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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: German auto parts maker expanding to Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919743/german-auto-parts-maker-expanding-to-charleston>

John McDermott

A German automotive parts maker is setting up shop in Berkeley County. Stoba is expected to invest \$7.7 million and create 61 jobs at 41,000-square-foot manufacturing site off Clements Ferry Road near Daniel Island, Gov. Nikki Haley's office said Tuesday. The company makes precision-machined components for high-pressure fuel injection systems. Executives are scheduled to make a formal announcement about Stoba's first U.S. expansion at 4 p.m. at the Charleston plant at 2301 Charleston Regional Parkway. "After following our automotive customers to the fast-growing China market in 2013, we decided to grow our company also in the NAFTA market," said CEO Christoph Bode, referring to the U.S. and the other countries covered under the North American Free Trade Agreement. "This is mainly driven by the upcoming growing demand of fuel-saving gasoline direct injection systems in the U.S. Our research for the best possible location ended with a clear vote for the state of South Carolina."

Associated Press: Haley calls on MUSC board to pay for expensive meals, hotels

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IKZYtE6T

SC State Wire

Gov. Nikki Haley thinks members of the board of the Medical University of South Carolina should pay for expensive meals and hotel stays during their meetings. Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams told The Post and Courier of Charleston (<http://bit.ly/2cUOd59>) the governor has already asked her appointee to the schools governing board to repay more than \$20,000 he was reimbursed for the meals, wine and luxury hotel rooms. Adams says Dr. Harold Jablon has agreed to repay his share. Adams said Haley wants other board members to do the same. The newspaper reported that the MUSC board spent about \$560,000 since 2011, largely on hotel rooms and food, at their six meetings per year in Charleston. The chairman of the Board, Dr. Donald Johnson, has ordered a review of the board's spending.

Post and Courier: Haley: MUSC board members should repay expenses

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160912/160919808/haley-musc-board-members-should-repay-expenses>

Doug Pardue and Lauren Sausser

Gov. Nikki Haley's appointee to the Medical University of South Carolina Board of Trustees has agreed to repay more than \$20,000 that he was reimbursed for pricey meals, expensive bottles of wine and luxury hotel rooms. Dr. Harold Jablon, a Columbia dentist, and other members of the MUSC Board of Trustees, routinely rack up such high expenses when they convene in Charleston for six meetings a year. In a recent investigation, The Post and Courier found the MUSC Board of Trustees

spent about \$560,000 since 2011, largely on hotel rooms and food. Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams said Monday that the governor asked Jablon to repay his share and he agreed. "His colleagues should do the same," Adams said. Haley is technically the ex-officio chairman of the MUSC Board. Jablon, who donated \$1 million to MUSC in 2008 was appointed to the board in 2011 as the governor's designee, votes in Haley's absence. He did not immediately return messages on Monday.

SC Political News:

Post and Courier: Trump leads in new SC GOP poll out today

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919767/trump-leads-in-new-sc-gop-poll-out-today>

Schuyler Kropf

A new poll released this morning commissioned by the S.C. Republican Party shows presidential nominee Donald Trump with a 13-point advantage over Democrat Hillary Clinton in South Carolina. Trump holds a 48 percent to 35 percent lead over Clinton, the survey found, with Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson collecting 7 percent. The remaining 11 percent of voters is undecided. Walter Whetsell, president of SC-based political consulting firm Starboard Communications, said the 600 likely voters were surveyed through live phone calls to landlines and cell numbers Sept. 7-9. The poll has a margin of error of +/- 4.8 percent. "Donald Trump and Mike Pence are well on their way to victory in South Carolina," Matt Moore, chairman of the S.C. Republican Party, said in a statement. "This is the third South Carolina poll in recent weeks showing the strength of our ticket." In the U. S. Senate race on the ballot this year, incumbent Republican Tim Scott leads Democrat opponent Thomas Dixon 58 percent to 22 percent, with 16 percent undecided, the poll said.

The State: Trump has double-digit SC lead in latest poll <http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article101535107.html>

Bristow Marchant

Donald Trump has a double-digit lead in South Carolina, according to a poll commissioned by the S. C. Republican Party. The poll by Starboard Communications finds Trump has the support of 48 percent of S.C. voters, while 35 percent say they plan to vote for Hillary Clinton. Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson has the support of another 7 percent of voters, while 11 percent remain undecided. "Donald Trump and Mike Pence are well on their way to victory in South Carolina," said Matt Moore, chairman of the S.C. GOP. "This is the third South Carolina poll in recent weeks showing the strength of our ticket." Two polls earlier this month showed Trump with a lead in South Carolina. A 50-state Washington Post/SurveyMonkey poll last week found Trump at 49 percent in South Carolina, holding a 7 percentage-point lead over Clinton. A First Tuesdays poll of S.C. voters released the same day gave Trump 50 percent support and a 12-point lead.

Greenville News: SCGOP-commissioned poll: Trump up by 13 in SC

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/13/scgop-commissioned-poll-trump-up-13-sc/90299380/>

Amanda Coyne

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump leads Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton by 13 percentage points in the Palmetto State, according to a new poll released and commissioned by the South Carolina Republican Party. Trump has 48 percent of voters' support, while Clinton has 35 percent, according to the poll. Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson earned 7 percent in the poll and 11 percent of respondents were undecided. The poll was conducted by Walter Whetsell, president of the Lexington political firm Starboard Communications. Whetsell surveyed 600 likely voters in South

Carolina on landline and cell phone numbers. The poll's margin of error is 4.8 percent. Trump had the strongest lead in South Carolina's 7th Congressional District in this poll, leading Clinton 57 percent to 42 percent. One of Trump's largest margins of victory in February's South Carolina Republican presidential primary was in Horry County, part of the 7th Congressional District and home to Myrtle Beach, where he earned 50 percent of the vote in a field of six candidates.

Independent Mail : Trump surging in polls, S.C. campaign chairman boasts

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/12/trump-surging-polls-sc-campaign-chairman-boasts/90258112/>

Kirk Brown

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump is surging in polls with eight weeks left before Election Day, his South Carolina campaign chairman said Monday in Anderson. "Right now, the trend is phenomenal," Ed McMullen told the 1st Monday Club of Anderson. "The fact of the matter is South Carolina is doing extremely well, as is the nation and so are those key battleground states.

"Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton currently leads Trump by 3 percent, based on the latest aggregation of national polls compiled by RealClearPolitics.com. Her lead was twice as large about two weeks ago. According to the same website, Clinton is leading in North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia while Trump is ahead in Florida, Georgia and Iowa. McMullen said Trump's rise comes as more voters start to focus on the presidential race. "People are waking up and seeing the real effects of what Hillary would do to this country versus what Mr. Trump's vision is," he said.

