

## County still prepping for budget workshop

1st workshop is at 5 p.m. Tuesday

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
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Sumter County Council took a look at the preliminary proposals for the 2018 fiscal year budget during the County Fiscal, Tax and Property Committee meeting in county

council conference room on Tuesday. During the committee meeting, council received a preliminary report on the proposed increased costs of retirement benefits, health insurance and cost of living for county employees.

County Finance Director Jamie Michaelson said the current general fund just for county salaries is about \$20 million and the 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment would add approximately \$600,000. He said a 2 percent retirement increase would total about \$412,000 with an additional \$67,000 — \$479,000 all together — provided by coun-

ty departments such as the stormwater department and solicitor's office. A 7.3 percent increase to the county's cost of health insurance would be \$239,000 and county departments will provide an additional \$50,000 for a total increase of about \$289,000, Michaelson said. Sumter County Administrator Gary Mixon said some

county departments have done a great job so far with making adjustments for the 2018 fiscal year by reducing budget requests. He said the county is still waiting to know how much funding it will receive from the state through the local government fund.

SEE COUNTY, PAGE A4

### SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter School Board member and finance committee chairman Johnny Hilton reacts on Monday to those opposed to closing two schools in the district, explaining to the full board the need for the district to become financially stable.

## Finance committee chairman makes case to full board

BY BRUCE MILLS  
bruce@theitem.com

Members attending last Friday's Sumter School Board Finance Committee said they believe immediate action is necessary to remedy the district's financial crisis. The committee made the recommendation to support financial consultant Scott Allan's report to close two low-enrollment schools at the end of this school year as part of a cost-saving measure to build the district's fund balance back up.

That motion — a hot-button issue — failed Monday night to gain the support of the full board in a 3-2 vote, with one board member abstaining.

After Allan gave his financial update to the board Monday, each board member had the opportuni-

ty to express his or her beliefs and feelings on the matter. One asked finance committee chairman and fellow-board member Johnny Hilton for the committee's rationale for recommending Allan's report.

Hilton, a retired educator himself and long-time principal at Millwood Elementary School in Sumter, said nobody likes the idea of closing schools, but he said he and the other committee members believed the cost-saving measure was necessary.

"We're in a mess, we're broke," Hilton said. "We spent all of our savings; we have no savings in the bank."

Hilton was explaining that the district over-spent by \$6.2 million in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and closed the year with a general fund balance of \$106,449 —

a critically low level, according to the district's auditor.

Hilton went on to explain the various emergency cost-cutting measures the district has already implemented this year to meet the current budget by June 30. Those include cutting classroom supply budgets by 50 percent and limiting substitute teachers as much as possible — all of which he said he believes has had a negative impact on the district's children.

When looking at cutting costs, Hilton said the district office and the finance committee decided it was appropriate to look at which schools were the most financially inefficient.

Hilton told fellow board members district data shows at smaller,

## Consultant continues combing through budget

BY BRUCE MILLS  
bruce@theitem.com

Sumter School District's Board of Trustees tasked hired financial consultant Scott Allan with discovering what went wrong with the 2016 Fiscal Year budget, how to fix and make corrections to the current FY 2017 budget and draft the most cost-efficient budget for FY 2018, which begins July 1.



ALLAN

Since starting with the district in early January, he has discovered items in this year's budget that were underbudgeted, overbudgeted or just not in the budget at all. In both Friday's board finance committee meeting and Monday's board of trustees'

SEE CASE, PAGE A4

SEE ALLAN, PAGE A4

## Cops and Bobbers fishing trip catches on for children

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
adrienne@theitem.com

About 20 children from children's homes in Sumter and Clarendon counties went fishing with active and former law enforcement officers during the first Cops and Bobbers fishing event hosted by Central Carolina Lodge No. 31 of the Fraternal Order of Police at Tracy's Camp in Pinewood on Saturday.

Central Carolina Lodge 31, consisting of about 50 members, includes active and retired officers in Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties.

"It's important to do what we can," said Central Carolina Lodge 31 President Kevin Sargent, a former officer

with Sumter Police Department.

The local chapter is not a union but it is focused on helping members with work- or education-related issues and interacting with the community, he said.

Sargent said Saturday's event was a great opportunity for the children to have positive interactions with law enforcement officers. Some of the children may have been removed from their homes by officers so Cops and Bobbers shows them that officers are not bad people, he said.

For many of the children, ages 3 to 15, Saturday was the first time they had gone fishing.

SEE COPS, PAGE A4



Tim, 15, fishes at the newly rebuilt and restocked pond at Tracy's Camp in Pinewood during the first Cops and Bobbers event hosted by Central Carolina Lodge No. 31 of the Fraternal Order of Police on Saturday. The event allowed children from two children's homes in Sumter and Clarendon counties to interact with law enforcement officers.

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### WEATHER, A8

NICE WEATHER RETURNS  
Sunny, clear and pleasant today with no chance of rain; tonight, cool and mainly clear skies.  
HIGH 85, LOW 62

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## STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### McMaster signs bill stabilizing S.C. pension

COLUMBIA — Gov. Henry McMaster has signed a bill designed to stabilize South Carolina's pension system for public workers.

The Republican governor called the law signed Tuesday "just the first step of many" needed to secure long-term stability. He's particularly disappointed it doesn't address moving new hires to a defined contribution plan such as a 401K.

Under the law, employers and their workers will pay more starting July 1. But workers' rates won't rise again, while their taxpayer-supported employers will pay increasingly more through 2022.

Legislators have already pledged more changes are coming. A House-Senate study panel is set to start meeting next month on the next round.

Its co-chairman, Rep. Bill Herbkersman, has said other possibilities to explore include closing the system to employers that aren't state agencies and school districts.

### State senator won't be charged in case

COLUMBIA — State police say a freshman South Carolina state senator will not be charged on allegations made during last fall's campaign that he had an "inappropriate relationship" with a 16-year-old girl nearly 25 years ago.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division closed the investigation last month, after prosecutors concluded there's not enough evidence to charge Sen. Mike Fanning of Great Falls with anything.

Its report, made public Tuesday, noted nothing in state law addressed teacher-student relationships until 2010.

The Democrat formerly taught high school in Estill and Columbia. A former Estill High student filed a complaint Sept. 29 claiming Fanning began a relationship with her in 1993.

Fanning has denied the allegations.

## Nobel-prize winner selects Crestwood student for STEM honor program

BY ZENIYA COOLEY  
Crestwood Correspondent

A Nobel Prize winner has selected Crestwood High School junior Kimberly M. Mosquero as a delegate to the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. The program takes place from June 29 to July 1 in Lowell, Massachusetts.

The Congress is an honors program for students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, or STEM, and it recognizes top students in the nation who desire to be scientists and technologists.

The program also assists the students in accomplishing their STEM-related goals after the event.

John C. Mather, a Nobel Prize-winning astrophysicist and science director of the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists, said he

nominated Mosquero to represent Crestwood because of her academic excellence, leadership and interest in science and technology.



MOSQUERO

While at the Congress, Mosquero will engage with students nationwide, listen to prestigious award winners discuss scientific research and learn about technology advances as well as the future of science and technology, according to a news release from the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists.

She said she is most excited to learn new information about the field she loves while there.

"I was inspired to pursue a career in the STEM field because I've always loved computer work and designing, so I can do both things all at once," Mos-

quero said.

James Curry, Mosquero's former integrated business apps teacher, was not surprised to hear about his student's success.

"(Kimberly) was pretty much an advanced student," he said. "I remember her finishing assignments that took the rest of the class a week in a day."

Curry added that she was recruited in the Virtual Enterprise International course and became the Chief Technology Officer of the school's firm in just her second year of high school.

Mosquero said she knows the program will possibly help her get a scholarship, be admitted into a good college and get her a good job, and she said that having a career in a science and technology field is important to the progress of the world.

"It helps with everything in the environment," she said.

## Baker honored



Anita Vaughn, a media specialist at Bates Middle School, presents Sumter School District Superintendent Frank Baker with the administrator of the year award from the South Carolina Association of School Librarians for the 2017-18 year. The association cited Baker for his advocacy for the school district librarians and for participating in a multitude of library and literacy-based activities throughout the district.

RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

## Church Women United recognizes 5 for contributions

BY IVY MOORE  
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Church Women United, an ecumenical organization of women and men involved in activities at their respective churches, will recognize five outstanding women for their contributions to their communities on Thursday, May 4. The awards will be presented during CWU's May Friendship Day observance, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, 805 S. Harvin St. The public is invited to attend.

Bronwyn McElveen, a member of First Presbyterian Church, will receive the Young Church Woman United Award, which honors a woman who contributed to her community, particularly through volunteer work.

Key Woman Award recipients are

Georgia Martin of Mechanicsville United Methodist Church; Kanika Pendergrass, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church; Mary Johnson, St. Mark United Methodist Church; and Ollie James, First Presbyterian Church.

CWU President Lois Parsons said "the Key Woman serves as a liaison to other organizations (on behalf of CWU) in her church."

The recipients were chosen through applications submitted to CWU's National Office by the awards committee comprising Willie Mae Martin, Frances Brunson, Lucille Davis, Glenda Denny and Chairwoman James.

The theme for this year's program is "Kindling New Fires of LOVE," focusing on the role of Christian women in addressing the social needs of children, particularly children who have

been abused or neglected, Parsons said.

She said CWU traditionally holds three celebrations a year. In addition to May Friendship Day, they are Human Rights Celebration, which has no set schedule, and World Community Day, usually held on the first Friday in November. Church Women United of the Greater Sumter Area hosts its meetings on Thursdays, however. The local group also hosts a salad luncheon fundraiser each September.

Founded in 1941, Church Women United is a movement self-described as "representing Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women; Biblically based, shared Christian faith; organized into more than 1,200 local and state units working for peace and justice in the United States and Puerto Rico; supported by

constituents in state and local units and denominational women's organizations; impassioned by the Holy Spirit to act on behalf of women and children throughout the world; and recognized as a non-governmental organization by the United Nations.

"CWU is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive Christian women's movement, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice."

The public is invited to Church Women United's May Friendship Day celebration at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4, at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, 805 S. Harvin St. There is no charge for admission. Parsons advises anyone interested in becoming involved in CWU to attend the meeting or to talk with leaders of women's groups in their respective churches.

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# Dance your blues away with Sumter Civic Dance Company

BY IVY MOORE  
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If the spring season hasn't exactly dispelled your blues, perhaps you need more dancing in your life. That's the philosophy of Sumter Civic Dance Company, which presents its spring concert this weekend at Patriot Hall, where they'll be "Dancin' the Blues Away" at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Company director and chief choreographer Andrea Freed-Levenson said the concert offers a wide variety of dance styles, starting with the "lively piece" danced to "Shake All Your Blues Away" from the Holiday Inn soundtrack. This piece features the entire Sumter Civic Dance Company, choreographed by Freed-Levenson.

Freed-Levenson has choreographed dances in several styles, from ballet, tap and jazz to lyrical, contemporary, Broadway and Riverdance, a crowd favorite.

"One of the company's claims to fame is that they are very versatile," she said. "They like trying new styles, and they do them all well."

"I love our spring concert because it's so diverse."

Not only is the concert diverse in styles, but it also features diverse companies, including the Freed School (of Performing Arts) Youth Theatre, which will dance the

Freed-Levenson-choreographed "It's Not Where You Start, It's Where You Finish," and another uptempo piece titled "Money," danced by the Thomas Sumter Academy Middle School company.

Freed-Levenson said the middle school company "blew away the competition in the SCISA (South Carolina Independent School Association) competition, and we think they deserve a chance to perform."

Erin Levenson Harms choreographed the Sumter Civic Apprentice Company in a jazz piece titled "Trouble," with music by Neon Jungle, as well as "Survive," with the music of Madllyn Bailey.

Ballet/Tap, which Freed-Levenson choreographed, features the Sumter Civic Dance Company ballet and tap dancers dancing together to show that tap and ballet are both credible dance forms, she said.

Andrea Govier and Harms have choreographed the Freed School Gymnastics Team in "Rumor Has It," by Adele, and Govier has choreographed a Broadway/tap piece to the tune of "Hit the Road, Jack" and also "Ballroom Blitz."

Other special features include the Sumter Civic Dance Company's graduating seniors, Alazia Daniels and Carolina Toburen, who will dance to "Hold On," which they also choreographed; and Mary

Catherine Matthews will perform a ballet to Brian Crain's instrumental arrangement of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah."

Highly anticipated for this concert is a dance featuring longtime company member Don Phillips and Freed-Levenson. They'll be dancing to "Steppin' Out" with music from Pasadena Roof Orchestra's arrangement of Irving Berlin's song made famous by Fred Astaire in 1948.

"I promised Don I'd dance with him on stage, just the two of us," Freed-Levenson said. "It's a one-time thing."

Of the concert as a whole, she said, "It's just fun. If people need a nice, relaxing evening, a feel-good day, this is completely non-controversial, and these kids are so talented!"



RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM



PHOTO PROVIDED

Cedric Hobbs catches Brooke Delbosca in an athletic move during a rehearsal of "End of the World," one of the dances in the Sumter Civic Dance Company's spring concert at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Patriot Hall.

At left, Mary Catherine Matthews rehearses the ballet she choreographed to an instrumental arrangement of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" for the Sumter Civic Dance Company's spring concert, "Dancin' the Blues Away."

### DANCIN' THE BLUES AWAY

Sumter Civic Dance Company presents its spring concert, "Dancin' the Blues Away," at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at Patriot Hall. Admission is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For tickets, call (803) 773-2847 or (803) 436-2260.

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**ALLAN** FROM PAGE A1

meeting, Allan noted a few of his more recent revelations.

The biggest expenditure that he has found recently that was not in this year's budget is about \$450,000 in fees to hire international teachers. Allan explained that hiring teachers in certain areas, such as science and math, is difficult and districts across the state must recruit internationally. There is about a \$10,000 service fee to be paid to hire each one. These teachers' salaries were

budgeted for, but the fee was not. He has corrected that for next year, and it's included in the FY 2018 budget.

Another item that was over budget this year was \$31,369 for snacks in teachers' lounges in the district's schools. Allan considered that to be superfluous, in light of the district's financial crisis. He has removed that line item from next year's budget.

