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SC Front Pages – Tuesday, June 23, 2015

The Post and Courier

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Tuesday, June 23, 2015

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Charleston, S.C. 81001

Editorial

Time to furl the Confederate flag

The Confederate flag was raised over the Statehouse dome in 1962 to mark the centennial of the Civil War. It flew there for nearly 40 years before being relocated to a nearby Confederate memorial as part of a hard-fought legislative compromise.

But it's clear that the compromise hasn't succeeded, recognizing what the flag symbolizes to many South Carolinians. It is time for the Legislature to furl the flag in the spirit of good will and reconciliation.

Such an act would be in the spirit of the original compromise, which was approved by lawmak-

ers of good will, black and white, to remove the flag from a position of sovereignty and place it in what was viewed as an appropriate place on the Statehouse grounds.

Inside

But there is no appropriate place for the flag at the Statehouse — not in the aftermath of Wednesday's tragic murder of nine people in Emanuel AME Church on Calhoun Street. Among those killed was the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, who was also a state senator.

The suspect, Dylan Roof, has

been associated with white supremacist ideology. Among information that has surfaced on the Internet are several pictures of him with a Confederate flag. In one of those photos he is also holding a handgun.

In the wake of that terrible tragedy, the flag issue has returned with a new intensity. Some critics view it as a confirmation of South Carolina's adherence to the failed policies of bygone years — slavery, segregation and the state's initial opposition to federal civil rights laws.

Advocates of the flag say that it represents the struggle of this state

during the nation's Civil War — a war in which more than 20,000 South Carolinians died. It was a war fought by the ancestors of many of today's South Carolinians, and it reminds those descendants of the gallantry and sacrifice during that bloody conflict.

For other South Carolinians, however, the flag has nothing but dire associations that reflect the race hatred and lawlessness of those, such as the Ku Klux Klan, who appropriated it for their own purposes. Flag opponents include black and white South Carolinians.

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Confederate flag needs to

be removed from the Statehouse grounds.

On Monday, Gov. Nikki Haley gave her support to furling the flag. "We are not going to allow this symbol to divide us any longer," she said. A growing number of legislative leaders support the idea.

The Legislature has the opportunity to remove the flag before the end of this month's extended session. It can revise the terms of the session and vote to bring the flag down.

To it in honor the nine people who were killed at Emanuel AME Church. Do it now.

Haley: Remove flag once, for all

State's 2 U.S. senators join push in wake of Charleston massacre



South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley embraces U.S. Sen. Tim Scott during a news conference in the South Carolina Statehouse on Monday in Columbia. Haley said the Confederate flag should be moved from the grounds of the state Capitol, taking her position on the divisive symbol amid growing calls for it to be removed.

BY SCHUYLER MOORE
and CYNTHIA ROLDAN
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croltan@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley and South Carolina's two U.S. senators on Monday joined the growing chorus calling for removing the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds after a white gunman killed nine black people in a church in Charleston.

Haley declared during a Statehouse news conference that South Carolina had "sinned in the eye" last week, and it is time to fold the flag for good.

"Today, we are here in a moment of unity in our state, as about 100,000 people have gathered to move the flag from the Capitol grounds," Haley said.

Please see PAGE A1



North Charleston Mayor Keith Summy calls for removal of the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds during a press conference in North Charleston on Monday.

More coverage

Make-crime law rejected by state legislators, Page A6.

Shawanda Singletary \$100K in wake of shooting, Page A6.

Events for 9 killed in Emanuel AME church shooting, Page A6.

Presidential hopefuls grow uneasy with act of flag group, Page A7.

Shawanda Singletary honored at CSI prayer service, Page A7.

Goose Creek church leads vigil in front of Emanuel AME, Page A7.

Obama Paderm 'not outed' makes point with epistle, Page A8.

USC, Clemson both agree battle flag should come down, Page C1.

Many S.C. lawmakers silent on flag stance

Survey still stirs strong sentiments

BY GLENN SMITH
gsmith@postandcourier.com

Deep, strong feelings exist on both sides of the Confederate flag debate, but a majority of South Carolina lawmakers dodged attempts on Monday to pin down where they stand on removing the flag from the Statehouse grounds.

The Post and Courier reached out to all 170 House and Senate members in an attempt to determine how much support existed for removing the flag, as Gov. Nikki Haley has called on the Legislature to do.