The State : Former S.C. Dem chair: Party needs to plan for replacement nominee

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article101578952.html>

Bristow Marchant

While Hillary Clinton's campaign is trying to quiet concerns about her health after Sunday's public bout with pneumonia, one South Carolina member of the DNC is saying party leaders should seriously consider what to do if the nominee can't finish the race. "Now is the time for all good political leaders to come to the aid of their party," Don Fowler told Politico. "I think the plan should be developed by 6 o'clock this afternoon." Fowler is a long-time Clinton ally. He was the chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 1995 to 1997 while Hillary Clinton's husband Bill Clinton was in the White House. Fowler said he expects Clinton to make a full recovery after she was forced to leave a 9/11 memorial service early on Sunday and was captured on camera needing help to get into an SUV. But Fowler says Democrats shouldn't wait until they have to name a new presidential nominee to spell out how the party can do so after this summer's nominating convention.

Post and Courier: Don Fowler suggests Democrats need contingency if Clinton health worsens

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919735/don-fowler-suggests-democrats-need-contingency-if-clinton-health-worsens>

Schuyler Kropf

Former Democratic National Committee Chairman Don Fowler of South Carolina said this week that party members need to have a contingency if presidential nominee Hillary Clinton's health forces her to drop out. Fowler told Politico on Monday that President Barack Obama and congressional leaders should draft a process for identifying a potential successor, if need be. "Now is the time for all good political leaders to come to the aid of their party," Fowler was quoted as saying. He led the DNC from 1995 to 1997 when Bill Clinton was in the White House. "I think the plan should be developed by 6 o'clock this afternoon." Hillary Clinton's health became an issue when she left the 9/11 remembrance ceremony in New York early, collapsing into a vehicle. Video of the event drew widespread media attention. Her campaign later disclosed she was suffering from pneumonia. She also cancelled a

fundraising swing out West. Picking a top ticket replacement could prove difficult, especially as ballots have already been set in many of the states, and early voting will pick up soon where it's allowed.

Post and Courier: SCETV, Democrats find debate compromise

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919768/scetv-democrats-find-debate-compromise>

Gavin Jackson

S.C. Educational Television officials reached a compromise with the state Democratic Party following outcry over the network's decision not to feature live debates this fall. While there still won't be any debates scheduled, congressional and U.S. Senate candidates instead will be given the opportunity to appear on the weekly public affairs program "Palmetto Scene," SCETV spokesman Glenn Rawls said Tuesday. "Candidates will be asked about issues of statewide interest and we hope to include qualifying candidates for all seven congressional districts and the U.S. Senate," Rawls said in a statement. "While these are not formal debates, we believe they will offer a significant public service to our statewide audience." Rawls said more details are forthcoming on logistics for the 21 candidates in the seven U.S. House races and four who are in the U.S. Senate seat field.

The Hill: Republican pushes for resolution to allow Gitmo lawsuit

<http://thehill.com/policy/defense/295700-republican-calls-for-resolution-to-allow-gitmo-lawsuit>

Rebecca Kheel

A Republican congressman is renewing calls to approve a resolution that would authorize a lawsuit against the Obama administration if it attempts to transfer detainees at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility to U.S. soil. Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-S.C.) introduced the resolution in February after President Obama unveiled his plan to close the facility, and Duncan renewed calls for Congress to take up the measure Tuesday as he marked the 50th co-sponsor, all of whom are Republican. "This is an important marker of support for the rule of law," Duncan said in a statement. "It is illegal under federal law to transfer Gitmo terrorists to the U.S. mainland—a law which was initially passed by a Democrat super majority in the Congress and signed into law by President Obama. This clearly should remain law." Obama's plan to close the facility hinges on bringing detainees deemed too dangerous to release to a stateside facility. One of the potential sites surveyed by the Pentagon was the Naval Consolidated Brig in Charleston, S.C.

Post and Courier : Graham stonewalling White House aid package to Israel as too low

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160912/160919846/graham-stonewalling-white-house-aid-package-to-israel-as-too-low>

Emma Dumain

The Obama administration wants to send Israel an unprecedented sum of money in military aid over the next 10 years — but U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham doesn't think the negotiated dollar amount is nearly enough. The South Carolina Republican, who is a foreign policy hawk and chairman of the Senate State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, won't give his blessing for the agreement, which would increase aid to Israel from \$3.1 billion to \$3.3 billion starting in 2018. Administration officials don't need Graham to sign off on the deal for it to move ahead, per se. However, not having his blessing would complicate matters. The outspoken lawmaker plans to forge ahead with an appropriations bill that sets Israeli aid at \$3.4 billion, refusing to succumb to pressure to revert to a lower level in keeping with the administration's framework. The standoff was first reported by The Washington Post. Graham's office confirmed the disagreement Monday to The Post and Courier.

Post and Courier: Clyburn bill to fund historic sites on HCBU campuses passes House

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160912/160919780/clyburn-bill-to-fund-historic-sites-on-hcbu-campuses-passes-house>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn on Monday easily secured passage of his bill to reauthorize a fund to preserve and restore significant sites at historically black colleges and universities. The South Carolina Democrat's bill would authorize \$10 million a year, for the next seven years, for the HBCU Historic Preservation Program. The initiative was established in the late 1990s when the Government Accountability Office, at the Congressional Black Caucus's request, conducted a national study. It concluded 712 historic buildings and sites on HBCU campuses were in need of \$755 million worth of repairs. Money for this program has not been authorized since the preservation program officially lapsed in 2009. "Although it will not provide all of the funding the GAO estimated is needed to preserve every threatened site, (the bill) will continue the progress Congress has made in preserving these unique treasures," said Clyburn, the third most senior House Democrat and the highest ranking black lawmaker serving on Capitol Hill.

Associated Press : Clyburn bill restoring funds for black colleges passes House

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

SC State Wire

A measure sponsored by South Carolina U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn restoring money to preserve significant sites at historically black colleges and universities has passed the House. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/2cWj8Oe>) Clyburn's bill authorizes \$10 million a year over the next seven years for the Historically Black Colleges and University Historic Preservation Program. The newspaper reports the measure is expected to receive Senate approval later this year. A study almost two decades ago by the Government Accountability Office concluded that 712 historic buildings on historically black campuses needed more than \$750 million in repairs. There has been no money authorized for the work since 2009 when the program lapsed. Clyburn says the money won't preserve every significant site but it will continue progress that has been made.

