



the Sumter ITEM

JULY 25 - 26, 2020

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How to stay active, combat loneliness during the pandemic, manage and treat conditions and more

School district seeks info from parents

District wants to know if children will be allowed to take part in face-to-face instruction later and LEAP; survey online

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

With Sumter School District's expected transition later in the school year to face-to-face instruction and the new requirement for ini-

tial, in-person contact with elementary and middle schoolers, school leaders are trying to get a gauge on student counts.

The district sent a letter to parents/guardians on Thursday asking them to complete a

Reopening of Schools Commitment Form to allow school officials to plan accordingly for adequate staffing and bus transportation. The form is located online on the district's website, *www.sumterschools.net*.

District Superintendent Penelope Martin-Knox and other administrators detailed elements of their fully virtual school reopening plan on Monday, but the district has

maintained its intentions to move to some face-to-face instruction when COVID-19 incidence rates lessen.

The state Department of Health and Environmental Control has classified Sumter as a high-risk community for COVID-19 incidence rates. On Friday, the state agency reported 1,921 new confirmed cases of the virus and 46 additional deaths, bringing the total number of confirmed

cases to 78,298 and those who have died to 1,339. There were also 1,668 COVID-19 patients in hospitals across the state, including 263 on ventilators.

Friday's numbers included three deaths and 63 new cases from Sumter County.

The survey form asks parents whether they will allow their child to participate in face-to-face instruction later

SEE SURVEY, PAGE A8

'Be a light'



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn speaks with the Rev. CT Vivian and Yancy Martin during a reception given at the Rev. Ralph Canty's home in February 2016 before Rev. Vivian spoke at the First Baptist Missionary Church.

Civil rights activist CT Vivian made lasting impact from his visit to Sumter in 2016

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

His words inspired greatness. The waves he made as an adviser and confidant of Martin Luther King Jr. and through his decades-long advocacy for civil rights, justice and equality sent ripples through local communities, including his 2016 visit to Sumter for a Black History Month program that prompted a church leader to help others. The Rev. CT Vivian died July 17 at the age of 95.

The Civil Rights Movement pioneer who began staging sit-ins against segregation in Peoria, Illinois, in the 1940s, a dozen years before college students made national headlines doing so, was mourned by the nation during a funeral at Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta that featured a pre-recorded video tribute.

The Rev. George P. Windley, pastor at First Baptist Missionary Church on South Washington Street, recounted a video that showed Vivian's 1965 march to a courthouse in Selma, Alabama, where he confronted the local sheriff, a segregationist, saying the dozens of marchers he led there should be allowed to register to vote. Vivian was answered by the sheriff with a punch to the head, and news coverage of the assault helped spur the national Civil Rights Movement. He soon after marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge with King.

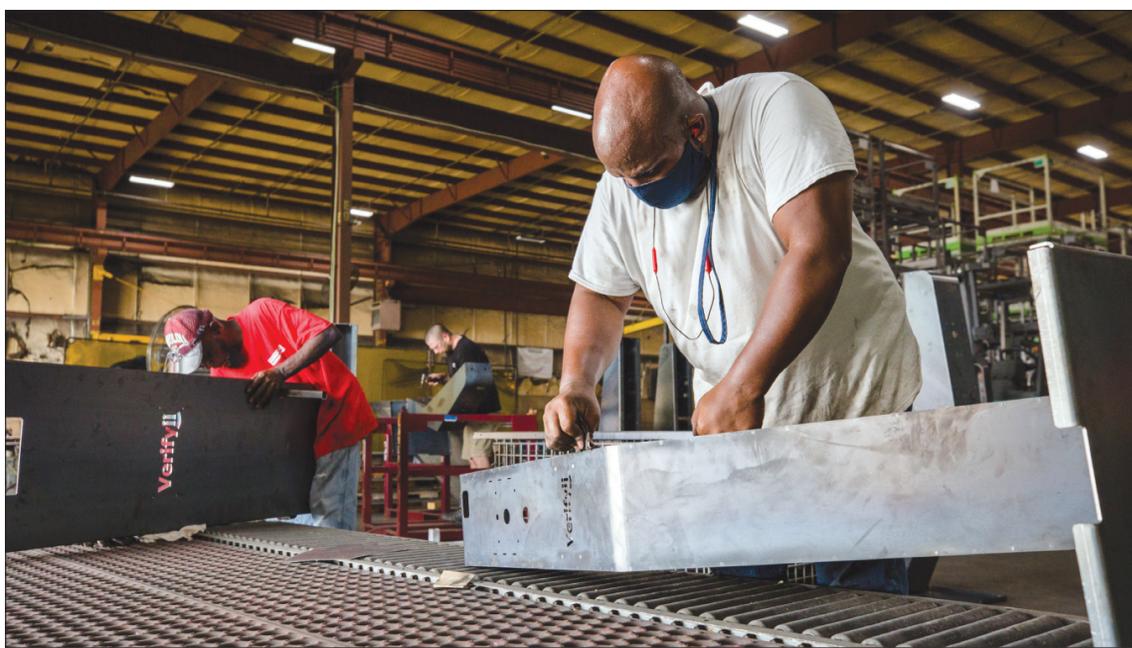
That video was shown at First Baptist in 2016 when Vivian visited for a Black History Month community celebration that included his visit to the church, a program at Patriot Hall and a reception at the Rev. Ralph Canty's house.

"It was a beautiful day," Windley said.

Windley said Vivian shared his experiences in working with King, talking about how love should motivate people to "step out and help people."

SEE VIVIAN, PAGE A8

Manning manufacturer shifts focus in pandemic to help businesses



PHOTOS BY MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Advanta Southeast in Manning designed and manufactured the contactless temperature-check kiosk for Veriflyii.

Firm partnered with Greenville software company to produce temperature screening kiosk

BY SHELBY GOULDING
shelbie@theitem.com

COVID-19 has had a negative effect on many across the country, but one manufacturer saw it as an opportunity to partner with a software company and create an innovative way to stay in business while adapting to the new normal.

Advanta Southeast, a metal fabrication manufacturing company in Manning, teamed up with Veriflyii, a software company in Greenville, to create a kiosk that can detect a person's body temperature before entering a facility or workplace, reducing the risk of spreading the coronavirus and any other future illnesses.

The Veriflyii Elevated

Body Temperature Screening Platform is meant to eliminate wasteful labor costs on manual screening and data entry and is the best way to practice social distancing while checking a person's temperature, company leaders say.

Veriflyii co-founders Ben O'Hanlan and Brett Kraeling already had the product made into a kiosk with several different features available, but just before the pandemic began, they added the elevated body temperature feature. This specific feature piqued the interest of many different types of businesses across the country that were looking for ways to continue working through the coronavirus.

A person stands at the edge of the 5-foot-long



kiosk next to a black body reference box, which was required by the Centers for Disease and Control Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration to detect an accurate body temperature. Then, in a matter of less than 3 seconds, the kiosk will tell the person whether he or she passed the test on the screen.

O'Hanlan said the product keeps employers from having to hire a person to work a door, taking temper-

atures manually and putting themselves at risk. Plus, if someone does have a high temperature, the kiosk will notify human resources immediately so the situation can be handled in a safe, distant manner.

"The idea is that even after COVID-19, a bad flu season can be just as bad on a workforce," O'Hanlan said. "We tried to design a system that's flexible that

SEE KIOSK, PAGE A8



To take a temperature reading, a person needs to stand a few feet from the kiosk for less than three seconds.



VISIT US ONLINE AT



DEATHS, B4 and B5

Shirley Musick Tate
Peter Adam Jeswick Jr.
Felicia Whitfield
William Kolb
Marcelle H. Burnett
Laura Jean Smith Nacovitch
Helen L. Hodge
Eugene Watt Harris

Rosa Jeanette Cooper Lewis
Tehran Eugene Scott
Fay Cagle Hatfield
Bearetta Gibbs Prince
Dwane L. Baker
Abraham Pinkney Farmer Sr.
Shirley Mae D. Lancaster
Gloria Williams Peterson

WEATHER, A10

STORMY SATURDAY?

Humid with a shower or storm on Saturday afternoon; a storm early at night possible, too

HIGH 92, LOW 73

INSIDE

3 SECTIONS, 28 PAGES
VOL. 125, NO. 201

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Sports B2
Yesteryear A7



SECOND FRONT

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

Sumter museum offers free admission, Zoom event with 2 best-selling authors

BY RHONDA BARRICK
rhonda@theitem.com

Everyone knows you get what you pay for, right? Not in this case.

The Sumter County Museum has plenty to offer, and yet it is offering free admission until further notice. According to a news release from the museum, the decision was made out of service to the community's educational and financial concerns. Also offered is free Wi-Fi for museum guests. Guests are asked to bring mobile devices when visiting to scan QR codes located throughout the Williams-Brice House sending guests to curated supplemental information in exhibits.

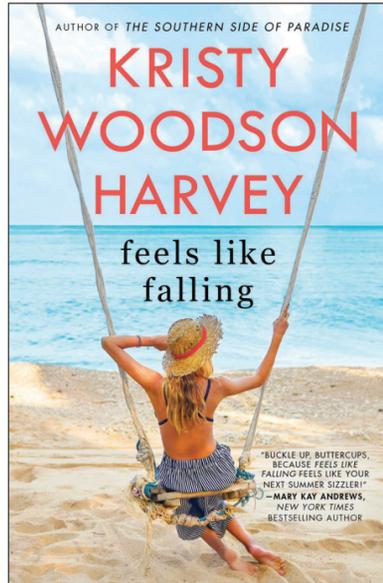


HARVEY

The museum's facilities at 122 N. Washington St. include the Williams-Brice House, Heritage Education Center and Carolina Backcountry Homestead. Hours remain the same for these buildings: Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Groups of 10 or more must call for tour reservations to ensure social distancing. All visitors must adhere to guidelines posted on the museum's website, www.SumterCountyMuseum.org.

Temple Sinai Jewish History Center will be open by appointment only through Aug. 6. To make an appointment, call Annie Rivers at the museum at (803) 775-0908 or Diana Roof at (803) 468-8630.

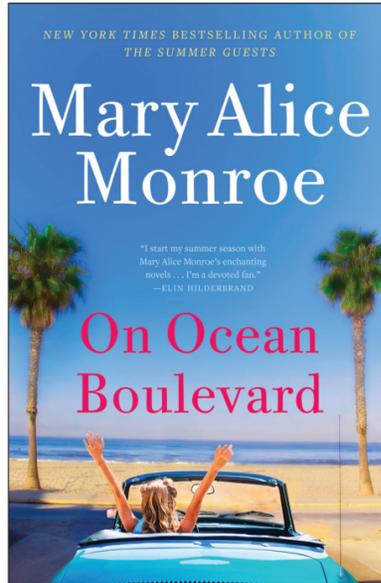
If you are a book lover looking to interact with others without leaving the



house, consider the museum's free live Zoom event featuring award-winning novelists Kristy Woodson Harvey and Mary Alice Monroe at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 30.

Harvey's "Feels Like Falling" has been named to: 2020 Spring Okra Pick; Parade's 20 Most Anticipated Books of Early 2020; SheKnows' 10 of the Most Anticipated Books Coming in 2020; Mary Kay Andrews' Reading Challenge Women's Fiction Pick; and Working Mother's 20 Most Anticipated Books of 2020 for Working Moms.

Mary Kay Andrews, *New York Times* bestselling author, gave "Feels Like Falling" a definite thumbs-up: "Two



women in turmoil, two lives at a crossroads. Only Kristy Woodson Harvey can make sense of the sometimes devastating, oftentimes delicious dilemmas faced by the protagonists of her newest perfect beach read 'Feels Like Falling.' Readers will fall in love with entrepreneur Gray, whose husband's betrayal leaves her feeling adrift and looking for something beyond career success, while plucky down-and-out Diana will win the hearts of those of us who always root for the underdog. Buckle up, buttercup, because 'Feels Like Falling' feels like your next summer sizzler!"

Monroe's latest novel, "On Ocean

Boulevard," returns its characters to Charleston, South Carolina. It is a *New York Times* Bestseller, *USA Today* Bestseller, *Southern Indie* Bestseller, *Publishers Weekly* Bestseller and Amazon #1 New Release/Bestseller.

Booklist had this to say about the bestseller: "This is a heartwarming story of Lowcountry love, loyalty and long-standing friendships. Proving that life's unexpected curve balls can end up launching its greatest successes, the

resilience of the Rutledge family is stronger than ever. Infusing her story with respect for the local flora and fauna, Monroe continues her focus on environmental conservation in her latest multigenerational story of the Rutledge women."

Reading enthusiasts are required to register for the virtual event. Only 100 spots are available. You must be registered and in the Zoom meeting to participate in the question-and-answer sessions. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/2ZONPug>. A link, password and other information will be emailed to you before the event.

A link will be posted after the event for those interested in purchasing a book with a signed bookplate from the author. Purchased books will be available for pickup at Sumter Books-A-Million at Sumter Mall.

For more information, call (803) 775-0908 or email information@sumtercountymuseum.org.

Sumter real estate agent charged with not paying taxes

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

A real estate agent in Sumter has been arrested by state Department of Revenue agents on charges that she did not pay state income tax for five years.



RICHARDSON

Melissa Major Richardson, 48, has been charged with five counts of failing to file South Carolina Individual Income Tax returns for years 2014-2018, according to arrest warrants. According to the state department, Richardson earned \$551,085 in taxable income during that time period and failed to pay \$17,322 in state Individual Income Tax.

Warrants claim she filed tax returns for 2012 and 2013 but did not for the next five years despite making "sufficient income to require filing." The breakdown of what the war-

rants state she owed for each year she didn't file a return is \$3,009, \$3,393, \$3,913, \$3,710 and \$3,297.

John Ecton, of Columbia-based Ecton Law Firm PA, which is representing Richardson, said Thursday that she filed all five returns and paid amounts due a few days before her arrest.

Tim Smith, public information specialist for the state revenue department, said in response to *The Sumter Item's* inquiry to confirm her attorney's statement, said he could not comment further on her tax filings because of "disclosure laws and an active investigation." He did say the charges are that she failed to file her returns by the due dates.

According to the state revenue department, if convicted, she faces a maximum of one year in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000 for each count.

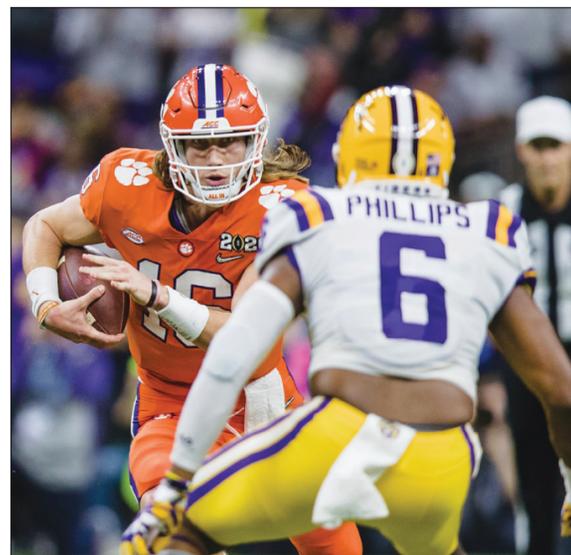
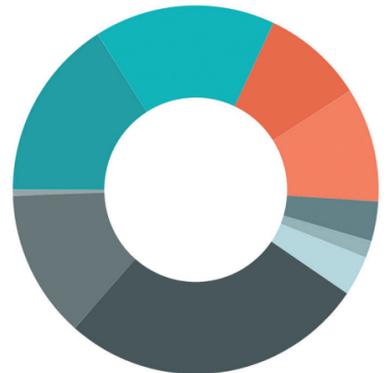
She was released on bond from the Sumter County Sheriff's Office Detention Center.

Poll of the week

Sunday, July 19, was National Ice Cream Day.

What is your favorite flavor?

- Something with nuts 27% | 54 VOTES
- Chocolate 16% | 32 VOTES
- Vanilla 16% | 32 VOTES
- Other 13% | 26 VOTES
- Cookies & Cream 10% | 20 VOTES
- Mint-Chocolate Chip 9% | 18 VOTES
- Cake Batter 4% | 7 VOTES
- Something fruity 4% | 7 VOTES
- Cotton Candy 2% | 3 VOTES
- I don't like ice cream 1% | 1 VOTE



Next week's question:
Should college football be played this fall?

- Yes
- No
- It should be played with conference-only schedules
- It should be pushed back to the spring
- I don't know
- I don't care

Have a question you'd like us to ask? Email editor@theitem.com.

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Tuomey's COVID-19 testing site moves to BB&T bank building

BY TRACI QUINN

Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital

Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital will move its COVID-19 drive-through testing site to the former BB&T bank building at the corner of Calhoun and Main streets in downtown Sumter.

The move is effective Wednesday, July 29. Testing times remain the same: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. The lot, located at 216 N. Main St., replaces the testing site at the hospital's Day Surgery entrance on Calhoun Street. This site is for community members who have a provider order and an appointment. Paper orders are not accepted; they must be faxed by the provider. Community members cannot be seen if they have not been scheduled by a provider.

"As the state ramps up its efforts to detect new cases of COVID-19 and slow its spread, we are expanding this testing service to better serve the community," said Michelle Logan-Owens, the hospital's chief executive officer.

"We are seeing alarming rates of COVID-positive individuals daily across the nation," she said. "I implore our community: Please take care of yourself and others by following the recommendations for masking, consistent hand hygiene and continued social distancing. I know we are all anxious to engage with friends and family, but we need to take care of ourselves and each other."

Prisma Health had collected 104,388 completed tests as of Friday, July 25. More than 47,000 were at hospital-based drive-through sites. Of those, 15,191 (15.8%) were positive for COVID-19.

If you think you may have



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Chloe Peters, a registered nurse at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, conducts a drive-through COVID-19 test in Sumter in March.

COMMUNITY TESTING

Testing is a priority for Prisma Health, especially providing access to communities that need it the most. Community testing, done in partnership with the state Department of Health and Environmental Control, reaches people who may not otherwise have access to traditional testing or on-line virtual visits.

To find a list of community testing sites, including Prisma Health's community testing sites, visit www.SCDHEC.gov.

DHEC will contact those who were tested at one of these non-hospital-based locations with their result.

For more information about COVID-19 and Prisma Health's continued response, visit www.PrismaHealth.org/Coronavirus.

COVID-19, call your primary care provider, use a free Prisma Health Virtual Visit (www.PrismaHealth.org/Virtual-Visit) or call the community outreach hotline at 1-833-2PRISMA. Do not go to your local emergency department for testing unless you are directed there by a

provider. Providers determine if a test should be ordered based on a patient's risk factors and underlying health issues, as well as symptoms such as fever, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, dry cough, sore throat, diarrhea, pink-eye, unusual tiredness, un-

usual aches and pains and headache.

Please wear a mask to this testing site. Upon arrival, remain in your car and await instructions from the testing team. The hospital lab will fax or call the ordering physician with the results within 72 hours; patients should be contacted by the provider — not by the hospital — as soon as their result is available.

Prisma Health asks that patients self-isolate at home until they hear the results of their test. This is vital to help protect the community from potential exposure. If the patient's symptoms worsen, the patient should contact his or her physician.

For more information about COVID-19 and Prisma Health's continued response and community testing sites, visit www.PrismaHealth.org/Coronavirus.

Campus corner

CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Central Carolina Technical College presented academic awards to 66 students who displayed the highest level of achievement throughout the 2019-20 academic year.

Anthony Brooker, of Summerton, received the Advanced Air Conditioning and Heating Award.

Broadus Eddings, of Dalzell, received the Advanced Pipe Welding Award.

Cami Atkinson, of Dalzell, received the Accounting Award.

Christina Newton, of Manning, received the Accounting Specialist Award.

Chantell Ray, of Dalzell, received the Administrative Office Technology Award.

Dalton Shirley, of Sumter, received the Advanced Mechanics Award at the AMTTC.

Ian Couture, of Dalzell, received the Basic Air Conditioning and Heating Award.

Jason Green, of Sumter, received the Basic Machining and CNC Fundamentals Award.

James Tucker, of Dalzell, received the Basic Mechatronics Award at the AMTTC.

Beverly Aldrich, of Rembert, received the Entrepreneurship and Small Business Award.

Lauryn Baxter, of Sumter, received the Pharmacy Technician Award.

Loretta Brown, of Sumter, received the Supervision and Leadership Award.

Angel Coonce, of Pinewood, received the Early Childhood Development (Diploma) Award.

Tyra Day, of Dalzell, received the Information Processing Award.

Alice Johnson, of Sumter, received the Human Services AAS Award.

Maya Martin, of Sumter, received the Web Development Award.

Anthony Nelson, of Alcolu, received the Cybersecurity Certificate Award.

Ioana Noje-Rowe, of Sumter, received the Nursing Award (ADN).

K'Sondra Quinones, of Dalzell, received the Medical Office Administrative Assistant Award.

Luis Rojas, of Summerton, received the Criminal Justice Technology Award.

Joseph Safford, of Sumter, received the Management Award.

Kaylee Showler, of Rembert, received the Natural Resources Management Award.

Christian Strange, of Sumter, received the Human Resource Specialist Certificate Award.

Ashley Treadwell, of Lynchburg, received the Medical Assisting Award.

Allan Turner, of Sumter, received the Computer Technology Award.

Kyra Van Anda, of Shaw AFB, received the Early Care and Education Award.

Stephanie Weber, of Sumter, received the Medical Record Coding Award.

Stephanie Whitt, of Sumter, received the Surgical Technology Award.

Dominique Wilson, of Sum-

ter, received the Engineering Design Technology Award.

Jaycie Wisor, of Sumter, received the Paralegal Award.

Kenneth Jordan, of Sumter, received the Pharres Chatam Award.

Larry Brown, of Alcolu, received the Stephen "Burke" Rice Award.

Loretta Baker-Yates, of Sumter, received the Outstanding Work Study Award in the area of Student Life and the ACTS Club Award.

Melinda Cribb, of Sumter, received the Outstanding Work Study Award in the area of Student Services.

Deja Lint, of Sumter, was named to the South Carolina All-State Academic Team.

Misty Russell, of Sumter, received the Student Life Saver Award.

Tanya Bowman, of Wedgefield, received the Biology Club Award.

Collin Gaff, of Manning, received the CCTC Gamer Club Award.

Ambre' Thomas, of Sumter, received the CCTC Student Nurses' Association Award.

Terrance McFadden, of Gable, received the Criminal

Justice Association Award.

Tequila Davis, of Dalzell, received the Phenomenal Vibes Students with Purpose Award.

Xavier Dinkins, of Sumter, received the Phenomenal Vibes Students with Purpose Award.

Tiffany Sharky, of Sumter, received the Phi Beta Lambda Award.

Quintez Conyers, of Sumter, received the Trio Leadership and Professional Development Award.

USC AIKEN

AIKEN — The University of South Carolina Aiken congratulates those students who made the President's List for Spring 2020.

To earn this distinction, students must be enrolled full time and maintain a GPA of at least 4.0. The following local students were named to the President's List:

- Sumter — **Samantha Goselin; Bethany Jennings; Valeen Jennings; Ashleigh McElveen; Holley Mortenson; Morgan Sargent; and Sara Jane Thielmann;** and
- Manning — **Matthew Varn.**

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Football players from Sumter's three public schools work together to organize a socially distanced workout at Dillon Park to say #WeWantToPlay.



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A Palmetto College Campus

Virus antibodies fade fast but not necessarily their protection

BY MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

New research suggests that antibodies the immune system makes to fight the new coronavirus may only last a few months in people with mild illness, but that doesn't mean protection also is gone or that it won't be possible to develop an effective vaccine.

"Infection with this coronavirus does not necessarily generate lifetime immunity," but antibodies are only part of the story, said Dr. Buddy Creech, an infectious disease specialist at Vanderbilt University. He had no role in the work, published Tuesday in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The immune system remembers how to make fresh antibodies if needed and other parts of it also can mount an attack, he said.

Antibodies are proteins that white blood cells called B cells make to bind to the virus and help eliminate it. The earliest ones are fairly crude but as infection goes on, the immune

system becomes trained to focus its attack and to make more precise antibodies.

Dr. Otto Yang and others at the University of California, Los Angeles, measured these more precise antibodies in 30 patients diagnosed with COVID-19 and four housemates presumed to have the disease. Their average age was 43, and most had mild symptoms.

Researchers found that the antibodies had a half-life of 36 days, which means that half of them would be gone after that much time. It dovetails with a previous report from China also suggesting antibodies quickly fade.

The results "call for caution regarding antibody-based 'immunity passports,' herd immunity and perhaps vaccine durability," the California authors write.

That's true, Creech said, but other parts of the immune system also help confer protection. Besides churning out antibodies, B cells develop a memory so they know how to do that again if needed.

"They would get called into action very quickly when there's a new exposure to the virus. It's as if they lie dormant, just waiting," he said.

Other white blood cells called T cells also are better able to attack the virus the next time they see it, Creech said.

Although circulating antibodies may not last long, what we need to know is if and how people remake antibodies if exposed to the coronavirus again and if they protect against another infection, Alison Criss, an immunologist at the University of Virginia, wrote in an email. "We also need to know if there is a protective T cell response" that reappears.

Vaccines, which provoke the immune system to make antibodies, might give longer-lasting protection than natural infection because they use purified versions of what stimulates that response, she noted.

