### ND PACKE ISLA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2012

islandpacket.com

SERVING THE LOWCOUNTRY . 50¢



Celebrities hit the links on final day of Hilton Head tournament 1B

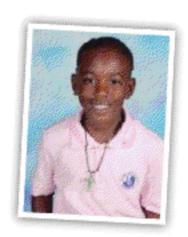


Get half-off cleaning deal from Waterworks Pressure Washing

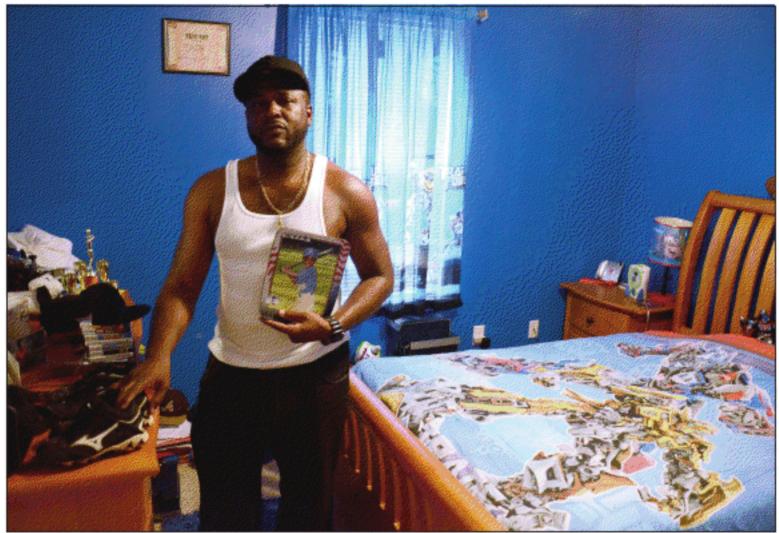
at dealsaver.com/HiltonHead

8-YEAR-OLD DIES IN CROSSFIRE OF HILTON HEAD SHOOTING

# HE WAS SO FULL OF LIFE'



- Khalil Singleton was killed by gunfire while playing in his front yard
- 4 men have been arrested, but none has been charged in his death



SARAHWELLIVER + Staff photo

Kareem Singleton holds a picture of his son, Khalil, on Sunday at his home in Ridgeland, Khalil, 8, died Saturday after he was struck by a bullet during a gun battle while he was playing outside the home he shared with his grandmother on Hilton Head Island.

By ALLISON STICE astice@islandpacket.com \*843-706-8138

he only time 8-year-old Khalil Singleton would stop for rest was when he was riding in the car from one place to another, said his father, Kareem Singleton.

"He would take a nap then," he said. "Other than that, he was going 100 miles an hour and running."

Kareem Singleton grieved for his only son surrounded by family and friends Sunday at his Ridgeland home. He pointed outside to the basketball hoop in the driveway, where he said Khalil undoubtedly would have been playing if the boy were there.

Khalil, a third-grader at Hilton Head Island Elementary School, died Saturday afternoon after he was shot while playing outside his grandmother's home on Hilton Head Island's Allen Road, where he

The stray bullet from a gunfight took the life of a boy whose family and educators say was full of en-

His grandmother, Edvina Washington, said she heard rapid gunshots while she was inside her home.

"I called his name, he didn't answer," Washington said. "I walked outside and saw him laying across the road.

Khalil's second cousin, Britney Brinson, a nurse at Beaufort Memorial Hospital, rushed outside to administer CPR. She was still trying to revive Khalil when paramedies and Beaufort County Sheriff's deputies arrived.

According to a Sheriff's Office report, Khalil was struck on the left side of his torso. He was pronounced dead at Hilton Head Hospital.

Please see KHALIL on 7A

#### THE SUSPECTS



Singleton



Robinson



Young Jr.





Young Sr.

### 'Ongoing feud' turns deadly

The Sheriff's Office says the suspects in Saturday's shooting have histories of arrests - and of fighting with one another.

By ALLISON STICE astice@islandpacket.com

843-706-8138 Four men are in custody after a feud turned violent Saturday afternoon and stray gunfire killed men - Aaron Scott Young Sr., 36, an 8-year-old boy on Hilton Head and his son Aaron Scott Young Jr. 19

yet in the death of Hilton Head Island Elementary School student Khalil Singleton He was playing shortly before 5 p.m.

