family I never had, so I felt like it was the right spot for me."

Sanders and new defensive line coach **Tracy Rocker** have developed a tight relationship since Rocker arrived at USC from Tennessee and picked up Sander's recruitment. He's looking forward to learning the finer points of the position from one of the college game's all-time greats.

"I feel like he can mold me into one of the best defensive linemen ever to go through South Carolina," Sanders said. "I hope he can get me to the (National Football) League. Me and him will be good together. He's a fun, hard-working coach, and that's the kind of coach I was looking for."

Sanders has come a long way in football circles. He had primarily been a basketball player, and a good one, until adding football to his resume for the first time last season. Muschamp didn't have a lot of film to review, but he saw Southeastern Conference potential in Sanders and that's why he offered.

Sanders has a 3-star rating in the 247Sports Composite and is the No. 5 prospect in South Carolina.

Earlier in the week, USC landed commitments from wide receiver **Derwin Burgess** (5-11, 177) of Riverdale, Ga., and athlete **Simeon Price** (6-0, 204) of Pensacola, Fla.

USC cornerback target **Khyree Jackson** of East Mississippi Junior College and Upper Marlboro, Md., has not yet determined a new commitment date after canceling his plans for a July 11 reveal. He has been working with a top six of USC, Oregon, Florida, Oklahoma, Alabama and Kentucky. Jackson said he wanted more time to visit schools before making his decision. Jackson said he's talking with USC weekly.

Four-star DE **Kelvin Gilliam** of Highland Springs, Va., named his top 10 last week, and USC was firmly entrenched in the short list. That's no surprise as Gilliam's history with USC dates back to his sophomore year. He has built an uncommonly strong relationship with Muschamp and assistant coach **Kyle Krantz**.

He may be closer to the USC staff than any other, but will that be enough for USC to land one of the highest rated prospects on its board?

"They are very, very, very high on my list," Gilliam said. "Just because of the contact we have been in. Also, SEC football, a great head coach. I think they are really going to do something special this upcoming year."

Also on the short list are Oklahoma, Penn State, Minnesota, Texas, Florida, VT, Louisiana State, California and UK.

Gilliam has yet to visit USC but will take an official visit if the opportunity arises. He wants to take his other official visits as well before he makes his decision, but that's all dependent on the NCAA and the recruiting calendar. Currently a dead period is in place through the end of August. He'd like to make his decision later in his season, but it could come as early as the end of summer.

Gilliam is ranked seventh nationally among weakside defensive ends and is the No. 4 prospect in Virginia.

Running back **B Jaylin White** of Dothan, Ala., named a top ten of USC, UF, Florida State, Louisville, Texas A&M, PSU, Nebraska, Mississippi State, Mississippi and Memphis. White has visited USC in the past. He's ranked as the No. 12 RB prospect in the country.

Tight end **Jalen Shead** of Olive Branch, Miss., included USC in his top 10. The others are FSU, Southern California, Central Florida, Alabama, LSU, Ole Miss, Kansas State, Texas Christian and Arkansas.

Time at home in New Orleans during the pandemic for offensive tackle **Caleb Etienne** of Butler Junior College in Kansas has meant some good home cooking. With that, his weight has jumped up 20 pounds to 335 pounds on his 6-9 frame.

Etienne hopes to arrive at Butler on July 28 so he can prepare for the season and show recruiters why he's regarded as the No. 2 JC OT. USC offensive line coach **Eric Wolford** offered Etienne on April 9 and continues to pursue him for a possible third OL in the class.

Etienne has a top four at this point of USC, Oregon, Texas Tech and Houston.

Some of his other offers are Mississippi State, Arkansas, East Carolina, Oklahoma State, Alabama-Birmingham, UCF and Ole Miss.

Etienne committed to Ole Miss in high school but signed with Nichols State. However, he didn't quality and enrolled at Fort Scott JC in Kansas for the '19 season. Etienne wants to take official visits to his top four. He has one set up with Texas Tech for his off week on Sept. 12.

USC linebacker target **Jordan Poole** of Oakboro, N.C., had planned to announce on July 1, but he was not ready to do so on that date. He's down to USC, VT and North Carolina State.

CLEMSON

Four-star defensive tackle **Payton Page** (6-4, 335) of Greensboro, N.C., has hit his month of decision. Page will announce his choice from among Clemson, North Carolina and Tennessee on July 28.

Clemson is clearly the favorite to land Page by those who predict commitments. All of the 247Sports experts who have logged a crystal ball did so for Clemson. As for the Rivals crowd, all three of its experts have predicted Clemson will land the player they consider the top prospect in North Carolina. Clemson certainly has made it clear to Page he is the one and only DT it wants for the '21 class. Clemson has basically slow-played every other prospect while it waits on Page.

Clemson assistant coach **Todd Bates** has been Page's recruiter, and they talk on a regular basis. Page said their relationship dating back three years is key in this case.

"We really don't talk about football like that," Page said. "It's more like, how's my family doing, more personal stuff. We've been talking a lot of football like since my freshman year. We're real close since we've been talking since I was young, but that's like with all my schools."

Page added Bates' approach to recruiting him, as well as that of head coach **Dabo Swinney** and other Clemson assistants, is another reason he has held Clemson in high regard.

"Their consistency," Page said. "Usually a coach will text you and you might have a whole conversation one day and won't have any for another

month. I see in that coach's eyes that I'm just another recruit, and he's just not trying to get a bond with me. He's just doing a job I guess."

Page is good enough at his craft that he knows his playing time at any of the schools will come. He also knows each has great facilities and all the other parts needed to be successful. So as he works on his decision for the next four weeks, Page is looking at something else to drive home the answer.

"Where I'm comfortable at," Page said. "Wherever I'm comfortable at and where my family is comfortable. I've already been multiple times to my top three schools."

Page did get the chance to visit each of his finalists before the virus-induced recruiting dead period. He was at Clemson in January, UNC in February and Tennessee in early March. Page said he will notify the school he chooses in advance of his announcement day.

Clemson is in the top 12 with '22 OL **Addison Nichols** of Norcross, Ga. The others are Tennessee, Duke, Georgia, UF, Ohio State, Southern Cal, FSU, Auburn, Alabama and LSU. Nichols is rated as a 4-star, the No. 4 offensive tackle nationally and the No. 7 prospect in Georgia for '22.

Clemson is in the top 10 with '22 CB **Domani Jackson** (6-1, 185) of Santa Ana, Calif. The others are Texas, Alabama, Michigan, Oregon, LSU, Oklahoma, UGA, Arizona State and Southern Cal. Jackson is rated as a 4-star and is ranked the No. 2 CB in the country and the No. 2 prospect in California.

Clemson offered '22 running back **Trevor Etienne** (5-10, 200) of Jennings, La. He's the brother of Clemson star RB **Travis Etienne**. Alabama, Auburn, UF, UGA and LSU are other offers. He rushed for 2,365 yards and 31 touchdowns last season.

Clemson offered '22 4-star CB **Jaheim Singletary** (6-1, 170) of Jacksonville, Fla. He also has offers from USC, UF, FSU, LSU, Oklahoma and PSU among others.

OTHERS

Lakewood High School '22 CB **Zayveon Wells** was offered by South Alabama.

Three more in-state prospects announced their college decisions last week. WR **Ahmari Higgins-Bruce** of Dillon High committed to Louisville, DE **Jatius Geer** of Belton-Honea Path High committed to Syracuse and WR **Da'Shawn Brown** of York High committed to Appalachian state. Unofficially, that's 17 players from the state committed to Football Bowl Subdivision programs at this point.

Here are the other in-state commitments to FBS schools: RB **Chance Black** of Dorman High in Roebuck to VT; West Florence High CB **Nyke Johnson** to VT; WR **O'Mega Blake** of South Pointe High in Rock Hill to USC; Greer High OT **Jaydon Collins** to Wake Forest; Sumter High DE **Justus Boone** to UF; Boiling Springs High CB **Caden Sullivan** to Appalachian State; Myrtle Beach High WR **JJ Jones** to UNC; Chapman High LB **Camden Gray** to Navy; TE **Brandon Johnson** of Strom Thurmond High in Graniteville to WF; Chapin High OL **Thornton Gentry** to NCSU; OT **Jayden Ramsey** of Westside High to App State; WR **Kendall Long** of River Bluff High in Lexington to Syracuse; Lakewood safety **James Wright** to ECU; and **Marion's Sanders** to USC.

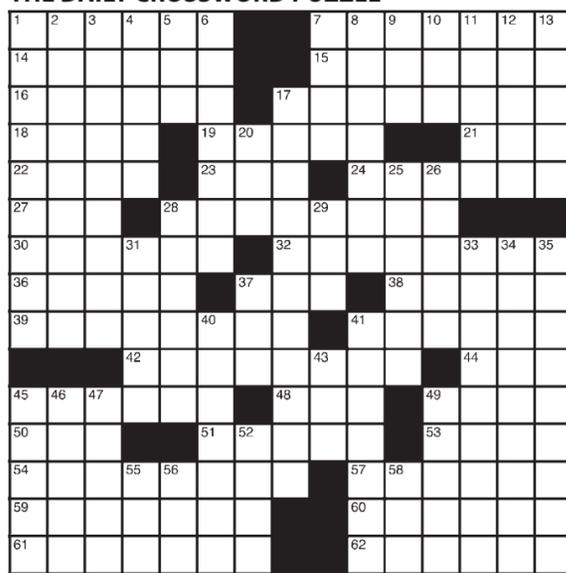
Quarterback **Jace Wilson** (5-10, 170) of Del Valle, Texas, committed to Furman. Last season, he passed for 2,467 yards and 27 TDs and rushed for 207 yards and four TDs.

York WR **Da'Shawn Brown** committed to App State, WR **Adrian Chandler** of Williston-Elko High and LB **Nahshawn Hezekiah** of Orangeburg-Wilkinson High both committed to Howard.

Nicholas Williams (6-5 300), a '22 OT from Fox Creek High in Summerville, was offered by NCSU. Some of his other offers at this point are Auburn, UF, FSU, Coastal, Arkansas, PSU, Syracuse, VT and West Virginia.

SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



John-Clark Levin

ACROSS

- 1 Author Allende
- 7 Counter proposals?
- 14 Still ahead
- 15 2003 disaster movie about a mission to Earth's center
- 16 Disneyland's Golden Horseshoe is one
- 17 Mr. Rogers catchword
- 18 Car loan figs.
- 19 Leaf pore
- 21 Tolkien being
- 22 Champagne with a diaeresis
- 23 Lion, say
- 24 Govt. securities
- 27 Handy program
- 28 Suggests to the palate
- 30 Join forces
- 32 Help a vacationing friend, maybe
- 36 Old news source
- 37 No WNBA players
- 38 Clam or lobster
- 39 Crunchy cantina fare
- 41 Became one company
- 42 Rockford's home
- 44 Include in the mix

- 45 Court rival of Roger
- 48 Iraq War danger: Abbr.
- 49 Hub near de Gaulle
- 50 Broadway's Burrows
- 51 Crystal-lined rock
- 53 Chesapeake delicacy
- 54 Pull out all the stops
- 57 Pespicious
- 59 Prince of Darkness
- 60 Middy nap
- 61 Trips taken mostly in the dark
- 62 Leash

DOWN

- 1 Tinder notice
- 2 Show labeled for its early sponsors
- 3 Fix for an injured knee
- 4 Increase
- 5 Broody rock genre
- 6 Blank photo cause
- 7 Couple of People
- 8 Massage technique
- 9 Race stage
- 10 Hamburger beef?
- 11 Prize founder
- 12 Like some

- 13 Russia's Alexander II emancipated them in 1861
- 17 Disclaimer for sounds-absurd-but-it's-real news content
- 20 Many Ph.D. candidates
- 25 Supervisors
- 26 Lead-in to bad news
- 28 Symbol of slowness
- 29 Ages and ages
- 31 Press and such
- 33 Consequence of too much sweetness?
- 34 Refreshing coffeehouse order
- 35 Focus of a former Florida museum that featured a Hug Club
- 37 2006 Verizon acquisition
- 40 Expended
- 41 Region of long-frustrated peace efforts
- 43 Its Jan. 2018 additions include "hangry" and "mansplain"
- 45 Abandoned party
- 46 Where the stars are
- 47 Rank
- 49 G7, before Russia's suspension
- 52 Farm girls
- 55 La Liga cheer
- 56 Yorkie's group designation
- 58 "Sprechen Deutsch?"

Previous Puzzle Solved



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

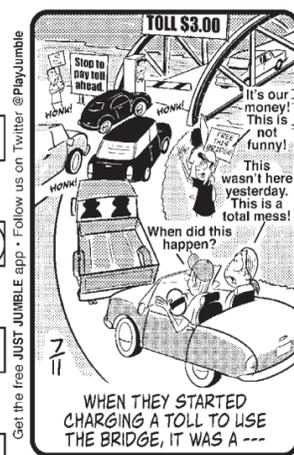
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ACCHO

UHESO

TNHESC

TNAFET



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

Print your answer here: C H O H - C H O O

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ACUTE HONEY COERCE JOVIAL
Answer: Gutzon Borglum's ability to create unique sculptures allowed him to — CARVE A NICHE

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

7/11

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

Posey out for 2020 season as MLB teams deal with churning rosters

PHOENIX — San Francisco catcher Buster Posey became the latest well-known player to opt out of the abbreviated 2020 season, joining Dodgers pitcher David Price and Nationals first baseman Ryan Zimmerman on the sidelines.

Others like Texas slugger Joey Gallo and San Diego outfielder Tommy Pham provided good news: They can get back on the field after previously testing positive for coronavirus.

One week into Major League Baseball's strange summer camp, the constant churn of rosters is one of the few constants.

Posey — a six-time All-Star and 2012 NL MVP — said his family finalized the adoption of identical twin girls this week. The babies were born prematurely and Posey said after consultations with his wife and doctor he decided skipping the season was in his family's best interest.

"These babies, being as fragile as they are for the next four months minimum, this wasn't ultimately that difficult a decision for me," he said.

Arizona manager Torey Lovullo has developed a straightforward strategy to deal with his changing situation in the middle of a stress-filled pandemic. The Diamondbacks have had multiple players test positive for COVID-19, including pitcher Junior Guerra, outfielder Kole Calhoun and young prospect Seth Beer. Guerra and Beer have already been allowed to return.

"I get something at the beginning of the day or at the end of the day that says 'This is who's available, and this is who's not available,'" Lovullo said. "So it's kind of a boring answer."

But trying to keep things simple has been paramount as MLB continues its cautious journey to a 60-game regular season that's scheduled to begin on July 23. The first seven days of camp were anything but dull: Several players across the sport tested positive for COVID-19, results for some tests were delayed and a slow



San Francisco Giants catcher Buster Posey announced on Friday that he is opting out of the 2020 season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

trickle of players have decided to opt out of the season, citing personal, health or family reasons.

While some have opted out of the season, others have carefully weighed the risks and decided to play. Baltimore pitcher Alex Cobb has a young family to care for, including a newborn, so he wasn't so sure about participating in the delayed season.

But after consulting with his wife, pediatricians and doctors, Cobb joined the rebuilding Orioles.

"There's just no guarantee that if I opted out and stayed home that we wouldn't get it," he said this week, wearing a mask during a Zoom call from Camden Yards. "This is a great opportunity for me personally -- especially since I missed all last year -- to go out and get a season in."

Then there are players like Milwaukee Brewers utilityman Brock Holt, who don't have the luxury of a big contract when making a decision. Holt has a young family and his wife is pregnant, but he decided to leave them at home while he went to Milwaukee for the next three months.

"I'm not in a position to opt out of a season," Holt said earlier this week. "I feel like if I didn't play this year, my baseball career would be over. If I didn't play, it would be hard for me to find a job next year."

In the middle of the uncertainty there have occasionally been rays of hope: Gallo returned to camp on Friday after missing the first week following a positive COVID-19 test. Padres manager Jayce Tingler said Pham has also been cleared through MLB and was due at Friday's practice. Pham tested positive during intake and was asymptomatic.

The actual baseball part of summer camp has progressed fairly well for many teams. Marlins manager Don Mattingly said three weeks is enough time for players to get ready. Braves manager Brian Snitker agreed that on-the-field concerns had lessened.

"After a week, we're a little farther along to where I probably thought we would be when we started," Snitker said Friday.

The Braves endured a jolting start to camp. First baseman and team leader Freddie Freeman, premier reliever Will Smith, right-hander Touki Toussaint and infielder Pete Kozma tested positive for coronavirus. Outfielder Nick Markakis, veteran right-hander Félix Hernández and first base coach Eric Young Sr. opted out.

There is no update as to when Freeman and the other three will rejoin the team.

"I'm still not counting Freddie out," Snitker said.

Flyers remain unbeaten

STAFF REPORTS

The Sumter Flyers scored five runs in the top of the eighth inning without the benefit of a hit to beat Florence Green 8-3 on Thursday at Riley Park.

Sumter remained undefeated in the junior division of the South Carolina American League at 7-0.

The Flyers, who were the designated visiting team, scored twice in the sixth to tie the score and send the game into extra innings. After a scoreless seventh, Sumter scored five runs in the eighth thanks to three Florence Green errors, three walks and three hit batters.

Sumter managed just three hits. Clark Kinney had a double, two walks and a run batted in, while Bryce Coulter had a hit and two RBI.

Kyler Odom pitched two perfect innings of relief to get the victory. He didn't allow a hit or a walk and struck out five batters. Kinney pitched a 1-2-3 eighth with two strikeouts.

JIMMIE

FROM PAGE B2

young daughters as he waited to be tested again. He said Chani Johnson feels fine and, aside from some allergies, is asymptomatic.

He is certain he is fit to race, and tested himself in the Colorado mountains this week.

"I feel great. I've been at altitude this entire time," Johnson said. "I rode up to 10,500 feet on a bicycle and felt perfectly fine."

Johnson is scheduled to retire from full-time NASCAR racing at the end of this season and had never missed a race in his 19-year Cup career before sitting out the Brickyard 400. The 44-year-old was required to have two negative COVID-19 tests in a 24-hour span and be cleared by a doctor to return to racing.

NASCAR approved him to return to the No. 48 Chevrolet on Wednesday. He is 15th in the Cup standings, just inside the playoff cutoff mark, and he received a waiver for the championship race should he qualify.

He's eager to get back to work after a trying week with his family.

"Just emotional and a journey that you go through worrying about your safety, your family's safety, watching a race with somebody else in your race car and the emotion that goes with that," Johnson said. "Coming to grips with the reality of all that has been challenging, but I've always subscribed to growing through these tough moments, and I feel like I'm a smarter, stronger person today experiencing all this."

NASCAR is not testing for COVID-19. Participants must answer a health questionnaire before and after each event, and a temperature screening is required before entering the venue. NASCAR has put the responsibility on its participants to monitor their own health, which Johnson did after his wife tested positive.

NASCAR President Steve Phelps last weekend said the series believes its procedures are working, and the sanctioning body has not revealed any testing results. Two teams have confirmed positive tests among unidentified employees, but Johnson is the only known driver to seek a test.

He declined to give his opinion on NASCAR's protocols. "I don't know how to add clarity or advice in what changes need to take place," he said. "I unfortunately feel that there's a lot to still be learned in the professional and medical field on this and I, like everyone else, are eagerly awaiting on that instruction and that knowledge, a vaccine, better testing, better screening."

"There's just more questions than answers for a lot of us. I certainly don't have the answers for everybody."

Morikawa builds big lead at Muirfield Village before storms

BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ohio — Among the lessons Collin Morikawa took away from missing his first cut as a pro was that his reliable cut shot had left him. He found it at Muirfield Village, and suddenly looks as though he'll be tough to catch at the Workday Charity Open.

Morikawa ran off four straight birdies after making the turn Friday, finished with another birdie and shot 6-under 66 to build a four-shot lead over Sam Burns (66) in the storm-delayed tournament.