"If teachers want a snack," Allan said, "they can bring one from home."

He also discovered the district failed to budget for a fire instructor from Sumter County at \$21,674 for the district's career center.

**COUNTY** FROM PAGE A1

Mixon said the county is not proposing a millage increase but said council is allowed to increase the mill levy by one according to state statutes.

The county's current millage is 84.4 mills — one mill is equal to approximately \$300,000 in revenue for the county.

County council will take a more detailed look into the budget during its first budget workshop at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the county administration building.

Later, during its regular meeting, council recognized the Sumter County Parks and Recreation All-Star 14-and-under Basketball team for becoming South Carolina Athletic Programs State Champions.

Parks and Recreation Director Phil Parnell said the team also won the South Caro-

lina Athletic Programs Eastern District championship this season. These boys did a lot of firsts for the county, he said.

County Council Chairman James McCain presented each player with a certificate and a gift on behalf of the council and county.

In other news, Council approved second reading of a request to rezone 4.46 acres at 3815 Broad Street from residential-15 to general commercial for the construction of a 10-bay auto-repair garage.

Bubby Gullede, the representative of the applicant said that many of the uses in that area are commercial. He said the subdivision located behind the parcel is separated by a drainage ditch and about 35 feet of vegetation.

And, although he is not involved in the request, Councilman Charles Edens recused himself from the vote because he and the representative work for the same real estate company.

**CASE** FROM PAGE A1

rural schools, it costs more than \$10,000 per student to educate a child; whereas, the district overall per student cost is about \$6,000. Despite having traditionally small class sizes at small, rural schools, test scores and student achievement are lower generally than at larger schools in the district.

"If we are trying to save money, then we must identify the schools that are costing us the most," Hilton said. "They're not as efficient, plus they are not as effective. So, if we are here to save money and educate children, then we identify the schools that are costing us the most and are not as effective. It would seem logical that those schools would be identified as the ones to close."

Three board members voted against the finance committee's recommendation — at least for now. Those included board Chairman the Rev. Daryl McGhaney, Linda Alston and Barbara Jackson. Board Vice Chairman Karen Michalik abstained from voting on the motion for lack of sufficient information, she said. Another board member, the Rev. Ralph Canty, did not attend Monday's board meeting.

The two schools identified

for closure were Mayewood Middle and F.J. DeLaine Elementary. Mayewood is zoned in both McGhaney's representative area and also Jackson's area. DeLaine is zoned in Alston's area.

All three board members were against closing schools in the short term. Michalik said ever since she has been on the school board, the decision to close schools has never come up, except once in executive session.

Allan has mentioned it in at least two monthly board meetings before Monday night's work session. In early January, Baker also identified at a board finance committee meeting three low-enrollment schools including Mayewood, DeLaine and Rafting Creek Elementary.

At a board meeting on April 3, Allan opened the invitation to Friday's finance committee meeting to the full board. Two of seven board members attended that committee meeting, which lasted 2½ hours, and where school consolidation was discussed extensively.

Closing the two schools would affect an estimated 308 students and provide about \$3.6 million in cost savings, according to Allan's calculations. Those savings translate to about \$11,688 per student for the 308 students. The district has about 17,000 students.

**COPS** FROM PAGE A1

Sargent said the local chapter hopes to make Cops and Bobbers an annual event and the chapter may take children fishing more than once a year.

Donations from local businesses made the event possible, Sargent said.

The Reel Store lent rods and reels; Perfection Bakery provided donuts for breakfast; Wal-Mart provided snacks and beverages; and KFC provided lunch, he said.

"It's been a success," said

Sumter County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Ken Bell, also a member of the chapter, on Saturday. The kids are having a blast catching fish, he said on Saturday morning.

Tim, 15, who has gone fishing many times was offering advice to others. He said he had caught about 30 fish by about noon. It's a good pond, he said.

Saturday was the first time 6-year-old J.C. went fishing

and she said it was a lot of fun. Although she had already caught two fish she said she was waiting to catch a really big one.

Terrance Hicks, a house parent for one of the children's homes, said the children had also asked if they could go fishing on a regular basis and do other activities at the camp.

Keion Dicks, 15, a corporal with Sumter County Sheriff's Office Explorers program, also

came out to volunteer early on Saturday morning. Dicks said he enjoyed interacting with the group and helping the younger children.

Bekah Howard, summer camp director at Tracy's Camp, said the camp opens its facilities all year to families and children who may not have nuclear families.

She said about 60 percent of campers receive a scholarship to pay for some or all of their

visit so that every child gets a chance to go to camp. Supporters and donors make it possible, Howard said.

She said Lodge 31 received a reduced fee, thanks to donations, to bring out the children on Saturday.

Howard also said the group was the first to fish at the pond since it was rebuilt and restocked after it was damaged during the 1,000-year-flood in October 2015.

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# POLICE BLOTTER

## CHARGES

**Christopher Thompson**, 35, of 38B Somerset Drive, was arrested on April 15 and charged with burglary and domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature for allegedly choking the victim twice after entering her residence without consent while in the 1000 block of Yankee Drive that same day.

**Tyjuan L. Washington**, 17, of 270 Tullah Drive; **Michael Shannon Jr.**, 17, of 340 Enter St.; and **Marquise Cooper**, 17, of 328 Enter St., were arrested on Monday and charged with third degree assault and battery for allegedly punching a 16-year-old male in the head and body while in the 800 block of Nevada Court on April 19.

## STOLEN PROPERTY

Three black portable DVD players, unknown brand, valued at \$50 each; \$1,000 in jewelry, no description; a red Kansas City Chiefs Joe Montana jersey valued at \$600; a suitcase, valued at \$50, containing \$500 in DVDs; a VCR, unknown brand, valued at \$20; and a black 20-inch TV, unknown brand, valued at \$100 were reportedly stolen from a residence in the 2000 block of Nettles Road on Saturday.

A green Kawasaki dirt bike valued at \$2,000, and a white-and-blue Yamaha dirt bike valued at \$2,000 was reportedly stolen from a residence in the 2800 block of Stamey Livestock Road be-

tween midnight on Friday and 10 a.m. on Saturday. A black 42-inch LG flat-screen TV valued at \$420; a black 32-inch Vizio flat-screen TV valued at \$350; a black Sony PlayStation 4 gaming console valued at \$650; a black Microsoft Xbox One gaming console valued at \$550; and a multi-colored Yankees baseball valued at \$200 were reportedly stolen from a residence in the 7000 block of Camden Highway, Rembert, between 1 and 6:45 p.m. on Sunday.

A black .380-caliber Walther PK380 valued at \$300 was reportedly stolen from a residence in the 4400 block of Quiestria Drive between 4:45 and 9:40 p.m. on Sunday.

A breathing machine, unknown brand, valued at \$2,000; four Shure handheld microphones valued at \$360; and four clergy ropes valued at \$400 were reportedly stolen from a 2001 Buick Century while it was parked at a health facility in the 100 block of North Washington Street between 5:30 p.m. on Friday and 2 p.m. on Monday. According to an incident report from Sumter Police Department, the victim told officers that the vehicle was locked.

A white 1984 Chevrolet Monte Carlo valued at \$4,000 was reportedly stolen while it was parked in a lot in the 1800 block of U.S. 521 between 7 a.m. and 7:45 p.m. on Monday.

# Free air



PHOTO PROVIDED

Volunteers from the Veteran's Affairs of Sumter County, Purple Heart Veterans of Sumter, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars partnered with local JCPenney associates to install air conditioners for needy families and individuals. The associates purchased the air conditioners in observance of National Volunteer Month and JCPenney's 115th anniversary: James Cash Penney opened his first dry goods store in 1902, doing business based on the Golden Rule. Volunteers for the April 22 activity, shown in the photo, are JCPenney store manager Kevin Williams, Sumter County Veterans Affairs Officer Valerie Brunson, Sumter Purple Heart Commander David Nesbitt and JCPenney associates Keith Hurst, Edwin Eady, Nikki Plath, Christian Simmons and Zack Walker.

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# 2 gang members sentenced for deaths of prosecution witnesses

CHARLOTTE (AP) — U.S. District Court Judge Max O. Cogburn didn't mince his words in describing the 2014 shooting deaths of a South Carolina couple who had been scheduled to testify in a criminal case.

"It's probably not the most brutal there ever was," Cogburn said, "but it was brutal. They were essentially executed."

He was describing the deaths of Debbie and Doug London, co-owners of a mattress store who were set to testify against the three men charged with trying to rob them. Federal prosecutors accused Jamell Cureton of orchestrating their shooting deaths and Malcolm Hartley of carrying them out.

In Cogburn's courtroom on Tuesday, Cureton and Hartley received life sentences after they pleaded guilty last September to avoid a death penalty trial.

Prosecutors say Cureton and two other members of the United Blood Nation gang robbed the mattress store the Londons ran in the town of Pineville, just outside of Charlotte. At the time, police said the men fired shots at Doug

other gang members to plan the Londons' murders, specifically the death of Doug London because he was going to testify against Cureton in court, the U.S. Attorney's Office says.

According to court documents, Cureton described Debbie London as "collateral damage."

On Oct 23, 2014, prosecutors say one gang member drove Hartley to the Londons' home in Lake Wylie, South Carolina. They answered a knock at the door and were shot dead.

Cureton was also accused along with two others in the death of a teenager who had been lured to a local park. Cureton admitted in court that Kwamme Donqurius Clyburn was killed because they thought he was falsely claiming that he was a member of the Bloods.

Last September, Cureton and Hartley pleaded guilty to 15 federal charges between them, including murder, racketeering and assault.

Cureton took Cogburn's offer for him to address the court. He apologized to the London family and referred to his mother.

"She didn't raise me like that," he said.

Jamell," to which he replied, "Love you, too." The family wouldn't comment to reporters after they left the courtroom, and didn't address TV reporters as they exited the courthouse under gray skies.

The attorneys for Hartley used their time in court to extol their client as "an articulate young man." His hearing was less argumentative,

handkerchief in her right hand. "My son, he's a wonderful guy. He loves everybody.

"I don't want my child to be in prison for the rest of my life . . . I just want him to have a chance."

By the time she finished, Chambers could barely contain her emotions, and as she returned to her seat sobbing, she said, "I don't even know

she greeted family members and friends with hugs. When the contingent left the courthouse, Chambers put a gray and white shawl over her head and refused to speak to reporters.

No one from the London family appeared at the hearings, but Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Greene spoke for them.

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London, but missed. London returned fire and hit one of the three men, against whom

"I have to deal with the consequences . . . (The Londons) didn't deserve it."

but more emotional than Cureton's. Hartley's mother, Leslie Chambers, made a plea on

what I said." After the sentencing, Hartley only spoke to his attorneys

"The family is supportive of the resolution," Greene said. "They want to move on."

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## COMMENTARY

# Environmentalists are dead wrong

Each year, Earth Day is accompanied by predictions of doom. Let's take a look at past predictions to determine just how much confidence we can have in today's environmentalists' predictions.

In 1970, when Earth Day was conceived, the late George Wald, a Nobel laureate biology professor at Harvard University, predicted, "Civilization will end within 15 or 30 years unless immediate action is taken against problems facing mankind." Also in 1970, Paul Ehrlich, a Stanford University biologist and best-selling author of "The Population Bomb," declared that the world's population would soon outstrip food supplies. In an article for The Progressive, he predicted, "The death rate will increase until at least 100-200 million people per year will be starving to death during the next ten years." He gave this warning in 1969 to Britain's Institute of Biology: "If I were a gambler, I would take even money that England will not exist in the year 2000." On the first Earth Day, Ehrlich warned, "In 10 years, all important animal life in the sea will be extinct." Despite such predictions, Ehrlich has won no fewer than 16 awards, including the 1990 Crafoord Prize, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences' highest award.

In International Wildlife (July 1975), Nigel Calder warned, "The threat of a new ice age must now stand alongside nuclear war as a likely source of wholesale death and misery for mankind." In Science News (1975), C.C. Wallen of the World Meteorological Organization is reported as saying, "The cooling since 1940 has been large enough and consistent enough that it will not soon be reversed."

In 2000, climate researcher David Viner told The Independent, a British newspaper, that within "a few years," snowfall would become "a very rare and exciting event" in Britain. "Children just aren't going to know what snow is," he said. "Snowfalls are now just a thing of the past." In the following years, the U.K. saw some of its largest snowfalls and lowest temperatures since records started being kept in 1914.

In 1970, ecologist Kenneth Watt told a Swarthmore College audience: "The world has been chilling sharply for about 20 years. If present trends continue, the world will be about 4 degrees colder for



**Walter Williams**

age."

Also in 1970, Sen. Gaylord Nelson wrote in Look magazine: "Dr. S. Dillon Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian (Institution), believes that in 25 years, somewhere between 75 and 80 percent of all the species of living animals will be extinct."

Scientist Harrison Brown published a chart in Scientific American that year estimating that mankind would run out of copper shortly after 2000. Lead, zinc, tin, gold and silver were to disappear before 1990.

Erroneous predictions didn't start with Earth Day. In 1939, the U.S. Department of the Interior said American oil supplies would last for only another 13 years. In 1949, the secretary of the interior said the end of U.S. oil supplies was in sight. Having learned nothing from its earlier erroneous claims, in 1974 the U.S. Geological Survey said that the U.S. had only a 10-year supply of natural gas. The fact of the matter, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, is that as of 2014, we had 2.47 quadrillion cubic feet of natural gas, which should last about a century.

