



Fathers share importance of family

'At one time in my house, I had three children in my house under 2. Having three under 3 is a crazy life, but we love it.' **DREW MARLOWE**

Sumter foster parents have instant family



PHOTO PROVIDED

Drew Marlowe and his wife, Sarah Kathryn, have been married for seven years and decided to become foster parents. Now they are the parents of three children, the youngest their biological child.

Former Sumter High football coach goes from no children to 3 under 3

BY SHELBY GOULDING
shelbie@theitem.com

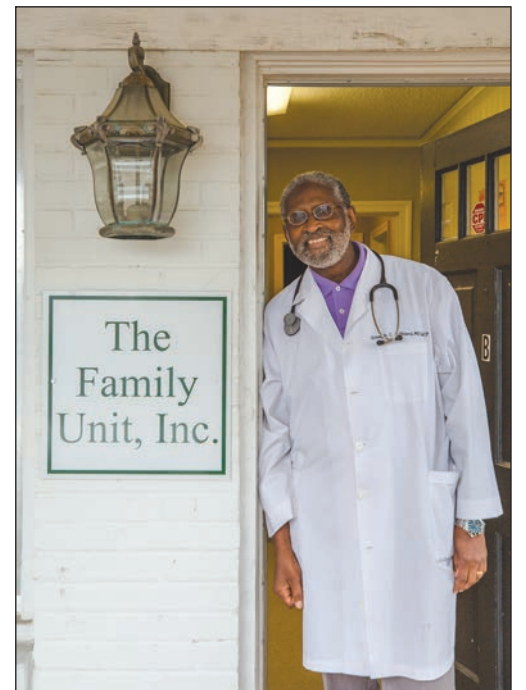
With no intention of becoming a father, a former Sumter High School football coach became one in the blink of an eye, and he became a father of not one, but three children in less than two years.

Drew Marlowe and his wife, Sarah Kathryn, have been married for seven years and are now the

parents of three children under 3 years old, with only one being their biological child.

After feeling that God wanted them to start a family, his wife was all in on the idea of getting into foster care, but Marlowe didn't feel ready to become a foster parent, let alone a father, at that point in time, he said.

SEE **MARLOWE**, PAGE A8



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Dr. Joe Williams, who works at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, contracted COVID-19.

Longtime Sumter physician recovers from COVID-19 with family support

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

Joe Williams lives life in a revolving cycle of caring and giving back, and COVID-19 has made its way around the circle for the doctor.

The longtime doctor, nocturnist, hospitalist at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, private practice physician, son, father, grandfather thinks he knows the patient he contracted the highly contagious respiratory virus from. At first, it was just a cough and slight fever.

Back at the beginning of the pandemic's reach in Sumter, Williams tested positive for the virus at the beginning of April.

The second week was worse. Fatigue, coughing, fever and all-over aches and chills. He still hasn't completely regained his sense of smell, and he has less tolerance for sweet food and popcorn. He loves popcorn.

His wife, Brenda, would put his food on a tray and leave it at the bedroom door. She took care of him until she also came down with the virus.

SEE **WILLIAMS**, PAGE A8



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

'As a man, your biggest responsibility is to always make sure your family is straight and your family is first.' **MAURICE HILL**

With help from coalition, men now big part of children's lives

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

Two Sumter dads in their 30s credit a local fatherhood agency with giving them direction and counsel that has allowed them to become an active part

of their children's lives.

Maurice Hill and Robert Brigman spoke this week on how regional service agency Midlands Fatherhood Coalition has helped them step up and become better leaders of their families.

The nonprofit provides an array of services, such as career and job training, help with expunging a criminal conviction, financial budgeting tools and help with child support, all to help fathers be Dad and strengthen their families.

Hill, 31, originally from Santee in Orangeburg County, said before he was referred to the coalition two years ago by a friend, he was homeless, jobless, with no education and

SEE **COALITION**, PAGE A4

MIDLANDS FATHERHOOD COALITION

Men with children in Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties who want to look into help and possible free services offered by Midlands Fatherhood Coalition can contact the agency at (803) 774-2140 and schedule an appointment. The agency's website is midlandsfathers.com.

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DEATHS, B5

Cassey Holloman Morgan
Guelda Cortner Bryan
Johnnie Mae Steen Winn
Marion S. Reed
Louise B. Gadson

Lenora Johnson Croom
Darnell Harper
Tony Wayne Tedder Sr.
Leon Mathis
Fred Hammett

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STORMY AFTERNOON

A storm possible on Saturday afternoon; mainly clear and humid at night
HIGH 87, LOW 70

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After dismal April, S.C. adds 67K jobs in May

State unemployment rate is 12.5%; Sumter at 11.2%

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

After losing 272,700 jobs in April with the initial wave of COVID-19, South Carolina added back about 25% of those positions during May. According to its May employment report released Friday, the Palmetto State added



ULLRICH

coronavirus.
Federal Reserve Bank of

67,600 jobs last month as it tried to reopen and rebound after initial shocks and shutdowns to the economy earlier in the spring associated with the

Richmond Regional Economist Laura Ullrich, based in Charlotte, provided analysis on a pair of jobs reports to two state media members, including *The Sumter Item*.

By simple addition, Ullrich explained, the employment totals still translate to a net loss of 205,100 jobs since March. At that time, South Carolina had 2,197,700 jobs. Now, that total is just below 2,000,000, according to official data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics.

On the positive side, the state's job gains for May were

above the U.S. average and also numerically above North Carolina, a state basically double South Carolina's size, Ullrich noted. The Tar Heel State added 67,100 jobs in May, she said.

The state's unemployment rate for April was initially reported at 12.1%, but it was later revised to 12.8% by the bureau. May's rate, which is also preliminary at this time, was 12.5%.

By comparison, the U.S. jobless rate for May was 13.3%.

A broader measure of the U.S. unemployment rate, to

include people only marginally attached to the labor force and also discouraged workers who may have dropped out, was 21.2% for May. That broader measure by the bureau was 22.8% during April.

In the tri-county region, Sumter's unemployment rate for May was the lowest at 11.2%. Next was Clarendon County at 11.3%, and Lee registered 12.6%.

Horry County, home of tourism-dependent Myrtle Beach, still led the state's 46 counties in May with an 18.6% unemployment rate.

District asks for feedback on reopening schools

4 stakeholder groups' surveys available online; deadline to respond is Wednesday

BY BRUCE MILLS
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No final decisions have been made yet on how public school will look in the fall on the state or local level, and Sumter School District is asking for stakeholder feedback at this time.

The district posted various surveys online on its website Friday to get just that from various groups, and a spokeswoman also spoke to *The Sumter Item*.

The coronavirus has presented numerous challenges for all schools across the U.S., but the local district is committed to providing a safe learning environment for students

and employees, said Shelly Galloway, the district's executive director of communications and community engagement.

To that end, the district has created a schools reopening taskforce, or team, and surveys are now being conducted of four local stakeholder groups: students, parents, employees and community members.

The online survey takes just a few minutes to complete, and the district is looking for stakeholders to submit responses by Wednesday at noon. The district also emailed survey links to employees, students and parents for whom it had email addresses. All survey responses are anonymous.

STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK SURVEYS

Online surveys for various stakeholder groups can be found at www.sumterschools.net and the district's social media pages.

The district taskforce is discussing various topics of concern, she said, including accessible learning for all students; bus and car transportation and schedules; increased cleaning protocols and safety equipment; modified classroom setups to maximize social distancing; and crowd/traffic flow in multi-use areas, such as cafeterias, hallways and libraries.

The district will continue to monitor current and available data on COVID-19, Galloway said, and health and safety guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state Department of Health and Environmental Control.

The surveys will provide stakeholders' concerns and priorities regarding return possibilities to teaching and learning.

"We're exploring all possible options right now," Galloway said, "and we want to be able to get stakeholder feedback as we work to create our plan."

All the surveys are accessible from the school district's homepage, www.sumterschools.net, and also on the district's social media pages, she added.

Restaurant at Second Mill moving to Quality Inn on Broad Street

BY SHELBY GOULDING
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For about five years, the Elks Lodge on West Liberty Street was home to The Restaurant at Second Mill, a town favorite for Southern fixings in the middle of Sumter.

However, the restaurant will be moving to the north side of the city with a plan to move into the Quality Inn at 2390 Broad St.

"We're in the process," said Jimmy Byrd, a county councilman and one of three owners of The Restaurant at Second Mill. "We've got some more hoops to jump through before it's a done deal, but it's 90% there."

Before the pandemic, Byrd, along with the other co-owners, Jim Price and Paul Byrd, were planning to open a second restaurant, but plans changed after COVID-19 shut down businesses and reconstructed the food industry.

"We didn't see us opening a new restaurant at this time," he said. "We decided it might be best just to move it to a



The Restaurant at Second Mill, bottom, is moving to a new home in the Quality Inn, 2390 Broad St., left.

PHOTOS BY KAYLA GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

more visible location and change the business model a little bit."

Byrd said the hotel on Broad Street, which is across from Golden Corral and features an adjacent restaurant

space, will make a great location for the restaurant, especially with the owner of the Quality Inn, Dave Patel, renovating the hotel and its landscape.

"We've had good relation-

ships with the Elks, and we're going to miss being there," Jimmy Byrd said. "We just hope our customers will follow us to our new location."

Jimmy Byrd said they hope

to reopen The Restaurant at Second Mill at their new location by Aug. 1.

It was not immediately clear whether the Elks Lodge plans to lease the building, sell or remain.

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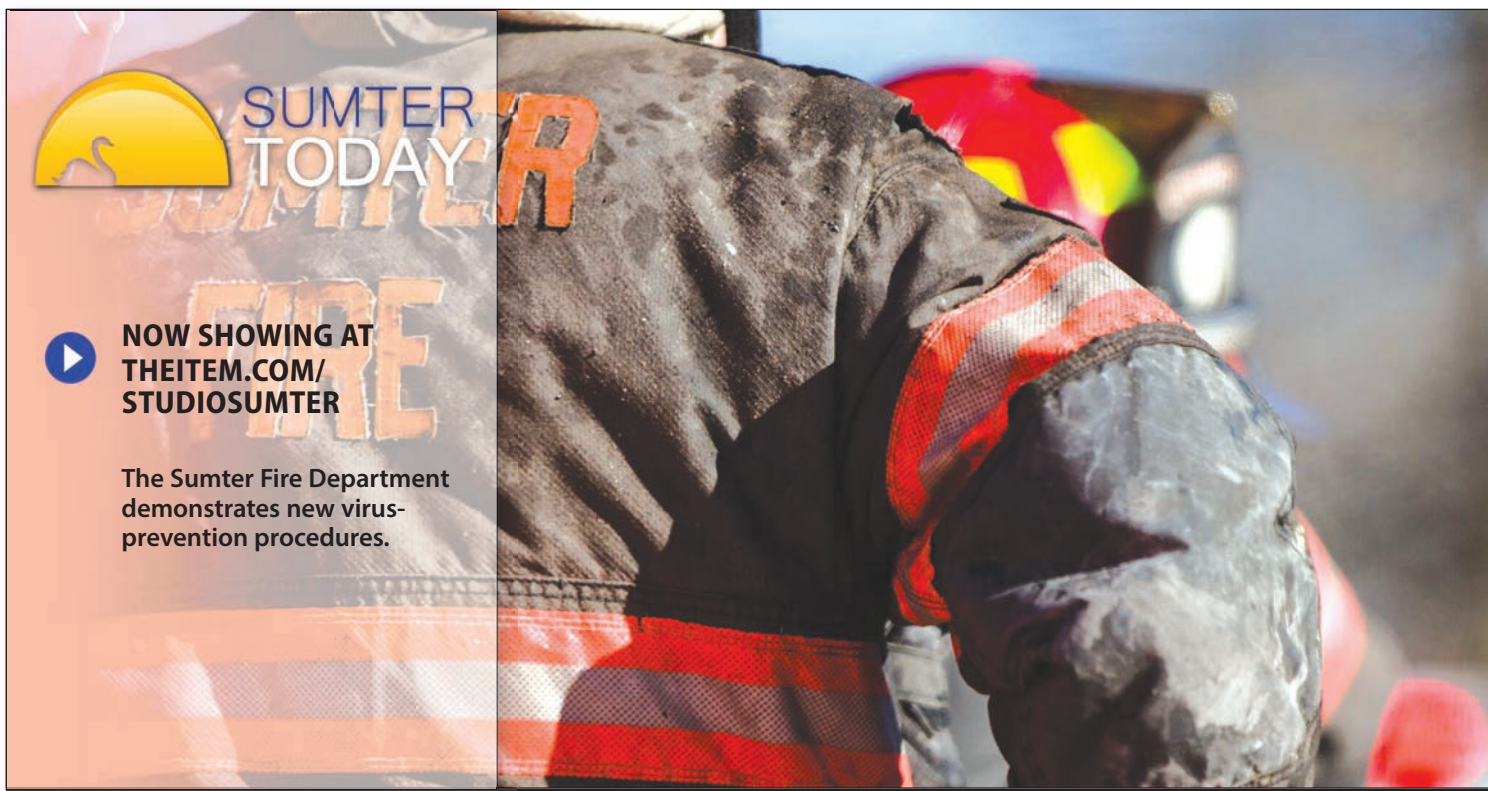
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Tips for a virus-free Father's Day this year

BY KAYLA GREEN
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Father's Day usually comes with hugs and family time, and while that will still be happening this weekend for the Sunday holiday, health professionals want families to keep social distancing in mind as they celebrate Dad.

With cases continuing to climb to record daily numbers in Sumter and South Carolina, Anna-Kathryn Burch, an infectious disease specialist at Palmetto Health-USC Pediatrics, shared tips and situations to look out for to help prevent Father's Day from becoming a source of COVID-19 spreading.

While each situation can be dependent on your family or father, a general rule of thumb should be to stay outside while in public spaces, Burch said.

If Dad is immunocompromised or has underlying health conditions, staying home or holding a socially distanced get together in the yard may be safer, she said. Age also matters because the elderly are more at risk of developing serious complications from the virus if infected.

The more people you're around and the closer you are to them, the bigger the risk of the virus spreading, Burch said. A fun option could be to take Dad on a picnic or go on a walk at a park.

Being outside prevents the risk of breathing in recirculated air, and the virus is spread by droplets from people's mouths getting onto hands then into eyes and noses. Burch said going golfing or fishing are also good Father's Day plans that keep virus safety in mind.

As for younger kids and family members being around Dad, Burch said to remain aware of how the virus spreads.

"You can be asymptomatic and still be infected and spread it. If you're in public areas and you can't social distance and you don't have a mask on, you can infect other people," she said. "Just because you don't feel symptoms doesn't mean you can't give it to your father."

At least wear a mask around your dad if you're going to be in a public setting or a place where you can't practice social distancing."

Whether children should wear masks depends on their age and maturity, she said, so talk to them and see what they can handle. Children 2 and under should not wear a mask, but those in middle school and above should be able to keep it on.

Talk to children about refraining from hugging Granddad or holding his hand, Burch said, so they understand it in their terms.

S.C. approved to implement online food purchasing with SNAP benefits

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service has approved South Carolina Department of Social Services' request to allow the state's SNAP recipients to use their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards for online purchases of eligible food items.

It is anticipated that this service will be in effect beginning July 31 and, at this time, Walmart and Amazon are the only retailers authorized by USDA to implement online food purchasing in South Carolina.

SCDSS requested approval for the use of

SNAP benefits for online food purchases to support social distancing practices recommended by public health officials to mitigate risks associated with exposure to COVID-19.

The department hopes that other retailers and independent grocers within the state will be able to gain authorization from USDA to participate by the end of the summer, which will support local businesses and help boost the state's economy.

To learn more about the SNAP program, visit <https://dss.sc.gov/assistance-programs/snap/>. To apply for benefits online, visit SCMAPP.sc.gov.



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Increase in cases seen in younger age groups in S.C.

BY MEG KINNARD
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina's hard-hit hospitality industry in May clawed back some of the jobs lost amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic as businesses across the state continue to reopen — and new COVID-19 case numbers continue to soar.

On Friday, South Carolina's Department of Employment and Workforce announced that the state's jobless rate for the month of May stood at 12.5%, a slight improvement over a record-setting revised April rate of 12.8%. At that point, the coronavirus had wiped out nearly half of the state's restaurant, tourism and other hospitality jobs, with officials estimating overall annual revenue from the \$24 billion tourism industry would be cut in half for 2020.

Many of May's gains came in the hospitality sector, which posted more than 36,000 new jobs. Trade, education and health services and businesses services showed nearly 25,000 jobs gained over the month.

Compared to a year ago, state officials said, South Carolina's economy has lost 193,000 seasonally adjusted non-agricultural jobs. Only one industry — construction — showed any gains from May 2019, in the form of 300 positions.

Employment and Workforce director Dan Ellzey pointed out that the May labor survey was conducted during the same week Gov. Henry McMaster allowed restaurants in the state to re-open, a move that accounted for many of the hospitality job gains.

"We have a long way to go until our state can reclaim its previously historic low unemployment rate, but with the hardworking people who make up this state, we know that when opportunity presents itself, they will be eager to rejoin the workforce and help be the necessary catalyst in rebooting our economy," Ellzey said.

That economic reboot has been a priority for McMaster, who was one of the last governors in the country to issue a statewide stay-at-home order and among the first to allow businesses to begin reopening. Last week, the governor said he would not close down the state again, noting the economic damage already caused by shutdowns and emphasizing a need for personal responsibility in terms of following hy-

giene and social distancing recommendations.

"We cannot keep businesses closed forever," McMaster said then. "What it boils down to is, we must be careful individually."

Another recovery effort centers on plans for reopening schools in the fall. On Friday, members of a special committee tasked with studying that process discussed recommendations including placing a nurse in every school, hiring additional counselors and new cleaning protocols.

The group also noted possible changes including extending the school day, turning off water fountains and changing hallway traffic patterns to reduce or eliminate two-way traffic.

The discussion comes amid a record-setting week for new COVID-19 cases in South Carolina. On Friday, state health officials announced an additional 1,081 people had tested positive for coronavirus — once again a new single-day record after breaking the record set only the day before and the first time more than 1,000 cases have been announced in the state in a single day — for a total number of more than 22,600 across the state.

There were 18 deaths announced Friday, bringing the death toll statewide to 639.

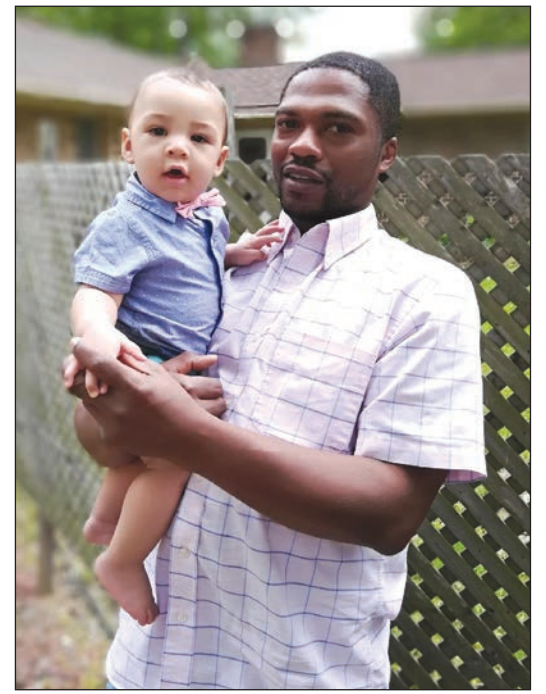
Sumter also saw its highest number of cases announced for a single day Friday with 46 new cases announced county wide. There have now been 736 Sumterites to test positive for the virus, and 20 have died, according to DHEC.

Officials also noted increased positive tests in South Carolinians under 30. Since April 4, data show a more than 400% increase in newly reported COVID-19 cases in people ages 21 to 30 and a more than 960% increase in people ages 11 to 20. Those figures, which follow national trends, "tell us that younger South Carolinians are not taking social distancing seriously," said Dr. Brannon Traxler, a physician consultant with the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

"While it is true that most youth and younger adults with COVID-19 only experience a mild illness, that is not true for all," Traxler said. "In addition, it's important to remember that even with mild or no symptoms you can spread the disease to those around you — your friends, teammates and family."



LEFT: Maurice Hill sits with his 3-year-old daughter, I-Yanna, recently. Through Midlands Fatherhood Coalition, Hill has earned his GED, has a full-time job and is co-parenting I-Yanna.



RIGHT: Robert Brigman holds his son, Rowan Brigman, recently. Brigman has been receiving assistance from the coalition since October.

COALITION FROM PAGE A1

"out there by myself, like in a boat without a paddle."

He credits the group with helping improve his communication skills and how he interacts with his family, and now he's co-parenting his 3-year-old daughter. Before the coalition, he wasn't a part of her life.

Hill said he dropped out of high school after only completing the ninth grade in Orangeburg and made "foolish choices" and was soon living on the streets.

A lot has changed for him in two years since he became actively involved with the coalition — he's earned his GED, become a full-time employee for the first time in his life, is living in a housing unit, enrolled in an associate degree program at Central Carolina Technical College and has his daughter each weekend.