A team of reporters called, sent emails and tweeted to their lawmakers throughout the day, but were met by silence from many.

Please see PAGE A5

President to deliver eulogy for Pinckney

First lady, Biden to attend service

BY MELISSA BOURGHTON
and ROBERT BEJRE
mbourgton@postandcourier.com
rbejre@postandcourier.com

President Barack Obama will deliver the eulogy Friday at the Rev. Clementa Pinckney's funeral, a White House official said.

First lady Michelle Obama and Vice President Joe Biden also will travel to Charleston to attend the services for the fallen Democrat, who also served as a state senator, the official confirmed Monday. Pinckney was one of nine people fatally shot Wednesday night during a Bible study at Emanuel AME Church.



Obama

Please see PAGE A7



Partly cloudy.
High 93, low 78.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B10

Bridge \$9
Business \$11
Lambeth \$15
Couch \$12.9

Interior \$8.98
Furniture \$10
Movies \$2
Decorative \$4

Spice \$1
Furniture \$7
Entertainment \$6
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Southeast Sunset Party
Pay \$10 for two tickets.
See B2



CLEMSON BASEBALL, 1C LEE LANDS 'DREAM JOB'



SPORTS, 1C Spieth making history

The Greenville News

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TUESDAY,
JUNE 23, 2015
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

CANDIDATES DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM WHITE SUPREMACIST PAGE 1B

'A MOMENT OF UNITY'



Lawmakers urged to remove Confederate battle flag from Statehouse grounds

TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER
TCSMITH@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley on Monday urged lawmakers to remove the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds, saying it does not represent the future of the state and has been used as a symbol of hatred.

"Today, we are here in a moment of unity in our state, without ill will, to say it's time to move the flag from the capitol grounds," Haley said to thunderous applause and cheers from more than 100 people who filled the Statehouse upstairs lobby and lined the railings above.

Haley addressed the issue following a private meeting with state lawmakers from both chambers and both parties.

She was backed during her statement by lawmakers from both parties, the president of the State NAACP Conference and members of the state's congressional delegation, including former Gov. Mark Sanford and the state's senators, Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott.

Haley said if lawmakers do not address the issue before leaving for the summer, she will call a special session solely for the purpose of removing the flag from the Statehouse grounds.

The issue over the flag's presence reignited last week with the brutal shooting deaths of nine people at a historic black church in Charleston. The white man charged with their murders sported a Confederate flag license plate on his car and has been linked to a website displaying photos that appear to be him holding Confederate flags.

The battle flag was removed from the Statehouse dome in 2000 in a legislative compromise and raised on a pole near the Confederate Soldiers Monument on the north side of the Statehouse, just steps from Main Street in Columbia. Under terms of the compromise, it can be removed only by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature.

Haley said many in the state see the flag as a symbol of



TIM DOLAN/AP
South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, center, embraces U.S. Sen. Tim Scott during a news conference in the South Carolina State House on Monday in Columbia. Haley said the Confederate flag should come down from the grounds of the state Capitol, reversing her position on the divisive symbol amid growing calls for it to be removed.

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, sunny, hot, afternoon severe thunderstorms. High 91. Tonight, an evening thunderstorm, low 68. Tomorrow, sunny, less humid, high 83. Weather map appears on Page B14.

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NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2015

\$2.50



For more than a month, no aid could reach Wau Skulluk, a South Sudanese village on the Nile, because of the fighting.

Crisis Spreads In South Sudan As War Rages

By SHARON KATZ

MALAKAL, South Sudan — In places where the fighting is fiercest, no one is even attempting to count the dead.

Nearly half the population of the world's newest nation, South Sudan, is in danger of going hungry. New atrocities are reported almost every day. And more than 1.5 million people have fled their homes, the vast majority to swampy villages where they hope rising waters during the rainy season will keep them safe from marauding soldiers.

"There is no more country," said John Khoniis, 34, who has spent much of his nation's existence sheltered in a camp on a United Nations base. "I don't know how the fighting stops now."

It has been less than two years since a power struggle between the nation's leaders plunged South Sudan into chaos, inflaming old ethnic tensions that almost immediately tore this new country apart.

Despite repeated attempts at peace, some of the deadliest fighting of the civil war has erupted in the last few months.

The warring leaders are unflinchingly entrenched in their positions, and the kinds of abuses that shocked the world early in the conflict, including the use of child soldiers and deliberate attacks on civilians, continue.