His 13-under 131 was one shot off the course record set by Jason Dufner in 2017 at the Memorial.

The Workday Charity Open, which replaces the canceled John Deere Classic for this year only, has been set up a little easier than it will be for the Memorial next year, with slightly slower greens and rough that isn't quite as high or thick.

Morikawa is still playing a different brand of golf than anyone else. Through two rounds, he has 15 birdies and an eagle. His four bogeys have come from silly mistakes that are bound to happen.

Ian Poulter, back at Muirfield Village for the first time since 2009 because of a reconfigured schedule brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, had a 69 and joined Chase Seiffert (69) at 7-under 137.

The second round had a pair of 75-minute delays because of the rumbling thunder and lightning that seems to appear whenever the PGA Tour is at Muirfield Village.

"Who knows who's going to take it deep today?"

Morikawa said. "Whether I have the lead or not, I've got to go into the weekend feeling like I've got to make the same amount of birdies I have the past two days. I feel like there's a lot of birdies out there for me especially, the way I've been hitting it."

Morikawa, who turned pro just over a year ago after graduating from Cal, is making his debut at the course Jack Nicklaus built, and perhaps it's no coincidence that Nicklaus was famous for hitting a cut.

Among those playing in the afternoon, Jon Rahm and Brooks Koepka first had to worry about making the cut after sluggish starts. Koepka started at 2 over. Rahm was at even par.

Phil Mickelson had another exciting day, minus the meltdown at the end of his round. He opened by chipping in for birdie and making a 12-foot eagle putt. With the tee moved forward on the 14th hole, the par 4 guarded by a pond right of the green, he hit driver to 10 feet and had to settle for birdie.

And right before the first batch of storms arrived, Mickelson felt the wind shift and get stronger, so he took driver on the par-5 fifth and whaled away over the trees and just inside backyard fences. It settled in the rough, but it left him only 114 yards away and a pitching wedge to the green.

The speed of the greens fooled him, and he repeatedly left putts short. Even so, he managed to post a reasonable number. Jordan Spieth wasn't as fortunate. He took double bogey on his 17th hole, the par-3 eighth, and was likely to miss the cut.

Statue to tennis star Arthur Ashe to stay in Richmond

BY DENISE LAVOIE

The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — On Richmond's Monument Avenue, the collection of towering statues honoring Confederate veterans was interrupted by one noticeably different: a monument to Black tennis legend and civil rights activist Arthur Ashe.

The Ashe statue seemed safe from defacement during recent protests over racism and police brutality, when protesters covered Confederate statues with graffiti and pulled down a statue of Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederate States during the Civil War.

But after someone painted "White Lives Matter" on Ashe's statue, city officials considered a request from Ashe's family to temporarily remove the statue to protect it. Ashe's nephew said Friday that the statue isn't going anywhere.

"It's not going to be taken down," David Harris Jr. said.

Harris said he contacted Mayor Levar Stoney's office last month about taking down the statue until the civil unrest in Richmond calmed down.

Harris said the request was a "contingency plan" only during the height of the protests over the May 25 police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, when there were almost nightly clashes between police and protesters, and the Ashe family worried that the statue would be damaged or someone would try to topple it.

"We were just considering it at the height of the protesting so that if any credible threats came through Mayor Stoney had the leeway to do it without having any pushback from us if he felt the need to take it down," Harris said.

Stoney's spokesman, Jim Nolan, said Friday that the mayor is "going to listen to the family" and not remove the statue.

On July 1, Stoney ordered the immediate removal of all city-owned Confederate statues in Richmond, a onetime capital of the Confederacy. Stoney invoked his emergency powers, citing the ongoing civil unrest and concerns that protesters would get hurt if they tried to pull down the enormous statues themselves.

The only Confederate statue that remains on Monument Avenue is a memorial to Gen. Robert E. Lee located on state property. Gov. Ralph Northam ordered that statue's removal last month, but it has been at least temporarily blocked by a lawsuit.

Harris said he believes his uncle's statue "stands for everything the people are working for right now."

Ashe, a Richmond native, was denied access to tennis courts as a child because of segregation. He went on to become the first Black player selected to the U.S. Davis Cup team and was the only Black man to ever win the singles title at the U.S. Open, Wimbledon and the Australian Open. He was also well-known for his work to promote education and civil rights, to oppose apartheid in South Africa and to raise awareness about AIDS, the disease that eventually killed him in 1993.

Ashe's statue was erected in 1996, but only after rancorous debate.

"If we're going to put up a statue of somebody, let's put up a statue of somebody that stands for equality, that stands for education, all the things that my uncle held true," Harris said.

REL FROM PAGE B2

guys aren't getting pushed or seeing that leadership of how to do things the right way (because they're split up)."

It's been far from a regular summer at REL, but Rankin said his team has been thrilled to be able to do anything football-related.

"They've responded really well because they're so happy to be here, they'll do just about anything to be here," said Rankin. "We were talking today about what's going to be the criteria to go back to school, what's going to be the protocol and one of the things is they're going to have to wear a mask. Those boys want to come back to school so bad that they don't care about that."

Summer workouts have been complicated across South Carolina as the number of coronavirus cases continues to rise. Several local schools are yet to start workouts, while many across the state like Manning started workouts only to put them on hiatus as the numbers increased. Some students around the REL program have stayed away from workouts because they have family members that are more susceptible to the virus and that's quite alright with Rankin. He knows that the key to continuing workouts is making sure his team stays healthy.

"The thought process there is that if we don't have a problem, we're going to keep going," said Rankin on the possibility of canceling workouts. "If we have a problem, then we'll re-access that. If someone gets COVID then we'll back up and regroup, but we're going forward. As long as no one is showing symptoms, we're going to keep rolling."

Despite all the craziness and speculation, Rankin still thinks his team will play football this year, but he also isn't naïve enough to think it's going to be business as usual this fall.

I think we're going to play foot-

ball this year in the private schools. I think we're still going to have some limitations as far as contact maybe, at practice they'll probably tell us not to have as much contact as we normally do, try to keep your social distancing as much as possible," said Rankin. "I don't know that we'll have any scrimmages. We've got them lined up, but we're not going against another team 7-on-7 yet, so I don't see them saying on Aug. 7 we can go scrimmage."

"That's just my opinion, but I think we'll probably limit it down to no scrimmages and just go into the first game. That's just my guess. If the numbers keep going up, it might be a shortened season of some kind and just do region games. I think we're going back to school. I know at Lee Academy, unless the government shuts it down, Lee Academy is going back to school."

Limiting contact is going to be difficult for coaches across the country as it tries to prepare for a season of one of the most contact-heavy sports during the pandemic. Rankin isn't entirely sure what practices will look like whenever the Cavaliers will be able to start.

"That's going to be tough. This is my 35th year and I've probably hit a little bit more than most coaches. To be physical, you have to be physical in practice, in my opinion."

"That's the way I was brought up," said Rankin. "I know if we get our tail kicked in a game, we're going to go out and hit a little more, because I wanna be physical. I don't know how that's going to work. There's definitely going to be some adjustments made as far as practice schedules and that kind of stuff."

No matter what the fall looks like, Rankin is happy with how well things have gone at REL so far.

"For us it's gone great. We started on June 1, we have not had anyone with a fever yet," said Rankin.

"That might be as good as we can hope for. It can't go any better so far; we've followed protocols and what SCISA has asked us to a T."

NBA FROM PAGE B2

buses for the two-hour drive from Naples, Florida — they've been there for about two weeks, training at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers — for the trip to the bubble. The buses were specially wrapped for the occasion, with the Raptors' logo and the words "Black Lives Matter" displayed on the sides.

Brooklyn, Utah, Washington and Phoenix all were down to practice Thursday, along with the Magic. Denver was originally scheduled to, then pushed back its opening session to Friday. By Saturday, practices will be constant — 22 teams

working out at various times in a window spanning 13 1/2 hours and spread out across seven different facilities.

Exhibition games begin July 22. Games restart again for real on July 30.

"It just felt good to be back on the floor," said Brooklyn interim coach Jacques Vaughn, who took over for Kenny Atkinson less than a week before the March 11 suspension of the season because of the coronavirus. "I think that was the most exciting thing. We got a little conditioning underneath us. Didn't go too hard after the quarantine, wanted to get guys to just run up and down a little bit and feel the ball again."

ZION FROM PAGE B2

In a statement to The Associated Press, Williamson attorney, Jeffrey S. Klein, said those documents were "fraudulent."

"The alleged 'agreements' and driver's license attached to these papers are fraudulent — and neither Mr. Williamson nor his family know these individuals nor had any dealings with them," Klein said. "We had previously alerted Ms. Ford's lawyers to both this fact and that we had previously reported the documents to law enforcement as forgeries, but they chose to go ahead with another frivolous filing anyway."

"This is a desperate and irresponsible attempt to smear Mr. Williamson at the very time he has the opportunity to live his dream of playing professional basketball."

The affidavit is from Donald Kreiss, a self-described entrepreneur who worked with athletes and agents in marketing relationships. He had recently contacted Ford then provided the affidavit last week outlining interactions with MMG and Williamson's family, according to one of the filings.

Ford's attorneys have sought to

focus on Williamson's eligibility. His lawsuit stated that Prime Sports violated North Carolina's sports agent law, both by failing to include disclaimers about the loss of eligibility when signing the contract and the fact neither Prime Sports nor Ford were registered with the state.

Ford's attorneys have argued the Uniform Athlete Agents Act wouldn't apply if Williamson was ineligible to play college basketball from the start.

Ford's attorneys had sought to have last summer's No. 1 overall NBA draft pick and New Orleans Pelicans rookie answer questions in Florida state court about whether he received improper benefits before playing for the Blue Devils. They had also raised questions about housing for Williamson's family during his Duke career in a separate filing in North Carolina.

A Florida appeals court last month granted a stay to pause the proceedings there, shifting the focus to the North Carolina case.

Duke has repeatedly declined to comment on the case because it isn't involved in the litigation, but issued a statement in January that school had reviewed Williamson's eligibility previously and found no concerns.

