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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Wednesday, June 8, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley signs bill funding billions for roads by borrowing

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vCALAukb

Seanna Adcox

Gov. Nikki Haley reluctantly signed legislation Wednesday that will let the state borrow \$2.2 billion to jump-start improvements to South Carolina's deteriorating roads, saying she did so only because its so-called reforms are better than nothing. The Republican governor said the law provides a step forward in highway funding and marginal improvements to the Department of Transportation's governance. "To claim this law as anything close to a victory, to represent it in any way as a true solution to our infrastructure problems" would be deceiving the public, she said in a letter to legislative leaders she sent along with the signed law.

The State: SC Gov. Haley signs road plan that includes Malfunction Junction fix

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article82539257.html>

Cassie Cope

Gov. Nikki Haley signed a \$4 billion road and bridge spending plan Thursday that includes repairing Malfunction Junction in Richland and Lexington counties. The proposal also includes replacing nearly 400 bridges and giving the governor more control of the state Transportation Department. Still, Haley expressed disappointment in the proposed changes for restructuring the Transportation Department commission. "So let us all be honest about what we accomplished in this bill: incremental and incomplete reform, or put a different way, far less than the people of South Carolina both expect and deserve from us," she wrote in a letter to lawmakers.

Post and Courier: Gov. Haley approves billions for roads

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC1603/160609393>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley approved billions of dollars for road and bridge projects across the state Wednesday even though she said reform measures in the bill that took lawmakers years to pass don't go far enough. "I have done so for one reason and on reason only—it is a better option than what we will have without this bill: a full reversion to the even more unaccountable and defective system that was replaced in 2007," Haley said in a rare signing statement. "This bill does move South Carolina marginally forward by replacing General Assembly selection of the Transportation Commissioners with gubernatorial appointment," Haley wrote. "But let's be clear that 'progress' is little more than window dressing. The process for confirmation and removal of commissioners is deeply flawed."

WIS: Haley signs Roads Bill under heavy objection

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32176760/haley-signs-roads-bill-under-heavy-objection>

Derry London

Governor Nikki Haley signed S.1258 with little fanfare Wednesday. The governor sent a letter to Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman Wednesday announcing her signature of the bill. Haley stated in her letter she believes the bill "accomplished incremental and incomplete reform, or put a different way, far less than the people of South Carolina both expect and deserve from us." The governor noted that South Carolina is moving forward by giving her office appointment authority over the Transportation Commission: "...but let's be clear: that "progress" is little more than window dressing. A legislative delegation can kill any nomination without a reason, without a hearing and without a vote. The governor can hire a commissioner but he or she does not have the ability to fire one - not without asking for permission first."

WLTX: Gov. Signs Roads Plan Despite Her Objections

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/gov-signs-roads-plan-into-law-strong-opposition-to-bills-reform/237330382>

Governor Nikki Haley signed the roads bill into law Wednesday, but with strong disapproval for the reform aspect of the bill. Haley said the only reason she signed it was because it was a better option than what the state would have without it. She said the bill's reform of the Department of Transportation preserves the status quo and politics will continue to control the transportation system. "The bill does move South Carolina marginally forward by replacing General Assembly selection of Transportation Commissioners with gubernatorial appointment, but let's be clear: that 'progress' is a little more than window dressing," Haley said.

Associated Press: Gov. Haley ceremoniously re-signing anti-abortion law

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=fTDKacrj

SC State Wire

Gov. Nikki Haley is ceremoniously signing a law that bans most abortions in South Carolina at 20 weeks beyond fertilization. Supporters are celebrating the law Wednesday at a Christian school in Greenville County that caters to children with disabilities. The law took effect with the governor's signature two weeks ago. The ban's only exceptions are if mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus cannot survive outside the womb. Its definition of "fetal anomaly" makes it illegal to abort a fetus with a severe disability if the child could live. Such anomalies are generally detected around 20 weeks.