Road, running between Marshland and Broad Creek and leads to a

neighborhood of randomly scattered mobile homes.

The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office says the dispute between Tyrone Robinson, 37, and two other

 began earlier Saturday. The men, None of the men has been charged all of whom have been arrested, had "an ongoing feud," according to the Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff's Office said Robinson near his grandmother's home on had been armed earlier Saturday Allen Road when a bullet fired in afternoon when he got into a fight the gun battle hit him in the torso with Young Jr. on Wildhorse Road, where the Youngs live. During the Allen Road is off of Marshland fight, Robinson allegedly pulled a

Please see FEUD on 7A

#### FEUD

#### Continued from 1A

handgun. The men struggled and the weapon went off, but the bullet didn't strike anyone. according to the Sheriff's Of-

The incident was one of several altereations between Robinson and the Youngs that day. the Sheriff's Office says.

Later on Saturday, the Youngs allegedly came to Allen Road. where Robinson lives. The Sheriff's Office said the Youngs fired at Robinson's unoccupied car which was parked on the side of the road.

Young Sr. and Young Jr. both have been charged with one count of discharging a firearm into a vehicle. Each is being held on \$150,000 bond, according to the Beaufort County Detention Center jail log.

Robinson was charged with pointing and presenting a firearm in connection with the carlier struggle with Young Jr. He also is charged in an unrelated incident the second-degree burglary of Top Dollar Pawn on Mathews Drive on Hilton Head on Aug. 19. His bond is inson walking down Allen sct at \$75,000, according to the jail log.



SARAHW ELLIVER + Staff photo

Britney Brinson stands outside her home on Hilton Head Island. Her cousin Khalil, 8, had been playing in the yard when he was shot and killed Saturday.

with Khalil's shooting is Jontu Singleton, 35, who investigators say was Robinson's accomplice in the August burglary of Top Dollar Pawn, It is unclear what. if any connection Jontu Singleton has to the victim.

Khalil's second cousin, Britnev Brinson, a nurse at Beaufort Memorial Hospital, said Khalil was playing with Jontu Singleton's son on Saturday afternoon when he was shot.

Brinson said she saw Rob-Road just after the shooting. He saw the wounded boy and The fourth man arrested kept walking then went inside

lives just down the street from where the shooting occurred.

Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor Duffic Stone said rap sheets for the four men were not immediately available. According to the Beaufort County Detention Center jail log, all four of the men had been arrested in

Young Jr. was charged with malicious injury to real propcrty and disrupting schools in 2011. He also was charged with trespassing that year.

Young Sr. has been arrested 18 times since 1996, including Saturday's arrest, for offenses Follow reporter Allison Stice and questioned in connection a home, she said. Robinson such as high and aggravated attwitter.com/LCBlotter

criminal domestic violence. possession of crack, possession of cocaine, driving under suspension and violating probation, parole and orders of protection.

Robinson has been arrested 27 times since 1994, including Saturday's arrest. He has been charged with possession and distribution of crack attempted murder, leaving the seene of an accident twice: assault and battery multiple times, including assaulting a police officer while trying to flee; criminal domestic violence; theft; and fleeing the seene of a crime. He has served time in state prison for some of those crimes, according to the jail log.

Jontu Single tonalso has served time in state prison, according to the jail log. He has been arrested 29 times in Beaufort County, including Saturday's arrest, for offenses including assault with intent to kill, driving under the influence, shoplifting, criminal domestic violence and violating probation and parole, according to the jail log.

Sheriff P.J. Tanner said the Sheriff's Office will not provide updates on the case until midweek, when forensies testing is expected to be completed.

#### KHALIL

#### Continued from 1A

Four men believed to have been involved in a feud that became violent have been arrested and questioned about Khalil's death.

Washington wants the men behind bars for life. Kareem Singleton said the only thing he wants is his baby back.

Singleton said he wanted a better life for his son than his own. He enrolled Khalil in the Hilton Head Baseball Association, where he works as an umpire, when the boy was 4.

Khalil grins in his baseball traits and on mousepads. uniform from a photo that the



Khalil Singleton

"He was so very full of life in

it was baseball or learning or being a good friend," said Jill McAden, principal at Hilton Head Island Elementary.