OBITUARIES

KIMBERLY ANNE HODGE ROGERS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Kimberly Anne Hodge Rogers, 47, wife of Michael G. Rogers, passed away on Monday, June 15, 2020, after a long illness.

Born on March 14, 1973, in Manning, she was a daughter of Joseph W. "Billy" and Betty Collins Hodge. She attended Manning schools and USC Sumter. She is survived by her husband

of Jacksonville; her parents of Manning; two sons, William Grant Rogers and Collin Michael Rogers, both of Jacksonville; her maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Collins Jeffcoat of Darlington; a sister, Karen H. Leath (Danny) of Surfside; and a niece, Katherine J. Leath of Surfside.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather, Barney E. Collins; and her paternal grandparents, Joe and Annie Mae Hodge.

A private service was held at Pawleys Island.

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

PATRICK EUGENE BINES

LAURINBURG, N.C. — Patrick Eugene Bines, 36, died on Monday, July 6, 2020, at his residence, 1705 Lake Drive, Laurinburg.

He was born on March 6, 1984, in Sumter, a son of Barbara Ann Green Bines and the late Tommy Lee Bines.

Graveside services for Mr. Bines will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday at Green Hill Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery, 1260 Green Hill Church Road, Alcolu, with the Rev. Delbert H. Singleton Jr., pastor.

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

ANNIE BOYKIN TONEY

A public viewing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Monday at the mortuary.

Funeral services for Annie Boykin Toney will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday at Salem Missionary Baptist Church,

320 W. Fulton St., Sumter, with Bishop Catrell W. Woods, pastor. Interment services will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park.

Annie was born on Dec. 9, 1952, in Sumter, to the late

Lamb and Annie Rivers Boykin. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Spencer Toney Sr.; and a granddaughter, Jamie Harvin.

She departed this life on Monday, July 6, 2020, in Sumter.

She leaves to cherish her memories: two sons, Sammie Rhodes (Marketta Wright) and Spencer Toney; six daughters, Donna Williams, Lisa Rhodes, Allison (James) Harvin, Roslin (Rondell) Nickens, Tronni Rhodes and Monica (Chauncey) McCoy; two brothers, Johnny (Debra) Boykin and Henry Hair; 25 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Services entrusted to Whites Mortuary LLC Ministry in the Marketplace.

ELLEN DIANE CRIM

Ellen Diane Crim, 59, wife of Eddie Crim, died on Thursday, July 9, 2020, at Prisma Health Richland Hospital, Columbia.

Born on Sept. 15, 1960, in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Ranson Young and Fannie Robinson.

The family is requesting no visitation at the home.

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

LILO ANNEMARIE LENEIS SNOW

Lilo Annemarie Leneis Snow, age 94, beloved wife of the late William B. Snow, died on Thursday, July 9, 2020, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital.

Born in Trostberg, Germany, she was a daughter of the late Franz Xaver Leneis and Walburga Peter Leneis. Lilo was a devoted wife of more than 28 years to her husband, Bill, until his death in 1980. Her love remained true to him for the remainder of her life. Lilo loved gardening and working with her flowers. She

also enjoyed sewing, crocheting and cooking for others to enjoy her food. She retired from Campbell Soup after more than 20 years of service. One of her proudest accomplishments came in August of 1962 when she became a naturalized citizen of the United States of America.

Surviving are a son, Frank Snow and his wife, Mary Lee, of Sumter; two daughters, Sonja Gray and her husband, Jim, and Jo Ann Pettengill and her husband, Kevin, all of Florida; and three grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a grandson.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday in the Bullock Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Tommy McDonald officiating.

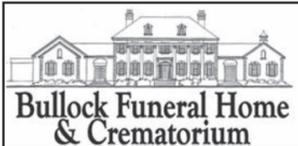
The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service from 2 to 3 p.m. on Sunday at Bullock Funeral Home.

You may view the service via live stream at www.bullockfuneralhome.com and clicking on the obituary of Lilo Snow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



MINNIE RUTH MCCRAY JACKSON

BISHOPVILLE — Minnie Ruth McCray Jackson entered eternal rest on Sunday, July 5, 2020, at her residence, 80 Circus Lane, Cassatt.

Funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. today at Little Zion Missionary Baptist Church, S.C. 341, Bishopville, with the pastor, the Rev. Lawrence Ford, officiating. Interment will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville, is in charge of arrangements.

FANNIE MAE WILLIAMS

Fannie Mae Williams entered eternal rest on Sunday,

July 5, 2020, at her residence, 223 Ridge St., Bishopville.

Visitation will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. today at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, S.C. 34, Bishopville. Visitors are asked to please wear masks.

Funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church with Pastor George Williams officiating. Interment will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville, is in charge of arrangements.

ULYSSESS FRANK

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Ulysess "Seal" Frank, 72, died on Thursday, July 9, 2020, at Belveve Hospital, New York.

He was born on Feb. 29, 1948, in Summerton, a son of the late Joseph and Mary Bennett Frank.

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

CARRIE G. LEWIS

Carrie G. Lewis entered eternal rest on Monday, July 6, 2020, at 470 Pine Knot Lane, Blythewood.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home. Visitors must wear masks and gloves.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday at Mt. Calvary Holiness Church, 717 Central School Road, Rembert, with the pastor, Evangelist Maggie Williams, officiating. Interment will follow at the churchyard cemetery.

Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville, is in charge of arrangements.

MARY LOUISE GRANT TISDALE

On July 2, 2020, God sent angels down and carried Mary Louise Grant Tisdale home to glory to be with her family in heaven.

Mary Louise Grant Tisdale was born on June 16, 1935, in Sumter, a daughter of the late Boyd Sr. and Julia Grant. Being reared by Christian parents, Louise, as she was affectionately called, found Christ at an early age at Hopewell Baptist Church, under the leadership of the Rev. Walker Sr. She was educated in the public schools and graduated from Lincoln High School. Louise married the late Warren Tisdale and moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked as a cashier at Safeway. Louise was always into church and attended the National Church

of God in Oxon Hill, Maryland. In the ministry, she taught piano lessons as well as sang with the choir. She ministered embodied life for all that were going through difficulties in life and would offer prayer for any and every one. Her life was a testimony within itself and she will be missed by all family and friends near and far.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marian Tisdale; sisters, Janie Jenkin, Francis Green, Julia Reed and Millie Workman; and brothers, Austin Grant, Isaiah Grant, Boyd Grant Jr., Cleveland Grant and James Grant.

Louise leaves behind to cherish her memories: three children, Audrey Tisdale, Valdez Tisdale and Dwayne Sr. and Jackie Tisdale; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; special niece, Jackie Prioleau; along with a host of other nieces and nephews, and one special friend, Pauline, who she considered her family.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home of Jackie Reed Prioleau, 3032 Prosser Ave., Sumter.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. today at Hopewell Baptist Church, 3285 Peach Orchard Road, Dalzell, with Pastor Richard Addison officiating.

The procession will leave at 10:30 a.m. from 3032 Prosser Ave., Sumter.

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

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

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

HARVIN LEE WATSON SR.

MANNING — On Thursday, July 9, 2020, Harvin Lee Watson Sr. departed this life at McLeod Health Clarendon in Manning.

Born on June 16, 1961, in Manning, he was a son of the late Otis and Rovena Brunson Watson.

In accordance with the requirements given by the CDC in reference to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will not be a visitation at the family residence.

Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced by Fleming & DeLaine Funeral Home and Chapel of Manning.

the Sumter ITEM CLASSIFIEDS

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803-774-1200

OR TO PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE GO TO WWW.THE ITEM.COM/PLACEMYAD

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

11:30 a.m. the day before for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday edition. 11:30 a.m. Friday for Sunday's edition.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SUMTER CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

The Sumter City - County Planning Commission will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at 3:00 P.M. in the Sumter Opera House Theater located on the First Floor of the Sumter Opera House (21 North Main Street, Sumter, South Carolina). Each person attending the meeting (including staff, board members, applicants, and the public) will be required to wear a face mask and have their temperature checked upon arrival. This is a public meeting.

If there are any questions, please call Helen Roodman at (803) 774-1660.

Summons & Notice

SUMMONS (Non-Jury)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS Case No.: 2020-CP-43-00767

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Doris C. Robinson, Plaintiff, v. Heirs of Rev. T. E. Robinson, Heirs of James Robinson, Heirs of Celia P. Robinson a/k/a Celia R. White, Edward Robinson Jimmie L. Blossom, Barbara Walker Robinson, Glynda Robinson, Theresa Robinson, John Doe, Mary Roe and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the Complaint or any claim adverse to Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud on title thereto, Defendants.

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to the said Complaint on the Plaintiff or Patrick M. Killen, Esquire, at his office located at 1 Law Range, Suite B, Sumter, South Carolina, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

LIS PENDENS

NOTICE is hereby given that an action has been commenced to partition the below-described property:

That tract of land in Sumter Township, Sumter County, state of South Carolina, containing 1.36 acres, with the improvements thereon, shown on a plat by H. S. Willson, R.L.S., dated June 16, 1992, and recorded in the Office of RMC for Sumter County in Plat Book 92, at Page 1057; said parcel of land having such shape, metes, bounds and measurements as shown on said plat.

And;

That parcel of land in Sumter Township, Sumter County, State of South Carolina, shown on a plat by H.S. Willson, R.L.S., dated June 16, 1992 and recorded in the Office of RMC for Sumter County in Plat Book 92, at Page 1057; said parcel of land being shown and designated on said plat by the name "Celia B. Robinson", and being bounded on the Northeast by the Loring Mill Road; on the South and Southeast by a road designated "Unimproved Dirt Road" on said plat; and on the South and Southwest by a parcel of land containing 1.36 acres, as shown on said plat, which parcel of land was heretofore conveyed to Thomas E. Robinson and Doris C. Robinson by James Robinson.

TMS NOS. 184-05-01-014 and 184-05-01-011

NOTICE OF FILING

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Summons and Complaint were filed with the Clerk of Court for Sumter County, South Carolina on May 12, 2020. John S. Keffler, whose address is 10 Law Range, Sumter, South Carolina 20150, has been named Guardian ad Litem Nisi to represent any unknown minors,

Summons & Notice

persons under disability or others who have or may claim an interest in the subject-property.