Continued on Page A10

Newark Schools Chief, Picked by Christie, Is Out

By KATE ZERNIK

Craig Anderson, the superintendent of the Newark public school system who became a lightning rod in the debate over education reform in New Jersey and nationally, resigned on Monday, eight months before her contract was to expire.

An adviser and longtime friend to former Mayor Cory A. Booker and appointed by Gov. Chris Christie, Ms. Anderson had been lauded by parents from students, parents and local leaders.

far more than a year. She had headed openly with the city's populist new mayor, Ron J. Marchio, a former high school principal who was elected last year on a promise to return Newark — and its schools, which have been under state control for 20 years — to Newarkers.

Ms. Anderson was appointed in 2011, just as a \$100 million grant from the Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg had set up the long-troubled school district — the state's largest, with some of the nation's most disadvantaged children — to become a national

model for change. Ms. Anderson, 43, used some of that money to establish merit-based pay in a teachers' contract that was hailed even by national unions as a groundbreaking compromise.

She resisted the push by Mr. Booker, a Democrat who is now the state's junior senator, and Mr. Christie, a Republican, to expand charter schools, fearing that they drained motivated families and money from traditional schools. But she also alienated many parents with her reorganizational

Continued on Page A10



SLAVA PEREZ/GETTY IMAGES FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Grading Common Core: No Teachers Required

The tests are not necessarily judged by teachers, which has drawn some criticism. Page A11.

Governor Joins the Call To Take Down Rebel Flag

Noting South Carolina's Pain, Haley Wants
Symbol Gone From Capitol Grounds

This article is by Frances Robles, Richard Fausset and Michael Barbaro.

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Gov. Nikki R. Haley called on Monday for South Carolina to do what just a week ago seemed politically impossible — remove the Confederate battle flag from its perch in front of the State House building here. She argued that a symbol long revered by many Southerners was for white, after the church massacre in Charleston, a "deeply offensive symbol of a brutally offensive past."

"The events of this week call upon us to look at this in a different way," said Ms. Haley, an Indian-American, who is the first member of an ethnic minority to serve as governor of the state as well as the first woman.

She spoke at an afternoon news conference, surrounded by Democratic and Republican lawmakers including both of the state's United States senators, Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott, an African-American. "Today we are here in a moment of unity in our state, without ill will. To say it's time to move the flag from the capitol grounds," she said.

It was a dramatic turnaround for Ms. Haley, a second-term Republican governor who took her five years in the job has displayed little interest in addressing the intensely divisive issue of the flag. But her new position demonstrated

ed the powerful shock that last Wednesday's killings at Emanuel A.M.E. Church have delivered to the political status quo, amplifying leaders at the highest levels.

On Monday, the White House announced that President Obama will travel to Charleston on Friday and deliver the eulogy for the Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney, the slain pastor of the Emanuel Church and a state senator. The political aftershocks from the shootings were also felt in Mississippi, where the House speaker, a Republican, unexpectedly declared in a statement Monday night that the Mississippi state flag, which includes the Confederate banner, "has become a point of offense that needs to be removed."

Interviewers suggested that Ms. Haley's rapidly evolving position on the flag was shaped by several factors: the horror of seeing the unsavory governor prying, with it in place, her own connections with congregations at the church; increasing pressure from South Carolina business leaders to remove a controversial vestige of the

Continued on Page A12

Continued on Page A12

Making a Point, Obama Invokes A Painful Slur

By MICHAEL D. SHEAR

WASHINGTON — It was a single word, just six letters long, but one that has not been spoken by an American president in public for generations.

President Obama invoked the word "nigger" in a podcast interview released on Monday to drive home his point that slavery still "casts a long shadow" on American life. But in the process, he touched a raw nerve in a country struggling to confront racism and hatred in the days after nine black parishioners were killed during Bible study in a South Carolina church.

"We're not cured of it," Mr. Obama said of racism during an interview for a "WTF With Marc Maron" podcast. "And it's not just a matter of not being polite to say nigger in public. That's not the measure of whether racism still exists or not."

For part of the hourlong conversation with Mr. Maron, Obama's first black presidential pick, he explained that race relations had improved in his lifetime. But in acknowledging that racism is still deeply embedded in the United States as a "part of our DNA," Mr. Obama turned to a racially charged word. His use of

Continued on Page A12

Clinton on Racial Divisions

Hillary Clinton's handling of the subject has changed since her 2008 campaign. Page A13.