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley holds ceremonial signing of 20-week abortion ban

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC1603/160609483>

Maya T. Prabhu

Gov. Nikki Haley traveled to a Christian school for children with disabilities to re-sign a new state law that bans abortions at 20 weeks of pregnancy, holding the ceremony in the heart of the conservative Upstate. Haley said she did not bring this second and more symbolic bill-signing to the Greenville area because abortion is so political. Instead, she said, it's because she's a mom. "I'm not pro-life because the Republican Party tells me," Haley said. "I'm pro-life because all of us have had experiences of what it means to have one of these special little ones in our life."

Greenville News: Haley has signing ceremony for 20-week abortion ban in Taylors

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/06/08/haley-has-signing-ceremony-20-week-abortion-ban-taylors/85590676/>

Amanda Coyne

Gov. Nikki Haley held a ceremonial signing ceremony for a recently-passed law that would ban abortions at 20 weeks, which bill sponsor Rep. Wendy Nanney said was just the first step in the effort

to chip away and eventually overturn abortion rights in South Carolina. "We are at 20 weeks and we're going to keep pushing," Nanney said at the ceremony held at Hidden Treasure Christian School, a religious school for children with intellectual and physical disabilities. The law bans all abortions at 20 weeks or later and makes no exceptions for rape or incest. The only case in which an abortion can occur past 19 weeks in South Carolina is when the fetus will die or the health of the mother is threatened. Doctors who violate this law could be jailed.

WSPA: Abortions after 19 weeks now illegal in South Carolina

<http://wspa.com/2016/06/08/abortions-after-19-weeks-now-illegal-in-south-carolina/>

Addie Hampton

Abortions after 19 weeks are now illegal in the Palmetto state. Surrounded by kids from Hidden Treasure Christian School in Taylors, Governor Nikki Haley's signature made it official, Wednesday. The 4 year fight to get to this point is a rocky one; so much so, Governor Haley addressed the controversy in front of the crowd. "There's been controversy around this bill and they always are with pro-life bills. I want us to respect the controversy, but I also want us to see a responsibility with that," she said. The bill – which asserts a fetus can feel at 20 weeks – calls on medical research that some critics say isn't entirely truthful. "We go with a responsibility to not judge those that are contemplating abortion or choosing abortion, but to see it as our responsibility to tell them those stories," said Haley.

Fox Carolina: Nikki Haley to attend event in Taylors celebrating new abortion restrictions

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/32171656/nikki-haley-to-attend-event-in-taylors-celebrating-new-abortion-restrictions>

Dal Kalsi

Gov. Nikki Haley will be at the Hidden Treasure Christian School in Taylors on Wednesday to celebrate the signing of the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act into law. The law bans abortions after 19 weeks and was authored by State Representative Wendy Nanney of Greenville. According to the legislation, after twenty weeks, an unborn child "reacts to stimuli that would be recognized as painful if applied to an adult human, for example, by recoiling." Haley signed the bill into law on May 25.

Associated Press: Gov. Haley signs loan forgiveness for SC State into law

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QqnOUA20

SC State Wire

South Carolina State University is officially free of \$12 million in state loans, but it must repay a separate, \$6 million loan over the next 16 years. Gov. Nikki Haley signed the terms into law Tuesday without fanfare. The law forgives \$8 million next year, then \$2 million each in the following two years, provided SC State's finances keep improving. The university must make yearly payments of \$355,000 on the other loan. State officials approved both loans in 2014.

Island Packet: Want to drive your golf cart at night? Soon you could

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/traffic/article82465437.html>

Lucas High

With the summer right around the corner, it's the perfect time to cruise around town in a golf cart. Now, thanks to the passage of a bill co-sponsored by S.C. Rep. Bill Herbkersman of Bluffton, the fun doesn't have to stop when the sun goes down. Earlier this week Gov. Nikki Haley signed into law a measure that allows golf cart drivers to use local roads at night so long as local municipalities are on-board and the cart is equipped with front and rear lights. A similar proposal failed in the Senate last legislative session.

The State: SC Democrats call on Haley, other GOP leaders to drop support of Trump
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article82586122.html>

Avery G. Wilks

S.C. Democratic Party chairman Jaime Harrison on Wednesday called out the state's Republican leaders, including Gov. Nikki Haley, for supporting Donald Trump's presidential bid despite the real-estate mogul's controversial rhetoric. "It has been obvious since very early in this presidential campaign that Donald Trump is a racist, a bigot, a xenophobe, and a misogynist who plays footsie with the world's worst regimes and advocates committing war crimes," Harrison said in a press conference at the party's Columbia headquarters. Harrison noted some elected S.C. officials publicly have objected to Trump's comments and called on them to withdraw their support for the presumptive GOP presidential nominee.