Hill said the coalition has taught him to be accountable, be committed and to listen to advice. Curious by nature, he said, he realized through the program that he has a passion and drive for school.

The coalition has also taught him that when you have children, life changes.

He said he's learned that "he's supposed to be his daughter's first boyfriend."

"I have learned to never give up on family

and never lose hope," Hill said. "As a man, your biggest responsibility is to always make sure your family is straight and your family is first."

...

The group has also helped Brigman with visitation with his son who is about 1.5 years old.

Brigman, 38, originally from Marion County, was the first person in his family to go to college. After graduating high school, he attended the College of Charleston for three years. He's been a program manager with Wateree Community Actions Inc. for eight years.

When he was seeking help last year, Brigman said he realized there were several groups to help mothers, but options for fathers were limited. One of those women's groups connected him with Midlands Fatherhood Coalition in October.

The biggest benefits he's had in the program are help with mentoring, conflict resolution and assistance with visitation paperwork.

"Now, I try to diffuse family situations and ease as much conflict as I can," Brigman said. "I am trying to build a real bond with Rowan as much as possible."

Reward for information in S.C. woman's death

SPARTANBURG (AP) — The family of a South Carolina woman shot to death in April is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the case.

Authorities said Regina Allen, 32, and her boyfriend, Terry Griffen, 36, were shot April 20 inside a home in Inman. Both were transported to Spartanburg Medical Center. Allen died from her injuries the next day. Griffen was treated and released.

Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright announced the reward Wednesday at a news conference, *The Spartanburg Her-*

ald-Journal reported.

"It was an incredibly bad crime," Wright said. "I know someone is out there who wants to talk and is afraid."

Wright said the shooter fired multiple times into the home where the couple were located and that the victims may have been targeted.

"This is a life-changing event for a very young, sweet girl that didn't deserve this," Wright said. "I need your help and always asked for help and been able to get it."

The reward is being offered over the next six months.

Study ties blood type to risk of COVID-19; O may help, A hurt

BY MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

A genetic analysis of COVID-19 patients suggests that blood type might influence whether someone develops severe disease.

Scientists who compared the genes of thousands of patients in Europe found that those who had Type A blood were more likely to have severe disease while those with Type O were less likely.

Wednesday's report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* does not prove a blood type connection, but it does confirm a previous report from China of such a link.

"Most of us discounted it because it was a very crude study," Dr. Parameswaran Hari, a blood specialist at the Medical College of Wisconsin, said of the report from China. With the new work, "now I believe it," he said. "It could be very important."

Other scientists urged caution. The evidence of a role for blood type is "tentative ... it isn't enough of a signal to be sure," said Dr. Eric Topol, head of the Scripps Research Translational Institute in San Diego.

The study, involving scien-

tists in Italy, Spain, Denmark, Germany and other countries, compared about 2,000 patients with severe COVID-19 to several thousand other people who were healthy or who had only mild or no symptoms. Researchers tied variations in six genes to the likelihood of severe disease, including some that could have a role in how vulnerable people are to the virus. They also tied blood groups to possible risk.

Most genetic studies like this are much larger, so it would be important to see if other scientists can look at other groups of patients to see if they find the same links, Topol said.

Being older or male seems to increase risk, and scientists have been looking at genes as another possible "host factor" that influences disease severity.

There are four main blood types — A, B, AB and O — and "it's determined by proteins on the surface of your red blood cells," said Dr. Mary Horowitz, scientific chief at the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research.

People with Type O are better able to recognize certain proteins as foreign, and that may extend to proteins on virus surfaces, Hari explained.

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Poll: Majority of Americans support police protests

BY AARON MORRISON AND HANNAH FINGERHUT
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ahead of the Juneteenth holiday weekend's demonstrations against systemic racism and police brutality, a majority of Americans say they approve of recent protests across the country. Many think they'll bring positive change.

And despite the headline-making standoffs between law enforcement and protesters in cities nationwide, the poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research also finds a majority of Americans think law enforcement officers have generally responded to the protests appropriately. Somewhat fewer say the officers used excessive force.

The findings follow weeks of peaceful protests and unrest in response to the death of George Floyd, a black man who died pleading for air on May 25 after a white Minneapolis police officer held his knee on Floyd's neck for nearly eight minutes. A dramatic change in public opinion on race and policing has followed, with more Americans today than five years ago calling police violence a very serious problem that unequally targets black Americans.

Bill Ardren, a 75-year-old retired resident of Maple Grove, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis, said he supports the protests. He blames protesters and law enforcement equally for why some Floyd demonstrations turned into ugly clashes that were scarred by looting and arson.

"People finally got fed up because of this last incident," said Ardren, referring to Floyd's death, "and it spread all over the country."

The new AP-NORC poll finds 54% of Americans say they approve of the protests, while 32% disapprove. Another 14% say they hold neither opinion.

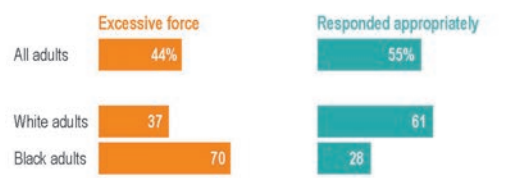
More Americans think the protests will mostly change the country for the better than bring about negative change, 44% to 21%, while a third say the protests won't make much difference.

An Associated Press tally of known arrests through June 4 found that more than 10,000 people were arrested at demonstrations in the U.S., many of which defied citywide curfews and some daytime orders to disperse. The count grew by the hundreds each day, as protesters were met with overwhelming shows of force by local officers, state police and National Guard members. Los Angeles had more than a quarter of the nation's arrests, according to the AP's tally, followed by New York, Dallas and Philadelphia. One of the nation's largest demonstrations

Majority says police responded appropriately to recent protests

A new AP-NORC poll finds Americans are more likely to say police appropriately responded to the protests that followed George Floyd's death rather than with excessive force.

Do you think law enforcement has generally responded to the recent protests with excessive force or appropriately?



Results based on interviews with 1,310 U.S. adults conducted June 11-15. The margin of error is ±3.7 percentage points for the full sample.

SOURCE: AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

took place in Philadelphia on June 6, when tens of thousands of people met near the Philadelphia Museum of Art and peacefully marched through Center City. Kipp Gilmore-Clough, a resident of the city and associate pastor at Chestnut Hill United Church, joined that day's protest and said that kind of response to police abuse was "long overdue."

"I've been fairly heartened by the ongoing presence in the streets because the systemic racism that has generated these protests is longstanding and deeply embedded," said Gilmore-Clough, who's among those who think the protests will have a positive impact. "My hope is that this persistence leads to results, changes of laws, changes of institutions and changes to our patterns that have normalized white supremacy."

Seven percent of Americans say they've participated in a protest in the past few weeks. While black Americans were significantly more likely to say so than white Americans, the poll found about half of all those who said they protested were white. The demonstrations have been noted as remarkably diverse compared with those seen as affiliated with the Black Lives Matter movement that emerged nearly seven years ago.

A majority of Americans, 55%, say law enforcement responded to recent protests appropriately, while fewer, 44%, say they used excessive force. And 54% say President Donald Trump's response to the recent unrest — he suggested sending the U.S. military into cities where local officials struggled to quell unrest, before later backing off the idea — made things worse.

Just 12% say Trump made things better, while 33% say his response had no impact.

How black history is taught in schools faces new scrutiny

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — For decades, when it was discussed at all, the killing of hundreds of people in a prosperous black business district nearly a century ago was referred to as the Tulsa race riot.

Under new standards developed by teachers, Oklahoma students are urged to consider the differences between labeling it a "massacre" or a "riot," which is how it's still described in state laws. Typically in ninth and 11th grades, students also are encouraged to research survivors and learn their firsthand accounts of the 1921 violence.

"If that's taught correctly, then any freshman has a context for how and why this kind of thing can happen in the United States of America," said Aaron Baker, a history teacher in the Putnam City school district in Oklahoma City.

The state's new standards are going out to schools as a national conversation on racial injustice brings new scrutiny to how African-American history is taught nationwide. Recent demonstrations over police brutality also are bringing awareness to an important holiday that isn't widely taught — Juneteenth. Celebrated yesterday, it honors the day in 1865 that the last enslaved black people learned they had been freed.

There is no national curriculum or set of standards for teaching black history in America. Only a small number of states, including Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Mississippi and New York, have laws requiring that it be taught in public schools. States set their own standards, and history survey courses often touch on slavery, Reconstruction, the rise of Jim Crow laws and the civil rights movement.

Some experts and educators

say black history lessons focus too much on violence and suffering, instead of the systemic aspects of racism and white supremacy, while others say the past has been sanitized.

In Texas, the Board of Education recently approved a course on African-American studies that will be an elective for high school students. A University of Texas professor involved in developing the curriculum, Kevin Cokley, said his college students say they are taught a sanitized version of black history in high school.

"When I am teaching about slavery and how brutal it was and sharing specific details, most of my students — natives of Texas — indicate they did not learn the specifics of slavery that I provide them in my course," said Cokley, a professor of educational psychology and African and African diaspora studies. "Often-times they are shocked and angered to find they were not taught the information I am sharing with them."

The massacre in Tulsa happened over the course of 16 hours, from May 31 to June 1, 1921, when white mobs attacked black residents and businesses. As many as 300 people were killed, hundreds more injured and thousands left homeless. Tulsa's black business district, known as Black Wall Street, was destroyed.

Oklahoma schools have been required to teach about the massacre since 2002, although some people thought it wasn't being taught everywhere. Tulsa schools instituted new standards two years ago, which the state Education Department used as a guide.

The massacre largely wasn't discussed in Oklahoma until a commission was formed in 1997 to investigate the violence. The commission is led

by state Sen. Kevin Matthews, a Tulsa Democrat who said the new teaching standards haven't faced opposition but that some people would have preferred to leave the massacre in the past.

"Older people called me and said, 'Why do you want to bring this back up, this dirty secret?'" he said.

Matthews said his grandmother was a young girl in Tulsa during the massacre but never told him about the violence. He learned about it as an adult from his grandmother's brother.

"It was like a movie; I couldn't believe it happened here," Matthews said.

LaGarrett King, director of the Carter Center for K-12 Black History Education at the University of Missouri, said he thinks there is too much emphasis in the instruction of black history on violence, which is often centered on racist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan in a way that doesn't explore nuances or apathy toward black deaths.

King provided training last year for 300 educators across the country who are interested in teaching black history. He expects a virtual session this summer to have more participants than usual. He said that the growing interest makes him optimistic but that history needs to be framed differently. The push for diversity in education so far has led to mostly cosmetic changes, he said, without enough emphasis on the entry points and perspective of black history.

"White people don't acknowledge Juneteenth, but yet we're supposed to be a country that believes in freedom. We have been taught July 4, 1776, is the real Independence Day, but it's not," King said. "The vast majority of black people were still enslaved."

ENGAGEMENTS

Cromer-Josey

Mr. and Mrs. James Paul Cromer III of Sumter announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Louise Cromer of Sumter, to Matthew Samuel Josey of Florence, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rene Josey of Florence.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Paul Cromer Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Peter James Flanagan and the great-granddaughter of Mrs. Florence Flanagan, all of Sumter. She attended Clemson University for four years. She is employed as a manager by Chick-fil-A of West Florence.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of Dr. and Mrs. J. Larry Josey and the late Dr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Willis, all of Clemson. He graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in May 2017. He is employed as a manager by Chick-fil-A of West Florence.

The wedding is planned for Oct. 3, 2020, at the Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter.

The couple is registered at theknot.com/us/slm2020



MISS CROMER

Compton-Sewell

Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. Compton of Sumter announce the engagement of their son, Andrew T. Compton of Sumter, to Emily C. Sewell of Alpharetta, Georgia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Sewell of Alpharetta.

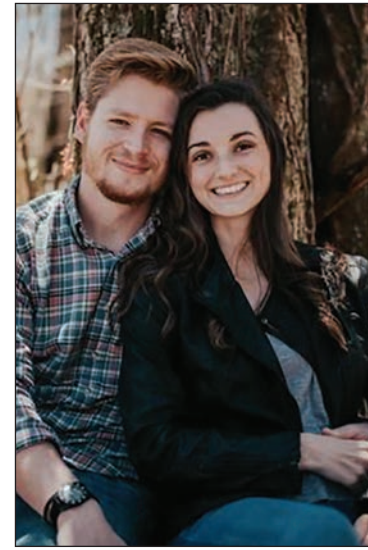
The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Sewell of Marietta, Georgia, and Lt. Col. and Mrs. John P. Bland of Canton, Georgia. She graduated in 2020 from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing and Management. She will begin the Master of International Business program at USC in the fall.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Bailes and the late Mr. and Mrs. Belton O'Neal

Compton Sr., all of Sumter. He also graduated in 2020 from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing and Management. He is employed by Hacquard and Compton Industrial Maintenance.

The wedding is planned for Oct. 10, 2020, at Chukkar Farm Polo Club and Event Facility in Alpharetta.

The couple is registered at Macy's, www.macys.com; Bed Bath and Beyond, www.bedbathandbeyond.com; and Amazon, www.amazon.com.



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YESTERYEAR

'Yanks' supper held at school cafeteria; Jones sees 200th career coaching win

75 YEARS AGO — 1945

Jan. 11 — 16

• A large crowd attended the annual Ladies' Night Banquet of the Sumter Kiwanis Club held at Edmunds High School. Dr. Havilah Babcock, dean of the School of English of the University of South Carolina, was guest speaker for the affair.

• The clothing secured in the Victory Clothing Drive was packed at the YMCA, and all persons in Sumter who still have not brought in their bundles and desire to help are asked to bring them to the YMCA. A group of volunteers from the various religious, educational and civic clubs of the city will have charge of the packing, and they hope to complete it in one day.

• The Sumter County Game and Fish Association had its first "Yanks" barbecue supper meeting at the Edmunds High School cafeteria. R.T. Brown was secretary-treasurer of the organization. Membership cards were available for purchase by mail, from any rural policeman, hardware store or barber shop. The goal was to have more than 1,000 members for the current year.

• Disgruntled GIs overseas and equally concerned congressmen called for "Ike" to speak out plainly on the Army's trouble-harried demobilization program. The great prestige which Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower enjoys both with the Army rank and file as well as with Capitol Hill lawmakers evidently made them want to hear what he had to say as chief of staff.

• Much fun and festivity is in store for all patrons of the Officers Club as the winter program goes into full swing. Informal "jukebox" dances on Wednesday nights, bingo and bridge games on Thursday nights and the weekly Saturday night formals are scheduled.

• Pupils of Sumter elementary, junior high and high schools who were the largest bond sellers in the Victory Bond campaign were given a special tour of Shaw Field. The show, arranged by Col. D. W. Titus, base commander, and Francis M. Moise, Victory Bond committeeman, included a three-hour tour that featured a movie and a demonstration of Air Force link trainers movies, gunnery equipment and airplanes.

• Jack Chandler hit the basket for 12 points to lead the Sumter High School Gamecocks to a 27-to-21 victory over the Columbia High School Capitals. Ed Brown for Columbia was runner-up for high scorer, sinking four field goals and one free shot for nine points.

• Sumter High's basketball team, fresh from an unexpected victory over Columbia's previously unbeaten Capitals, will take on Florence High's quintet. The Gamecocks, with a shifted lineup after their first game loss to Olympia's cagers, played stellar ball to whip the Caps. Theron Cook, lanky football star, was given his first assignment as a basketball player and started at center.

• The nation's major sources of new home and industrial electric appliances were shut off today when 200,000 CIO electrical workers went on strike in 16 states, running the number of strike-idle in the country to more than 600,000 — highest since before the war.

• Nylon lines formed on Main Street early today braving the inclement weather for those sheer "one to a customer" scarcities with men as well as women patiently awaiting their turn at the stocking counter in spite of a drizzling rain.

• Many former service men now in "civvies" are enjoying the Men's Volleyball class each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Y gym. This group of young volleyball enthusiasts, with the old timers, are having a lot of fun.

• Plans have been completed for the first Senior Scout dance for all Senior Scouts of the Pee Dee Area Council to be held at Sunset Country Club. Music was provided by J. W. Philips and his orchestra.

• Thirteen Sumter men left this morning for Fort Jackson for pre-induction exams and two for inducting into the United States Army. Sleet, wind and rain were on the weather menu from Sumter this morning with more of the same promised for tonight and tomorrow. The mercury dropped to 32 during the night.

• Whisenhunt Specialty Co. of Charleston and Carolina Motor Co. of Sumter, each capitalized at \$10,000, were chartered by the secretary of state. The Whisenhunt company listed officers as J. L. Whisenhunt, president; Richard J. Conron, vice president and secretary; and D.K. Whisenhunt, treasurer. Officers of the Sumter concern were J. C. Hurst, presi-



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

From left, Selma Tennant, her nephew Shain House and her daughters Heather and Dixie enjoy a day at Santee State Park during a reunion for lung transplant recipients in June 1995. Selma Tennant of Sumter received a lung transplant in May 1994.

dent, and Frank L. Atkinson, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

• Col. Clayton E. Hughes, a former commander in the Air Transport Command in the Pacific and China-Burma-India theater, former Air Corps Aerobatic Pursuit Team member, and noted Army polo player, assumed command of Shaw Field. In an interview, the new base commander said: "I am extremely happy to be assigned to Shaw Field and to be stationed in South Carolina. Shaw, now designated as a permanent interim base, is destined to be one of the Air Force's important air fields."

50 YEARS AGO — 1970

Sept. 14 — 20

• The First Santee-Cooper Country Archery Tournament and Hunt has ended, and bowmen traveled to Moncks Corner for a two-day deer hunt to complete one of the first PAA-sanctioned archery tournaments ever held in South Carolina. Approximately 145 bowmen from California to New York participated in the tournament.

• It used to be said about a homely father of a good-looking daughter, "It ruins your faith in good seed corn." But jokes about corn seed aren't funny anymore. Good seed corn may be the most precious commodity farmers will be looking for next year, a group of specialists at Clemson University have concluded. Faith in the seed of some varieties has been shaken by the epidemic of southern corn leaf blight that ravaged corn fields this summer.

• Two things really stand out in a summary from a recent in-depth study of farm records in S.C. They showed, for one thing, that many farms in the state lost money last year. A poor growing season for many crops and depressed market conditions, hard facts of life for farmers as the year progressed, were translated into even harder facts when firm figures were in.

• Enemy troops ambushed the vanguard of the Cambodian government's first major offensive of the war today, forcing Cambodian soldiers back after an abortive attempt to recapture an important position in the country's heartland.

• If you like football and enjoy picking winners, you'll get your chance tomorrow when the first installment of *The Sumter Daily Item's* Annual Football Contest is kicked off. The weekly contest provides an opportunity for pigskin enthusiasts to select winners in high school football contests and win money doing it.

• R. B. Dean was recognized at the Sumter County Development Board meeting with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the board since 1968. W. T. Fort Jr., board vice chairman, and John Jones, a member of the board, presented the plaque.

• The highly talented and gallant Sumter Darts failed in their bid for the S.C. Intercity Tennis League Championship, losing in the last moments of play to a powerful Greenville aggregation. Sumter took control of the match in the opening singles play as Jimmy Boykin overcame Greenville's Tommy Wyche and Arthur Abbott downed Frank Spears in straight sets.

• Mrs. Agnes Wilson has been selected for inclusion in the 1970 edition of "Outstanding Educations of America," according to Dr. L. C. McArthur, superintendent of schools for District 17. Mrs. Wilson was nominated earlier this year and has been chosen for the awards publication on the basis of her civic and professional achievements.

• The specialty of the house this month will be the NCO Wives' Club membership drive. Mrs. Mary Martin, the club's president, issued a call to all the wives of NCOs whose husbands belong to the open mess organization to join or at least look over the wives group. We'd like to have all the girls that qualify for membership to come on out and join us.

• It's been 23 years since the United States Air Force became a separate service. And it's been a fantastic 23 years. Sept. 18, 1947, was the dawn of the jet age. Today, we are in the space age.

• The 363rd Field Maintenance Squadron was recently awarded the Quarterly Wing OJT Trophy. Out of a possible 100 points, the Field Maintenance S quadron obtained a 93.3 score for the period April 1 to June 30 of this year.

• Seaman Richardson, Sumter High's flanker, has been placed on the disabled list and is expected to remain there for a minimum of six weeks and possibly the rest of the season. It will hurt. Richardson suffered a dislocated shoulder in practice while going up for a pass.

• Approximately 123 Sumterites will be voicing their opinions, listening to others, gaining new outlooks and meeting new people in the first session of the Young Women's Christian Association Dialogue Sessions. These 123 interested persons were divided into six groups and will meet at different homes and locations throughout the city to discuss today's problems and other subjects.

25 YEARS AGO — 1995

June 14 — 20

• Lee County Council shied away from implementing a road user fee to help balance the county's 1995-96 budget. Council gave preliminary approval to an unspecified budget of about \$4 million. Two more approvals are needed before July 1.

• Summerton Town Council gave final approval to a \$660,455 budget to fund the town's 1995-96 operations. The budget — which reflects about a 7 percent decrease from the current year's budget — doesn't call for any change in the town's tax rate, Town Administrator Mark Myers said.