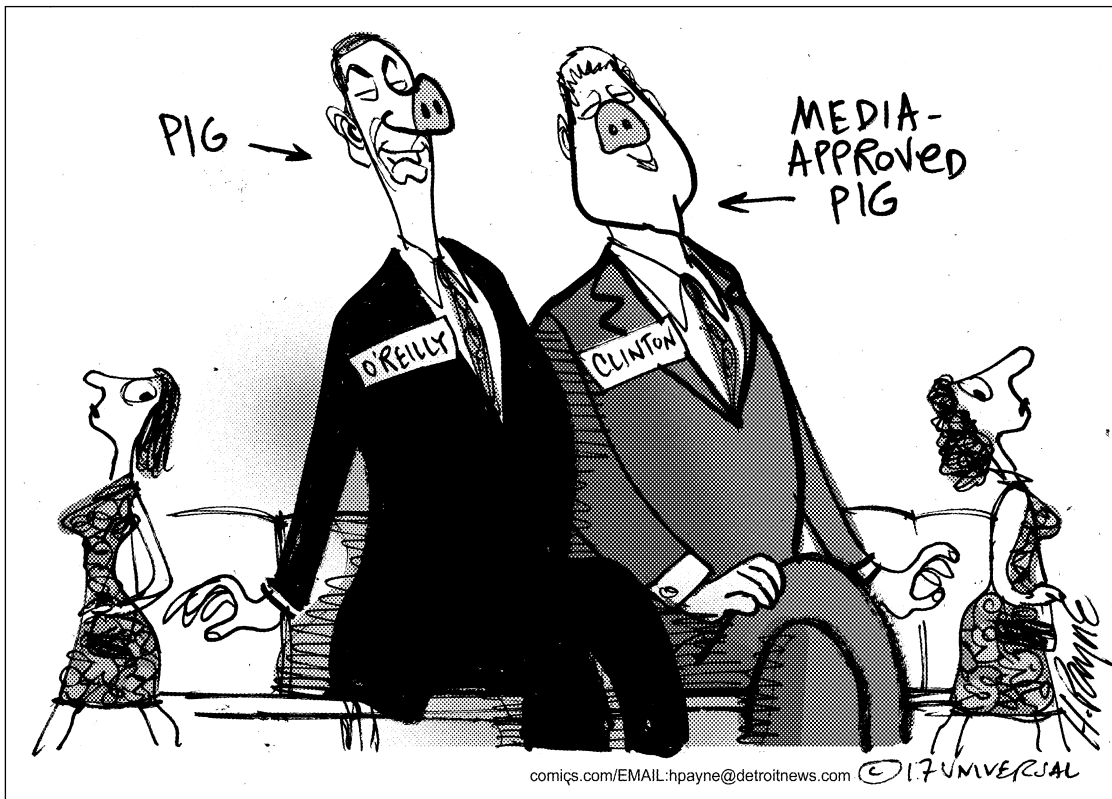
Hoodwinking Americans is part of the environmentalist agenda. Environmental activist Stephen Schneider told Discover magazine in 1989: "We have to offer up scary scenarios, make simplified, dramatic statements, and make little mention of any doubts we might have. ... Each of us has to decide what the right balance is between being effective and being honest." In 1988, then-Sen. Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., said: "We've got to ... try to ride the global warming issue. Even if the theory of global warming is wrong ... we will be doing the right thing anyway in terms of economic policy and environmental policy."

Americans have paid a steep price for buying into environmental deception and lies.

*Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.*

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the global mean temperature in 1990 but 11 degrees colder in the year 2000. This is about twice what it would take to put us into an ice



## COMMENTARY

# Support cultural outreach

**BY SUSANNA ASHTON**  
Clemson University

In a circle of folding chairs, arranged in a dingy library meeting room, some 32 senior citizens of the Upstate sat around trying to figure out what the heck was going on in James Baldwin's novel "Go Tell It on the Mountain." They were there for a book discussion I was trying to facilitate on behalf of the "Let's Talk About It" program sponsored by South Carolina Humanities, our statewide bureau trying to foster humanities enrichment. The books for this series had been preselected as part of a group of American life stories rather than chosen by the participants. It shouldn't have been surprising then that these seniors in rural Oconee County were somewhat unprepared for the raw lyrics of Baldwin's 1953 work about spiritual and sexual awakening in Harlem.

But, nonetheless, they were game. While many of the audience members complained that they hadn't been able to finish it, the group spent the next two hours discussing it, deriding it, and occasionally just marveling at the depictions of religious torment and joy that evidently echoed something in their own evangelical pasts.

Slowly, some of them acknowledged that his dream-like prose actually told a richer tale than more predictable language might. "After all," one lady added when talking about the main character, "I remember my childhood mostly in flashes, too. He's just trying to sort it out by what it felt like."

And at that moment in the public library I saw citizens at work thanks to op-



**Susanna Ashton**

portunities provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. These citizens weren't voting, serving on a jury, or picketing injustices. They weren't reaching out too far beyond their comfort zones. They were just talking about a book.

But they were reaching and, in that, they were pursuing a civic good. They were trying to think hypothetically, trying to imagine something beyond their own experiences.

They had come out at night, in the rain, to weigh in on a book that most of them didn't like. Not one bit. But liking the book wasn't the point. They were there because these publicly funded book discussions; ones which I've helped run for 18 years, gave them something to do. Something to say. Something to plan for. Something to step up to.

And we, in turn, need to step up to save these types of programs.

In 2016, the South Carolina Humanities' "Let's Talk About It" programs were only allocated about \$3,000 to serve the entire state. Last year that money went toward loaning used copies of the books for all participants and a small fee to the expert brought in to lead the discussion groups. Most participating libraries try to host about eight talks a year. It doesn't take a lot of money.

In 2016, the NEH directed \$43 million to state agencies for local distribution — agencies such as South Carolina Humanities. These groups then turn

around and spend that money in every congressional district, sometimes on big events but often on modest projects such as loaning books to otherwise isolated seniors in Seneca.

To be clear: Our nation needs hard, big, bold art and humanities work. We need the analytical and outreach work in history, literature and philosophy that the humanities offer, too. We need to fund literary festivals and historical forums.

But we also need the quieter interventions that might not draw huge audiences. We need the kind of humanities that remind the elderly that their confrontations with ideas that confound, agitate or delight them, matter.

It matters because they are learning to process the unfamiliar and to risk sharing their awkward reactions. Their growth reminds us that we need to keep reading and keep searching for ideas we don't like, words that discomfort, and flawed characters who remind us, just a little bit, of ourselves. This is what makes us more empathetic and thus better citizens.

South Carolina needs citizens who care enough to push themselves, to expand their worlds. The NEH shows them how to do this. And yet, the proposed 2018 Trump budget is "targeting waste" like the NEH. In its current form, the administration has no allocation for the humanities and the civic values it promotes.

Contact Sens. Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott and urge them to demand to a national budget that supports the National Endowment for the Humanities.

*Susanna Ashton is a professor of English at Clemson University.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### HUG A FIREFIGHTER FOR INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' DAY

Less than four of every 1,000 South Carolinians are firefighters, yet any time of the day in any weather every day of the year, when we call, they come to our aid regardless of how dangerous the situation might be.

Whether it is to fight fires in our homes, cars, in our businesses and industries, firefighters are there. When there is a water rescue to be conducted, urban search and rescue in times of natural or man-made disasters, they are there. When adults, children and even pets need to be extricated from dangerous situations, our South Carolina firefight-

ers will be there.

Today is International Firefighters' Day, which originated in Australia as a result of the tragic loss of life of five firefighters responding to a call for additional support to fight a raging brush fire not even in their community. Regrettably, such tragedy has struck too often and near our homes as well. While the deaths of the Charleston 9 will always be remembered, any line of duty death of one of our South Carolina firefighters must never be forgotten.

Almost 100 years after the S.C. Firefighters' Association was started in 1905, it sponsored the SC State Firefighters' Foundation. The date was July 11, 2001. And the Founda-

tion's purpose was simple; support firefighters and their families, and better inform the public about the accomplishments and demands of the fire and life safety professionals who are career and volunteer firefighters in our state.

The Foundation is charged with helping firefighters and their families with educational opportunities, especially those that enhance the professional skills required for modern, scientific fire and life safety programs. It can fund the very productive Leadership Institute produced by the Association. FAST, the Firefighter Assistance and Support Team is dedicated to emotional health and well-being of firefighters and their families. LAST, the Local

Assistance State Team, provides assistance and comfort to the family and department after a line-of-duty death and helps file for Federal, state and local benefits. Both can be fully funded by a robust Foundation. And, lastly, the Foundation can increase public awareness in the area of fire and life safety as well as enhance firefighters' public image by having a spokesman available to travel the state to interact with the media and civic organizations.

One great way to hug our S.C. firefighters is to join the S.C. State Fire Fighters' Foundation. Find the Foundation on the web at <http://sc-firefighters.org/> or call me at 803-968-6185.

**PHIL LEVENTIS**  
Director of Development  
S.C. State Firefighters' Foundation





PREP SOCCER

## Double hat trick



Lakewood's Kenneth Jones (11) takes the ball away from Crestwood's Michael Huffman (15) during the Gators' 8-0 loss on Tuesday at the CHS field.

RICK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

## Crestwood's Edward Acevedo nets 3 goals in each half of Knights' 8-0 win over Lakewood

BY JUSTIN DRIGGERS

justin@theitem.com

Crestwood High School senior forward Edward Acevedo believes that his job, for the most part, is a simple one.

"The team is playing well and that causes us to have good plays," he said. "We practice a lot and we make good runs. I just have to finish, that's all."

Acevedo has certainly finished a lot this season. He had 39 goals entering Tuesday's matchup against Region VI-4A rival Lakewood at the CHS field, and he added six more tallies by the end of the night in an 8-0 victory.

"It's been good," Acevedo said of his play this year. "It's my senior year, so I had to go all out."

The Knights are hoping this season can last even longer. At 12-8 and 5-3 in the region, Crestwood wrapped up the second seed and the home playoff game that comes with it, which will likely take place

on Tuesday of next week, head coach Jack Ray said.

"That helps," Ray said. "I think we've got a very good chance to go even further this year."

Experience has been a key factor as CHS has 10 seniors on its roster this season.

"Good team cooperation," Ray said. "The seniors have really stepped up. We've got 10 this year; going to be hurting next year."

"But we've got a bunch of guys sitting right now that have been with us for a while that are going to step up next year."

In the meantime, Ray and the Knights are content to see how far this group can go. Acevedo scored three goals in the first half against Lakewood and another three in the second half.

One goal came on the heels of a corner shot that bounced off two goalposts and stayed out. He

SEE GOALS, PAGE B3

PREP BASKETBALL

## Lady Knights' Rogers signs with Converse

BY DENNIS BRUNSON

dennis@theitem.com

No one will ever be able to question Lindsey Rogers' desire to play the game of basketball. She has not one, but two, reasons that tell you otherwise.

Rogers began her career at Crestwood High School by tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee in her freshman year. She went through rehabilitation to get back for her sophomore basketball season only to tear the ACL in her right knee.



ROGERS

The Lady Knights guard didn't call it a career though. She rehabbed the right knee and made it back out on the floor.

"I was certainly nervous coming back," Rogers said. "I put in a lot of work getting better."

Rogers was an integral part of CHS' teams the past two seasons, running the point for two region championship teams. She was also impressive enough despite the two injuries to have college scholarship offers to come her way.

Rogers signed with Converse College in Spartanburg last week, choosing it over an offer from Coker College.

"It just felt like the right place for me," said

SEE ROGERS, PAGE B2

PREP SOFTBALL

## WH edges LMA

BY EDDIE LITAKER

Special to *The Sumter Item*

MANNING — It was a fitting finish to yet another classic Wilson Hall-Laurence Manning Academy softball game.

Tied at 2-2 after seven innings, it took an eighth inning and the international tiebreak rule to finally separate the two SCISA Region II-3A rivals, with the Lady Barons executing in the extra frame to pull out the 3-2 win Tuesday at Julie Skoler Field.

The top of the eighth began with Wilson Hall leadoff batter Carly Allred on at second base and Maddie Elmore at the plate. Elmore laid down a sacrifice bunt to move Allred to third, but Lady 'Cats reliever Lundy Olsen induced Danielle deHoll into a 4-3 grounder for the inning's second out. LMA, however, would not survive the inning unscathed as third baseman Ashton Rogers could not get a good throw to first on a Drake Ives grounder, allowing Allred to score and Ives to take second. The Ives grounder came on the eighth pitch of a battle with Olsen.

Ives went the distance on the mound for the win, limiting the Lady 'Cats to six hits and two unearned runs. Ives struck out seven, walked two and hit one batter.

"Laurence Manning has, and always does have, a top-notch program and we know we are going to have to play some of our best softball (to beat them)," said Wilson Hall head coach Teresa Alexander, whose team improved to 15-13 overall and 3-0 in region play. "Drake was in the zone and I knew she wanted to stay in that circle. She was pitching a great game and she didn't look fatigued. She was still going strong, so she deserved to stay in there and try to pull out the win."

LMA head coach Maria Rowland subbed Kayla Accord for Abbie Beard at second base to

SEE EDGES, PAGE B3

USC MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Despite losing players, Martin looking for more after Gamecocks' Final Four run

BY PETE IACOBELLI

AP Sports Writer

COLUMBIA — It took a trip to the pristine beaches of Grand Cayman nearly two weeks the Final Four for South Carolina coach Frank Martin to soak in the Gamecocks' accomplishment.

Now he's wants more. Martin is determined the Final Four appearance won't be a one-time thing. He faces an uphill challenge, losing his core leaders and starting point guard off that squad.

But the winning "culture is in place in this locker room," Martin said Tuesday.

It has been a busy couple of months for Martin. The Gamecocks (26-11) pulled off several stunners in the NCAA Tourna-

ment, defeating No. 2 seeded Duke, No. 3 seeded Baylor and No. 4 seeded Florida in the East Regional to reach the their first Final Four.

When the team returned to Columbia, Martin helped counsel starting point guard P.J. Dozier on his decision to hire an agent and head to the NBA draft. He talked to top assistant Matt Figger about the ins and outs of his first head coaching job in college at Austin Peay.

It finally took Martin's wife, Anya, to ask if he planned to do anything non-basketball related with his family anytime soon.

Then he took a little time off to re-charge his engines.

So Martin booked a spring break trip to the Caribbean.

While lying in the sun, staring at the crystal blue waters, Martin reviewed his team's season and final flourish in full.

"That's when it hit me what a special month March was," he said.

Martin was rewarded last week with an extra year on his contract, tying him to the school through 2022-23. The deal will pay him \$3.3 million in its final year.

So, with everything — and then some — on last year's to do-list completed (Final Four run, coaches/players moving on, contract extension, vacation), Martin's got some work ahead.



AP FILE PHOTO

South Carolina head coach Frank Martin talks to his players during the Final Four against Gonzaga on April 1 in Glendale, Arizona. Martin is determined the Final Four appearance won't be a one-time thing.