Note: "Gov. Haley has made her objections to Donald Trump very clear on many occasions," Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams responded.

Area Development: Spain-Based GESCRAP Establishes Production Plant in Union, South Carolina
<http://www.areadevelopment.com/newsItems/6-8-2016/gescrap-union-south-carolina189322.shtml>

CRAP, a Spain-based multinational corporation engaged in metal recycling and other auxiliary services for the manufacturing industry, invested \$6.3 million to establish operations at 1723 Jonesville Highway in Union, South Carolina. Founded in 1994 and headquartered in Spain, GESCRAP strives to be a leader in the complete and sustainable recovery of waste materials. To establish its first facility in the Southeastern United States, GESCRAP constructed its Union County facility to house its GES Recycling operations.

Note: "Team South Carolina has worked hard to build a reputation for our state as one of the best places in the world to do business, and to have an international company like GESCRAP choose to establish operations here is a major testament to those efforts. We're excited to welcome GESCRAP to the South Carolina family and look forward to watching them grow and succeed here for many years to come, Governor Nikki Haley said.

LGBT Laws:

Post and Courier: Voters will see a transgender candidate run for the S.C. Statehouse next week
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC1603/160609403>

Maya T. Prabhu

Dewon Huggins is a 22-year-old native of the tiny pine forest crossroads town of Bucksport who said her desire to serve in public office compelled her to run against a five-term incumbent for the S.C. House of Representatives. She is not the first 20-something to seek a seat in the Legislature. But as far as she can tell, she is the first openly transgender candidate to do so. "When I was thinking about running, I was telling people, I identify as a transgender. But I am deathly afraid of my political success being ruined here in South Carolina and not being able to do anything else because of the negativity that comes with it," she said. "I went through some counseling and decided to go for it."

SC Political News:

Associated Press: SC Dems: Trump is a 'threat'; withdraw your endorsements
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6Jm1CCjf

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's top Democrat is calling on elected Republicans to rescind their endorsements of Donald Trump, saying Wednesday that the presumptive GOP nominee is a racist and xenophobe, in part due to his race-based attacks on a Hispanic judge. During a news conference, party Chairman Jaime Harrison said that, while he respects Republicans and their party, he doesn't understand how officials including Gov. Nikki Haley can condemn Trump's divisive rhetoric, yet say they still feel he's the best choice to be president. "To say these types of remarks, and then constantly defend them, is disqualifying for a presidential candidate, period," Harrison said, adding that a President Trump would put the country "in peril."

Post and Courier: New Jersey Democrat takes up fight to remove the Confederate flag from Citadel
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC1603/160609396>

Emma Dumain

Democrats in the U.S. House were unsuccessful in previous efforts to force the removal of the Confederate flag from The Citadel's Summerall Chapel. Now, a Senate Democrat is taking up their cause. U.S. Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., has filed an amendment to the pending 2017 National Defense Authorization Act identical to the one that failed in the House version earlier. Both call for withholding all Reserve Officers' Training Corps funding from any military academy that flies the Confederate flag. The Citadel in Charleston is currently the only institution that fits this category.

Post and Courier: State GOP files to halt Charleston candidate residency protest hearing

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC1603/160609410>

Schuyler Kropf

The state Republican Party is asking a judge to halt a Thursday morning hearing to challenge the residency of a Statehouse candidate from Charleston. GOP Chairman Matt Moore contends the party's state executive committee has jurisdiction to "hear and decide protests and contests that may arise in the case of federal officers, state officers, State Senate, State House of Representatives, and officers involving more than one county." The Charleston County Elections and Voter Registration Board is scheduled to meet Thursday at 9 a.m. after local attorney Margaret Fabri challenged the residency of Senate District 41 GOP primary candidate Sandy Senn.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: DSS hopes grant lets caseworkers spend more time visiting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QX8F8ylE

Seanna Adcox

Caseworkers will be able to access children's files on their smartphones while away from the office starting next year, thanks to a grant announced Wednesday to the Department of Social Services. The \$250,000 grant will fund the development of an app allowing access to the agency's network, spokeswoman Karen Wingo told The Associated Press. It's among \$4.8 million in grants the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation awarded to 13 groups.