Group Promotes White Primacy, And G.O.P. Ties

By MICHAEL WINES
and LIZETTE ALVAREZ

The Council of Conservative Citizens opposes "all efforts to mix the races," and believes "that the American people and government should remain European in their composition and character." It would severely restrict immigration, shield affirmative action and dismantle the "inferior judiciary" that produced, among other rulings, the 1954 Supreme Court decision that integrated American education.

Those are among the core principles of the council, a Missouri-based organization with a long history of promoting white primacy. Now the massacre of nine black parishioners in a Charleston, S.C., church has propelled the organization, which in recent years seemed in decline, back onto the national stage and emboldened the Republican Party in new questions about its ties to the group.

Many of the themes promoted on the council's website resonated through an online manifesto apparently written by Dylan Roof, who has been charged in the killings last week in Charleston. The manifesto traced the motivation for the shootings to a twisted epiphany: a Google search that led to the council's website, where "pages upon pages of brutal black on white murders" were tallied and described.

"I have never before been the same since that day," the manifesto attributed. Continued on Page A13

With Tap of Taylor Swift's Fingers, Apple Had to Change Its Tune

By DENNIS ADAMO

In an age of depressed record sales, her albums sell by the millions. Her tours fill arenas around the world. And a complimentary tweet to her nearly 60 million followers can help kickstart another singer's career.

But as Taylor Swift's victory in a one-day battle against Apple this week showed, she also has a

rare power to influence the music business itself, at a time of deep anxiety among artists big and small about the value of their work. These days, the concern is about the value of music in the digital age, and by taking on Apple — and Spotify before it — Ms. Swift has emerged as perhaps the most effective negotiator in the business, for her own benefit as well as others'. "She is the most powerful person in the music industry," said David Lowery of the bands Cracker and Camper Van Beethoven, and an advocate for artists' rights. "She is able to bring the debate to the mainstream."

Ms. Swift reaches the masses through her adept use of social media, whether releasing a new album on Instagram or talking on industry economics on her blog. On Sunday morning, Ms. Swift wrote a diplomatic but ultra-

Tumblr post taking Apple to task for not paying royalties, and test drives of its new streaming music service, set to open on June 30.

"We don't ask you for free iPhones," she wrote. "Please don't ask us to provide you with our music for no compensation."

By midday Sunday, Apple — one of the most powerful companies in the world — had capitulated to the 25-year-old pop star.

Continued on Page B4



INTERNATIONAL A4-10

NEW YORK A17-20

Manhunt Turns North Again

Officials say DNA evidence indicated that two inmates slipped recently at a building under lock-down about 15 miles from the prison they had fled. Page A11

SPUR TUESDAY 11B-14

E.B.J. Hacking Inquiry



ARTS C1-8



WOMEN'S WORLD CUP: USA 2, COLOMBIA 0



USA TODAY

06.23.15

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TAYLOR SWIFT: IS SHE THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE IN MUSIC?

IN MONEY

NEWSLINE

IN NEWS

Israel and Hamas deny Gaza crimes

Both rejected a U.N. investigation suggesting each side committed war crimes last year.

IN MONEY

Martha Stewart Living is sold

Sequential Brands Group pays \$353M, but Stewart stays involved.

General Mills to cut out artificial flavors, colors

IN SPORTS



Report: Rose bet on Reds as player

IN LIFE



Farrell's new life is a natural high

He is sober and starring in HBO's 'True Detective.'

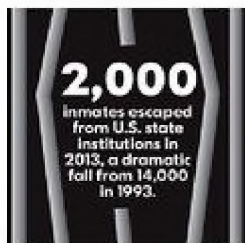
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USA SNAPSHOTS

Inmates gone AWOL



Source: Bureau of Prisons Statistics
Compiled with data from USA Today

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR: 'MOVE THE FLAG'

IN MONEY

Companies not rushing to do business in South Carolina

IN NEWS

Obama uses 'N' word to make a point on race relations
Walmart to stop selling Confederate flag items
Rem Rieder: Not 'too soon' to talk gun control



The Confederate flag flies next to a monument to victims of the Civil War in Columbia, S.C., on Saturday.

State's leader acknowledges 'tough history' on racial issues

Nanette Alexander and Earl Jansen
USA TODAY

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley called Monday for the removal of the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds after Wednesday's killing of nine black church members by a white gunman who allegedly expressed racist sentiments.