Erika McGoldrick, who has been working in the school's media center since Khalil was in first grade, said he stood out from other boys his age.

"He just came in on Friday and checked out a couple of books." McGoldrick said. "I was complimenting him on his very handsome new haircut for school"

Khalil loved to read and frequently visited the school's library. McGoldrick, whose daughteris Khalil's age and also is involved in the Hilton Head Baseball Association, said she Tollow reporter Allison Stice family has displayed in por-everything that he did, whether was just as impressed with him at twitter.com/LCBlotter.

when she saw him at games.

"When he wasn't playing, he would sit in the stands," Me-Goldrick said. "I was always amazed at how well he minded his manners and respected his father. To be 8 years old and spend time like that at a baseball park without getting wild... there's just not many kids like

Kareem Singleton said his son loved sports of all kinds. A bin in the family's garage filled with Khalil's sports equipment makes the point.

"Everybody loved my baby." Kareem Singleton said. "Nobody more than me."

### ISI PACKE! WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2012

An isolated storm could

pop up this afternoon. 6B

In dash: 8 no-fuss recipes for pizzas, calzones **INSIDE** 



SERVING THE LOWCOUNTRY • 50c

Get half-off cleaning deal from **Waterworks Pressure Washing** 

at dealsaver.com/HiltonHead

## 3 of 4 men arrested in 8-year-old's death are felons

None of the four men has yet been charged in the shooting that killed Khalil Singleton. who died while playing in his grandmother's yard.

By ALLISON STICE

astice@islandpacket.com • 843-706-8138

Three of four men who investigators say were involved in a gun battle Saturday afternoon that killed an 8-year-old bystander are convicted felons.

Aaron Scott Young Sr., 36; Tyrone Robinson, 37; and Jontu Singleton, 35; each have served time in state prisons for convictions that make it a federal offense to

The fourth man arrested and questioned in the death of Hilton Head Island Elementary School third-grader Khalil Singleton is Young Sr.'s son, Aaron Scott Young Jr., 19, who has a previous misdemeanor conviction.

Authorities say the Youngs and Robinson have been feuding and that a series of confrontations throughout the day culminated in an exchange of gunfire at about

Please see MEN on 11A



**DELAYNA EARLEY** • Staff photo

Students pass a sign Tuesday posted at Hilton Head Island Elementary School in memory of Khalil Singleton, a third-grader who died Saturday.

### School remembers slain third-grade student

By RACHEL HEATON

rheaton@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8177

Eventually, a bench might bear his name, or a tree might be ringed with stones laid out in the shape of home plate, a nod to his love of baseball. Or maybe one day, books bearing Khalil Singleton's name will be donated to the Hilton Head Island Elementary School media center, where he spent time satisfying his curiosity and interest in nonfiction books.

But on Tuesday, the memorials for Khalil were as modest as they were wrenching: His thirdgrade classmates made cards for his grieving

Please see SCHOOL on 11A



**Khalil Singleton** 

ONLINE

For a WTOC video about an upcoming vigil for Khalil, click on this story at island packet.com.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

# PRESIDENT OBAMA, 'A MAN WE CAN TRUST'

First lady Michelle Obama urges country to re-elect her husband



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL • The Associated Press

First lady Michelle Obama walks on stage Tuesday to speak to the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte.

**By DAVID ESPO and MATTHEW DALY** The Associated Press

irst lady Michelle Obama lovingly praised her husband Tuesday night in a primetime Democratic Convention speech as a devoted husband and caring father at home and a "man we can trust" to revive the nation's weak economy as president, beckoning the country to return him to the White House despite agonizingly slow recovery from

"He reminds me that we are playing a long game here ... and that change is hard, and change is slow and it never happens all at once," she told a nation impatient with slow economic progress and persistently high unemployment of 8.3 percent.

Please see FIRST LADY on 11A



#### ■ Mitt and Money: Mitt Romney's

campaign has raised at least \$100 million in August, hitting that mark for a third consecutive month. 8A

■ Sheheen vs. Haley: Is the state senator bracing for a rematch? 11A

### President has little choice but to persuade

By CHARLES BABINGTON The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — Remembered for soaring speeches at the last two Democratic conventions, President Barack Obama faces much tougher constraints Thursday when

he accepts his party's nomination for a second time.