SC Elections:

The State: SC Lt. Gov. McMaster backs Hayes in Senate race

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article82579162.html>

Jamie Self

S.C. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is endorsing state Sen. Wes Hayes, R-York, in his re-election bid,

putting him on the opposite side of another race from GOP Gov. Nikki Haley. Republican McMaster, who presides over the Senate, also is backing two other Senate incumbents who face contentious re-election battles against GOP primary challengers who Haley has endorsed. In a statement from Hayes' campaign, McMaster said Hayes is "one of the finest men I've ever known. He is a man of character, honor and trust. Time and time again, when Republican senators go into battle, they seek Wes Hayes' leadership on huge issues like ethics, fixing our roads and education."

The Herald: McMaster endorses Hayes in Rock Hill Senate race

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/politics-government/election/local-election/article82598352.html>

Bristow Marchant

South Carolina's top two elected officials are taking different sides in the Rock Hill Senate primary. After Gov. Nikki Haley endorsed challenger Wes Climer last week, incumbent Sen. Wes Hayes has picked up the endorsement of Haley's No. 2, Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster. McMaster was to appear in Rock Hill on Wednesday night to endorse Hayes, a 30-year Statehouse veteran. "Wes Hayes is one of the finest men I've ever known," said McMaster, who presides over Senate proceedings since he was elected to the lieutenant governor's post in 2014. "Time and time again, when Republican Senators go into battle, they seek Wes Hayes' leadership on huge issues like ethics, fixing our roads, and education."

Post and Courier: Leatherman spends big ahead of Tuesday primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC1603/160609383>

Gavin Jackson

S.C. Senate leader Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, has spent on average \$50,000 a week on his re-election campaign since April. State Ethics Commission filings show Leatherman had \$1.2 million on hand as of late May after spending \$400,000 in the past two months, mainly on television advertising. The disclosure shows the 35-year Senate veteran's campaign is concentrating on his main challenger, former Florence County GOP Chairman Richard Skipper, ahead of Tuesday's GOP primary. After a strong fundraising pace earlier this year Leatherman saw increased support from Charleston-area donors who collectively gave more than \$35,000 — the most coming from any region in the state during the April and May reporting period.

Post and Courier: Sylleste Davis certified for House Seat 100

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC16/160609394>

Brenda Rindge

The only candidate to file for the state House of Representatives seat left vacant when Eddy Southard resigned has been certified as the winner. The state Election Commission met Wednesday and certified Republican Sylleste Davis as the winner of House Seat 100, which stretches from Summerville to Moncks Corner. Her term begins Monday. Southard was seeking re-election unopposed until he resigned in April after allegations he sexually harassed a female Statehouse page. Last week, he withdrew his name from the Nov. 8 ballot. Filing will reopen for that election, but the filing dates have not been determined yet.

The State: Assertive challenger takes on veteran Richland County sheriff

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article82564102.html#storylink=apmobile>

Glen Luke Flanagan

After a rough and tumble couple of years as Richland County sheriff, Leon Lott is seeking a sixth term, facing a challenger for the first time in eight years. Lott has twice tangled publicly with the governor, been the focus of criticism for investigating his own deputies and withstood the glare of the

national spotlight when one of his officers was filmed manhandling a disruptive high school student. At the same time, the homicide rate has been climbing, and gun and gang violence, escalating – all as scrutiny of police mounts. Former State Law Enforcement Division agent James Flowers is angling to knock Lott out Tuesday of the office Lott has held for 20 years – and from the state’s largest sheriff’s department, where Lott has worked for 41 years.