• The moon was full at Riley Park on Tuesday night. By the conclusion of Sumter's 16-4 American Legion baseball win over Columbia Northeast, that fact was evident without even a glance skyward. Three hours into the seven-inning affair (mercifully stopped at that point due to the 10-run rule), the visitors had neither a pitcher nor a catcher capable of steering a baseball 60 feet, six inches with any velocity, and Sumter centerfielder Bert Beatson was trying his hand as a closer against a one-armed hitter.

• Sumter school district officials are trying to untangle details of a loophole in this year's state property tax

relief that allows local governments to raise taxes to fund schools and give the state the bill. Sumter School District 2 Superintendent Dr. Frank Baker doesn't expect he'll push Sumter County Council to take advantage of the new loophole, however, because it could end up hurting many taxpayers.

• If you think the Junior Welfare League is a bunch of housewives gathering periodically to have morning tea, you haven't looked around the community lately. Although the league was formed by Priscilla Shaw in 1914 to give a group of card-playing housewives something to do, today's "League girls" barely have time to learn the art of bridge. The Sumter Junior Welfare League started with 12 women and in 1994 was comprised of 113 women, 75 percent of whom work in full-time jobs. They volunteered 4,280 hours and raised and donated more than \$46,000 to the community.

• Sumter's Chain Gang Bicycle Club donated \$1,000 to the Sumter Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club annual Back-A-Boy and Girl campaign. The money was raised during the second-annual Swift Ride held in conjunction with the Iris Festival. Pepsi Cola was the major sponsor for the event, and the bike club organized the event.

• Sumter P-15's head coach Wallie Jones reached a milestone when his team shut out Dalzell 13-0 in an American Legion baseball game. Jones, in his ninth season as the P-15's head coach, picked up his 200th career coaching victory. Ironically, he had no idea of his accomplishment. "I really didn't know," said Jones, who has guided the P-15's to four straight state championships. "I wasn't aware of that. WIBZ Radio announcer John Quackenbush told me about it before the game tonight, but that was the first I'd heard of it.

• Sluggish sales and two warehouses full of unsold merchandise have forced the city of Sumter's largest privately held employer to scale back workers' hours. Sumter's Korn Industries will begin shutting its plant down every other week in mid-July to slow production and avoid an employee layoff. The South Lafayette Drive furniture manufacturer employs more than 100 workers.

• The city of Sumter is apparently going to be home to one of 10 franchises in a newly formed professional basketball league that is expected to begin play this fall. The American Major Basketball League is set to have teams in North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee as well as South Carolina. The Sumter team would play its home games at the Sumter County Exhibition Center.

• Their eyes widen, mouths drop open and tiny hands rush to flushed cheeks. The story is getting exciting. The children on the floor encircle the storyteller, who sits in a chair in the middle. With wide sweeping hands, exaggerated facial expressions and a variety of voices, the storyteller brings the characters to life. Storytellers come as part of the summer reading program at the Sumter County Library.

• Sumter County Council will consider three revenue-raising ordinances at a special meeting and may vote to approve a referendum on a 1-cent local option sales tax. One of the ordinances to be considered is an expansion of the county road user fee that council Democrats defeated last week while Republican Chairman Chuck Finning was absent. Two other ordinances — one to increase the maximum fine that can be imposed by county magistrates and one that increases the video poker machine fee — both received the first of three approvals.

• If you've ever attended classes at USC Sumter, don't be surprised if, in the near future, you receive a friendly telephone call from Milton Blackmon, a volunteer who is helping the university stay in touch with former students. "USC Sumter's Office of Admissions has been making a real effort to contact former students by telephone to let them know about academic programs and various other activities on campus."

• Fun and games are on the agenda for the Sumter City Council meeting. The game is bingo, and the "fun" for council members will be sorting through a set of complicated city planning laws in trying to decide whether to lift a ban on bingo parlors in certain areas of downtown. A public hearing and a lengthy presentation by Sumter City-County Planning Director John Stockbridge about permitting bingo parlors in Sumter's downtown "central business district" yielded nothing.

REFLECTIONS



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

Dancers enjoy the new Teenager Canteen, seen below at right, in January 1946. The center provided supervised activities for young people in Sumter.

Recreation centers opened for young people in the 1940s

This issue of Reflections revisits the opening of two centers dedicated to the youth of Sumter. These two wood-framed facilities provided the young people of Sumter with the opportunity to gather and socially

interact in a supervised manner. Both buildings were financed by the residents of Sumter with a number of individuals donating both furniture and refreshments



Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS

for use by those who attended the centers. The research data and photos were taken from *The Sumter Item* archives.

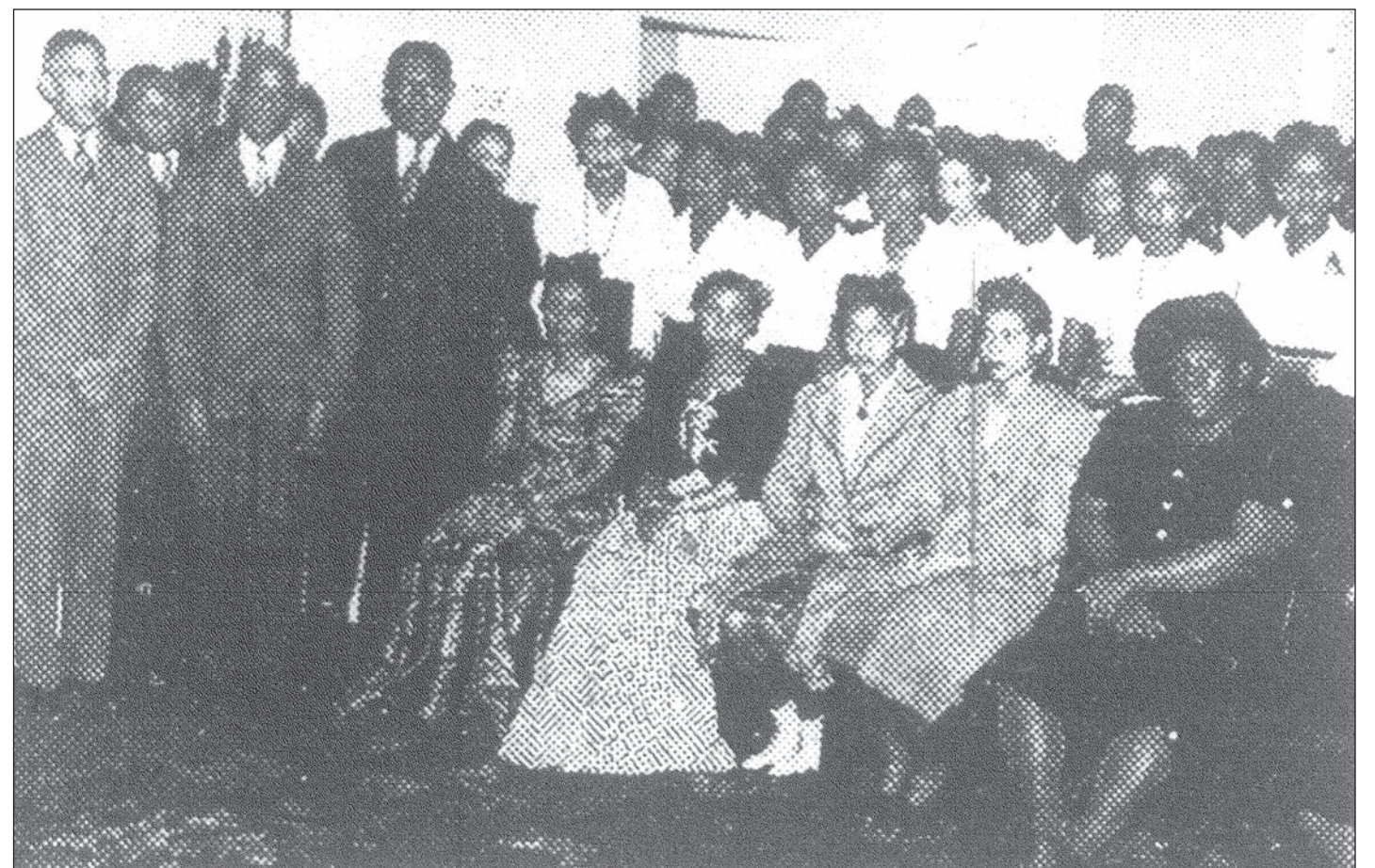
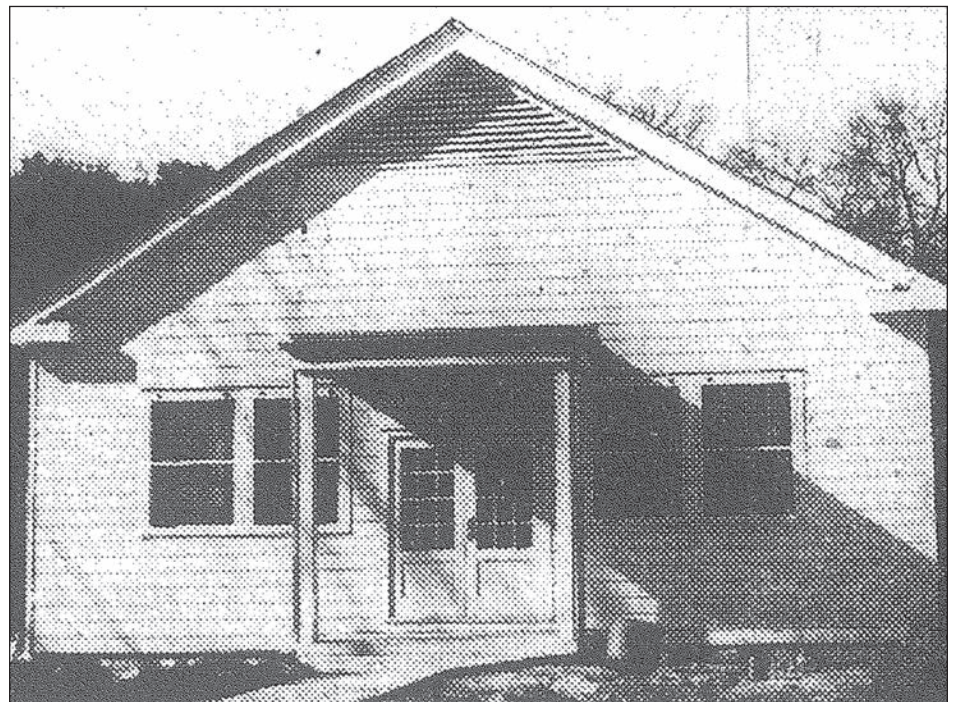
“The Teenager Canteen (formerly known as The Hangout) consisted of frame construction 30 x 90 feet situated on a 55 x 290 foot lot purchased by the city. Cost of the project will be in excess of \$10,000 according to J. A. Raffield, city manager. Besides a large assembly room and dance floor, the building is equipped with offices, snack bar, locker rooms and rest rooms. The teenage group was formerly located on North Main Street in a building owned by E. B. Boyle. When the old location was needed for other purposes, Mr. A. T. Heath Sr. proposed to city council that if the city would supply the necessary building, he would furnish it.”

Teenagers by the scores — 200 or 300 of them — thronged to take possession of their new recreation building on North Salem at the gala opening dance.

THE COUNCIL STREET RECREATIONAL CENTER

The City of Sumter was able to obtain federal approval to renovate and equip a frame dwelling on Council Street for use as a recreation center for black residents. Mayor F. B. Creech, who was advised of the approval by Sen. Burnet R. Maybank and Rep. H. B. Fulmer, made the announcement. Estimated cost of the project was \$10,500.

BELOW: Leaders who attended the opening ceremony of the center for young black residents included Dr. S.J. McDonald Jr., Dr. E.C. Jones, S.J. McDonald and N. Karl Greene, supervisor of the center. Behind the guests to the right is the Lincoln High School glee club, which rendered a number of selections during the ceremony.



“Mayor F. B. Creech presented the beautiful recreation center at 42 Council St. on Feb. 3, 1944. This new facility was to be used by black soldiers and citizens of the Sumter community. Several hundred persons were present for the re-opening of the recently renovated and modernized community house. It was the ambition of our churches, schools and people to provide wholesome recreation for the youth of the community.”

The first center to be used by black youth was initially opened on Washington Street.

RIGHT: Officials who attended the opening of the center for black residents in 1944 are, from left, City Manager J.A. Raffield, Mayor F.B. Creech, USO Director Charles B. Bradley, Councilman Herbert Moses, Supervisor of City Recreation Adele Moore and Recreation Secretary Leila Myers.



MARLOWE FROM PAGE A1

"I had no interest in having children at that stage in our lives," Marlowe said. "Six or eight months later, the Lord kind of worked in my heart, as well, and aligned our hearts together, and we decided to go through the process of becoming foster parents."

Next thing he knew, they were filling out paperwork and undergoing the process of becoming a foster home, which took about six to eight months.

"We were kind of looking into the foster-to-adopt kind of route, which basically means you foster kids who look like their parental rights are probably going to be terminated, so you'll probably adopt them," Marlowe said.

In no time, the couple brought home their first child, a 6-month-old son. He will turn 3 in July.

For a first-time parent, one child can be overwhelming. However, the Marlowes were in for a surprise when the unexpected came knocking on their door.

Just two months after taking in their son, the couple was expecting a child of their own and fostering a 6-day-old girl.

"When DSS called us, they said, 'We need a home for this little girl for just maybe a week or two.' That was two years ago," Marlowe said, laughing.

He said he'll never forget how his now daughter came to be a part of his life.

It was a typical Monday, and he was in a football meeting at Sumter High School, where he served as offensive coordinator for the team. He got a phone call from his wife — who he said never calls during meetings — to say she was on her way to the hospital to pick up a newborn who needed a temporary foster home.

In shock by the call, Marlowe told her they would talk about it when he got home from work.

"I didn't think about it the whole time I was at practice or even once I got out of practice," Marlowe said, "but I came home after football practice, and there was a little girl sitting in my living room."

Marlowe's wife had shared she was pregnant only the Saturday before that Monday.

"The process of going from one to two-and-a-half happened in about two

days," Marlowe said. "The Lord took me out of that equation because he knew he wanted that little girl in that house, and he knew that if it was up to me, she probably wouldn't be there because that's crazy to do. It's crazy to take in a child just after you found out you were pregnant and already have an 8-month-old, but hey, that's what we did."

He said it was a crazy situation and still is, but he's proud to say that's his family's story. The couple ended up adopting the baby girl, who will be 2 years old in August. Marlowe also said that her adoption was finalized just two weeks ago.

"At one time in my house, I had three children in my house under 2," Marlowe said. "Having three under 3 is a crazy life, but we love it."

Going from two adopted children to having one of their own, Marlowe said he has always considered all three as his own, biological or not.

The boy is biracial, and their other two children, both girls, are white. Marlowe said they raise them all the same. The only difference that he sees is how recent events happening across the country connected to racism-fueled social injustice will affect his son as he gets older.

"The world we're living in now is a different world we were living in a couple of months ago," Marlowe said. "We'll pray for guidance and direction."

He said he didn't feel different when they brought their son home and when they brought their biological child home.

"From the outside looking in, I thought it would, but it just really doesn't. They came into my home and just became my children," he said.

Marlowe is 29 now, and while the family still lives in Sumter, he's set to take on the head coaching job at South Florence High School this next school year.

Marlowe said he doesn't regret the decision to enter the foster care system. He considers it a blessing.

"The process itself, going through all the paperwork and all the hoops you have to jump through to become a foster parent, it's a long process," Marlowe said, "but it was one that was very rewarding."



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Dr. Joe Williams, who opened a free medical clinic for uninsured patients, contracted coronavirus in April. His wife, Brenda, also became sick with it.

WILLIAMS FROM PAGE A1

The virus affected their ability to be around their two grandsons, one a sophomore at Coastal Carolina University who has been home with campuses closed nationwide, the other a 10-year-old who attends Alice Drive Middle School. He would normally be at their house "all the time." His mother, the Williams' youngest of three daughters, is an RN in the operating room at Tuomey, so the grandson would often get help with his math homework from his grandfather while Mom was at work.

He called every day while his grandparents were sick to ask if he'd ever be allowed back over.

Williams was out of work for five weeks and has been back for six, but his and his wife's recovery hasn't stopped Williams from wanting people to "not take this for granted." He treated a woman in her 50s at the hospital this week, he said, and cases continue to see record highs in Sumter and statewide.

While neither Williams nor his wife had to go to the hospital while sick, their quarantine forced them to take some time off — resulting in binge-watching Clint Eastwood movies. So far, the lasting impacts on his body are his loss of smell and a switch from sweet relish to the more sour dill relish on his black-eyed peas, and the virus has affected his family in ways beyond the couple's home. His cousin died this week from it, Williams said. He couldn't attend the funeral in Georgia.

The cousin, who was in his 70s, was like an older brother to Williams, he said.

Family has always been important to Williams. Family is why he is where he is and why he continues to do what he does.

"We both had great, really strong fathers," Williams said.

His father, Curtis, died at 47 from melanoma of the foot in 1979. He was his son's best friend.

Growing up in rural Georgia in a town outside of Columbus, father taught son rabbit hunting. Williams said both his parents — his mother is still alive at age

88 — and his wife's parents are their heroes. Good, working-class people.

"They weren't perfect, but they were doing the best they could," he said.

He was the first in his family to go to college, and his three younger sisters followed suit.

The Williamses met at a summer program at the Medical College of Georgia that supported black students interested in going to medical school in the early '70s. Brenda was giving information to a group of new students when Joe asked a friend who that was who was talking too much. She's still the talker, they both say, Joe endearingly.

The next day, a group of students were hanging out — less focused on school work — while Brenda sat studying an ophthalmology manual. Joe asked to sit next to her.

"He said something like, 'It's nice sitting by you,'" Brenda said. "I said, 'Uh huh.' I promise I was shy then."

Their strong connection to their own families growing up and their empathy for people, especially those traditionally underserved in terms of race or access to health care, has propelled them through their lives and marriage.

While Brenda has fought for black and civil rights, been a motivational speaker at the jail in Sumter for female inmates and helped oppose voter suppression, Joe opened a free medical clinic in March for uninsured patients. In his semi-retirement.

They owned a private practice at the corner of North Main Street and Charlotte Avenue from June 1, 1892, to Nov. 14, 2014, where he said they had 3,000 to 4,000 active patients. Dr. Joe, as he became known, then started working at Tuomey, where he still serves part time.

The new clinic is run out of his wife's nonprofit, The Family Unit, which aims to improve quality of life for people living in poverty and promotes the institution of marriage.

In all their giving back to others, the moments where they can celebrate with their own family remain a highlight.

After weeks of having their grandsons wave at them from the yard, they all had a family meal together recently. It was their 45th wedding anniversary.

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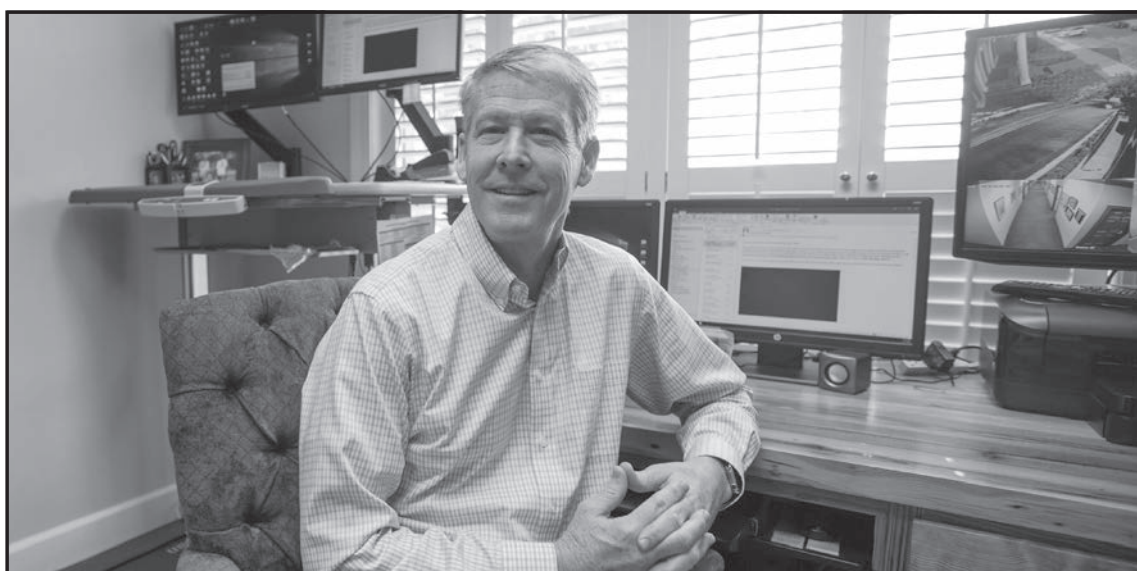
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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

COVID-19, racism exposed great inequalities

We need small business now more than ever

GoFundMe pages, idled workers and “good-bye and thank you” signs popping up on one long-standing storefront after another. America’s Main Street businesses are on the ropes, and many of our moms and pops are facing early retirement. Sadly, an overwhelming eight in 10 small business owners say our nation’s leaders don’t understand their needs — and favor big business anyway — during this time of crisis, according to a new survey of 1,200 entrepreneurs from Small Business for America’s Future.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the protests around the murder of George Floyd and so many other black Americans have exposed and highlighted the structural racism that exists in our health care and economic systems. For small business owners — and for all of us who rely on them for jobs and essential and enjoyable services — the aftershocks could be profound. Shutters and closures raise the specter of Main Streets that more resemble the first years of the Great Recession, or the aftermath of an extreme weather event, than a rebounding recovery.