McGOWAN, HOOD & FELDER, LLC Patrick M. Killen 1 Law Range, Suite B Sumter, South Carolina 29150 (803) 774-5026 (803) 774-5028 Fax

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2020-CP-43-00563

First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company, Plaintiff

vs.

Janet Barrineau Derrick, Individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of Dorothy Brantley Barrineau; Julius K. Barrineau and Stephen Barrineau, and any other Heirs-at-Law or devisees of Dorothy Brantley Barrineau, Deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors and Assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe, Defendants.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, upon reading the Motion for the Appointment of Kelley Y. Woody as Guardian ad Litem for all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America (which are constituted as a class designated as "John Doe") and any unknown minors and persons who may be under a disability (which are constituted as a class designated as "Richard Roe"), it is

ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 17, SCRPC, Kelley Y. Woody is appointed Guardian ad Litem on behalf of all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America (constituted as a class and designated as "John Doe"), all unknown minors or persons under a disability (constituted as a class and designated as "Richard Roe"), all of which have or may claim to have some interest in the property that is the subject of this action, commonly known as 944 Morningside Drive, Sumter, that Kelley Y. Woody is empowered and directed to appear on behalf of and represent all unknown persons and persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, constituted as a class and designated as "John Doe", all unknown minors and persons under a disability, constituted as a class and designated as "Richard Roe", unless the Defendants, or someone acting on their behalf, shall, within thirty (30) days after service of a copy of this Order as directed below, procure the appointment of a Guardian or Guardians ad Litem for the Defendants constituted as a class designated as "John Doe" or "Richard Roe".

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order shall be served upon the unknown Defendants by publication in the The Item, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, together with the Summons in the above entitled action.

SUMMONS AND NOTICE

TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED HEREIN; ALSO ANY PERSONS WHO MAY BE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS JOHN DOE; AND ANY UNKNOWN MINORS OR PERSONS UNDER A DISABILITY BEING A CLASS DESIGNATED AS RICHARD ROE;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in the above action, a copy which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer upon the undersigned at their offices, PO Box 4216, Columbia, South Carolina 29240, within thirty (30) days after service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and, if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint.

NOTICE

Summons & Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the original Complaint in this action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on 04/01/2020.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an action has been commenced and is now pending or is about to be commenced in the Circuit Court upon the complaint of the above named Plaintiff against the above named Defendant for the purpose of foreclosing a certain mortgage of real estate heretofore given by to Janet B. Derrick and Dorothy A. Barrineau bearing date of June 20, 2007 and recorded June 20, 2007 in Mortgage Book Book 1083 at Page 2 in the Register of Mesne Conveyances/Register of Deeds/Clerk of Court for Sumter County, in the original principal sum of \$59000.00 that, and that the premises effected by said mortgage and by the foreclosure thereof are situated in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, and is described as follows:

All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land with any improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Sumter, State of South Carolina identified as Lot No. 21, Block C and a small triangular portion of Lot No. 23, Block C, as shown on a plat of Green Acres Subdivision prepared by H.S. Willson, R.L.S., dated 7/5/60 end recorded in plat book Z-17 at page 108, records of Sumter county. This property is known as 944 Morningside Drive and is further identified as Sumter County Tax Map Parcel No. 251-03-02-011.

Aforesaid Plat is specifically incorporated herein and reference is craved thereto for more complete and accurate description of the metes, bounds, courses and distances of the property concerned herein. This description is in lieu of metes and bounds, as permitted by Jaw under Section 30-S-2SO of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, As Amended. Be ell measurements a little more or a little less and according to said plat.

This being the same property conveyed to Janet B. Derrick by deed of Dorothy Ann B. Barrineau dated 12/8/06 and recorded on 12/8/06 in deed book 1056 at page 904, records of Sumter county..

TMS # 251-03-02-011

Physical Address: 944 Morningside Drive, Sumter

Crawford & von Keller, LLC. PO Box 4216 1640 St. Julian Place (29204) Columbia, SC 29204 Phone: 803-790-2626 Email: court@crawfordvk.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

Public Hearing

NOTICE OF COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Sumter County Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Sumter Zoning Ordinance and Map on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Patriot Hall (135 Haynsworth St., Sumter, South Carolina). Each person including staff, Council members and the public will be required to wear a face mask and have temperature checked upon arrival. The following request is scheduled for consideration:

RZ-20-03, 6850 Fish Rd. (County) A request to rezone a +/- 2.71 acre tract from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 6850 Fish Rd. and is represented by Tax Map # 093-00-01-115.

RZ-20-07, 2035 Hwy 521 S. (County) A request to rezone a parcel totaling +/- 143.86 acres of land from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to Heavy Industrial (HI). The property is located at 2035 Hwy 521 S. and is represented by Tax Map # 252-00-05-029.

RZ-20-08, 2205 Myrtle Beach Hwy (County) A request to rezone a parcel totaling +/- 5 acres of land from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 2205 Myrtle Beach Hwy. and is represented by Tax Map # 286-00-01-004.

OA-20-02, Fabricated Metal Products in the AC District (County) To amend the Sumter County - Zoning and development Standards Ordinance to include Fabricated Metal Products (SIC 34) as a special exception use in the Agricultural Conservation (AC) zoning district. Article 3, Section 3.n.4 Special Exception uses in the AC District; Article 5, Section 5.b.2 Enumerations of Certain Hazardous and/or

Public Hearing

Potentially Disruptive Land Development Activities, and Section 5.b.3 Special Design Review Criteria for Applicable items in 5.b.2 to establish special exception review criteria for uses classified under Fabricated Metal Products (SIC 34).

Documents pertaining to the proposed request(s) are on file in the Office of the Sumter City-County Planning Department and are available to be inspected and studied by interested citizens.

SUMTERCOUNTY COUNCIL James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman Mary Blanding, Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements

IT'S A CRIME TO NOT FILE YOUR TAXES FOR PRIOR YEARS! WE CAN HELP! Tesco 507 Broad St 803-773-1515

Card of Thanks



Enoch Ragin Jr.

Gone but not forgotten. You're missed more than words can express. Thanks to all for your thoughts and prayers. From the Ragin family.

In Memory



In Loving Memory of Thomas James Washington 4/7/1954-7/12/2016

In life we loved you dearly. In death we love you in our hearts. Sadly missed by your Mother, Lula Washington and your Brothers Arthur & Al

BUSINESS SERVICES

Roofing

All Types of Roofing & Roofing Repairs All work guaranteed. 30 yrs exp. SC lic. Virgil Bickley 803-316-4734.

Tree Service

Ricky's Tree Service Tree removal, stump grinding, Lic & ins, free quote, 803-435-2223 or cell 803-460-8747.

Newman's Tree Service Tree removal, trimming, topping, view enhancement pruning, bobcat work stump grinding, Lic & insured. Call 803-316-0128

MERCHANDISE

Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, PS Orange Co. Inc. will sell at public lien sale on July 21, 2020, the personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: household and personal items, office and other equipment. The public sale of these items will begin at 09:30 AM and continue until all units are sold.

PUBLIC STORAGE # 25924, 1143 N Guignard Dr, Sumter, SC 29150, (803) 282-9623 Time: 02:00 PM

447 - Steward, Johnathan; 526 - Carter, Roxie

PUBLIC STORAGE # 08604, 1277 Camden Hwy, Sumter, SC 29153, (803) 218-9507 Time: 02:01 PM

B037 - Everhart, Luke; B051A - Williams, Vernead; B077 - Hawkins, David; B079 - Koger, Shandra; C012 - Neilson, Delvin; C065 - Gist, Deanna; D042 - Rhodes, Channing; E040 - Walker, Laura; F007 - Joyner, Amy; F054 - York, Vaccaro; G033 - Day, John; I003 - Sissett, Shirley; I014 - Bradley, James; K008 - Black, Vianne

PUBLIC STORAGE # 25925, 3785 Broad St, Sumter, SC 29154, (803) 282-9826 Time: 02:02 PM

0341 - Scott, Andrea

Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available prior to the sale. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be in cash or credit card-no checks. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By PS Orangeco, Inc., 701 Western Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. (818) 244-8080.

Furniture / Furnishings

Floral Couch, Chapelwood cherry end and coffee table, & Entertainment center made by Hooker Furniture. 803-429-0500.

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

9 Edgewood Dr. Sat. July 18th 7-2 houseware, handbags, baseball caps, shoes, & furn.

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

Flowers For Sale: Butterfly bush, Hosta, Hydranger, Canna Lillies, Blue Berries, Sago Palms, Little Gem Magnolia. Elephant Ears & good selection of shrubbery. Mon - Sat 9-8 & Sun 12-8. 30 Tucson Dr

For Sale or Trade

SALE - 2 plots - Evergreen or Hillside Cemetery, \$ 2,200.00 each. Call 803-499-9271

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

Nesbitt Transportation is now hiring Class A CDL Drivers. Must be 23 yrs old and have 2 yrs experience. Home nights and week-ends. Also hiring diesel mechanics and maintenance worker. Call 843-621-0943 or 843-659-8254

Full time Sales person needed. Apply at Wally's Hardware 1291 Broad St.

Groundman needed for local tree service. Must have Valid Drivers License. Call 803-983-9721.

Sanitation Supervisor

The City of Sumter is seeking qualified applicants. If interested see details at www.sumtersc.gov

Property Mgt Company accepting resumes for the position of "Maintenance Tech" for their Sumter, SC apartment complex. Qualified individuals should have 2 yrs maintenance experience, valid driver's license and a clean background. Fax or email resume to: Human Resource Director, 910-435-8934, resumes@unitedmgtll.com

Help Wanted Part-Time

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

Substitute teachers needed. Send resume to info@sumterchristian.org

RENTALS

Office Rentals

Upstairs Office Rental Space Available. Liberty St, in Hub Zone. \$225 to \$450, includes util. Call 778-2330 for appointment.