Creech agreed. "This shouldn't dissuade us from pursuing a vaccine," he said. "Antibodies are only a part of the story."

Utah sees virus surge — not in county with mask order

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Utah is among the many U.S. states battling a surge in coronavirus cases, but officials said Wednesday the Salt Lake City area is bucking the trend after the county issued a mandate a month ago for people to wear masks.

There's no statewide mask order in Republican-led Utah, and face coverings remain contentious, as seen at a recent public meeting that was abruptly ended when dozens of people without masks packed the room.

After GOP Gov. Gary Herbert allowed Democratic leaders in Salt Lake County to impose their own mask rule, the county's share of cases in the state steadily declined despite its denser population.

"Today we're sharing data that indicates that face coverings and other interventions implemented by Salt Lake County are having a positive impact," county Mayor Jenny Wilson said. "These actions are saving

lives, protecting health and stabilizing the spread of COVID-19 cases."

Based on data in Salt Lake County, Wilson called on the governor to order a statewide mask requirement.

The number of new cases reported daily in Salt Lake County is nearly down to levels seen in June. However, case numbers in the state as a whole have doubled in the same time frame.

The county used to consistently report 60% of the state's cases but now typically sees about 40% of those cases, Wilson said. A third of the state's 3.2 million residents live in Salt Lake County.

Health experts say masks can prevent the spread of the disease by catching virus-containing respiratory droplets expelled when people exhale or cough. Face coverings are promoted as a key tool in allowing the resumption of economic activity and students' return to schools.

U.S. prison populations down 8% amid COVID-19 outbreak

BY DAMINI SHARMA AND WEIHUA LI
The Marshall Project
DENISE LAVOIE AND CLAUDIA LAUER
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Stephanie Parris was finishing a two-year prison sentence for a probation violation when she heard she'd be going home three weeks early because of COVID-19.

It made her feel bad to leave when she had so few days left at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. She said she wasn't sick, and there were no cases at the facility. But there were others still inside who could have used the reprieve.

"I would have helped someone who had nine or 10 months, someone who absolutely needed it," she said recently. "There was a lady in there who was very elderly, and she has very bad health problems. I would have given my place to her."

There has been a major drop in the number of people behind bars in the U.S. Between March and June, more than 100,000 people were released from state and federal prisons, a decrease of 8%, according to a nationwide analysis by The Marshall Project and The Associated Press. The drops range from 2% in Virginia to 22% in Connecticut. By comparison, the state and federal prison population decreased by 2.2% in all of 2019, according to a report on prison populations by the Vera Institute of Justice.

But this year's decrease has not come because of efforts to release vulnerable prisoners for health reasons and to manage the spread of the virus raging in prisons, according to detailed data from eight states compiled by The Marshall Project and AP. Instead, head counts have dropped largely because prisons stopped accepting new prisoners from county jails to avoid importing the virus, court closures meant fewer people were receiving sentences and parole officers sent fewer people back inside for low-level violations, according to data and experts. So the number could rise again once those wheels begin moving despite the virus.

In Virginia, about 250 prisoners were released as corrections officials scrambled to minimize the spread of the virus, accounting for less than half of the decrease in population in that state



Former Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women inmate Stephanie Parris sits in Market Square on July 15 in Roanoke, Virginia. Parris was finishing a two-year prison sentence for a probation violation when she heard she'd be going home three weeks early because of COVID-19.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

between March and June, the news organizations found.

In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom last week ordered the release of up to 8,000 people by the end of August after a series of coronavirus outbreaks in the state's prisons. Between mid-March and mid-June, California's prison population dropped by more than 7,000, less than half of which can be attributed to an earlier decision by the state to let vulnerable prisoners out early.

More than 57,000 prisoners have tested positive for the coronavirus in facilities across the country since the outbreak began. Of those, at least 34,000 have recovered, and at least 651 have died, the data showed. More than 12,400 infections have been reported among staff, including 46 deaths.

Experts and advocates said whether the public perceives a public safety threat from people who are released early because of COVID-19 is likely to affect the larger criminal justice reform movement, especially the push to decrease prison populations.

While many people may be qualified for early releases, very few actually got out. In April, Pennsylvania launched a temporary reprieve program, allowing the state's corrections department to send people home under the condition that they return to finish their sentences once the pandemic passes. The governor's office predicted more than 1,500 would be eligible for release.

So far, the state's corrections department has recommended 1,200 people

for reprieves, but the application process is slow and tedious, said Bret Bucklen, the department's research director. Each application needs approval from the governor, the secretary of corrections and the assistant district attorney who oversaw the initial conviction.

Nearly three months later, fewer than 160 people have been released through the reprieve program, while Pennsylvania's total prison population dropped by 2,800.

As in Pennsylvania, data from states such as North Carolina, Illinois and New Jersey shows coronavirus releases only account for less than one-third of the decrease in prison population, which suggests something else is driving the drop. According to Martin Horn, professor emeritus at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a former corrections commissioner for New York City, the pandemic has slowed the entire criminal justice system, which means fewer people are going to prisons.

Before the pandemic, parolees were required to meet with their parole officers in person. For the last four months, those meetings have mostly been by phone, and people on parole are under less scrutiny and less likely to be returned to prison for violating the rules right now, Horn said.

Even many who have been sentenced for crimes are not being transferred to state prisons. In North Carolina, the courts enacted a two-month moratorium on accepting newly sen-

tenced individuals into prisons. By the time the moratorium was lifted in May, about 1,800 people were in county jails awaiting transfer to state prisons, said John Bull, a spokesman for North Carolina's Department of Public Safety.

Whether prison populations rise once the pandemic eases will depend in part on how the public perceives people who are released early now, said Wanda Bertram, spokeswoman for the Prison Policy Initiative, a non-partisan think tank that focuses on mass incarceration.

For example, if people leaving prison have little support and end up homeless, Bertram said she fears they may be more likely to get arrested for things like sleeping on the street, and the community may in turn associate early releases with more crime.

Garland King, who will turn 78 in a few weeks, spent 12 years in a North Carolina prison for shooting and killing his son-in-law during an argument. Like many older prisoners, he has mounting medical issues, including asthma and arthritis.

King was scheduled to be released in June, but on April 17 he became one of almost 500 prisoners who were let go early for good behavior. Since his wife died two years ago, he needed to find housing and apply for social services. He fretted over everything so much that he barely ate in the days leading to his freedom and nearly had a medical crisis as a result. He eventually found housing through a community health program in Durham, North Carolina.

Nazgol Ghandnoosh, a senior research analyst at the Sentencing Project, a group that advocates for sentencing reform, said that while the prison population decreases are a step in the right direction, she is disappointed by the numbers. Even if the COVID-19 release policies work as intended, they might not lower the prison population enough because states often exclude violent offenders from such releases, Ghandnoosh said.

"Even though we are sending too many people to prison and keeping them there too long, and even though research shows people who are older have the highest risk from COVID-19 and the lowest risk of recidivism, we are still not letting them out," Ghandnoosh said.

WEDDING

Bradford-Morehouse

TIMMONSVILLE — Erin Elaine Bradford of Sumter and Taylor Allen Morehouse of Summerton were united in marriage at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 6, 2020, at The Cabin at Old Spur.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott Bradford of Sumter, and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julian M. Cain of Sumter, the late Mr. Robert Peters of Sumter, the late Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davis of Lexington and the late Mr. Robert C. Bradford of Summerton. She graduated from the University of South Carolina Upstate with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. She is employed as an elementary school teacher by Sumter School District.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Richard Morehouse of Summerton, and the grandson of Ms. Sandra Zoski-Deaton and the late Mr. Gary Deaton of Yukon, Oklahoma, and Mrs. Janet Morehouse and the late Mr. Cleon Morehouse of Summerton. He graduated from Francis Marion University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. He is a registered intensive care unit nurse at MUSC Health Florence.

Pastor Andrew Taylor of Emmanuel Baptist Church officiated at the ceremony.

Music was provided by Kipper Ackerman, harpist.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore an Allure couture off-the-shoulder ballgown of elegant English net and lace featuring a sweetheart neck-



MR., MRS. TAYLOR MOREHOUSE

line, a V-back and a chapel train. She carried a hand-tied bouquet of peonies, garden roses, green and white hydrangeas, spray roses and lisianthus.

Mary Ann Koty served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Madison Morehouse, Megan Drummond, Shasta Smith and Katlyn Loschke.

Samuel Naas served as best man. Groomsman were Nicholas Canty, Andrew Wilson, William Dunson and Mark Wilson.

The reception and rehearsal party were held at The Cabin and Old Spur and were given by the bride's parents and bridegroom's parents, respectively.

Following a wedding trip to Pawleys Island, the couple resides in Sumter.

The couple is registered at Target, www.target.com; and Walmart, www.walmart.com.

ENGAGEMENTS

Curtis-Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Curtis of Lenoir, North Carolina, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Suzanne Curtis of Lenoir, to Samuel Lawrence Johnson of Sumter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy P. Johnson of Sumter.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. Ray Curtis and Ms. Evelyn Curtis of Lenoir, and the Rev. and Mrs. Rufus Edmisten of Morganton, North Carolina. She graduated from Piedmont International University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, with a Bachelor of Elementary Education degree. She is employed as an ele-

mentary school teacher.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Johnson of Charlotte, North Carolina, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Lawrence of Sumter. He received an undergraduate degree from the University of South Carolina and graduated from USC School of Law with a Juris Doctorate degree. He is employed as a hearing officer for the South Carolina Administrative Law Court's Office of Motor Vehicle Hearings in Columbia.

The wedding is planned for Nov. 14, 2020, at Yadkin



MISS CURTIS, MR. JOHNSON

Valley Baptist Church in Lenoir.

The couple is registered at www.amazon.com.

Johnson-Lee

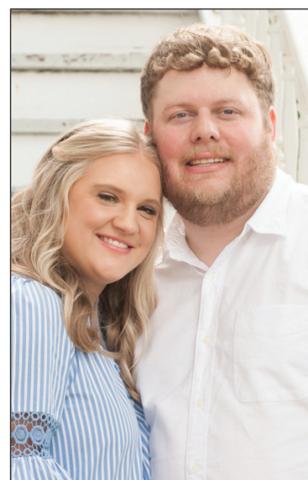
Ms. Tracie Dana Sykes of Sumter and Mr. and Mrs. William Howard Johnson of Manning announce the engagement of their daughter, Dinah Davis Johnson of Sumter, to Christopher Derek Lee of Sumter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Leroy Lee of Manning.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Vann Sykes of Manning, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Henry Jackson of Springfield, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Newell Johnson. She graduated from Myrtle Beach High School and Presbyterian College in 2018 with a

Bachelor of Science in Biology. She is employed by DSM Nutritional Products of Kingstree.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of Mrs. Mary Beth Anderson of Manning and the late Mr. James Watson Anderson and the late Mr. Leroy and Mrs. Brenda Hodge Lee. He graduated from Manning High School and attended the University of South Carolina, later receiving his associate degree. He is employed by Healogics Wound Healing Center at Prisma Health Tuomey in Sumter.

The wedding is planned for Jan. 16, 2021, in Sumter.



MISS JOHNSON, MR. LEE

1st COVID-19, now mosquitoes: Bracing for bug-borne ills

Eastern equine encephalitis, West Nile, Lyme disease and more

BY PHILIP MARCELO

The Associated Press

Sophia Garabedian had been dealing with a persistent fever and painful headache when her parents found her unresponsive in her bed one morning last fall.

Doctors ultimately diagnosed the then-5-year-old Sudbury, Massachusetts, resident with eastern equine encephalitis, a rare but severe mosquito-borne virus that causes brain swelling.

Garabedian survived the potentially fatal virus after about a month in Boston hospitals, but her parents say her ordeal and ongoing recovery should be a warning as people take advantage of the outdoors this summer.

"It's been a rough year," said David Garabedian, her father. "With any brain injury, it's hard to tell. The damage is there. How she works through it is anyone's guess."

As the coronavirus pandemic subsides for now in the hard-hit Northeast, public health officials in the region are warning about another potentially bad summer for EEE and other insect-borne illnesses.

EEE saw an unexpected resurgence last summer across 10 states: Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island and Tennessee.

There were 38 human cases and 15 deaths from the virus, with many of the cases in Massachusetts and Michigan, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Most years, the country sees just half a dozen cases of the virus in humans, the agency said.

In Massachusetts and New Jersey, officials have already detected EEE in mosquitoes this year, the earliest on record in those states. There have been no human or animal cases yet.

"It's unnerving," said Scott Crans, who heads up mosquito control efforts for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protec-

tion. "It could signal a busy year."

Crans and other state health officials say EEE, which has no cure in humans, tends to come in two- to three-year cycles, but they also stress that mosquito-borne diseases are notoriously tricky to predict.

A relatively mild winter may have benefited mosquito populations, but below-average rainfall could have also provided a welcome counterweight, he said.

Local health officials are also warning about the risk of contracting other insect-borne illnesses as more people are spending a longer time outdoors amid the coronavirus pandemic.

In Michigan, an invasive mosquito known to transmit dengue, Zika and other tropical viruses has already been detected for the first time this season, said Mary Grace Stobierski, the state's public health veterinarian.

The state also had its first case of West Nile virus this season. A more common but less severe mosquito-borne disease than EEE, it can cause fevers, headaches, body pain and other symptoms. The infection was found in a captive hawk in early June.

Ticks are also expected to be out earlier and in larger numbers this season because of the relatively mild winter, warned Aaron Bernstein, a pediatrician at Boston Children's Hospital and a director at Harvard's School of Public Health.

That could mean more cases of debilitating Lyme disease and other tick-related illnesses for local health care systems already feeling the pressure of responding to the coronavirus, he said.

"Some of the people going into the woods more now might not be experienced with how to protect themselves in the forest, and that's a concern," he said.

Officials say people should avoid the evening and early morning hours when mosquitoes are most active, use bug spray and wear long clothing where possible

when outdoors.

The CDC has offered states additional help with mosquito testing this season as the coronavirus pandemic has overwhelmed state public health offices, said Candice Hoffmann, an agency spokeswoman.

Officials in eight states and the District of Columbia have so far taken up the offer: Maryland, Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina, Vermont, Maine, Florida and Arizona.

During last year's EEE outbreak, the CDC provided about \$700,000 in emergency funding and technical assistance to Rhode Island, Indiana, Michigan and Massachusetts on top of roughly \$18 million it provided to states for annual vector-borne disease surveillance, Hoffmann said.

In Michigan, where six of that state's 10 cases of EEE last year proved fatal, officials this summer have launched a pilot program to improve the state's response to mosquito-borne illnesses.

Ned Walker, a medical entomologist at Michigan State University heading up the effort, said the goal is to create the kind of regular mosquito surveillance system already in place in Massachusetts and elsewhere to better predict and prepare for disease outbreaks.

In Connecticut, officials have boosted the number of testing sites for mosquitoes

in its high-risk eastern portion, according to Philip Armstrong, a virologist with the state Department of Environmental Sciences.

In Massachusetts, which was the hardest hit by EEE last year, with 12 cases and six fatalities, officials have been testing earlier, more often and in a wider range of locations this year in order to quickly identify infection clusters, said State Epidemiologist Catherine Brown. A pilot effort is also testing the efficacy of different larvicides to help cull the mosquito population at its earliest stages, she said.

One troubling development: The two earliest cases of EEE in mosquitoes this year were found in a northern part of the state close to New Hampshire, rather than the virus' typical hotspots near Cape Cod, where officials also detected the virus in a mosquito sample last week.

That, along with last year's widespread cases, strongly suggests the territory of EEE-carrying mosquitoes is expanding, according to Brown. Climate changes that are causing warmer summers and altering bird migration patterns and local mosquito populations could be among the drivers, she said.

Meanwhile an environmental group is calling on Massachusetts to avoid resorting to widespread aerial

spraying of insecticide, which took place six times last year as cases surged.

Maryland-based Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility filed a complaint with the Massachusetts Inspector General's office this month, arguing that 2019's aerial spraying cost more than \$2 million but wasn't effective in reducing EEE-carrying mosquitoes.

Brown disputes the group's assertion but acknowledges the insecticides can be toxic to bees and other species, another concern raised by the group. "Last year was unprecedented," she said. "No one wants to do that again."

Back in Sudbury, David and Kirstin Garabedian say they're optimistic their daughter can continue to heal from EEE.

Now 6, she was able to return to kindergarten in January before the coronavirus pandemic shuttered schools weeks later. But her parents say she still regularly goes to speech and occupational therapy to deal with lingering speech and memory problems.

Kirstin Garabedian says she understands people want to take advantage of the outdoors this summer.

"Go outside and enjoy yourself, but take the proper precautions," she said. "Just be vigilant. Use common sense."

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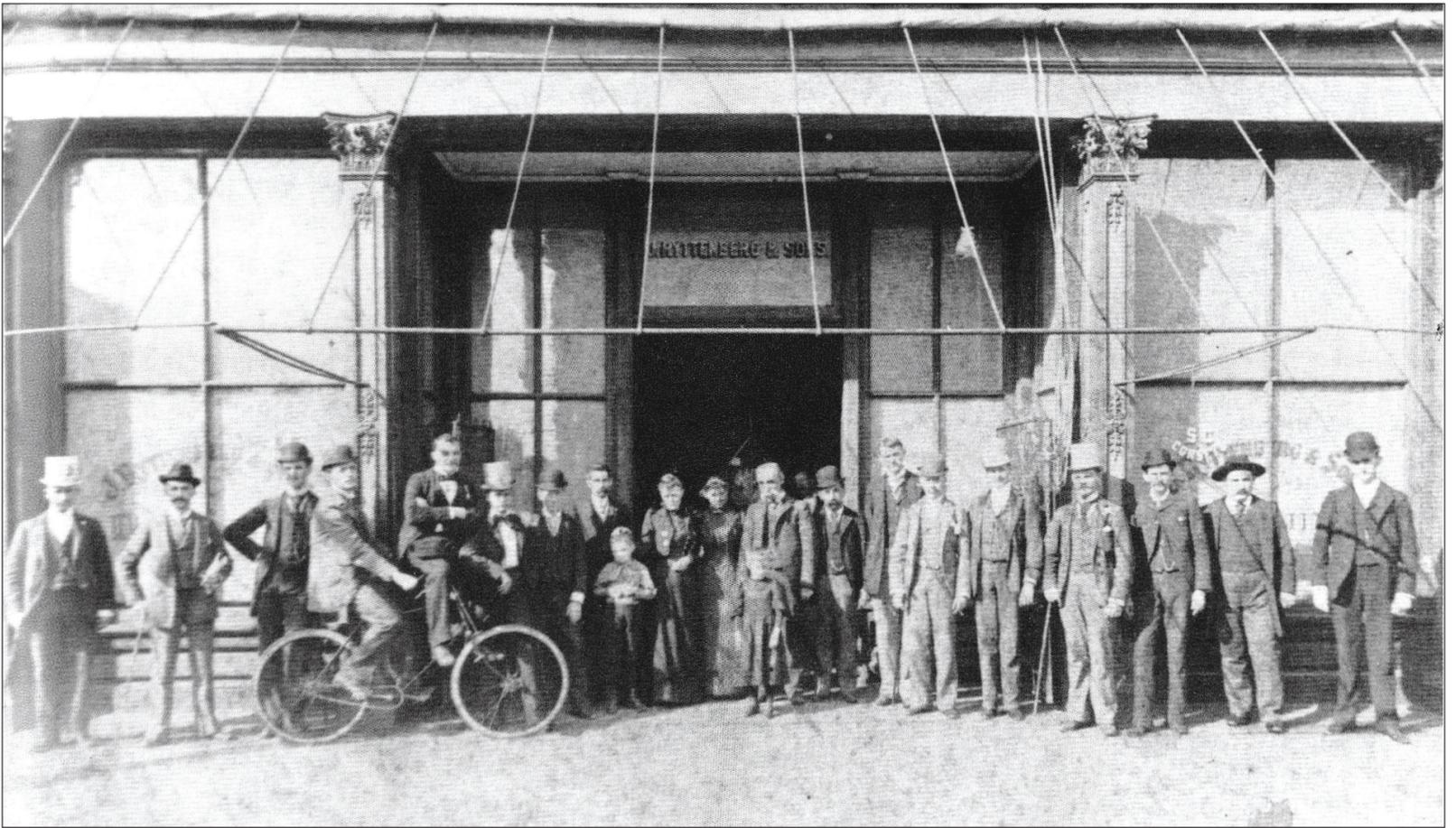
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REFLECTIONS



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

J. Ryttenberg and his three sons opened Ryttensberg's in 1880, which was Sumter's largest store at the time and featured gas fixtures inside.

Sumter business leaders important to local economy

Reflections remembers two of Sumter's important retail business concerns. This research focuses on Tomlinson's and Ryttensberg's stores. The report utilizes articles and photos taken from *The Item* archives and articles from a 1934 edition of *The Herald*



Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS

Newspaper, and also utilized were selected magazine articles. In an article printed in *The Herald Newspaper* during the 1930s, "several businessmen of Sumter were recognized throughout the state as an energetic set, and they were credited with creating vast strides in the commercial importance of the city." A review without mentioning some of the leading mercantile establishments would be far from complete. Reflections has selected Tomlinson's Women's Wear and Ryttensberg's merchandise as its two enterprises to be researched. The articles pertaining to these establishments will be reprinted with a modicum of editing due to the length of the articles.

TOMLINSON'S — A WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT STORE

Research reports that Tomlinson's was a popular women's apparel store located at 10 S. Main St. This store featured quality above everything else. To this it added attentive, polite sales personnel and featured the latest styles. "Fashion conscious women found there the most exclusive raiment plus ultra-quality in a variety of colors and tint combinations, representing the newest materials and designs of the time." Tomlinson's ladies' wear appealed to the fashion-conscious shopper regardless of age. The inventory also featured the most exquisitely designed evening outfits. "The offerings also included a superb selection of pure silk hosiery, lingerie, millinery, blouses, sportswear, fall suits, afternoon frocks, house dresses, boudoir attire, etc." Visitors to Sumter congratulated Tomlinson's repeatedly on the quality of its merchandise.



S. J. TOMLINSON

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sons: M. E. Jr. and Nicholas J. Tomlinson. Mr. Tomlinson was a Baptist and a Kiwanian. He opened his Sumter establishment in February 1931 with H. W. McCollum, a popular Sumter dry goods expert, as manager. Mr. McCollum proved to be successful and popular. Mr. Tomlinson was public spirited, popular, progressive, recognized as a conservative businessman and a merchant of the highest integrity. He was a member of the Board of Trade and one of Sumter's most ardent boosters. Tomlinson started his first store in Olanta and later opened additional stores in Florence, Lynchburg, Sumter, Lake City and Hemingway. In addition to his stores, Mr. Tomlinson had a large farming interest in Sumter and other counties."

THE RYTTEBERGS

J. Ryttenberg and his sons were primarily involved in the mercantile business, and by 1880, they built the largest store in Sumter located on the corner of North Main and Liberty streets. "The building was 34 feet wide and 150 feet deep with a warehouse attached at the rear. The firm of J. Ryttenberg and Sons consisted of four co-partners: the father and his three sons: M.G., Harry and J. E. Ryttenberg."



M. G. RYTTEBERG

The building was divided into departments featuring every type of merchandise



Ryttensberg's was at the corner of Main and Liberty streets.



Tomlinson's was a women's department store.

needed by the residents of Sumter. The dry goods department featured "dress goods, boots, shoes, etc.; another for groceries and hardware. As we inspect these various departments or subdivisions, one wonders how any of the patrons could determine what was in stock; but each department had a manager and an inventory system which took the place of guess work, everything moved along without confusion." The building featured some of the first gas fixtures as the Ryttensberg Co. was the first to use gas to light the interior of their store in Sumter. They owned the plant that supplied the gas, and it can be noted that the town was lighted by lamps at this time.

"The Ryttenberg firm invested heavily in the cotton market and annually purchased about 1,500 bales. Records indicate that "the com-

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

This is the **Store** You Want to **Hurry**

Where You Will Find **Bargains**

Having met with the deserved success in our recent sale, and having received the favorable comments as well as the patronage of the public at large, we are now inaugurating a sale that will long be remembered in Sumter. This is not a mill end and factory sale, but if possible one that will surpass same. We realize that the cotton crop is very short, and in spite of the high price, that business will be below the anticipation.

We are offering
Our Entire Stock at Sacrifice Prices.

We expect to make a change in our business after January 1st, 1904, and the interest of the late Harry Ryttenberg in our firm will be withdrawn, consequently stock must be reduced, and bargains will be given to cash buyers. This sale commenced on

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24th.
And continues until January 1st, 1904.
This is the chance you have been looking for, only it comes before instead of after Christmas. Now is your time to buy your CLOTHING and DRY GOODS, also Shoes, Cloaks, Blankets, Carpets, &c., &c.

This advertisement for Ryttensberg's was published November 1903.

pany sold between 300 to 1,000 tons of fertilizers each year."

The store records note that the majority of their sales were purchased by citizens who resided within a 20-mile radius of the store. That is not to infer that they did not have a number of clients in other towns and states.

The most important feature of the Ryttensberg store which remained consistent throughout its existence "was their commitment to customer sat-

isfaction." The firm later added the manufacturing of bricks to its list of goods to be marketed to the residents of Sumter.

The history of brick making in the Sumter community, however, begins with Mr. O. C. Hulbert, who constructed a brickyard on Florence Highway across from Santee Print Works. The report on the Ryttensberg involvement with brick making will be presented at a later date.