SEE MARTIN, PAGE B2



AREA ROUNDUP

# Wilson Hall boys take third in SCISA 3A golf championship

CONWAY – Wilson Hall saw its 2-year run as SCISA 3A boys golf state champion come to an end on Tuesday with a third-place finish in the state tournament on Tuesday at the Hacker Golf Course at Coastal Carolina.

The tournament is normally a 2-day, 36-hole event. However, it was limited to 18 holes after Monday's first round was postponed due to rain.

Hammond won the title with a 297. Porter-Gaud was second with a 307 and the Barons were third at 315.

WH senior Easton Ward was the medalist with a 69.

Walker Jones was next with a 75 while Miller Jones shot a 77 and Will Barnes a 94.

Laurence Manning Academy fin-

ished ninth with a 343. Rutledge Durrant led the Swampcats with a 78. Von Gardner shot an 87, Grant Kinlaw an 88 and Dawson Shirley a 90.

**SPORTING CLAYS**

**WILSON HALL WINS**

GEORGETOWN — Wilson Hall's Intermediate Advanced team of Sam Louis Tisdale, Alex McLeod and Will McLeod won the SCYSF State Championship on Saturday at Backwoods Quail Club.

Tisdale was the individual runner-up with a personal best 96 to lead the Barons. He also has a 25 straight run. Alex McLeod had a personal best of 90 and also had a 25 straight run.

WH's Matthew Blankenship had a

personal best 93 to finish as the runner in the junior varsity competition. He had a 25 straight run and won a 20-gauge shotgun.

**JUNIOR VARSITY BASEBALL**

**WILSON HALL 9 NORTHWOOD 3**

NORTH CHARLESSTON — Wilson Hall closed out its season with a 9-3 victory over Northwood Academy on Tuesday at the NA field.

Hunter Ives led the 3-8-1 Barons with two hits and the victory on the mound. He allowed one hit and two runs while striking out four in five innings.

Wes Corbett had a hit and an run and Wise Segars had a double.

**GIRLS**

**VARSITY SOCCER**

**CRESTWOOD 3 LAKEWOOD 1**

Crestwood High School closed out its regular season with a 3-1 victory over Lakewood on Tuesday at the CHS field.

Caylie Kovalcik scored two goals to lead the Lady Knights, who are 8-9 overall and finished 4-4 in Region VI-4A. Jazmyn Taylor scored the other goal.

Gloria Reyes added three assists and Shannon Marie had nine saves.

Crestwood finished third in the region and earned a spot in the state playoffs.

**GOALS** FROM PAGE B1

cleaned up a loose ball moments later for his second goal of the game and a 2-0 Crestwood lead.

It was 4-0 at the break with Acevedo and freshman Jordy Gutierrez-Mendoza finding the net. Senior defenseman Kareem Smallwood added the other goal in the second half to go along with Acevedo's second hat trick of the night.

"Edward is probably No. 1 in the state in reference to goals and points right now," Ray added.

The Knights also dished out five assists with three coming from sophomore Christian Acevedo and senior Grant Wilber connecting on the other two.

Senior goalkeeper Aaron Griffin recorded the shutout with eight saves, including one in the final moments of the first half on a breakaway by Lakewood's Charles Olden.

It was that kind of night for the Gators who fell to 12-7 and 1-7 in region play.

"I think we're going to be a fourth seed in the playoffs," LHS head coach Mike Carraher said. "So we're going to be on the road."

Lakewood was undermanned coming into the game — dealing with injuries and a few more not being able to play after the game was rescheduled from Monday because of rain.

"We had to play a lot of guys who weren't normally playing in certain positions and it's kind hard to throw people in there at the last second," Carraher said. "But they did their best and Crestwood is a great team. They've got a lot of good seniors and a lot of good leadership, so take nothing away from them."

"The score didn't really reflect how good our team is this year."

Gators goalkeeper Maurice Sanchez kept Lakewood in the game most of the night, Carraher added, including stopping a penalty kick in the second half.

**EDGES** FROM PAGE B1

open the bottom of the eighth. Beard had struck out in a 7-pitch at-bat to end the seventh with runners at second and third. Brooke Ward hit a grounder to short that proved to be an easy fielder's choice out at third with Accord breaking on the play. With the runner in scoring position advantage lost, the Lady 'Cats could not get anything else going as Rogers struck out and Olivia Coker lined out to third to end the game.

"That eighth inning has bit us in the butt a couple of times, and this is the second time with them," said Rowland, whose team dropped to 16-6-1 and 2-1. "It's come down to an error here or there, but we had ample opportunity to execute and win in the seventh inning and we didn't do it. We had opportunities to score in other innings with runners on second and third. We left a lot of runners on tonight, way too many runners on tonight."

In all, the Lady 'Cats left nine runners on base, including eight in scoring position.

From the start, it seemed a pitcher's duel was in the works as LMA's Liz Hussey and Ives were both dominant in the circle. Hussey would last five innings, surrendering four hits and two earned runs while walking two and hitting one batter,

with Olsen allowing just one hit, an infield single by Katherine Sistare, and striking out one over the final three innings.

Wilson Hall scored single runs in the third and fourth innings, sending four batters to the plate in both frames. An Allred bunt single led to the third-inning run as deHoll followed with an RBI single to right. Liza Lowder took care of the Lady Barons' fourth-inning scoring with one swing of the bat, launching a Hussey pitch over the left-center fence for a solo home run.

Errors could have proven costly for the Lady Barons as LMA scored single runs in the second and fourth off Wilson Hall fielding miscues. Ward would come around to score in both innings, reaching on a hit by pitch in the second and singling through the right side of the infield in the fourth. Third baseman Maddison Sliwonik threw a ball past second base and to the rightfield fence that allowed Ward to score in the second while two stolen bases and a throwing error by catcher Sydney Jarecki brought Ward around in the fourth.

"When we had the error early on, I thought how bad that was going to come back and bite us later," Alexander said. "You just can't afford to give them a run, and we did that twice. But I guess I have to give my pitcher credit. She stepped up with some really big strikeouts at critical

moments, the defense got some really great plays at some critical moments and offensively Danielle had the first RBI and Liza had a phenomenal home run. Then, in the last inning, doing what it took to make sure we got that go-ahead run."

LMA had a great opportunity to end the game in seven, beginning with a Sara Knight Nalley single to left. Always dangerous leadoff hitter Baylee Elms, who has hit seven home runs this season, popped out to Ives for the first out before Cora Downer completed a 4-for-4 night with her fourth infield single, taking second on an infield throwing error that advanced Nalley to third.

Trinity Harrington hit a grounder to short with Nalley breaking for the plate. The throw from Elmore at short was fielded cleanly by Jarecki in time to retire Nalley, with Downer taking third on the play. Harrington would move to second on catcher indifference before Beard's inning-ending strikeout.

"I had a decision to make, am I going to go for the tie and bunt the runner over or are we going to try to go for the hit and score with no outs," Rowland said. "I chose to go for all you've got. I went for it. I wanted to score the run and get the runner on, and hindsight is 20-20. It was obviously the wrong move, but it is what it is. You've got to learn from it, so I will."

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NFL DRAFT

# DEFENSE, DEFENSE: Draft crop is loaded on that side

BY BARRY WILNER  
AP Pro Football Writer

PHILADELPHIA — DEFENSE, DE-FENSE.

That's going to be the area of concentration in this draft, in the first round and through much of the proceedings in Philadelphia. Indeed, the first half-dozen or so selections could come from that side of the ball.

That's often the fallout when there are no slam-dunk quarterbacks available.

Here's how we see Thursday night's first round falling, minus any trades.

**1. Cleveland**

With the QB class so dicey, especially to start things, Cleveland goes for the potential of a dominant, long-term pass rusher. Some analysts wonder about his passion for football, but ... MYLES GARRETT, DE, TEXAS A&M



GARRETT

**2. San Francisco**

When in need of defense, go for the pass rusher first, the shutdown cornerback second, the stud linebacker or safety next. So ... SOLOMON THOMAS, DE, STANFORD

**3. Chicago**

John Fox, a defense-first coach, gets his pick of the top defensive backs for a team that needs help at receiver, on the offensive line, and has settled on Mike Glennon as its QB. Lots of options lead to ... JAMAL ADAMS, S, LSU

**4. Jacksonville**

Sticking with the theme — Tom Coughlin is running the Jaguars now and he won two Super Bowls with a deep, powerful and fast defensive front ... JONATHAN ALLEN, DE, ALABAMA

**5. Tennessee (from Rams)**

There's a great chance the Titans will trade out of this spot. Staying put will lead them to the most promising cornerback in this crop ...

MARSHON LATTIMORE, CB, OHIO STATE

**6. New York Jets**

Offense, offense. New York wouldn't mind grabbing future all-world tight end O.J. Howard here, except the Jets have no one of note to throw to him. So they try — again — to find their franchise quarterback in ... DE-SHAUN WATSON, QB, CLEMSON



WATSON

**7. Los Angeles Chargers**

San Diego — Oops, that's one even Roger Goodell might mess up on draft night — make that Los Angeles was hoping one of the top defensive backs remained available here. One did ... MALIK HOOKER, S, OHIO STATE

**8. Carolina**

This one is easy. The Panthers need a standout running back to balance their offense and make sure there can be a smooth transition from Jonathan Stewart down the line. That RB is ... LEONARD FOURNETTE, RB, LSU

**9. Cincinnati**

Always a haven for players with off-field incidents, Cincinnati fills a linebacking need with a guy who was dismissed from the NFL combine in February and has questions surrounding him about a drug test. If he behaves, the Bengals have an anchor at LB with ... REUBEN FOSTER, LB, ALABAMA

**10. Buffalo**

Hard, no impossible, to see the Bills passing up a target for Tyrod Taylor or whomever becomes Buffalo's quarterback down the line. Howard is tempting, but an outside receiver is more tempting ... MIKE WILLIAMS, WR, CLEMSON



WILLIAMS

**11. New Orleans**

At some point, the Saints need to think about a young quarterback to groom behind Drew Brees. Maybe in the next round, but with so much juicy defensive talent avail-

able, how about ... HAASON REDDICK, LB, TEMPLE

**12. Cleveland (from Philadelphia)**

Now, for that QB to follow in the footsteps of Otto Graham and Brian Sipe — oh, wait, those were the other Browns. Anyway, it's a gamble here, yet ... MITCHELL TRUBISKY, QB, NORTH CAROLINA

**13. Arizona**

Bruce Arians blinks once, twice, three times. Yep, the perfect weapon to balance out his offense (if everyone can stay healthy) is there ... O.J. HOWARD, TE, ALABAMA

**14. Philadelphia (from Minnesota)**

A terrific pass rusher remains on the board, and though the Eagles need a wideout, they can wait in this deep draft to get him. So the man is ... DEREK BARNETT, DE, TENNESSEE

**15. Indianapolis**

If Andrew Luck is in the Colts' draft room, he's also in the staff's ear to get him more protection. He is, after all, coming off shoulder surgery. Here's some help, Andrew ... RYAN RAMCZYK, OT, WISCONSIN

**16. Baltimore**

A team with mostly mediocre receiving options for Joe Flacco might dip into the wideout and tight end pool more than once this year. As a start ... COREY DAVIS, WR, WESTERN MICHIGAN

**17. Washington**

Another club with eyes on a young quarterback, but probably not here with the defense needing bolstering and lots of options there. Such as ... TAK-KARIST MCKINLEY, DE, UCLA

**18. Tennessee**

The defense was addressed earlier, so for Marcus Mariota and the passing offense, a potential game-breaking receiver with lightning speed makes sense ... JOHN ROSS, WR, WASHINGTON

**19. Tampa Bay**

Tampa has an interest in the running backs and offensive linemen still sitting there. With Doug Martin's status in question, it seems logical to go with the versatile RB ...

CHRISTIAN MCCAFFREY, RB, STANFORD

**20. Denver**

When C.J. Anderson went down last season, Denver headed straight into the dumpster. If John Elway is truthful about being satisfied with his quarterback crew, he gets those guys some help now ... DALVIN COOK, RB, FLORIDA STATE



COOK

**21. Detroit**

Back to defense after a short run on offensive players. The Lions get a boost to their cornerbacks group with the third Buckeyes DB chosen in this round ... GAREON CONLEY, CB, OHIO STATE

**22. Miami**

Miami continues the love-fest for DBs with the fifth one taken and the second from the Louisiana State secondary ... TRE'DAVIOUS WHITE, CB, LSU

**23. New York Giants**

What, only one offensive lineman off the board? Rejoice, Eli, the Giants have lots of blockers they could grab in this spot, and they gladly take ... CAM ROBINSON, OT, ALABAMA

**24. Oakland**

Already winners with the vote to allow their relocation to Las Vegas, the Raiders would like to add to their fortune with some help for the D. It comes in the form of ... JARRAD DAVIS, LB, FLORIDA

**25. Houston**

Had Watson or Trubisky been on the board, the Texans might have pulled the trigger on a quarterback. The others left are even bigger gambles, so the best option is the O-line ... FORREST LAMP, OG, WESTERN KENTUCKY

**26. Seattle**

The Seahawks would have liked to have Lamp up front, but with the Texans beating them to the choice, they turn

to their secondary. An addition to the sputtering "Legion of Boom" in ... KEVIN KING, CB-S, WASHINGTON

**27. Kansas City**

Best talent still in the mix is where the Chiefs need to go. Some believe they will draft a QB for the future, but more likely it is ... ZACH CUNNINGHAM, LB, VANDERBILT

**28. Dallas**

Having scored bigtime in recent drafts, particularly last year with Zeke Elliott and Dak Prescott, the Cowboys seem to know what they are doing. Defense is a priority, though a TE to eventually replace Jason Witten is possible ... MARLON HUMPHREY, CB, ALABAMA



HUMPHREY

**29. Green Bay**

Folks point to how weak the Packers' secondary looked late last season, but it was so banged up that backups for backups were playing. With better health expected, DB isn't the selection. LB is with ... CHARLES HARRIS, LB, MISSOURI

**30. Pittsburgh**

With Ben Roethlisberger beginning to think about retirement and the Steelers in a good spot to develop a QB for perhaps two years, this is a perfect time to get one. He is ... PATRICK MAHOMES, QB, TEXAS TECH

**31. Atlanta**

Had the Falcons only been able to keep pressure on Tom Brady in the fourth quarter of the Super Bowl. Addressing that shortcoming ... TACO CHARLTON, DE, MICHIGAN

**32. New Orleans (from New England)**

Ooh, that hurt. The Saints had their eyes on Mahomes, and there aren't any other QBs worth this pick. Here's a chance to spice up the return game and bolster the secondary ... ADOREE' JACKSON, CB, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



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## AUTO RACING

## NASCAR star Dale Earnhardt Jr. to retire at end of season

BY JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE — Dale Earnhardt Jr. abruptly announced his retirement at the end of the season Tuesday, a decision that will cost NASCAR its most popular driver as the series scrambles to rebuild its fan base.