"It's time to move the flag from the Capital grounds," Haley said to applause at a news conference, where she was flanked by the state's congressional delegation and other leaders.

"On matters of race, South



South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley called for state legislators to address removing the Confederate flag from the capitol.

Carolina has a tough history," Haley said. "We don't need reminders."

Haley said that if lawmakers didn't debate removing the flag this summer, she would call them back for a special session. "The time for action is coming soon," she said.

Local and national civil rights activists have demanded the flag's removal. President Obama said the flag should be removed and placed in a museum. Obama will travel to Charleston on Friday to deliver the eulogy for one of the church shooting victims, the Rev. Clementa Pinckney.

Reince Priebus, chairman of the Republican National Committee, also called for removing the flag. "This flag has become too divisive and too hurtful for too many of our fellow Americans," he said.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said the flag "continues to be a painful reminder of racial oppression to many," and "the time for a state to fly it has long since passed."

Charleston Mayor Joseph Riley Jr., a Democrat, said hate groups have appropriated the flag. "We can't put it in a public place where it can give any citizen to hate-filled people," he said.

The Confederate flag became a focus of attention after the Charleston killings Wednesday because it harkens to the Civil War, when slavery ended. Supporters of the flag contend it is historically significant as a memorial to Confederate soldiers.

STORY CONTINUES ON 24

GOP backpedals from supremacist donor

Earl Holt has given thousands to several presidential hopefuls

Fredrick Scheuten
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — Republican presidential candidates moved Monday to quickly distance themselves from the leader of a white supremacist group whose views appear to have influenced Dylann Roof, the suspect in the slayings of nine African Americans at a Charleston, S.C., church.

Earl Holt, who describes himself as president of the Council of Conservative Citizens, has contributed tens of thousands of dollars to Republican candidates in recent years, including to four



Rick Santorum



Ted Cruz



Rand Paul



Scott Walker

current White House contenders: Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and former Pennsylvania senator Rick Santorum, according to news accounts and campaign-finance records.

By late Monday afternoon, all four said they were donating Holt's contributions to charity.

Cruz, who initially planned to refund the campaign contributions, said the funds would be

better used to help the victims' families and will instead contribute \$10,000 to the Mother Emanuel Hope Fund, said Rick Tyler, his spokesman.

Paul's leadership PAC has received \$2,250 from Holt. Paul's spokesman Doug Stafford said the PAC also is donating the contributions to the victims' fund.

Santorum said he also would give away the money. "Rather than put more money back in the

pockets of such an individual, my 2012 campaign committee will be donating the amount of his past donations to the Mother Emanuel Hope Fund to support the victims of this tragedy," he said.

Walker, who has received \$3,500 from Holt since 2011, will give the money to charity, spokeswoman AshLee Strong said.

The Southern Poverty Law Center has described the Council of Conservative Citizens as a "hate group." The organization's principles include the goal of ensuring that "the American people and government should remain European in their composition and character." The council also opposes "all efforts to mix the races of mankind."

Contributing Donors: Rick Santorum and Dylann Roof



Real estate hot again

Home sales on pace for best year since 2007 C4

Herald-Journal

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HJ
IN A HURRY
5 Things
to read
today



Tragic loss

Wofford College has lost a "remarkable young man," Jeremiah Tule, a rising junior on the Terriers' basketball team, drowned Monday in Lake Wylie, near Charlotte, N.C. He was working as a counselor at YMCA Camp Thunderbird. **PAGE B1**

Frank talk

President Barack Obama says the history of slavery and segregation is "still part of our DNA" in the United States, even if racial epithets no longer show up in polite conversation. He uttered the N-word in making his point. **PAGE A3**

Uneven results

Governors across the country have been picking their bags for all-expenses-paid trips abroad, spending taxpayer dollars on costly trips that have an uneven track record of yielding any tangible benefits for their states. **PAGE A3**

Body camera plan

The city of Spartanburg has a plan for spending an additional \$163,717 on body-worn cameras for police officers if the state doesn't come through with funding. **PAGE C1**

'Slamtastic'

Spartanburg-based Denny's Corp. has announced its partnership with 20th Century Fox for the upcoming "Fantastic Four" movie. For a limited time, the family dining chain will offer a "Slamtastic 4." **PAGE C4**

Haley: Take it down

Governor calls for Confederate flag's removal from State House grounds in wake of Charleston slayings



By SEANNA ADDOX, JEFFREY COLLINS
and MEO KINNARD
The Associated Press

CHARLESTON — South Carolina's governor declared Monday that the Confederate flag should be removed from the Statehouse grounds as she acknowledged that its use as a symbol of hatred by the man accused of killing nine black church members has made it too divisive to display in such a public space.