Post and Courier: Votes to authorize Charleston Harbor dredging could come Tuesday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160912/160919792/votes-to-authorize-charleston-harbor-dredging-could-come-tuesday>

David Wren

A bill that would authorize the Army Corps of Engineers to deepen Charleston Harbor's shipping channel to 52 feet is expected to go before the full U.S. Senate for a vote on Tuesday afternoon. But a final version likely won't pass both chambers of Congress until after the November presidential election. The U.S. House has not scheduled a vote on its version of the Water Resources Development Act. However, dozens of legislators are asking House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., for a "suspension of the rules," which would bypass the normal voting process and move the bill forward. Such a suspension is normally done for noncontroversial bills that have overwhelming bipartisan support. That would allow the House version to be approved as early as next week, setting up a conference committee of both chambers to hash out any differences. The deadline would remain tight. Congress, which just returned from a monthlong recess before Labor Day, will take another break beginning Oct. 1 through Veterans Day.

Independent Mail : Chamber leader: Tax reform 'long overdue'

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/09/12/medicaid-expansion-pension-fix-also-business-groups-agenda/90257866/>

Kirk Brown

The head of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce predicted Monday that legislators will focus next year on tax reform and shoring up the pension program for state employees. Ted Pitts, president and CEO of the state chamber, said his organization believes that tax reform in South Carolina "is long overdue." But Pitts told members of the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce's Public Policy & Forums Committee that he is not optimistic that lawmakers will adopt major changes in the state's tax policies. "It is hard to get comprehensive tax reform done," said Pitts, a former legislator who also served as Gov. Nikki Haley's chief of staff. He said special interests will vigorously oppose efforts to repeal tax exemptions that benefit them. Rep. Anne Thayer, a Republican from Anderson, was recently appointed to the South Carolina House Tax Policy Review Committee. The panel is scheduled to hear presentations at a meeting today on income taxes and sales-tax exemptions.

Post and Courier: Hartsville senator's presence at '79 USC shooting shapes approach to gun hearings

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919740/hartsville-senators-presence-at-79-usc-shooting-shapes-approach-to-gun-hearings>

Maya T. Prabhu

The chairman of the Statehouse panel that will look at reforming the state's gun laws said it's difficult to describe what it was like 40 years ago when he saw a gunman shoot and kill two people at a party at the University of South Carolina. Sen. Gerald Malloy, R-Hartsville, said he didn't realize what was going on when the man he was standing near, Terrell Johnson, was shot in the head at a fraternity party at a dormitory. It was Oct. 5, 1979. Malloy was a 17-year-old freshman at the time. "It's terrifying and it's long-lasting," Malloy said. "I still remember the date 37 years later. I hate to bring it up because I know there are some out there that have suffered much more than I have." Johnson was one of two young men killed by fellow student Mark Houston. Five others were injured. Houston pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two life terms, which he is serving at McCormick Correctional Institution. Now 55, he received a third life term after stabbing a fellow inmate to death in 1994.

The State: Rec Commission, election board problems come to Richland Council tonight

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article101557122.html>

Sarah Ellis

One Richland County councilman wants to freeze funding for the county's embattled Recreation Commission, while another is ready to see the county's elections department pay a long-overdue legal bill. Richland County Council on Tuesday night will consider a pair of proposals related to the county's controversial recreation and elections commissions. One proposal, made by Councilman Greg Pearce, asks council to support the resignation of five members of the Recreation Commission. It echoes a call made earlier by the majority of the county's State House delegation in light of ongoing investigations into allegations of egregious behavior among some board members and their hired director, James Brown III. Last month, 10 out of 17 Richland County legislators, who appoint the members of the Recreation Commission board, demanded the resignations of board chair J. Marie Green and vice chair Barbara Mickens, both also named as defendants in civil lawsuits; board secretary Weston Furgess Jr.; George Martin Jr.; and Joseph Weeks.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: SC considers borrowing \$45M to house sexual predators

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=TSUc0HUb

Jeffrey Collins

South Carolina is considering borrowing \$45 million to build new, secure buildings at a Columbia

prison to hold nearly 200 people the state calls sexually violent predators. The Department of Mental Health began the program in 1999 and said it has since outgrown what was supposed to be temporary housing. Since then, nearly 300 inmates have been deemed too dangerous to be released immediately, while only about 100 people have either been treated for their urges and released or died. If that pace continues, the units the program is currently using at the Broad River Correctional Institution will be full within a year, according to agency documents provided Tuesday to the Joint Bond Review Committee. The committee approved the bonds, and the State Fiscal Accountability Authority will hear the request later this month. The state will use the borrowed money to build an administrative building and 268 single-occupancy rooms, designed to hold as many as 500 people if necessary.

The State: Borrowing proposal for housing of sexual predators receives approval

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article101575812.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A \$41 million project that will help the South Carolina house more than 180 sexually violent predators received approval Tuesday. The Department of Mental Health is requesting to borrow up to \$41 million in bonds to cover the cost of constructing two new buildings and renovating three existing ones to house predators who have been committed by a judge or a jury. As of September, the agency was holding 184 predators. Members of the Joint Bond Review Committee supported Rep. Chip Limehouse, R-Charleston, in the need to fund the project, because by law, the state has to house sexual predators. The project still has to be approved by the State Fiscal Accountability Authority next Tuesday. If approved, the project would be completed by 2018. The Department of Mental Health is on pace to outgrow its current facilities by no later than early 2017. Predators are housed at the agency's facilities after they have served their time in prison, but a judge or jury civilly commits for treatment.

WLTX: Concerns Rise During Broad River Correctional Facility Secure Lockdown

<http://www.wltx.com/mb/news/local/concerns-rise-during-broad-river-correctional-facility-secure-lockdown/317310469>

Loren Thomas

For the past three weeks, News 19 has received phone calls and Facebook messages from concerned family members of inmates in the Broad River Correctional facility. Those concerns stem from reports that inmates aren't getting enough food and that they aren't allowed to take showers. The mother of an inmate at the Broad River facility says that for the past two weeks, her son has not been fed properly in the prison. "They only get food twice on a weekend. I got in touch with him and he told me that it was 2pm before they even got breakfast one morning. That's been about two weeks ago. "She has asked not to be identified, but says her son is serving a 30-year sentence. He sent her a photo of the meal he received on Saturday, which included a ham and cheese sandwich and corn flakes." He called me the other day and said 'Ma they aren't feeding us properly, we haven't had a bath in four days. Me and my roommate are in here stinking up the joint, they won't let us clean our rooms,' and that concerns me." Department of Corrections Director Bryan Stirling says they are aware of the concerns, but the Broad River facility has been on a secure lockdown for the past few days, meaning inmates have not been able to leave their cells.