Now he has a four-year record and must persuade Americans to stick with the status quo in a climate of high unemployment, fallen home values and wide income disparity.

Given the tough environment, less lofty oratory is almost certain. And Obama has little choice but to walk a careful line as he unspools his vision for America.

Please see PERSUADE on 11A

**ANALYSIS** 

## **District** beings search for leader

The Board of Education voted to hire the national firm Ray and Associates to help find a new superintendent.

By RACHEL HEATON

rheaton@beaufortgazette.com

The same search firm that found Beaufort County School District superintendent Valerie Truesdale is back on the job.

The Board of Education voted Tuesday to hire again Ray and Associates, a national firm that specializes in superintendent searches, to assist in the hunt for a new superin-

Board member Bill Evans, co-chairman of the superintendent search committee, along with board member Laura Bush, said the firm was the best fit because it exclusively handles searches for educators and is nationally known.

Please see LEADER on 11A

#### **BOARD TO REPAY COUNTY** FOR LIBRARY SPACE

The school board on Tuesday approved taking \$150,000 from capital funds, which are used for repairing and building schools, to pay back a contribution from Beaufort County to build St. Helena Elementary

The repayment is part of a 20-yearold lease that has allowed the county to operate a library at the school. The county plans to move into a new St. Helena Island library by November and terminate the lease.

Board member Michael Rivers, who represents the St. Helena area, argued that the board should try to negotiate with County Council to eliminate the \$150,000 repayment clause.

Several board members said the original agreement must be honored, and the board ultimately agreed to repay the sum if County Council won't eliminate the clause.



recession.

ON THE WEB

We have the best local news around. Find it online at islandpacket.com

#### **INSIDE TODAY'S ISLAND PACKET**

**Iranian President Ahmadinejad fires back** at sanctions on banking and oil, saying the West has launched an "all-out war." 13A



**QUOTE OF THE DAY** 

"You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today." Abraham Lincoln

#### FIRST LADY Continued from 1A

"But eventually, we get there, we always do," she said in a speech that blended scenes from her of marriage with the Obamas' time in the White

Mrs. Obama, given a huge ovation in chief," made no mention of Republican challenger Mitt Romney. But those who preceded her to the podium on the first night of the pres-

said former Ohio Gov. Ted Strick- and for the auto industry bailout he ambitions.

Tapped to deliver the keynote address, San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro said Romney was a millionaire politician who "quite simply, doesn't get it" when it comes to the needs of the middle class. Referring to the Republican's support for mandatory health insurance when he was goverand describing herself as the "mom nor of Massachusetts, he added, "Gov. Romney has undergone an extreme makeover, and it ain't pretty.'

"If Mitt was Santa Claus, he'd fire for consumer protections enacted National Convention were in ser- ward, my husband, our president, the reindeer and outsource the elves," under his signature health care law vice to her husband's presidential President Barack Obama.'

won from Congress in his first year

There was evidence during the day of an underperforming economy, including a report that said manufacturing activity declined for a third straight month and an announcement from the Treasury that the government's debt exceeded \$16 trillion at the close of the day.

Mrs. Obama's poll numbers are better than her husband's, and her Delegates cheered as a parade of speech was aimed at building supspeakers extolled Obama's support port for him, much as Ann Romney's for abortion rights and gay marriage, remarks at last week's Republican keep moving this great country for-

"When it comes to rebuilding our economy, Barack is thinking about folks like my dad — who worked at a municipal water plant — and his own grandmother, a bank secretary," the first lady said.

Referring to her own children as well as those of others, she said, "If we want to give them that sense of limitless possibility, that belief that here in America there is always something better out there if you are willing to work for it, then we must ... stand together for the man we can trust to

#### SHEHEEN, HALEY REMATCH?

State Sen. Vincent Sheheen is meeting privately with Democratic governors at the Democratic National Conven-



Sheheen

ago, would not say whom he has met with, other than Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer, who spoke to the S.C. delegation Monday.

Like Sheheen, Schweitzer is a Democrat in a state that routinely votes Republican.

Wire reports

### **PERSUADE**

Overtly ambitious or novel proposals could invite an obvious rebuke: If it's such a great idea, what hasn't the president already done it?

"Obama is definitely in a presidential pickle," said Mc-Gill University presidential scholar Gil Troy. "The candidate of hope and change now has reality to contend with, including disappointments and messes."

