When police work becomes tourism

BY JESSICA HOLDMAN
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COLUMBIA — Early on a Saturday morning in 2017, the Richland County Sheriff’s Department held its first “Live PD” event — a 6 a.m. meet-and-greet with deputies who were show regulars.

Faye started lining up at 3 a.m. “That’s when we realized the popularity of show,” Sheriff Leon Lott said. “And, a four-year-old! It was a highlight for his family.”

Faye’s passion for law enforcement and touring the nation is also a popular destination for fans of the popular A&E television series. The show also features the Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office.

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Lowcountry apartments on the rise

BY WARREN W. WISE
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Charleston’s booming economy and its ability to draw newcomers continued to boost apartment development last year and will bring even more units this year.

In 2018, nearly 3,200 new rental residences came online through 12 projects in the region, or about 4.8 percent of the lowcountry’s overall stock, according to a report from Multihousing News.

That’s not quite the more than 4,000 added in 2016, but that’s an equal number of units from that year expected to be finished this year and even more in the works.

Of the 6,000 units underway in the region, the report predicts about 600 are expected to be completed by the end of the year, according to the report.

On a percentage basis of overall stock, Charleston came in second behind Asheville in new deliveries last year across the southeast.

The lowcountry’s 3,892 new units last year represented a 4.8 percent of the overall apartment offerings.

Asheville completed three projects with 960 units, or 6.1 percent of the city’s total rental stock.

The report points to the Charleston region’s record port cargo volume, emerging technology sector, and booming industries such as Boeing Co., Mercedes-Benz and Volvo Cars building settings and passenger vehicles as reasons the population is growing.

Charlotte, Raleigh-Durham and Atlanta rounded out the top five areas across the southeast with the largest percentage increases in new apartments last year. Each saw more than 1,000 new projects.

Charleston and Asheville, both cities that have been experiencing growth, are seeing continued momentum in the area.

The growth in the number of apartments is also a positive sign for the market, which has seen a decrease in rental inventory over the past few years.

Air Force’s ‘Port Dawgs’ send the goods

BY STAFF SGT. JAMES MERRIMAN

“Port Dawgs,” a nickname for the armament of U.S. Air Force paratroopers (AP), is responsible for processing and handling cargo that enters and leaves Charleston Air Force Base.

One of their most significant missions involves around 1,500 paratroopers who load aircraft in 20-foot containers and ship them to 60 countries around the world.

The port also handles supplies for various government agencies, including the U.S. Army, the Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department.

Air Force personnel have a unique perspective on what it means to be a part of the Air Force.

Keep reading for more information about the Air Force’s “Port Dawgs.”

Special Olympics shine

By Warren W. Wise

South Carolina will host the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament on Friday at Cane Bay High School. More than 100 athletes and 85 unified partners participated.

Competing were: Cane Bay High School 1 vs. Cane Bay High School 2; Cane Bay High School 1 vs. Stratford High School Team 1; Cane Bay High School 2 vs. Stratford High School Team 2; Stratford High School Team 1 vs. Stratford High School Team 2; Stratford High School Team 2 vs. Timberland Wolves 2; Stratford High School Team 2 vs. Stratford High School Team 1.

Tournament took place Friday at Cane Bay High School.

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Of the 6,000 units underway in the region at the start of February, about three-quarters are expected to be moved in by the end of the year, according to the report.

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