Electricity reaches 40% of farms; Sumterites Association meets yearly

75 YEARS AGO — 1945

Feb. 15 - 21

• A group of 433 Cub and Boy Scouts and their parents attended the Parent-Son Dinner held at Edmunds High School, ending Boy Scout week activities which have been carried on in Sumter for the past several days. The supper, prepared by Dave Cuttino, was followed by an interesting program in the auditorium, highlighted with talks by T. O. Bowen and Deputy Regional Scout Executive O. B. Gorman.

• Sumter housewives were reminded that the retail grocers of the Sumter Merchants will begin closing Saturdays at 7 p.m. The new time will become effective tomorrow. This will make the second group of stores to come under the earlier Saturday night closing as department stores adopted the 7 o'clock closing time some time ago.

• Many boys are availing themselves of the annual free throw contest held

daily on the "Y" court. The highest 10 in each of the three age classifications will compete in the finals in March for the championship.

• Chaplain R. M.

Hall of Shaw Field will deliver the principal address at Temple Sinai on the subject of "Brotherhood." Tonight's service is the beginning of the nationwide observance of Brotherhood

Week, annually sponsored since 1932 by the National Conference of Christians and Jews for the purpose of establishing goodwill and understanding among Protestant Catholics and Jewish religious groups in America.

• Buddie Brown, 6 years old today, is the youngest carrier boy that the *Daily Item* has ever had. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald C. Brown, of Route 3, Sumter, young Buddie is doing an excellent job delivering the paper to the residents of the civilian housing project at Shaw Field.

• Under the leadership of W. E. Bynum, chairman, the Advance Gifts Committee will begin its solicitation to secure funds to continue the work now being done by the American Red Cross for millions of boys who are still in the service and to relieve suffering humanity throughout the devastated war areas. Sumter has always stood by this humanitarian organization, and the Advance Gifts Committee is assigned the task of raising at least one half of the quota of \$14,600.

• Trees are falling here and there along the highways and country roads again. Electricity is coming to more farms. Ten years ago scarcely five percent of the farms in this state had electricity. Despite the fact that more than three years of war halted extensions, today this great boon to farm life reaches 40 percent of our farms.

• Three Sumter Y teams, Mites, Midgets and Juniors, won a triple-header at the Florence High School gym. All three games were hard fought and exciting and had the large crowd of spectators on their feet. In the first game, the Y Mites eked out a close victory over the Florence Y Mites, 16-14. In the game between the Midget teams, the scrappy Sumter five started early and were continuously out front. Gus Pringle, Moody Huggins, Frank Strange, Henry Bynum and Russell Hurst played good aggressive ball and did all the scoring. The third game of the night was a real thriller, with the Sumter five finally winning by an 11-10 margin. Both teams played a nice floor game but had difficulty locating the wobbly baskets. For Sumter, Capt. Kirby Jackson was back in the game after a long layout due to a bad ankle.

• Considerable building and expansion work in towns near Sumter recently have been reported. Moore Brothers Inc. of Cheraw, with capital stock of \$1,000,000, was granted a charter last week by W. P. Blackwell, secretary of state. Moore Brothers will do a general wholesale business in commodities of every kind. Construction is now underway at the Palmetto Baking Co. at Orangeburg on additions to the plant costing \$100,000, R. H. Jennings, owner, said recently. A new freezer-locker plant is nearing completion at Darlington. The cost of the construction is estimated at several thousand dollars.

• A large crowd of Sunset Country Club members attended the supper party and dance given at the club. The refreshment table was centered with white and red carnations flanked on either side with red candles in silver candleabra. Bill Boyle was in charge of arrangements. Others who aided were: Mrs. Stanley Brading, entertainment committee chairman; Mrs. Wendell Levi, chairman, Mrs. Frank Thorne, refreshment committee; Mrs. Tommy Wilson, decorations.

• With "Municipal Government" as his subject, City Manager J. A. Raffield



Slick Gibbons, left, is awarded modified championship at Sumter Speedway by track promoter Pete Kiker on Oct. 20, 1970. Gibbons won 18 races during the 1970 season to become the biggest single-season winner ever at the quarter-mile oval. The Manning veteran earned more than \$3,500 for his efforts. Edward Guy "Slick" Gibbons died July 18, 2020, at age 77.

addressed members of the Exchange Club at their luncheon meeting at the Hotel Wade Hampton in Columbia. Listing the different forms of municipal governments as commission, mayor-council and council-manager, Mr. Raffield gave a short description of each.

50 YEARS AGO — 1970

Oct. 19 - 25

• Members of the Sumter-Shaw Community Concert Association will be treated to an unusual experience when Dorothy Warenskjold's Musical Theater opens this year's concert season. The company of performers which is headed by the famous American soprano, Dorothy Warenskjold, will present a program consisting of all the arias and ensemble music of Gounod's "Faust" sung in the order of story development for the first part of the evening's performance.

• Edmunds High School will hold open house for visitors to tour the building. Members of the school's board of visitors will be introduced to parents at a brief assembly program in the auditorium, after which parents will be given the opportunity to meet their children's teachers as they make a tour of the classes following the student's daily routine.

• Maj. Gen. William S. Chairsell, vice commander of Ninth Air Force, Shaw Air Force Base, will be the guest speaker at the annual dinner meeting of the Sumter County Chapter of the American Red Cross. The topic of his address will be the prisoners of war in North Vietnam. The Red Cross annual meeting is the occasion for election of board members to replace those whose terms have expired, as well as for the board to report to the community on the chapter's activities during the past year.

• The Sumter Credit Women-International held their annual Bosses Night at the Sunset Country Club, with some 50 members and guests present. The Tricentennial theme was carried out in the decorations. Highlight of the night came when the "Boss of the Year" was announced. The honor this year went to Toombs D. Lewis Jr., branch manager of C&S Bank.

• Dr. L.C. McArthur of Sumter is among 13 business, industry and government leaders from throughout the state that will be at Clemson University for a two-day meeting of the South Carolina Advisory Council on Vocational Education. The council was appointed by Gov. Robert McNair to perform evaluation functions and advise the State Board of Education on vocational matters.

• Three local Girl Scouting adult leaders, Mrs. Ralph Somheil, Mrs. Roland

McCabe and Mrs. Harrison Harp, recently represented the Sumter Scouting Neighborhood at a meeting of more than "1,000 Adults Who Care" in Atlanta. The meeting resulted from a meeting held earlier this year, in which 33 Senior Girl Scouts from Region III (made up of the two Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and the Canal Zone) decided what they needed most.

• W. Billy Gibson of Sumter, life underwriter for Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co., received a recognition pin from Bob Redwine, manager of the Columbia office of Jefferson Standard, signifying 30 years of service with the company.

• A TAC fighter squadron is now capable of deploying rapidly to any austere operating base in the Free World, carrying with it everything required to fight or prevent a conflict. This historic milestone in U.S. tactical air power mobility was reached Oct. 1, under the "Heavy Bare" concept. The project converted the 336th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, into a completely packaged air strike unit.

• Dave Ragan is a professional golfer whose youthful appearance belies the fact that he first started competing against the world's best swingers 14 years ago. The personable pro was in Sumter on Monday to communicate his strong religious beliefs to local young people at the Teen Crusade. Ragan, after a four-year layoff, is back on the PGA tour, where he won six major tournaments after starting out from the University of Florida.

• Teen Crusade came to Sumter. The director, the Rev. Sam Anderson Jr., called it "fantastic," youth executive committee chairman Lib Monteith called it "just great," and Miss South Carolina, who participated, said that it proved that "God and country are not dead." The crusade drew an estimated 8,300 people, and approximately 825 persons made inquiries about Christ.

25 YEARS AGO — 1995

July 19 - 25

• Sumter City Council gave final approval to an ordinance allowing bingo parlors in the city's central business district. The bingo ordinance grew from a request from the Amvets Post 80 bingo parlor to move from its West Liberty Street location into a building on the corner of South Main and Bartlette streets formerly occupied by Western Auto. Bingo parlors had been deemed off limits in downtown's central business district, which consists of the 12-block rectangle formed by East Bartlette, South Harvin, West Calhoun and Washington streets.

• Researchers at Penn State University are encouraging older people to get out of their rocking chairs, get onto a weight bench and start pumping iron. For decades, fitness experts have said older people should stay fit with low-intensity aerobic exercise. Although aerobics, swimming and walking burn fat, no activity builds muscle as quickly and effectively as heavy weightlifting. A lot of the disability we associate with getting older is not related to aging but with muscle loss because of a lifetime of inactivity.

• One would be hard-pressed to tell the winner from the loser between the Sumter P-15's and Manning-Santee in the opening game of their American Legion baseball state playoffs second-round series if you listened to the coaches. Neither Sumter head coach Wallie Jones nor Post 68 head coach Bill Brewer had much good to say about their teams. Both teams played poorly, according to the coaches. The final score was 7-3 in Sumter's favor.

• Bill Pinkney & the Original Drifters were recently inducted into the S.C. Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame. Other famous performers already in the hall include James Brown, Dizzy Gillespie and the group Alabama. The ceremony took place at the Alabama Theater in Myrtle Beach. The Original Drifters, headed by Dalzell native Pinkney, were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in New York City in 1988.

• Sumter School District 2 has named the two principals who will take over at the new Lakewood and Crestwood high schools when they open in the fall of 1996. Renee Mathews, principal of Furman High School, will take over at Lakewood High, and Frederick Maple, Hillcrest High School principal, will be the first principal of Crestwood.

• In a city where just one bank and a credit union have the same names they did five years ago, some local businessmen plan to open a small, community-oriented financial institution. Sumter National Bank will open in the spring of 1996 if its application for a charter and deposit insurance are approved by a host of federal and state agencies, organizers announced. The bank's president and chief executive officer will be William H. Nock, the president of Aiken County National Bank since 1992 and a former president of the National Bank of South Carolina in Sumter.

• In Game 2 of the best-of-five series, Manning edged Sumter 6-4 and needed 11 innings to do it. In a good, close game, a lot of things can go either way. Things went Manning's way in this game. Manning's performance was a far cry from the error-infested outing it had in the series opener. The teams are even at 1-1.

• Eleven sites around South Carolina, including Sumter's O'Donnell House and Lee County's St. Phillip's Episcopal Church, are being recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The State Board of Review approved all the nominations. The nominations will be forwarded to the Interior Department for federal approval. The O'Donnell House, located on East Liberty Street, was built in the first quarter of the 19th century by Maj. John Haynsworth. The building got its name when Neill O'Donnell and his wife, Kate, inherited the house from her father, William Bogin, around 1890. The now-inactive St. Phillip's Episcopal Church, located at Bradford Springs in Lee County near the Sumter County line, was constructed around 1840 and features a gothic revival style.

• Up until his retirement last month, Sumter native John Graham was considered by many a banking dinosaur. In an industry where computers and multibillion-dollar mergers have seemingly replaced "small-town" banking, Graham has always made a point to foster personal relationships with his customers. "Until the day I left, I would make house calls," Graham said. "When people have problems, they just want it fixed. They don't want to hear excuses; they want service. When I had to, I would stop by the homes of our customers to help them solve their problems — just like it was done years ago." Graham, 62, retired June 30 as a senior vice president at BB&T, where he worked mainly on mortgage loans.

• They come back each year to a place where many have never lived, to a place that somehow still feels like home. To an outsider, the Sumterites Association may be hard to understand at first. The group is made up mostly of people from Sumter who are now living out of state — in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. — and are drawn together by the shared memories of their hometown. Members and their families — some who have no memories of South Carolina — meet at least annually to renew friendships made in Sumter and family ties weakened by distance and time. But they meet in Myrtle Beach, not Sumter.

Passenger dies, 3 injured in I-95 wreck this week

BY SHELBY GOULDING
shelbie@theitem.com

The passenger of a vehicle that wrecked in Sumter on Monday was pronounced dead Friday at a Florence hospital.

Walter Mirabal, 61, of Orlando, Florida, was pronounced dead at McLeod Health in Florence, Sumter County Coroner Robbie Baker said.

Mirabal was the front-seat passenger of a 2005 Ford Explorer that was traveling southbound on Interstate 95 when the vehicle experienced a mechanical malfunction and ran off the side of the road, flipping. According to South Carolina Highway Patrol Cpl. Matt Southern, the vehicle struck the cable median barrier and went off the left side of the road.

The wreck occurred at the 144 southbound mile marker at about 2:47 p.m. on Monday.

The driver and two juveniles who were sitting in the back seat were all injured. All four were transported to the same hospital, where Mirabal later succumbed to his injuries.

All four were wearing a seat belt, Southern said.

An autopsy will be performed Sunday morning at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Next of kin has been notified.

The South Carolina Highway Patrol and Sumter County Coroner's Office are investigating.

SURVEY FROM PAGE A1

in the school year when it begins as an option. (Parents and students will still have the option to remain in full virtual instruction if that is their comfort level.)

The commitment form also asks parents of students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade if they will allow their child to participate in newly required, face-to-face evaluation days before the start of the school year.

The state Department of Education is requiring every district that plans to begin the year with virtual instruction to offer these Learn, Evaluate, Analyze and Prepare Days for elementary- and middle-school students. Even though the district is mandated to offer the evaluation days, student attendance isn't mandatory.

LEAP Days are designed for all elementary- and middle-school students, and the district will offer them Monday, Aug. 10, through Friday, Aug. 14.

The district needs to know anticipated participation levels in the LEAP Days to plan staffing and busing for them.

Focus areas on LEAP Days will include kindergarten readiness assessments;

MORE ON SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FALL-TERM PLANS

For detailed information on Sumter School District's re-entry plans for the fall semester, go to the district's website, www.sumterschools.net, and click on the Re-entry Plan Updates icon.

Chromebook distribution to new district students and kindergarten and first-grade students; diagnostic activities; revisiting prior content and skills; review of Individual Education Plans; and establishing routines and procedures related to COVID-19, among other topics.

A separate commitment form must be completed for each child, according to the district. The online form will close Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Once the survey data is collected, each elementary and middle school will notify families of the schedule for the LEAP Days.

According to the district, full safety protocols will be in place on the LEAP Days, including social distancing. Staff members will be required to wear face masks, and students are strongly encouraged to do so as well. Breakfast and lunch will also be served.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A horse-drawn carriage is followed by supporters as it carries the body of CT Vivian down Capital Avenue SW toward the historic Sweet Auburn District in Atlanta on Wednesday for his funeral.

VIVIAN FROM PAGE A1

Lakewood High School's choir sang for the program, and Windley said he remembers a female student who talked about how inspired she was. Seeing that spark of goodness in a young person is the goal, he said.

"He was all about love," Windley said. "His love for people and justice."

Vivian was a humble, loud but soft-spoken man of great stature, he said.

Vivian was honored by former President Barack Obama in 2013 with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The Associated Press reported that on Wednesday, the eve of his funeral, a horse-drawn carriage took his casket from the Georgia Capitol, where a memorial service was held, to King's tomb in Atlanta.

After organizing sit-ins in the '40s and joining forces with King, he organized the Freedom Rides across the South.

Those Freedom Rides brought John Lewis, another civil rights icon and Georgia congressman, to Sumter. Lewis and Vivian died on the same day.

After the Freedom Riders were attacked and injured in Rock Hill, James T. "Nooker" McCain, a field organizer for the Congress of Racial Equality, brought Lewis to Sumter and helped get him back up north.

The late McCain was the father of Sumter County Council Chairman Jim McCain, who said he remembers Vivian's visit in 2016 and his call to action.

"There's a photo where he is shaking my hand with his right hand, and his left finger is pointing at my chest, admonishing me to follow in Daddy's footsteps," McCain said.

Though his father didn't talk much about his time advocating for the Civil Rights Movement — McCain learned more about his father's experience from others after he died — he said both he and

Vivian inspired him to try daily to "stand up for what's right."

"After I got elected to council, I said I don't care about politics. I will vote for what's right," he said.

Vivian's visit charged Windley to action, too.

It has "set things off since then," he said, prompting Windley and the church to start a corporation that buys houses to provide affordable housing to families. This April, they opened a food pantry through Harvest Hope Food Bank and have served more than 850 meals since.

"His mannerisms and his speech, it was all about love," Windley said.

Vivian intertwined his faith and his work for racial equality. He had to, Windley said.

"You go through all of what they went through, your life was on the line," he said. "It

took faith to stand up in the face of Jim Crow. It took a deep faith to say, 'I might die, but I know where I'm going. I know who is covering me.' "We need more of that."

Vivian and Lewis, both beaten and bloodied in the name of civil rights, went on to live long lives, inspiring new generations to continue the fight through non-violence. Windley said their charge to younger people is to continue learning, "go out and vote and be productive citizens."

"We are standing on the shoulders of men and women who gave their lives so we could have what we have now," he said. "We owe it to them to keep fighting for equal rights, justice and freedom. Go and be a light."



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Rev. George P. Windley, pastor at First Baptist Missionary Church, left, stands with U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, center, and the Rev. CT Vivian in 2016 at a reception at the Rev. Ralph Canty's house for a Black History Month community celebration.

KIOSK FROM PAGE A1

can be adaptive and that can continue to have value to businesses even after the COVID-19 pandemic."

It's a simple machine that can do more than it appears. It could even be used as a new time card format that any business' human resources can adapt to, and an IT person wouldn't have to worry about it because Verifyii can take care of any issue or updates right from Greenville. If we need to do any updates or make any changes to the system, we can do that. All the system needs is power."

Though the idea was grand, both O'Hanlan and Kraeling needed to have a physical structure to make it come to life. That's when they contacted Merle Grams, president of Advanta Southeast.

Kraeling and Grams have known each other for a long time, and Kraeling said he felt Grams was the right man for the job, especially because Grams was looking for something new to manufacture.

"Usually we're more just metal fab. We typically build shipping racks and containers for different industries," Grams said. "We were looking for other opportunities.

Our other businesses slowed down considerably with the current conditions."

To keep business moving, his employees working and alleviate some of the obstacles going on with COVID-19, Grams decided to take on something beyond metal fabrication.

"Right now, the need for people to feel safe is a big part of it," Grams said. "This is something that's going to be the new norm for the foreseeable future. We're going to all be adapting to a different lifestyle moving forward, and I think this is one of those things that can make it an easier transition for consumers and employees and all different areas for allowing us to get back into some type of new norm."

Once Advanta Southeast and Verifyii started working together, Grams got to designing the perfect platform for the kiosk. It took five hard revision designs until both companies were satisfied with the finished kiosk.

In the beginning of the building process, Grams said they were originally shipping the finished metal casings from Manning to Greenville and having Verifyii install the hardware, but as of this past week, Advanta Southeast will begin integrating the hardware.

"All of this stuff was being done in Greenville. We were just shipping them a blank metal case, and they were putting in all the power supplies," Grams said.

On Wednesday, O'Hanlan

and Kraeling traveled to Manning to teach Grams how to install the hardware. They put together nine of the machines that were being shipped to a cardboard manufacturing facility the next day.

Grams said this was the first time he ever put hardware into his metal casing creation, and he will continue to do so without the help of O'Hanlan or Kraeling from this point on.

"We don't have the resources that Merle has on the manufacturing side. We just want to stay a software development company," O'Hanlan said. "All the systems get built here, tested here and get shipped out of here to all our customers."

Now, Advanta Southeast will be the sole manufacturer and distributor of the Verifyii Elevated Body Temperature Screening Platform.

"This is a big week for me personally," O'Hanlan said. "Being able to bring all my stuff down here, my experience, and hand it off to Merle is exciting because it lets me get to the next phase of the business, knowing that this milestone is behind us. This is a significant milestone for us."

O'Hanlan said the price of the platform is about \$12,000 and requires a \$99-per-unit monthly subscription to take care of software updates and other issues.

For more information about the Verifyii Elevated Body Temperature Screening Platform, visit www.verifyii.com.



Dotte Watts

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COMMENTARY

MAGA masks would help protect the country

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is a marketing genius who plasters his name on literally everything — Trump hotels, Trump high-rises, Trump wines, Trump steaks, Trump water, Trump mattresses, Trump vodka, Trump board games, Trump Magazine, a Trump airline and a Trump University.

So why not Trump masks?

On his campaign website, you can buy Trump-branded straws, beverage coolers, pens, Christmas ornaments and dog collars. But there are no Trump masks to be found on the site. Some private entrepreneurs are selling red “Make America Great Again” masks,

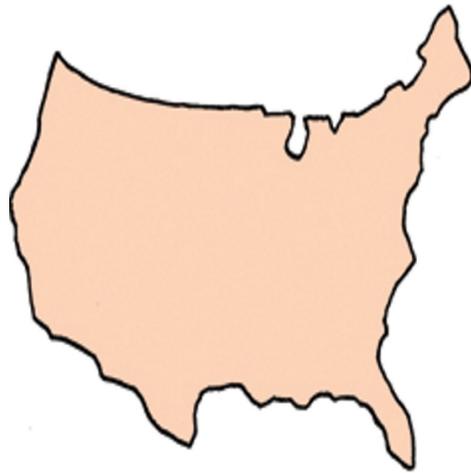
but not Trump. It seems as though the president is missing a “yuge” marketing opportunity.

He’s also missing a huge political opportunity. Imagine how differently things would have played out at his Tulsa, Oklahoma, rally if, instead of removing signs from seats asking participants to social distance, his campaign had left up the signs and handed out MAGA masks to everyone who entered. Rather than fending off criticism about how the rally was a third empty, the arena would have been filled to its socially distanced capacity with a sea of Trump supporters wearing MAGA masks.

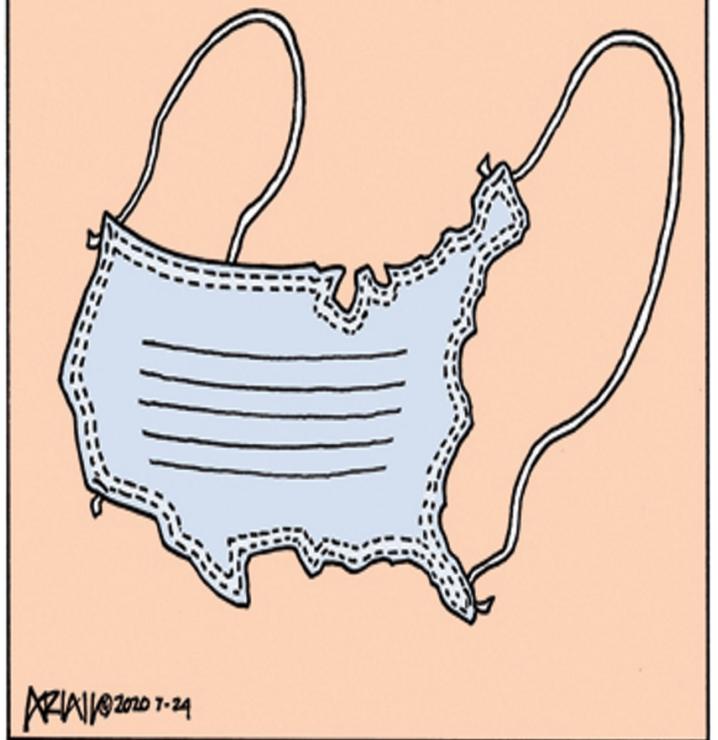
Masking is the right thing to do politically, and also scientifically. A comprehensive review of 172 observational studies on mask wearing concluded that “the use of both N95 or similar respirators or face masks (e.g., disposable surgical masks or similar reusable 12-16-layer cotton masks) by those exposed to infected individuals was associated with a large reduction in risk of infection.” According to the *Lancet*, N95 masks (which are mostly unavailable to the general public) offered 96% protection against infection, while surgical masks (which are widely available) provided 67% protection.

Masking becomes more effective the more universal it becomes. For

Q: HOW CAN YOU PROTECT THIS ?



A: WEAR THIS.



example, a mask does not provide much protection if you come into close contact with an infected person who is not wearing a mask. But if both of you are wearing masks, the chance of transmission is dramatically reduced. In Springfield, Missouri, two hairstylists working at the same Great Clips salon saw 140 clients over eight days in May before finding out they both had COVID-19. Yet because both they and their customers wore masks, not a single client was reported to have contracted the virus.

Masks also protect us indirectly by changing our behavior. An Italian scientist found that people stand farther away from people wearing masks. Masks provide us with visual reminders to keep apart, wash our hands and not touch our faces. And while masks cannot completely stop droplets from spreading, they

can probably reduce the amount of droplets transmitted — which could prevent infections or produce milder cases.

But the most important thing masks might do is give people confidence to go about their lives again. If the price of getting the economy moving again, and getting kids back to school in the fall, is wearing a mask, it is a small price to pay. Besides, it’s not like we will need to wear masks forever. In a matter of months, we will get a therapeutic, then we will get a vaccine, and eventually we will return to our mask-free, pre-COVID-19 lives.

Most Americans get this. A recent survey found that 74% of Americans wear masks in public “always” or “often,” while just 17% say they “rarely” or “never” wear them. Trump can bring some of those holdouts along by championing

mask wearing. He has already begun to do so: This week, Trump tweeted a picture of himself wearing a mask and wrote “many people say that it is Patriotic to wear a face mask when you can’t socially distance. There is nobody more Patriotic than me, your favorite President!”