The best re-nomination

speeches — Ronald Reagan's 1984 "morning in America" and Bill Clinton's 1992 "bridge to the 21st century" — included "a heroic narrative of renewal," Troy said. Obama must give a flavor of that Thursday, he said, despite a serious handicap: The economy lacks the obvious upward trend that boosted Reagan's campaign.

"Obama has not gotten that statistical gift," Troy said, "so he has to compensate with oratorical gifts."

Great oratory has a mixed record in presidential cam-

Dwight Eisenhower and George W. Bush are among those who won two terms with lackluster speaking styles.

Obama excelled in big forums from the start. He rocketed to national fame at the 2004 Democratic convention, where his "one America" speech largely overshadowed the nominee, John Kerry.

"There's not a liberal America and a conservative America," Obama told the adoring crowd in Boston. "There's the United States of America. There's not a black America and white America and Latino America and Asian America; there's the United States of

When he accepted the nomination four years later in a huge outdoor stadium in Denver, Obama deplored "the broken politics in Washington."

"America, we are better than these last eight years," he said. "We are a better country than this."

Now, of course, Obama is the incumbent under the microscope. Unemployment is higher, Washington's politics are more bitterly partisan than before and the notion of no liberal-conservative divide seems naive at best.

Reagan's "morning in America" optimism might be ridiculed in today's climate. And rhetorical flourishes by

#### **SCHOOL Continued from 1A**

The 8-year-old boy was fatally wounded Saturday outside his grandmother's home on Allen Road, where he was living. He apparently was killed by stray gunfire involving four feuding

"The cards are very heartfelt and sweet," school principal Jill McAden said. "One child wrote, 'I will pray as long as I can.'

The children drew memories of playing sports with Khalil. Several called him a good friend. Some classmates wrote they wanted his family to know they were thinking of McAden said Tuesday began

with two meetings: one of the school's crisis team — which includes administration, social workers and counselors — and one of the school's entire staff. Second-grade teacher La-

trice Campbell, who also is an ordained minister, spoke at the staff gathering. She said she encouraged teachers to support one another and highlight Khalil's accomplishments.

"These teachers knew this morning that they had to hit the ground running and be a pillar of strength for our stu-

#### HOW TO DISCUSS DEATH WITH CHILDREN

Melissa Hady, a guidance counselor at Hilton Head Island Elementary School, gave the following advice on how to discuss Khalil Singleton's death with young children. Hady also recommended the resources available on www. hospicenet.org.

- MAKE TIME: Set aside time to listen to your child
- BE AVAILABLE: Let children know they can express their feelings to you
- TAKE NOTE: Take note of any change in your child's behavior, appetite or sleep pattern

#### **COMMUNITY VIGIL PLANNED**

A community vigil and candlelight walk in memory of Khalil Singleton, the 8-year-old boy who was fatally shot Saturday, is planned for 7 p.m. Thursday at St. James Baptist Church, 209 Beach City Road on Hilton Head Island. Attendees will participate in a march that will end with the release of white balloons. The event is open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to make banners and posters in remembrance of Singleton and in support of violence prevention. Details: 843-301-6754

and shocked. But they knew that they had to move forward and put on a good front and be strong for our children."

A moment of silence was held at 8:45 a.m., about 15 minutes after classes began.

The school's two guidance counselors, Melissa Hady and Jessica Howard, visited classtalk with students. Additional dents," McAden said. "The Beaufort County School Dis- they will always have those," mood ... was very sad, quiet trict guidance counselors were Hady said.

on hand, too, McAden said.

Hady said many students already knew of Khalil's death. Some cried, many asked questions and most showed concern for his family. The counselors encouraged students to remember happy moments with Khalil.

"We told them it was a good rooms throughout the day to time to think of the good memories they have of him and that

The school chose not to discuss the way Khalil died - that's a conversation for families if they see fit, Hady said. Letters were sent home Tuesday with suggestions for parents seeking to help their children cope with his death. McAden said they kept a

close eye on students who had been in classes with Khalil, played with him in his neighborhood or knew him through the Hilton Head Baseball Association, in which he played for about four years. That monitoring will continue in the coming days and weeks. The school's goal, the prin-

cusing on positive things, but also to begin to move forward. "There is so much happiness around that child to remem-

cipal said, is to find ways to

honor Khalil's memory by fo-

ber," McAden said. A memorial is being planned and will involve Khalil's family, she said. So far, the ideas all have come from students, and McAden said she has been sur-

"Sometimes, children can shine through these circumstances, in some cases better than adults," McAden said. "We're doing the best we can

### MEN

#### **Continued from 1A**

5 p.m. Saturday on Allen Road. A bullet struck and killed Khalil, who was playing outside of the house where he lived with his grandmother.