At a news conference, Earnhardt said he "wanted the opportunity to go out on his own terms." After missing much of the 2016 season due to concussion-like symptoms, he acknowledged that time off played a role in his decision. He wanted retirement to be his choice rather than something that was decided for him.

"Having influence over my exit only became meaningful when it started to seem most unlikely," Earnhardt said. "As you know, I missed a few races last year and during that time I had to face the realization that my driving career may have already ended without me so much as getting a vote on the table. Of course, in life we're not promised a vote, and that's especially true in racing."

He informed Hendrick Motorsports owner Rick Hendrick on March 29 of his plan to retire. Earnhardt said telling his boss of nearly 10 years was the toughest part of his decision.

Colorful, candid and talented, Earnhardt



AP FILE PHOTO

Dale Earnhardt Jr., right, gets a hug from his late father Dale Earnhardt after an Earnhardt Jr. victory earlier in his career. Earnhardt Jr. announced his retirement at the end of this season on Tuesday.

onhardt has been plagued by concussions the last several years and he missed half of last season recovering from a head injury. He had delayed contract talks on an extension to drive the No. 88 Chevrolet, and the two-time Daytona 500 winner will now call it quits when the season ends in November.

"You deserve everything, all the awards and accolades," Hendrick said. "There will never be another Dale Earnhardt Jr. You're the one."

The news shocked and saddened drivers throughout the paddock.

"Dale Jr. has had a huge impact on our sport — and you can see that every week with his legion of fans and Junior Nation," Jeff Gordon said in a statement released by Fox Sports, where he now works as an analyst after spending much of last season filling in for the injured Earnhardt. "He has a tremendous sense of the history of NASCAR and, while he shares his father's name, Dale has made a name for himself with his accomplishments in racing."

A third-generation racer, Earnhardt turns 43 in October, is newly married and has said he wants to start a family. He has lately become a vocal advocate for research into sports-related brain injuries, and the hit he took last June led to months of rehabilitation that gave him a new perspective on his life. The concussions left him with nausea, double vision, anxiety and other symptoms that he has discussed in great detail.

His wife, Amy, posted on Twitter shortly after the announcement: "I'm so proud of Dale for working so hard to get back and even prouder for his courage & self awareness to make the decision to retire. I'm sure God has many other great plans for him and us!"

The news was the latest blow to the stock car series, which lost two other popular drivers in Gordon and Tony Stewart to retirement the past two years. Now Earnhardt, the last of the true country boys, is following them out the door. Born and raised in North Carolina, Earnhardt has deep roots in NASCAR. His late Hall of Fame father, Dale, won seven titles and, known as "The Intimidator," was one of the greatest drivers in NASCAR history. Earnhardt's grandfather, Ralph, ran 51 races at NASCAR's highest level.

Earnhardt has won NASCAR's most popular driver award a record 14 times. He has 26 career Cup victories and is a two-time champion of NASCAR's second-tier Xfinity series, where he plans to race twice next year. But the son of the late champion has never won a Cup title. Now in his 18th full-time season at the Cup level, he made his 600th career series start earlier this year.

Earnhardt has driven for Hendrick since 2008 after a nasty split with Dale Earnhardt Inc., the team founded by his father but run by his stepmother. He was unhappy with the direction of DEI since his father's 2001 death in a last-lap accident at the Daytona 500, and a frosty relationship with his stepmother led him to bolt to NASCAR's most powerful team.

## OBITUARIES

## ARTHUR L. LUCAS

DARLINGTON — Arthur L. Lucas, of Darlington, passed away on April 22, 2017.

Services are incomplete at this time and will be announced by Boatwright Chapel on Main, Darlington.

## ARGIRE "SANDY" HODGE

Argire "Sandy" Kokinos Hodge, 76, wife of Gordon Hodge, died on Sunday, April 23, 2017, at her home.

Born in Olean, New York, she was a daughter of the late Nestor and Stamaticoula Kokinos. She was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Columbia. Mrs. Hodge retired from the New York public school system after 34 years as a middle and high school English teacher.

Survivors include her husband of 41 years; two daughters, Terri Condello and Susan Anner; four grandchildren; one sister, Bessie Const (Spiro) of Amherst, New York; and a goddaughter, Stephanie Kokinos Weisenburger of New York City.

A funeral service was held Tuesday at the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Father Michael A. Platanis officiating. Burial was at the Providence Baptist Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Jarod Barkwell, Drey Brunson, Jason Brunson, Logan Hodge, Larry Horne and Joe Meyers.

The family received friends Tuesday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and will receive friends at other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 1931 Sumter St., Columbia, SC 29201 or to Providence Baptist Church, 2445 Old Manning Road, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

## DALE L. ANDERSON

Dale Lesley Anderson, 65, wife of Bobby R. Anderson, died on Saturday, April 22, 2017, at Doctors Hospital in Augusta, Georgia.

Born in Manning, she was a daughter of Rebecca O'Dell Lesley and the late Wilton

Earl Lesley. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church. Mrs. Anderson was a retired educator. She taught two years in the Greenville County school system and the remainder of her career was spent as a math teacher at Alice Drive Middle School. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a sorority of women educators, and the Manchester Trail Riders Association.

Survivors include her husband of 44 years; her mother of Manning; two children, Kelly Rebecca Anderson of Sumter and Robert Matthew Anderson (Amy) of Fountain Inn; one grandson, Reid Anderson; three brothers, Michael Lesley (Carol) of Jasper, Georgia, David Lesley (Terrye) of Lake Providence, Louisiana, and Edwin Lesley (Sally) of Chapin; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday at Trinity United Methodist Church with the Rev. Angela Marshall and Brian Hatfield officiating. Burial will be at Oak Grove Cemetery in Manning.

Pallbearers will be Ryan Connor, Candler Mathews, Ed Lesley, Robert Lesley, Taylor McFaddin and Stephen Lesley.

Honorary pallbearers will be Earl Jenkins, Willie Jenkins and Frank Jenkins.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, 226 W. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150.

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

## ROBERT CHATMAN JR.

Robert Chatman Jr., 86, widower of Viola Chatman, departed this life on Monday, April 24, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

He was born on Nov. 11, 1930, in Sumter County, a son of the late Robert Sr. and Margaret Pollock Chatman.

The family will receive

friends at the home of his cousin, Rosa Tyler, 1348 Cherryvale Drive, Sumter, SC 29150.

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

## EVELYN K. BARWICK

MANNING — Evelyn Kolb Barwick, 92, widow of Francis Levi "Ike" Barwick, died on Monday, April 24, 2017, at her home.

Born in Pinewood, she was a daughter of the late Rollin and Annie Whilden Kolb. Mrs. Barwick was a lifelong member of Pinewood Baptist Church. She retired from Sibert's Drug Store and was a former volunteer at Tuomey hospital.

Surviving are one son, Harold Barwick (Nona) of Roswell, New Mexico; a daughter, Ann Springfield (Walter) of Manning; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Kenny Barwick and Danny Barwick.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday at Pinewood Baptist Church with the Rev. Kirk Carlisle and the Rev. Bennie Barwick officiating. Burial will be in Pinewood Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday at Pinewood Baptist Church and other times at the home, 1279 Mill Creek Drive, Manning.

In lieu of flowers, contributions should be sent to the Special Olympics of Roswell, 605 S. Kentucky Ave., Roswell, NM 88203.

Online condolences may be

sent to [www.sumterfunerals.com](http://www.sumterfunerals.com).

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



ELMORE HILL MCCREIGHT FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

## LAWRENCE C. MORSE III

Lawrence "Larry" Columbus Morse III, 54, died on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Services will be announced by Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, (803) 775-9386.



ELMORE HILL MCCREIGHT FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

## JOSEPHINE T. GEDDINGS

Josephine Tolson Geddings, 68, widow of Floyd H. Geddings, died on Monday, April 24, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on June 7, 1948, in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Robert and Rueviner Capell Tolson. She was a member of New Calvary Baptist Church. She was formerly employed at Waters' Florist, worked for the Salvation Army for more than 20 years, and taught arts and crafts at Central Carolina Technical College.

Survivors include two children, Joey H. Geddings and Amy M. Lyles (Daniel), both of Sumter; two step-grandchildren, Madison Lyles and Gracie Lyles; two brothers, Robert "Butch" Tolson and Roy Tolson, both of Sumter; and a sister, Linda Windham of Sumter.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. Dr. David Richardson and Bobby Baker officiating. Burial will be in Sumter Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home of her daughter.

Memorials may be made to New Calvary Baptist Church, 38 Center St., Sumter, SC 29150.

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

## SAM PETER DUKES JR.

MANNING — Sam Peter Dukes Jr., 66, died on Monday, April 24, 2017, at his residence, 2023 Joseph Lemon & Dingle Road, Manning.

He was born on June 12, 1950, in the Jordan community of Manning, a son of the late Sam Peter Dukes Sr. and Azalea McKinney Dukes.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his sister, Elizabeth "Liz" Dukes, 6284 Moses Dingle Road, Jordan community of Manning.

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



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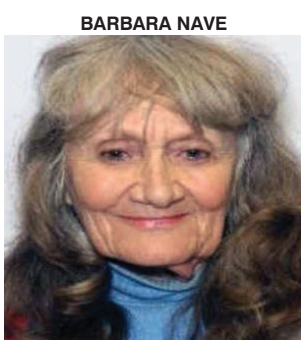
### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Announcements



**BARBARA NAVE**  
If you have any information on Barbara's whereabouts, contact Sumter County Sheriffs dept 803-436-2000 or Crime Stoppers 803-436-2718.

#### Card of Thanks

The family of Ernest Delgar Butler would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers, visits & love shown to us during our loved ones passing. A special Thank You to Davita Dialysis, Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, Palmetto Tuomey Health. *The Butler Family*

### BUSINESS SERVICES

#### Home Improvements

**H.L. Boone, Contractor:** Remodel paint roofs gutters drywall blown ceilings ect. 773-9904

#### Lawn Service

**Clary Lawn Service** Free Estimates Call 803-406-3514

**WE WILL BUY YOUR CAR OUTRIGHT!**  
Regardless of year, make or model, we will pay you good money for your current vehicle. We can give you a fair price appraisal in 15 minutes.  
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#### Roofing

**Robert's Metal Roofing**  
35 Yrs exp. 45 yr warranty. Financing avail. Expert installation. Long list of satisfied customers. **803-837-1549.**

#### Tree Service

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**Tree take down,** pruning, stump grinding, lot clearing and free estimates! Fully insured. Call 803-720-7147

### PETS & ANIMALS

#### Cats

**FREE KITTENS** to a good home. Litter box trained Call 803-983-3264 or 803-469-6112.

### MERCHANDISE

#### Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

**LARGE GARAGE SALE Every Weekend Tables \$2 & \$3 FLEA MARKET BY SHAW AFB Open every weekend. Call 803-494-5500**

#### For Sale or Trade

**4 grave plots** side by side for sale at Evergreen Memorial Park. Cost per plot \$2200. Call 803-614-7596

**2 plots** in Evergreen Cemetery in the Fountain section #4. \$2200 each Call 803-847-4400



#### For Sale or Trade

**Last Chance CLOSE OUT**  
All Remaining Items **30% to 60% OFF**  
All sales FINAL  
No hold orders.  
Used furniture, accessories and appliances.  
**2 WEEKS ONLY! PRICE RITE FURNITURE**  
Corner of Liberty & Guignard, across from Save-A-Lot. Closed Mondays.

### EMPLOYMENT

#### Help Wanted Full-Time

**Red's Place** is seeking waitress & bartender for the restaurant. Apply in person between 4 pm - 6 pm Wed. - Friday at 6322 M.W. Rickenbaker Rd. Summerton, SC 29148.

**Linemen Class BR Class C.** Operating on special projects in SC, NC, GA, FL, top pay, per diem. Call 704-236-8845

**Farm equipment, shed, roof repairs needed.** Must be licensed and insured. We will accept bids till May 10th, 2017. Call 803-473-3364 for info.

**Seeking an Exp HVAC installer.** Needs to be experienced with duct fabrication and installation of duct work with residential and some light commercial equipment. Salary based upon experience, up to \$18-\$20/hour. Paid vacation and benefits. Call Lowery Heating and Air 803-778-2942 Mon-Fri 8am-5pm.

**Restaurant** is seeking waitress and kitchen staff. Apply in person between 11-2, Tues.-Thurs. at 494 Pinewood Rd.

#### Help Wanted Part-Time

**P/T Short order** cook wanted for a local fast paced restaurant. Exp. preferred. Apply in person only at Leo's, 1961-B McCrays Mill Rd. between the hours of 11 am - 5 pm.

**Bartenders needed** immediately for Manning Restaurant/bar. Please call 803.413.2503 to schedule an interview.

**NOW HIRING P/T ROOFERS** Must have metal, shingle, and flat roof exp. DL & transportation is req. Serious Inquiries call 803-478-2950.

#### Help Wanted Part-Time

**Experienced Trailer switcher needed** 3 days a week in Sumter. Must have current CDL, 5 years experience, clean driving record. Call 803-938-2708 leave message with your experience M-F 9am-3pm.

