



Opening of football practice brings hope for new season. See B1

The summerville

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JENNA-LEY HARRISON/JOURNAL SCENE

Attendees at an interfaith panel discussion Sunday in Summerville hold hands and sing "We Shall Overcome" to close out the event. From left to right: Carlton Campbell, Ethel Campbell, Aisha Miller with the Central Mosque of Charleston

Breaking barriers through faith Local religious groups brainstorm solutions to hatred

BY JENNA-LEY HARRISON
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During a town-hall style meeting Sunday at the Masonic Lodge in Summerville, three panelists from different religious faiths left no stone unturned when it came to discussion topics. They touched on everything from the Muslim ban and terrorism to the Holocaust, Civil Rights movement and the president's recent tweet about transgender people in the military.

Local leaders and members of the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths comprised a panel and elaborated on

shared struggles among the religions throughout history and in modern times. They also brainstormed solutions to religious and racial hatred.

Patrick Labbe, founder of the Summerville/North Area Jewish Community, served as moderator.

"I think this very panel is the answer," said Rabbi Greg Kanter, an openly gay Jewish leader with the Kahol Kadash Beth Elohim Synagogue, a reformed Jewish congregation in Charleston.

"The more we know about each other the more we're going to learn how much alike we are, and I think that's going to break down some of those barriers.

When you know someone...become friends with someone...you're less ignorant, there's less fear...and more brotherhood and sisterhood," he said.

Aisha Miller, a member of the Charleston area Muslim community, agreed.

She founded the local group Knowledge Erases Hate, which meets often in downtown Charleston to keep similar conversations going.

She was the only Muslim in the room Sunday, a loneliness she often endures on a daily basis.

She told the audience she and most Please see **FAITH**, A6

Board approves mining operation

BY JENNA-LEY HARRISON
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Another sand mine will soon set up operations in Dorchester County, in a rural area where three others already exist.

During its meeting July 25 in Summerville, the Board of Zoning Appeals approved a special exemption request allowing the mine in an absence of controls district.

Board members voted five in favor to allow applicant Thompson-Cainhoy Properties LLC to build the mine, without blasting operations, on Wire Road. The site is located about 1,500 feet from the Edisto River and also near Givhans Ferry State Park.

Member Sammie Reeves was absent, and Arthur DeHay recused himself from the vote, since he said he works in a similar field as the applicant.

Thompson-Cainhoy Properties received approval for a mine operating permit from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in October. According to the permit, the company can mine up to 35 feet deep and would use only about 28 acres of the approved 68.8 acres to mine "fill" sand, as opposed to the kind of "specialty" sand Palmetto Sand Company mines at its neighboring operation, said applicant Dan Thompson. The rest of the acreage will serve as buffers.

There were no objections, from either Planning Department staff or the community, to the operation, which would be about 900 feet from the closest residence, county officials said, and in an area where three other similar mines already exist, according to Thompson.

The last time an applicant, J.R. Wilson Construction Company

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Grinding a community staple



JENNA-LEY HARRISON/JOURNAL SCENE

Butch Chastain of Summerville turns the wheel on his single-cylinder engine to power his grist mill.

BY JENNA-LEY HARRISON
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At first it sputters, then settles into a monotonous rhythm—the sound that's become the background music of Butch Chastain's 12-year-old hobby.

It's also a sound that's hypnotized the community into return visits to the Summerville Farmers Market, where Butch and his wife Suzanne

set up their century-old grist mill. "A lot of people listen for the noise," she said.

While each grew up in rural areas—Butch near Montgomery, Alabama, where he still owns 400 acres of cattle land, and Suzanne in Kentucky—neither knew they would one day run a grits operation in town.

"I'm the worker bee; he does the mechanic stuff," Suzanne said. It all kind of happened by accident

in 2005, several months after Butch, just 56, suffered a stroke the year before that left him paralyzed on his right side. His noticeable limp and leg brace now serve as proof of the incident that impaired him but didn't crush his spirit.

He always loved machines, the outdoors, and working with his hands. And sitting idle was never on his to-do list. But his medical condition was a setback in a life of flying cargo

planes and serving in special ops in the U.S. Air Force. He had enlisted during the Vietnam War when all his friends had been drafted. Butch said he wanted to enlist so he could choose which branch of military he would serve.

He fought in Grenada and in both Desert Storm conflicts.

"I'd ask him if he was going off to

Please see **GRINDING**, A7

Ashley Ridge welcomes barnyard additions



MONICA KREBER/JOURNAL SCENE

Polly's babies, George and Ashley, were born July 21.

BY MONICA KREBER
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It's been a fruitful summer for the agriculture program's animals at Ashley Ridge High.

Pheasants, pigs and now little baby goats roam the premises behind the school.

The newest additions to the school are Ashley and George – the baby goats born to Polly at 7:17 p.m. July 21.

"Ashley" is a nod to the school's name; "George" was selected by agriculture teacher Ben Gibson's 4-year-old son. Polly's coat is brown and black; George is the spitting image of his mom and little Ashley is all black. Both are tiny and make little "baa" noises.

Polly was already three months pregnant when she joined the herd earlier this summer. Agriculture teacher Casey Anne Attaway said the school also has a previous set of babies by Polly within the herd. They have a total of 14 goats at the school. Ethel and Alice also are expecting mothers.

Attaway said the perk to having the goats on campus is they help eat some of the "bad" stuff like weeds. They also serve an educational purpose; the agriculture students are required to do Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) projects and Attaway said one student's project is going to consist of taking charge of milking Polly so the milk can be turned into products.

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