

Bethune-Bowman advances to third round

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Trump's Second Act

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Tuesday, February 24, 2026

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NEARING COMPLETION



LARRY HARDY, T&D

The new South Carolina Civil Rights Museum at Orangeburg's Railroad Corner is nearing completion.

Railroad Corner work continues

Ribbon-cutting celebration of first phase targeted for January 2027

GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

The first phase of the redevelopment of the historic Orangeburg Railroad Corner is about 40 percent complete with a targeted opening date of January 2027.

"We are working closely with the city, South Carolina State University and our partners to ensure a seamless project delivery," Luna Development lead project developer Michael Glenn said.

The first phase includes infrastructure.

Glenn said phase 1A is the first building and consists of 124 beds for student housing (four bedrooms and two baths per unit).

The units will be spread over five floors (Floor three through Floor seven) and two stories (floors one and two) will be commercial retail and office space.

"Currently, all underground infrastructure is complete, all concrete is poured, which includes foundations, stair tower, elevator towers and first and second floor structures and the third floor (which is concrete)," Glenn said. "Floors three through seven are residential and wood framed. Floors three and four are complete and they have started on floors five and six."

A celebration will be held upon completion of the first phase.

The developers hope to start Phase 2 of the four-phase project by end of 2026.

The "phases 3 and 4 start have yet not been determined," Glenn said.

Samet Construction is the general contractor for the project.

"Like any projects, we've had our challenges," Glenn said, noting the biggest surprise has been permitting delays.

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S.C. Civil Rights Museum may open this summer

GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

The construction of the new South Carolina Civil Rights Museum at Orangeburg's Railroad Corner is nearing completion with a targeted partial opening of the museum planned for this summer.

Cecil Williams, CEO, executive director and founder of museum, said as of the middle of February the final "punch list"

items are being completed.

"We are very eagerly awaiting and hoping that it will not be too long," Williams said.

He said the plans are to begin to move into the museum in the next 30 to 45 days.

Williams said it will take about six to nine months to set up the interior of the museum, although he is hoping at least the first floor of the two-floor museum will be open to

the public sometime this summer.

The museum began a fundraising campaign about four months ago. Williams said about \$80,000 has been raised. He says it will cost about \$450,000 to upfit the interior of the building with equipment and furniture, and about \$450,000 to operate the museum annually with appropriate staffing.

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Elloreë murder suspect: 'It's not me'

MARTHA ROSE BROWN
T&D Staff Writer

Elloreë's police chief says a suspect confessed to shooting an Elloreë man to death on Feb. 5, but the man now says he didn't do it.

Mjnari Leadmeo Carter, 57, of Park Street, St. Matthews, is charged with:

- Murder
- Possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime
- Possession of a weapon by a person



Elloreë Police Chief Earl Kinley told sheriff's office investigators that Carter allegedly confessed to "committing the

convicted of certain crimes George Wilbur Johnson, 58, was shot and killed on Feb. 5, just outside of the town limits at the intersection of City Point Road and Bay Street, according to Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office warrants.

murder," a warrant states.

Warrants claim Carter threatened to kill Johnson prior to Feb. 5.

During a Thursday afternoon arraignment, Carter said, "You shouldn't close the investigation. You shouldn't just stop at one person. It's not me."

Carter told the court he'd been working as an electrician for the past six months.

He described himself as a single father of two children. Both children are under age 10.

At the time of Carter's arrest, he was on parole for the June 1, 1987 murder of James Clyde Hammond, a retired Navy officer.

Hammond, 75, lived on East Hampton Street in Elloreë. That's just over a mile from where Johnson was shot and killed.

Carter, who went by "Samuel Lee Carter" and "Ricky Shivers" in 1987, was 18 when he and two 16-year-old males burglarized Hammond's home and beat him to death.

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I-95, I-26 work will affect traffic

GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

The South Carolina Department of Transportation is conducting intermittent traffic pacing and lane closures as it sets girders for the Interstate 26 and Interstate 95 interchange project in Orangeburg and Dorchester counties.

The work begins this week.

Lane closures will be active on both I-26 and I-95 throughout the course of the operation and intermittent pacing operations will be necessary for the installation of girders.

Drivers are encouraged to download and use the 511SC app for traffic information.

SCDOT asks that drivers slow down and pay attention to crews when driving through the work zone.

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Robert Duvall's legendary roles

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Weather

Mostly sunny and cool
High 53
Low 37
Forecast • A10

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