The State: Richland County sheriff to face challenger in 2016

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article44354427.html#storylink=apmobile>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott will face a challenger in next year’s primary election for the first time since 2008. James Flowers, a former South Carolina Law Enforcement Division senior special agent who was once a Gamecock defensive lineman, announced Wednesday he will run as a Democrat in 2016. “I am running as a candidate that will bring law enforcement and the community together and make Richland County a safer place for everyone,” Flowers said. “People want safer streets, schools and neighborhoods, and they expect law enforcement officers to provide that safe environment. I understand that expectation, and I want to be a transformative leader for Richland County and the sheriff’s department.” Meanwhile, Lott will seek a sixth term in office.

The State: No favors for pals, Hubbard vows as solicitor match nears end

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article82556762.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

Political leaders and insiders won’t get a “free pass” on facing penalties for offenses, 11th Circuit solicitor candidate Rick Hubbard promised Wednesday. His pledge came as the battle between Hubbard and two challengers to be chosen chief prosecutor in Lexington County and nearby areas intensifies as their political showdown nears. Hubbard faces Candice Lively and Larry Wedekind at the Republican primary election ballot Tuesday. Any officeholder will “answer for what you’ve done,” Hubbard told supporters gathered for a news conference at Virginia Hylton Park in Lexington.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Editorial: Why Richland voters should stick with trusted, effective Lott as sheriff

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/editorials/article82557667.html>

FOR 20 YEARS, RICHLAND County voters have trusted Leon Lott to keep them safe. That trust has been well placed. Mr. Lott, who faces opposition in Tuesday’s Democratic primary for Richland County sheriff, leads one of South Carolina’s most advanced law enforcement agencies. With one major exception, he has shown good judgment and leadership throughout his tenure, especially during crises. The campaign has been spirited at times, especially during a forum this week. But Mr. Flowers has not made a convincing case that Sheriff Lott should be replaced. Richland County voters should stick with their sheriff and his proven record.

Brittanee Drexel News:

Associated Press: FBI offers reward in '09 case of NY girl likely killed in SC

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6e7319be887f4bb78349b4c753f38500>

Bruce Smith

Seven years after a teen from upstate New York disappeared while on a spring break trip to Myrtle Beach, the case is now considered a homicide and a \$25,000 reward is being offered for information leading to a conviction, the FBI said Wednesday. Brittanee Drexel of Rochester, New York, was 17

when she was last seen leaving a beachfront hotel in April 2009 in video recorded on a surveillance camera. The investigation indicates Drexel was likely held against her will and killed in the vicinity of McClellanville, a fishing hamlet about 60 miles southwest of Myrtle Beach, said FBI South Carolina Special Agent in Charge David Thomas. Drexel's cellphone transmitted its last known signal the day after she disappeared near the South Santee River, about 15 miles outside McClellanville.

Post and Courier: Brittane Drexel presumed dead, but officials vow to find out what happened
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC16/160609424>

Andrew Knapp

For seven years since Brittane Drexel vanished, the teenager's loved ones held on to a slim hope that she was still alive, somewhere. After hearing from the FBI this week, that hope slipped away. The authorities think the 17-year-old New York girl, who came to Myrtle Beach for spring break in 2009, was taken and held captive in McClellanville for days until she was slain. Her parents and investigators on Wednesday gathered in the Charleston County town and appealed to the public for the final pieces they need to solve the mystery altogether and bring Drexel's killers to justice and her remains home to her family.

Greenville News : Brittane Drexel held against will, killed in SC, FBI says

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/06/08/brittane-drexel-held-against-killed-sc-fbi-says/85589444/>

Tim Smith

Brittane Drexel, a New York teen missing since 2009, spent several days here in 2009, was held against her will and then killed, the FBI announced today. No body has been found and no arrests have been made, David Thomas, special agent in charge of the FBI in South Carolina, said at a press conference outside a magistrate's office. "What we've come to discover through the course of this investigation is that Brittane Drexel did leave the Myrtle Beach area, we believe she traveled to this area around McClellanville and we believe she was killed after that," he said. The FBI is offering a reward of \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whomever is responsible, he said.