None of the four men has yet been charged in Khalil's death. Sgt. Robin McIntosh of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office said Tuesday that forensics ment Division is under way.

McIntosh said investigators are trying to determine what started the feud, which likely involved "multiple incidents."

Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor Duffie Stone declined comment, saying judicial rules only allow him to release defendants' criminal histories in

open court. whether to indict them.

Young Sr. and Young Jr. have been charged with one count each of discharging a firearm into a vehicle, after they allegedly shot at Robinson's unoccupied car parked on Allen

Robinson was charged with pointing a firearm in connection with an earlier struggle with Young Jr., in which Robinson allegedly brandished a handgun. He also is charged in an unrelated crime, the second-Pawn on Mathews Drive on Aug. 19.

Singleton also is charged with the burglary of Top Dollar Pawn. He also had been sought on two bench warrants. It is unclear what the warrants were for.

S.C. State Law Enforcement Division records indicate Scott Sr., Robinson and Singleton had many run-ins with the law prior to their arrests Saturday.

#### **TYRONE ROBINSON**

prison by the state Department duct and fined \$152. Later that arate convictions for malicious twitter.com/LCBlotter.

#### **CAREER-CRIMINAL PROGRAM**

Duffie Stone, who became the 14th Judicial Circuit solicitor in 2006, launched a career-criminal prosecution program in 2009. The program is aimed at prosecuting criminal defendants who repeatedly commit violent crimes. Tyrone Robinson, Aaron Scott Young Sr. and Jontu Singleton, all convicted felons, were released from prison after the program started. Their arrests Saturday are the first felony charges against them since their releases.

year sentence.

Robinson was convicted in fined \$2,115. 2003 of leading



Robinson

a state Highway Patrol trooper on through greater Bluffton the previous year. A troop-

will be presented in October to attempting to get him to slow was killed, was released from a grand jury, which will decide down. He received the maximum sentence of 15 years. At the time of his arrest for that chase on Nov. 14, 2002, Rob-

inson was wanted in connection

with at least 10 crimes and was already a convicted felon. He had been released from **Singleton** prison three months earlier, in August 2002, after serving a sixyear sentence for third-degree burglary, petit larceny, hit and run, and three counts of grand

larceny, according to SLED re-

cords. He had been convicted of degree burglary of Top Dollar those crimes in June 1996, as a youthful, nonviolent offender years. Youthful nonviolent offenders can be released from prison for a year, remain on probation another year and, if they maintain good behavior, can go free after that, according to the Department of Corrections.

> But Robinson served the full six years because he violated parole three times, according to He also served 29 days in April

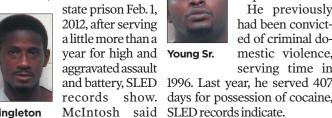
1996 for discharging a weapon in Robinson's arrest Saturday a building. His first conviction marked his first brush with the was the previous April, when he law since he was released from was arrested for disorderly conmonths in the county jail for sep-

testing by the S.C. Law Enforce- He had served eight years of a 15- assault and battery and mali- urday for the Top Dollar Pawn

Robinson has been arrested to the jail log. 27 times since 1994, according to the Beaufort County Detena morning rush- tion Center log. Most of those hour chase in a charges, according to the SLED stolen vehicle report, were dropped.

#### **JONTU SINGLETON**

Jontu Singleton, who also lives The evidence against the men er shot him in the hand while on Allen Road, where Khalil



she doesn't know whether Jontu Singleton was related to Khalil Singleton.

Singleton also was in Department of Corrections custody off and on between November 1999 and September 2005, after convictions for high and aggravated assault and battery, unlawful use of a telephone, and first-degree and sentenced to one to six burglary. While serving concur- before Saturday: for trespassing rent sentences for those crimes, Singleton twice was released only to return to prison for probation violations, SLED reports.