Small businesses — particularly small business owners of color — are suffering, and the Trump administration’s confusing, uneven and lackluster response has left many entrepreneurs feeling poorly understood and

left behind. There has been little progress on advancing a comprehensive recovery plan that will help our nation’s primary job creators survive and rebuild over the long term.

This is an unacceptable state of affairs. We cannot let our small businesses bear the economic brunt of the turmoil in our country. It was small businesses — not giant corporations — that led the country out of the Great Recession. They created nearly two-thirds of new jobs following the recession, according to the Small Business Administration. With a long-term recovery plan dedicated to helping small businesses, they can lead the way out of the



Shaundell Newsome

COVID-19 recession, too.

But we have a lot of work to do. Small business owners were already feeling betrayed by the 2017 Trump tax cuts, citing windfalls for corporations and lip service for them. The feeling only intensified when, under the administration’s Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) implementation plan, it became known that chains like Ruth’s Chris Steak House and Shake Shack had an easier time getting a PPP loan than your neighborhood bistro or barber shop.

For entrepreneurs of color, emergency aid has fallen far short. A recent poll of black and Latino business

owners from Color of Change and UnidosUS found just 12% of the owners who applied for aid from the Small Business Administration — most seeking a PPP loan — reported receiving what they had asked for, and nearly half say they will be permanently out of business by the end of the year.

The result, unfortunately, is that small businesses have lost faith that government leaders care about them. We can’t go on like this. Our leaders must commit to helping small business owners recover and rebuild over the long term. To help the small business community in this effort, a coalition of business owners and leaders have come together to launch Small Business for America’s Future.

We need a strong small business voice in Washington committed to ensuring policymakers prioritize Main Street by advancing policies that work for small businesses and their employees. If we don’t empower our job creators, our economic recovery will be much slower and more painful.

Our survey shows the need for a long-term recovery plan for small businesses is undeniable:

- Nearly a quarter (23%) of small business owners have considered closing their business permanently, and 12% are facing the possibility of having to declare bankruptcy because of COVID-19
- 53% have new debt related to COVID-19. Of those, one-third have \$50,000 or more in new debt.
- Three in 10 small businesses will

dip into their personal savings to finance reopening while 2 in 10 will use credit cards to do so.

Small business owners are in this situation for doing their part to prevent the spread of the virus. Now, it’s time for policymakers to do their part to make sure small businesses can rebuild.

In our survey, small business owners identified three primary areas of concern that need to be addressed in the recovery: lowering health care costs, creating common-sense tax policies that put small businesses on a level playing field with big businesses and ensuring a just and equitable recovery and economy.

The virus has not gone away, and the road to recovery will be steep. Small business owners will have to struggle through lower sales volume and depressed consumer demand as people cautiously test the waters. Only 38% of small businesses expect revenue to increase over the next 12 months, according to a CNBC survey.

We need our leaders to dedicate themselves to creating policies that give Main Street a chance to get off the ropes. And we’ll be in their corner fighting for small business and America’s future.

Shaundell Newsome is co-chair of Small Business for America’s Future, owner of small business Sumnu Marketing and chairman of the board for the Urban Chamber of Commerce Las Vegas.

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICIES

EDITORIALS represent the views of the owners of this newspaper.

COLUMNS AND COMMENTARY are the personal opinion of the writer whose byline appears. Columns from readers should be typed, double-spaced and no more than 850 words. Send them to *The Sumter Item*, Opinion Pages, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, or email to letters@theitem.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by readers of the newspaper. They should be no more than 350 words and sent via e-mail to letters@theitem.com, dropped off at *The Sumter Item* office, 36 W. Liberty St. or mailed to *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, along with the full name of the writer, plus an address and telephone number for verification purposes only. Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at www.theitem.com.



COMMENTARY

The difference between news and opinion in newspapers

Fake news. Those two words have likely created more confusion and distrust of the news media than any other. While it is easy to understand why those of us who work in the news media despise the term, it should also be apparent that the general public has a vested interest in discerning facts from falsehoods.

Some of the louder news voices of the past few decades have been the cable news networks that provide news, analysis and opinion. But the opinion side now dominates on CNN, FOX and many of the major news outlets. If you lean conservative, it is easy to find commentary you agree with on FOX, and if you’re liberal, you will likely consider MSNBC your source. There is nothing wrong with the news media providing opinions, and it often plays an important role in explaining what the facts may mean. The problem comes when the audience doesn’t discern the difference between news and opinion.

Opinions on newspaper editorial pages have been in the news recently. So, this is a good time to look at why

newspapers print editorials and how readers should regard their worth, their impact and their relationship to how news is covered by newspapers.

On June 7, *The New York Times*’ editorial page editor resigned and a deputy editorial page editor stepped down for a new job after the newspaper’s website published U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton’s controversial opinion piece justifying using the armed forces on American soil during civil unrest. About the same time, there were announcements from several papers around the country that they



Dean Ridings

would be cutting back, even in some cases eliminating, the editorials they publish.

And looming over all this is the presidential election in November. If history is any guide, a record number of newspapers will decline to say who should lead the United States at a time of racial protest, uncertain progress in the COVID-19 pandemic and

economic turmoil.

Newspaper editorial and opinion pages have long engendered misunderstanding among readers, and much of the confusion is, frankly, the fault of newspapers ourselves. Since we understand the very important distinctions between news and opinions, we too often fail to remind our audience of the firewall we’ve established between the reporting of our journalists and the opining of editorial writers. Additionally, we don’t always label the opinion pieces as clearly as is needed.

A quick couple of definitions: The most common meaning of an “editorial” is the unsigned opinion piece that represents the view of the newspaper itself. An op-ed or column presents the individual view of an identified person who might or might not work for the newspaper.

Let’s focus on those unsigned editorials and why they matter.

First, here’s what editorials don’t do: They do not affect in any manner the way newspaper reporters cover the news, whether the news is about the city council or the presi-

dent of the United States. Editorials are not marching orders for journalists. When journalists are educated and trained, one of the first tenets they learn is to state the facts and keep their opinions out of the story.

Here’s what editorials do and what is often misunderstood: Yes, editorials represent the views of the newspaper, sometimes determined by individual owners, sometimes by independent editorial boards or by corporate owners of many publications. But the editorials that emerge from those views are usually the products of deep research. They clarify the issues of the day and serve to give readers insights into those issues — whether those issues concern how to straighten out the traffic mess at the edge of town or how to keep Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

Editorials are another service that newspapers provide for readers.

But, to repeat, it is a service too often misunderstood. Newspaper editors often hear from — and opinion polls reflect — a significant minority of readers who think that a newspaper’s editorial en-

dorsement of a particular candidate colors its reporters’ coverage of the campaign. Newspapers, these folks will say, are trying to “dictate” how people should vote, a surely inappropriate thing.

Newspapers can — and do — provide fair and fearless reporting while offering strong and insightful opinion on the other side of their newsroom/opinion page firewalls. But there are still two needed components for our country to trust their news sources. Newspapers have a responsibility to label opinion pieces appropriately and to keep the news objective, but the reader also has the responsibility to take the time to understand the difference. Until then, we will likely continue to hear cries of fake news when the reader doesn’t like what they read. And that’s when we all lose.

Dean Ridings is CEO of America’s Newspapers. On behalf of its approximately 1,500 newspaper and associate member companies, America’s Newspapers is committed to explaining, defending and advancing the vital role of newspapers in democracy and civil life.

PUBLIC AGENDA

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

SANTEE WATEREE RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monday, 6 p.m., 129 S. Harvin St. For special accommodations, call (803) 934-0396, extension 103.

SUMTER COUNTY DISABILITIES & SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD
CREATIVE ENVIRONMENTS INC.
INDEPENDENT LIVING INC.

MCLEOD HEALTH CLARENDON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, 6 p.m., hospital board room, 10 E. Hospital St., Manning

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

GREATER SUMTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, noon, chamber office

SUMTER CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Wednesday, 3 p.m., fourth floor, Sumter Opera House, Council Chambers

The last word in astrology

about your prospects. Make plans with someone you love, and share intentions. Put a to-do list in place. A positive turn of events is heading your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let anyone talk you into something that isn't tried and true. Get the facts, consider the ramifications and consider what's right and best for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take the time to collect accurate information before you make a decision you'll have to live with for a long time. Don't let your emotions or temptation draw you into something that isn't right for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take on a task that will help you make room for a new project. You need a change more than you realize.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make a difference. How you use your skills and what you do to create a friendly environment will change the way others perceive you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Consider your options, and follow the path that will make the best use of your attributes. Jumping into a situation that requires constant change may not be ideal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Set goals geared toward a positive lifestyle change. Tidy up loose ends, and take more time to make physical and emotional improvements.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Spend more time working on a creative endeavor. Explore the possibilities, and consider how best to proceed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll face emotional turmoil if you let someone play with your feelings. Be precise about the way you feel and what you expect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Changes will be beneficial. Clear space to house a pursuit that interests you, and it will turn out to be just what you need to lift your spirits.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take an interest in family members and what they are doing. Contributing to something that will bring you closer together is favored.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't neglect your duties or responsibilities. Take care of business before you move on to personal pastimes. How you handle situations that are challenging will determine how much outside help you generate.

WEATHER

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

Table with 6 columns: TODAY, TONIGHT, SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY. Includes icons, temperature ranges, and chance of rain.

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

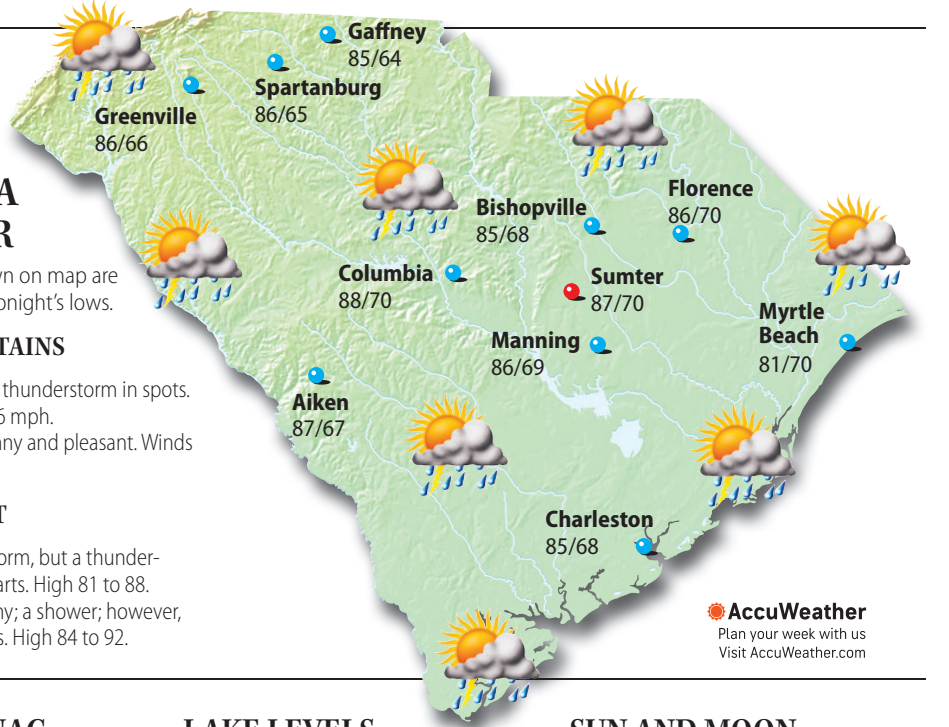
Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: A shower or thunderstorm in spots. Winds southwest 3-6 mph.
Sunday: Mostly sunny and pleasant. Winds southwest 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A thunderstorm, but a thunderstorm in southern parts. High 81 to 88.
Sunday: Partly sunny; a shower; however, dry in southern parts. High 84 to 92.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature table with columns: High, Low, Normal high, Normal low, Record high, Record low.

Precipitation

Precipitation table with columns: 24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest., Month to date, Normal month to date, Year to date, Last year to date, Normal year to date.

LAKE LEVELS

Lake levels table with columns: Lake, Full pool, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg.

RIVER STAGES

River stages table with columns: River, Flood stage, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg.

SUN AND MOON

Sun and moon table with columns: Sunrise, Moonrise, Sunset, Moonset, and moon phase icons.

TIDES

Tides table with columns: High, Low, and tide times for Myrtle Beach.

NATIONAL CITIES

Table of national cities with columns: City, Today, Hi/Low, Sun.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table of regional cities with columns: City, Today, Hi/Low, Sun.

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

Advertisement for 'We have a NOSE for NEWS' featuring a cartoon dog and contact information for The Sumter Item.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for FATHER FIGURES, ACROSS, and DOWN.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 117.

Answers for the crossword puzzle, including words like 'Trojan War instigator', 'Death of a Salesman father', and 'Sci-fi visitor'.

SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

Crossword puzzle grid for Saturday's answers.

SUDOKU

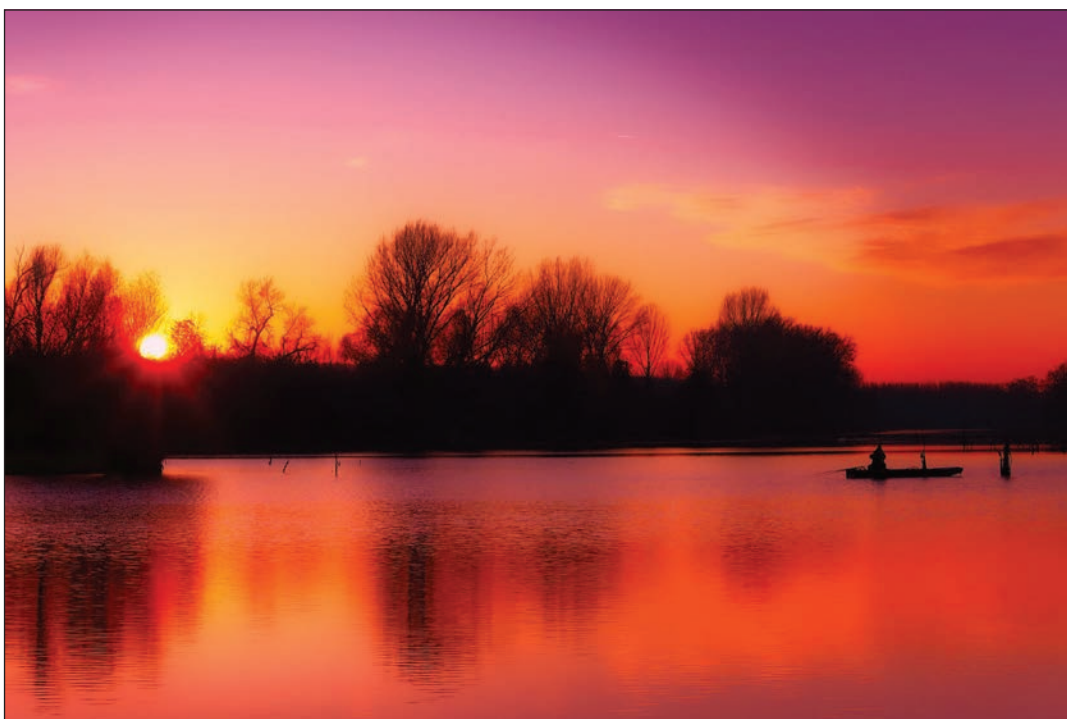
9x9 Sudoku puzzle grid.

JUMBLE

ICING SADLY VOYAGE APPEAL
Heading west from Iowa into Nebraska, they could see the prairie — PLAIN AS DAY

Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

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



A scientific look at how light affects what bass eat

BY B.A.S.S.

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama — Conventional angling wisdom says in clear water use “natural-looking” lures. On bright days, use light colors. In low light or more turbid water, use darker-colored lures. But do bass pick and choose what they eat based on the same criteria? Does their diet change based on water clarity?

In a recent column for *Bassmaster.com*, B.A.S.S. National Conservation Director Gene Gilliland, a biologist and conservation advocate, takes a scientific look at how light conditions impact your bait selection.

Researchers have known for some time that changes in turbidity can influence fish behavior. It all boils down to light penetration and “visual acuity.” In general, under more turbid conditions, prey species have a harder time seeing their own food. And more importantly, detection of predators and their reaction distances are reduced, which can also lead to early mortality — being eaten.

Predatory fish like bass are just the opposite. As light intensity decreases either from reduced sunlight or from increased turbidity, the advantage shifts from the prey fish to the predators. In clear water, many prey fish can see and recognize bass as a threat much farther than the bass can see and recognize the prey as a meal. Reduce the available light or dirty up the water a bit, and bass gain the edge. Think dawn and dusk. Reduced light equals advantage bass. A plankton bloom that provides a nice green tint to the water and reduces visibility to a few feet equals advantage bass.

How does that change in light availability or water clarity affect predator feeding? Studies in the laboratory, later confirmed by field evaluations, show that although darker water offers an element of concealment for the predator, the trade-off is a reduced ability to discriminate targets and accurately strike the prey. Since bass are basically sight feeders, in clear water they can see a greater distance and have a higher capture efficiency — better vision equals greater success. But as the water gets darker or increasingly turbid, their ability to accurately locate a target and capture it goes down.

Keep in mind, however, that just how dark it looks to you or how turbid you think the water is may not be the same to a bass. Bass have excellent vision and can see objects at surprising distances. They probably do not know if the object is a shad or a crawfish — it might be too dark or turbid to allow them to see the details — but the visual outline coupled with other sensory information such as vibration will often lead them to closer inspection and eventually to an attack on the object. They will often engulf an object then decide if it is really food and make a decision to swallow or spit it out.

From an angling perspective, one interesting observation that biologists have made is that a bass’ diet may change significantly as water clarity changes. In clear water, bass will stalk and attack the abundant, easily located schools of shad. But although shad may make up the bulk of their food, during periods of increased turbidity, crawfish intake will often increase. The same holds true in low-light conditions. Is it any wonder that a jig or soft-plastic creature bait is often the bait of choice in dark water?

It appears that science can support conventional wisdom. Clearer water means more light and better vision, so color, size, shape and detail may really make a difference in what lure you should choose. In dirty water or low-light conditions, detail may be less important and dark or fluorescent colors may be more easily seen, presenting a contrasting silhouette that entices the bass to strike first and ask questions later.

ABOUT B.A.S.S.

B.A.S.S. is the worldwide authority on bass fishing and keeper of the culture of the sport, providing cutting-edge content on bass fishing. Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, the 515,000-member organization’s fully integrated media platforms include the industry’s leading magazines (*Bassmaster* and *B.A.S.S. Times*), website (*Bassmaster.com*), television show (*The Bassmasters* on ESPN2 and *The Pursuit Channel*), radio show (*Bassmaster Radio*), social media programs and events.

Freshly plowed ground

The big green tractor roared forward, and the disk cut deep into the soft earth. The scent of the freshly plowed ground was good. Rainy days and work commitments had delayed our plans, but this day had dawned clear, and we had much work to do.

I had left home early, just after dawn, anxious to get started, but I knew it would be a little while before Ed showed up. He had sent me a text to let me know he was coming later. It gave me time to look around at the food plots and time to make some mental notes about the work ahead of us.

When I got to the tractor shed, Ed was there with his son, Thomas. We hooked the disk up to the John Deere tractor and headed to the Borden property. Shannon called to let me know he was on the way. I told him where we were headed and asked him to meet us there.

Our biggest food plot is on the powerline that runs through the property. Shannon had plowed the plot a week before with his four-wheeler and small disk, but it was a little rough. Even though the plot was somewhat bumpy, I was impressed with the overall result. The tractor and big disk smoothed the plot out and gave us a good surface for our seed.

We had planted the entire plot last year in chufa. My plan this year was to put half the plot in chufa and half in a regular wildlife mix. Five-year-old Thomas helped me with the seed. I put some chufa seed in a couple of five-gallon buckets and showed Thomas how to carry a bucket in one hand and broadcast the seed with his other hand. He did a very good job with the seed. When we finished with the chufa, Ed went back over the seeded area with the disk to cover the chufa.

Next, we put some of the wildlife mix in a canvas seed



PHOTO PROVIDED

spreader and did the other half of the plot. The mix contains peas, beans, sunflowers and buckwheat. Thomas couldn’t carry the spreader, but he could walk along with me and turn the handle to spread the seed. He was delighted to see the seed spin out onto the ground, and his laughter was contagious. We laughed along with him.



Dan Geddings

When we had covered the other half of the plot, Shannon took his four-wheeler and pulled a drag harrow over that section, to cover the seed. The disk would have buried those seeds too deeply. Now we headed back to plant some of the other plots.

The next plot was near the main sign-in box. It’s a long, narrow plot with big timber on each side. Good sunlight is a problem here, but we can usually get a decent result. That plot was plowed quickly and seeded quickly. Shannon went over it with the harrow while we moved on to the next place.