#### Trucking Opportunities

**Burch's Landscaping P/T & F/T** Local Dump Truck Operator Wanted. Clean CDL and Experience a must! Retirees welcome. Box 467 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

#### Medical Help Wanted

**Small Private medical office** seeking Office manager. Experienced applicants fax resume to 803-775-4981

### RENTALS

#### Unfurnished Apartments

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

#### Unfurnished Homes

**House for rent** 2000 sq ft 3BR/1.5BA \$750 Mo +\$750 Dep. No pets & no smokers. 803-406-5734

#### Mobile Home Rentals

**Scenic Lake MHP**  
3 & 2 Bedrooms, No pets.  
Call between 9am - 5 pm  
803-499-1500 or 803-469-6978



### REAL ESTATE

#### Homes for Sale



**Quiet cul-de-sac Duplex Avail. - Landmark Point,** (near corner of Patriot Parkway & Loring Mill) units have 2 br, 2 ba, garage. Currently rented. For info call 803-983-0192

#### Land & Lots for Sale

**8 acres with pond,** near Elliott. Owner financing. Call 803-427-3888

**Minutes Walmart/Shaw** Acre, all hookups cleared \$12,900. 888-774-5720

### TRANSPORTATION

#### Miscellaneous



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

**call us TODAY**

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### Legal Notice

**Public Notice**  
There will be a meeting of the Dalzell Water Board of Directors on **Monday, May 8, 2017 at 6:00 pm** at the American Legion Community Center in Dalzell, South Carolina. The purpose of this meeting is to review the annual reports of the Dalzell Water District Board and the City of Sumter, and to elect one (1) Board Member.

**Shaw Parkway Storage LLC**  
On April 29th 2017 The following storage units will be sold to a Predetermined buyer....Note: **THIS IS NOT AN AUCTION**

- P53 Eugene Degraffenreid
- P15/P6 Shawn Harris
- B45 Kimberly Dawson
- B8 Ashley Gamell
- I17 Zangonia Alexander
- D58 Ainasia Adams
- A37/C55 Teresa Nesbitt
- C11 Akira Peterman
- D74 Alicia Nichols
- A222/A223 Catherine Gaylord
- A17 Brian Barnes
- C62 Chris Archie

#### Bid Notices

The County of Sumter is soliciting separate sealed bids from qualified contractors for the **Intersection Improvements to Wilson Hall Road (S-692) & Wise Drive (S-308).** This work includes, grading, paving and all other work associated with the construction of the intersection improvements. **Bids will be received until 11:00 A.M. Tuesday May 9th, 2017** at the Sumter County Council Chambers on the 3rd Floor, Sumter County Administration Building, 13 East Canal Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29150. Bid Documents may be obtained from The County of Sumter Purchasing Department by emailing: [Purchasing@sumtercountysc.org](mailto:Purchasing@sumtercountysc.org) or from their website: [www.sumtercountysc.org](http://www.sumtercountysc.org) Plans and Specifications may be obtained by emailing: [chris.baker@meadhunt.com](mailto:chris.baker@meadhunt.com)



**McLeod Health**  
**McLeod Cardiology Associates in Sumter POSITIONS AVAILABLE!**  
As McLeod Health continues to grow and expand our Cardiology services in Sumter, SC, we have immediate openings in various specialties. All positions are day shift and come with competitive salaries and benefits. **McLeod Cardiology Associates in Sumter, SC** is seeking the following Full Time positions:  
**Physician Office LPN**  
**Certified Medical Assistant**  
**Clerical Associate**  
**Ultrasonographer Tech**  
If interested, please call 843-777-2595 or apply online at [jobs.mcleodhealth.org](http://jobs.mcleodhealth.org)

**CONTRACTOR WANTED!**  
521 SOUTH & PLOWDEN MILL ROAD  
If you have good, dependable transportation, a phone in your home, and a desire to earn extra income  
**Call Lori Rabon at 774-1216 or Apply in Person at**  
**the Sumter ITEM**  
36 W. Liberty St. Sumter, SC

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PHOTO PROVIDED

The Mayesville Presbyterian Church Choir will host its third hymn festival at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 30. The public is invited to sing along with the choir on many traditional hymns. Members of the choir are, front row from left: Marsha Nelson, Angie Bland, Cyndi Eckley, Jane Watson, Cathy Peake and organist/choir director Tammy Williams; and back row, from left: Don DuBose, Jimmy Bland, Gordon Eckley, Jo Ellen Miller and Jane Hammond.

## Festival features 'Hymns of Christian Unity'

### Audience invited to sing along with Mayesville choir

BY IVY MOORE  
ivy@theitem.com

If you like traditional hymns and love to sing them with like-minded people, Mayesville Presbyterian Church will offer you that opportunity at 4 p.m. Sunday. The church's third annual hymn festival will feature the church's choir, directed by Tammy Williams, choir director and organist, leading the audience in singing.

Titled "A Festival of Hymns: Hymns of Christian Unity," the program will feature "stirring renditions of well-known congregational hymns that

have stood the test of time, as well as a few that have earned a place in the church's repertoire in recent decades," Williams said.

She named several familiar hymns that will be sung on Sunday: "The church's one foundation," "Take my life, that I may be," "There's a wideness in God's mercy," "For all the saints," and "All my hope on God is founded."

Brief commentaries between hymns will offer a glimpse into the background of each. Several of the hymns will be accompanied by majestic arrangements featuring trumpeter Kelly Jokisch.

Williams said the choir "will also present choral settings of a few hymns."

She noted that 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. It is traditionally dated to 1517 when the monk Martin Luther published his "95 Theses," which ques-

tioned some of the dogma of the Roman Catholic Church, especially the selling of so-called "indulgences" to absolve sins.

Williams cited the "numerous calls to pray for reconciliation and unity among the various Christian denominations," which prompted the title and theme of the festival. She said the hymns selected support certain aspects of the theme and "were written by authors from a variety of denominational backgrounds."

The lyrics will support "characteristics of Christian unity, the scriptural call to be in harmony with one another, the common creed that forms the basis for Christianity, and the breadth and depth of the universal Church."

Found in the hymnals of many denominations, for example, "The Church's one foundation (is Jesus Christ, our Lord)" clearly promotes Christian unity; and "For all the saints (who from their labors rest),"

written by the Anglican Bishop William Walsham How supports the "common creed" shared by Christians.

Church members Carol Ann Compton and David Watson will give brief commentaries on the hymns.

The Rev. Brian Peake, who has pastored the Mayesville congregation for the past 15 years, said he looks forward to this opportunity to welcome friends and visitors to the church.

"For those who enjoy hymn-singing, perhaps the most satisfying element of a hymn festival is the occasion to engage in hearty singing with a church full of other hymn lovers," Williams said. "Mayesville's hymn festival promises to provide ample opportunity to do just that."

Mayesville Presbyterian Church, 109 W. Sumter St. in Mayesville, will present its third annual hymn festival at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 30. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

## Historical society celebrates Shaw AFB's 75th anniversary

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sumter County Historical Society will observe the 75th anniversary of Shaw Air Force Base, established in 1941, at its 3 p.m. Sunday meeting at the Heritage Education Center of the Sumter County Museum. Two guests will speak on the topic "Shaw Air Force Base — The Past, Present and Future" during the annual membership meeting, to which the public is invited.

Since Shaw Air Force Base was established in 1941 as a training base for pilots, the facility has seen many alterations to its physical campus, and its role has changed with the demands of our military. These changes have brought growth and new roles, especially with Shaw now being headquarters for both Air Force and Army units.

Speaking at Sunday's meeting are Sgt. Maj. Michael Clauss, currently assigned as G2 sergeant major for the U.S. Army, and Robert Sexton, who is the community relations manager for Shaw. They will present the roles of the Air Force

and Army in their relationship to Shaw and Sumter.

Clauss is from Waukegan, Illinois, and entered military service in 1988 as an intelligence analyst at Fort Dix. He has been stationed at a number of bases since, including Fort Drum, New York; Pearl Harbor; Red Cloud, Korea; Fort Riley, Kansas; and Kaiserslauten, Germany. His deployment history includes Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Iraq and Kuwait. Clauss has received numerous awards, including the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, United Nations and NATO medals and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. Clauss is married to Sarah Legel and is a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

Sexton has been a public affairs specialist for more than 30 years, serving 11 bases in six countries. To everyone outside the base, he is the representative of the installation commander and Team Shaw. His active duty military service spans more than 20 years, including participating in Pana-



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KATHRYN R.C. REAVES / SHAW AIR FORCE BASE

U.S. Air Force master sergeants selected for promotion to senior master sergeant gather for a group photo at Shaw Air Force Base on March 2. Shaw Air Force Base is 75 years old, and The Sumter County Historical Society will celebrate its anniversary at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Heritage Education Center of the Sumter County Museum.

ma's Noriega Crisis and Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. As the representative for Shaw, Sexton is the public point of contact for South Carolina's second-largest employer, with more than 8,300 employees, more than \$4 bil-

lion in assets, and an annual impact of more than \$800 million which generates more than 2,000 jobs in the region.

The Sumter County Historical Society invites the public to its annual membership meeting at 3 p.m.

Sunday in the Heritage Education Center of the Sumter County Museum, 122 N. Washington St. There is no charge for admission. For more information call Ray Thompson at (803) 968-6032 or email ret@474747@gmail.com.



## At Your Service Home Care Your Concierge



With a locally practicing physician and local medical equipment specialist at the helm, AYSHC has combined expertise in health care and see the growth of the aging population within their own community.

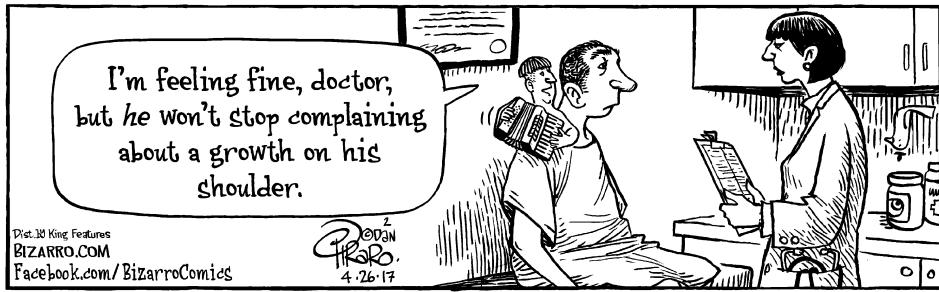
Personal Assistance for safe daily living  
VA, Medicaid, Long Term Insurance Provider  
www.ays-homecare.com

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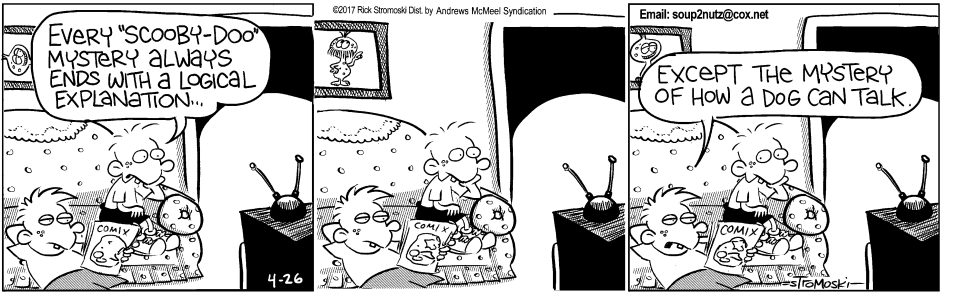
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37 W. Rigby St | Manning, SC 29102