Associated Press: No one tracks vulnerable adult cases

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bTrVe1HH

SC State Wire

More than half of the abuse, neglect and exploitation cases involving vulnerable adults reported to

state investigators are referred to other state and local agencies. The Greenville News reports (<http://grnol.co/2cr2wdh>) no one agency tracks the outcomes of the investigations. Crime victims advocate Laura Hudson says there should be a system that can help determine if the state is doing a good job. Walhalla Sen. Thomas Alexander says he would like agencies that are assigned vulnerable adult cases to report back to the State Law Enforcement Division on the outcome of the cases. Alexander says that could be put in place before lawmakers have time to review the entire system. SLED has a vulnerable adults unit to review cases of abuse, neglect and exploitation at two state agencies.

Associated Press : Lexington County road closed after dam 'washout'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article101522442.html>

Jane Moon Dial

S.C. Department of Transportation crews have closed a road near a privately-maintained dam in Lexington County that washed out Monday evening. SCDOT has closed Pine Cone Drive in the Oak Grove community after a washout at a nearby dam Monday, officials reported Monday night. Crews have reportedly installed barricades and signs at Maple Drive and Pine Cone Road and at Ashe Street and Lisa Drive. Only local traffic will be allowed to drive through. SCDOT reported its engineers will be on site Tuesday to evaluate the road and establish detours.

SC Law Enforcement News:

Post and Courier : Watched: A Post and Courier Investigation

<https://data.postandcourier.com/saga/watched/page/1>

Glenn Smith and Andrew Knapp

Police forces across the United States are stockpiling massive databases with personal information from millions of Americans who crossed paths with officers but were not charged with a crime. A person can end up in one of these databases by doing nothing more than sitting on a public park bench or chatting with an officer on the street. Once there, these records can linger forever and be used by police agencies to track movements, habits, acquaintances and associations – even a person's marital and job status, The Post and Courier found in an investigation of police practices around the nation. What began as a method for linking suspicious behavior to crime has morphed into a practice that threatens to turn local police departments into miniature versions of the National Security Agency. In the process, critics contend, police risk trampling constitutional rights, tarnishing innocent people and further eroding public trust. Law enforcement agencies have for decades used what's known as field interview or contact cards to document everything from sketchy activity to random encounters with people on the street. But the digital age has greatly expanded the power and reach of this tool, allowing police to store indefinitely reams of data on those who draw their interest — long after any potential link to a crime has evaporated.

Associated Press : Man shot by trooper: 6 months too long to wait for sentence

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=LdjgRHW0

SC State Wire

The unarmed black driver shot by a white South Carolina trooper as he reached for his wallet during a traffic stop said waiting six months for the officer to be sentenced is far too long. Sean Groubert needs to be sentenced as soon as possible after pleading guilty in March to assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature and needs to receive the maximum 20-year sentence, Levar Jones said at a news conference Monday. Groubert was taken out of the courtroom in handcuffs after his plea. Typically, defendants are sentenced as soon as they are found guilty in South Carolina but in

Groubert's case, Circuit Judge Casey Manning asked for a pre-sentencing report before deciding the former trooper's punishment. Groubert has been jailed ever since and the reasons for the delay have not been explained. Jones' shooting was captured on Groubert's dash-cam. Jones had parked his truck and was walking to a Columbia convenience store in September 2014 when Groubert, who spotted a seatbelt violation, demanded his license after pulling up without his siren.

The State: Man shot by S.C. Trooper calls officials to expedite sentencing

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article101405487.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A Columbia man who was shot during a 2014 traffic stop by a former state trooper is renewing his call for officials to expedite the sentencing process. Jones stressed that Wednesday will mark six months since former S.C. Highway Patrol Trooper Sean Groubert pleaded guilty to the charge of assault and battery of high and aggravated nature, and yet no sentencing date has been announced. Jones said he's been visiting officials at the Richland County Courthouse at least once a week since Groubert's sentencing in hopes of sparking progress. Jones also repeated his call for Groubert to receive the maximum sentence. He announced the creation of a website that offers a link to a petition that calls for Fifth Judicial Circuit Solicitor Dan Johnson to recommend the maximum sentence for Groubert.

Post and Courier: Man shot by state trooper who pleaded guilty in March wants faster sentencing

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160912/160919795/man-shot-by-state-trooper-who-pleaded-guilty-in-march-wants-faster-sentencing>

Maya T. Prabhu

Nearly six months after the former state trooper who shot him during a traffic stop pleaded guilty to a felony charge, Levar Jones said he still is waiting for that officer to be sentenced. Jones, who is black, was unarmed when he was shot once in the hip by Sean Groubert during the 2014 incident near Columbia. Jones said he tries to visit Fourth Circuit Solicitor Dan Johnson's office once a week to find out when the former officer, who is white, will be sentenced. According to Jones, Circuit Court Judge Casey Manning said at the March 14 plea hearing to expect sentencing within six weeks. "Well this makes six months," Jones said Monday. "No new information." Jones on Monday launched an online petition to urge Johnson to recommend the maximum sentence for Groubert, who faces up to 20 years for assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature.

Associated Press: Lawyer for gay police chief says she was fired illegally

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=z3Hlr6U0

SC State Wire

The lawyer for a fired gay police chief says she should get her job back because the South Carolina town of Latta didn't follow the law. Attorney Malissa Burnette sent a letter to Latta saying the Town Council did not vote in open session last week to fire Crystal Moore. Town Administrator Jarrett Taylor said he thinks he alone under town ordinances has the ability to fire the police chief. Taylor, who is also a councilman, says he told council members of his plans and a majority approved. Taylor says he fired Moore because she wasn't doing her job right. Moore's lawyer says she was fired in retaliation for getting an outside agency to investigate a sexual harassment complaint.

Post and Courier: Charleston police, Sheriff's Office to hold outreach event for crime victims, Hispanic community

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919758/charleston-police-sheriffs-office-to-hold-outreach-event-for-crime-victims-hispanic-community>

Gregory Yee

The Charleston Police Department and the Charleston County Sheriff's Office will hold an outreach event for the Hispanic community and for crime victims Saturday at Johns Island Park. The event, called Victim Advocacy Day: Embracing The Hispanic Community and all Victims of Crime, will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the park, 1727 Bozo Lane. More than 40 nonprofit organizations will be on hand to share information about victim's rights.

Dylann Roof Case:

Post and Courier : Citing 'flawed' process, Dylann Roof lawyers again fight to toss death penalty
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919738/citing-flawed-process-dylann-roof-lawyers-again-fight-to-toss-death-penalty>

Andrew Knapp

In another attack on the legality of the death penalty, Dylann Roof's attorneys said this week capital punishment is so fraught with potential problems it shouldn't be used in his case. Roof, 22, has offered to plead guilty and accept a lifetime prison sentence in the June 2015 shooting that killed nine at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church. But federal prosecutors have pushed forward with the trial, seeking Roof's execution on some of his 33 charges. But as time passes, court rulings continue to limit how the death penalty can be applied, and further evidence has emerged showing how unfair it can be, Roof's lawyers said Monday in a court document. To support their position, the attorneys included in their filing about 2,200 pages of court transcripts, research, news articles and opinion polls on the death penalty. It's time to reopen the discussion of whether the punishment is cruel and unusual under the Eighth Amendment, they said.