Gov. Nikki Haley's about-face comes just days after authorities charged Dylann Storm Roof, 21, with murder. The white man appeared in photos waving Confederate flags and burning or desecrating U.S. flags, and purportedly wrote of fomenting racial violence. Survivors told police he hurled racial insults during the attack.

"The murderer now locked up in Charleston said he hoped his actions would start a race war. We have an opportunity to show that not only was he wrong, but that just the opposite is happening," Haley said, flanked by Democrats and Republicans, blacks and whites who joined her call.

"My hope is that by removing a symbol that divides us, we can move our state forward in har-

Gov. Nikki Haley, speaking during a news conference in the South Carolina State House on Monday in Columbia, said that the Confederate flag should come down from the grounds of the state capitol, reversing her position on the divisive symbol amid growing calls for it to be removed. Also pictured are U.S. Congressman James Clyburn, left, and U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, right.

TIM DOWNICK/THE STATE VIA AP

OTHER AREA LAWMAKERS SUPPORT PROPOSAL

Bright says effort to remove flag is like a 'Stalinist Purge'

By CHRIS LAVENDER
chris.lavender@shj.com

Some Spartanburg County lawmakers support removing the Confederate battle flag from the State House grounds, but state Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, characterized the movement to remove it and other Confederate monuments as a "Stalinist Purge."

Shortly before Gov. Nikki Haley called on lawmakers to work together to have the flag removed, Bright said the flag doesn't symbolize hate to him but instead recognizes those who fought with honor

INSIDE

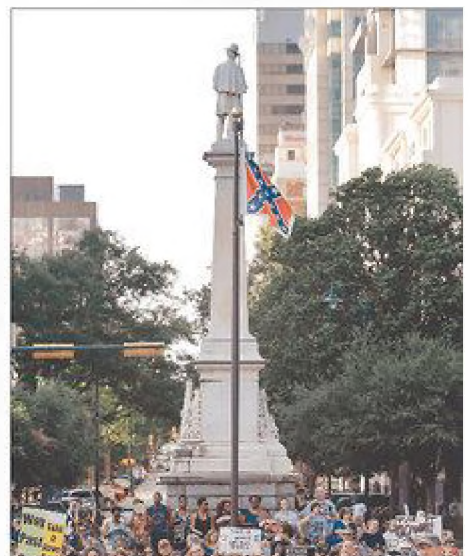
- ◆ Legislature disagrees on need for new gun laws. C1
- ◆ Other states debate symbols of the Confederacy. C3
- ◆ Wal-Mart says it's removing new Confederate flag items. C3

Bright said he also believes that outside agitators and the media have latched onto the flag issue, creating strife.

Bright said he would not vote to remove the flag from the grounds because doing so would dishonor the memories of those

who fought for South Carolina in the Civil War.

For State Rep. Donna Hicks, R-Spartanburg, now is the time for the flag to be



◆ SEE FLAG PAGE A5



SPORTS Gordon returns to track where career began. **Page 1B**

Morning News

TUESDAY JUNE 23, 2015

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**

Very hot and clear.
High 103, low 79.
DETAILS 2A

www.scmw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Furl the flag

Pee Dee legislators on Haley's comments

Rep. Terry Alexander (D-Florence)

"I thought what the governor said was very on point. I saw quite a few of my conservative Republican colleagues and that's a good sign. I think we're going to move forward on this and see what happens. Legislation is being drafted as we speak for the flag to come down."

Rep. Pat Heneghan (D-Marlboro)

"I hate that people had to die for people to realize the importance of it needing to come down; that hurts my heart. I respect the history of everyone, these are things you can't hide from, it's a part of our history, but it doesn't have to be right there in the center of everything, with everyone seeing it every time we go on the Statehouse grounds."

Rep. Jay Jordan (R-Florence)

"It's just the right time; it just is. My thought is there's got to be a better way to honor history, but to do so in a way that's respectful of all South Carolinians and I think that's what's going to take place very soon. It's an important issue and one we need to get on right now."