**BIZARRO**



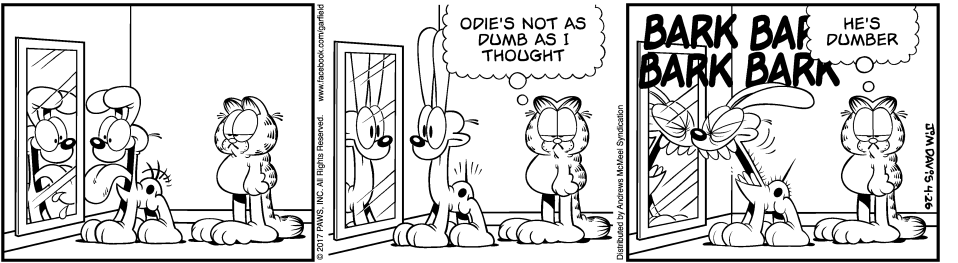
**SOUP TO NUTZ**



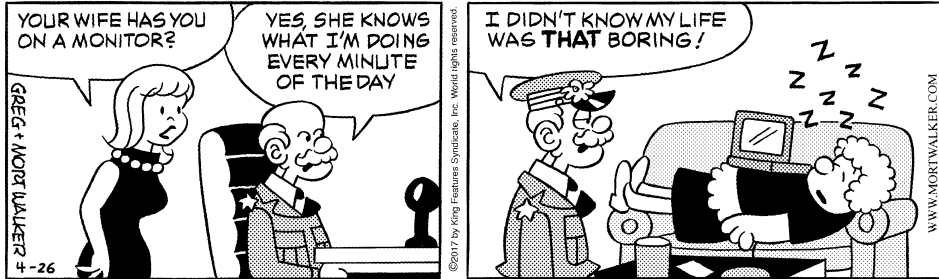
**ANDY CAPP**



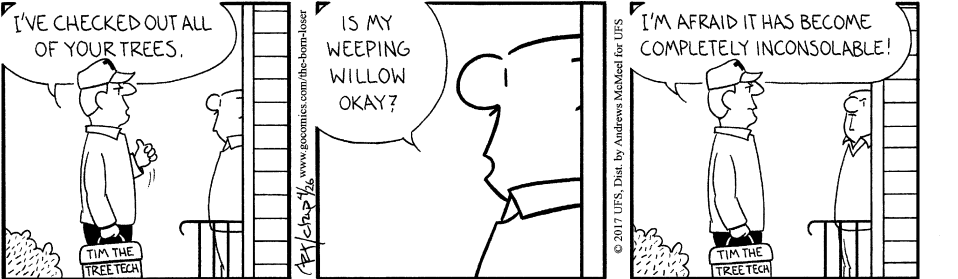
**GARFIELD**



**BETLE BAILEY**



**BORN LOSER**



**BLONDIE**



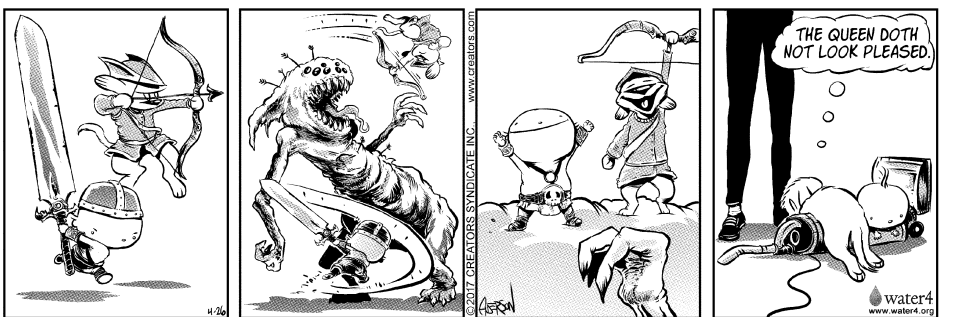
**ZITS**



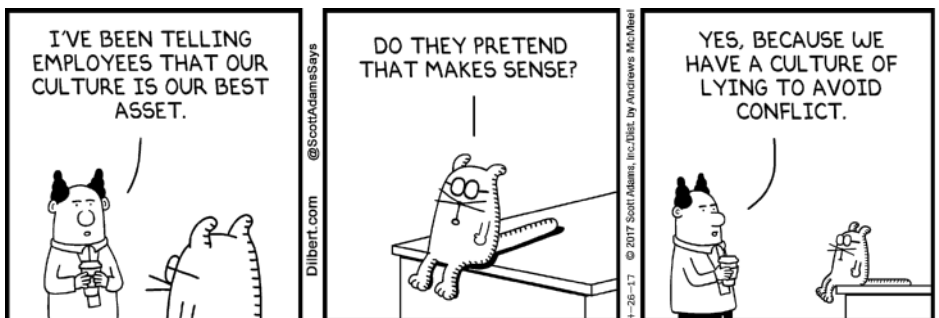
**MOTHER GOOSE**



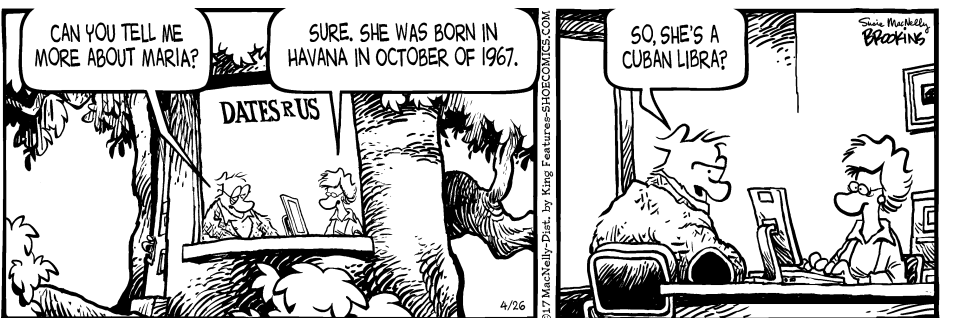
**DOG EAT DOUG**



**DILBERT**



**JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE**



*While wife's sex drive races, husband is in neutral*



**Dear Abby**  
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY** — I've been married almost four years. My husband and I are both barely 40, still quite young, but we have sex only once or twice a month. Our relationship is great, and we love each other. I just wish we had sex more often. I've told him I would like more, but it stays the same.

needs are not met. I don't want to leave him, but I don't want an almost sexless marriage.

He's a very masculine man, so I don't know how to ask him to go to the doctor to get something to increase his sex drive. Should I do that? Or should I get things to supplement our sex, like toys?

*Needs more in Florida*

**DEAR NEEDS MORE** — You appear to have married a very masculine man who has a very low sex drive or who may be borderline asexual. If marital aids would help you, by all means get some. You should also have a frank talk with your husband and suggest he consult his physician about the discrepancy in your sex drives.

Marriage counseling might

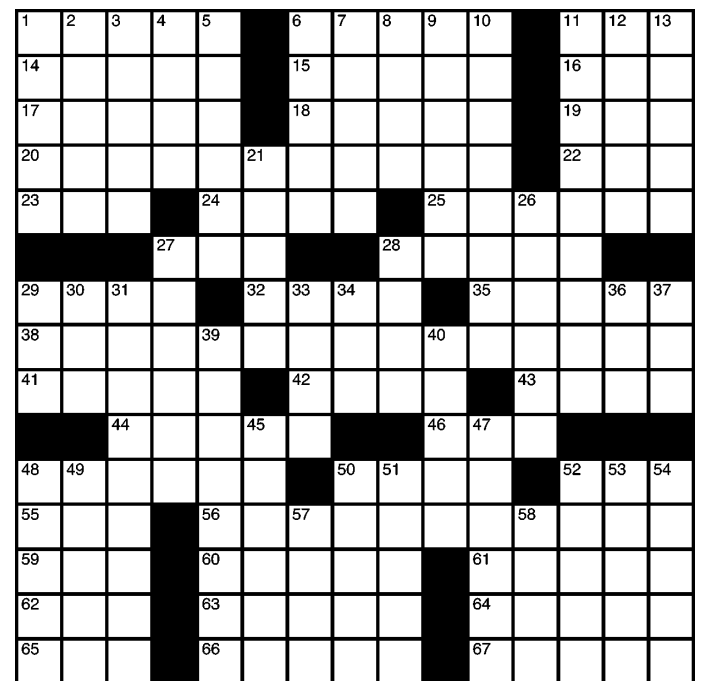
help to improve your level of communication, but if none of the above work, you will have to decide if you are prepared to live with the situation as it is.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE**



By Bill Zagowski

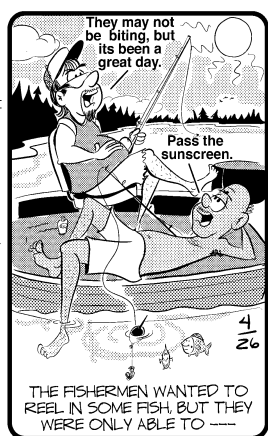
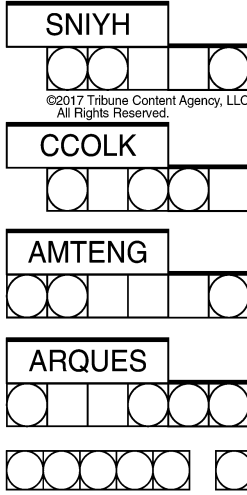
4/26/17

- ACROSS**
- 1 Reduce drastically
  - 6 Skyscraper girder
  - 11 Bobby on the ice
  - 14 Willow
  - 15 Impudent
  - 16 Baltimore
  - 17 Ravens mascot named for an author
  - 18 Blubbers
  - 19 Potato part
  - 20 NOTHING
  - 22 "Stillmatic" rapper
  - 23 Equinox mo.
  - 24 Secure at the pier
  - 25 Small bite
  - 27 Sulky state
  - 28 L.A.'s region
  - 29 Jessica of "Fantastic Four" films
  - 32 Waimea Bay island
  - 35 First sound of the day, for many
  - 38 Provide missing info ... and what four clues do to their answers
  - 41 Author Asimov
  - 42 Ratio phrase
  - 43 Boxing stats
  - 44 Explosive experiment
  - 46 Vote for
  - 48 "I wanna go too!"
  - 50 "Psst!" kin
  - 52 These, in Nantes
  - 55 Roadside respite spot
  - 56 NAUGHT
  - 59 Word with Iron or Bronze
  - 60 Enter on a laptop
  - 61 Tropical porch
  - 62 Hi\_\_ image
  - 63 Año Nuevo month
  - 64 Ham it up
  - 65 Cockpit abbr.
  - 66 Building leveler, to a Brit
  - 67 Like horses
  - 8 Burnett of CNN
  - 9 ACTIVE
  - 10 Otherworldly
  - 11 SPACE
  - 12 Fit for a queen
  - 13 Piece maker?
  - 21 It may be passed
  - 26 Golf ball material
  - 27 Sense of taste
  - 28 Bird feeder food
  - 29 John Williams won its 2016 Life Achievement Award: Abbr.
  - 30 Fleur-de-\_\_
  - 31 EMPTY
  - 33 Busy, busy, busy
  - 34 Dept. that oversees the
  - 36 "Citizen Kane"
  - 37 Ed.'s backlog
  - 39 Fridge feature that needs water
  - 40 Bergman's "Gaslight" co-star
  - 45 Title Tejano singer in a 1997 biopic
  - 47 Starbucks' mermaid, e.g.
  - 48 Sparkly crown
  - 49 Broadway backer
  - 50 Blazing
  - 51 Roll out the red carpet for
  - 52 Pachelbel work
  - 53 Related on mom's side
  - 54 Hit the slopes
  - 57 Caustic cleaners
  - 58 Tibetan spiritual adviser
- Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**
- DOWN**
- 1 Neatniks' opposites
  - 2 Stocking thread
  - 3 "It's \_\_\_": "They tricked us!"
  - 4 Climb, in a way
  - 5 Badger from the bleachers
  - 6 Anvil-shaped ear bone
  - 7 Ocean bed?

**JUMBLE**

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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



THE FISHERMEN WANTED TO REEL IN SOME FISH, BUT THEY WERE ONLY ABLE TO —

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

Yesterday's Jumbles: ELOPE BRICK RATHER PODIUM  
Answer: The chemists ate lunch every day at the — PERIODIC TABLE

**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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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