That’s a good start. But if Trump really wants to convince his supporters to start wearing masks, the best way to do so is to start distributing MAGA masks. If Trump supporters really want to show their defiance of the establishment, they shouldn’t go mask-less. Wear a MAGA mask.

Trump’s goal should be to make MAGA masks to the 2020 election what MAGA hats were to the 2016 election. Doing so will help protect the country — and help him win a second term.

COMMENTARY

Americans have managed through sudden, comprehensive disruption

“War, like every other human ailment, tends to leave the body politic folded along ancient creases and festering old sores.”
— W.E.B. Du Bois

WASHINGTON — Few Americans have memories of the only year in U.S. history comparable to 2020 for sudden and comprehensive disruption of Americans’ lives. To place today’s myriad social traumas and dislocations in perspective, read Tracy Campbell’s “Year of Peril: America in 1942.”

Pearl Harbor had catapulted the nation into total war when its army was smaller than Portugal’s and its population was so ravaged by malnutrition and negligible health care during the Depression that half of the Army’s first recruits were deemed unfit. The armed forces — and blood supplies — would remain racially segregated, although in 1940 President Franklin Roosevelt had told civil-rights leader A. Philip Randolph that African-Americans could be musicians on Navy ships “because they’re darned good at it.”

The saccharine myth that “everything changed” in a na-

tion united by the sense of “all being in this together” was belied by lynchings, such as that in Sikeston, Missouri, of an African-American accused of assaulting a white woman. After he was tied by his feet to a truck and dragged to his death, the local newspaper said this would “protect the wives of soldiers.” When some black soldiers in Oklahoma City were forced to ride on segregated trains for 24 hours



George Will

without food while white soldiers were fed, an indignant FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover investigated the African-American who reported this. In the epicenter of the Arsenal of Democracy, a.k.a. Detroit, rioting, gun-toting whites persuaded the city to rethink integration of public housing.

In California, Gen. John De Witt said of the 112,000 Japanese Americans on the West Coast, “There are indications that they are organized and ready for concerted action.”

The indications were the absence of indications. This, De Witt said, indicated secret plotting, so these Americans were sent to concentration camps. Including Fred Korematsu, who had tried to enlist. His challenge to internment reached the Supreme Court, where he lost. In 2018, the court repudiated this decision.

In 1942, in New Haven, Connecticut, Anne Miller, having developed a blood infection after a miscarriage, became the first person successfully treated with penicillin. By 1945, U.S. pharmaceutical companies were producing 650 billion units of it a month. In 2020, vilification of such companies has paused, presumably to be resumed after they find a COVID-19 vaccine.

In 1942, the War Production Board banned cuffs and pleats on men’s trousers to save cloth. Daylight saving time became a national law in order to save 736 million kilowatt hours of electricity. Rationing of gasoline, automobile tires, sugar, coffee and much else impended, but Congress, which never misses an opportunity to miss the point, voted itself pensions. After two

months of hearing the vox of an unamused populi, it repealed them.

Tracy Campbell, a University of Kentucky historian, says that in 1942 the War Rumor Project “began systematically monitoring Americans,” relying on “barbers, bartenders, doctors, hairdressers, police officers and drugstore owners to eavesdrop on their neighbors.” Many rumors arose from preexisting prejudices: A poll found that 42 percent of Americans thought “Jews have too much power and influence.”

When a foolhardy regent suggested canceling the University of Georgia’s football season, Gov. Eugene Talmadge said that before doing that, they would try “putting our debutantes to hoeing potatoes.” The Bulldogs won the national championship. Seventy-eight years later, some football factories, a.k.a. universities, might be more apt to have football Saturdays than weekday classes.

Few debutantes but many other women powered war production in places like Ford’s River Rouge plant in Willow Run, Michigan, which eventually assembled a B-24

bomber every hour. An economic “stabilization” law partially exempted health benefits from restrictions on “wages,” thereby decisively shaping today’s health care system, which is centered on employer-provided insurance.

In 1942’s off-year elections, the president’s party took a drubbing. James Farley, former chairman of the Democratic Party, said: “The American people just got a little tired of being pushed around.”

Disrupting crises can be history’s accelerants. In January, in the Philippines, the U.S. Army conducted the last mounted cavalry charge in American history. In December, beneath the University of Chicago’s football stands, there occurred the first sustained nuclear chain reaction, a harbinger of nuclear weapons.

On New Year’s Eve, FDR watched a not-yet-released movie, “Casablanca.” Eleven days later he became the first president to leave the country during wartime, going to meet Winston Churchill in Casablanca.

George Will’s email address is georgewill@washpost.com.

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Morning on the river

My little yellow cork disappeared under the tan-stained water, and when I tightened up on the line, I realized that I had a good one hooked. The taut line made a distinctive, high-pitched hum as it cut through the current toward deeper water. This was the first fish of the day, and I knew that it was a good start.

My son, Clayton, and I were fishing for sunfish on the Edisto River below Branchville. We had put in just after daylight at the hunt club's private landing, Ruples Ramp. July is hot and humid, and one of the best ways to beat the heat is to get on the water.

It was early morning and still relatively cool from the night. There was a slight breeze and some dappled shade from the surrounding

hardwood forest. Just a beautiful morning. The only sounds were from songbirds that flitted back and forth through the emerald green trees and the murmur of water as the strong current pushed the black water through fallen tree tops, on toward the sea.

That first fish was a slab-sized Warmouth, or "Molly," and it was a nice one, too. I was hopeful there were some more in the area. Little ones will nibble and bob the cork, but the bigger ones, the keepers, just take the bait and go. The cork will disappear.

Soon I had another fish on the line. This one was a good-sized Bluegill or "Bream." We got some more nibbles but nothing big. It was time to move on.

At a wide section of the river, we stopped to fish the mouth of a deep creek that flows in from the dark, shadowy woods. The stream current and the river current meet and create a swirl of slower currents that actually turn upriver for a little ways at the stream entrance, while the main river current races by, headed downstream, just

yards away.

Depths in the river average three to four feet deep, with a deeper central channel that winds around the bends and turns. This spot is eight to nine feet deep. It's probably a good catfish hole, but we were after something else. I cut the motor out in the main channel, and we let the boat drift up toward the stream entrance. Clayton slid the anchor over the side and tied the rope to hold us in position.

With his first cast, as soon as his cork hit the water, it disappeared. He had a big fish on. We could see the flash of red and gold through the dark water and knew that it was a big Redbreast. This is what we were really after. Nothing fights and pulls with the strength of a big Redbreast. I think living in the swift current makes them strong.

We caught a few more here, but they eventually quit biting, and we decided to move on. It was heating up now, and I wanted to try another spot a little farther upriver before we called it off for the day. Our destination was a turn in the river with a deeper hole off to one side, adjacent to a private landing, known as the Turkey Pen.

That fiery orb in the sky



DAN GEDDINGS / THE SUMTER ITEM

Clayton is seen with a nice sunfish from the Edisto River.

was higher now, and we had no shade out in the main channel, where we needed to position the boat. At least we could face away from the sun and fish the deeper water back toward the small boat ramp.

There is a patch of water lilies in the calm water just out of the main current. We fished the edge of the lilies and caught a few small ones that we threw back. We moved up into the lilies, and I had to concentrate on holding the boat at the edge of the current and let Clayton cast toward the deeper water near the boat ramp.

I sat and watched as dragonflies skidded over the water's surface and Clayton made one perfect cast after

another. It was obvious now that the fish had quit biting. Over in the woods, the summer sound of cicadas echoed through the sultry heat that was building toward midday. Yellow-billed cuckoos called from the treetops. The morning was gone now, and it was time to head back to the landing.

As soon as we turned downriver and hit the shade, the cooler air washed over us, and we both sighed in relief. It had been a good morning, but I had some painting to do back at the clubhouse, and Clayton wanted to go looking for arrowheads before we headed home. The fish would be there when we returned. Reach Dan Geddings at cdgeddings@gmail.com.

Clemson irrigation expert says crops face critical water needs

BY CLEMSON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

BLACKVILLE – Growing season is in full swing and farmers must pay close attention to the water needs of several crops at this stage, says a Clemson University specialist.

Michael Plumlee, Clemson Extension precision agriculture specialist who also is an Agronomy Program Team and Water Resources Program Team member housed at the Edisto Research and Education Center, said that until recently, several places around the state have experienced timely rainfall. But some areas are drying up.

"Some areas, especially in the Pee Dee region, have experienced excessive rainfall that affected planting, replants and field work over the last few months," Plumlee said.

"Throughout the state, certain areas are beginning to become dry and run out of moisture. Several irrigation systems have been running to maintain crop yield potential."

Information from the South Carolina Department of Agriculture shows corn, cotton, peanuts and soybeans are the state's major row crops. Plumlee said these crops can benefit from supplemental irrigation in the absence of rain.

"Statewide, the majority of our corn crop seems to be on track to produce good yield," Plumlee said. "However, it is important growers remember to use irrigation, if available, to finish out their crops as needed."

Corn's peak water use is around tasseling to R1 (silking) growth stage using 0.3 inches of water per day. After this point, water use begins to decline but is still needed until corn reaches maturity. Reports from the United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA NASS) show 92% of South Carolina corn was silking as of July 19.

A majority of cotton in South Carolina was planted later than normal. Depending on the weather, cotton planting usually begins in late April and continues through May in the state. Michael Jones, Clemson Extension cotton specialist housed at the Pee Dee REC, said wet, cold conditions in early May set back planting. USDA reports show 69% of the state's cotton crop was squaring and 14% was setting bolls as of July 19.

"As we transition into bloom and reproductive growth, water use in

cotton is increasing rapidly," Plumlee said. "To maximize yield, it is important growers make sure adequate soil moisture is available to plants going into and throughout bloom and boll fill."

Peanut and soybean crops also are at critical stages. Peanuts are blooming and putting down pegs. As of July 19, Dan Anco, Clemson Extension peanut specialist also housed at the Edisto REC, reported 75% of the South Carolina peanut crop was pegging. Soybeans across the state are at varying growth stages. Approximately 19% of the state's soybeans were blooming as of July 19.

As crops transition into reproductive growth (bloom) stage, water use begins to increase rapidly. At the beginning of bloom, cotton, peanut and soybean crops use approximately 0.2 to 0.25 inches of water per day. In the absence of rainfall, roughly 1 inch of irrigation should be applied every four days to replace losses that occur due to evapotranspiration, or the loss of moisture caused by evaporation of water from the soil and transpiration from plants. Water use continues to increase until peak bloom in cotton and peanuts and the R2-R3 (full bloom to beginning of pod development) growth stage in soybeans.

Plumlee said using soil moisture sensors for irrigation scheduling and knowing crop water use by crop growth stage is important to ensure crops have enough water to be productive. Soil tension and volumetric are the two most common types of soil moisture sensors used for scheduling irrigation. Depending on which type of sensor a producer may be using, threshold values or threshold units may vary. Typical recommendations place threshold values between 25% and 50% maximum allowable depletion, which means 25% to 50% of water available to plants in the soil is allowed to deplete before recharging with irrigation.

Ongoing research being conducted at the Edisto REC using soil tension sensors and funded by the S.C. Water Resources Institute suggests a weighted average threshold of -30 kPa (cbar) in the top 24 inches of soil may provide the best net return for growers in cotton where soil moisture sensors are being used. Additional research is being conducted this year to refine season-long thresholds in soybeans.

For more information, contact news@clemson.edu.

B.A.S.S. moves high school, junior tournaments to Lake Hartwell

BY B.A.S.S.

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama — The Mossy Oak Fishing Bassmaster High School Series at Lake St. Clair presented by Academy Sports + Outdoors and the Mossy Oak Fishing Bassmaster Junior Series, both originally scheduled for Aug. 8, will instead be held on South Carolina's Lake Hartwell Aug. 30, B.A.S.S. officials announced today.

Guidelines in the state of Michigan issued on July 9 limit the size of any outdoor gathering, including fishing tournaments, to 100 people or less. Based on current registration numbers, B.A.S.S. officials expected 195 anglers and their boat captains to participate.

"It is disappointing anytime you have to move a tournament, especially from a fantastic and scenic smallmouth fishery like Lake St. Clair," said High School Series Senior Manager Hank Weldon. "B.A.S.S. has emphasized for months, though, that we will heed each state's mandates on crowd sizes and public spaces to ensure both competition and fan activities can resume safely."

"We are thankful to our friends at Visit Anderson to be able to move the event to Lake Hartwell so that the majority of teams who registered for our high school and junior tournaments can compete."

The current rules do not impact the upcoming Bassmaster Elite at Lake St. Clair on Aug. 20-23. Professional sports are allowed in Michigan provided pro-

ocols are in place which adhere to guidance from the CDC and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

The field of young anglers who launch onto Lake Hartwell — a 56,000-acre impoundment on the Savannah, Tugaloo and Seneca rivers along the South Carolina/Georgia border — will be fishing one of the sport's most storied bodies of water. Hartwell has hosted three previous Bassmaster Classics and six major B.A.S.S. events as well as a host of B.A.S.S. Nation, college and high school tournaments. Plus, the lake has consistently been ranked as one of the country's Top 100 Best Bass Lakes in Bassmaster Magazine's annual rankings, making the coveted list four times since 2015. Lake Hartwell was ranked one of the Southeast's Best Bass Lakes in the recently released all-decade list.

"We are extremely excited to host the high school and junior series at Lake Hartwell and Green Pond Landing," said Neil Paul, executive director of Visit Anderson. "Anderson County has done a tremendous job during this most difficult time to ensure the safety of our community, and we will extend that same effort and passion into welcoming B.A.S.S., the anglers and their families. We have been blessed with a tremendous fishery, great facilities and a very supportive fishing community, and we look forward to hosting the high school anglers and their families for this event."

Palmetto Conservation Foundation is hiring crew leaders, crew members

BY THE PALMETTO CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

COLUMBIA — Palmetto Conservation Foundation, a nonprofit organization, is accepting applications from anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent to serve full time for 6 months or a year with the Palmetto Conservation Corps.

The Palmetto Conservation Corps is South Carolina's only trail-based AmeriCorps service and job-training program for young adults. Crews are trained in trail construction and maintenance, disaster preparedness and relief, resource management, best practices in environmentalism and disaster mitigation. In addition, Palmetto Conservation provides its crew with housing, transportation and a living stipend. This is an amazing opportunity to

work, hike, camp and explore the great outdoors. It also is a fantastic opportunity to strengthen relationships and cultivate a professional network.

Another unique perk to AmeriCorps programs is the Segal Education Award. Eligible members who complete their term of service are able to receive this additional funding to either pursue a higher education or pay toward qualifying student loans. The amounts differ with the different service term lengths, but this benefit is an incredible way to assist with the rising costs of higher education.

To apply for the positions, email Rachel Price at rprice@palmettoconservation.org containing a resume, cover letter, two professional references and a personal reference. For more information, visit www.palmettoconservation.org.

Braves drop opener to Mets on homer from Céspedes



Atlanta starting pitcher Mike Soroka throws during the Braves' 1-0 loss to the New York Mets at Citi Field on Friday in New York in the season opener for both teams.

BY MIKE FITZPATRICK
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Yoenis Céspedes came back with a bang, taking immediate advantage of the new designated hitter rule in the National League by launching a home run that sent Jacob deGrom and the New York Mets past the Atlanta Braves 1-0 in their season opener Friday.

After five dominant innings from deGrom, who was popping the catcher's mitt with 99 mph fastballs from the start, Céspedes connected in the seventh off reliever Chris Martin (0-1) for his first long ball since his previous major league game on July 20, 2018.

The slugger missed most of the past two seasons with a string of leg injuries, requiring

surgery on both heels and then a broken ankle after a bad fall at his Florida ranch in a reported run-in with a wild boar.

Rules changes for this shortened season delayed by the coronavirus provided a DH in NL games for the first time — giving the Mets a perfect slot for Céspedes as he gets back in the swing of things.

With no fans at Citi Field due to the pandemic, it was easy to hear teammates exclaiming loudly in the dugout when Céspedes sent his drive into the empty left-field seats.

Seth Lugo (1-0) tossed two innings, pitching out of trouble in the seventh for New York, and Justin Wilson whiffed Ronald Acuna Jr. with a runner in scoring position to end the eighth. Edwin Díaz, who lost

his job as closer during a miserable 2019 season, struck out two in a hitless ninth for the save. He worked around a one-out walk, giving rookie manager Luis Rojas a victory in his debut.

Braves All-Star starter Mike Soroka, who won his previous two matchups with deGrom, allowed four hits in six outstanding innings.

Coming off consecutive Cy Young Awards, deGrom fanned eight and permitted only a broken-bat single and a walk.

Atlanta first baseman Freddie Freeman made his 10th straight opening day start after returning to camp a week ago from a frightening bout with COVID-19 that spiked his fever to 104.5 degrees.

Marcell Ozuna doubled and went 1 for 4 in his Braves debut.

Sumter Flyers clinch top seed in playoffs with perfect 12-0 record

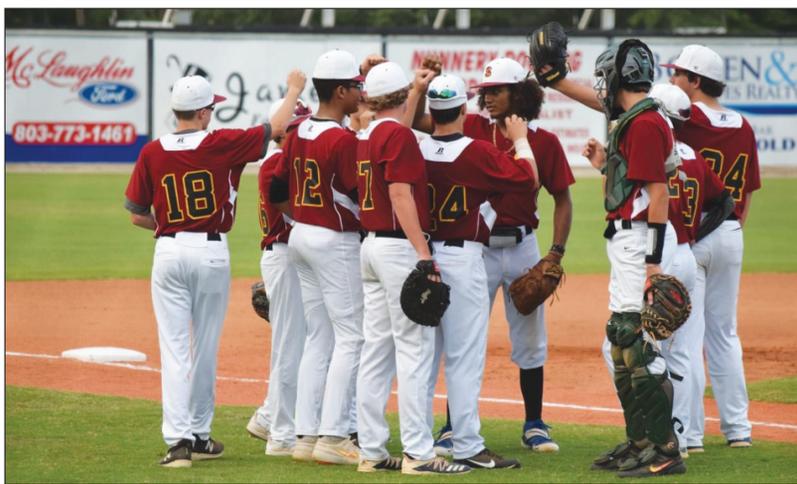
BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

The Sumter Flyers have been busy.

In the last week, the Flyers have played four games in the South Carolina American League's Junior League and, like they have all season, the boys from Sumter just keep winning.

Going 4-for-4 in the win column this week brought the Flyers to a perfect 12-0 record, the latest win coming over Hartsville 2-5-4 on Thursday at Riley Park. Sumter scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth to secure the victory.

Sumter won the Pee Dee League championship with a 15-0 win over Florence Green on Friday. The Flyers will be one of the top seeds in the upcoming state playoffs, which



The Sumter Flyers have clinched the top seed in the SCAL Junior state playoffs and are 12-0 on the season.

COURTESY OF DANA DELAVAN

the rubber.

"It's a different guy every night, and if you look at what we do offensively, it's hard to pick someone out," said Johnson. "We're hitting like .341 as a team, and when you're hitting .341 as a team, a lot of people are hitting the baseball well. We have a lot of guys that step up each night and they step up and get big hits."

"Then on the mound, our numbers on the mound have been really, really good. I think we have a 1.80 and our kids are 3-to-1 (ratio on) strikeouts to walks. We've thrown 15 different guys this summer in 12 games, so it's always been a different guy that's been successful for us."

In the 5-inning win over Florence Green, Timothy Gotschall tossed a complete game no-hitter. He struck out two and walked one.

Kyler Odom and Coulter led the offense, as both had two hits, one a double, while scoring twice and driving in two runs. Odom also had a triple, while Clayton Goff had a hit and two RBI, Cameron Coulter had a hit, two runs and two

SEE **FLYERS**, PAGE B4

P-15's rained out

The Sumter P-15's South Carolina American League baseball game against Florence Post 1 scheduled for Friday at Riley Park was postponed due to rain. The game has been rescheduled for Monday with a 7 p.m. start at Riley Park.

begin on Aug. 3.

Head coach Curtis Johnson said the biggest key to his team's success has been how much the players want to win for each other.

"I think our kids care about each other," said Johnson. "They like being around each other, and they're good teammates. I think our chemistry is really, really good, and I think that's important. We have a bunch of talented kids that work hard, but the most important thing that's helped us

be successful is that our kids care about each other. They've bought in to what we're trying to do, and they want each other to be successful and I think that's important."

Xavier Brown had a run-scoring triple to tie the game with Hartsville 2 at 4-4. He scored on a groundout by Bryce Coulter.

Landon DeLavan had a hit and two runs, while Dubose Rembert had a hit and two RBI. Clark Kinney pitched the final 5 2/3 innings to get the

win, allowing one run, four hits and a walk while striking out seven.

Another key to Sumter's success this season has been balance. The Flyers are not a team that's been led by one bat or arm. Up and down the lineup, several players have provided key hits. Sumter has also lived up to its nickname on the basepaths, as the Flyers have swiped 66 bases. On the mound, their team earned run average of 1.80 has shown consistency, no matter who takes

SCHSL to allow fall sports teams to move to Phase 1.5 in workouts starting Aug. 3

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

After almost two months in Phase 1 of workouts for its sports restart due to the coronavirus pandemic, the South Carolina High School League will allow member schools to move on to Phase 1.5 beginning on Aug. 3.

SCHSL commissioner Jerome Singleton sent an email to member schools on Thursday announcing the decision.

The move to 1.5 will allow the workout pods to include more people and also will allow some sports equipment to be used as well.

Group workouts will increase from 10 -- nine athletes and one coach -- to 16. The sharing of the ball along with other equipment would also be allowed with the same rules set for sanitizing, mask requirements and social-distancing rules.

"The goal is to allow the athletes, coaches and staff to begin and/or continue in-person training and group workouts while maintaining a safe

environment," Singleton said in the email. "It is imperative that if schools choose to begin implementing Phase 1.5, they do so under the guidelines set forth."

Phase 1, which has allowed conditioning in weightlifting in the 10-person pods at different spots on campus, was put into place by the SCHSL in early June. The organization left it up to the respective schools or districts to determine when they could begin the workouts.

The move to 1.5 will allow spotters in the weightlifting sessions as long as the spotter is wearing a mask and at the end of the bar.

While the numbers increase for the pods in the fall sports, it will remain the same for winter and spring sports workouts.

Also, when it comes to weight training, spotters would be allowed under Phase 1.5, provided the spotter is masked and at the end of the bar.

SEE **SCHSL**, PAGE B4

Grizzlies eager to speed up rebuilding with West's 8th seed

BY TERESA M. WALKER
The Associated Press

The young Memphis Grizzlies want to finish what they started, and that's accelerating the rebuilding process by earning the franchise's first playoff berth since 2017.

The NBA started its hiatus March 11 with Memphis close to getting three key players back in the lineup. The Grizzlies had won four of their last six sitting in the Western Conference's eighth playoff spot with a 3 1/2-game lead. Now they face eight seeding games trying to hold onto the No. 8 seed led by likely rookie of the year Ja Morant.

Center Jonas Valanciunas, one of the few veterans on this roster, says this is a young and humble team that knows what it wants.

"We want to win," Valanciunas said. "We want to be good. We want to be recognized on the court. ... We've got all the right tools. It's on us now."

The Grizzlies start the seeding games July 31 against Portland in Orlando.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Crestwood High School standout and Memphis guard Ja Morant (12) and the Grizzlies are trying to hold on to the No. 8 seed as the NBA restarts in Orlando, Florida. The Grizzlies' first game back will be against Portland on July 31.

They lead the Trail Blazers, New Orleans with Zion Williamson and Sacramento by 3 1/2 games and are up by four over San Antonio. They'll start warming up Friday against Philadelphia in the first of three scrimmages.

Memphis went 7-7 against the five teams trailing in the standings. The Grizzlies will need at least a four-game lead over the ninth-place team in either conference to avoid a best-of-two play-in series for the West's final spot. The

eighth seed likely faces a first-round matchup with LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers.

What to look for out of the Grizzlies:

DEPTH UPDATE

The Grizzlies thought they would have the versatile Justise Winslow available. They acquired Winslow on Feb. 6 in a trade that sent Andre Iguodala,

SEE **GRIZZLIES**, PAGE B4

NFL owners offer opt-out guidelines for players

BY BARRY WILNER AND ROB MAADDI
The Associated Press

The NFL has offered opt-out guidelines to players who do not want to participate in the upcoming season because of the coronavirus, two people with knowledge of the offer told The Associated Press on Friday.

Players who decide they want to opt out have until Aug. 3 to do so, and they will receive a stipend from the owners, the people said on condition of anonymity because the offer has not been

made public. The amount of the stipend has not been made available, but there are two categories: players who opt-out voluntarily and those who do so for medical reasons.

The players' union negotiators have agreed to the plan, with the NFLPA executive committee voting unanimously in favor. But the 32 team player representatives must vote on it.

Should the plan be approved, it would eliminate one major obstacle to a full opening of training camps next week. Already, the sides have agreed to cancel all preseason

games, as well as to a reduction in the number of roster spots in training camp from 90 to 80 — though teams will have until Aug. 16 to get down to 80.

The league also offered an extended acclimation period of 18 days for players, given that the coronavirus caused the cancellation of all off-season on-field activities at team facilities. Training camps are to open Tuesday, though the Texans and Chiefs, who meet in the season opener Sept. 10, have veterans scheduled to arrive this weekend for COVID-19 testing.

