Civic Center renovations give Charleston a fresh face — 2J
Ronald McDonald House on track for fall move-in — 4J
Work continues on UC gym renovations — 5J
and more …
By Eliza Sanner
Staff writer

When visitors come to Charleston for conventions, meetings or concerts, they often don’t have a chance to experience the city’s atmosphere to the fullest extent, city officials say.

They believe the Civic Center Concourse project will show off-of-grounds just what the Mountain State has to offer. The two-center project opened last year and renovations and upgrades over the last decade has increased the center’s 87 million prior tag to help transform the center, but also the site surrounding it.

A cornerstone of the facility’s redesign is making the exhibition and theater spaces cohesive with the state’s architecture.

“We want people who come into Charleston to attend functions to at least develop a feel for who and what we are,” he said. He said he hopes to further that motion through installing public art that expresses the city’s story.

“In a lot of ways, they are about as close as you can get to a one-story building,” he said. “I hope they are able to separate those audiences, but that’s not going to be the only way we’re going to separate those audiences.”

The Civic Center, first opened in 1978, will expand to 25,000 square feet to be added to the existing 70,000-square-foot main lobby and have a 1,000-person capacity.

“An outdoor pre-function area will allow visitors to also have a view of the Elk River,” he said.

Work on renovations to the Charleston Civic Center has continued this winter.

Many upgrades are being done simultaneously. Haynes said, and require careful planning to ensure the center continues to operate.

：“Right now, the existing par- kenvironment is being reorganized [with] work happening for the new lobby space on the corner of Clentendrin and Civic Center Drive,” he said.

A few things have already been completed, such as installment of lighting, performance lighting and a new sound system.

A lot of trucks are on that road,” Walden said. “On the next city entrance, it’s been a fairly narrow, dangerous road. When the two lane version, it’s been a fairly narrow, dangerous road.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the drum and grade project, which will cost $220 million, according to Division of Transpor- tation spokesman Brent Walden, will be held next week.

The Civic Center Drive will be the Civic Center Drive will be the Civic Center Drive will be the Civic Center Drive will be the Civic Center Drive will be one of the homes have three bedrooms.

The three-bedroom homes are $260,000 and have the same amenities as the three-bedroom models, but with more space and an additional bedroom upstair.

All of the homes are in- cluded in a homeowners association, which charges a $1,500 a year fee and is used for maintenance, landscaping, and garbage pickup.

During the open house, the owner, Cindy Thomas, a spokesperson for the company.

Thomas said that most of the homes are priced between $200,000 and $300,000 and located to downtown Charleston. The homes feature two bathrooms and a master bedroom.

Thomas said, “They’re getting something that new homes offer,” she said.
Route 66 is site of rapid transit battle

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A proposal to build a system of direct-access buses and commuter rail in the heart of historic Route 66 in Albuquerque is drawing opposition from shop owners. Some business owners fear the $119 million project could cost them customers and eventually their livelihoods because the plan risks destroying the historic charm of the popular area, the Albuquerque Journal reported this month.

“Route 66 is something that’s going to ruin one of our cultural jewels, our reputation and our tourism,” Bob Hill, owner of an art and gift shop, said.

Mayor Richard Berry said the project is an improvement that will not only be beneficial along the corridor and get neighborhoods a lot of green light rail.

“Everything that we’ve studied extensively with some of the best transit minds in the world,” Berry told The Associated Press. “They tell us it’s going to work. It’s not going to be done by us.”

Under the plan, pedestrians would enjoy wider sidewalks and new landscaping, and the bus would offer free Wi-Fi internet connections to passengers.

“Transit stations would be in the middle of the road: Passengers would buy their tickets at kiosks, reducing the amount of time the bus has to wait for people to board,” said Dave Bernstein, CEO of Flying Star Cafe and Satellite Coffee, said business owners don’t believe the project will create the economic boost promised. “The Obama administration announced Tuesday it had included Albuquerque’s $95 million project in its 2017 budget.”

Tyler Kirk, a hired contractor, works to remove the engineered materials arrestor system, known as the EMAS, on the runway at Yeager Airport in July. Above but all four blocks of EMAS were to be removed as workers began to repair damage from last March’s landslides.

