



LIMITED TIME OFFER

50% Off Installation

+ No Interest for 12 Months*

For a FREE in-home consultation and quote

Call (864) 256-3577

*Offer ends April 30, 2026. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK, HI, Nassau Cty, Suffolk Cty, Westchester Cty, or City of Buffalo, NY. 50% off installation labor applies to the installation of the KOHLER walk-in bath and may exclude costs associated with plumbing and electrical. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact local dealer for financing details.

Herald-Journal

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026 | GOUPSTATE.COM

SPARTANBURG, SC | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Jay Dowd takes over at Wofford on July 1

Baker Maultsby
Spartanburg Herald-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Jay Dowd has had many personal and professional associations over the years with Wofford College, where he will serve in the role of president beginning July 1.

A native of South Carolina, Dowd graduated from Winthrop University and went into higher education fundraising.

He has worked at several institutions in the Carolinas, including colleges that, like Wofford, are affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Dowd is currently the chief advancement officer at The Citadel, one of Wofford's Southern Conference rivals. Alumni from The Citadel and Wofford cross paths in many walks of life.

But it was his son's time as a student at Wofford that gave Dowd a deeper appreciation of the college.

When the prospect of pursuing the president's job at Wofford arose, Dowd and his wife, Kim, spent time "reflecting on what Wofford meant for our son as a student and his love for this place," he said.

"What a great opportunity to lead an institution where you've entrusted one of your greatest assets – your child."

Gibson Dowd is a 2023 Wofford graduate. During his time at the college, Jay and Kim served as co-chairs of Wofford's Parents Leadership Council.

Nayef Samhat, Wofford's president since 2013, announced in 2025 his plans to retire following the current academic year.

See **DOWD**, Page 2A

Reddy prepares for the challenge

Candidate for governor wants to expand executive power

Bella Carpentier Greenville News | USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Editor's note: The Greenville News invited all current gubernatorial candidates to a sit-down interview on their campaigns and plans for the governor's office.

Rom Reddy, founder of DOGE SC, became the latest Republican to join the governor's race on March 16. • He said what sets him apart from other candidates is that he is not a part of the "ruling class," a term he uses to describe political figures who have held power for many years. His competitors in the Republican primary race are U.S. Reps. Ralph Norman, District 5, and Nancy Mace, District 1, South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson, Lt. Gov. Pamela Evette, and State Sen. Josh Kimbrell, Spartanburg. • Reddy recently sat down with *The Greenville News* for a conversation on why he thinks he is the right candidate for office. See **REDDY**, Page 3A

ABOVE: South Carolina governor candidate Rom Reddy speaks with Greenville News statehouse and politics reporter Bella Carpentier on March 24 at the Greenville News office in Greenville.
ALEX MARTIN/
GREENVILLE NEWS

AI technology assists emergency call operators

Trevor Hughes
USA TODAY

DENVER – In one of the last places where a real live person answers the phone immediately, AI is now playing an increasingly important role in helping 911 dispatchers speed police, firefighters and paramedics to emergencies.

The most sophisticated AI systems can listen and interact with callers, and, in some cases, handle non-emergency calls while staying alert for an actual crisis. Other AI systems can automatically translate languages to make sure every caller gets the help they need immediately.

Only in rare circumstances are the AI

systems directly answering 911 calls, but are instead more often being used to lighten the high-pressure load on trained dispatchers who are often working in short-staffed operations centers.

For generations, 911 operators have been the backbone of the American emergency response network, answering calls for help, and then dispatching

and coordinating police and firefighters, SWAT teams, mental-health counselors and animal-control officers.

Each year, 911 operators nationwide answer about 240 million calls. But those same operators are often also responsible for simultaneously answering

See **AI**, Page 2A



#1

REMODELER

YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS!

PROUDLY SERVING THE MIDWEST SINCE 1998

BATH OR SHOWER REMODEL



70% Off Installation on a new bath or shower*



Call Now! Limited Time Offer!
864-326-1719

Our team is ready to take your call 7 days a week.

*70% Off promotion does not include material costs. Not valid with any other offer, or previous job. See representative for details. New orders only for appointments completed by 5/15/2026. Offer expires 5/15/2026. Financing available with minimum purchase and approved credit. Mad City Windows & Baths, LLC, is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Mad City Windows & Baths, LLC, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimate only. Ask for details. New orders only. Not valid with any other offer, or previous job. Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the purchase balance is not paid in full within the 18-month period or if you make a late payment. New orders only for appointments completed by 5/15/2026.



Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to goupstate.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 132 | No. 83
To subscribe 582-8558
©2026

\$3.49



0 90994 30001 9