LGBT Laws:

Greenville News: SC could make a good replacement host for NCAA

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/sports/college/2016/09/13/sc-could-make-good-replacement-host-ncaa/90294566/>

Elizabeth LaFleur

North Carolina was stripped of seven NCAA championship events on Monday evening when the league announced it would move the contests due to the controversial "bathroom law." The affected contests include men's Division I basketball regional games in Raleigh and Greensboro, the women's golf regional in Greenville (NC), as well as women's soccer championships, men's and women's Division III tennis championships, women's lacrosse championships and the Division II baseball championships which were all scheduled to be held in Cary. Enter the palmetto state, which could be an easy move for the displaced events. South Carolina is no stranger to NCAA bans. The league only recently dropped a ban on palmetto state postseason play when lawmakers voted to remove the Confederate battle flag from Statehouse grounds in Columbia. We've discussed the potential opportunity to capitalize on NC's NCAA losses before, now The Greenville News has compiled a list of comparable potential replacement sites in SC that have had big events.

Associated Press: NCAA turns up pressure on North Carolina over bathroom law

<http://bigstory.ap.org/81b49cf55ac34c88b1c2b0aa9337f0c2>

Jonathan Drew and Gary D. Robertson

The NCAA's decision to pull seven championships out of North Carolina ratchets up the pressure on this college sports-crazy state to repeal its law on bathroom use by transgender people. Unlike the recent one-time cancellations by the NBA and various rock stars, the move by college sports' governing body could make moderate and conservative voters question whether the price tag for the

law has finally become too high. Economic development officials said the effect of the NCAA's action goes well beyond the \$20 million the canceled 2016-17 basketball, baseball, soccer, tennis, lacrosse and golf events were expected to bring. "College sports is part of the fabric of North Carolina. It's part of the culture. I can say with confidence that there's no other state in the country that loves its college sports more than North Carolina. That's why it hits so hard and feels so personal," said Scott Dupree, executive director of the Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance, which was coordinating four of the events being moved.

Associated Press : NCAA pulls 7 postseason events out of NC due to LGBT law

<http://bigstory.ap.org/354673b2163b4e3ebbfca168b9f144f>

Aaron Beard

Basketball-crazed North Carolina has lost its next chance to host NCAA men's basketball tournament games along with several other championship events due to a state law that some say can lead to discrimination against LGBT people. And the fallout may not be over. After the NCAA announced it is pulling seven championship events from North Carolina for this year, Atlantic Coast Conference Commissioner John Swofford — whose league hosts many sporting events in the state, including its football championship game — said the ACC's council of presidents were set to discuss the law at a previously scheduled meeting later this week. The ACC football championship game, held in Charlotte since 2010, is the last marquee college sporting event left in the state during the 2016-17 season. While Swofford it would be "premature" to make any decisions about holding events in North Carolina for now, he also issued a clear statement against the law.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Scope: Why we need a new dam law (it's not the reason you think)

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article101380272.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

GRANTED, I WAS out of the country when Hurricane Hermine unleashed her wrath on South Carolina, so I can't speak from firsthand experience of the destruction she wrought. But I know what I read, and what friends tell me, and I know how completely recovered from the storm the Midlands and the rest of South Carolina seemed to be when I returned less than a week later. So I was more than a little puzzled by The Associated Press headline last week: "Some SC lawmakers say Hermine showed dam rules not needed." Really? A weakened former hurricane waddles across our state, dams do not collapse under the weight of its six inches of rainfall — about a third as much as fell in the October deluge — and our lawmakers declare themselves done with post-flood, lessons-learned dam regulations? Just like that? Because of course we're never going to see more than six inches of rain at a time again. Right? Perhaps I'm being too sarcastic, so let me grant a few more points...

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Charleston's job prospects among the nation's best as employers plan to hire

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919831/charlestons-job-prospects-among-the-nations-best-as-employers-plan-to-hire>

Thad Moore

Charleston's job prospects are among the best in the nation heading into the final stretch of 2016, as the region's businesses say they plan to hire more staff, a new survey has found. Nearly a third of the Lowcountry's employers — 31 percent — say they plan to add to their payrolls before the end of the year, according to figures released by the human-resources consulting firm ManpowerGroup.

Meanwhile, just 4 percent say they expect to let people go. That combination is among the best in the U.S., Manpower says. The Charleston area's outlook is the sixth-best among the nation's 100 largest metro areas, according to the quarterly figures. The high marks suggest Lowcountry employers are still confident about the region's economic outlook after the area notched a No. 3 spot over the summer. And the rosy expectations include nearly every sector, the survey shows. Unemployment in the Charleston area fell to 4.6 percent in July, the lowest of any region in the state and below the national jobless rate.

Independent Mail: Georgia, SC rank 1, 2 in best places for business

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/09/13/georgia-sc-rank-1-2-best-places-business/90301128/>

Abe Hardesty

Georgia and South Carolina are the nation's two best states to operate a business, according to a survey released Tuesday by Area Development magazine. In its 30th annual survey, the national publication asked executives to rate each state in 10 categories. South Carolina ranked first in business incentives programs and speed of permitting, helping the state rank second overall. Georgia's No. 1 ranking was built in part on the highest rating in the areas of workforce development programs (South Carolina was third) and cooperative and responsive state government (South Carolina was second in that category). South Carolina ranked among the top four states in all but two categories: It was 10th in corporate tax environment and was not among the top 10 in access to capital. The rankings came as no surprise to Anderson County administrator Rusty Burns, who said the competition for business is intense among the two neighboring states. "Georgia has come on very, very strong ... we are going head to head with them on a regular basis," Burns said.

Post and Courier: The Citadel named No. 1 public regional college by U.S. News

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919764/the-citadel-named-no-1-public-regional-college-by-us-news>

Deanna Pan

For the sixth year in a row, The Citadel has clinched the No. 1 educational offering spot among regional public colleges and universities in the South in U.S. News & World Report's annual college rankings, released Tuesday. The Citadel also earned the publisher's top spot in "value schools" in the South, a measure which considers a school's academic quality and cost. Overall, the military college was named the 3rd best regional university in the South, behind No. 1 Elon University in North Carolina and No. 2 Rollins College in Florida. "This recognition affirms the commitment made by our dedicated faculty, staff, alumni, and donors who believe in our mission to educate and develop principled leaders for all walks of life," Ret. Lt. Gen. John W. Rosa, president of The Citadel, said in a statement. "I am pleased that our values-based education is resonating with so many families across the nation."