Hamlin holds off Keselowski for fifth Cup victory of season

BY DAVE SKRETTA
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Three straight finishes outside the top 10 for Denny Hamlin these days counts as a rough patch.

He was once again smooth as they get Thursday night.

Hamlin hung around the front of the pack all night, avoiding trouble that cost several playoff contenders in the final stage, then breezed past Kevin Harvick for the lead in the closing laps. Hamlin then held off charging Brad Keselowski for his NASCAR Cup Series-leading fifth victory of the season and 42nd overall. He also won for the second straight time at Kansas Speedway.

"I don't know we had the best car. We definitely had a top-three car all day," Hamlin said after his burnout in front of the empty grandstands. "We just went for it there at the end. The pit crew did an amazing job getting us out there in front."

Hamlin had struggled the past three weeks, failing to finish better than 12th. But after showing good speed early, his Joe Gibbs Racing team made all the right calls during a crash-filled final stage. Keselowski finished second and Martin Truex Jr. came across third. Harvick wound up sliding to fourth and Erik Jones capped a big day for the Gibbs boys in fifth.

William Byron led the race as he chased his first career race, but he slide backward after a late caution and wound up finishing 10th. Alex Bowman also made a charge to the lead but finished behind Aric Almirola and Cole Custer in eighth.



Denny Hamlin celebrates after winning a Monster Energy Cup Series race at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kansas, on Thursday.

The youngsters wound up leaving it to the veterans to battle it out over the final laps.

"We got to the lead but we just went dead sideways after about four or five laps," said Harvick, who had been tied with Hamlin with four wins. "We were just holding on hoping for another restart, because we could hang for a couple laps."

Truex may have had the fastest car on the track by the end of the night, which began with temperatures in the mid-90s and a heat index approaching triple digits. But he ran out of time trying chase down his teammate.

"It would have been difficult to pass him," Truex said about Hamlin. "It was a battle all night just to get track position. These things are so difficult in traffic. You lose a few more spots than you hope on a restart and you just have to dig."

Joey Logano led early before his night really ended in disaster — and took some playoff contenders with him. His problems began when

a tire got loose on pit road during the first stage, sending him to the back. He was working his way forward early in the final stage when his left front tire went down, sending Logano into the outside wall. Matt DiBenedetto and Jimmie Johnson, the last two drivers on the good side of the playoff cut line, sustained heavy damage as the field checked up. So did Austin Dillon, who was the surprise winner last weekend at Texas.

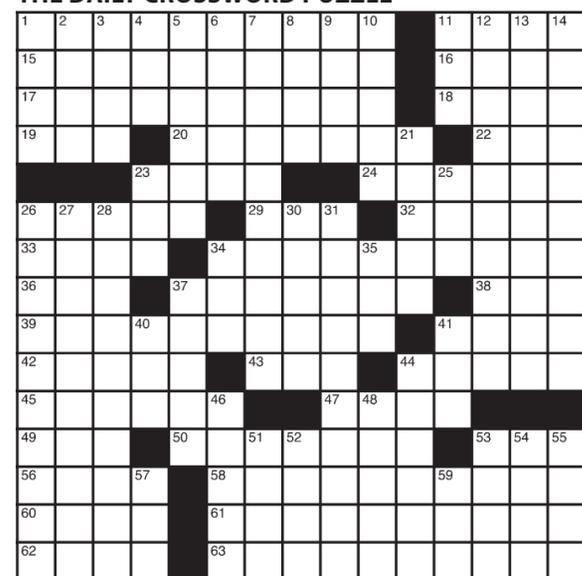
"I'm pretty freaking irritated. We've had garbage luck the last few weeks," DiBenedetto said. "We have no horsepower. It takes us 45 minutes to get going. The restarts as just wild. But that's what is happening."

Logano said he felt his tire going down just before green but thought "it wasn't bad."

"Maybe it was bad judgment on my part," Logano said, "and I didn't want to lose any track position for something that wasn't bad. It's one of those judgment calls. I just feel bad for everyone else."

SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Joe Deeney 7/25/20

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Touché"
 - 11 Small complication?
 - 15 Agree to take the long way there?
 - 16 Condominio, por ejemplo
 - 17 Dancer's driver
 - 18 First word in a classic poem about 17-Across
 - 19 "Telephone Line" rock gp.
 - 20 Prepares (for)
 - 22 Stretch (out)
 - 23 "Dark side" sci-fi group
 - 24 Stuffed grape leaves
 - 26 Rodeo ride
 - 29 Either Bush, in school
 - 32 Spanish wine region
 - 33 "The Mammoth Hunters" author
 - 34 Like some agreements
 - 36 I-9 ID
 - 37 Caddies and cozies
 - 38 Pub pick
 - 39 Towels, e.g., aptly
 - 41 Katy Perry hit that starts "I used to bite my tongue and hold my breath"
 - 42 Youngest French Open champ
 - 43 Pueblo pronoun
 - 44 Like undercooked eggs
 - 45 Oscar-winning foreign language film based on a Fugard novel
 - 47 Sarcastic retort
 - 49 Fix
 - 50 TV revenue source
 - 53 Neon tips?
 - 56 Actor Kapoor of "Slumdog Millionaire"
 - 58 Pierre's polite lead-in
 - 60 Wee
 - 61 Galileo, notably
 - 62 NPR giveaway
 - 63 Great bargains
 - 10 Barely bested, with "out"
 - 11 Dietary info abbr.
 - 12 What an actor may bring to an audition
 - 13 Honshu city
 - 14 Factor in bonus size, perhaps
 - 21 Hall of Famer who was an MVP and Manager of the Year
 - 23 Longtime NBC hit
 - 25 Only Super Bowl the Eagles won
 - 26 Victoria-Tasmania divider
 - 27 Doesn't stop to think about
 - 28 Expert on ports?
 - 30 Martin's partner
 - 31 Angry lament
 - 34 Each
 - 35 "The one way possible of speaking truth": Browning
 - 37 "Creed" actress
 - 40 Like spring snow
 - 41 Sticking point?
 - 44 Forward, say
 - 46 Noodle nuggets
 - 48 Ply with drink
 - 51 Austin festival, briefly
 - 52 Entr'
 - 53 Austen classic
 - 54 Coward with a knighthood
 - 55 Knight titles
 - 57 Caustic chemical
 - 59 Muppet friend of Elmo
- DOWN**
- 1 Prepare for cheese?
 - 2 Spoken
 - 3 Lic. figure
 - 4 Barclays Center NBAer
 - 5 Like some flaws
 - 6 "Don't play," in music
 - 7 Hot, hot, hot
 - 8 Sorento and Sedona
 - 9 Big birds
- Previous Puzzle Solved**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | L | L | W | A | R | N | I | T | R | E |
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| | | | | E | N | D | E | C | A | R | N |
| H | O | U | S | T | O | N | B | A | M | M | E |
| A | U | R | O | R | A | P | R | I | M | A | |
| M | T | A | A | T | A | R | I | A | S | P | C |
| M | I | L | K | S | P | A | D | E | K | H | A |
| Y | E | S | E | S | I | T | E | M | S | O | R |
| | | | | E | I | L | A | T | B | O | A |
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| S | N | A | P | E | T | A | D | D | E | K | E |

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

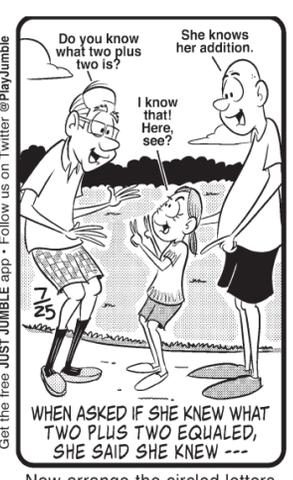
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GRCOA

UVGAA

FARCAE

FLITUE



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

Ans. "here: [circled letters] (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SUITE VALVE MUSCLE ABOUND
Answer: They went to view the empty apartment and were happy with the — "VACANT-SEE"

ACC, Notre Dame eye 2020 football membership

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
The Associated Press

The Atlantic Coast Conference and Notre Dame are considering whether the Fighting Irish will give up their treasured football independence to play as a member of the league for the 2020 season that has been thrown into question by the coronavirus pandemic.

Two people involved in the ACC's discussions about scheduling for the upcoming season told The Associated Press on Friday the ACC is looking at an 11-game schedule that would include 10 conference games and start Sept. 12. There are other models also being considered.

Under the 10-plus-one plan, Notre Dame would play a full ACC schedule, the people told AP, speaking on condition of anonymity because talks are still ongoing and details have not been disclosed. Whether those games would count in the standings and the Irish would be eligible to partici-

pate in the ACC championship game — and be eligible for the conference's guaranteed spot in the Orange Bowl — is still to be determined. The final decision could come down to how revenue is shared between the conference and school, one of the people said.

The ACC's university presidents will make the final call on a scheduling model. A meeting of the presidents is scheduled for Wednesday, one of the people said.

Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick declined comment when contacted by the AP via text. A request for comment from the ACC was not immediately returned. Online sports network Stadium first reported Notre Dame could possibly play as an ACC team this season.

In 132 years of playing football, Notre Dame's storied program has never competed in a conference and its fans cherish the Irish's status as a football independent. The private Catholic school in South Bend,

Indiana, runs a national program with independence as the foundation of its brand.

Giving that up is not something Notre Dame would take lightly, even for a season.

Notre Dame has been a member of the ACC since 2014 for all sports but football and hockey. The Irish have had a scheduling agreement with the ACC in football under which Notre Dame plays five or six games per season against ACC teams.

The Irish had six games scheduled against ACC teams this season, but the pandemic has forced conferences and schools to come up with alternative plans for 2020. The Big Ten and Pac-12 have already announced they will play only conference games this season. That cost the Fighting Irish three games. ACC schools Miami and Virginia Tech also lost nonconference games because of the Big Ten's decision.

The ACC is aiming to have a new schedule in place by next week.

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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

Betts gets debut souvenirs as Dodgers top Giants in opener

BY BETH HARRIS

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Mookie Betts singled in the seventh inning for his first hit as a Los Angeles Dodger, then signaled for the ball.

That, along with the lineup card, is headed for a display in his house.

"This is something I'll always remember," he said Thursday night after scoring the go-ahead run in an 8-1 opening victory over the San Francisco Giants in a fan-less stadium. "It's just a new chapter in life."

Betts went 1 for 5 with two strikeouts, a day after signing a \$365 million contract covering 2021-32.

Betts spoke without his bat when he knelt during the national anthem. Teammates Cody Bellinger and Max Muncy stood resting a hand on each of his shoulders. Giants manager Gabe Kapler, in his first game as Bruce Bochy's successor, knelt, too.

"It was just unity," Betts said. "We're all on the same team, we're all here for change, even the Giants."

Betts' perspective on kneeling has changed since 2016, when he said he wouldn't take such action. His father, Willie, served in Vietnam with the U.S. Air Force.

"I wasn't educated, and that's my fault," Betts said. "I know my dad served and I'll never disrespect the flag, but there also has to be change. Kneeling is for the injustice."

Kiké Hernández homered and drove in five runs while tying his career high with four hits for Los Angeles.

"It's a great feeling," he said.

Justin Turner grounded



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles outfielder Mookie Betts, right, hits a single during the Dodgers' 8-1 win over the San Francisco Giants on Thursday in the season opener for both teams in Los Angeles.

into a fielder's choice and Betts beat second baseman Donovan Solano's throw to the plate to give the Dodgers a 2-1 lead in the seventh. The Giants lost their video challenge of the call after Betts slid head-first.

"If that out is recorded at the plate, I think we're talking about a much different game," Kapler said.

Betts struck out with the bases loaded, ending a five-run inning that made it 6-1.

Adam Kolarek (1-0) got the victory with 1 2/3 innings of relief.

Dustin May became the first Dodgers rookie to start on opening day since Fernando Valenzuela in 1981 after Clayton Kershaw went on the injured list because of a back issue. It was similar to when Valenzuela was a late replacement for the injured Jerry Reuss back then.

"He kept his composure," Hernández said. "He wasn't nervous or intimidated by the amount of cardboard we had in the stands."

May allowed one run and seven hits in 4 1/3 innings.

The 6-foot-6 right-hander struck out four and walked none.

"It's the kind of thing you dream about, throwing on opening day," May said. "Once the first pitch was thrown I was all good and ready to get going."

May originally was not on the 30-man active roster, and the 22-year-old found himself pressed into duty after Kershaw's back stiffened during a weight room workout on Tuesday.

Pablo Sandoval's sacrifice fly scored San Francisco's lone run. Tyler Rogers (0-1) took the loss.

The sounds of the game were amplified with only cardboard cutouts of fans in areas of the stands.: The crack of the bat on a sharply hit ball. The DJ's music echoing. Foul balls clunking loudly upon landing in the seats. The home plate umpire's third-strike calls easily heard. Teammates yelled reminders to Dodgers left fielder Joc Pederson about which base to throw to after he snagged a fly ball in the second.

FLYERS

FROM PAGE B2

RBI, Jackson Brown had a double and three runs, Travis Pillsbury had a double and Jess Schwedler had a hit and two runs.

Johnson knew he had a good team on his hands when this season started, but it would've been hard to envision his team sitting at 12-0 at this point in the season with the unpredictability of the game.

"I knew we had a bunch of good kids, but when you get a group of kids like this that haven't really played together, you don't really know what you're going to get," said Johnson. "You don't envision ever being 12-0 at a point. What we envisioned with this group of guys was that they were going to compete every day, and they were going to give us a chance to win and things have bounced our way."

"But they're very mature and they do the little things right, and they play the game the right way and that's important for us as a coaching staff. We talk about it a lot, making sure we play the game the right way and good things will happen to you."

Sumter's consistency is even more important this season. Having to play in an independent league with an abbreviated schedule do to the coronavirus pandemic, every game matters a little bit more and the Flyers have re-

sponded to that. While Johnson is happy to be 12-0, he knows his team is far from being done with the season.

"We were lucky enough to win a bunch of games and win a league championship, but we still have to play," said Johnson. "We've got something we're trying to do. We're on a winning streak and our kids are taking pride in that, and we're trying to see how long we can keep winning."

On Tuesday, Sumter beat Hartsville 2 5-3. Xavier Brown had two hits and three RBI. Goff pitched two scoreless innings of relief to get the win.

On Monday, Sumter beat South Florence 12-0. Pillsbury had two hits and two RBI, while Goff and Schwedler had two hits apiece. Cameron Coulter and Xavier Brown both had two RBI. Goff pitched four scoreless innings to get the win.

The Flyers still have one more day of baseball left in their regular season, as they'll play host to Buford on Tuesday in a doubleheader at Riley Park that starts at 5:30 p.m. Johnson just wants to see more of the same from his squad entering the playoffs.

"We wanna keep doing what we're doing. We wanna keep doing things right, playing hard, competing, pulling for each other and caring for each other," said Johnson. "When you do that and play the right way, good

things are gonna happen."

After the doubleheader with Buford, Sumter will have a little time off before the playoffs begin on Aug. 3. The Flyers will open with a 3-game series against the sixth-place team in their league, which at this point would mean a rematch with Buford. If the Flyers make it through that series, there will be one more 3-game series to determine who makes it to the state tournament.

The Flyers do have a safety net though. Sumter will play host to the 6-team state tournament, meaning it is automatically in the tournament. If the Flyers win their way to the state playoffs, there will be a play-in series to determine the sixth team, as the 20-team playoff bracket is split into five sections. Winning their way into the tournament is the preference of the Flyers.

"Our goal is to win our way in and make some noise," said Johnson.

With how crazy this summer has been, Johnson is proud of his team for persevering.

"It's been kinda crazy. We really started this thing kind of late, and we didn't know where we were going to be or what we'd be able to do," said Johnson. "I'm excited for the kids to have the opportunity. We're trying to do something special and give our kids a summer that they're going to remember for a long time."

Cole, Stanton lead Yanks past Nats 4-1 in stormy opener

BY HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The coronavirus-shortened Major League Baseball season finally started amid the pandemic Thursday night with plenty of unusual elements — zero fans, umpires wearing masks, Washington star Juan Soto sidelined by COVID-19, all Nationals and Yankees kneeling together before the national anthem.

"It's hard to describe. That's 2020 in a nutshell," said Nationals pitcher Sean Doolittle, who was supposed to catch Dr. Anthony Fauci's way-off-the-mark ceremonial first pitch. "Very emotional day. Very, very emotional day."

And there was plenty that actually made it all seem something resembling normal: Gerrit Cole's five terrific innings, big hits from Giancarlo Stanton and Aaron Judge and a 4-1 storm-halted victory for the big-name Yankees over the defending champion Nationals.

"It was a lot of fun. No one could have envisioned the type of year we're having this year, but within those parameters, it exceeded every mark," said Cole, who allowed only Adam Eaton's first-inning homer and joked about recording a complete game. "I just had a

blast."

Max Scherzer, who struck out 11 but gave up all of New York's runs, chose to look at the bright side, saying: "I'd rather be playing baseball than not. That's the way I look at it. All the things we can get negative about and cry about, I'm just not going to do it."

What began as a muggy evening turned into a dark, windy downpour, replete with rumbles of thunder and flashes of lightning, prompting a delay in the top of the sixth inning.

After waiting 1 hour, 58 minutes — 15 minutes more than were played — the game was called off and goes into the books as a win for New York.

Three-time Cy Young Award winner Scherzer (0-1) served up a two-run homer to 2017 NL MVP Stanton that traveled 459 feet in the first, an RBI double to 2017 AL Rookie of the Year Judge in the third, and an RBI single to Stanton in the fifth.

Cole (1-0) looked every bit the player the Yankees hoped for when they signed him as a free agent to a \$324 million, nine-year contract, the largest deal for a pitcher. He was terrific other than Eaton's drive -- the ball landed on one of the blue advertising tarps now stretching over unused seats at Nationals Park.

SCHSL

FROM PAGE B2

Sumter School District high schools Sumter, Lakewood and Crestwood have yet to be allowed to have their student-athletes begin any workouts.

East Clarendon began Phase 1 workouts on June 8. With the exception of the week of Fourth of July, EC has continued to have practices in Phase 1. Manning High began workouts on June 15, but shut them down after a couple of weeks due to the rise in positive coronavirus cases. MHS athletic director and football head coach Reggie Kennedy said on Friday Manning is planning to return to workouts on Aug. 3.

Scott's Branch held workouts for three weeks before shutting them down. The school has yet to restart workouts.

A virtual meeting will be held next week to discuss the move to 1.5

This comes a week after the SCHSL made the decision to move the start of practice for fall sports from July 31 until Aug. 17. The start of the football season would be pushed back to Sept. 11 with a regular season of seven games.

The playoffs would be cut by a round, meaning 16 teams would make the playoffs in each of the five classifications. The possibility exists that starting times could be pushed back as well.

GRIZZLIES

FROM PAGE B2

who never reported to the Grizzlies, to Miami. A back issue delayed Winslow's debut with Memphis. The NBA stopped play with Winslow finally ready to play the next game in Portland.

His teammates couldn't wait to finally have him with them in games. But Winslow hurt his hip in a scrimmage July 20 and will miss the rest of this season. The Grizzlies expect Winslow to make a full recovery.

WHERE WE WERE

When the NBA stopped play in mid-March, the Grizzlies had won four of their last six despite being banged up. Jaren Jackson Jr. was out with an injured left knee, and rookie Brandon Clarke had missed eight games with an injured right quadriceps muscle. Grayson Allen hadn't played since Jan. 24 because of an injured hip.

Now everyone is healthy and practicing in Orlando.

JA TIME

If the Grizzlies can clinch a playoff berth out of the seeding games, then Morant has a chance to join some very exclusive company. He could become only the third rookie to lead a playoff team in both points and assists, joining Mi-

chael Jordan and Elgin Baylor. Morant goes into the seeding games averaging a team-high 17.6 points and 6.9 assists per game.

Morant also could join Jordan, Magic Johnson and Oscar Robertson as the only rookie guards in NBA history to average at least 17 points and shoot at least 47% from the floor. Morant currently is shooting 49.1%.

ROOKIE COACH

Taylor Jenkins started off his tenure with the Grizzlies by leading them to the Summer League title last July, and his rookie season is about to resume. The first-time NBA head coach used the hiatus to study himself and asked his assistants and even the Grizzlies for feedback on how he could be better or different.

"I know I'm far from being a perfect coach, but I want to always, you know, engage people are close to me to really help me do that, honestly," Jenkins said.

STAT WATCH

The Grizzlies had been one win away from matching their victory total for all of last season at 33. ... They rank second in the NBA averaging 27 assists a game. ... Memphis leads the league scoring points in the paint averaging 56.3 points per game, having scored at least 60 points in 25 games.

OBITUARIES

SHIRLEY MUSICK TATE

Shirley Musick Tate, age 83, beloved wife of the late Maj. Edward Tate, died on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at National Healthcare Sumter.

Born on Sept. 8, 1936, in Bloomington, Illinois, she was a daughter of the late George and Sarah Brantley Musick. Shirley loved to travel, espe-



TATE

cially to foreign countries, during her late husband's military career. She had a special place in her heart for pets, especially her cats. It was her love of antiques that drove her to open her own business. She was the owner/operator of Estate Antiques on Broad Street in Sumter for more than 42 years.

She is survived by a son, Steven Tate of Cayce; a life partner, W.G. "Bill" Skroch of Sumter; and her special kitty, "Cozie."

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two sons, Gregory Tate and Dwayne Tate.

A visitation will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. today at Bullock Funeral Home. Due to COVID-19, we ask that all who attend practice social distancing and

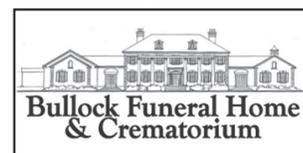
follow all COVID-19 guidelines.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to SPCA, 1140 S. Guignard Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Dr. Usah Lilavivat and his staff, Dr. Vijay Pinto and his staff, Dr. Howard N. Green and his staff, the staff of Gardens of Sumter and NHC for their loving and compassionate care.

You may go to www.bullock-funeralhome.com and sign the family's guest book online.

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home of Sumter for the arrangements.



SEE OBITUARIES, PAGE B5

PETER ADAM JESWICK JR.

Peter Adam Jeswick Jr., age 86, died on Monday, July 20, 2020, at his residence.

**JESWICK**

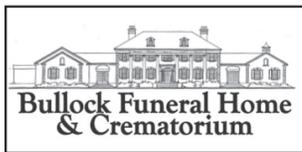
Born on March 14, 1934, in Circa, Massachusetts, he was a son of the late Peter and Marie Jeswick. Peter retired from the U.S. Air Force after 20 years of service. He went on to work for United States Post Office and retired from there with a full 20 years of service. Peter was an exceedingly kind and gentle man, he enjoyed woodworking and long conversations with his family and friends.

Surviving are his adopted daughter, Deborah Shade and her life partner, Scott Parker, of Dalzell; grandson, Brandon C. Shade and his wife, Lauren, of Cinnaminson, New Jersey; and three great-grandchildren, Addison, Landon and Holden.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday at Evergreen Memorial Park cemetery.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.

**FELICIA WHITFIELD**

Felicia Whitfield, 33, died on Sunday, July 19, 2020, at The Regional Medical Center, Orangeburg.

**WHITFIELD**

She was born on Monday, March 16, 1987, in Clarendon County, to Margie Whitfield and Leon Brock in Clarendon County.

She leaves to cherish her memories: a son, Aiden Glover, her parents, siblings, other relatives and friends.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. today at Mt. Sinai FBH Church Cemetery, 4093 Bonanza Crossing Road, Manning.

The family will receive friends at the home of her sister, Ashley Brock, 1072 Jessamine Way, Manning. Please wear masks.

Ms. Whitfield's mortal frame is peacefully resting in the professional care of King-Fields Mortuary, Summerton, (803) 485-5039, www.king-fieldsmortuary.com.

WILLIAM KOLB

MINOT, N.D. — William "Bill" Kolb, 83, of Sun City, Arizona, formerly of Minot,

**KOLB**

died on Monday, July 20, 2020, in a Sun City hospital.

William L. "Bill" Kolb was born on May 7, 1937, in Sumter, to William L. and Allie L. Coleman

Kolb. He was a 1955 graduate of Edmunds High School in Sumter. As a young boy, he loved baseball and this love continued into college at Florida State University. He was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1955 and played in their Triple A League.

Bill joined the U.S. Air Force in 1957 and was stationed in Japan and Iwo Jima before coming to Minot Air Force Base. It was here that he met his future wife, Marion Sullivan of Velva, North Dakota. They were married on Dec. 6, 1959, in North Prairie Lutheran Church, rural Velva. Bill may have been born a Southern gentleman, but he always considered Minot home, even after moving to Arizona in 2010. His military career took them to South Carolina, Florida, Germany and back to North Dakota, where he retired from the Air Force in 1978 at the rank of senior master sergeant. Bill also spent a 13-month tour in Vietnam in 1968-1969. Following his military retirement, he began a career in banking at Bremer Bank in Minot as human resources director and director of marketing. He retired from there in 1995.

Bill spent his years in Minot involved in many organiza-

tions, committees and positions of leadership, including the Chamber of Commerce Honorary Commanders Program, Domestic Violence Crisis Center Board of Directors, City of Minot Civil Service Commission, American Legion Baseball fundraising and Vincent United Methodist Church. He was so very proud of the Medal of Honor Memorial in Roosevelt Park as he chaired the fundraising committee for the project. He was a popular after-dinner speaker throughout his years in Minot as well as speaking and emceeing at many patriotic events. He also emceed the Nodakords (barbershop chorus) events for many years. After moving to Arizona, Bill continued his love of baseball by volunteering, along with Marion, as an usher during Spring training games at Surprise Stadium.