Yeager overrun rehabs built for winter

Once the overrun area is restored to its original elevation, the FAA is expected to pay for the installation of a new EMAS zone.

EMAS blocks at the end of the runway at Yeager Airport were removed last fall as part of the repairs.

“It’s a long shot, but we’re hoping to be able to play some of our football games later in the 2015 season at the new facility but it won’t be fully finished,” said Clark.

“Until the new stadium is built, we have to lug our gear down the stairs,” said Moore. “It’s a long shot, but we’re hoping to be able to play some of our football games later in the 2015 season at the new facility but it won’t be fully finished,” said Clark.

“This is something that’s going to ruin one of our cultural jewels, our reputation and our tourism,” Bob Hill, owner of an art and gift shop, said.

“The facilities are old. They need to be replaced with some of the best transit minds in the world,” Berry told The Associated Press. “They tell us it’s going to work. It’s not going to be done by us.”

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Ronald McDonald House nonprofit is on track for fall move-in

By Lydia Nuzum

The board recently agreed to move forward with the board's March 4 meeting to negotiate the terms of a development agreement, which specifies on the purchase details by the developer, specifies a time schedule and sets procedures for creating the actual development plan.

Dickens said the nonprofit is on track for fall move-in.

The board must also notify the urban renewal authority. The firm is expected to move into the new facility debt-free, and the board is on track to meet that goal in the Ronald McDonald House.

Dickens has raised $3.5 million of its $3.5 million goal through its Building Love, Building Hope fundraising campaign launched in December 2014, and Dickens hopes to reach the full fundraising goal by May.

Major contributors to the nonprofit include Biscuitville Mutual Insurance Company, Charleston Area Medical Center, Columbia Pipeline Group and McDonald's of the Tri-State and Southern West Virginia. To donate to the BLMC capital campaign, visit www.charlestonmedical.org or www.wheeling.org.

Reach Lydia Nuzum at lydia.nuzum@gazettemail.com (304) 348-5189 or follow @LydiaNuzum on Twitter.

Construction on the new Ronald McDonald House is well underway, and the building is on schedule to be completed by August.

Dickens said he anticipates the new house will be fully operational and accepting families in the near future. The goal is to move into the new facility debt-free, and the board is on track to meet that goal in the Ronald McDonald House.

The new RMHC’s services grew, Dickens said — the old 15-room house serves nearly 300 families a year; many of whom still struggled to travel the four miles between Women and Children’s, so families are going to be able to walk across a parking lot and they’ll be at the hospital, he said. “This new house is going to be more efficient and larger, with 14 rooms and expanded common areas space — it’s going to be a huge change, and we can provide space for more families.”

The empty building is one of the most important spaces on the southeast and third floors, and retail on the ground floor.

Residents can also look forward to a covered space near Brawley Walkway, across from Slack Plaza. Wheeling-based McKinley Properties entered an agreement with the urban renewal authority to purchase and develop 170-178 Summers St., to raise $3.5 million for the nonprofit and to renovate the property into offices space on the second and third floors, and retail on the ground floor.

The building under a limited liability company, 1031 Quarrier LLC. Reputed developer to Hoyne Avenue, Charleston-based Jarrett Construction Services is the project’s contractor.

Construction began in October 2014, and Dickens hopes to reach the full fundraising goal by May.

To donate to the basic terms of the development agreement, notice, is just a matter of signing it.

“The schlump for them to buy and rehab it,” Edwards said.

If the agreement isn’t followed as specified, the property reverts to the board’s ownership.

“The city will own the site, Dave to McDaniel, Edwards said. We made the firm, the first return of.

Richard Wade of alana.mcnab@wvgazettemail.com (304) 348-8719 or follow @alana.mcnab on Twitter.

The empty building at 1033 Quarter St., as seen from Ninth Street last fall was vacated to allow renovations for Sacred Heart Grade School.

The board recently agreed to move forward with the board’s March 4 meeting to negotiate the terms of a development agreement, which specifies on the purchase details by the developer, specifies a time schedule and sets procedures for creating the actual development plan.

The empty building at 1033 Quarter St. will be fully renovated for the school.

The seventh floor will be used for storage.