Greenville News : Clemson ranks No. 23 on U.S. News best college list

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/09/13/clemson-ranks-23rd-us-news-best-college-list/90295720/>

Nathaniel Cary

Clemson University ranked as the 23rd best national public university in the latest U.S. News and World Report annual ranking of "America's Best Colleges" released Tuesday, the ninth consecutive year that Clemson has placed in the top 25. The university dropped two spots from last year's No. 21 ranking and three spots from its highest-ever ranking when it placed in a three-way tie for No. 20 in 2015, but its total score tied its highest mark ever. "The latest U.S. News rankings confirm what so

many of us associated with this great university have known for years: Clemson offers one of the very finest educational experiences in the country," Clemson President Jim Clements said. "Our outstanding faculty and staff continue to provide life-changing educational opportunities for our students, and it is extremely gratifying to see their effort, along with the support of our incredible alumni base, continue to be recognized in this way."

Aiken Standard: Report: USC Aiken ranked fifth in best regional colleges in South

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160913/160919846/report-usc-aiken-ranked-fifth-in-best-regional-colleges-in-south->

USC Aiken once again has been ranked the No. 1 Regional Comprehensive Public College in the South by "U.S. News & World Report's" "America's Best Colleges" guide. The 2017 distinction marks USCA's 19th consecutive ranking among the top three in this category and its 12th time in first place, according to a news release from USCA. This year, USCA, founded in 1961, rose significantly in the overall rankings among public and private institutions in the South. Overall, among all public and private institutions throughout the South, USCA ranked No. 5, receiving an overall score of 63 out of 100.

Aiken Standard: Aiken's oak tree collection most diverse in U.S., says tree expert

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160913/160919833/aikenx2019s-oak-tree-collection-most-diverse-in-us-says-tree-expert->

Dan Brown

Area trees expert Bob McCartney gave members of Aiken City Council the nickel tour Monday, showing off what he called the most diverse collection of oak trees in the country. McCartney and Jenny Burghardt, the City's tourism services supervisor, conducted the trolley tour down Colleton Avenue and the "Mile of Oaks" along Park Avenue in Aiken prior to Monday's Council meeting. The tour featured 160 diverse oak trees from all over the world, some the only one of its kind in the state. "We have trees that you won't see anywhere else in South Carolina and some that you won't see anywhere else in the United States," McCartney said. "People all over the world know about what we have here in Aiken, but a lot of the city and members of City Council don't know what we have." The Citywide Arboretum is the name given to all trees located within a four-mile radius of downtown Aiken, McCartney said.

Associated Press: Container volume at South Carolina ports sets August record

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vC6ZiFw1

SC State Wire

South Carolina's ports have had their best August ever. The South Carolina Ports Authority reports that container volume through the state's ports was up almost 6 percent last month compared to August of 2015. The authority reports that the equivalent of more than 180,000 20-foot steel shipping containers moved across the docks. That's almost 10,000 more similar-sized containers than August a year ago. Because steel shipping containers come in different sizes, volume is reported in how many 20-foot containers cargo would fill. Overall, container volume at the ports is up more than 3 percent for the fiscal year that began on July 1. Authority president and CEO Jim Newsome says that he expects growth to continue in the coming months because fall is traditionally a strong season at the ports.

Associated Press: South Carolina moves ahead with second inland port

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=yPFpy3i3

SC State Wire

The South Carolina Ports Authority is moving ahead with plans to build a \$30 million inland port off Interstate 95 in Dillon in the northeastern corner of the state. The agency announced in April that it was looking at the idea and the authority board agreed Tuesday to move ahead with the project. The port will provide a place where shipping containers can be transferred between trucks and trains serving the Port of Charleston about 140 miles to the south. It's more efficient to bring containers to ports by rail and reduces highway congestion. The authority already operates an inland port off Interstate 85 in Greer. The agency plans to break ground on the new Dillon port in early 2017 year and it should be operating late next year.

Greenville News : State's second inland port to come in 2017

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/12/states-second-inland-port-come-2017/90262140/>

Michael Burns

Moving forward with plans to strengthen its position in competition with the Port of Savannah, the South Carolina Ports Authority's board of directors has unanimously approved construction of the state's second inland port, in Dillon, a facility expected support economic development by expanding the Port of Charleston's access to markets in neighboring states and beyond. Construction at the new terminal at the Carolinas I-95 Mega Site in Dillon is slated to begin early next year, and it's expected to be in operation by the end of 2017. The state's first inland port, Inland Port Greer, opened in late 2013 to extend the Port of Charleston's reach 212 miles into the Upstate, providing shippers with access to more than 95 million consumers within a one-day drive. The facility enjoyed a record month in August, when 9,392 rail moves contributed to year-to-date volumes that are up 12-percent from the same period last year.

Associated Press : Feds: Plan addresses impact of ocean noise on marine mammals

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

SC State Wire

The federal government says a new strategy to address the issue of noise in the ocean will better protect the safety of marine mammals. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released its Ocean Noise Strategy Roadmap on Tuesday. The agency says the roadmap will guide it in managing ocean noise and its effects on ocean life through the next 10 years. The roadmap lays out roles for federal government agencies, researchers, industries and environmental advocates to play in managing noise in the ocean. NOAA crafted the plan using more than 85,000 public comment responses. Sound plays a key role in the survival of marine animals and can be caused either by human actions or the ocean's natural ecosystem. Whales and dolphins, for example, use sound to navigate and find food.

Local News:

Associated Press: Under investigation: Man found dead in car in Latta

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ere3jgUM

SC State Wire

Authorities say the death of a man found in a car in the Dillon County community of Latta is being investigated as a homicide. Sheriff's Captain Cliff Arnette tells local news outlets that deputies were called about 1 a.m. Tuesday. The cause of death was not immediately released. The name of the victim is being withheld until relatives can be notified. Arnette says there was a second person in the car who apparently drove the man from the location where he was killed. No arrests have been made.

Associated Press : Georgia man charged in South Carolina fatal hit-and-run

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

SC State Wire

A Georgia man has been charged in a fatal hit-and-run in Jasper County on the South Carolina side of the state line. Local media outlets report that 26-year-old Ethan Pringle of Midway, Georgia, was walking along U.S. 17 when he was struck shortly before 5:30 a.m. Saturday. He died later at a hospital in Savannah, Georgia. The driver drove away but a car fitting the description of the vehicle involved was located Monday in Rincon, Georgia. Authorities say that Robert G. Collum III of Rincon was arrested and charged with leaving the scene of an accident resulting in death. He is in the Jasper County jail. It was not immediately known if he had an attorney.