The small powerline near Ed’s stand was next. By now I was beginning to notice the heat and the dusty, sandy soil coating my boots. Thomas was also losing some of his enthusiasm, but we had at least one more plot to do before calling it a day.

Ed went on ahead to plow the plot by the fruit trees. That plot had been too wet for weeks but was just now dry enough to work. The plot runs right up to the clubhouse.

When Thomas and I got there, Ed was waiting for us on the tractor at the clubhouse. We took a little break, and Shannon caught up with us there. Ed and Thomas took the tractor back to the farm shed, and Shannon and I planted the plot and covered the seed. Then we headed back to the tractor shed.

We have some more wildlife food plots to plant and will do those soon. All we need now is some rain on the freshly plowed ground.

Email Dan Geddings at cdgeddings@gmail.com.

Inspectors survey Lowcountry trees after invasive beetle discovered

BY CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

PENDLETON — An invasive species of beetle discovered for the first time in South Carolina has state and federal officials conducting surveys in Charleston County to determine the extent of the insect’s spread. The Asian longhorned beetle was found by a homeowner in Hollywood, who contacted Clemson University’s Department of Plant Industry to report it.

A DPI inspector collected the insect for identification and conducted a preliminary survey of the trees on the property. At least four maple trees appear to be infested, and inspectors have captured live beetles.

“We were very fortunate that the residents reported it when they did,” said Steven Long, assistant director of Clemson Regulatory Services who oversees DPI and invasive species. “We think it is confined just to this local area, but we are just getting started with our surveys.”

Clemson’s Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s National Identification Services have confirmed the insect’s identity.

The Asian longhorned beetle, *Anoplophora glabripennis*, is a wood-bor-



ing beetle that threatens a variety of hardwood trees, including maple, elm, ash, sycamore, poplar and willow. It is not a pest of the oak species that are more abundant in South Carolina.

As the beetle bores into the tree, it interrupts the flow of life-giving sap and weakens the tree, ultimately killing it. Infested trees also can become safety hazards, since branches can drop and trees can fall over, especially during storms.

South Carolina is the sixth state to detect an Asian longhorned beetle infestation. The pest has been eradicated from New Jersey and Illinois; eradication efforts are ongoing in New York, Massachusetts and Ohio with guidance from the APHIS Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradica-

tion Program.

Residents in the town of Hollywood and in surrounding Charleston County communities are encouraged to allow state and federal access to property to survey for the pest. They can also help by looking for the beetle and examining the trees on their property for damage beetles may have caused.

“The No. 1 thing we need is access to property in the inspection area,” Long said. “Survey crews will be operating in the area for the next several weeks and possibly months as we determine the extent of the infestation. Landowners’ cooperation is vital to ensuring this pest doesn’t establish a foothold.

“The second thing we need is for people to help us look,” he said. “Our inspectors are experienced in examining the tree for signs of the beetles’ presence, but the more eyes we have looking for the insect and the more obvious damage it causes, the more likely we are to find it.”

The Asian longhorned beetle is shiny black with small, white spots on its body and its abnormally long antennae. Adult beetles can grow an inch and a half long.

“There are some lookalikes, including a native sawyer beetle that has

long — although not quite this long — antennae,” Long said. “But the Asian longhorned is still rather unique. Personally, I’ve only seen one other insect like it.”

The beetle’s larvae feed by tunneling under the tree bark where they live through the winter, forming galleries in the trunk and branches. When mature, they chew their way out, creating round holes about 3/8 inch in diameter.

South Carolinians who think they have found the beetle may report it online at invasives@clemson.edu or by calling DPI at 864-646-2140.

They may also make a report by calling the USDA’s Asian longhorned beetle hotline at 866-702-9938 or report online at www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com.

If possible, take pictures. If you capture a suspicious insect, store it in a durable container and freeze it, which will help with identification.

To protect against the spread of this or other damaging insect pests, Long urges caution in moving firewood or other wood products. Even if no beetles are visible, an infestation may be spread by moving branches, logs, stumps, packing material, lumber, wood debris and trimmings.

Crestwood's Newman uses military and crisis background to help mold Knights

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

Lance Newman has been coaching at Crestwood for 13 years, currently serving as a defensive line coach. Over his years of coaching, he's learned the important role that coaches can play in the lives of student-athletes on and off the field. Newman estimates that a majority of his student-athletes don't have a father figure at home, so they have to turn to coaches or teachers. "Around the United States coaches end up being the surrogate fathers for a lot of kids," said Newman.

Unfortunately, we've got a lot of single parents out there." Newman said the role of father figure begins with simply listening to kids. Athletes come from all different backgrounds, so he wants to be sure to get to know how to best work with each one. "Treating the kids like they want to be treated," said Newman on how he builds relationships with his players. "My coaching style is not the yelling and hollering to get to kids. I listen to them because many kids come to the field with a whole lot of issues from

home for all different sports, male or female. A lot of kids use sports to break away from the norms of stress at home. I try to come to them from a spiritual standpoint, that's how me and the kids normally get a good understanding." Newman developed this coaching style after spending 22 years in the Marines, while also spending time working as a mental health professional. Newman focuses heavily on his players' lives off the field, because he knows how important it is to their development in both football and life. "I spent 22 years in the United States Marine Corps and we are all about the mission, all services are," said Newman. "In that mission, if people don't buy into what you're trying to do, the mission won't be completed, so when it comes down to the aspect of football or a person's life, if they have a healthy mind, they're going to have a healthy attitude.

"I know a lot of times the key to being a coach is actually listening to the kids, because everyone has different learning types. Some people gotta see it, some people gotta do it and touch it, and some people you tell them one time and they get it down. So I know if we establish that, we can help the youth a lot better."



SUBMITTED

Crestwood defensive line coach Lance Newman, right, stands with, from left to right, coach Marcus Brisbane, and former Crestwood players Sherrick Ervin and Cam Blanding following a Touchstone Energy Bowl North-South All-Star Game practice. Newman uses his background in the military and as a mental health professional to help improve the lives of students at Crestwood.

SEE NEWMAN, PAGE B4

Sumter's Breland works to fill role of father figure like his coaches did for him

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

Sumter High School outside linebacker coach and strength coach James Breland knows what it's like to grow up in a single-parent household. Growing up, he turned to coaches to find role models. Now that he's a coach himself, Breland wants to fill that role for Gamecock student-athletes.

"I was that kid that needed coaches quite a bit to pick me up from practice, take me to practice, take me on recruiting visits and just chilling at their house to stay out of trouble," said Breland. "I was that kid that was searching for a father figure, and my high

school coaches, my little league coaches was that for me. I'm very blessed to have the opportunity to do the same thing. I really take that seriously, trying to be a good influence on them."

Breland knows that a lot of Sumter athletes grew up like he did, searching for a father figure. He wants to make sure those kids know that they have somewhere to come and be loved.

"As far as social media and everything that's going on in the world, I feel like as a coach I should be that person that brings positivity to them and speaks positively about them," said Breland.

SEE BRELAND, PAGE B4



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter linebacker coach James Breland, left, talks with former Sumter linebacker Kirkland Boone in the locker room last season. Breland, who was raised by a single parent, tries to fill the role of father figure for his athletes, just like coaches did for him growing up.

More than a coach

High school coaches often fill the role of father figure for their players, so The Sumter Item wants to celebrate coaches who fight for their kids on and off the field this Father's Day weekend



Manning assistant coach Pat Fleming, right, poses with track and field athletes, left to right, Savannah Williams, Keyah Jones and Myisha Smiling. Fleming has worked to build a family atmosphere around his teams at Manning.

SUBMITTED

Manning's Fleming builds family atmosphere with the Monarchs

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

Manning High School defensive coordinator Pat Fleming had a similar childhood to many of his student-athletes. He grew up in a single-parent household and used sports as an outlet.

Fleming estimates that over half of his student-athletes are growing up in the same environment and now that he's a coach at his alma mater, he wants the football field to be a place where they can come and feel loved.

"Coming from a single-parent home, I used athletics to help me overcome adversity and go to college. Now I'm a teacher, an educator and a coach, and I feel

like it's one of the hats that a coach wears," said Fleming. "When I was growing up, my brother was the only father figure that I had.

"It's just important to have some sort of guide. I just feel like sports with a good coach who is there for you for more than just on the field to try to make you a better man just goes hand in hand."

High school is an important stage of development for kids. Fleming, who also coaches track and field, knows that and holds himself to a high standard for the example he's setting for his athletes.

"I hold myself to a high regard on that because they're at an age right now where

they're really finding themselves, their true identity," he said. "We reiterate this a lot, as far as making them be better men. If we can just get them to think before they make a hasty decision that could cost them not only their career, but their life. It's very important to me.

"I always go back to growing up with a single parent. I used sports as a tool to help me as far as reaching my goals and to stay out of trouble. A lot of those kids don't have anything else besides sports, so we want to make it a family atmosphere to make them feel wanted."

The first step in

SEE FLEMING, PAGE B4

Lakewood's Peebles takes pride in his parental role

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

Lakewood High School defensive coordinator Rodney Peebles is well aware of the different socioeconomic backgrounds of his players. He estimates that roughly half of his athletes don't have a father figure at home. As a 2-sport coach and a strength and conditioning coach, he's around his players a lot and is happy to fill that role for those who need it.

"Our young men are with us, especially 3- and 4-sport athletes, are with us more than they're actually even at home," said Peebles. "I think it's important to grasp them as youth and definitely see them mature from boys into young men. That's something that I pride myself on, definitely. Not only building a great athlete, but teaching these guys how to become great young men."

Peebles said the key to building relationships with his players is understanding from where they come. That allows him to learn how he needs to care for each athlete and build trust.

"A majority of our kids now, what we have to understand is that



SUBMITTED

Lakewood defensive coordinator Rodney Peebles goes out of his way to learn about the backgrounds of his student-athletes in order to find the best way to coach each of them.

they come from broken homes, they come from a hard life and the biggest thing you have to build with them is trust," said Peebles. "I think that's huge in getting athletes to play hard for you, but not only that, also show them you care. Once they know you care about them and care about their well-being and knowing what they're doing in sports and outside of sports, I work very hard on that aspect.

"I try to teach and

take care of kids in a fashion that I want someone to take care of my son, as being a coach and a father figure and a role model," continued the Lakewood coordinator. "It's huge when it comes to coaching."

Once Peebles has that understanding, he tries to help kids however he can. That may be as simple as keeping snacks in his office or knocking in which kids he needs to check in on.

SEE PEEBLES, PAGE B4

USC adds a pair of commitments from Georgia

University of South Carolina football head coach **Will Muschamp** tweeted out a pair of his #SpursUp commitment alerts on Monday.

One was determined to be for safety **Jayden Johnson** of Cedartown, Ga. The second one was unidentified at the point of the tweet, but offensive lineman **Jordan Davis** (6-foot-6-inches, 290 pounds) of Fairburn, Ga., revealed on Wednesday that tweet was for him.



Phil Kornblut
RECRUITING CORNER

He's the first OL to commit for the 2021 recruiting class.

"It feels good, it feels good," Davis said. "I really like what they have going on and I'm happy to

be a part of it. I really like the atmosphere there. I plan to visit once the dead period is over."

Davis said he's also excited about the chance to learn and grow under OL coach **Eric Wolford**.

"Opportunity to step a level up because I know he's a really good coach," Davis said. "My strength is my pass protection, and I'm very mobile. I can get around."

USC is the only Southeastern Conference offer for Davis. He also has Georgia Tech and Kansas as Power 5 Conference offers. He also has offers from Southern, Southeast Missouri State, Murray State, Akron and Memphis.

Davis is rated a 3-star prospect by 247Sports.

USC has nine commitments for the '21 class. Johnson picked USC from a short list that also included Georgia Tech, Arkansas and Oklahoma. He also held offers from Virginia, Kansas State, East Carolina, Memphis, Kansas, Kentucky and Mississippi.

"The relationship with the coaches," Johnson said when asked why he chose USC. "And it wasn't always about football. It was about life, and I felt like it was the best fit for me. They text me every day, we talk all the time. I felt like I could be myself; they are great people."

Johnson is a multi-position player who is used a lot at quarterback, but USC likes him for their secondary. He could end up anywhere back there.

"They plan on using me in the secondary, nickel (set), dime (set), corner(back) or safety," Johnson said. "Coach (defensive coordinator **Travaris Robinson**) was like, 'I like your film. You would be a great fit here and would help us out a lot.'"

Johnson developed into one of the top players in a program that annually sends talent to major college programs.

"Jayden was a 3-year starter for me," said former Cedartown head coach **Doyle Kelly**, who retired in January. "His freshman year we played him at free safety. His sophomore year we moved him to corner, and he became a lock-down corner and did a super job for us that year. He's very athletic. He's a kid that can play everywhere."

"Last year, our quarterback got hurt the first game of the season and the third game Jayden came to us and said, 'If you need me to move to quarterback, I will.' We moved him to quarterback and every game he got a little better. Jayden was one of those kids that never came off the field. The kid can play anywhere. He's also a heck of a basketball player and a super kid with a great family."

Kelly said Johnson can also play wide receiver, but he sees him giving USC that SAF at the back end of the defense.

"He's got that long reach, so I'm sure he's going to make a heck of a free safety for the Gamecocks," Kelly said. "He was one who was off the radar, and I told him he has the tools, and he just bought in and got better every year."

Johnson has not yet visited

USC, but he will as soon as he can. He does plan to sign in December and is considering graduating early. As for his recruiting, he's not shutting it down entirely despite the commitment.

"Right now, this is what stood out to me, but I'm still keeping an open mind," he said, adding that he'll likely continue to talk with his recruiters from GT, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

In the 247Sports Composite, Johnson is rated as a 3-star prospect. He's ranked as the No. 36 athlete in the country and the No. 39 prospect in Georgia.

Linebacker **Tavareon Martin-Scott** (6-3, 215) of Gary, Ind., and Dodge City Junior College of Kansas, has scheduled an official visit to USC for Oct. 10. Muschamp was one of the first major college coaches to offer Martin-Scott, and he and new LB coach **Rod Wilson** have kept an open line of communication with him.

Being new to USC, Wilson has only seen Martin-Scott on tape and has not met him in person. The phone conversations between the two apparently have gone well.

"He tells me that he can't wait for me to get there and work with him and be ready for me play," Martin-Scott said. "He knows I'm going to work hard. Coach Wilson said I seem coachable because he has experienced us talking, so he already knows. He said he can't wait for me to get there." Martin-Scott said West Virginia also is hot after him, and he will take an official visit to Morgantown as well. He also plans to stop by Kansas State later this summer on his way back to Dodge City.

He also has offers from Texas Tech, South Alabama, Ball State, Akron, Buffalo, Southeast Missouri State, Louisiana and Washington State, and he's also hearing from UK, Memphis and Texas Tech.

WR **O'Mega Blake** (6-2, 188) of South Pointe High School grew up rooting for USC and last week landed an offer he's always coveted from USC.

"It's the team I always liked growing up as a little kid," Blake said. "That was my dream school. I've known it (the offer) was coming. It really releases the stress. The main thing was to continue to build that relationship."

"I've talked to Coach Muschamp, and he said he loves me on both sides of the ball. He said we've got to keep the talent in state. They would use me at every spot at receiver, and they like the way I make plays, aggressive with the ball and attacking and things like that."

USC has a little extra connection with Blake. His head coach at South Pointe is former USC star LB **DeVonte Holoman**, so naturally he can share some insight into the campus and the school.

Blake recently named a top 15 that did not include USC. On that list are Syracuse, UVa, Penn State, Michigan State, North Carolina State, Tennessee, Illinois, UK, Indiana, ECU, Texas Tech, Kansas State, Pittsburgh, Nevada-Las Vegas and Virginia Tech.

Now that he has an offer from USC, it no doubt is a major factor, though Blake doesn't want to tip his hand regarding a favorite. He's also keeping his commitment plans close to the vest.

Last season Blake had 50 reception for 1,019 yards and 14 touchdowns.

USC in the final three with defensive end **Shemar Pearl** (6-6, 235) of Garden City JC in Kansas. He also has Texas Tech and Missouri on his short list for his announcement on Thursday. Pearl is a native of Plano, Texas, and was rated a 3-star prospect as a high school senior. He committed to Mizzou but had to go to JC. He also had offers from Alabama, Notre Dame, Kansas, Purdue, Arkansas, Indiana, Minnesota and Mizzou.

USC WR target **Derwin Burgess** of Riverdale, Ga., tweeted on Sunday he will be making his commitment announcement soon. He's had a lead group of USC, GT, Indiana, Tennessee, Florida State and Coastal Carolina.

USC offered '21 tight end **Jalen Shead** (6-4, 235) of Olive Branch, Miss. Some of his other offers are Colorado, FSU, Louisville, Memphis, Texas Christian and Ole Miss.

USC LB target **Thomas Davis** (6-3, 223) of Valdosta, Ga., de-committed from Mississippi State. Davis is rated as a 3-star recruit. Some of his other offers are Miami, ECU, Indiana, Coastal, Georgia Southern, Tulane and others.

USC running back target **Ke'Travin Hargrove** of Ruston, La., was offered by FSU.

RB **Nicholas Singleton** (5-11, 195) of Reading, Pa., will be among the top RB prospects in the '22 class after rushing for 1,600 yards and 32 TDs last season. He's already been stamped a 4-star prospect and the No. 8 RB nationally in the '22 class. As such, he has garnered major offers from across the country, including one from USC last December.

"They'd been following me for a long time, and they wanted me to come down to a game," Singleton said. "I came down for the last game. The facilities were really nice, I was impressed. Atmosphere was crazy. The whole stadium was packed. It was just crazy. People were cheering, yelling, screaming. It was a crazy experience."

While on the visit, Singleton got to meet up Muschamp.

"I talked to the head coach, and he's a good person," Singleton said. "We talked about what a good player I was, and he offered me a full scholarship. They fit in as one of the top with Notre Dame and Penn State for sure."

Singleton also got to games last season at PSU, Pitt, WVU, North Carolina, UVa, Syracuse and ND. He also has taken visits to Wisconsin and Connecticut.

He had planned to take more visits this spring and summer, but that was before visits were nixed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Some of Singleton's other offers are Duke, Arizona State, Boston College, Maryland, Michigan State, Louisville, Tennessee, Southern California, Northwestern, Vanderbilt, Wisconsin, Ohio State and UConn.

Denzel Moore, a '23 DE from Norcross, Ga., was offered by USC, UGA and Tennessee. He also has offers from GT, Alabama-Birmingham and FSU.

Alabama offered Gaffney High DT **Tyrrion Ingram-Dawkins**. Ingram-Dawkins has had a top list of USC, Tennessee, FSU, PSU, UNC and UGA. He has set June 26 for his commitment date.

USC offered '22 RB **Kevin Winston** of Hyattsville, Md. He also has offers from PSU, Pitt, Tennessee, Syracuse, Michigan State and Maryland.

CLEMSON

Clemson is in the top 10 with '22 SAF **Dasan McCullough** (6-5, 215) of Overland Park, Kan. He also has Florida, FSU, Texas, Nebraska, Ohio State, Louisiana State, Michigan, Southern Cal and Oklahoma. He's from the same city as former Clemson star SAF **Isaiah Simmons**, and like Simmons, is viewed as a versatile athlete who can play several spots, including SAF. He has a 4-star rating.

Clemson is in the top 10 with '22 4-star OT **Julian Armella** (6-6, 300) of Miami. The others on his short list are Alabama, LSU, FSU, UF, UGA, Ohio State, Tennessee, Michigan and Miami.

Clemson offered '22 ATH **Larry Turner-Gooden** (6-0, 179) of Playa Del Rey, Calif. He is rated as a 4-star prospect and can play SAF or WR.

OTHERS

Lakewood High CB **Zayveon Wells**, a '22 recruit, was offered by ECU.

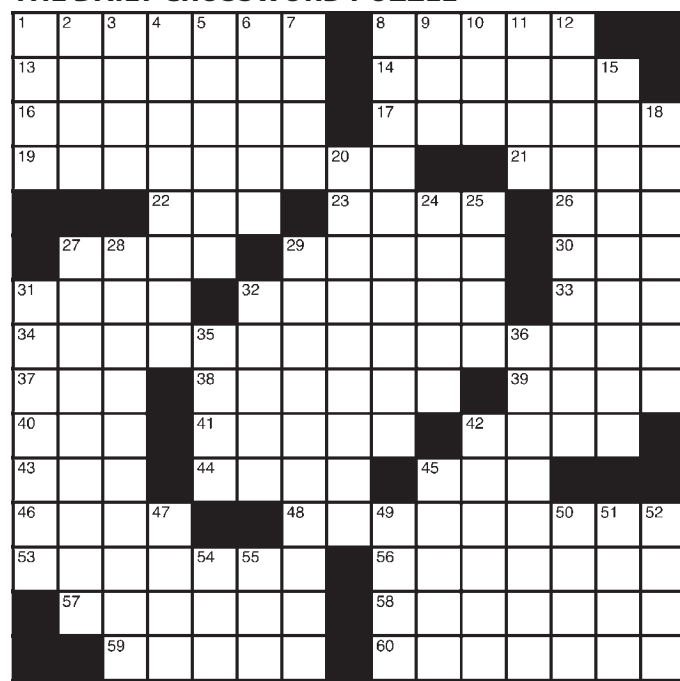
Dillon High WR **Ahmari Huggins** has set July 2 for his commitment date. He has named a top 12 of Southern Cal, Baylor, NCSU, Arkansas, VT, WVU Louisville, Pitt, GT, TCU, Michigan State and Duke.