God and family always came first in Bill's life. His faith was the most important part of his life and Lakeview United Methodist Church in Sun City continued to meet that need in every way. His love of family was unmatched and will be missed in so many ways. Bill "Papa" is best remembered by his children and grandchildren for his unwavering and unconditional love and support. His hugs will be greatly missed and he never ended a phone call with them without saying I love you. He was a true patriot for his country, a faithful servant in his church and a charismatic friend to many people. His sense of humor was a joy. He had adopted a saying several years ago that he used often — "I'm so glad you got to see me today." Our prayer is that today God is saying, "Bill, I'm glad you got to see me today."

Bill is survived by his wife, Marion, of 60 years; his daughter, Kelly (David) Thom of Surrey, North Dakota; and his son, Michael (Tracy Vigness) Kolb of Bismarck, North Dakota. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Erik Kolb, Evan Hobbs and McKayla Kolb; two step-granddaughters, Jessie (Anthony) Shepherd and Elizabeth Thom; three step-great-granddaughters, Brynn, Kinley and Lainey Shepherd. He is also survived by his sister, Elizabeth (Robert) Kelley of South Carolina; half-sister, Marcia Kolb of South Carolina; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepmother, Irene Kolb; half-sister, Vanessa Kolb; and brothers-in-law Jerry and Richard Sullivan.

Public Celebration of Bill's life will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 30, at Vincent United Methodist Church, Minot.

Public graveside service with military honors will follow at noon Thursday in the Veterans Section (28) of Rosehill Memorial Park.

Public visitation will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 29, at Thomas Family Funeral Home, Minot.

In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to Vincent United Methodist Church in Minot, Lakeview United Methodist Church in Sun City, or a charity or organization of your choice.

Memories and condolences can be shared at www.thomasfamilyfuneralhome.com.

MARCELLE H. BURNETT

Marcelle "Marcy" H. Burnett, 61, died on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital.

Born on May 14, 1959, in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Lawrence Goff and Donna Heath.

Survivors include two children, Cassidy Burnett Frye (Daniel Taylor Frye) and Jack Burnett, both of Sumter; a granddaughter, Adeline Jane Frye; and two brothers, Johnathan Heath (Heather) of Myrtle Beach and Larry Goff of California.

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

LAURA JEAN SMITH NACOVITCH

Laura Jean Smith Nacovitch, 62, beloved wife of the

**NACOVITCH**

late Frederick C. Nacovitch, died on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, in Sumter. Laura was born in Trumbull, Connecticut, and was a 1976 graduate of Trumbull High School. She and Fred, the love of her life, dated since junior high school, married in 1981 and settled in Sumter. Laura lived her life with an open heart and an open mind. No matter your background, race or species, for that matter, Laura enriched the lives of every soul she touched with her kindness and compassion. She filled every room with light and laughter and will be dearly missed by the many people who loved her.

She was predeceased by her father, Thomas Smith of Trumbull.

Laura is survived by sons, Jason Nacovitch and Ryan Nacovitch and his wife, Melissa, all of Sumter, whom she loved very dearly. She is also survived by her mother, Gloria Kochis Smith of Trumbull; brothers, Tommy Smith of Shelton, Connecticut, and Timmy Smith of Roxbury, Connecticut; sisters, Cheryl (Nick) Hersh of Monroe, Connecticut, and Patti (Jack) Reese of Derby, Connecticut; sister-in-law, Tammy (Dave) Kohalmi of Milford, Connecticut; and nieces and nephews, Nicky, Jesse and Emily Hersh, Bradley, Ian and Jennie Reese, and Erica and Amanda Kohalmi.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the family requires that those in attendance wear masks and practice social distancing.

A memorial service will be held in Connecticut at a later date.

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

HELEN L. HODGE

Helen L. Hodge, 97, widow of Frasier Parrott Hodge, died on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital.

Born in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Porter and Alma Baker Boyce. Mrs. Hodge was a member of Providence Baptist Church.

Surviving are two sons, Harry F. Hodge of Bishopville and Clarence L. Hodge (Joyce Marilyn) of Sumter; a daughter, Rena Ann Dean (Dan) of Toccoa, Georgia; two sisters, Margie Rogers of Joanna and Mildred Burress of Sumter; eight grandchildren; a number of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Kenneth Hodge; three brothers, Charles, Dan and P.T. Boyce; and two sisters, Pearlene Outlaw and Betty Poland.

Graveside services will be held at 4 p.m. today at Providence Baptist Church Cemetery with the Rev. Jim Palmer officiating.

The family will receive friends following the graveside services.

All attendees are asked to wear masks and maintain social distancing during the graveside services.

Memorials may be made to Providence Baptist Church, 2445 Old Manning Road, Sumter, SC 29150

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

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

**EUGENE WATT HARRIS**

Eugene "Gene" Watt Harris, 80, husband of Sherri Black Harris, died on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at his home.

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

ROSA JEANETTE COOPER LEWIS

Rosa Jeanette Cooper Lewis, age 58, widow of Sam Lewis, departed this life on Thursday, July 23, 2020.

She was born on Dec. 17, 1961, in Sumter, to the late Bertie Mae Legrant and John Wesley Cooper Sr.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her sister, Barbara Washington, 4571 Wrangler Trail.

Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced later by Whites Mortuary LLC.

TEHRAN EUGENE SCOTT

Tehran Eugene Scott, 41, departed this life on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at the Columbia VA Health Care System, Columbia.

He was born on Feb. 6, 1979, in Lee County, a son of Clarence and Nadine Durant Scott.

The family will receive friends at the home of his parents, 353 CC Road, Lynchburg, SC 29080.

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

FAY CAGLE HATFIELD

Fay Cagle Hatfield, 93, peacefully joined the church triumphant on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at Covenant Place.

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, she was a daughter of the late Ben D. and Alma King Cagle.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of more than 65 years, Roger Hatfield.

Mrs. Hatfield was an active member of Northside Memorial Baptist Church, until her health declined. She retired from Black River Electric Coop. with more than 20 years of service.

Surviving are two daughters, Phyllis Faircloth (Fred) of Rock Hill and Cynthia Hatfield of Sumter; son-in-law, William Hamrick of Cartersville, Georgia; grandsons, Ben Hamrick (Teresa) of Cartersville, Freddy Faircloth (Catherine) of Rock Hill; granddaughters, Elizabeth Galland (Brad) of Cartersville and Virginia Faircloth of Rock Hill; great-grandsons, Luke Hamrick, Will Galland and Brogen Galland; and great-granddaughters, Rose Faircloth, Libba Faircloth, Ann Lowry Faircloth and Jane Hamrick.

She was preceded in death by her oldest daughter, Carolyn Hamrick; and her sister, Marian Channell.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday in the Sumter Cemetery with her nephew, the Rev. Mike Hatfield, officiating.

The family will receive friends at the graveside.

All attendees are asked to wear masks and maintain social distancing during the graveside services.

The family would like to thank the staff of Covenant Place for their love and care of Mrs. Hatfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Northside Memorial Baptist Church, 1004 N. Main St., Sumter, SC 29153 or to a charity of one's choice.

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

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

**BEARETTA GIBBS PRINCE**

MANNING — Bearett Gibbs Prince, 72, wife of Willie Albert Prince, died on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at McLeod Health Clarendon, Manning.

She was born on March 10, 1948, in Bradenton, Florida, a daughter of the late Willie and Margaret Dye Gibbs.

Graveside services for Mrs. Prince will be held at noon Sunday at Hilton Cemetery, Manning.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her granddaughter, Aquita Prince, 217 Package Lane, Manning.

These services have been

entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

DWANE L. BAKER

Dwane L. Baker passed away on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at NHC Healthcare of Sumter.

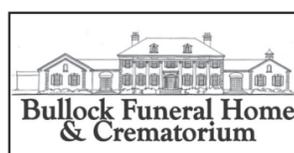
Dwane was employed by Cook's Auto Parts in Dalzell as a tow driver. Carey and the crew were like family. He previously served 13 years in the United States Air Force. He served during Desert Shield and Desert Storm in Kuwait. He also did a tour in Iceland. He was awarded multiple Air Force Good Conduct medals for turning planes quickly, while serving in combat zones.

He is survived by his daughters, Fredricka and Anneliese Baker of Massachusetts; his mother, Shirley Hoover of Columbus, Ohio; twin brother, Dwight Baker of Zanesville, Ohio; sisters, Diane Baker of Newark, Ohio, and Denise Glaub of Thornville, Ohio; and numerous other family members.

Dwane was preceded in death by his father, Frederick Baker, in 1995 and one son, Charlie.

A graveside service will be held at Zanesville Ohio Memorial Park.

Courtesy obituary by Bullock Funeral Home, 1190 Wilson Hall Road, Sumter, SC 29150.

**ABRAHAM PINKNEY FARMER SR.**

Abraham Pinkney Farmer Sr., 79, departed this life on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital.

He was born on July 13, 1941, in Clarendon County, a son of the late Jim and Carrie Major Farmer.

Due to the pandemic, the family will not be receiving friends at the home, but condolences may be sent in care of his daughter, Michelle Moore, 20 Dollard Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

SHIRLEY MAE D. LANCASTER

NEW ZION — Shirley Mae Davis Lancaster, 82, widow of George Edward Lancaster, died on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at her residence.

She was born on April 18, 1938, in Pamplico, a daughter of the late Renzie Davis Brayboy.

Due to COVID-19, the family is not accepting visitors.

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

GLORIA WILLIAMS PETERSON

Gloria Williams Peterson, 67, affectionately known as "Winky," was born on Nov. 11, 1952, in Sumter, a daughter of the late James and Elizabeth Wheeler Williams. She departed this earthly life on Monday, July 20, 2020.

Gloria was known for her love and devotion to her grandchildren, whom she cared for. The manner in which she unconditionally loved the church and helping others had great influence on many people and acquaintances.

Gloria is survived by her grandchildren, Zinekia and Omar Pearson; three brothers, Nathan (Darlene) Williams, Larry (Alice) Williams and Anthony (Sarah) Williams; three sisters, Hadiyah (Frank) Muhyee, Elizabeth (Clarence) White and Shirley (Donald) James; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. today at John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel, Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter, with Pastor Dale E. Edwards officiating, eulogist.

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.

the Sumter ITEM CLASSIFIEDS

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Ads



Happy 6th Birthday (July 26th)
To this little "Diva"
Emma Jo Barr
We Love You!
Grantee Neekee & Papa T

Lost & Found

Found a tree climbing beagle. Tri-color. Near Alice and Liberty. Please contact 803-972-0050.



In Memory



In remembrance of Emma Lee -w- Richardson,
You are surely missed. Loving wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister. From your Loving Husband, Henry Richardson.

Hattie Martha Carter Butler



Happy Birthday in Heaven July 25.
-From your Husband, Otis Butler Sr. & Family

BUSINESS SERVICES

Tree Service

A Notch Above Tree Care Log pickup available. Full quality service low rates, lic./ins., free est BBB accredited 983-9721

Tree Service

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

MERCHANDISE

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

1053 Briar Bend St.
Estate sale. 8 am - Until. Everyday through the end of July. Electronics ,furniture,household items & other misc items.

BIG YARD SALE! Beech Creek Golf Course 261& Racoon Rd. 1810 Moorhill Estate Dr. Sat. July 25th, 7-12 . Home decor,furn,wms clothes & more.

For Sale or Trade

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

One **red leather lift chair**, like new \$300. One **gold fabric lift chair**, good cond. \$250. One **beige leather recliner**, good cond. \$120. Call 803-294-0945

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

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

Ashley Furniture HomeStore of Sumter is searching highly motivated individuals to join our Sales team. Must be goal-oriented and have exceptional interpersonal skills; basic computer skills, financing knowledge and a passion for building strong client relationships. Join our team today. Send resumes to 2850 Broad Street, Sumter, SC 29150 or email to dpboycejr@yahoo.com

Park it in the CLASSIFIEDS and watch it go fast!

Help Wanted Full-Time

Sumter Habitat for Humanity ReStore seeking individual for truck donation pickups and warehouse duties. Ability to lift heavy items required. Must have valid SC driver's license with a clear driving record and pass a criminal background check. Apply in person at Sumter Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 30 Bridge Ct., Sumter Tuesday - Friday 10a-4p; Saturday 9a-2p. 28-35 hours per week.

Stock Person in busy retail store needed. Please call (917)660-5915 for appointment.

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

Help Wanted Part-Time

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

Work Wanted

I am a CNA that specializes in In-Home Health Care. I have over 20yrs of exp. & will be more than happy to tend to all of your loved ones needs. Call Sally 803-848-5785.



RENTALS

Office Rentals

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

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

Notice Pursuant to Sewer Use Ordinance, Division 6:3

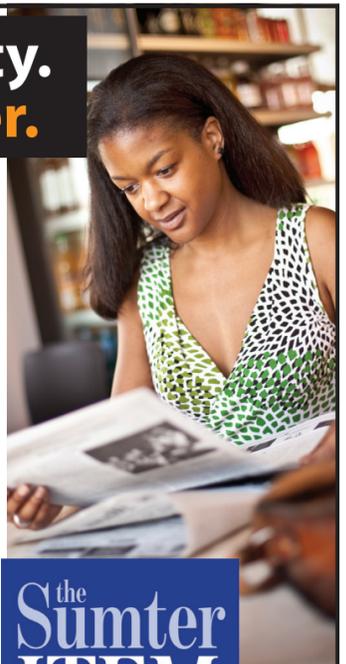
The following industry was identified for significant noncompliance for alleged violations of the City's sewer use ordinance and industrial user permit:
Evans Environmental, LLC is alleged to have discharged wastewater which caused interference with the POTW. The user voluntarily entered into Consent Order 20-001, paid a civil penalty of \$4,000.00 and, agreed that an approved corrective action plan would be completed before being allowed to resume discharging.

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SUMTER

Senior Living 2020



PHOTOS BY MICAH GREEN/THE SUMTER ITEM

Covenant Place offers a range of options for quality retirement living

A group of caring people in Sumter made a unique promise 26 years ago – a covenant – to their community to create a Continuing Care Retirement Community where the needs of mature adults and their loved ones could be met.

The result of that promise is Covenant Place – a warm, inviting retirement community that is tastefully designed to reflect southern charm and hospitality with a neighbor-helping-neighbor philosophy.

In the early 1980s, First Presbyterian Church began discussing plans to begin a Senior Living Community in Sumter. At that time, all Sumter had to offer our seniors was the hospital and nursing homes. The concept of a Continuing Care Retirement Community was novel to our area, even though they have been around for more than a century. They first opened in Europe and were typically affiliated with fraternal organizations and religious groups.

As the older population experienced growth in the United States during the 1960s, there was a corresponding growth in Continuing Care Retirement Communities development, and it continues to grow. Now, there are around 2,000 in the United States, but only one in Sumter – Covenant Place.

With the vision of local leadership, a retirement management company was hired to study the Sumter area and advised the First Presbyterian leaders to bring in other congregations to give the community the support and financial strength needed for the start of a successful Continuing Care Retirement Community. Eight area congregations – First Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, Grace Baptist Church, The Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Saint Anne Catholic Church, Salem Black River Church, Trinity United Methodist Church and Congregation Sinai – came together, and in 1991, the late Sumter businessman Glen Sharp was asked to head the project. The late Lad Owens served as vice chairman.

Many of the area churches were still recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Hugo, but together this group raised \$30,000 as seed money. It is uncommon for Continuing Care Retirement Communities to have multi-denominational sponsorships, which makes Covenant Place even more special.

Preliminary plans for Covenant Place were drawn by the architect firm of James, DuRant, Matthews and Shelley. The land on Carter Road was donated by the late Billy Carter, and Jack Erter handled the legal work. The accounting was done by Wilson

MacEwen's accounting firm. Many of these services were offered at no charge. Pledges in the amount of \$1.2 million dollars were raised with a personal guarantee of \$300,000, making the total cash fund raised of more than \$1.5 million within a short period of time.

Sumter believed in Covenant Place.

Construction began, and, in April of 1994, Covenant Place opened.

The original structure of the community filled quickly. By 1997, a west wing was added, which doubled the assisted living capacity and added 24 more apartment homes. In 2000, the Nursing Center was added. The Life Enrichment Center opened in 2015, and the Marian Carey Rehabilitation Center opened in 2016. Covenant Place continues to grow not only structurally but with its services and programs offered to its seniors.

As a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) Continuing Care Retirement Community, Covenant Place offers the perfect lifestyle options for those who enjoy their independence with security for the future. Covenant Place provides a range of lifestyle options, including Apartment Home Living, Assisted Living, Connections Memory Care and Skilled Nursing Care. Covenant Place is also a participant with Medicare Part B for outpatient rehabilita-

tion, using our state-of-the-art Marian Carey Rehabilitation Center.

As the only Continuing Care Retirement Community in the area, Covenant Place is a rental community with no buy-in fees or long-term contract. Our Board of Trustees and Management Team work together to maintain our exclusive retirement community. Thank you, Sumter and surrounding areas, for your continued support of our community. Covenant Place is truly a treasure for our seniors, and it could not be a success without the continued support of our greater Sumter community.

Covenant Place is located at 2825 Carter Road in Sumter. To schedule your personal visit and discover why Covenant Place is the choice for retirement living, contact Melissa at (803) 469-7007 or at www.covenant-place.org.



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Lifestyle Options:

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- Assisted Living
- Memory Care
- Skilled Nursing

Call us today to learn more about our lifestyle options!



Sumter's Only Full Service Continuing Care Retirement Community

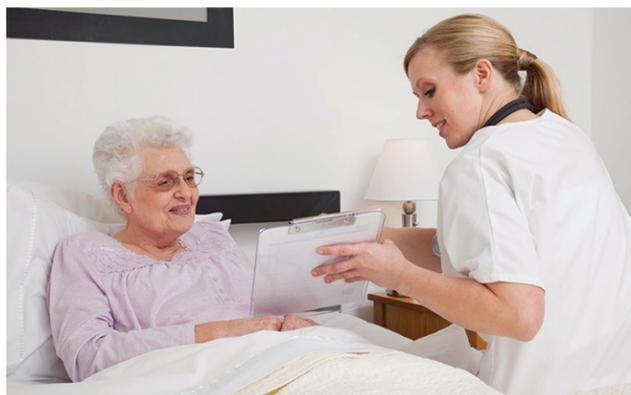
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Covenant Place is a locally owned, not-for-profit, continuing care community. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.



How illnesses are stopped from spreading in nursing homes



Millions of elderly and incapacitated individuals find long-term care facilities are the safest places to reside and receive both medical care and assistance with daily living requirements. Nursing homes aim to keep residents safe and healthy, and in order to do so important precautions need to be taken not only by staff members, but by friends and family who visit their loved ones in nursing home facilities.

Infectious diseases can spread easily through nursing homes if visitors are not careful. Age and compromised immune systems which are common among many people who live in long-term care facilities, elevate residents' risk for disease. A nursing home outside of Seattle was the site of one of the first cases of COVID-19 on American soil. As of early March 2020, thirteen residents of the facility contracted and died from COVID-19, an additional 11 deaths were being investigated but had not yet been attributed to the novel virus that dominated headlines.

In many nursing homes, residents share rooms, and common areas are small, making residents vulnerable to infections that are transmitted from person to person, advises the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. And the open-door policy of many facilities can make it easy for diseases to find their way in.

Infectious diseases can be problematic in nursing home settings since residents are vulnerable due to their proximity to others, ages and potentially compromised immune systems.

These pointers can help reduce the risk for disease transmission.



- Visitors should not come into the facility if they have symptoms of respiratory infections or other illnesses that are easily transmissible.
- Employees should stay home if they are sick.
- Good infection prevention and control techniques always should be implemented.

These include cleaning hands before and after touching another resident. Cleaning and disinfecting environmental surfaces, removing soiled items, and wearing personal protective equipment is advised.

- Residents, workers and visitors should practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette by coughing and sneezing into the crooks of their elbows rather than into their hands.

- The CDC says alcohol-based hand rub should be available in every resident's room.
- Restrict residents with any contagious illnesses to their rooms. If they need to be moved for testing or other reasons, have them wear correct safety items, like facemasks.
- Healthcare personnel who may work other jobs, such as those in other facilities, should exercise extreme caution after caring for an individual with an infectious disease.
- Guests should wear gowns when visiting someone who has a virus or type of bacteria that can be transmitted through direct contact.

Did you know?

Many people plan to retire by a certain age, but few may actually still be working at their targeted retirement age. In the United States, the age at which working Americans expect to retire has risen to 66. But a Gallup poll showed that most don't stay on the job that long, instead retiring when they're about 60 or 61. In addition, according to a 2018 Employee Benefit Research Institute survey, 48 percent of workers wanted to retire after age 65, but only



19 percent of retirees stayed on the job that long. The reasons vary, but one positive outcome is having enough money to live comfortably during retirement. Still, early retirement largely involves unexpected scenarios. These may include poor health, having to care for an aging parent, downsizing, new skills required for the job, or other work-related reasons.



Senior perks and DISCOUNTS



Growing older may come with some added laugh lines or a few extra aches and pains, but many will attest to the benefits and wisdom earned from a life well-lived. And if that's not enough, the discounts and other perks afforded seniors can make reaching one's golden years a bit easier to embrace.

Every day the list of companies offering special deals for people of a certain age continues to grow. Individuals willing to do the research or simply ask retailers and other businesses about their senior discount policies can be well on their way to saving serious money. Keep in mind that the starting points for age-based discounts vary, with some offering deals to those age 50 and up, and others kicking in at 55 or 60-plus.

The following is a list of some of the discounts that may be available. Confirm eligibility as companies change their policies from time to time. Also, the editors of Consumer World say that the senior discount might not always be the lowest price, so comparison shopping is a must to find out which discount or coupon is the best deal.

• **Amtrak:** Travelers age 65 and older can enjoy a 10 percent discount on rail fares on most Amtrak trains. For those who prefer

ground travel but want to leave the car at home, this can be a great way to get around.

• **Fast-food/sit-down restaurants:** Establishments like Wendy's, Arby's, Burger King, Denny's, Applebees, Carrabba's Italian Grill, and Friendly's offer various senior discounts. Most are 10 to 15 percent off the meal. Others offer free beverages or an extra perk with purchase.

• **Kohl's:** This popular department store provides a 15 percent discount every Wednesday to shoppers ages 60-plus. Other stores like Modell's, Belk, Bon-Ton, and SteinMart offer similar discounts.

• **Marriott:** Travelers age 62 and older are privy to a 15-percent discount on room rates at Marriott brand hotels, subject to availability.

• **Roto-Rooter:** Plumbing problems can get expensive, but online sources cite a 10 to 15 percent discount depending on location for this drain cleaning service provider in North America.

• **National Parks:** The U.S. National Parks Service offers steep discounts on the annual pass, which provides entry to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites.

• **Grocery store:** Food shopping gets a little easier

with discounts at Bi-Lo, Fred Meyer, Gristedes, Harris Teeter, Piggly-Wiggly, and Publix. Be sure to check with local supermarkets about senior discounts, as they vary, particularly as to what day of the week and for what age they kick in.

• **AARP membership:** It is important to note that many companies require enrollment in AARP for people to get senior discounts. AARP also has its own AARP Prescription Discount Card so that members and families can save around 61 percent on FDA-approved drugs that prescription insurance or Medicare Part D plans fail to cover.

• **T-Mobile:** This carrier offers two lines with unlimited talk, text and LTE data for \$35 with AutoPay for seniors age 55-plus. Only the primary account holder has to be 55.

With a little digging, seniors can find scores of discounts to help them save money while enjoying their golden years.

HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY AND MENOPAUSE

Menopause is a natural occurrence that takes place in a woman's life around the age of 50. Menopause is marked by bodily changes that represent the end of a woman's ability to bear children.

Like puberty, menstrual periods and pregnancy, menopause involves fluctuations in hormones, notably estrogen and progesterone. These fluctuations can cause symptoms that may make women uncomfortable, such as hot flashes, vaginal dryness, mood swings, and difficulty sleeping. As a result, many women discuss options that can make them feel more comfortable. Hormone replacement therapy may be a consideration.

WHAT IS HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY?

Estrogen levels fall during menopause. The online medical resource WebMD says that hormone replacement therapy, or HRT, involves taking small doses of estrogen alone or estrogen combined with progesterin, the synthetic form of progesterone. Women who have undergone a hysterectomy or the surgical removal of their ovaries may only take estrogen, while a woman who still has her uterus typically takes the combination HRT. Many women find that HRT can relieve most of the troubling symptoms of menopause and help them feel more comfortable.

In addition, HRT has been proven to prevent bone loss and reduce fracture in postmenopausal women, accord-

ing to the Mayo Clinic.

TYPES OF PRODUCTS

There are different types of HRT. HRT may involve taking a pill or applying a patch, gel or vaginal cream. HRT also may include a slow-releasing suppository or a vaginal ring. The delivery method will depend on the symptoms to minimize the amount of medication taken.

RISKS OF HRT

While there are many benefits to HRT, there are some risks associated with the therapy. These risks depend on the dose, the length of time taking HRT and individual health risks.