TW	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM		
<b>LOCAL CHANNELS</b>														
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7:00pm Local news update.	Entertainment Tonight (N) (HD)	Blindspot: Regard a Mere Mad Rager Jane & Weller go on a scavenger hunt. (N) (HD)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: The Newsroom On-air revelation. (N) (HD)	Chicago P.D.: Grasping for Salvation Voight investigates a murder. (N) (HD)	WIS News 10 at 11:00pm News and weather.	(:35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Comedic skits and celebrity interviews. (HD)				
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 @ 7pm Evening news update.	Inside Edition (N) (HD)	Survivor: Game Changers Twenty returning individuals try to outlast each other in Fiji. (HD)	Criminal Minds: Unforgettable Federal employees have heart attacks. (N) (HD)	Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders: Blowback FBI investigates for suspect's death. (N) (HD)	News 19 @ 11pm The news of the day.	(:35) The Late Show with Stephen Colbert Stephen Colbert interviews celebrities. (HD)				
WOLO	23	5	12	Wheel of Fortune: Fabulous Florida (N) (HD)	Jeopardy! (N) (HD)	The Goldbergs: Fonzie Scheme (N) (HD)	Speechless: R-U-N—RUN-AWAY (N) (HD)	black-ish: Sister, Sister (N) (HD)	black-ish: All Groan Up (N) (HD)	Designated Survivor: Lazarus Kimble Hookstraten finds herself involved in a scandal. (N) (HD)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (HD)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live Celebrities and human-interest subjects. (HD)		
WRJA	27	11	14	Carolina Classrooms (N) (HD)	Expeditions with Patrick McMillan (HD)	Nature: Forest of the Lynx (N) (HD)	NOVA: Building Chernobyl's MegaTomb (N) (HD)	Wild Weather (N) (HD)	Audubon (HD)	Charlie Rose (N) (HD)				
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory New assistant. (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	Shots Fired: Hour Six: The Fire This Time Riot between citizens and police. (N) (HD)	Empire: Love Is a Smoke Lucious becomes unsure about the future. (N) (HD)	WACH FOX News at 10 Local news report and weather forecast.	Sports Zone	2 Broke Girls: And the Candy Manwich (HD)	Mike & Molly: Super Cop Stolen wallet. (HD)			
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing: Co-Ed Softball (HD)	Last Man Standing: Mike the bad cop. (HD)	Arrow: Dangerous Liaisons The search for Adrian Chase. (N) (HD)	The 100: DNR News of Jaha's discovery spreads. (N) (HD)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.: Bouncing Back Coulson is on a mission to stop Hydra. (HD)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.: The Inside Man Coulson and Talbot go to a symposium. (HD)	Hot in Cleveland: The Gateway Friend (HD)				
<b>CABLE CHANNELS</b>														
A&E	46	130	Storage Wars (HD)	Storage Wars (HD)	Storage Wars (HD)	Storage Wars (HD)	Storage Wars (N) (HD)	Storage Wars (N) (HD)	Billy the Exterminator (N) (HD)	Billy the Exterminator (N) (HD)	(:03) Storage Wars (HD)	(:33) Storage Wars (HD)	(:03) Storage Wars (HD)	
AMC	48	180	(5:00) Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (11) ★★ (HD)	Lethal Weapon ('87, Action) ★★½ Mel Gibson. A mismatched pair of L.A. cops investigate a group of heroin smugglers. (HD)	Lethal Weapon 2 ('89, Action) ★★ Mel Gibson, Riggs and Murtaugh go after a drug-smuggling South African diplomat. (HD)									
ANPL	41	100	Tanked (HD)	Tanked Anniversary tank. (HD)	Tanked: Sea-lebrity Edition: Top Rope Tanks (N) (HD)									
BET	61	162	Precious ('09, Drama) Gabourey Sidibe. Teen suffers abuse. (HD)	Barbershop 2: Back in Business ('04, Comedy) ★★½ Ice Cube. Calvin's shop is put in danger again when a developer seeks to shut it down. (HD)	Martin DJ's attitude.	Martin DJ's attitude.								
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New York City: It Girl, Interrupted	The Real Housewives of New York City: A New Low	The Real Housewives of New York City (N)	The Real Housewives of New York City (N)	What Happens (N) (HD)	The Real Housewives of New York City						
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank Vegan cookies. (HD)	Shark Tank Stamping kit. (HD)	Shark Tank (HD)	Super Rich (N)	Shark Tank (HD)	Shark Tank (HD)						
CNN	33	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (HD)	Anderson Cooper 360° (N) (HD)	The Lead with Jake Tapper (N)	CNN Tonight with Don Lemon	CNN Tonight with Don Lemon	CNN Tonight with Don Lemon						
COM	57	136	(:55) South Park: The Coon Trilogy Coon wants to help victims. (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	
DISN	18	200	K.C. Undercover (HD)	Good Luck Charlie (HD)	Stuck in the Middle (HD)	Andi Mack Dance party. (HD)	Liv and Maddie (HD)	Liv and Maddie (HD)	BUNK'D (HD)	BUNK'D (HD)	Jessie Jessie dirt. (HD)	Jessie Jessie dirt. (HD)	Girl Meets World (HD)	
DSC	42	103	The Last Alaskans (HD)	The Last Alaskans (HD)	The Last Alaskans (N) (HD)	Naked and Afraid (HD)	Alaskan Bush People (HD)	Alaskan (HD)						
ESPN	26	35	MLB Baseball: New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox from Fenway Park (LIVE) (HD)	SportsCenter Special (HD)	Hey Rookie	Baseball Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	SC (HD)						
ESPN2	27	39	SportsCenter (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (N) (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks/Cons (HD)	
FOOD	40	109	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	The O'Reilly Factor (N) (HD)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N) (HD)	The O'Reilly Factor (HD)	Tucker (HD)						
FOXN	37	90	The First 100 Days (N) (HD)	The O'Reilly Factor (N) (HD)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N) (HD)	The O'Reilly Factor (HD)	Tucker (HD)						
FREE	20	131	(6:30) Coming to America ('88, Comedy) ★★ Eddie Murphy. African prince woos American beauty. (HD)	Nacho Libre ('06, Comedy) ★★½ Jack Black. A monastery cook moonlights as a luchador in order to save an orphanage. (HD)	The 700 Club (HD)									
FSS	31	42	MLB Baseball: Atlanta Braves at New York Mets from Citi Field (LIVE) (HD)	The Middle (HD)	The Middle (HD)	Post Game	Post Game	World Poker Tour (R) (HD)	MLB Game					
HALL	52	183	Last Man Standing (HD)	Last Man Standing (HD)	Last Man Standing (HD)	Last Man Standing (HD)	The Middle: Pilot (HD)	The Middle: Pilot (HD)	Gold. Girl Christmas spirit.	Gold. Girl Pregnant teen.	Gold. Girl New outlook on life.			
HGTV	39	112	Buying and Selling (HD)	Property Brothers (HD)	Buying and Selling (N) (HD)	Hunters (N)	Hunters (N)	Property Brothers (HD)	Buying (HD)					
HISTV	45	110	American Pickers (HD)	American Pickers (HD)	American Pickers (N) (HD)	(:03) American Pickers (HD)	(:03) American Pickers (HD)	Am. Picker						
ION	13	160	Law & Order: Blackmail Journalist's death reveals blackmail. (HD)	Law & Order: Brilliant Disguise Medical school. (HD)	Law & Order: Innocence Organization fights hate crime. (HD)	Law & Order: Steel-Eyed Death Troubled teen. (HD)	Law & Order: Boy on Fire Boy's body burns in parking lot. (HD)	Law & Order (HD)						
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: Atlanta: Escape from Atlanta (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta: A Little Extra: Stage Fight (N) (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta: Good Deed Gone Bad (N) (HD)	Little Women: Dallas: Not So Silent Partner Test results. (N) (HD)	Little Women: Dallas: Not So Silent Partner Test results. (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta (HD)						
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball with Chris (N) (HD)	All in with Chris Hayes (HD)	The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	Lawrence O'Donnell (HD)	11th Hour (HD)	Hardball (HD)	Maddow (HD)					
NICK	16	210	Thunderman	Thunderman	Nicky (HD)	Shakers (HD)	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends (HD)	Friends (HD)	Friends (HD)	
SPIKE	64	153	Varsity (HD)	The Blind Side ('09, Drama) ★★½ Sandra Bullock. A family takes a boy into their home. (HD)										
SYFY	58	152	(6:30) The Goonies ('85, Adventure) ★★ Sean Astin. A group of playmates tries to stop ruthless developers and finds a treasure map.	The Matrix ('99, Science Fiction) ★★ Keanu Reeves. A hacker joins a shadowy collective's struggle to free humankind from slavery after he discovers reality is nothing more than an engineered illusion.										
TBS	24	156	Seinfeld: The Wizard (HD)	Seinfeld: The Burning (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	Full Frontal (HD)	Conan Dennis Quaid; Nikki Lane. (N) (HD)	The Detour: The Ass (HD)			
TCM	49	186	(5:45) Breakfast at Tiffany's ('61, Comedy) ★★½ Audrey Hepburn.	Bound for Glory ('76, Drama) ★★ David Carradine. Folk singer finds success as pro-Union spokesman during Great Depression.	(:45) America, America ('63, Drama) ★★½ Stathis Giallelis. Reality soils a Greek immigrant's dreams of building a better life for himself.									
TLC	43	157	My 600-lb Life (N) (HD)	My 600-lb Life: Teretha & Chad Family reunion. (N) (HD)	(:08) This is Life LIVE (N) (HD)	(:09) My 600-lb Life: Teretha & Chad (HD)								
TNT	23	158	2017 NBA Playoffs: Teams TBA (LIVE) (HD)									Inside the NBA (LIVE) (HD)		
TRUTV	38	129	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Talk Show (N)	Talk Show	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro		
TVLAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H: Pilot	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Nobodies (N)	Lopez (N) (HD)	Queens (HD)	Queens (HD)	Queens (HD)	
USA	25	132	NCIS: Family Secret Ambulance carrying Marine explodes. (HD)									NCIS: Los Angeles: Angels & Daemons Murdered capitalist. (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles (HD)	
WE	68	166	Law & Order: Patsy (HD)									The Wedding Planner ('01, Romance) ★★ Jennifer Lopez.		
WGN	8	172	U.S. Marshals ('98, Thriller) ★★ Tommy Lee Jones. A marshal seeks an escaped fugitive. (HD)									Underground (N) (HD)	Underground (HD)	Undergr. (HD)

# Hulu's 'Handmaid's Tale' is gripping from the start

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Hulu embarks on its 10-part adaptation of Margaret Atwood's 1985 dystopian novel "The Handmaid's Tale." Three episodes are available for streaming today and more will become available in later weeks.

Set in the near future, "Tale" takes place in the fictional nation of Gilead after a Christian fundamentalist military dictatorship is established in the former United States. This occurs against the backdrop of a widespread fertility crisis. So few women can give birth that those who can are taken from their homes and forced to be "Handmaids" to important officials.

Elisabeth Moss ("Mad Men") stars as Offred, a Handmaid to Commander Fred Waterford (Joseph Fiennes). Offred's past life and the brutal takeover of civil society is shown in flashbacks. She's seen being captured and indoctrinated into Handmaidenhood after trying to escape to Canada with her husband. Further back, we see the female employees of her publishing firm being fired from their jobs and subject to the laws of Gilead, where women aren't allowed to work, handle money, read or assemble.

Public utterances are limited to biblical pieties. And public hangings of dissidents are a daily occurrence. Among her friends and secret conspirators is Ofglen (Alexis Bledel, "Gilmore Girls"), whose fertility protects her from the sins of being a former professor and a lesbian to boot.

Uncompromisingly harrowing, "Tale" is gripping from the start. Offred's caustic, obscene and sarcastic interior monologues contrast with the enforced and official religious jargon, providing the gallows humor that make her life, and this drama, bearable.

Many of us associate wilderness with areas remote and untouched. Tonight's "Nature" presentation, "Forest of the Lynx" (8 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings), is set in Kalkalpen National Park in Austria, an area once heavily mined for limestone and other minerals. Over the decades it has reverted to old

ways and now lynx have begun to return. Given its location far from urban areas, it also features one of the darkest night skies in the developed world.

- "Outlaw Tech" (10 p.m., Science) follows hackers, computer experts and other gearheads who have operated outside the law, from carrying out cyberattacks and stealing from bank accounts to engineering the famous prison escape of drug lord El Chapo. For some of these rogues, not even prison bars can keep them from their high-tech activities.

- The Italian crime family saga "Gomorra" (10 p.m., Sundance, TV-MA) enters its second season.

## TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- A "Law & Order: SVU" (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14) episode about sexual harassment in the newsroom seems torn

from headlines about Roger Ailes, Bill O'Reilly and the culture of Fox News.

- Angelo surprises Cookie on live TV on "Empire" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14).
- "NOVA" (9 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings) examines engineering efforts to "entomb" the radioactive ruins of the Chernobyl reactor.
- The anniversary of Faith's death inspires Grace on "Greenleaf" (10 p.m., OWN, TV-14).
- Ray and Nikki recalibrate on "Fargo" (10 p.m., FX, TV-MA).
- Noah seeks a new path on "Underground" (10 p.m., WGN, TV-MA).

## SERIES NOTES

Strategies abound on "Survivor" (8 p.m., CBS, TV-PG) \* Undercover on "Blindspot" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-14) \* A riot erupts on "Shots Fired" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14) \* Murray re-

ceives an award on "The Goldbergs" (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) \* Adrian evades capture on "Arrow" (8 p.m., CW, TV-14) \* The great escape on "Speechless" (8:30 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) \* Contagious cardiac events on "Criminal Minds" (9 p.m., CBS, TV-14) \* On two helpings of "black-ish" (ABC, TV-14), Bow's sister (9 p.m.), college acceptance letters (9:30 p.m.) \* Clarke tries to keep the peace on "The 100" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14) \* Peril in central Asia on "Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14) \* A weapon is linked to a very old case on "Chicago P.D." (10 p.m., NBC, TV-14) \* The veepstakes continue on "Designated Survivor" (10 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).

## CULT CHOICE

David Carradine portrays Woody Guthrie in director Hal Ashby's 1976 biopic "Bound for Glory" (8 p.m., TCM), cited as the first movie

to use Steadicam technology.

## LATE NIGHT

Kevin Coval is booked on "The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) \* Dennis Quaid and Nikki Lane appear on "Conan" (11 p.m., TBS) \* America Ferrera, Thomas Middleditch, Dave and Virginia Grohl, and Preservation Hall Jazz Band are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS) \* Jimmy Fallon welcomes Dr. Phil McGraw, Leslie Jones and Rick Ross on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) \* James Spader, John Mellencamp and Lucius visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC) \* Salma Hayek, Elisabeth Moss, Eugenio Derbez and The Head and the Heart appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corde" (12:35 a.m., CBS).

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## Chimichurri sauce makes flank steak a game changer



### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Via The Culinary Institute of America

**D**o you ever have the feeling that the world is lying to you? That everyone else in humanity has agreed to love something terrible, and you have to play along or risk looking like a fool?

While we're in agreement that some things really are the worst, it's also true that some great things just get a bad rap. Which is why we're here to ask you to give something we love just one more chance.

It's likely you've had an unfortunate bite of flank steak, which was probably dry and chewy and flavorless. Maybe that steak came out of your kitchen,

and you served it feeling like a flank-failure, yet again. After all, everyone loves flank steak. What do they know that you don't?

The truth is, flank steak can be hard to get right. It's a tough cut of meat from the abdomen of a cow, which is not as forgiving as a rich ribeye or tender filet. It's not a melt-in-your-mouth kind of steak, and no matter how well you cook it, it will always retain some chewiness.

You want to get it right, though, because its flat, uniform shape makes it the perfect cut of meat for feeding a crowd. Throw it on the grill, and it's Taco Tuesday. Put it under the broiler, and that's a London broil (yup, that's flank steak) that will yield leftovers for days.

Flank steak is most commonly hyped as a "hot and fast" meat that should be

cooked to medium-rare (but not more!) in as little time as possible. It shines when marinated and cooked to a light char, sliced thinly against the grain. And while that's a great, super-fast option, flank steak also moonlights as a succulent roast.

The Culinary Institute of America's recipe for Chimichurri-Stuffed Flank Steak is the game-changing recipe you need. Filled with tangy chimichurri sauce, the steak is rolled into a pinwheel and roasted for less than 30 minutes. Sliced and served medium-rare, it's tender and juicy, without the day-long cook most beef roasts require (and at a fraction of the price).

Chimichurri is a rustic sauce, hugely popular in Argentina and other South American countries, made from parsley, vinegar and plenty of garlic. It's tart, fragrant and so bright, fresh and

flavorful, making it the perfect complement to an otherwise understated cut of meat. If you have any leftovers, chimichurri is great tossed with roasted potatoes and vegetables, as a sandwich spread or stirred into rice for a quick side.

You're probably going to be hooked on this sauce, but remember that you can stuff your flank steak with virtually anything. Try cheese, caramelized onions, roasted garlic, mushrooms or maybe just your favorite spice blend. You can even marinate the meat beforehand for a boost of flavor.

You're now armed with a great recipe and the confidence to tackle flank steak. Remember these top tips for making it perfect: cook it medium-rare, slice against the grain, and marinades make everything better.

### CHIMICHURRI-STUFFED FLANK STEAK

**Start to finish:** 2 hours 40 minutes (Active time: 40 minutes)

**Servings:** 8 servings

One 3-pound flank steak

1 teaspoon kosher salt, divided use

1 teaspoon ground black pepper, divided use

1 cup Chimichurri Sauce (recipe below), divided use

2 tablespoons olive oil

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F. Lay a piece of plastic wrap that is just larger than your steak on a work surface. Lay the flank steak on top of the plastic, then cover with a second piece of plastic. Use a meat pounder to flatten the meat into an even 1/2-inch-thick piece. Discard the plastic wrap.

Season the meat with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Spread 1/2 cup of chimichurri over the surface of the meat, leaving a 1/2-inch border near the edges.

With the long side facing the counter, begin tightly rolling the steak away from you until the filling is fully enclosed. If desired, use three toothpicks to secure the roll as you tie the steak.

Use kitchen twine to tie the rolled steak in 1-inch increments to help it maintain its shape. Season with the remaining salt and pepper.

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the steak to the hot pan, and sear until golden brown on all sides. Carefully transfer to a foil-lined baking sheet.

Transfer to the oven, and cook until a thermometer inserted into the center of the roast reads 125 degrees F. Remove from the oven, and rest for 30 minutes.

Slice and serve with the remaining chimichurri sauce.

### CHIMICHURRI SAUCE

**Makes about 1 cup (8 servings)**

1 cup finely chopped parsley leaves (from about one 4-ounce bunch)

2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh oregano

1 shallot, minced

6 cloves garlic, minced

3 tablespoons red wine vinegar

6 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt

1 teaspoon sugar

1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

Combine all of the ingredients in a medium bowl. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour to allow the flavors to develop.

**Nutrition information per serving:** 390 calories; 224 calories from fat; 25 g fat (6 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 111 mg cholesterol; 698 mg sodium; 3 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 1 g sugar; 37 g protein.

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