

THE GAFFNEY LEDGER

GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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50 CENTS

Woman walks away from I-85 accident, then struck and killed by tractor-trailer

By **TIM GULLA**
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A 37-year-old Gaffney woman, who was lucky enough to walk away from an early morning crash on Interstate 85 was killed a short time later when she was struck by a tractor-trailer.

Cherokee County Coroner

Dennis Fowler said Sharon Warlick Byers, of 1022 W. Buford St., died from massive trauma. The tragic events began unfolding around 1 a.m. when Byers, who was driving a 1997 Ford Taurus, was initially involved in a collision with a tractor-trailer in the south-bound lanes of Interstate 85 between the 98- and 99-mile markers, about 3.2 miles north of

Blacksburg, according to Lance Cpl. Ron Johnson of the South Carolina Highway Patrol. Fowler said Byers' vehicle came to rest in the median. She got out of her car and then crossed the highway to the location of the truck involved in the collision, where Fowler said she spoke to the truck driver. Johnson said Byers then began

heading south along the interstate on foot and was struck in the driving lane by another southbound tractor-trailer, a 2000 Mack truck belonging to FedEx Ground Packaging Systems of Fort Wayne, Ind., and driven by Balmoris Castillo of Charlotte. No charges have been filed, Johnson said. While Byers was wearing a

white and pink T-shirt and white tennis shoes, he said she did not have reflective clothing. Fowler ruled the death accidental but did not close the investigation, as he ordered some follow-up tests. Byers was Cherokee County's first traffic fatality of 2008. Eighteen people died on Cherokee County roadways in 2007.

Man injured in horrific crash moved to Atlanta

By **TIM GULLA**
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A college student from Gaffney severely injured in a violent crash on Interstate 85 just before Christmas was transferred last week to an Atlanta hospital that specializes in rehabilitation for persons who have suffered brain and spinal cord injuries.

Roy Anthony Evans and his brother Raymond "Alex" Evans, both of Gaffney, were involved in a crash on Dec. 21 in which their car crossed the highway median and struck another car head-on. A mother and daughter in the other car, Fort Mill residents Paulette and Veronica Lynn Toussant, were killed.

Still recuperating from a serious brain injury caused when he was ejected from his car, Roy A. Evans was moved from Spartanburg Regional Medical Center last Thursday and taken to Shepherd Hospital in Atlanta, said his father, who is also named Roy.

The father said his son's recovery has been slow. "He's going to have to be taught everything all over again," the father said.

Roy A. Evans is a Clemson University student who was interested in both the engineering and medical fields.

His brother Alex is a student at The Citadel. Although he too was ejected from the car during the crash, Alex was treated at the hospital and released a day later.

Because Roy Evans did not have health insurance, the family has opened a charitable account in his name at SunTrust Bank to help pay for medical care. Donations can be made at any SunTrust Bank location in the name of Roy A. Evans FBO Roy Evans.

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TASTE THIS



Hopco Food Service Marketing sales representative Keith Whipple prepares samples of French toast sandwiches Thursday for Gaffney Middle School students to taste-test at lunch.

Students help decide what's on the menu

By **SCOTT POWELL**
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Blacksburg and Gaffney high students will soon find a new pizza offering on the lunch menu.

The school district plans to begin serving personal pan pizzas to high school students, said Roland Cabading, the district's food service supervisor.

"The equipment has arrived and is being installed in the cafeterias. The staff will go through three to five days of training," Cabading said. "We hope to begin serving the personal pan pizzas to students in the next two weeks."

Personal pan pizza is one of several new food items that have appeared on school breakfast and lunch menus in recent months. School cafeterias are offering different menu choices in an effort to encourage more students to participate in school lunch and breakfast programs.

Hot chocolate has been served in Blacksburg and Gaffney high cafeterias since January. Because it's made with heated milk, the hot chocolate counts as one of the milk servings required to be served to students.

"Many high school students are serving themselves and having hot chocolate with their breakfast in the morning," Cabading said.

Students in several county schools have participated in taste-tests of new products being rolled out by district food vendors.

Blacksburg Elementary third graders sampled a "Toastee Dog" on Tuesday morning. This prepackaged food item is a sausage wrapped in toast with

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WHAT THEY LIKE...

Personal pan pizzas have been added to the menus at Gaffney and Blacksburg high schools. Hot chocolate is also now available at both schools.



...AND WHAT THEY DON'T

Almost all students didn't care for the broccoli soup and younger taste-testers weren't crazy about the "Toastee Dog," a sausage wrapped in toast with cheese on it.



Airport panel gets two more members

By **LARRY HILLIARD**
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The airport commission swelled to seven members Thursday.

Joe Bonner and Arthur Randolph were the latest appointees to the commission charged with facilitating the airport project.

Bonner was appointed by Cherokee County councilman Bailey Humphries, while Randolph was councilman Rufus Foster's pick.

Citing an ever-increasing workload, council agreed last month to increase the number of seats on the airport commission.

Under a motion that passed unanimously, the 3-member commission could expand to as many as 10 members. Each council member has the option of appointing a member, who isn't required to reside in that council member's district.

At council's January meeting, Mike Byars and Robert Petty joined the three existing commission members — John Travers, Vic Sarratt and Bill Van Antwerp.

The airport commission has been busy selecting potential sites for the proposed facility.

The feasibility report estimated that 577 acres would be required for the airport, with 192 acres being acquired in fee simple or easement.

COME FLY WITH US

- Joe Bonner
- Arthur Randolph
- Vic Sarratt
- John Travers
- Bill Van Antwerp
- Mike Byars
- Robert Petty

Upstate Alliance needs your input in developing its strategic plan



UpstateAlliance
SOUTH CAROLINA
The Right Climate For Global Business

The Upstate South Carolina Alliance, a 10-county regional economic development organization that includes Cherokee County, is embarking on a process to assess its impact on the Upstate community over the past eight years and develop a strategic plan that will optimize the Alliance's benefit for the community in the future.

The plan will ultimately

Go to the Web site:

www.upstatealliancestrategy.com
and click on the "project survey" link

ensure that the Alliance is best positioned to attract and create quality, high-paying jobs in the Upstate now and in the future.

Market Street Services, a national economic and work-

force development consulting firm, has been retained to facilitate the development of their strategy. Through feedback from community surveys and targeted focus groups, a con-

sensus-based, achievable blueprint that will direct the future operations and programming of the Alliance will be developed.

Members of the community are invited to participate in the strategic development process by completing the community survey online. The survey can be accessed by visiting www.upstatealliancestrategy.com and clicking on project survey link.

SC EDUCATION LOTTERY

Pick 3 Thursday Midday: 6-4-6
Thursday Evening: 6-4-9

Pick 4 Thursday Midday: 2-4-7-5
Thursday Evening: 5-5-4-4

Cash 5 WEDNESDAY:
9-14-27-30-36 X4

OBITUARIES

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- Pierce, Brady, 72, of Blacksburg
- Dawkins, Geneva, 88, of Shelby, N.C.
- Greene, Sammie Irene, 86, of Estill
- Palmer, William B., 41, of Cowpens
- Ronk, Myrtle, 66, of Apex, N.C.

SPORTS

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Gaffney football coach Phil Strickland is moving closer to selecting a new offensive coordinator. "It should be soon," Strickland said. The coach said several of his current assistants and assistants from other football staffs are under consideration.



WEATHER

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Lingering showers tonight, then partly cloudy

Partly sunny and warmer Saturday. Continued partly sunny Sunday but cooler.



Tonight's Low: 34
Saturday's High: 66
Sunday's High: 54