Boiling Springs High DB **Caden Sullivan** committed to Appalachian State.

Chapman LB **Camden Gray** (6-2, 225) committed to Navy. He also considered Wofford, Liberty, Georgia State, Liberty, Central Florida and Furman.

SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Sid Sivakumar

6/20/20

ACROSS

- 1 Stress marks
- 8 Result of melted crust
- 13 Kind of cable
- 14 Little one on a slide
- 16 Make an impression (on)
- 17 Nephrology focus
- 19 "Mind your own business"
- 21 "Immediately!"
- 22 Poppycock
- 23 Split between personalities
- 26 First woman to land a triple axel in competition
- 27 Super Mario
- 29 Back in
- 30 Sponge (up)
- 31 Shipbuilder's starting point
- 32 Heckled
- 33 The Zugspitze, e.g.
- 34 Changed plans at the last second
- 37 Ryder Cup team
- 38 Iberia hub
- 39 Renaissance faire quaff

DOWN

- 1 ___ rock
- 2 Perry with five Emmys
- 3 Commander in brief?
- 4 It's taken on the way out
- 5 Deadly agents
- 6 Prepare to go after a fly
- 7 Downhill traveler
- 8 Repeated phrase in the coda of

James Taylor's "Shower the People"

- 9 "What ___ missing?"
- 10 Krishna, e.g.
- 11 ___ room
- 12 "We did wagger, didn't we?"
- 15 Islamic leader
- 18 Prevented
- 20 Eco-friendly housetop
- 24 Neurologist who redefined "libido" to fit his theories
- 25 Broadway barber
- 27 "I promise you ..."
- 28 Contests with four legs
- 29 What a chiro-mancer does
- 31 Single-serve coffee container
- 32 Singles network logo with a partly outlined Star of David
- 35 Islamic leader
- 36 "Ready!"
- 42 Beyond that "Like a Rock" rocker
- 47 Raise
- 49 Sharp-tasting
- 50 Pub orders
- 51 ___ rock
- 52 E-tailer with a "Vintage" category
- 54 Feathers on a runway
- 55 Goof

Previous Puzzle Solved



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

NICIG

DYASL

AYEGVO

PLAAPE



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

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Ans. here: [Circled letters from the jumbles] (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: QUART STYLE CHOOSY STREW
Answer: Einstein's handwritten memos sold for \$1.8 million because they were — NOTEWORTHY

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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

FLEMING

FROM PAGE B2

building those relationships is simple: just listen.

“Just someone to talk to for guidance. Sometimes they just want to be heard and don’t have anyone to talk to. Not even being 40 years old, I kinda can relate to them,” said Fleming. “I give them my number, they can call me any time with any kind of problems just to let them know that we’re here for them for more than just football.”

But it takes more than just talking to the Monarchs to be a father figure. Manning stresses the “student” in “student-athlete” so the coaches work to make sure their athletes are focusing on their schoolwork. Fleming has also given his fair share of rides to and from practice, whatever he can do to help a student in need.

“I take guys home, to and from practice, anything they need. In the school setting, making sure they’re on top of their work, they’re not missing assignments. In our program, (head) Coach (Reggie) Kennedy does a great job of relationships with the teachers and the coaches, because we’re trying to put the student before the athlete. We’re trying to build better men for the future and not the moment.”

Fleming and the other Monarch coaches have worked to build a family environment. That, in turn, helps build strong bonds on and off the field.

“I’m more of a family-oriented guy, so we coach like a family,” said Fleming. “We laugh together, we cry together, we sweat and bleed together. It’s like a family. I take great pride in that, knowing that I reach them not only as a coach, but on multiple levels.

“Some of these kids, we’re the only family they have and that’s important. In a team sport like football, where everyone has a job to do, it’s like a family. All the pieces fit together to make the whole better, so it’s important to have that family atmosphere.”

That family feel is even more important at this time because of the civil unrest in the United States. As a black coach of predominantly black athletes in the midst of the Black Lives Matter movement, Fleming knows there are a lot of important conversations to have with his players. He also knows that sports can help bring people together.

“We’re dealing with issues that

have been going on for years, and one thing that’s the most important thing is just awareness of any situation..” said Fleming. “Just letting these guys know what’s the reason behind all of this. Not just George Floyd (a black man who died at the hands of a white police officer in Minneapolis) or any of the other things recently, it’s been happening for years. Just to understand the world that we live in, where we’re trying to go, but also try to use sports. In America, sports has been the common denominator for bringing everyone together and unity. We’re just trying to use sports as a tool to help with some of the social issues we have out here.”

Those conversations have been harder to have because of the coronavirus pandemic, but the Monarchs are in the early stages of their return to the field. Manning had its first week of practices this past week, and Fleming was thrilled his players were able to come together for the first time. Being at home for months on end can be taxing mentally, so he’s excited to give his players an outlet.

“Mental health is the big thing right now,” said Fleming. “Some kids don’t do well being home. We don’t know their home life, if they’re eating. Some of them have had to become the head of household and go to work because their parent is laid off.

“It’s important just to get them in a good mental space, because without being in a good mental space, nothing good can happen for you. We’re just trying to get them in a good mental space, get them back out there, get the lactic acid out of them and just prepare to have a successful season.”

It can be very difficult for men to have conversations about emotions and mental health, but Fleming has tried to open the door for his players to have those conversations with him.

“A lot of guys are like, ‘I’m not macho if I express myself’ but it’s like an inactive volcano. It’s building up inside and there’s an eruption,” said Fleming. “I work in special services, so I see how mental health can affect you positively and negatively. We’re trying to be as positive as we can.”

While there is still a lot of work to be done as the Monarchs return to practice, Fleming is glad to have his kids back.

“It feels awesome. The guys are lightening up, they’re happy. You can’t ask for much more from a teenager.”

PEEBLES

FROM PAGE B2

“We do little things for them, we show them that we care about them spending a lot of time away from their home and away from family,” said Peebles. “I feed them, I keep food in my office. That probably won’t be the best thing during COVID-19 (pandemic) and the things going on around us now, but doing those little things to show them you care. Call them and check on them, asking them how their home life is and having an open door.

“My office is always open, especially when kids have issues and want to talk. I’ll be the first one to let them know that everyone is going to go through problems. Coaches go through problems. They’re going through things in life, but it’s how you respond.”

Lakewood has kids of every economic background and that’s something that Peebles has to consider when it comes to coaching. He realized that sometimes its not as simple as a player skipping practice or being in a bad mood.

“One thing I had to understand is that our kids come from a lot of different economical backgrounds, and they may be acting out today because maybe he didn’t have dinner last night or maybe his parents haven’t been at home in a couple of days, and he’s there to basically raise his siblings,” said Peebles. “We run into that a lot. Kids miss practice because they have to babysit and things like that. That really crystalized my thinking and my approach to how I handle the kids.”

The racial background of Lakewood’s players is also important. Lakewood has a lot of black athletes, which

leads to a lot of important discussions in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement. Peebles thinks those are important discussions to have, but he doesn’t want his kids to draw a line between the different races on the team.

“We have to know and understand and what we have to teach our kids that there’s a lot of stuff going on around us. I read the book by (former Ohio State head coach) Urban Meyer. It’s called “Above the Line.” E+R=O. You’re going to have events going on around you. How well you respond is going to have a direct impact on your outcome,” said Peebles. “You don’t see color, you see people. That’s one thing that I love about being able to coach kids from many demographics, but also being able to work in different areas.

“I’ve lived in Tennessee, I’ve lived in Michigan, I’ve lived in Florida. The biggest thing you have to teach kids is you don’t see color, you see genuinely good people and that’s what it’s all about. You treat them all the same, you keep them on a level playing field and that makes them feel respected and in turn you teach the kid to respect people.

“That’s one thing I think we’re losing, I would say, in our environment today,” continued the Lakewood defensive coordinator. “With the Black Lives Matter movement, every life matters, but we have to know and understand that if you’re black right now, you might be susceptible to certain things that kids of other races might not be susceptible to. It’s about knowing how to handle yourself, knowing how to be respectful, be a good citizen and that in turn will keep you out of a lot of things. We just have to

teach the kids that we love them and love them hard and hopefully they pick up those traits so they love everybody.”

It’s difficult to have those teachable moments right now for Lakewood, because the Gators have been kept off the practice field by the coronavirus pandemic. Peebles and the Lakewood coaching staff have done as much as they can to keep up with their players, but that’s a little tougher when they can’t get together as a team.

“It’s definitely affected us heavily. I would say No. 1 is there’s a lot more conference calls going on, a lot more group texts going on from coaches and players,” said Peebles. “It’s been very tough, but what that’s allowed us to do is we use social media very heavily, we use our group texting very heavily. It’s really made us work in a different form. Without meeting, it’s made us really get a hold on calling and checking in on each other more.”

The Gators don’t know when they’ll be able to take the field together again, but Peebles is looking forward to seeing his kids soon.

“It’s just going to be a great feeling just to get back into the midst of the kids, even though we have to social distance,” said Peebles. “It makes you gain a different love for the game, because a lot of us haven’t had this much time in between not only dealing with the kids, but with football period. Football allows us to display those fatherly figure traits, so to speak. So when we get ready to take the kids back, even though it’s going to be with a lot of different parameters and a lot of different rules and things like that, it’s just going to be big for us period to get them back in the same place.”

NEWMAN

FROM PAGE B2

Talking about mental health with boys that are growing into men isn’t easy. Men are often taught that emotions are a weakness, but that’s something Newman is working to help his athletes grow past.

“I recall a story a few seasons ago where one of our kids was cutting (class). I looked at his arm, and I’m familiar with it based on the work that I do, and I come to find out that the kid had a host of issues that’s there,” said Newman. “I let him know he was in a safe place. I keep things to myself, but I try to make sure I help them. But it’s a no deal when you’re hungry, when you have suicide ideation or you are manic depressive then I have to tell somebody else, because there’s things I just can’t do.

“I have a lot of relationships with kids that call me and I’ve gotten calls at 2:30 in the morning, I’ve gotten out of bed and gone to people’s houses when they had issues with their parents,” said Newman. “Giving them a place to let them know that it’s OK to share their feelings, to voice what they feel and things like that. With all the social unrest that’s going on right now, I’ve had a few kids call me, and we just talked about it because they didn’t totally understand. They were angry, they were upset and they pretty much tell me everything.

Newman has an open door policy with his players and sometimes that isn’t just his office door. Newman has had students live with him over the years, whether it be for a weekend or as long as six months, because he knows how im-

portant it is to have a safe place.

“Over the last 13 years I’ve had a few kids live with me off and on based on what was going on at home and the fact that I talked to their parents and they stayed with me, whether it was for a weekend or I had kids stay with me for about six months,” said Newman. “Me and my wife (Cecilia) just try to do our part to help a lot of kids.”

These relationships are now more important than ever. As a black coach with predominantly black athletes, there are a lot of conversations to be had as the Black Lives Matter movement continues to grow. Newman wants to make sure his kids are informed by more than what they see on social media.

“It’s very important because kids are getting information based off of social media and it’s not always correct,” said Newman. “Kids are getting wrong information and it concerns me a lot, because if there’s no one there to correct it, it gets set in their mind and it becomes gospel for lack of a better word. That concerns me, but it also concerns me with COVID(-19 virus) that we aren’t in the kids’ lives like we would be. We would be in the middle of the pre-season right now, and we would be seeing the kids, getting to know them, finding out idiosyncrasies, what they’re good at, what they’re bad at. I miss that time right now.

“It’s very important that we keep them grounded and we explain to them what’s actually going on,” he added. “I honestly don’t understand everything that’s going on, I don’t, but I try to explain to them the importance of getting involved and making a difference

and also that their vote counts.”

The coronavirus pandemic has added stress to coaches across the country because they are missing out on bonding with their athletes on top of losing valuable time on the field. Crestwood tries to keep those relationships alive with constant communication.

“What (head) Coach (Roosevelt) Nelson has set up for us is that each position coach has their kids in a list of names and numbers and we pretty much call just to check in on them, find out if there’s any needs, anything that they may have an issue with,” said Newman. “We talk to them about how they’re working out and we just basically find out how they’re doing, if they’re doing their work online, how well they’re doing it.”

Newman was quick to point out that he is far from the only coach to hold this role in the lives of athletes. “The teachers and the coaches, I’m speaking specifically throughout Sumter, they play a major role,” said the Crestwood coach. “There is so much done that people don’t know nothing about that they do for the kids here in Sumter. There are teachers that go above and beyond like you wouldn’t believe.”

With all that’s going on in the world right now, Newman is just looking forward to seeing his athletes again as soon as Sumter School District allows it.

“I look forward to it. I pray we can get back and it’ll be safe,” said Newman. “The numbers (of positive coronavirus tests) are growing here in South Carolina, so that concerns me. It all concerns me, but I hope we can get back to what we do and help the kids.”

BRELAND

FROM PAGE B2

Having a place to feel welcomed and safe is even more important now. Life as a black male in America is now under the microscope more than ever after the murder of George Floyd by a white police officer in Minneapolis and the protests that followed supporting the Black Lives Matter movement. Breland keeps his door open so his athletes can come to talk to him about the civil unrest or anything else on their minds.

“They really do look up to us. I feel like it is our place to mention it and talk to them about it and let them know that we’re here for them,” said Breland. “No matter what they’re going through or whatever they see on the outside, let them know that we’re here for them. I think it’s an awesome opportunity to talk about everything that’s going on in society and hopefully we can start back soon (from quarantine from the coronavirus pandemic), so we can touch base and talk about some of those things.”

Those conversations are important to have, but the pandemic has made that a bit more difficult. The Gamecocks haven’t been able to resume football activities yet, so Breland hasn’t been able to have the face-to-face interactions he’d like to with his athletes. In the meantime, he’s taken to social media and telephone calls to stay in touch.

“I talk to them a good bit on social media and they reach out to me as well, asking when we’re going to come back and

asking me what I think about whatever they’ve got going on,” said Breland. “I’ve got some seniors who are trying to get into college. I’m just trying to give them input and posting positive material on social media since I can’t reach out to them and talk to them face to face like I normally do.”

When Sumter is able to return to practice, things will be different. The Gamecocks won’t be able to get the whole team together initially, but Breland isn’t too worried about that.

“It’s going to be a bit different, but I see a lot of good getting those kids back together and letting them know that we love them,” he said. “They may not hear that at home, that they have someone that loves and cares about them. It doesn’t matter if they’re black or white or Hispanic or whatever, we just love on them and let them know that we’re there for them.”

Sumter doesn’t have a return date finalized yet, but Breland is looking forward to getting back on the field with his team again.

“Man, you don’t have a clue how excited I am just to see all of them,” said Breland. “Yes, there’s going to be some stipulations on how we do things -- we won’t be able to have everyone together at once -- but just to see them and see their smiles and they need that as well. They’re sitting in their homes not able to do anything and looked at every Zoom meeting and Powerpoint to try to improve, but it’s still not the same as seeing the kids and working with them every day.”

Simpson, DeChambeau contend at Hilton Head in different ways

BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

HILTON HEAD ISLAND — Webb Simpson spent two days at Harbour Town watching bulked-up Bryson DeChambeau swing out of his shoes and realized his own brand of golf works just fine.

They traded birdies Friday morning in the RBC Heritage until Simpson got the last word with a 6-footer on his final hole for a 6-under 65 and a one-shot lead over DeChambeau (64) and Corey Conners (63).

DeChambeau made six birdies on his final nine holes, missing a 5-footer on No. 9.

Simpson was at 12-under 130, and scoring remained bunched. Thunderstorms rolled through the island late in the afternoon and halted play. Matt Fitzpatrick was at 9 under with three holes to play.

Rory McIlroy made sure he was still in the game. He ran off three birdies in a four-hole stretch around the turn and finished with a 66 to make the cut with one shot to spare, though he remained seven shots behind.

The two players right behind in the world ranking, Jon Rahm and Justin Thomas, did enough to make the cut on the number. Jordan Spieth had an-

other good finish with two birdies over his last four holes, but all that did was salvage a 70. He was six behind.

DeChambeau stands out like the lighthouse behind the 18th green.

He decided at the end of last season to get stronger and bigger so he could swing faster and hit it longer, and the transformation has everyone's attention. Even while adding 40 pounds of mass, he hasn't lost his love for science. That was evident on his final hole.

DeChambeau had the honors and let Simpson go first so he could figure out what to do. Simpson poked his hybrid 221 yards down the fairway on the 334-yard ninth hole. DeChambeau opted for a 3-wood, mainly because he feared his driver would go well over the green.

He took two violent practice swings, and huffed out breath like an Olympic weightlifter preparing for the clean and jerk. He sent it soaring only to say, "Ah! Too much spin, dang it."

It found a bunker in front of the green, 309 yards away, and he was far more bothered missing the short birdie putt, even though his 64 left him right in the mix again.

He hasn't finished worse

than a tie for fifth since February — only four tournaments because the pandemic shut down golf for three months.

The time off didn't appear to hurt, and DeChambeau said time in the gym — and in the buffet line — allowed him to go from a ball speed of about 188 mph to the lower 190s. That doesn't always work at Harbour Town, a tight course that winds through the oaks, and DeChambeau laments that he hasn't been able to "launch the Kraken."

Conners was poised to at least join Simpson in the lead except for missing a pair of birdie putts from the 10-foot range on his last two holes.

Ryan Palmer had a 67 and was two behind Simpson. Dustin Johnson, coming off a missed cut at Colonial, had a 66 and was in the group four shots behind.

Hilton Head typically follows the Masters in April, and it was returned to the schedule in June with a series of cancellations and postponements that created room. It's a different look with Bermuda grass and minimal rough, and scoring has been lower than usual.

That didn't help Rickie Fowler and Jason Day, who each missed the cut for the second straight week in golf's return.

5 Phils test positive for virus, 3 teams shut spring camps

BY ROB MAADDI

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Phillies shut their spring complex after five players tested positive for COVID-19 and at least two others teams closed camps Friday, raising the possibility the coronavirus pandemic could scuttle all attempts at a Major League Baseball season.

The Toronto Blue Jays shuttered their site in Dunedin, Florida — about five miles from the Phillies' camp in Clearwater — after a player showed symptoms consistent with the virus.

The San Francisco Giants' facility in Scottsdale, Arizona, was shut after one person who had been to the site and one family member exhibited symptoms Thursday.

Philadelphia became the first big league team known to be struck by the outbreak. Three staff members at the camp also tested positive, and the Phillies didn't identify any of those affected.

The closures came while MLB owners and players try to negotiate a deal to begin the season amid the pandemic, with the parties stuck in a bitter dispute over money.

The sides had hoped to have players begin testing Tuesday and then start a second round of spring training on June 26. Most teams would likely hold those workouts at their home ballparks, rather than at their spring camps.

Earlier this week, Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem wrote in a letter to players' union chief negotiator Bruce Meyer that "the proliferation of COVID-19 outbreaks around the country over the last week, and the fact that we already know of several 40-man roster players and staff who have tested positive, has increased the risks associated with commencing spring training in the next few weeks."

Regarding the implications of the outbreak on the season, the Phillies said "it is too early to know."

The players' union proposed a 70-game regular-season schedule Thursday, a plan immediately rejected by baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred. The sides are 10 games and about \$275 million apart. The sides had talked about having opening day on July 19.

The outbreak among the Phillies occurred as Florida has experienced rising incidents of new cases and rates of those testing positive for COVID-19. Over the past two weeks, the rolling average number of daily new cases in Florida has increased by 1,422.7, or 144.4%.

A person with knowledge of the situation says the Tampa Bay Lightning closed their facilities Thursday after five team employees tested positive for the coronavirus. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the NHL and the team are not announcing the closure.

OBITUARIES

CASSEY MORGAN

Cassey Holloman Morgan, 40, passed away on Monday, June 15, 2020, at her home in Bishopville.



MORGAN

A graveside service will be held at noon today at Cypress United Apostolic

Church in the Cypress community.

Professional and courteous services have been entrusted to JP Holley Funeral Home, Bishopville Chapel.

GUELDA BRYAN

DALZELL — Guelda Cortner Bryan, 83, wife of the late Garis Leon Bryan, died Saturday, June 13, 2020, at her residence.

Born in Grant City, Missouri, she moved to Dalzell in 1969 when her husband, Garis, was stationed at Shaw AFB. Guelda retired from Santee Print Works where she was their traffic

manager. She was the former treasurer for the Greater Sumter Area Traffic Club. She and Garis loved to go camping. They were members of both the NCT Square Dealers Camping Club and the Gamecock City Sam's Camping Club. She was an active member of Dalzell United Methodist Church and served her church and community through the Dorcas Closet, Salkehatchie and UMW. She was a member of the Midlands Walk to Emmaus Community and went to a gathering anytime someone would offer to let her ride with them. Guelda was also an active member of the Dalzell Divas Red Hat Club and wore her colors proudly. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by: two sons, Gregory Bryan of Savannah, Missouri, and Garth Bryan and wife, Ruth, of Savannah, Missouri; a daughter, Glenda Painter and her husband, John, of Dalzell; a sister, Linda Atkinson, of St. Joseph, Missouri; three grandchildren, Amanda (Chad) Bryan, Jessica Bryan and April Painter; and three great grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she is predeceased by three brothers and three sisters.