Rep. Roger Kirby (D-Florence)

"I wish that if we were going to make that decision, we could've done it without having the outside influence and tragedy steering it. It will be in favor

See **PEE DEE**, Page 4A



The Confederate flag flies near the South Carolina Statehouse on Friday in Columbia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gov. Haley: Removing Confederate flag will defy race hatred

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON — South Carolina's governor declared Monday that the Confederate flag should be removed from the Statehouse grounds as she acknowledged that its use as a symbol of hatred by the man accused of killing nine black church members has made it too divisive to display in such a public space.

Gov. Nikki Haley's about-face comes just days after authorities charged Dylan Storm Roof, 21, with murder. The white man appeared in photos waving Confederate flags and burning or desecrating U.S. flags, and purportedly wrote of fomenting racial violence. Survivors told police he hurled racial insults during the attack.

"The murderer now locked up in Charleston said he hoped his actions would start a race war. We have an opportunity to show that not only was he wrong, but that just the opposite is happening," Haley said, flanked by Democrats and Republicans, blacks and whites who joined her call.

"My hope is that by removing a symbol that divides us, we can move our state forward in harmony, and we can honor the nine blessed souls who are now in heaven," Haley said.

The massacre inside the Emanuel African

See **HALEY**, Page 4A

Florence Bridge Club

Players bridge gap to Alzheimer's awareness

By JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jloyd@foxnews.com

FLORENCE — The Florence Community Bridge Club dealt a winning hand Monday morning and raised more than \$300 for the Alzheimer Association's annual "Longest Day" fundraising campaign.

Dozens of avid card players turned out at the Lehighman Senior Center in Florence for lunch and a few games of bridge, canasta and Phase 10 in support



The Florence County Sheriff Office's Raptor 1 seen here flying in late April 2015, is one of two helicopters owned by the FCSO.

Helicopter focus of lawsuit

Aiken Standard

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'The time has come'

Leaders react to Confederate flag call by Gov. Haley

BY ROB NOVIT
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Meenons after S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley forcefully declared that the Confederate flag must be removed from the Statehouse grounds, U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., reached out and hugged her.

Just a few feet away, S.C. House member Bill Clyburn, D-Aiken, the Congressman's cousin, was just as moved.

"It was so emotional," Bill said. "It's such a deep feeling for everybody who crossed party lines. It's time to demonstrate what South Carolina is really all about. The governor said this is the best thing for the state."

Bill Clyburn readily acknowledged that the Confederate flag is a symbol of heritage for many people, yet it also symbolizes hatred and racism for many others. Haley's remarks were televised across the nation and beyond. She cited the murder of nine members of a historically black Charleston church — including the pastor, S.C. Rep. Clemente Pinckney — and the arrest of a 21-year-old man who celebrated the Confederate flag.

The governor noted that the flag was removed from the Capitol dome 15 years ago. Now it's time to go further, she said — "150 years after the end of the Civil War, the time has come."

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Protesters stand around a flying Confederate flag during a rally to take down the flag at the South Carolina Statehouse in Columbia on Saturday. S.C. Rep. Doug Brannan, R-Landrum, said it's past time for the Confederate flag to be removed from South Carolina's Statehouse grounds after nine people were killed at the Emanuel A.M.E. Church shooting.

Speaker expects to pass key bills

BY DERREK ASBERRY
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Despite talks of a continuing resolution to keep the state government open, the Speaker of the S.C. House said he is confident the state budget and two other funding measures will pass during special session.

Rep. Jay Lucas, R-Dorchester, spoke about Week 2 of the session, which begins today, during a visit to Aiken on Saturday. The General Assembly is looking to pass the main budget bill, the capital reserve bill — which is used to provide funding for colleges and infrastructure — and a supplementary bill that contains about \$400 million in surplus dollars.

Each of the three bills are in a Conference Committee, which is comprised of a six-member debate group that consists of three representatives and three senators. While the budget vote by the committee has the biggest implications for the state, the surplus funding has gained most of the attention because legislators believe the bulk of the funding should go toward infrastructure.

Lucas is in agreement, primarily because the General Assembly failed to move on a long-term bond plan.

"If we don't deal with it sooner rather than later, I'm afraid we won't be able to come close to finding our needs," Lucas said.

The House's version of the surplus bill looks to provide \$450 million to state infrastructure and another \$70 million to pay for road modifications to accommodate the state's recent Volvo acquisition.