REAL ESTATE

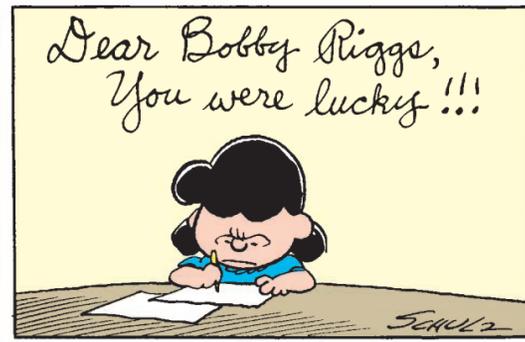
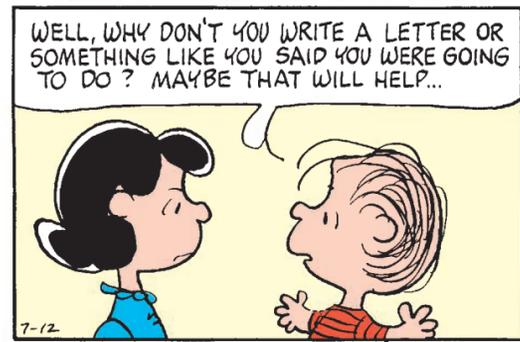
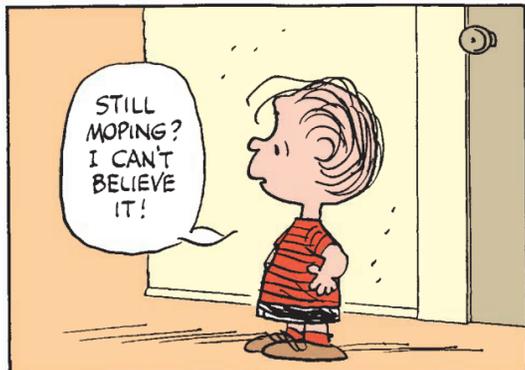
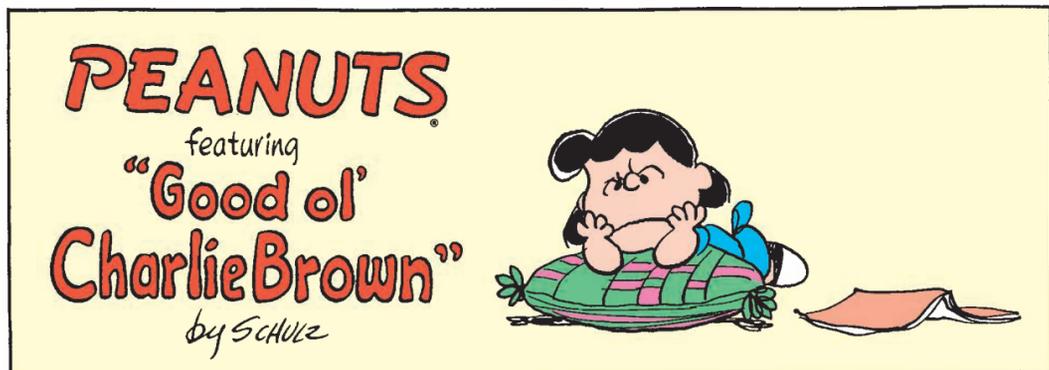
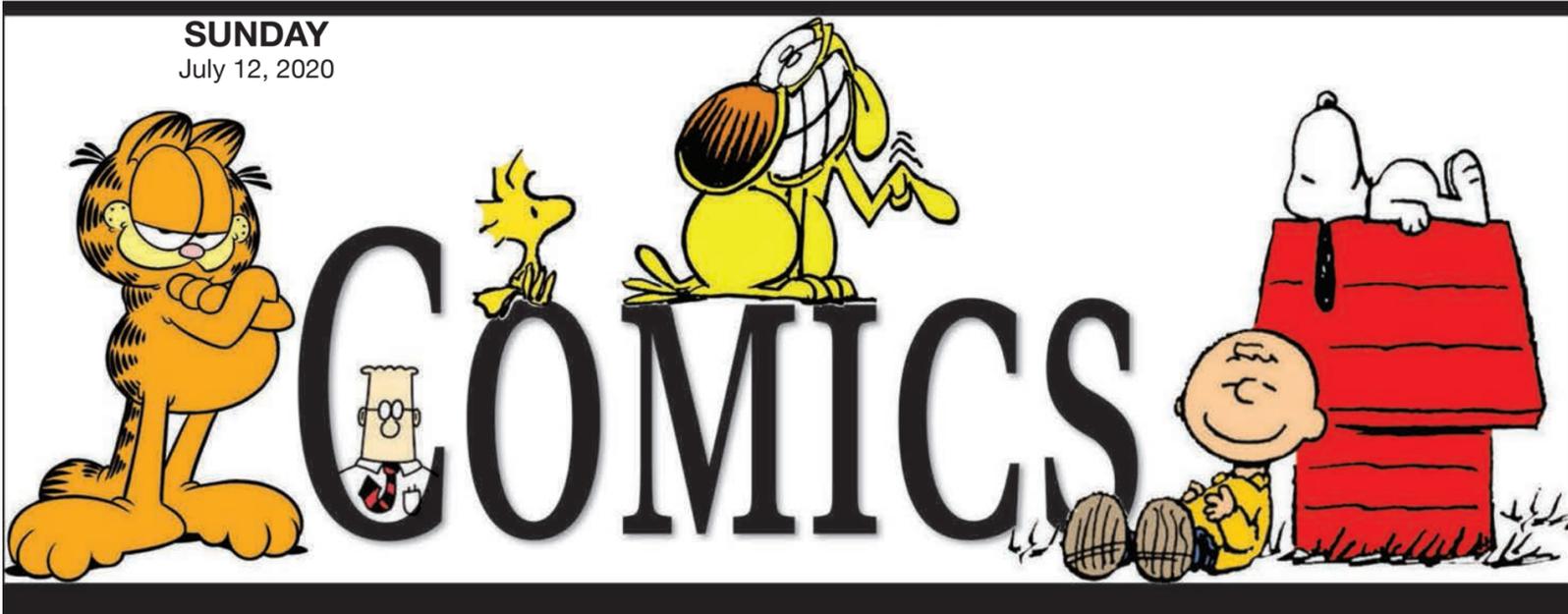


1984 Brigadier Double Wide MH w/3 BR, 2 Baths, Living & Dining Rm, Den w/ Fireplace, \$9,000 or BO. YOU PAY TO HAVE MOVED! Serious Inquiries only! 803-968-2769.

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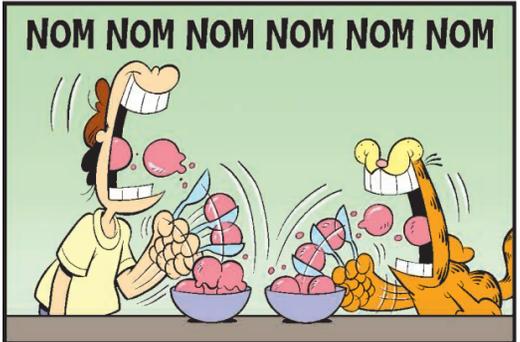
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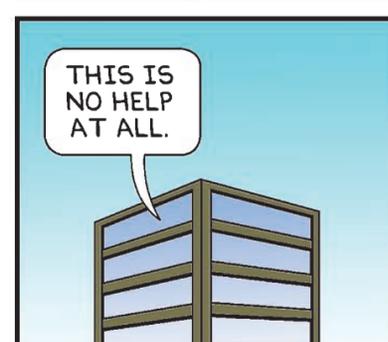
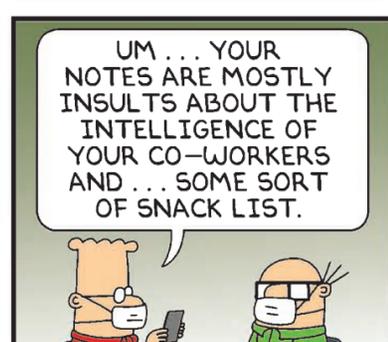
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