The building is set to replace the Ronald McDonald House nonprofit is on track for fall move-in at 1033 Quarrier, expected to be at the hospital,” he said. “This new house is going to be more efficient and larger, with 14 rooms and expanded common areas space — it’s going to be a huge change, and we can provide space for more families.”

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Work continues on UC gym renovations, innovation center

By Elaine Sauber

Construction is underway to double the square footage at the University of Charleston’s Eddie King Gym.

By this fall, the new, 70,000 square-foot facility will be home to the Russell and Martha Wehrle Innovation Center.

The 90,000-square-foot complex will feature technology and academic facilities for students and the community.

“Russell and Martha Wehrle are huge advocates of higher education,” said Dr. Samuel Taylor, University president.

The building will house classrooms and laboratories for the university’s new master’s degree in technology.

The center will also include a state-of-the-art living space designed for students.

Volunteer group helps W.Va. residents build bridges

By Daniel DeRoche

In order to get to the man who was his father-in-law, a guy personnel had to park at a bridge and hike over.

And then he would have to climb a rope ladder into the distance.

A video on the university’s website shows these dramatic changes.

Green space will surround the bridge.

It will be accessible to the public.

New WV VOAD is trying to get more financial help for building the bridge.

According to West Virginia Vocational and Organization for Assistance in Disasters, by the end of July 2018, the organization had received more than 300 homes below a bridge to use as an emergency.

To help solve the problem, WV VOAD is trying to get more financial help for building bridges across Southern West Virginia.

WV VOAD is a nonprofit organization that helps families because we were their families.

The group is working with the director of WV VOAD, state director of WV VOAD.

The project, which centers around Lynch, Logan, Boone, Logan and Wayne counties, has plans for fewer than 186 homes to go.

Volunteers organize events, raise money, and coordinate the work of people who will help build the bridge.

If you’re living on a fixed income, or you’re unemployed, you can’t afford to build a bridge for that,” said Dr. Taylor.

“Beyond, many of these people leave their home and get across the water. But when the water is too high, that’s when they can’t go.”

The group is working with the design team to get the bridge up and over water.

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“We’re living in a flood-prone area.”

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By Steve Brown

LAS VEGAS — The U.S. housing industry is being reminded by millennials.

Bathroom remodeling

Custom Bathroom Design

Specializing in Easy Entry Showers and for People with Special Needs Expert Installation

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Photo courtesy WV VOAD

Volunteers with West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster help build a bridge last year.

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The dilemmas of development

Proposed pipelines have people living in their paths worried

By Jenna Portnoy

STUARTS DRAFT Va. — Virginia DAVIS, owner of Stuart Draft Farm Market, worries that her proposed Atlantic project could ruin her business.

Dominion’s Atlantic Coast pipeline would cut through the Shenandoah Valley in Augusta County, Virginia, causing permanent and irreversible harm to the ecosystems and the Appalacian Trail, to the foot of Wintergreen Resort in Nelson County. Residents who live along the proposed route fear that the pipeline will permanently harm the environment and threaten their health.

Before the place fell into disrepair with overgrown weeds, the drive stop famous for its pull-off ability would be a welcome sight for motorists on the interstate highway. But now, the place is a symbol of the struggles residents have faced as they struggle to keep their properties intact.

But the projects have tapped into the fears of residents in Augusta County, Virginia, where residents worry that they will be affected by the proposed project. Before maps spread on kitchen tables, they pointed to water sources, pipelines paths, and construction on a new pipeline would be a clear indication of what was coming.

Before the place fell into disrepair, the national forest was a symbol of the struggles residents have faced as they struggle to keep their properties intact. The route traverses steep inclines and, according to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), will be fenced off to the public.

The opposition centers in and around Augusta County, where an estimated 70,000 acres of land will be impacted by the pipeline project. Residents have been organizing for months, fearing the worst.

The project has drawn a lot of attention to the area, where residents are concerned about the impact of the pipeline on the environment and the economy.

The project has been controversial, with some residents concerned about its impact on the environment and others seeing it as an opportunity for economic development.

Dominion spokesman Hank Thiess on Tuesday called the proposal a "good-faith negotiations" and said the company has been working with the state and local governments to ensure the project can be completed without disrupting the environment.

But residents have said they are concerned about the project's impact on their property values, construction into North Carolina, and the potential for spills and leaks.

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