The State: Teen attacks student, driver, trooper during bus fight, Richland County Sheriff's spokesman says

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article101611892.html>

Cynthia Roldan

An off-duty S.C. Highway Patrol officer was treated for bite wounds Tuesday, after being attacked by a 13-year-old boy on the school bus near the Sandhill area. Lt. Curtis Wilson, spokesman for the Richland County Sheriff's Department, said a 13-year-old boy first got into a fight with another student. When the bus driver attempted to break up the fight, the student attacked the driver as well. An off-duty S.C. Highway Patrol trooper who spotted the incident also attempted to interfere, after identifying himself as a trooper, Wilson said. But the teen also attacked the trooper, biting him in the chest and arm. Richland County Sheriff's investigators are still working the case. It remains unclear if the teen will face any charges. The condition of the driver and the student who was attacked remains unknown.

Post and Courier: Second suspect arrested in alleged sexual assault of C of C student

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919754/second-suspect-arrested-in-alleged-sexual-assault-of-c-of-c-student>

Deanna Pan

Police have arrested a second suspect in connection with the alleged sexual assault of a 17-year-old College of Charleston student. James F. West III, 22, of Bennett Street, has been charged with engaging a child for sexual performance. He is scheduled to have a bond hearing this afternoon, according to Charleston Police Spokesman Charles Francis. A College of Charleston fraternity brother, Timothy Eli Seppi, was arrested earlier this month. Seppi was charged with 1st and 3rd degree sexual exploitation of a minor.

The State: Lock-down lifted at Ballentine Elementary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article101597272.html>

Jane Moon Dial

A lock-down at Ballentine Elementary School resulting from a suspect fleeing law enforcement officers nearby has been lifted, school officials reported. Members of a gang task force attempted to pull over a suspicious vehicle around 2 p.m. Tuesday near Ballentine Elementary School, according to Lt. Curtis Wilson. The suspects then fled from officers in the vehicle. The driver and passenger then tried to escape on foot, Wilson said. Officers were able to detain the driver, but a passenger kept running in the area of the school. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Lexington County, Wilson said. Wilson said the suspects never stepped foot on school property, but the school was put on lock-down as a safety precaution when searching for the suspect. School district officials reported the lock-

down was lifted by 3:30 p.m. They reported when a school goes on lock-down, transportation shuts down, so buses may be a little later than usual.

Associated Press: Clemson coach would not discipline player for anthem protest

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

SC State Wire

Coach Dabo Swinney says he wouldn't discipline Clemson players for protesting the national anthem because just like San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick, they have that right. But Swinney said Tuesday he disagrees with Kaepernick's actions because they create divisiveness among people and muddy the message. After Swinney was asked if he would discipline one of the players on the fifth-ranked Tigers for an anthem protest, he said Kaepernick should have found another way to express his opinion without the polarizing gesture. The coach noted that too often things get painted with a broad brush and people take sides and bar potential dialogue about issues. The coach says he hates "to see what is going on with our country." Kaepernick has protested what he says is the oppression of blacks and other minorities.

Post and Courier: Citing MLK, Dabo Swinney speaks out on societal issues, players kneeling during anthem

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919759/citing-mlk-dabo-swinney-speaks-out-on-societal-issues-players-kneeling-during-anthem>

Aaron Brenner

Nobody had asked Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney, until Tuesday, for his thoughts on San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick and other NFL players refusing to stand during the playing of the national anthem as their way of protesting racial injustice. Swinney, often willing to provide passionate soliloquies on topics mattering greatly to him inside and outside of football, answered the question with a 986-word sermon lasting nearly eight minutes, speaking somberly and with frequent pauses as he addressed not just Kaepernick's mission, but the recent issues plaguing the country regarding police brutality and political statements. On Kaepernick, Swinney said, "I think everybody has the right to express himself in that regard. But I don't think it's good to be a distraction to your team. I don't think it's good to use the team as a platform. I totally disagree with that. Not his protest. But I just think there's a right way to do things. I don't think two wrongs make a right. Never have, never will. I think it just creates more divisiveness, more division."

Associated Press: Part of beach motel where black acts once stayed torn down

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

SC State Wire

A section of a South Carolina motel frequented by black entertainers during the days of segregation has been demolished although there are plans to create a museum in some of the remaining rooms on the Myrtle Beach property. City spokesman Mark Kruea tells The Sun News of Myrtle Beach (<http://bit.ly/2cSVWBL>) that the south side of the Fitzgerald Motel was demolished last week. Black entertainers including Little Richard often stayed at the motel near an entertainment venue known as Charlie's Place. Other acts that played there included Billie Holiday and Marvin Gaye. City Councilman Mike Chestnut says there are plans to restore some of the remaining motel rooms as a museum highlighting the musical history of Charlie's Place, which has long since been demolished. There are also plans to create spaces for small businesses.

Post and Courier : Charleston-area home sales soar 25% in August after rare dip in July

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160913/160919746/charleston-area-home-sales-soar-25-in->

august-after-rare-dip-in-july

Warren L. Wise

Charleston-area home sales roared back in August after dipping for the first time in five years in July. Residential transactions jumped 24.6 percent over August 2015, according to preliminary data Tuesday from the Charleston Trident Association of Realtors. Last month, 1,732 homes changed hands at a median price of \$241,530, up about \$23,530, or 10.8 percent, from the same month a year earlier. So far this year, 12,050 homes have sold in the Charleston region at a median price of \$239,000. Volume is up 9 percent, and the median price has risen 6 percent, compared to the first eight months of 2015. All but 53 transactions took place in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties at a median price of \$245,000.

The Herald: Mosquito spraying begins after Hickory Grove resident tests positive for Zika

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article101529557.html>

Teddy Kulmala

York County crews will be spraying for mosquitoes in the Hickory Grove area starting at dusk Tuesday, officials said. The spraying comes one day after York County emergency officials announced the second confirmed travel-related case of Zika virus. The person who tested positive for the virus lives in the Hickory Grove area and tested positive a week ago after traveling outside of the country, officials said at a press conference Tuesday. It's not clear where the person contracted the virus, but County Manager Bill Shanahan said the person is no longer contagious and that no mosquitoes in York County have tested positive for the virus. County officials ordered mosquito spraying in the Tega Cay area in July after a resident there tested positive for the virus. Some sprays intended to kill mosquitoes have also caused harm to honeybee populations in the communities where the insecticides are used.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Trump to unveil new child care affordability policies

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9f7a7e4c2645447fb13bfbbfdff5030d>

Jonathan Lemire and Nicholas Riccardi

Donald Trump is rolling out proposals Tuesday to make child care more affordable, including a plan to guarantee new mothers six weeks of paid maternity leave and create new dependent-care savings accounts. Trump will unveil the plans in a speech in a Philadelphia suburb, a key area in a battleground state as Trump tries to build his appeal with more moderate, independent voters — especially women. Child care is one of the biggest expenses many American families face, surpassing the cost of college and even housing in many states. And in promising paid maternity leave, Trump is sharply breaking with conservative orthodoxy that the government not mandate what benefits companies must give workers. Trump had said little about child care until his daughter, Ivanka, surprised many at the Republican National Convention in July by promising it will be a centerpiece of a Trump administration. During a rally in Des Moines Tuesday afternoon, Trump credited Ivanka Trump for his action on the issue. "She is the one who has been pushing for it so hard: 'Daddy, Daddy we have to do this.' She's very smart, and she's right," the candidate said.