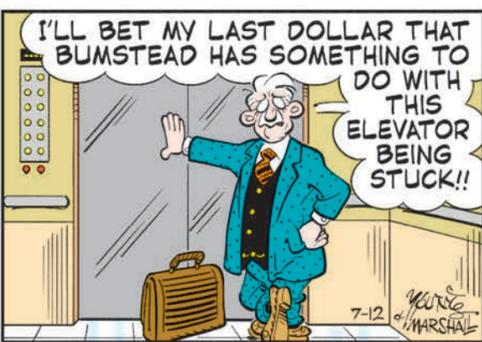
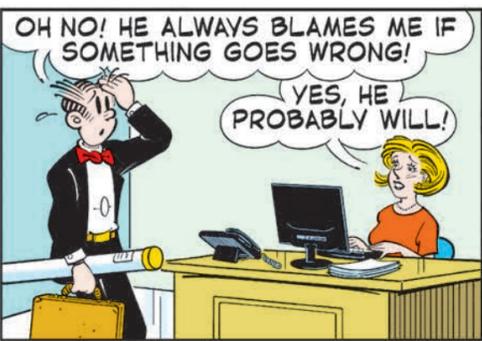
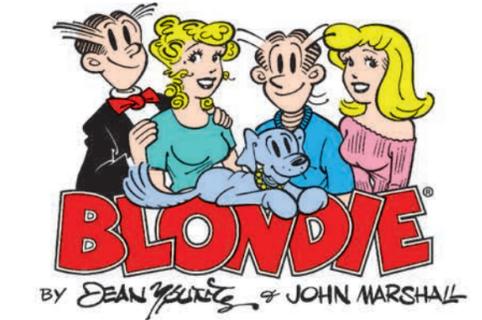
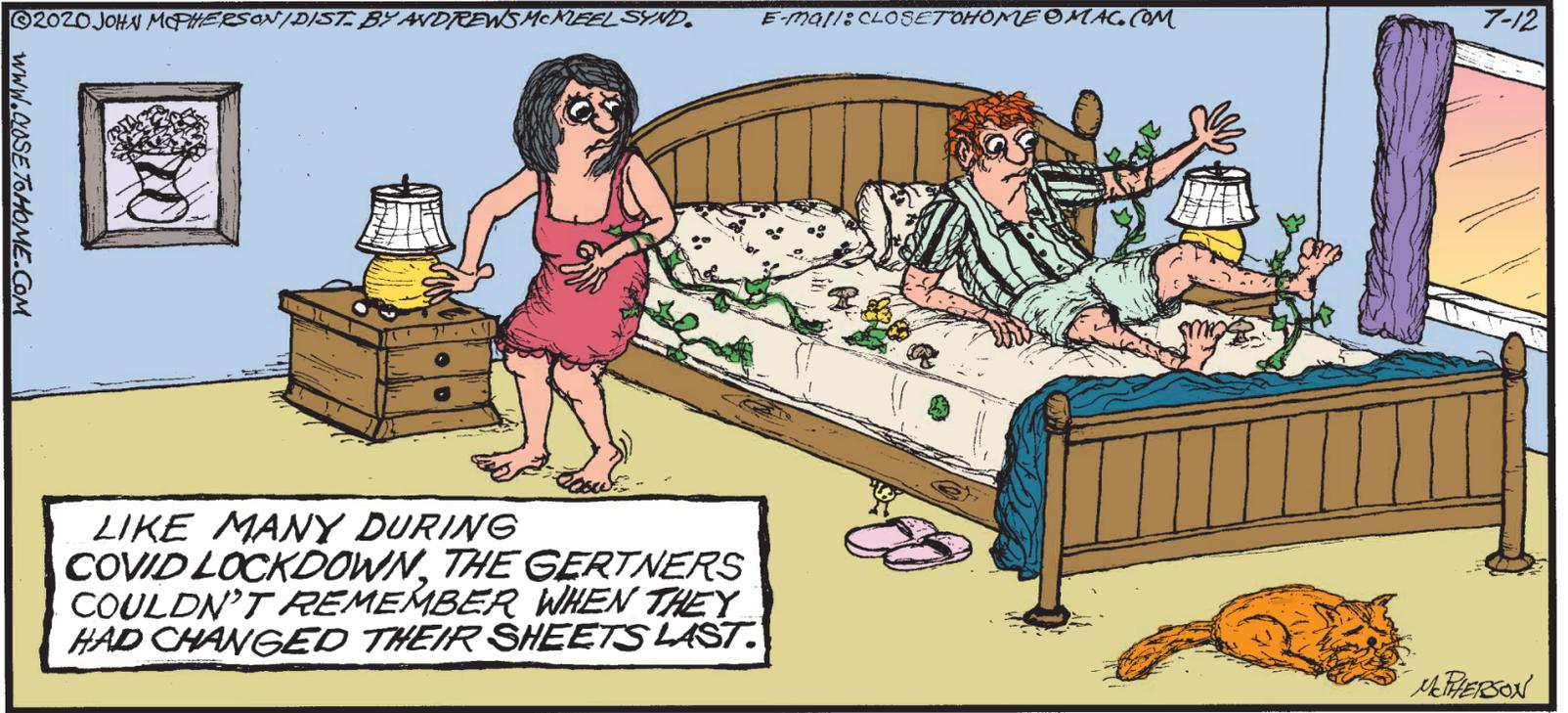
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



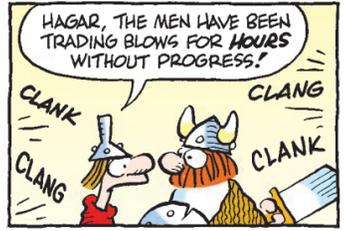
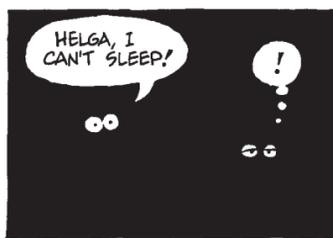
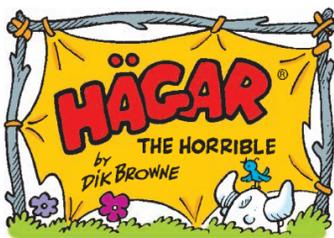
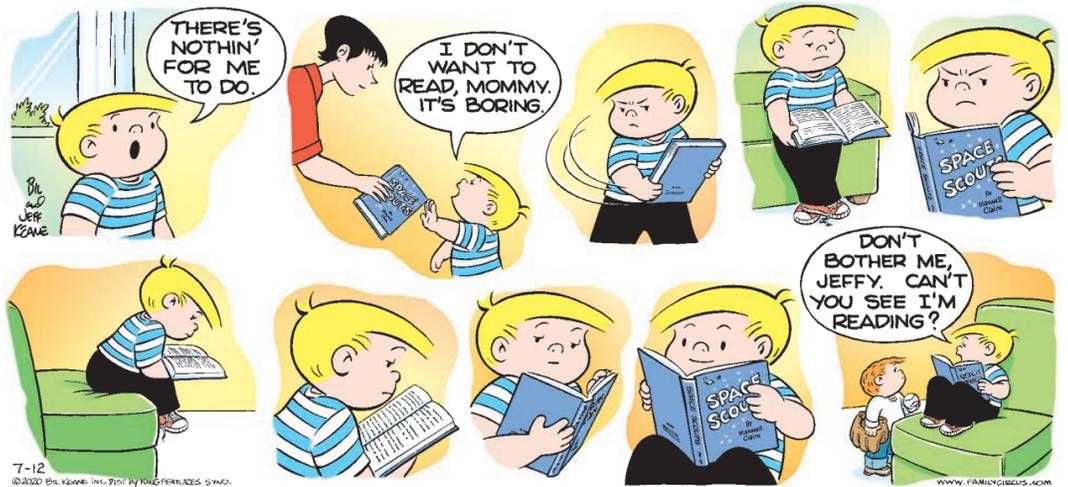
FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



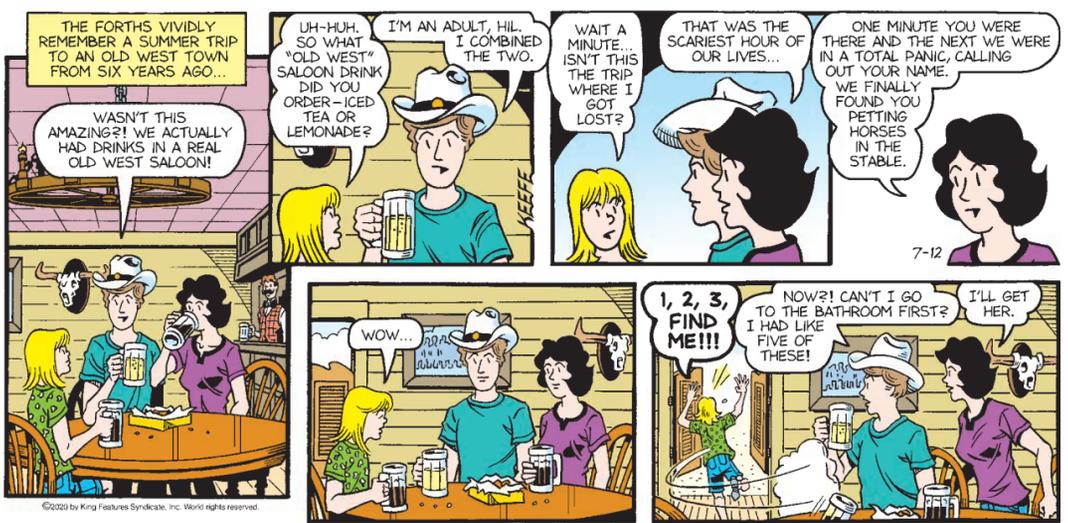
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

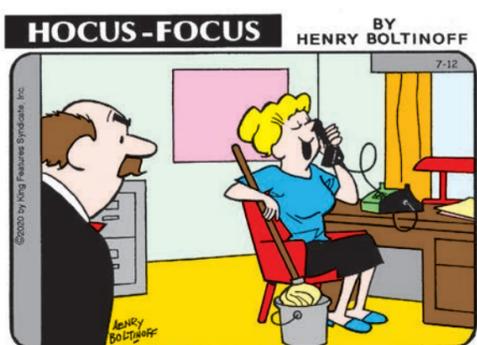
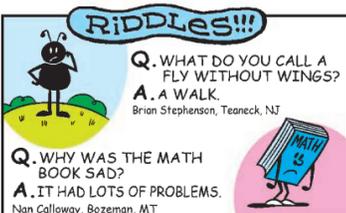
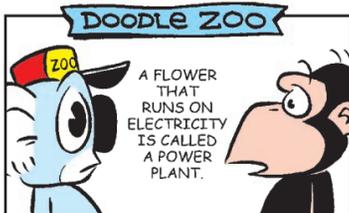
By Bill Keane



SALLY FORTH

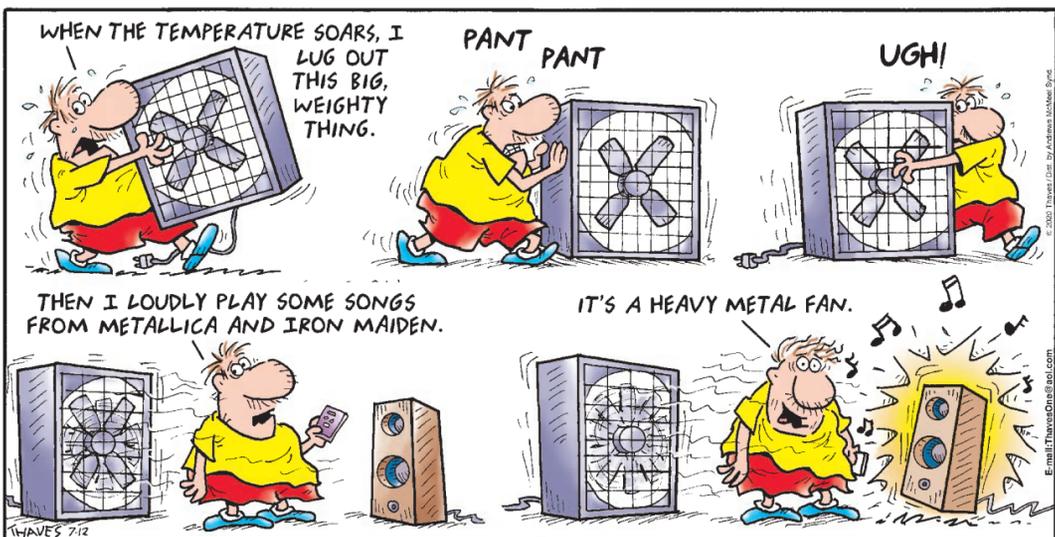
BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



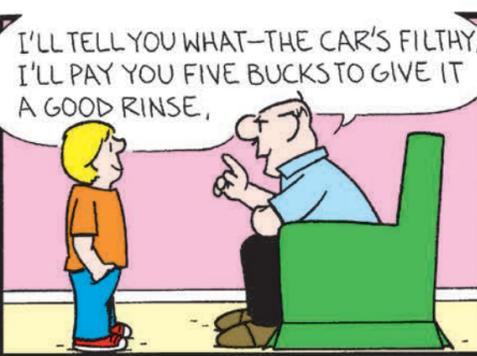


Find at least six differences in details between panels.
Differences: 1. Lamp is shorter. 2. Handle on pail is lower. 3. Mustache is larger. 4. Hair is different. 5. Phone cord is different. 6. Back of chair is different.