In lieu of flowers, donations

may be made to Dalzell UMC, 3330 Black River Road, Dalzell, SC 29040.

A funeral service will be held Monday at noon at Bullock Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow in the Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery.

The family will receive friends on Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. at Bullock Funeral Home.

You may view the service via live streaming at www.bullockfuneralhome.com and clicking on the obituary page of Guelda Bryan.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



JOHNNIE MAE WINN

Johnnie Mae Steen Winn, 103, beloved wife of the late Charlie Winn, died on Friday, June 19, 2020, at her residence.



WINN

Born in Bishopville, she was the daughter of the late John F. Steen and Tera Marshall Steen. Mrs. Winn was the oldest member of Providence Baptist Church. She retired from Furman High School after 25 years of service. After retiring, she enjoyed traveling with her brothers and sisters. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family and cooking.

She is survived by her children: Gail Dennis and her husband, Wayne, Catherine Geddings, Arthur Winn and his wife, Eileen, all of Sumter; Annette Orr and her husband, Michael, of Goose Creek, and Kenneth Winn and his wife, Tama, of Cody, Wyoming; and 13 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held on Monday at 3 p.m. in the Providence Baptist Church Cemetery with the Rev. Wayne McElveen officiating.

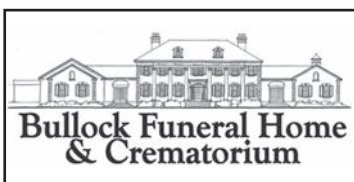
The family wishes to extend a special thank you to Amedisys Hospice, Amy, Georgia, and also to Evelyn and Marie.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Amedisys

Hospice, 198 E. Wesmark Blvd., Suite 2, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

The family has chosen Bullock Funeral Home for the arrangements.



MARION REED

Marion S. Reed, "Dick," 64, son of the late Junior and Lillie Mae Reed, passed away on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, Sumter. He attended the public schools of Sumter County and was a graduate of Hillcrest High



REED

School, Class of 1975. Marion joined the United States Army in 1977 and served his country through 1985.

Marion joined Union Baptist Church as a young man, where he served faithfully until he was stricken with health issues.

Marion was employed with Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) as a driver for 15 plus years.

Marion leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Denise Alexander-Reed; two stepchildren, Shanise Flott (Pierre) of Gastonia, North Carolina, and Jason Brown; four grandchildren; father-in-law, the Rev. Roosevelt Alexander; mother-in-law, Jessie Alexander, of Camden; four brothers, Jerry Reed (Jacqueline) of Jenkinsville, William Reed (Pat) of Rembert, Joseph Reed of Lugoff, and David Reed (Brenda) of Ridgeway; two sisters, Laura Reed-Paterson (McCall) of Lugoff and Gladys Glover Spann of Camden; three sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law; two uncles; six aunts; 13 nephews; 11 nieces; and a host of grandnieces and nephews, other family and friends.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 1057 Read Roman Road, Sumter.

Visitation will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday in the John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel, Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday from the Fort Jackson National Cemetery, 4170 Percival Road,

Columbia.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main Street, Sumter. Online messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com. Visit us on the web at www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com

LOUISE GADSON

Louise B. Gadson, 93, widow of Ezel Gadson and daughter of the late Silas, Jr. and Wilhelmina Odessa Cohen Burgess, was born on Dec. 6, 1926, in Sumter County. She departed this life on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at her residence.

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

LENORA CROOM

Lenora Johnson Croom, wife of Melvin Croom, daughter of Alex Shaw and the late Louise Johnson was born on Aug. 12, 1966, in Sumter. She departed this life on Monday, June 15, 2020, at her residence.

Her formal education began in the public schools of Sumter County, then transitioned to Job Core where she obtained various life skills along with her GED.

She was a member of Wayman Chapel AME Church.

In addition to her mother, she was preceded in death by a brother, James Johnson.

Left to cherish precious memories are: her father, Alex Shaw; her husband of 34 years, Melvin Croom; three sisters, Betty Turner, Tonya Johnson and Lisa Simmons; two aunts, Ella Mae Daniels and Retha Bell; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Public viewing will be 3 to 6 p.m. today. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with the Rev. Robert L. China officiating.

The funeral procession will leave the 635 N. Kings Highway residence at 1:15 p.m.

The staff of Sumter Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.

DARNELL HARPER

Darnell Harper passed away on Wednesday, June 18, 2020, at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence.

Services are incomplete and will be announced later by JP Holley Funeral Home, Bishopville Chapel.

TONY TEDDER SR.

Tony Wayne Tedder Sr., 62, husband of Debra Allen Tedder, died Thursday, June 18, 2020, at his home.

Born Dec. 5, 1957, in Mt.

Clemens, Michigan, he was a son of the late John L. Tedder Jr. and the late Clara Bell Evans Tedder. He attended Wedgefield Baptist Church and was previously employed at Santee Print Works and C.C. Dickson Co.

Survivors include his wife of 22 years; five children, Thomas Tedder of Bishopville, Tracy Ouellette (Stephane) of Sevierville, Tennessee, Jennifer Edmondson (Marcus) of New Market, Maryland, Tony Wayne Tedder Jr. of Sumter and Whitney Nicole Ung (Richard) of Jacksonville, North Carolina; 10 grandchildren; a great-grandchild; a sister, Marilyn Smith of Sumter; and a brother, John L. "Jay" Tedder III (Paula) of Wedgefield.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Eddie Joe Tedder.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 p.m. today at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Huntington's Disease Foundation, P.O. Box 912, Salado, TX 76571.

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

LEON MATHIS

SUMMERTON — Leon "Ricky" Mathis, 58, died Friday, June 19, 2020, at his residence, 1229 McNair Dr., Summerton. He was born Sept. 22, 1961, in Rimini, a son of Willie Mae Brailsford Mathis and the late Joe Mathis Sr.

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

FRED HAMMETT

Fred Hammett, 82, husband of Hattie Wilson Ragin Hammett and son of the late Nias and Mattie Need Hammett, was born on Feb. 25, 1938, in Summerton. He departed this life on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at his residence.

Public viewing will be held on Monday from 2 to 6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday at Evergreen Memorial Park, 802 N. Guignard Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

Online memorials may be sent to the family at jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com or visit us on the web at www.jobsmortuary.net.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Card of Thanks



Evanglist Minnie James Nolen
We the family of Evanglist Minnie James Nolen, extend to you, our sincere appreciation for the many acts of love shown to us during her illness and passing.
-The Lane Family

In Memory



In Loving Memory Of
Geoffrey Linn Cheese Gibson
June 21, 1975 - June 6, 2013
Happy Birthday in Heaven. Forever in our hearts. Gone but not forgotten. R.I.P Your life long companion Love always, Celissa

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Cross Bridge Christian Church 2490 Sargent Road, Dalzell SC 29040. 8am - 3pm. Donations accepted, call 803-840-5014

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

2 cemetery plots in Hillside Park, willing to reduced price. 803-469-9367

EMPLOYMENT

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Looking for exp. carpet installers with a valid DL. Apply at M&M Carpets, 1285 Peach Orchard Rd, 803-494-2100.

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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

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

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

Beer & Wine License

Notice Of Application
Notice is hereby given that **Restaurant at Second Mill, LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and ON premises consumption of **Beer, Wine and Liquor at 2390 Broad Street, Sumter, SC 29150.** To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **July 17, 2020.** For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

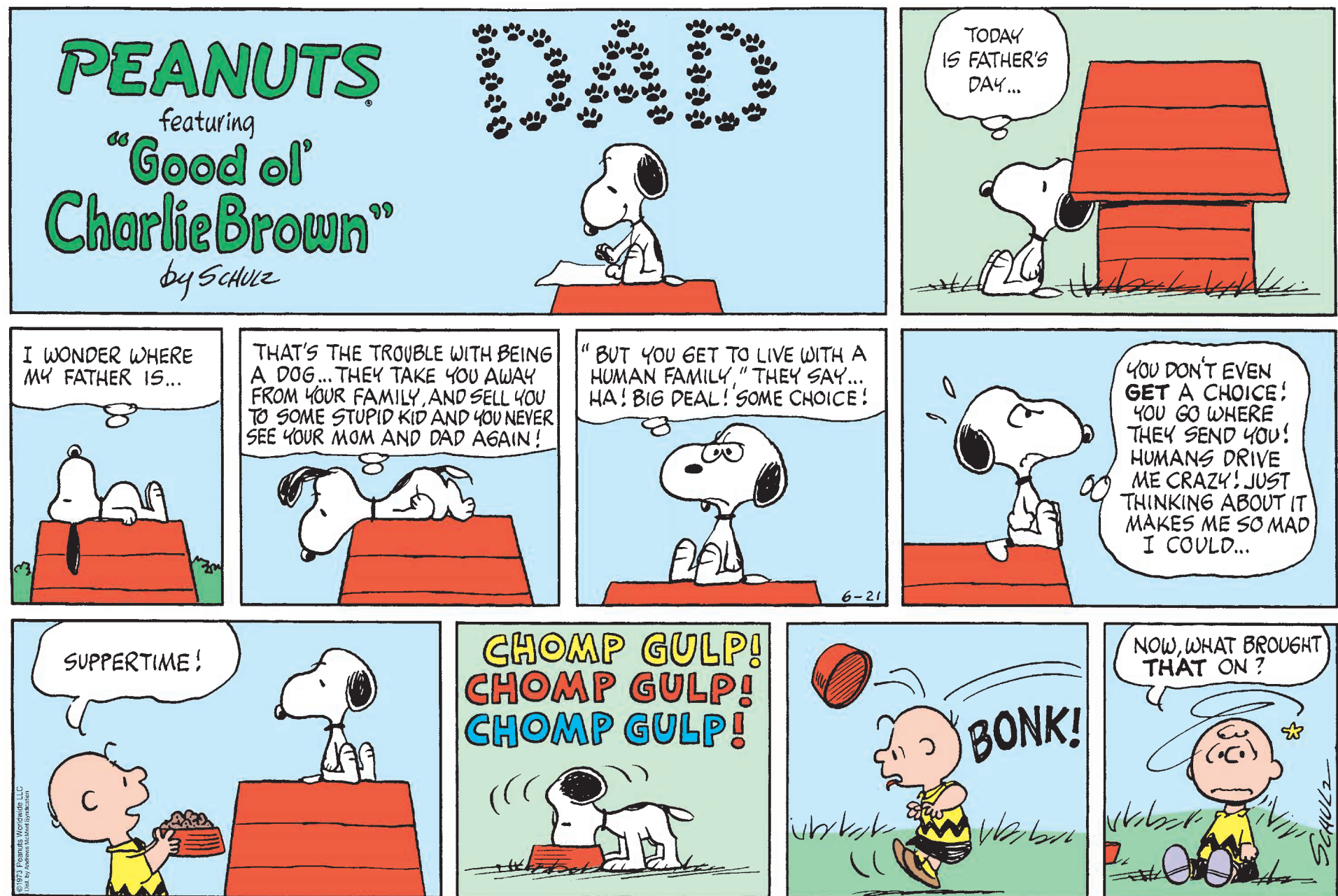
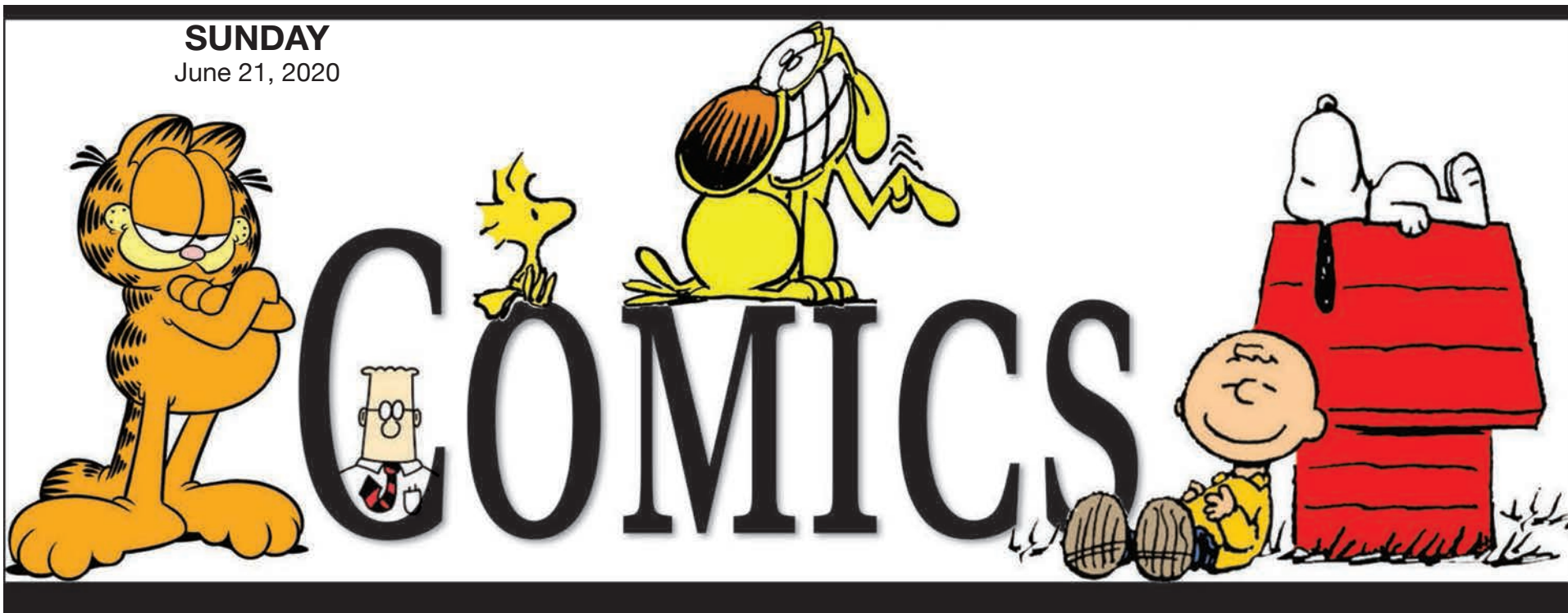


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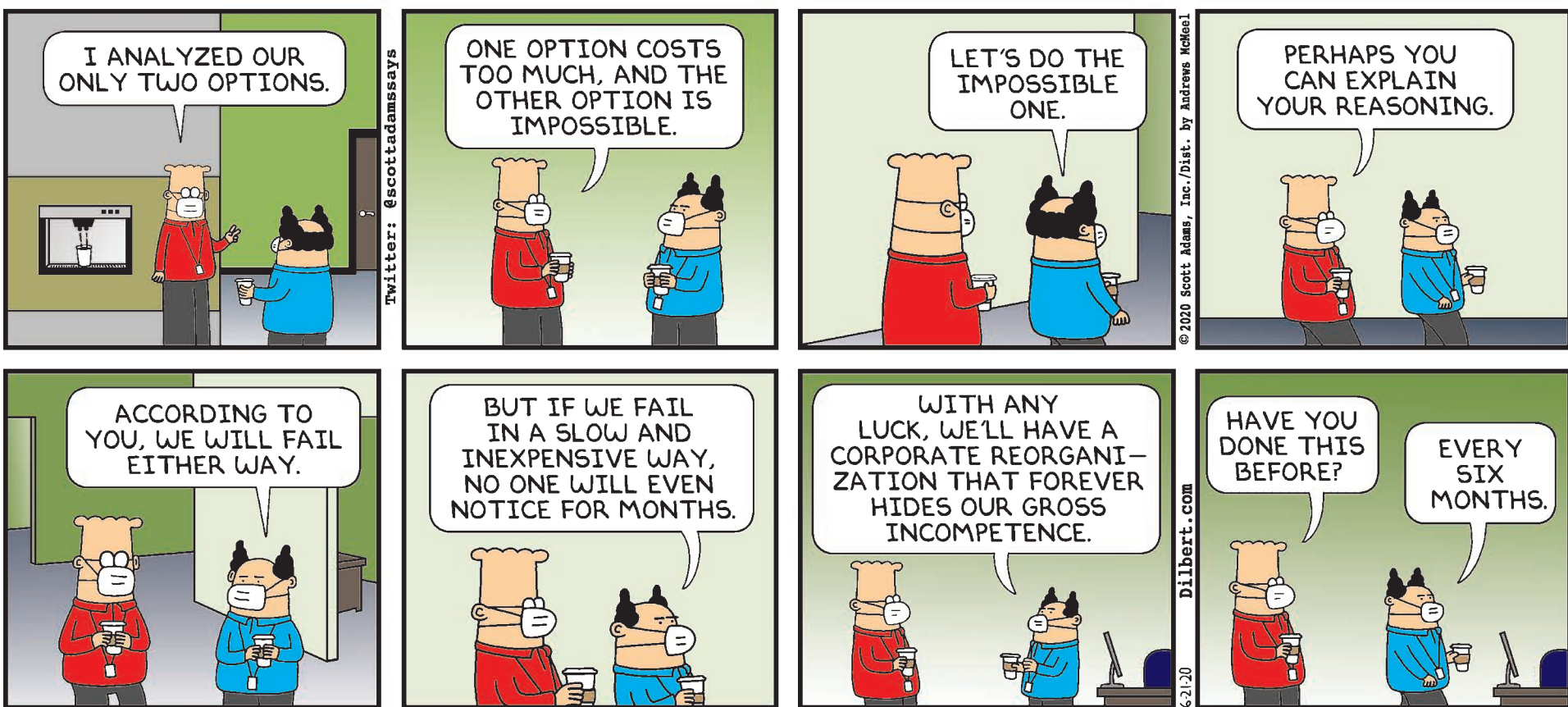
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