Associated Press: Mike Pence refuses to call David Duke 'deplorable'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/47a93f7a00bd478ea7e33e647654a7d0>

Scott Bauer

Donald Trump's running mate Mike Pence refused on Tuesday to say whether he thinks white supremacist David Duke is deplorable, repeating that he's "not in the name-calling business," as he

tried to brush off the issue as a distraction. Pence was asked at a news conference with House Republican leaders in Washington whether he wanted to amend comments he made on CNN the previous day. In the interview, he denounced support from Duke, but declined to say whether the former grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan can be considered part of the "basket of deplorables" — the phrase Hillary Clinton used to describe half of Trump's supporters last week. "The simple fact is I'm not in the name calling business," Pence said Tuesday. "But I'm also not going to validate the language Hillary Clinton used to describe the American people." Clinton weighed in on Twitter on Monday, saying, "If you won't say the KKK is deplorable, you have no business running the country."

Associated Press: Witnesses refuse to testify in hearing on Clinton's email

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3248b019982b4c628189bbc4ddcbd7d7>

Richard Lardner

Three witnesses ordered to testify Tuesday before a House committee investigating Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server asserted their constitutional rights against self-incrimination and did not appear or refused to answer questions. Bryan Pagliano, the former State Department computer specialist tasked with setting up Clinton's server, did not attend the Republican-led hearing. His attorneys said in a letter to the chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee that Pagliano will continue to assert his constitutional right not to testify. Pagliano spoke previously to the FBI under immunity, telling the bureau there were no successful security breaches of the server. But he said he was aware of many failed login attempts that he described as "brute force attacks." Pagliano also refused to answer questions last year before a House panel investigating the deadly 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya.

Associated Press: Kentucky governor: Clinton presidency may lead to bloodshed

<http://bigstory.ap.org/cc599b7e529d467eb1313c2d1b0b711f>

Adam Beam

Kentucky's Republican governor said blood might be shed if Democrat Hillary Clinton is elected president. Speaking to the annual Values Voter Summit on Saturday in Washington, Bevin said he was asked if the country could ever recover if Clinton were elected president. "I do think it would be possible, but at what price? At what price? The roots of the tree of liberty are watered by what? The blood, of who? The tyrants to be sure, but who else. The patriots," Bevin said, referencing a quote from Thomas Jefferson. "Whose blood will be shed? It may be that of those in this room. It might be that of our children and grandchildren. I have nine children. It breaks my heart to think it might be their blood that is needed to redeem something, to reclaim something that we through our apathy and indifference have given away." In a statement provided by his office, Bevin clarified he was speaking about the sacrifice required of members of the military, saying "we cannot be complacent about the determination of radical Islamic extremists to destroy our freedoms."

National News:

Associated Press: Americans got raise last year for first time since 2007

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5282ef198cec49e6ae88415c067e10f7>

Christopher S. Rugaber and Jesse J. Holland

In a long-awaited sign that middle-class Americans are finally seeing real economic gains, U.S. households got a raise last year after seven years of stagnant incomes. Rising pay also lifted the poorest households, cutting poverty by the sharpest amount in nearly a half-century. Higher minimum wages in many states and tougher competition among businesses to fill jobs pushed up pay, while low inflation made those paychecks stretch further. The figures show that the growing economy is

finally benefiting a greater share of American households. The median U.S. household's income rose 5.2 percent in 2015 to an inflation-adjusted level of \$56,516, the Census Bureau said Tuesday. That is the largest one-year gain on data stretching back to 1967. It is up 7.3 percent from 2012, when incomes fell to a 17-year low. Still, median incomes remain 1.6 below the \$57,423 reached in 2007. The median is the point where half of households fall below and half are above.

World News:

Associated Press : Israel's Peres hospitalized after stroke

<http://bigstory.ap.org/41a9f1d73c39403f99144c305951500d>

Ian Deitch

Former Israeli President Shimon Peres on Tuesday suffered a stroke and was rushed to a hospital, where he was sedated and placed on a respirator while he underwent a brain scan. An official in Peres' office said the 93-year-old underwent a CT scan, but that results were not yet available. The official spoke on condition of anonymity pending a formal announcement. Israeli TV stations, citing hospital officials, said Peres was suffering from bleeding to the brain and described his condition as serious. Israeli Chief Rabbi David Lau called on people to recite psalms and pray for Peres, Channel 10 TV reported. It said people were gathering at the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest prayer site, to pray for his health. Early this year, Peres was twice hospitalized for heart problems but quickly released. His office said Peres received a pacemaker last week.

Associated Press: After a decade, UN chief disappointed in many world leaders

<http://bigstory.ap.org/185429a05838424fbd2c3b0c3925a62d>

Edith M. Lederer

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says he's disappointed by many world leaders who care more about retaining power than improving the lives of their people — and can't understand why Syria is being held hostage to "the destiny" of one man, President Bashar Assad. Nearing the end of his 10 years at the helm of the United Nations, Ban spoke frankly about the state of the world and his successes, failures and frustrations as U.N. chief in a wide-ranging interview with The Associated Press. Ban is the public face of the organization but he said that in private leaders see a very different and much tougher side to him. "People say I have been quiet, and I have not been speaking out about human rights, but I can tell you I have been speaking out (more) than any of the Western leaders" who "are very cautious," he said. "You have not seen people as fearlessly speaking out as myself."

Associated Press: As Syria truce holds, al-Qaida affiliate denounces it

<http://bigstory.ap.org/89d9f405957d47e0b408cfcada469e20>

Bassem Mroue

With much of Syria calm for the past 24 hours, a powerful al-Qaida-linked group sharply criticized the U.S.-Russian-brokered cease-fire, saying Tuesday its real aim was to keep President Bashar Assad in power. The extremist group was in talks with other rebel factions for a possible merger, a move that could dash Washington and Moscow's hopes of distancing it from the wider insurgency and sabotage the truce. The denunciation of the deal came as activists and state media said the truce, which took effect at sunset Monday, was holding despite some violations. The Syrian army said it would abide by the cease-fire until midnight Sunday, while maintaining its right to defend itself against any violations.

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