Singleton's first conviction was July 2, 1994, when he received one year in prison for having a firearm in a public building. That sentence later was suspended, and he was placed on two years of probation, according to the report. He violated that probation

and returned to prison in February 1997 after spending several

prised by their creativity and thoughtfulness. here to hold our heads up." Follow reporter Rachel Heaton at

twitter.com/HomeroomBft.

injury to property and possessing alcohol under 21 while resisting arrest. His sentence on those convictions expired July 1, 1997, according to the Corrections Department.

He has served time in the county jail for driving under suspension multiple times, malicious injury to property and shoplifting.

Singleton has been arrested 29 times, according to the jail log. When he was arre cious injury to property and burglary, he was wanted on two other bench warrants, according

### AARON SCOTT YOUNG SR.

Young Sr.'s first felony conviction was for possession of less than one gram of crack cocaine. He was imprisoned from Nov.



Young Sr.

He previously had been convicted of criminal domestic violence, serving time in

7, 2002, to Feb. 4,

SLED records indicate. Most of Young Sr.'s brushes with the law involve traffic violations, including speeding and driving under suspension. He

also is a repeat probation and parole violator, according to the county jail log.

#### AARON SCOTT YOUNG JR.

Young Jr. was arrested twice in January 2011, and for disrupting schools and causing malicious injury to



ed of disrupting schools, a misdemeanor, and paid a \$55 fine. SLED

property in Febru-

ary 2011, according

He was convict-

to the jail log.

Follow reporter Allison Stice at

Young Jr.

records indicate he also served time for that offense, but do not say when or how long.

Evans said the district isn't twitter.com/HomeroomBft.

ident's convention were scathing.

Obama could add fuel to Republican jibes that he is much **Continued from 1A** better at talking than leading.

But Obama can hardly afford to assume the dour demeanor of Jimmy Carter. A presidential challenger

can use big speeches to criticize the incumbent in detail while offering less-specific, even gauzy, alternatives. That's what Romney did last week in Tampa, Fla., say Democrats, who repeatedly cite his lack of detailed explanations for claims that he can cut taxes, increase military spending and reduce the deficit.

Obama doesn't enjoy that leeway. He's constrained in looking both backward and forward.

He must defend his fouryear record, of course. But fierce resistance from tea party-influenced Republicans has thwarted some of his key proposals, including jobs bills. His biggest legislative achievement, the 2010 health care overhaul, sharply divided the country.

The partisan dynamics could crimp Obama's ability to offer a second-term agenda.

With Republicans likely to retain control of the House along with filibuster powers in the Senate, bold new Democratic proposals might seem implausible.

"We think the country is desperate to know where the president wants to take the country - his vision and plan in the face of weak recovery but more important, the longterm problems facing the country," veteran Democratic consultants James Carville and Stan Greenberg said. "The more robust and serious his plans are for American energy production and independence, for infrastructure and America's modernization, for advancing education and innovation, for getting health care costs down," they wrote,

"the more the Republicans will look irrelevant." Carville and Greenberg urged Obama to hammer at Romney's plans to preserve income tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans while also cutting taxes on investment

Voters "are rightfully angry and increasingly populist," the

income that applies mainly to

two men said. Troy agreed that Obama should risk being labeled too liberal if that's what it takes to defend his stimulus plan and auto industry bailout. Both initiatives generally got higher marks from economists than

from average Americans.

likely to need that much. The

last search cost about \$34,000,

will begin in a few weeks, so

dates for school board in the

November election, Evans

Truesdale announced in

the Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Evans said he hopes focus

he said.

#### **LEADER Continued from 1A**

The committee interviewed groups and online surveys five firms Friday and ultimately decided on Ray and Associates the district can start identifybecause several committee ing the traits it wants in a new members had worked with the superintendent. Those focus firm during the 2006 search groups could include candiand felt comfortable with it, Evans said. The full board agreed to that said.

recommendation unanimously Tuesday. Board member Ste-July that she has taken a job in ven Morello was absent. The board also approved a School District, starting Oct.

\$62,500 budget for the search. 1. The Beaufort County dis-That amount will include Ray trict's current head of human and Associates' \$22,000 fee, resources, Jackie Rosswurm, advertising costs, travel for job will serve as interim superincandidates and travel for board tendent. members to candidates' school districts.

Follow reporter Rachel Heaton at