Sun News: Florence city residents prepare for emergency action

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article82525472.html>

Emily Weaver

Investigators revealed Wednesday that the case of a teen, who went missing while on vacation in Myrtle Beach seven years ago, is now being investigated as a murder. "After seven long years of waiting and praying for the return of my daughter we know that she isn't coming home alive," said Dawn Drexel, mother of Brittane Drexel, who was 17 and on vacation in Myrtle Beach with friends when she was reported missing in April 2009. David Thomas, a special agent in charge with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said that officials believe Brittane Drexel was held against her will in the McClellanville area for several days before she was killed. Officers would not say whether the remains of Drexel were ever found or exactly why they believe she is no longer alive.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Solicitor's filing sets up chance of simultaneous trials for Michael Slager, Dylann Roof

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC16/160609385>

Andrew Knapp

After a federal court moved up Dylann Roof's trial date this week, 9th Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson indicates she will prosecute former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager later this year. Wilson's filing in state court sets up the possibility of two potentially historic trials unfolding at the same time this fall in downtown Charleston. Slager is charged with murder in the April 2015 shooting death of Walter Scott. He was set to be tried Oct. 31, but Wilson asked a judge to reschedule the proceeding to avoid a scheduling conflict with her case against Roof, the accused killer of nine people at Emanuel AME Church. A judge on Tuesday set Roof's trial in federal court earlier than the state's Jan. 17 date, likely eliminating the chances of the state trial happening as planned.

Associated Press: 2 Air National Guard pilots home after midair collision

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6C5OkN6l

Susanne M. Schafer

Two F-16 fighter pilots who survived a midair collision in Georgia are home with their families, the commander of the South Carolina National Guard said Wednesday. "The pilots are in good shape," Maj. Gen. Robert Livingston Jr. told reporters at a news conference on the tarmac of the 169th Fighter Wing at McEntire Joint National Guard Base. Pieces of wreckage from both jets were found in remote, wooded areas about 2 miles apart from each other, Guard officials said. The two aircraft collided over a bombing range in Jefferson County, Georgia, about 9:15 p.m. Tuesday.

The State: Fighter pilots return to McEntire air guard base after mid-air collision

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article82524632.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

Two F16 fighter pilots returned to McEntire Joint National Guard Base Wednesday morning after their jets collided over Georgia and crashed, authorities said. The two pilots, who have about 30 years combined flying experience, ejected from the plane and were not injured after the collision Tuesday night. They and four other McEntire pilots were training over Georgia for a deployment later this summer to the Pacific region, authorities said. Nobody has reported injuries on the ground. Authorities have discovered the remains of one plane in Jefferson County, Ga., southwest of Augusta. The search continues for the second aircraft.

Local News:

Island Packet : NCIS probes dead Marine recruit's mental health history

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/bg-military/article82571772.html>

Wade Livingston

Two days after two of the top Parris Island recruit trainers were dismissed, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service met with the family of Raheel Siddiqui, according to the family's attorney. Nabih Ayad, a Detroit-based lawyer who began working with the family after their son died in March at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, said two NCIS agents met with Siddiqui's mother and father, and with one of Siddiqui's former employers, Wednesday in Detroit. The agents the family and a former employer — a manager at Home Depot — about Siddiqui's medical history, Ayad said, including whether he had ever sought medical treatment for depression or expressed suicidal thoughts.

Greenville News: Attorney: Grounsell resigned for family, future

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2016/06/08/attorney-grounsell-resigned-family-future/85591966/>

Scott Keeler

The attorney for former Simpsonville Police Chief Keith Grounell said his client had his family and future in mind when he abruptly resigned last week. Grounell resigned on June 1 about 30 minutes before a special-called meeting of Simpsonville City Council was scheduled to convene. The only business item listed on the agenda was "Matter Pertaining to Department Head." That matter was supposed to be a discussion on Grounell's future with the city. "Mr. Grounell faced the choice to resign or suffer termination," Grounell's lawyer Brooks Derrick said. "After much deliberation, he ultimately decided to resign in an attempt to protect his family, his reputation, and future job prospects."

Post and Courier: Charleston police: Seizure of \$150K in drugs, \$214K in cash tied to Patrick Moffly shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC16/160609389>

Melissa Boughton

Charleston police have arrested nine people, confiscated \$150,000 worth of drugs and seized \$214,000 in cash during a six-month probe that officials said Wednesday was connected with the March shooting death of Patrick Moffly. The drugs included 43,000 Xanax and synthetic marijuana pills, Police Chief Greg Mullen said during an afternoon news conference. The nine suspects were jailed on 29 charges, he said. Most of them were area residents and were not part of a gang, he added.