The Mayo Clinic says that, in the largest clinical trial to date, HRT that consisted of an estrogen-progestin pill increased the risk of certain serious conditions, such as heart disease, stroke, blood clots, and breast cancer. Women who begin at age 60 or older or more than 10 years from the onset of menopause are at greater risk of these

conditions. If HRT is started before the age of 60 or within 10 years of menopause, the benefits appear to outweigh the risks.

In addition, unless the uterus has been removed, doctors typically prescribe estrogen taken with progesterone because estrogen alone can stimulate the growth of the lining of the uterus, increasing the risk of endometrial cancer.

The American Cancer Society says that estrogen-progestin therapy also is linked to a higher risk of breast cancer the longer the therapy is used.

MINIMIZING RISK

Doctors can work with their patients to minimize the risk of developing adverse effects from HRT. Tactics include finding the best product and delivery method, seeking regular follow-up care, making healthy lifestyle choices to reduce other health conditions, and taking the lowest effective dose for the shortest amount of time needed.

Hormone replacement therapy may be an option to help manage the symptoms of menopause. Women can discuss the pros and cons of HRT with their doctors.



Knee and Hip Arthritis: Treatment Options

Dr. Rodney Alan, McLeod Orthopaedics Surgeon



DR. RODNEY ALAN, MCLEOD ORTHOPAEDICS SURGEON

Osteoarthritis is a degenerative disease of the joint that affects the cartilage, the bone and the soft tissues surrounding the joint, including the synovium, the ligaments, the tendons and the joint capsule. The incidence of osteoarthritis is increasing as our population ages. In the United States, approximately 23% of all Americans are diagnosed with osteoarthritis. Also, 49% of patients over the age of 65 have osteoarthritis.

Two of the most common joints affected by osteoarthritis are the knee and hip joint. The symptoms of knee and hip arthritis can be very debilitating. Patients will complain of knee or stiffness around the knee joint. They may have increasing pain at night. Their activities can be severely limited as a result of swelling and decreased

range of motion. Patients can also feel grinding, catching or locking in the knee. They may be unable to walk or stand for prolonged periods without worsening pain. Hip Arthritis also causes joint pain and stiffness when trying to conduct daily activities such as getting out of bed or after sitting for a long period of time. You may also experience tenderness and inflammation around the hip, which can cause pain to radiate down the sides of the thigh towards the knee. Arthritis can often cause a feeling of “bone on bone.”

There are several treatment options for knee osteoarthritis and hip osteoarthritis. These range from simple conservative measures to total joint replacements. Treatment options include:

1) Weight loss and exercise. Obesity and lack of exercise contributes to arthritis. Every pound a person weighs seems like six pounds to the joint when climbing or descending stairs, so any weight reduction can be very beneficial to your knees. A “knee or hip friendly” exercise routine will help not only joint health but also help to control your

weight.

2) Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatory Medications (NSAIDs):

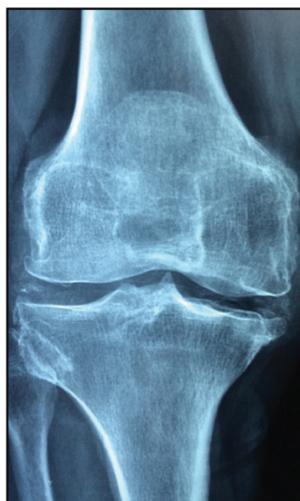
This class of medications can help decrease the pain and inflammation associated with arthritis. They can be taken orally or applied topically with good success. These medications are prescribed by your physician and can have some side effects, so close monitoring is required.

3) Bracing: Knee braces can be effective in helping to deal with knee arthritis. Braces can provide support and stability to the knee. If there is a deformity of the knee, i.e. bow-legged or knock-kneed, a special brace can take pressure off the side of the knee with the most degenerative wear and help shift weight to the opposite side of the knee.

4) Corticosteroid Injections: Injecting the knee or hip joint periodically with a steroid, “a cortisone shot,” can help with pain and inflammation. The injections should be spaced out over several weeks, preferably three months, but they can provide a dramatic temporary relief of the pain and swelling.

5) Total Knee Arthro-

plasty (Replacement): This is the long-term surgical treatment for knee arthritis. When the above conservative treatments are no longer working to provide comfort, knee replacement should be entertained. The procedure has excellent outcomes with regards to pain and function. Patients are walking with a walker and full weight-bearing the same day of the surgery. There have been several improvements in knee replacement over the last few years, and the results have clearly demonstrated



better outcomes and patient satisfaction. Patients should not think of knee replacement as an end to treatment, but as a new beginning on life and activity.

6) Total Hip Arthroplasty (Replacement): This is a surgical procedure to replace the damaged hip joint. The old joint is replaced with an artificial joint. The goal of a hip replacement is to alleviate hip pain that could not be controlled by other methods, and to replace the parts of the hip that have been damaged. Osteoarthritis is the most common reason for hip replacement surgery.

Do not let knee or hip arthritis continue to debilitate your lifestyle!

Dr. Rodney Alan is a Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon with McLeod Orthopaedics and provides advanced orthopedic care to patients in Clarendon and Sumter Counties. Dr. Alan is currently accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment, call McLeod Orthopaedics at 803-435-3065.

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AMAZING BENEFITS

to seniors having pets

Pets bring much joy to the lives they touch. So it should come as no surprise that the 2019-2020 National Pet Owners Survey, which was conducted by the American Pet Products Association, found that about 85 million families in the United States own a pet. In Canada, 7.5 million households are home to companion animals, states the PetBacker blog.

Pets offer companionship and unconditional love. While they are fitting for any family, seniors may find that having a pet is especially beneficial. The organization A Place for Mom, which helps match families with senior

living residences, says pets provide a comfort system that produces measurable health results. Caring for pets and being around them can produce a chemical chain reaction in the brain that may help to lower stress hormones while also increasing production of the feel-good hormone serotonin.

This is not the only health benefit pets may provide. A recent study from the Mayo Clinic, which looked at 1,800 people between the ages of 25 and 64 who had healthy hearts, found that almost half owned a dog. Having a dog was likely to spur heart-healthy behaviors, like

exercising with the pet, eating well and having ideal blood sugar levels.

Pets also provide emotional support and companionship that can help seniors — including those who may be divorced or widowed — feel more secure and happy. The National Poll on Healthy Aging found that, among respondents who had pets, 88 percent said their pets helped them enjoy life, and 86 percent said their pets made them feel loved.

Seniors considering getting a pet can explore the many benefits to doing so.

- Reduce pain: A 2012 study

published in Pain Magazine found therapy dogs provided “significant reduction in pain and emotional distress for chronic pain patients.”

• **Feeling of purpose:** Caring for an animal not only stimulates physical activity, but it also can give seniors a reason to get up and go, which equates to a feeling of purpose.

• **Altered focus:** Having a pet can help seniors focus on something other than physical or mental health issues and preoccupations about loss or aging, according to New York-based psychologist Penny B. Donnenfeld.

• **Increased physical activity:** Pets require care, and that interaction can get seniors moving more than if they didn't have a pet.

• **Improved health:** Ongoing research from Harvard Medical School has found dog owners have lower blood pressure, healthier cholesterol levels and lower risk of heart disease than those who don't own a dog.

• **Stick to routine:** Caring for pets helps seniors maintain a routine. Having structure after retirement can be important to ward off risk of depression. Staying on top of feeding, grooming and other pet needs also can help prevent cognitive decline.

Pets bring many benefits to their owners' lives, and they may be the perfect remedy for seniors looking for a friend and purpose.

Protect yourself from coronavirus **FRAUD**

Restrictions implemented to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 have saved untold numbers of lives. The world has adjusted to such restrictions, and many parts of the world have relaxed measures as case numbers have declined.

As communities begin returning to some semblance of normalcy, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has warned people against letting their guard down. While many of those warnings pertain to the importance of continuing to practice social distancing as economies reopen, advisories also include notices about fraud schemes related to COVID-19.

The U.S. Department of

Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General has advised the general public about scams involving Medicare fraud. Such schemes are targeting Medicare beneficiaries in an assortment of ways, including through text messages, social media, telemarketing calls, and even door-to-door visits. When perpetrating such frauds, scammers seek beneficiaries' personal information, which they then use to fraudulently bill federal health care programs, potentially leaving their victims on the hook for costly unapproved tests related to COVID-19.

The CDC notes the importance of being aware of such schemes. Awareness can help consumers avoid being vic-

timized by scammers, and the following are some additional measures people can take to protect themselves from COVID-19-related fraud.

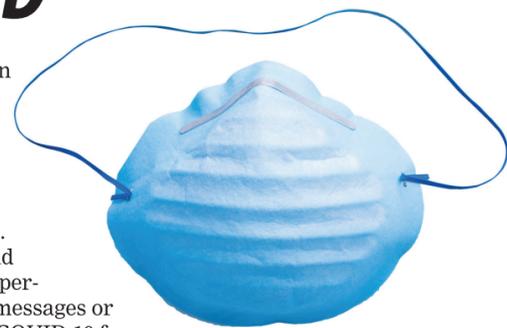
• Do not share personal account information. Scammers need their victims' personal information to perpetrate their fraudulent schemes. The CDC cautions beneficiaries to be suspicious of unsolicited requests for their Medicare or Medicaid numbers.

• Do not take callers or visitors at face value. Unsolicited callers or visitors requesting Medicare or Medicaid information should be met with extreme caution. Be suspicious of any unexpected calls or visitors offering COVID-19 tests or supplies. Compromised personal information

may be used in other fraud schemes.

• Never click on links in emails or text messages. Do not respond to, or open hyperlinks in, text messages or emails about COVID-19 from unknown individuals.

• Ignore offers or advertisements for COVID-19 testing or treatments on social media sites. Offers or ads for testing are one of the ways scammers are accessing personal information. Only a physician or other trusted healthcare provider should assess your condition and approve any requests for COVID-19 testing.



The COVID-19 outbreak has made it easy for criminals to exploit consumers concerned about their health. Consumers who suspect COVID-19 fraud can contact the National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline at (866) 720-5721 or visit Justice.gov/DisasterComplaintForm to file a complaint.



MISSY CORRIGAN
SUMTER FAMILY YMCA

Adults 50 years and older currently make up more than 30% of the U.S. population and will soon represent 45% of all Americans. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggests that adults 50 and older have a 70% chance of developing at least one chronic disease. While these numbers seem daunting, the good news is that making small lifestyle changes that include increasing physical activity, eating healthier and staying active socially can help older adults live better. You are never too old to eat healthy, get active and social!

Incorporate some of these tips to jump-start your healthy-living routine:

1. Explore new foods. Eating healthy doesn't have to be boring! Have fun with your fruits and vegetables by trying them fresh or frozen.

Find a new recipe that uses a different source of protein or find a way to incorporate fish or beans into an old favorite. Remember as you age, it's important to eat a variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat or fat-free dairy and lean meats to help your body get the necessary nutrients.

2. Fill up on fiber and potassium, hold the salt. As you age, your body needs more fiber rich foods to help it stay regular. Aim for a variety of colorful foods on your plate (i.e. fruits and veggies) to keep fiber rich foods a part of your diet. Additionally, increasing potassium along with reducing sodium or salt may lower your risk of high blood pressure. Fruits, vegetables and low-fat or fat-free milk and yogurt are good sources of potassium.

3. Get Active. Physical activity is safe for almost everyone, and the health benefits far outweigh the risks. Reg-

Engage at every age

ular physical activity is one of the most important things older adults can do for their health. It can prevent many of the health problems that seem to come with age (such as osteoporosis and arthritis) and reduce the risk for developing, or help manage, depression, diabetes, heart disease, stroke and certain kinds of cancers. For older adults who have chronic conditions that hinder their ability to be active on a regular basis, some physical activity is better than none, and older adults who participate in any amount of physical activity gain some health benefits.

4. Tweak your routine. To get the recommended 30 minutes of daily physical ac-

tivity, change your routine to 10-minute sessions throughout the day. For example, stand on one foot while brushing your teeth to increase balance, and do squats while washing dishes to increase strength. Make sure you can grab hold of something to maintain balance—safety first! To increase your cardio, take the stairs instead of the elevator or park farther from the entrance to work. When sitting in front of the TV, march during commercials or do some light stretching to break up sitting for long periods.

5. Get social and have a buddy system. Socialization is an important part of aging. As we get older, it's

important to be active socially to stay healthy. Take a walk with a friend or a neighbor, join a virtual book club or chat group. Establish a buddy system that can help one another stay accountable, motivated and informed. Social interaction, even virtual, provides meaningful engagement, builds relationships, enhances a sense of belonging or purpose and provides opportunities for involvement—all resulting in greater bonds and a stronger sense of community. Being connected to the community keeps you healthy!

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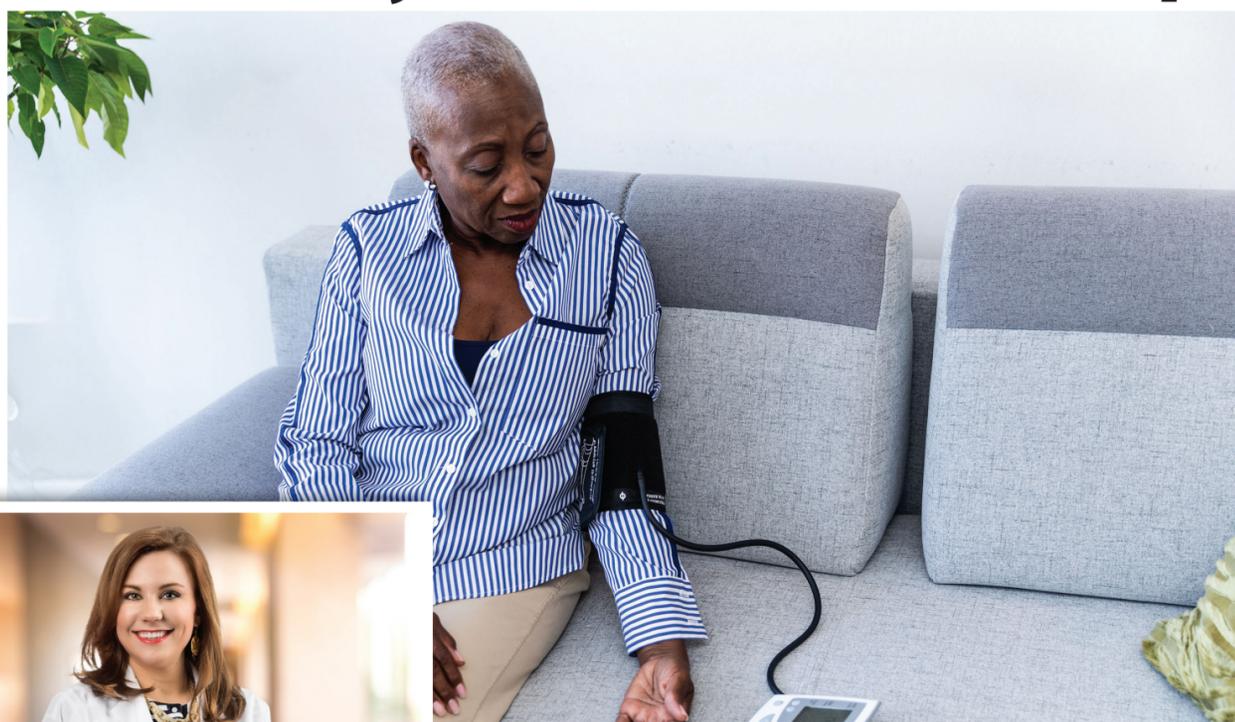
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Monitor your own blood pressure



When self-monitoring

- Check your blood pressure at the same time each day and in the same setting.
- Sit down in a relaxed environment with your legs and ankles uncrossed.
- Always use the same arm, in a restful position.
- If you have trouble wrapping the cuff around your arm in the proper location, ask a family member or friend to assist you.
- If your readings suddenly exceed 180/120 mmHg, test again in five minutes. If the reading is still high, contact your doctor immediately.
- If you are also experiencing chest pain, shortness of breath, back pain, numbness, weakness, changes in vision or difficulty speaking, do not wait to see if your pressure comes down on its own. Call 911 immediately.



SUBMITTED BY PRISMA HEALTH TUOMEY

“Self-monitoring, if done correctly, can help make sure your medication is working, alert you and your doctor to potential health complications and help you track whether any lifestyle changes you’ve made are effective,” said Cameron Thomasson, a nurse practitioner for Palmetto Heart-Sumter. And, she said, “You may find that keeping a daily record leads you to be more motivated to take control of your diet and exercise levels.”

So if you’ve been getting

your blood pressure checked only at the doctor’s office or in your neighborhood pharmacy, where should you begin?

Thomasson said you should start with the right device. She recommends purchasing one that has an automatic blood pressure evaluation, which will also provide your blood pressure and pulse rate.

After that, the two most important things are to make sure the cuff fits properly so you’re getting accurate readings, and then keep a diary of those readings. Writing down the numbers daily or at least regularly can reveal patterns

that you may want to take a closer look at.

It is important to notify your doctor if you are experiencing changes in your blood pressure from your normal range.

“Normal blood pressure is less than 120/80mmHg,” Thomasson said. “If you have two or more readings that are consistently above or below your normal blood pressure, you should call your doctor’s office, especially if you are experiencing any dizziness, lightheadedness, blurred vision, headache or chest pain or are having any trouble breathing.”

Home blood pressure monitoring is not a substitute for visits to your doctor. And no matter how good your readings may be, do not stop or change your medications or alter your diet without talking to your physician first.

Cameron M. Thomasson is a board-certified acute care nurse practitioner with Palmetto Heart-Sumter.

If you have a question about your heart health, contact her at Cameron.Thomasson@PrismaHealth.org

Innovative fitness programs for seniors



It is important to stay active and eat healthy foods in an effort to promote fitness and well-being. This is especially true for seniors, many of whom lead increasingly sedentary lifestyles as they age.

The American Heart Association says adults should get at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week, or 75 minutes of vigorous aerobic activity, and a Harvard University study says that exercise can be an insurance policy for heart health.

Today’s seniors have more fitness options at their disposal than ever before. SilverSneakers® is the leading community fitness program for older adults in the United States. SilverSneakers®

members can participate in specially curated programs at participating gyms and community centers across the nation. According to the organization, there are more participating fitness locations available than there are Starbucks® coffee establishments. Classes are fit for everyone, no matter their experience level.

Those concerned about gym costs may find that SilverSneakers® already is included in their Medicare Advantage plan for no additional cost. Plus, there is access to healthy living discounts from participating businesses.

Canada has begun to develop its own senior-centric fitness programs. The Healthy, Safe and Strong

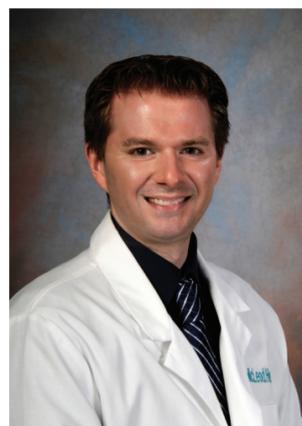
group exercise program is an introduction to safe exercises available for adults age 60 and older in the province of Ontario. The program can help develop better stamina, maintain or improve balance and increase strength and endurance. StrongerU Senior Fitness is a relatively new program of pre-choreographed group fitness offering instruction in four program types: cardio, strength training, stretching, and circuit training. The program addresses a need in Canada for quality and consistent senior fitness programming.

As studies show that engaging in physical activity is the most effective way for aging men and women to stay healthy, more adults may be compelled to join fitness groups that cater to the 50-and-over market.

As studies show that engaging in physical activity is the most effective way for aging men and women to stay healthy, more adults may be compelled to join fitness groups that cater to the 50-and-over market.



IS DIABETES HURTING YOUR HEART?



DR. RYAN GARBALOSA
MCLEOD CARDIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

For patients living with Type 2 Diabetes, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death and major source of heart attacks, strokes and disability.

Here are some simple facts from the American Heart Association and American Diabetes Association that everyone should be aware of:

- In the United States, every 80 seconds an adult with diabetes is hospitalized for heart disease and every two minutes for stroke.
- For adults starting at age 60, having Type 2 Diabetes and cardiovascular disease shortens life expectancy by an average of 12 years.
- In a recent survey of people age 45 and older with Type 2 Diabetes, only about half recognize their risk OR have discussed their risk for heart attack or stroke with their health care provider.

THE GLUCOSE CONNECTION

Diabetes describes a condition where the body’s blood glucose (sugar level) is too high. Type 2 Diabetes – the most common form – results from the body’s inability to use insulin properly, causing the blood sugar level to rise.

This high glucose level in the blood tends to damage nerves in the body from the heart down to the small vessels in the hands and toes.

The condition can compromise the heart’s ability

to pump blood to the rest of the body, ultimately leading to fatigue and Congestive Heart Failure. More seriously, because diabetes damages the heart’s nerves, the patient faces the possibility of a “Silent Heart Attack,” in which the person has a heart attack with no symptoms before the attack.

This high glucose blood hastens a buildup of plaque (a waxy substance) in the coronary arteries that feed blood to the body, causing a condition called atherosclerosis.

MORE COMPLICATING FACTORS

Add excess weight or obesity to a person’s risk factors, and the chances of heart problems increases. Other health issues that can accelerate heart problems include high cholesterol and high blood pressure (hypertension).

ACTION YOU CAN TAKE

It is important for anyone with diabetes to take their medication, exercise and eat a healthy diet. Those with heart problems should be seen by their cardiologist regularly. Diabetic patients with no diagnosed heart condition should see a cardiologist if they feel fatigue, have trouble breathing or have any chest pain or discomfort.

Since adults with diabetes are two times more likely to have a heart attack or stroke than people without diabetes, it is important to speak with your physician about the risk. By initiating that conversation together, you can develop a treatment plan and begin to reduce your risk.

The physicians of McLeod Cardiology Associates can help you manage your heart-related conditions. Cardiologists Dr. Ryan Garbalosa and Dr. Dennis Lang, and Electrophysiologist Dr. Prabal Guha care for patients on the campus of McLeod Health Clarendon and at their office located at 540 Physicians Lane in Sumter. Appointments can be made by calling 803-883-5171.



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Stroke and heart attack symptoms you should not ignore, even during a coronavirus outbreak



FORREST LOWE, MD
PALMETTO HEALTH-USC NEUROLOGY

Worries about getting sick from the COVID-19 coronavirus are causing many people to keep their distance, even when they need medical care for chronic conditions or emergencies such as strokes and heart attacks.

“We are seeing a radical reduction in the number of patients seeking help, and many patients aren’t coming into the hospital,” said

neurologist Forrest Lowe, MD. “As such, people are coming in too late for adequate treatment, sometimes resulting in death or severe disability.”

Dr. Lowe explained which symptoms to look for and why you shouldn’t hesitate to call 911.

STROKE SYMPTOMS

Dr. Lowe said to “BE FAST” if you see any of these warning signs:

B – balance: if you have trouble balancing or are dizzy

E – eyes: trouble with vision or a sudden onset of vision trouble in one eye or both eyes

F – facial drooping

A – arm and leg weakness

S – speech or language trouble

T – time to call 911

“The sudden onset of a severe headache can also be a sign of a stroke, specifically a hemorrhagic stroke, and you should

seek medical attention urgently,” he said.

Whenever a stroke occurs, approximately 2 million neurons are at risk, and waiting can result in severe disability.

“Every minute matters, so don’t delay if you have any of these symptoms,” said Dr. Lowe. “Even if it improves and you think maybe you can seek treatment later, I would suggest you still call 911. It could be a sign of something more serious.”

He said it’s important for patients to recognize their symptoms and come in. “Stroke is a treatable disease, and we have the measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at the same time we begin appropriate stroke treatments.”

HEART ATTACK SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of a heart attack also need fast action, so it’s important to know the signs. Call 911 if you notice any of these common

symptoms of a heart attack:

- Chest pressure or squeezing, aching or burning

- Shortness of breath

- Back pain

- Nausea

- Anxiety

- Excessive fatigue

- Jaw pain

- Pain that travels down one or both arms

- Feeling of fullness

“You can experience any or all of these symptoms. When they start, they may be mild or come and go, but over time the symptoms and pain will increase,” Dr. Lowe said.

If you have a chronic condition, such as heart disease, it’s important to continue with your regular care.

“Whenever symptoms change or worsen, it is time to seek medical care. Many of our practices are providing telehealth visits and visits over the phone.

They are ready to help you. If there are any changes to your medical condition, reach out to those practices,” Dr. Lowe said. “Doing your part to reduce the spread of coronavirus does not mean you should not seek prompt medical care, especially for symptoms that could signal a medical emergency. We are ready to care for you if you need it.”

PRISMA HEALTH STROKE CENTER

Time is critical when it comes to a stroke. The team at Prisma Health Stroke Center is on-site 24/7, with a multi-disciplinary program of care and leading-edge approach for stroke patients.

Visit [PalmettoHealth.org/locations-directions/specialty-centers/stroke-center](https://www.palmettohealth.org/locations-directions/specialty-centers/stroke-center) to learn more.



“Let food be thy medicine” is a quote attributed to Hippocrates, the ancient scholar considered to be the father of modern medicine. The saying relates to the notion that what people put in their bodies can heal and/or prevent certain conditions.

For seniors with medicine cabinets full of over-the-counter and prescription medications, the idea of relying predominantly on food to promote optimal health may be tempting, and various foods can be particularly useful to the 50-and-over demographic.