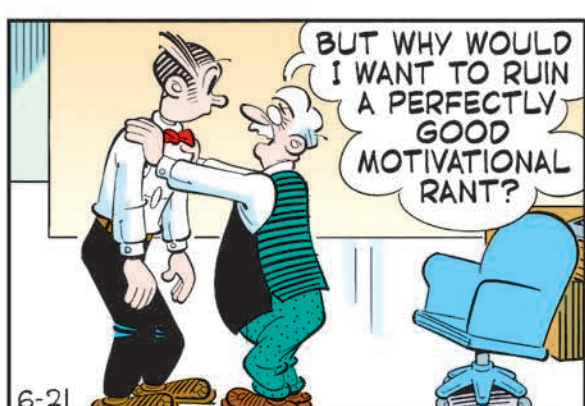
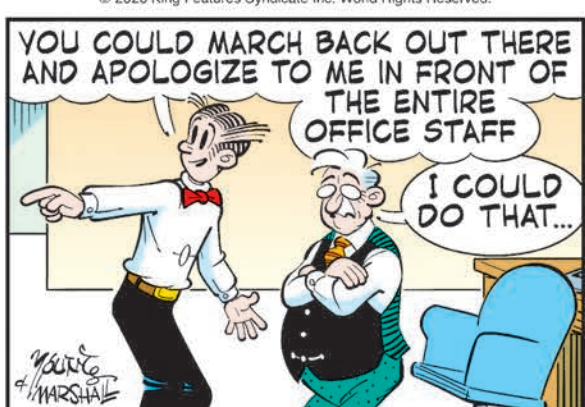
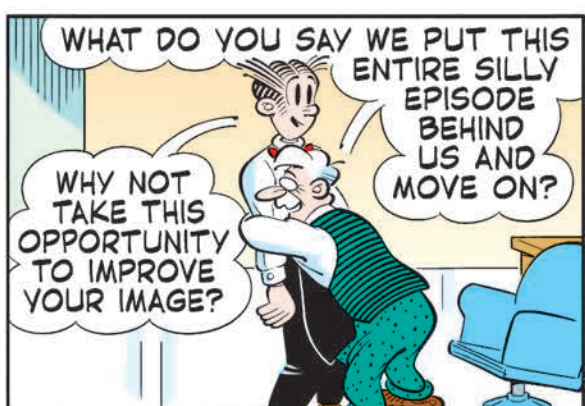
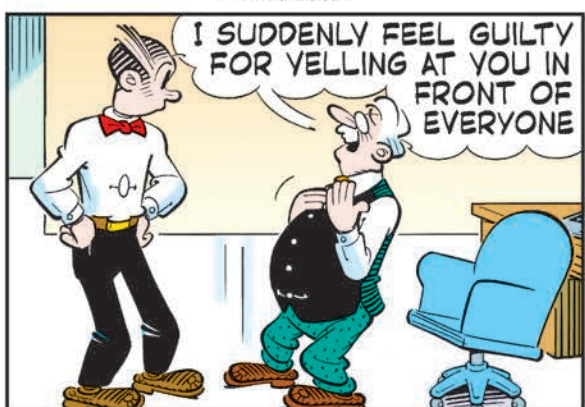
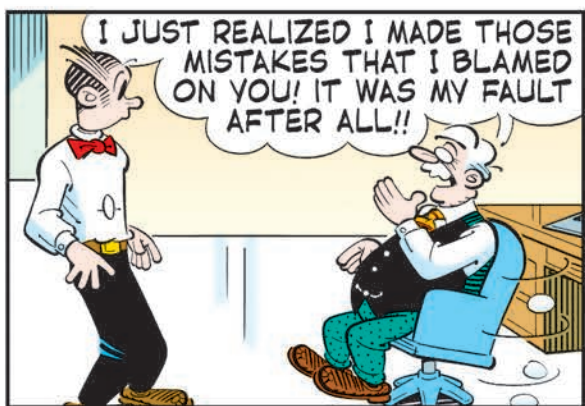
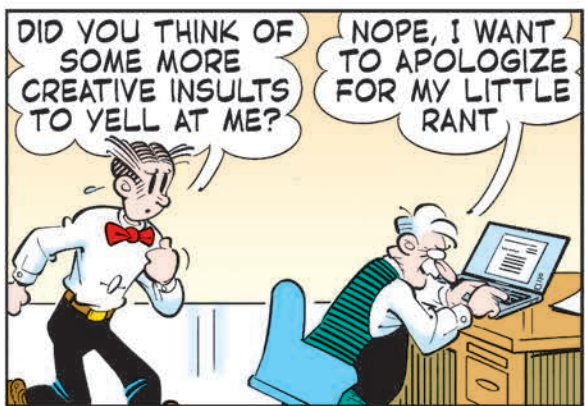
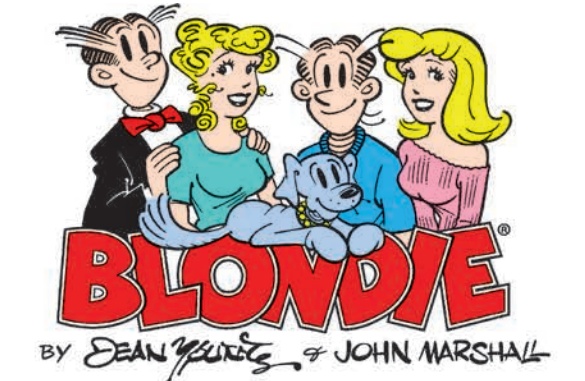
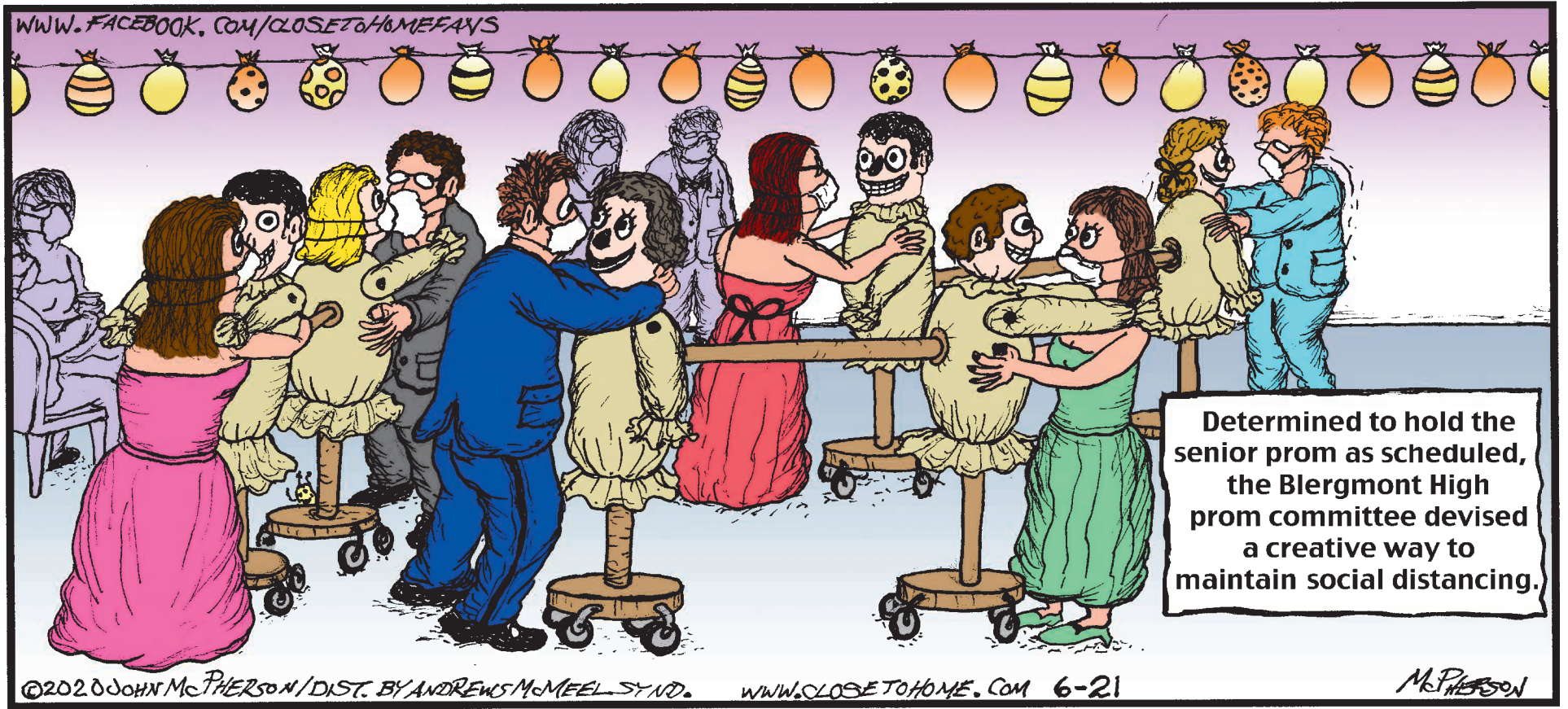
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



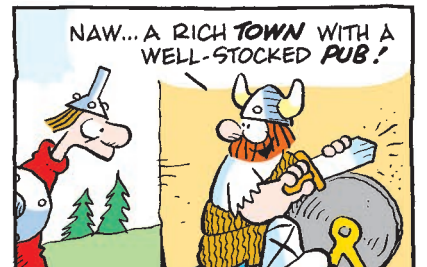
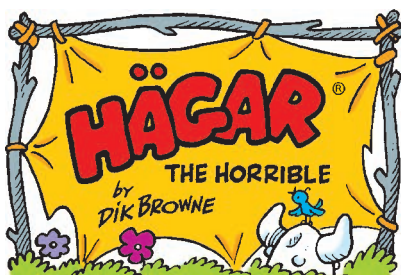
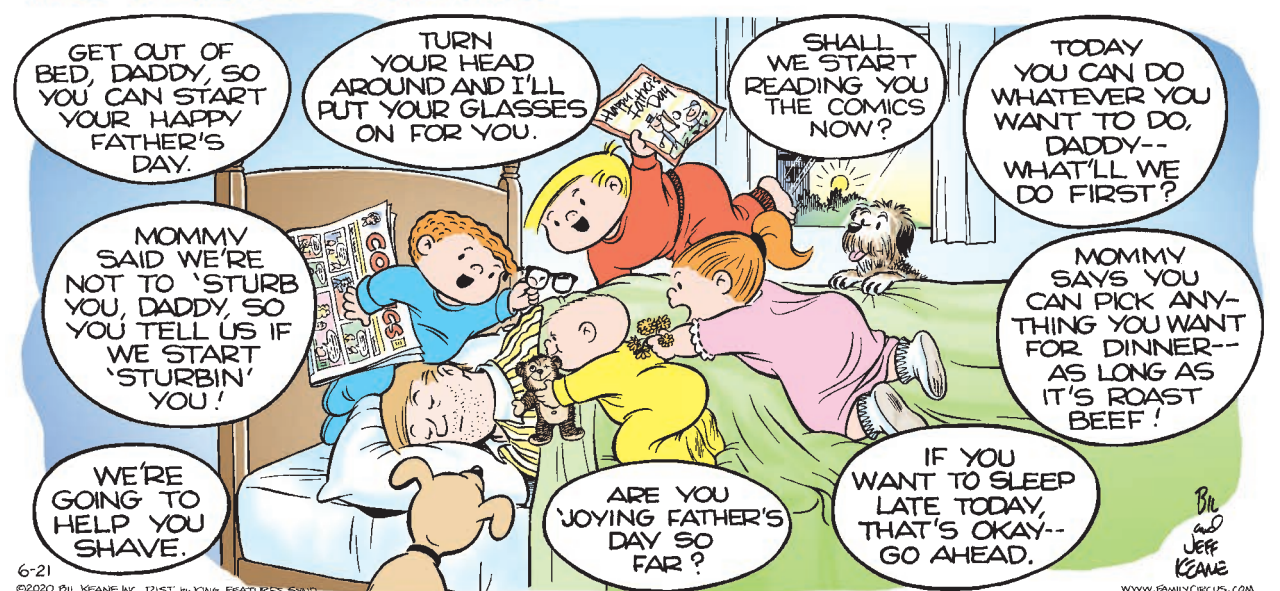
Foxtrot

by Bill Amend



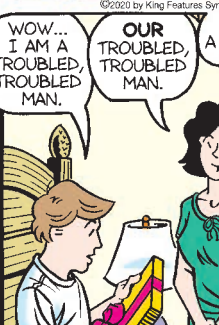
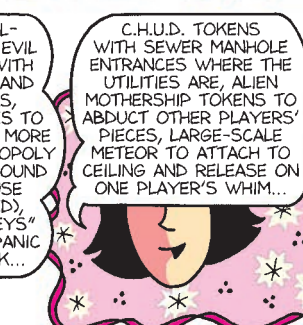
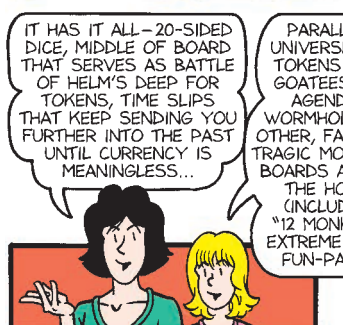
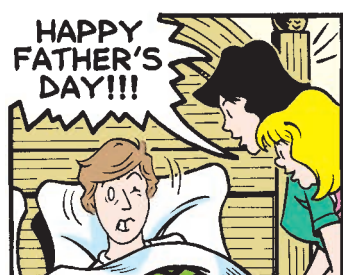
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



DOODLES

by Chris Foote

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY!
LET'S GO OUT AND PLAY!

FIND THE NAMES OF EIGHT GAMES YOU WOULD PLAY OUTSIDE.

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

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Send your riddles and puns to: Doodles, P.O. Box 105, Excelsior, MN 55331

DOODLE ZOO

I HAVE A HEN THAT COUNTS HER EGGS. SHE'S QUITE A MATHEMACHICKEN.

DRAW!!

DRAW A TENNIS RACKET!

RIDDLES!!!

Q. WHAT LANGUAGE DO BILLBOARDS SPEAK?
A. SIGN LANGUAGE.
Bret Sontag, Reno, NV

Q. WHAT DO YOU CALL A SAD STRAWBERRY?
A. A BLUEBERRY.
Callie Proctor, Foley, AL

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Window is moved. 2. Hair is different. 3. Top of fencepost is different. 4. Roof is different. 5. Cap is smaller. 6. Dog's leg is moved.

FRANK AND ERNEST

ONE FAMILY'S FATHER'S DAY HISTORY....

1980 I MADE IT MYSELF!

1990 I'M WASHING YOUR CAR.

2000 IT'S THAT GRILL YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED.

2010 GRANDPA!

2020 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY, POP!
I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU...

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS

IT'S GETTING LATE

I WONDER IF THE MAILMAN HAS SHOWN UP YET?

NO, NOT YET

I'M COOKING DINNER FOR YOU!

YOU ARE? WHAT ARE WE HAVING?

WEENIES ON THE OUTDOOR GRILL!

IS THAT SAFE FOR YOU TO DO?

WIZARD OF ID

by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

IS THIS YOUR CARD?!

YES, IT IS...

BEST CARD TRICK EVER

SURE! MOM LIT THE FIRE AND PUT THE WEENIES ON. SHE SAID TO CALL HER WHEN THEY WERE DONE SO SHE COULD TAKE THEM OFF.

I JUST HAVE ONE QUESTION.

WHAT'S THAT?

GET FUZZY

BY DARBY CONLEY

TOUGHNESS OZZES FROM ME LIKE CLEARASIL ON PICTURE DAY ...

TODAY, I ASSERT MY DOMINANCE OVER ALL LIVING THINGS. TODAY, THE EARTH TREMBLES BENEATH MY PAWS. TO-

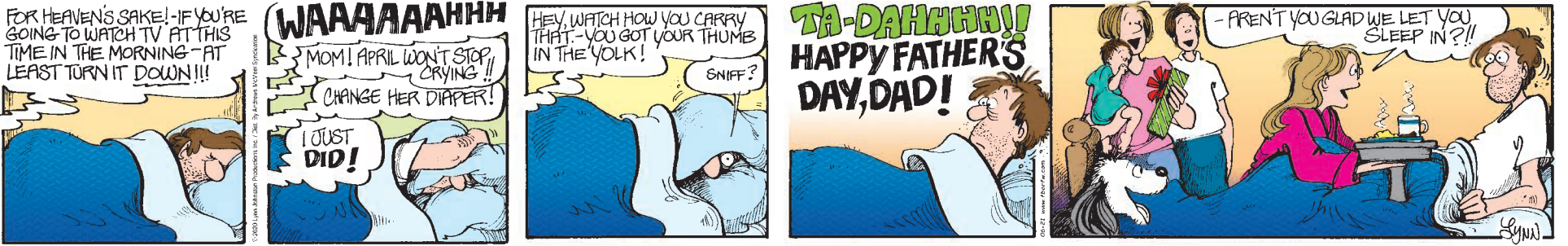
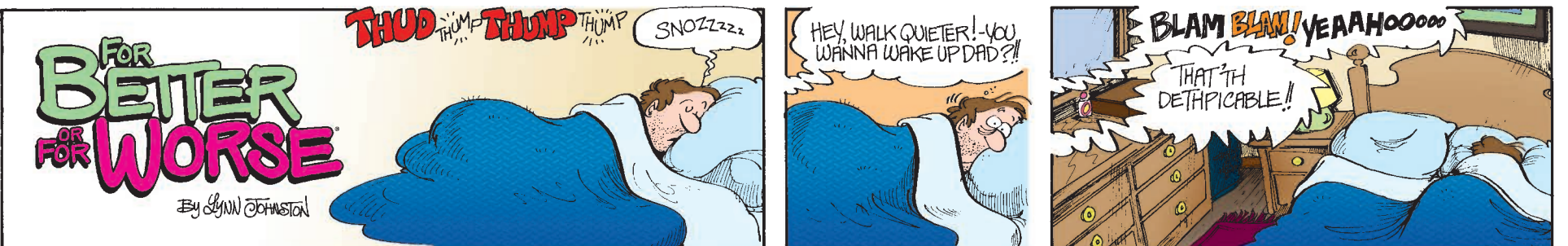
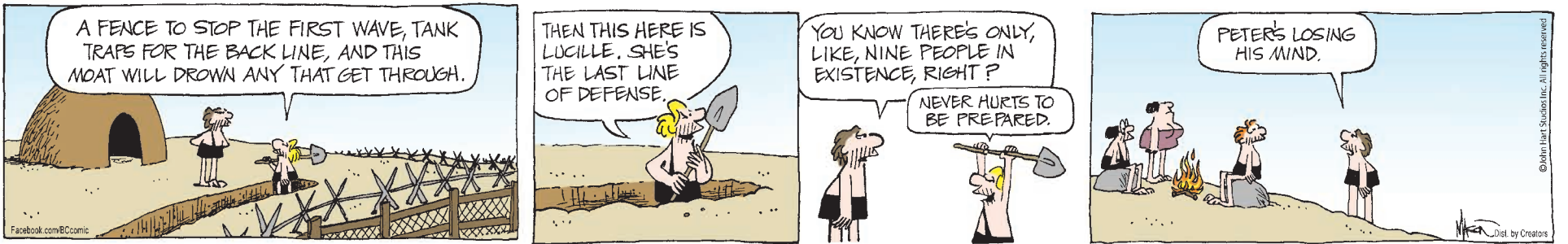
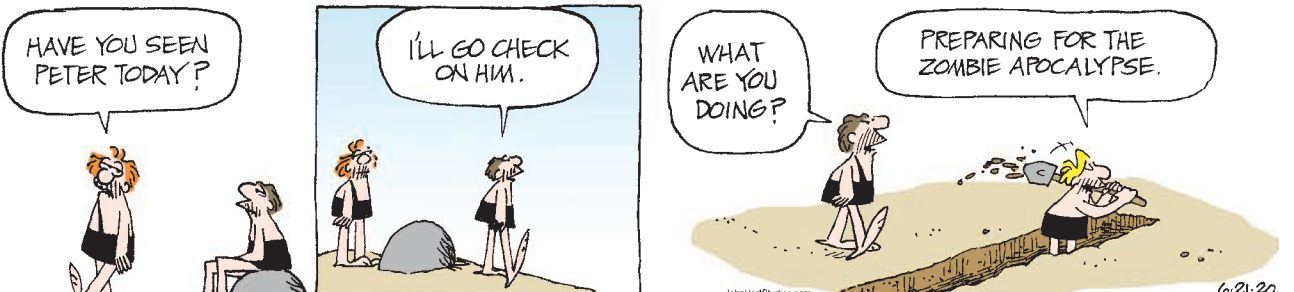
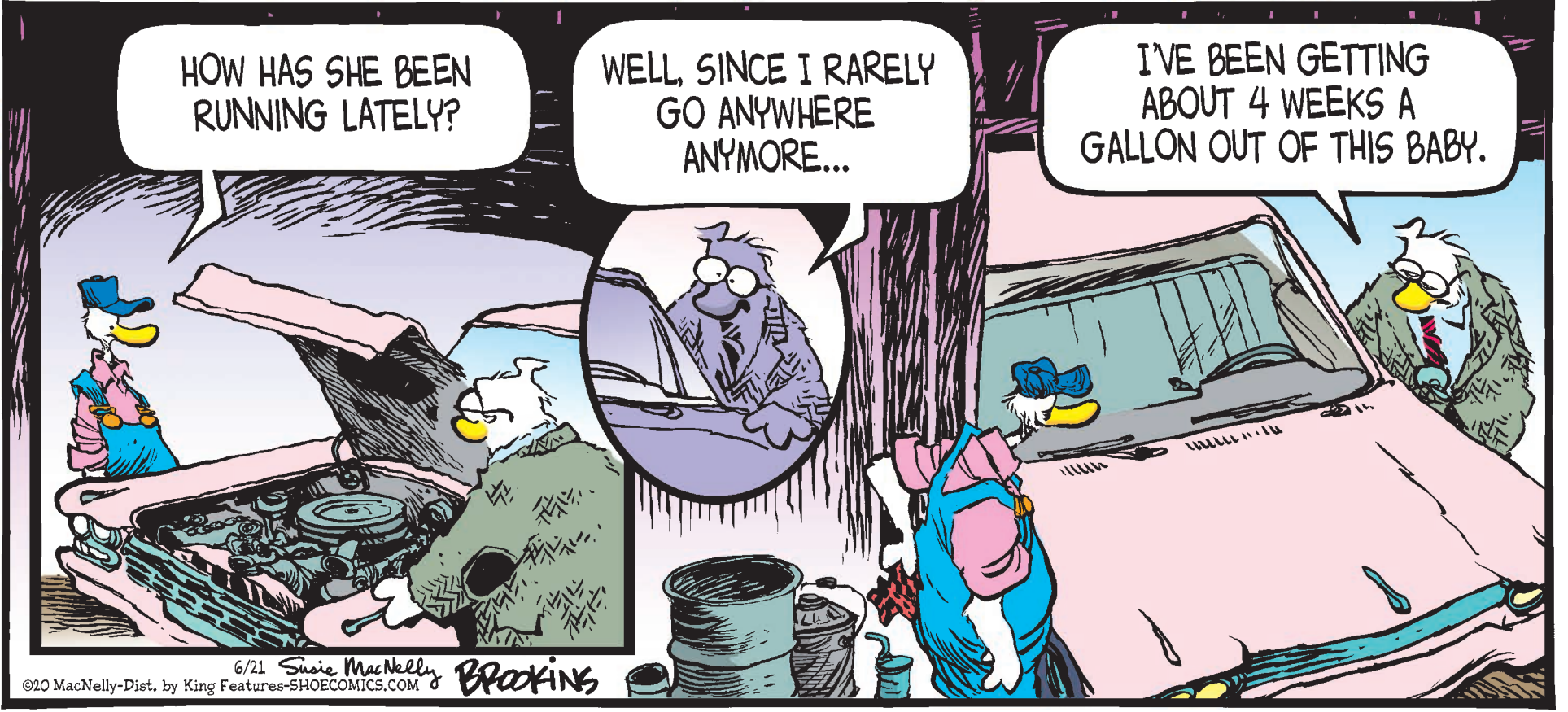
VRRRR!

ANOTHER WORLD DOMINATION PLOT THWARTED BY THE BUCK DUSTER...

THE WEENIES HAVE TURNED ALL BLACK. DO YOU THINK THEY MAY BE DONE?

SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