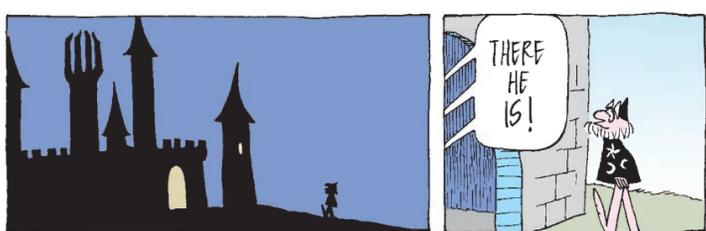
FRANK AND ERNEST



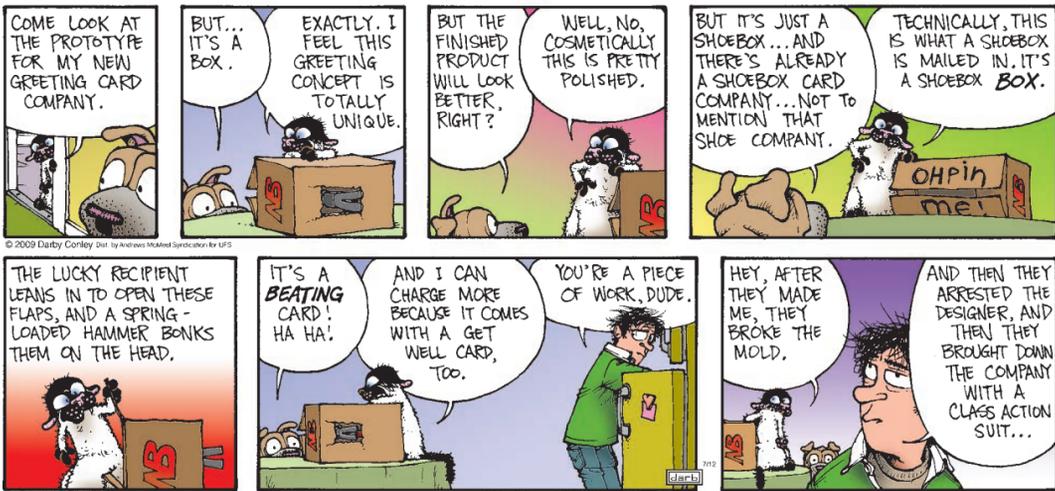
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS



WIZARD OF ID

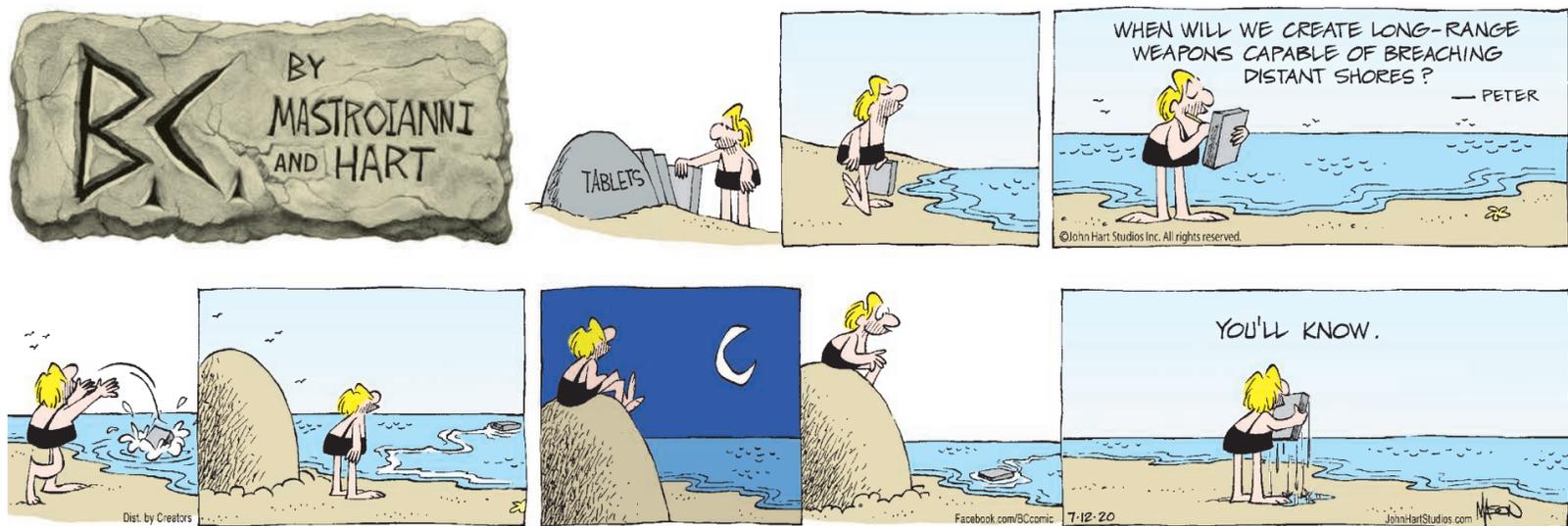
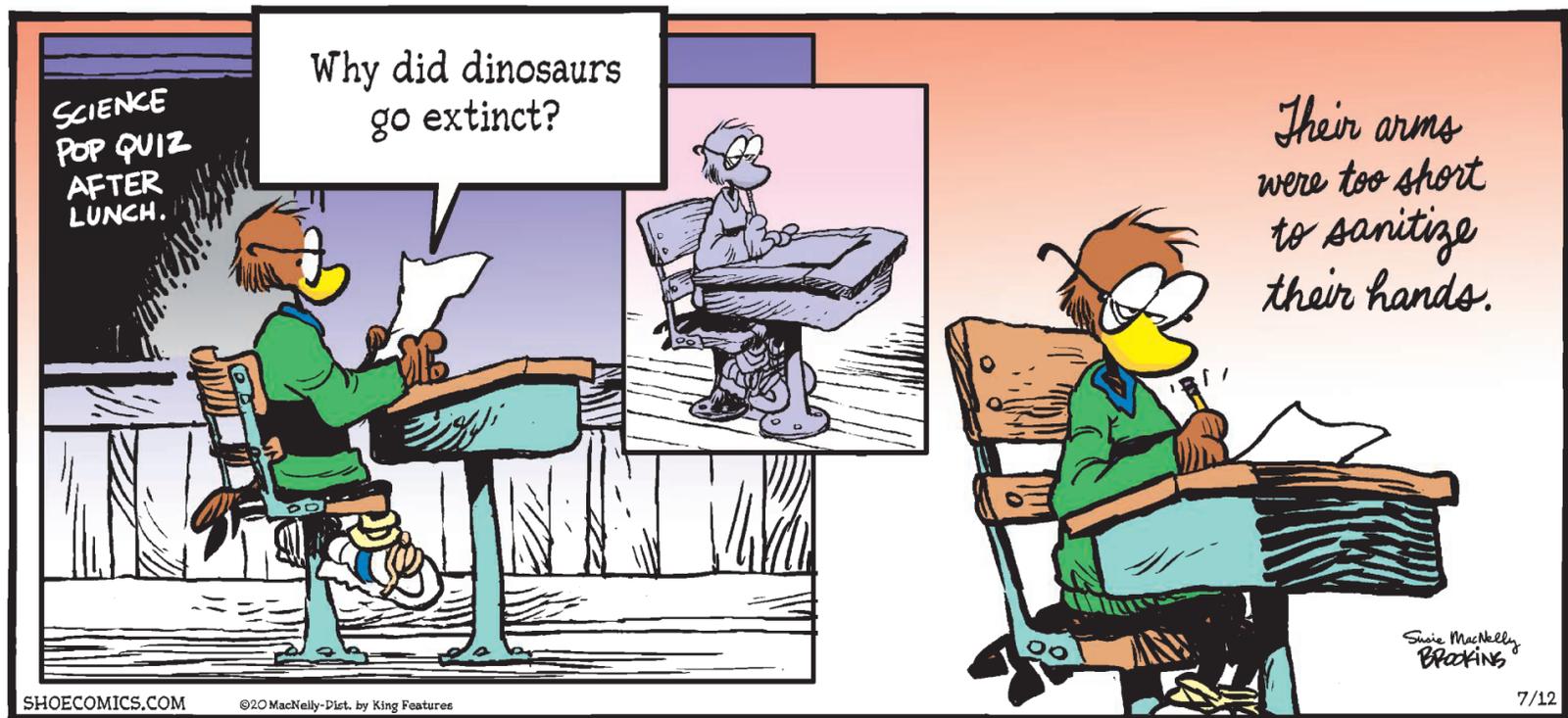


GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