According to the World Health Organization, poor diet is a major contributor to many of the diseases that affect older people. Poor diet has been connected to the development of diabetes, and degenerative diseases such as osteopo-

rosis also may be linked to the foods ones eat. The National Council on Aging Care says micronutrient deficiency is often a problem among the aging due to factors like lack of variety in diet and reduced food intake. Eating a variety of foods can provide all of the nutrients people need to stay healthy as they get older. Certain foods may be particularly helpful.

• Brain-friendly foods:

Foods such as avocado, leafy vegetables, sunflower seeds, blueberries, and salmon are good sources of vitamin E, antioxidants, omega-3 fatty acids, and other nutrients that may help ward off dementias like Alzheimer’s disease, advises Sonas Home Health Care.

• **Anti-inflammatory foods:** Foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids may help

prevent inflammation that can cause cancer and rheumatoid arthritis. Aging.com says foods that are high in omega-3 fatty acids, like salmon, should be consumed at least twice per week.

• Fruits and vegetables:

Fresh, canned or frozen produce tend to be high in micronutrients, including a variety of important vitamins that are essential for all components of health.

Healthy eating options for seniors

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics advises eating dark green vegetables, such as leafy greens or broccoli, and orange vegetables, such as carrots and sweet potatoes.

• Energy-boosters:

Choose whole grains that can provide sustained energy by way of healthy carbohydrates over processed grains.

• Bone-friendly foods:

Calcium-rich foods, such as milk, yogurt and cheese, can prevent calcium from being leached from the bones, which contributes to conditions like osteoporosis.

• Digestive system-friendly foods:

The digestive system slows down as the body ages, as the walls of the gastrointestinal tract thicken and digestive contractions that push waste along may slow

down and become fewer. Foods rich in fiber can promote proper digestion by moving food through the digestive tract more easily. High-fiber foods also may help naturally reduce blood cholesterol levels.

• **High-iron foods:** Without enough iron in the body, a person may feel tired and lethargic from a reduced production of hemoglobin, which carries oxygen in the blood from the lungs to the rest of the body. A lack of oxygen in body tissues from anemia can be serious, says the National Council for Aging Care. Tofu, spinach, lentils, pumpkin seeds, and fortified breads and cereals are high in iron.

Smart food choices can help seniors live long and healthy lives.

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Great online content can let you 'visit' a museum this summer



BY STATEPOINT

If you are looking for new things to this summer do while staying home or social distancing, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has you covered.

The museum has lots of free content available for both adults and kids, including digital learning tools for students of all ages and online versions of many of its most popular exhibitions. Access to this content is through the museum's website: AmericanIndian.si.edu.

FOR STUDENTS

Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°) is the museum's national education initiative to inspire and promote improvement of teaching and learning about American Indians. NK360° provides educational materials and teacher training that incorporate Native narratives, more comprehensive histories and accurate information to enlighten and inform teaching and learning about Native America. The initiative's website has digital lessons for K-12 students, teacher guides, videos and websites. Several lessons are also available in Spanish.

ONLINE EXHIBITIONS

Many of the museum's most popular exhibitions are available to explore online. "Americans" shows how American Indians have been part of the nation's identity since before the country began. Visitors can click on some familiar images and learn why images of American Indians are everywhere in our country.

The bilingual exhibition "The Great Inka Road: Engineering an Empire" examines why the Inka Road was built more than 500 years ago, and how its construction—without the use of metal or iron, the wheel or stock animals to pull heavy loads—stands as one of the greatest engineering feats.

The exhibition "Infinity of Nations: Art and History in the Collections of the National Museum of the American Indian," which features some 700 works of

Native art from throughout North, Central and South America, demonstrates the breadth of the museum's collection and highlights the historic importance of many of these iconic objects.

"Developing Stories: Native Photographers in the Field" is the museum's newest exhibition. It features the work of two Native photojournalists who are using photography to break down stereotypes and portray stories that show the diversity and complexity of their contemporary lives.

EXPLORE THE COLLECTIONS

Through its online search, visitors to the museum's website can learn more about the history of the museum's holdings, which have their foundation in the collection largely assembled by George Gustav Heye, beginning in 1897. The collection currently contains more than 800,000 items from across the entire Western Hemisphere. And for more from the collections, visit the museum's new Google Arts & Culture website.

BLOG

For in-depth stories about objects in the museum's collection, insights into new exhibitions, or news from Indian Country, visit the museum's page on the Smithsonian Voices blog.

SHOP

The museum's online store offers an array of books for adults and kids, cards, CDs and DVDs. The best part? Your purchase helps to continue the museum's important work.

You can also get more content from the museum by following it on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Thanks to great online exhibitions, educational materials, and yes, even shopping, you can spend this summer "visiting" an amazing museum from wherever you are.



5 tips on how to combat loneliness while social distancing

BY STATEPOINT

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, many people are staying in their homes to help prevent the spread of the disease. Feeling lonely from time to time is natural, but this unprecedented time of social distancing could lead to increased loneliness.

There are some easy ways to feel connected to others, even when you aren't seeing them in person. Consider these tips from Dr. Doug Nemecek, Cigna chief medical officer for behavioral health.

- Use technology... but not too much. Social media is a favorite and easy way to stay connected to family and friends, but too much use can leave you feeling lonely. Cigna's 2020 U.S. Loneliness Index found that 72 percent of very heavy social media users identify themselves as lonely. Balance technology use with disconnecting and taking time for yourself. Use real-time interactions with others, like video chats, to build meaningful connections and limit time spent passively scrolling social media. Read a book, take a walk or do a puzzle after screen time. It may help you feel more connected when you spend time online.
- Join a virtual club or group. There are plenty of resources available to find virtual book clubs, craft communities or even fitness challenges. You can start a new hobby, learn a skill or find others who

are interested in the same things as you, remotely. Once the guidelines for social distancing are lifted, you'll have new friends you can meet in person.

• Spend time outdoors. Simply leaving your house to take a jog around your neighborhood or to walk your dog a few blocks could improve your spirits, refreshing you for the next time you virtually connect with others.

• Ask those you reach out to how they're really doing. How you connect with those in your network makes a significant difference in how lonely you feel. People tend to feel less lonely when connecting on a deeper level. Cigna's study found that those who do not feel they have close relationships that give them emotional security and well-being have an average loneliness score of nearly 15 points higher than those that do. When video chatting with friends, ask them for their most honest response when you ask how they're doing. Everyone will likely feel better for it.

• Rethink working hours. We spend approximately 90,000 hours at work over our lifetime, so how we spend that time will play an important role in how we feel overall. Improving your work-life balance and connecting with colleagues can reduce loneliness. Your employer may also benefit from you feeling less lonely. Lonely employees are less productive, produce lower quality work and miss

more days of work. So, talk to your boss about slight changes you can make to how you spend your working hours. This could help you feel less lonely and benefit your company.

Being unable to spend time with others in-person will likely cause many of us to feel lonely, but there are ways to help lessen those feelings during this challenging time.

Did you know?

Social distancing guidelines encouraging people to stay in their homes as much as possible led many to wonder what to do in regard to visiting their physicians. Telehealth is one option people may want to explore. Sometimes referred to as "telemedicine," telehealth enables patients to speak with their physicians via phone, tablet or conferencing apps such as Zoom. This can help patients and their physicians reduce their risk for exposure to viruses such as COVID-19, but also other conditions that can weaken their immune systems and, as a result, make them more vulnerable to illness.

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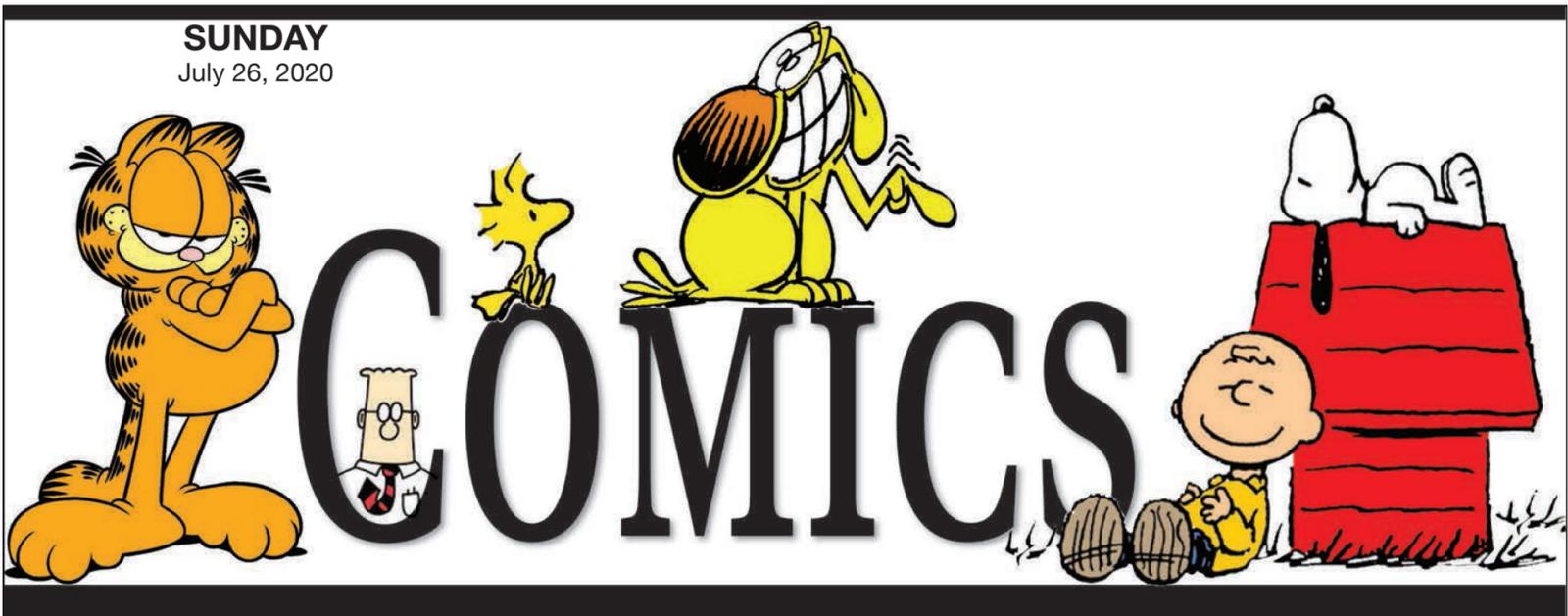
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by SCHULZ

HEY! HOW ABOUT HITTING ME A GOUNDER?

HOW ABOUT A FLY BALL? WHY DON'T YOU HIT ME A FLY BALL?

BONK!

WHAT ELSE HAVE YOU GOT?

7-26

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GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS

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DILBERT BY SCOTT ADAMS

WE NEED TO MANAGE WITH DATA!

DO WE HAVE ANY USEFUL DATA?

NOT REALLY.

SO... ACTUALLY, WE NEED TO GET DATA BEFORE WE CAN USE DATA.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR ANALYSIS PARALYSIS!

I THINK YOU'RE TAKING BOTH SIDES OF THE SAME ARGUMENT.

YOU INSIST ON USING DATA, BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR DATA.

IT'S CALLED LEADERSHIP. YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

OH, I THINK I DO.

STOP BEING SUCH A MASK HOLE.

Twitter: @scottadamssays

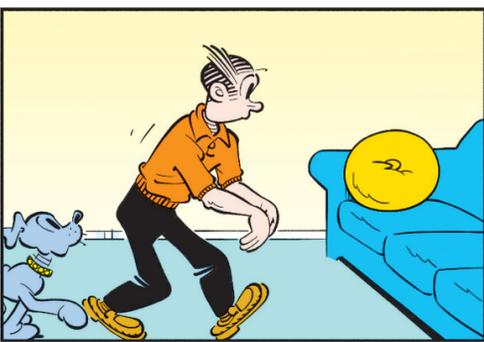
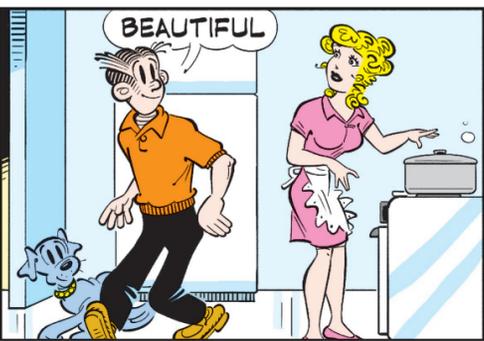
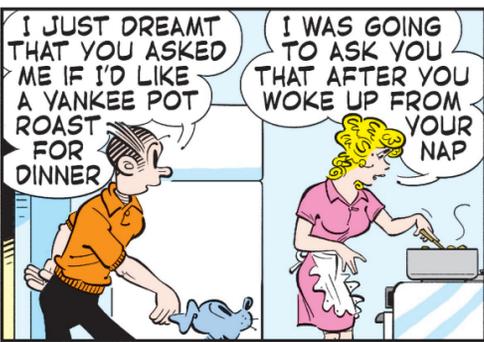
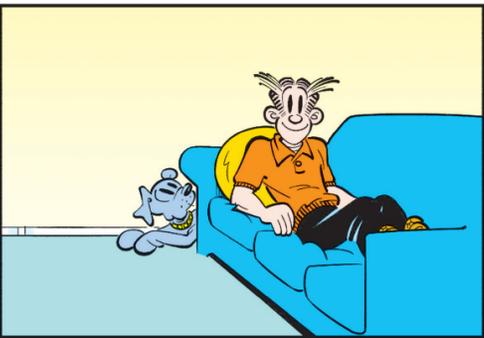
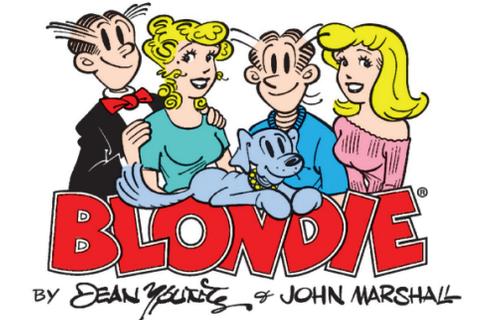
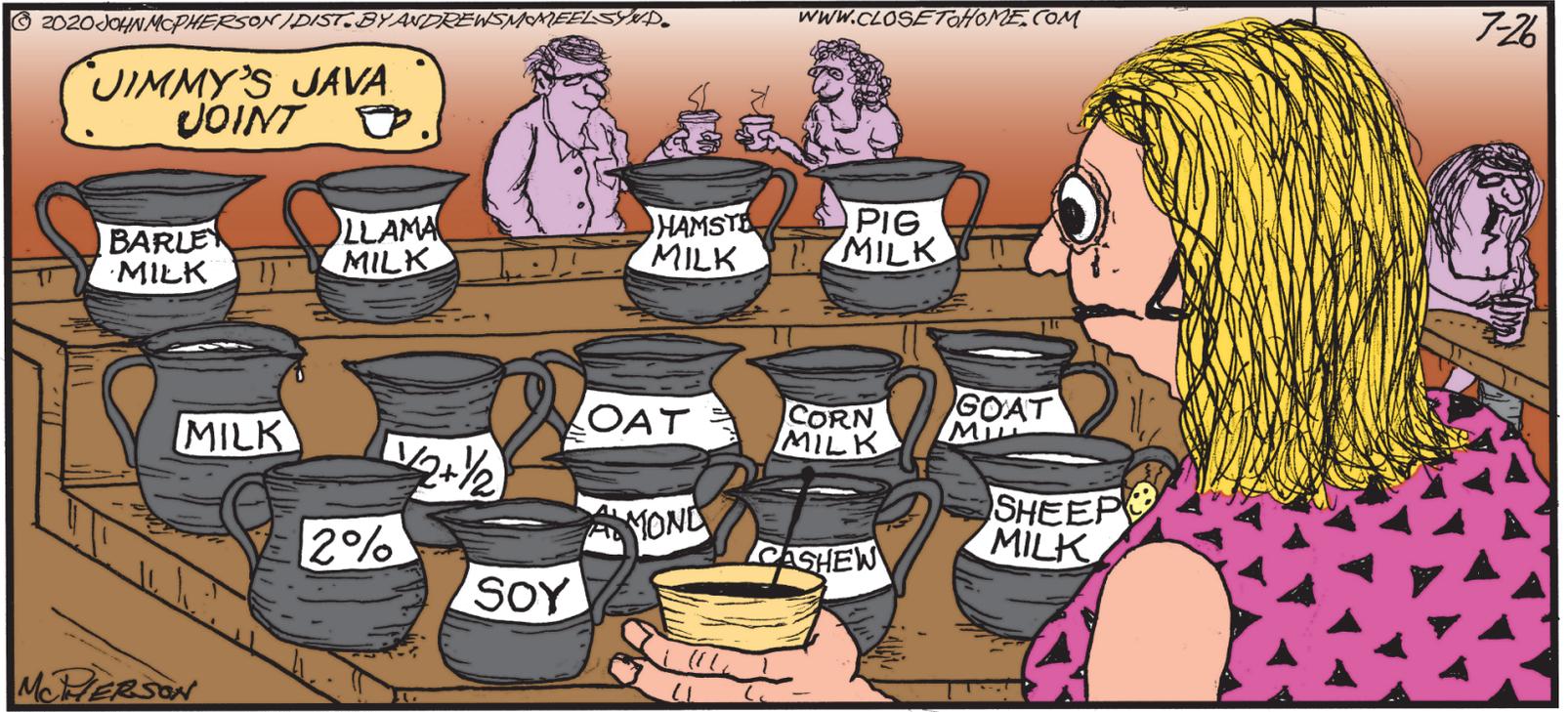
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7-26-20

CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN MCPHERSON



FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



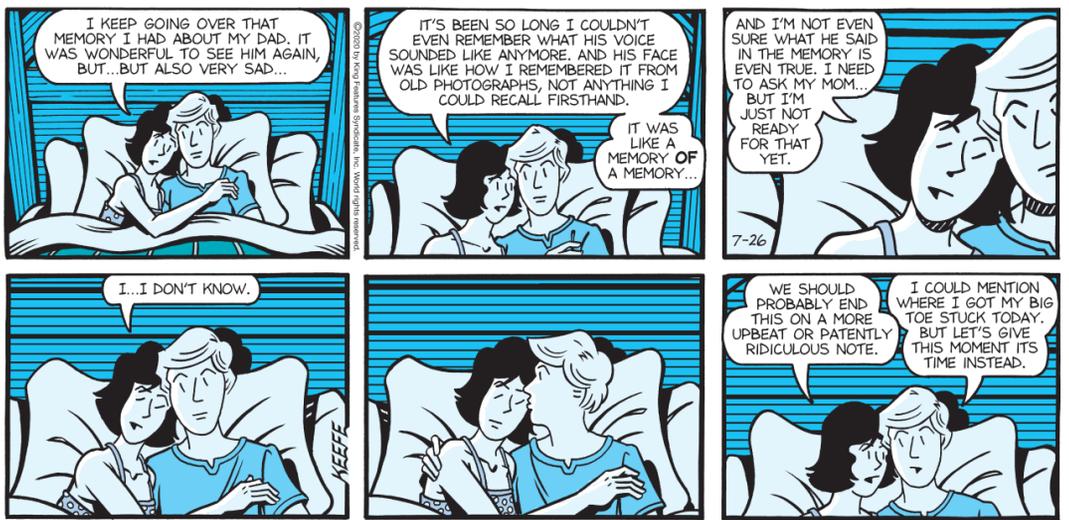
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



DOODLES

By Chris Foote

HARK! WE SEE ANIMALS IN THE PARK!

CAN YOU FIND THE NAMES OF EIGHT ANIMALS?

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

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Send your riddles and puns to: Doodles, P.O. Box 105, Excelsior, MN 55331

DOODLE ZOO

WHENEVER I TRY TO RIDE OUR DONKEY, I GET A REAL KICK OUT OF IT.

DRAW!!

DRAW A RACCOON!

RIDDLES!!!

Q. WHAT DO FROGS ORDER AT FAST-FOOD RESTAURANTS?
A. FRENCH FLIES AND DIET CROAK.
Cameron Stiles, Bridgeport, CT

Q. HOW DO YOU LEARN TO BE A TRASH COLLECTOR?
A. YOU JUST PICK IT UP AS YOU GO ALONG.
Britta Gunderson, Eugene, OR

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

ROB'S Ice Cream Shop

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sign is smaller. 2. Hand is moved. 3. Cap is larger. 4. Ice cream soda is missing. 5. Back of seat is showing. 6. The is larger.

FRANK AND ERNEST

DESPITE MAKING A COMMITMENT TO CHANGE, HE WON'T STOP BEING A HOARDER.

APPARENTLY, A PROMISE IS THE ONLY THING HE WON'T KEEP!

THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

I HEAR YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS

DOG TEETH ARE GREAT

THEY CAN BITE, GNAW, CHEW AND CUT ALL AT THE SAME TIME

SWISS ARMY TEETH !!!

WELL, DOC, IT ALL START...

WIZARD OF ID

by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

YES !!

10..9..8..

7..6..5..

4..3..2..1..

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

EXCUSE ME, DOCTOR, THE CALL YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR JUST CAME IN.

FORGIVE ME, BRUTUS, I NEED TO TAKE THIS.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S JULY 26TH!

JUST DECIDED I WAS DONE WITH THIS YEAR... AND READY TO START A NEW ONE!

POUR ME

HAPPY NEW YEAR

GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY

SATCHEL, WOULD YOU AGREE WITH ALL INTELLIGENT PEOPLE THAT THE THRILL OF GAMBLING LIES IN THE CHANCE OF LOSING MONEY?

WELL... I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT-

EXACTLY. THEREFORE, I AM THRILLED TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A NEW FORM OF CARD-BASED WAGERMENT: BUCKY'S MILLION DOLLAR SCRATCH.

GO ON, GIVE IT A SCRATCH AND SEE IF YOU GOT A WINNER.

I DON'T SEE WHERE TO SCRATCH IT...

WELL, YOU KIND OF SCRATCHED IT, SO I CAN TELL YOU THAT ONE'S A LOSER. THAT'LL BE \$10.

WHAT? HOW CAN THIS BE \$10?! THERE'S NOTHING ON IT!

HEY, I'M PASSING THE SAVINGS ON TO YOU, THOSE SCRATCHY SQUARES COST MONEY! IF THAT CARD HAD 'EM, I'D HAVE TO CHARGE YOU \$20!

FORTUNATELY, I AM AUTHORIZED TO OFFER YOU AN EVEN MORE THRILLING OPPORTUNITY WITH MY NEW "PICK 3 AND WIN BIG" GAME.

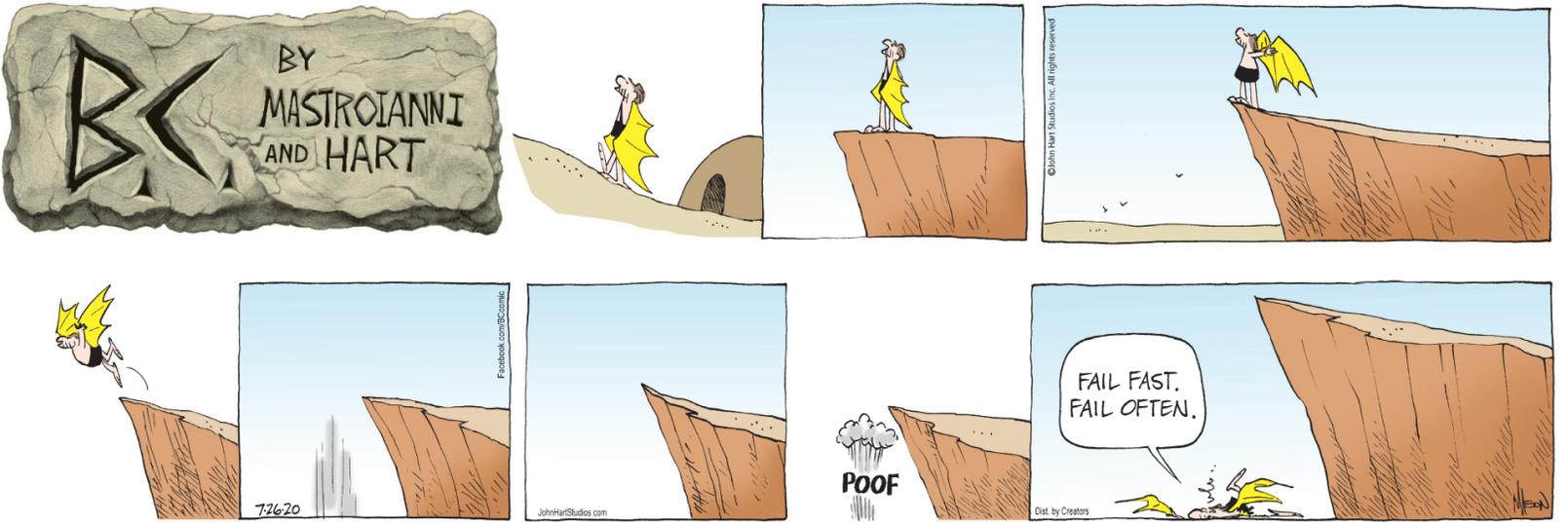
BUT... THERE'S ONLY 2 BALLS IN THERE.

I WON'T BE LONG...

DON'T GET BETTER BEFORE I RETURN!

SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