Post and Courier: Citadel settles suit from cadet who says he was bound, gagged, struck in groin

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC16/160609399>

Paul Bowers

The Citadel has settled a lawsuit after a cadet said upperclassmen bound and gagged him while hitting him in the groin with an elastic belt. "The case has been settled as to all parties," said Mike Gruenloh, who represented Citadel cadet Zachary Rutherford in his suit against the school. Rutherford was a freshman at the time of the alleged attack in the fall of 2013. First-year cadets live regimented lives under the public military college's long-standing fourth-class system and must obey any lawful order from an upperclassman officer. Although hazing is forbidden by school policy, it has been a documented problem at the school for decades, and several cadets have reported in recent years that physical attacks remain rampant in the barracks. The school reported last April that a three-month internal investigation had confirmed 19 cases of hazing.

Greenville News: Fingers point in sex offender chaperone case

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/06/08/fingers-point-sex-offender-chaperone-case/85621426/>

Finger-pointing continued Wednesday into who could be at fault for allowing a sex offender to chaperone an elementary school field trip to Charleston as both the State Law Enforcement Division and the company that provides the sex offender check system said they don't believe system errors could have caused the offender to be missed. The man has been on the sex offender registry for years, first for a 1997 conviction as a juvenile for kidnapping and then for a conviction in 2003 of peeping, voyeurism or aggravated voyeurism, according to the state's sex offender registry. His 2003 conviction was for an October 2002 incident where he went to the premises of a woman as a peeping Tom, according to court records. His juvenile records aren't accessible.

Associated Press: The taps are open: Plan for 2 a.m. beach bar closing tabled

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ZUePTExk

SC State Wire

The taps will remain open through the night in Horry County after county council members tabled an ordinance requiring bars to close at 2 a.m. Local media outlets report council voted unanimously Tuesday to table the ordinance given initial approval just last month. The ordinance would have applied in unincorporated areas of the county where Myrtle Beach is located. The beach is the heart of South Carolina's \$19 billion tourism industry.

Sun News: County council abandons forced 2 a.m. closing time for bars

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article82389412.html>

Audrey Hudson

A proposed rule requiring bars to close at 2 a.m. was put on hold Tuesday night after county council members received complaints from business owners that their late-night customers were mostly service industry locals who were just getting off work, not tourists on a day-long drinking binge. Instead of passing the second reading of the ordinance, the Horry County Council decided their idea needed to be explored a little further and sent the proposal back to the planning commission to rework the proposals. "It needs to go in the garbage can," said Councilman Harold Worley.

Associated Press: Getting the ball rolling: Ball bearing maker creates 65 jobs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DLmqpZ86

SC State Wire

A Chinese company that makes steel balls and ball bearings for automotive and other uses is locating in Colleton County, creating 65 new jobs. The company, JGBR, announced it is investing more than \$7 million in a new plant in Waterboro and will start production later this year. When fully operational next year, the facility will produce 400 tons of steel balls each year to supply customers in both North and South America.

The State: West Columbia OKs keeping a few chickens at home after one-year test

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article82570137.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

Chicken fans passed a one-year test of keeping a few of the birds at home in West Columbia with flying colors. City Council gave the go-ahead to allowing a maximum of four hens to be kept in backyards after no complaints were received during the trial. So far, two homeowners are raising the birds, officials said. The plan was approved 7-1 Tuesday, with Councilman Tommy Parler opposed.

The State: Richland penny tax dispute heads to court next week

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article82497977.html#storylink=apmobile>

Sarah Ellis

Richland County and the state Department of Revenue will argue their cases before a judge June 17, in the ongoing dispute over the county's transportation penny tax program. The county sued DOR almost four weeks ago, asking a judge to order DOR to release penny tax revenue it is withholding from the county. DOR, meanwhile, has said it won't release the money until the county brings its program into compliance with department standards. The county argues DOR has no legal authority to withhold funds or to demand changes to the program.