An amendment also was added to restore the \$4.3 million originally in the budget for ice storm recovery — an appropriation that looks to provide Aiken County with \$1.6 million in recovery funds.

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Marion E. "M.E." Powell, North Augusta

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WEATHER



Card changes could mean safer banking

BY WILL WHITNEY
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In response to a recent string of credit card fraud, banks across the U.S. are responding with a card change that will make banking safer.

By Oct. 1, half of credit and debit cards in the U.S. will contain an electronic chip that will store account data more securely, according to the Associated Press.

The chip assigns a unique code for every transaction made on a card, and even if a thief acquired one of the codes, purchases could not be made, according to the Associated Press.



AP PHOTO/MATT THORPE

U.S. banks, tired of spending billions a year to pay back fleeced consumers, are in the process of replacing tens of millions of old magnetic strip cards with new cards equipped with secure computer chips.

"Originally, the payment networks were relying on their own software to catch fraud at the point of sale in the U.S., but it became clear something more was needed," Kirby said.

"Everybody is getting ready for it," said Lynn Shepard, executive vice president and senior operations officer at Security Federal Bank in Aiken. "This is just the first step in protecting cards against fraudulent attacks."

Shepard said banks across the world have started using chips in their cards.

Instead of sliding a card, the card is placed on a machine where it receives

Brainy birds
In arid K_0 , few species can hold a candle to the tool-crafting crows of New Caledonia. But how do they stack up against us? **E1**

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'A moment of unity'

Governor says time has come to remove flag from grounds

CHARLESTON (AP) — South Carolina's governor declared Monday the Confederate flag should be removed from the Statehouse grounds, reflecting what she described as a new consensus that the slaying of nine black churchgoers has changed what the banner stands for.

Gov. Nikki Haley's about-face comes just days after authorities charged Dylan Storm (boof. 21,



HALEY

with murder. The white man, appeared in photos waving Confederate flags and burning or desecrating U.S. flags and purportedly wrote of fomenting racial violence. Survivors told police he hurled racial insults during the attack.

"The murderer now locked up in Charleston said he hoped his actions would start a race war. We have an opportunity to show that not only was he wrong, but that just the opposite is happening," she said, flanked by Democrats and Republicans, blacks and whites who joined her call.

"My hope is that by removing a symbol that divides us, we can move our state forward in harmony, and we can leave the nine blessed souls who are now in Heaven," Haley said.

The measure inside Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church has suddenly made removing the flag — long thought politically impossible in South Carolina — the go-to position, even for politicians who have counted on the votes of disaffected white people in Republican primaries.

Haley was flanked by U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, now

Attacked in places most sacred, congregations struggle forward

BY ADAM GELLER
AP National Writer

The blast, powered by at least 30 sticks of dynamite, ripped into the stillness before dawn.

A few more hours and Sunday school classrooms at The Temple on Atlanta's Peachtree Street would have been filled with 600 children. The synagogue was spared blood, but the explosion on that morning in 1958 rocked a Jewish congregation whose backing of the civil rights movement had long won fears of retaliation.

But congregants, however shaken, found their first bit of

solace when the rabbi posted the title of his next sermon on a signboard streetside: "And none shall make them afraid." It read.

As members of a historic black church in Charleston begin searching for a path forward after the massacre of their pastor and eight others, history provides far too many examples for them to follow — from Atlanta to Birmingham and points beyond — where hate turned our most sacred institutions into crime scenes.

Recovery is not a choice for these places and their people. But those who've done the hard

work of rebuilding shattered congregations recall it as a wrenching experience, even as it inspired a deepened search for affirmation.

"Even until this day ... we still have named security at the door," says Harleek Kaleka, whose father was one of six people killed by a gunman who burst into a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in 2012. "I don't think there's ever going to be closure, but we're healing."

That search for healing, despite its pain, can serve to unite, Kaleka and others say.

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The Confederate flag flies near the South Carolina Statehouse on Friday in Columbia. Tensions about the Confederate flag flying in the shadow of South Carolina's Capitol rose last week after the killings of nine people at a black church in Charleston. "We are not going to allow this symbol to divide us any longer," Gov. Nikki Haley said Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THE CONTROVERSY

Read a guest column and letters from the public about the possibility of removing it from the Statehouse grounds. A8

Read Gov. Nikki Haley's speech in full online at www.4haley.com. Lawmakers retain money from white supremacist. A2

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