Post and Courier : Charleston Police Fund challenges Charleston to donate 1 million coins for Illumination Project

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160608/PC16/160609404>

Alison Graham

The Charleston Police Fund and the Charleston Illumination Project aim to collect 1 million coins in

one week. The new fundraising effort, Change for Unity, will kick off at the Charleston RiverDogs game Sunday. People can donate at any Charleston-area South State Bank branch starting Monday, according to the official announcement Wednesday. "We want to put Charleston on the map," Charleston Police Fund Executive Director Mark Ruppel said.

Greenville News: Amid Zika fears, Fountain Inn increases mosquito sprays

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2016/06/08/amid-zika-fears-fountain-inn-increases-mosquito-sprays/85592114/>

Scott Keeler

Amid concerns of the Zika virus, the city of Fountain Inn is increasing its typical mosquito control efforts this year. "I confirmed with Public Works that we are going to double our spraying efforts," Mayor Sam Lee said. "We will begin a regular schedule of spraying on Tuesdays and Thursdays through the summer and into early fall." According to Fountain Inn Director of Economic Development Byron Rucker, spraying will take place between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. during the schedule.

National News:

Associated Press: AP Interview: Clinton says Trump behaving like a demagogue

<http://bigstory.ap.org/633669d8eb1d4648b79777400e1ba5b4>

Lisa Lerer

Hillary Clinton opened her general election campaign against Donald Trump on Wednesday by accusing him of behaving like a "demagogue," likening his attacks on judges, the media, his opponents and their families to dark moments in world history. "It's classic behavior by a demagogue," she said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "We've seen it many, many places and times in the world, and that's why I think it's so dangerous." The presumptive Democratic nominee, who declared victory in her race against Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders on Tuesday, a day after reaching the number of delegates needed to claim the nomination, seemed to wonder during the interview whether Trump's candidacy was little more than an elaborate political stunt.

Associated Press: Sanders under pressure to quit as Democrats look to unite

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8e3bfbce92804166b5ac26a76c9be431>

Erica Werner and Josh Lederman

Under mounting pressure from Democratic leaders to abandon his presidential campaign, Bernie Sanders returned home to Vermont on Wednesday following dispiriting losses to Hillary Clinton. He vowed to fight on for a political revolution but showed signs he would bow to the inevitable and bring his insurgent effort to a close. For Sanders, as his remarkable White House bid runs out of next stops, the only question is when. Just as important for Sanders is how to keep his campaign alive in some form, by converting his newfound political currency into policies to change the Democratic Party, the Senate or even the country itself, on issues including income inequality and campaign finance reform.

Associated Press: Modi to Congress: India, US can anchor stability in Asia

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2b8f44181c404931bf4d3534ecf03248>

Matthew Pennington

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the U.S. Congress on Wednesday that the world's two largest democracies can anchor stability and prosperity from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific in an aspirational speech that glossed over continuing divisions in the relationship. Modi, who has ushered in closer bilateral ties since taking power two years ago, said that India and the U.S. have overcome

"the hesitations of history" and called for ever-stronger economic and defense links between the two countries. Speaking in English, Modi used dashes of humor, drawing a parallel between the rough-and-tumble politics of his own nation and the U.S., which he described tongue-in-cheek as "harmonious" and well-known for bipartisanship. Modi, a keen advocate of yoga, also referenced cultural ties, citing estimates that "more Americans bend for yoga than to throw a curve ball."

World News:

Associated Press: Palestinian gunmen kill 4 Israelis in Tel Aviv, 5 wounded

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fdab38792eb34204aab2263ab61c33c1>

Ian Deitch

Two Palestinians opened fire near a popular open-air market in central Tel Aviv on Wednesday night, killing four Israelis and wounding at least five others in one of the deadliest attacks in an eight-month wave of violence. "Two terrorists opened fire at civilians," Tel Aviv district police commander Moshe Edri said, adding that one of the detained attackers was being treated for a gunfire wound. Police had initially said there might be a third attacker but later ruled that out after extensive searches and examining security camera footage. Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital said the four slain Israelis had been brought to the facility in critical condition and later died of their wounds.

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