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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, September 1, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: 'Pokemon Go' returns to S.C. Statehouse

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909936/pokemon-go-returns-to-sc-statehouse>

Gavin Jackson

The "Pokemon Go" craze that took the nation by storm this summer returned to the manicured lawns of the Statehouse after a ban was lifted Thursday. Visitors can now scavenge the capitol's grounds through their cellphones for Pikachu, Dodrio and the ever-prevalent Pidgey after a month-long disappearance. Why the Pokemon game — where players "catch" and collect pokestops that provide game tokens — disappeared on July 29 remains a mystery. State officials said no formal complaints were made during the height of the craze when visitors besieged the Statehouse grounds. Through Twitter, Gov. Nikki Haley requested the game's maker, Niantic Labs, reinstate the location, which included several pokestops associated with public monuments and "gyms" that drew hundreds of players, many at night. Shortly after the release of "Pokemon Go" in July, the popular hunt game almost instantly became the top-downloaded app in Apple's App Store, and is the biggest mobile game in U.S. history.

NOTE: In July, Haley tweeted a picture of herself grabbing one of the cartoon monsters in the "Pokemon Go" app. The photo shows her catching a Poliwhg, which looks like a round blue tadpole for those who aren't familiar with the Japanese pocket monsters. Haley isn't the only high-profile Pokemon grabber in the state. North Charleston tweeted a photo of its mayor, Keith Summey, catching a Pokemon in his office.

The State: Pokemon Go again at the S.C. State House

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article99218857.html>

Bristow Marchant

"Pokestops" have reappeared at the South Carolina State House, more than a month after the popular game features mysteriously vanished from the state capitol grounds. Players of the mobile game Pokemon Go reported several of the previously missing pokestops reappeared on the State House grounds on Thursday, as suddenly and mysteriously as they had vanished. The State House had been a popular gathering place for players before about a dozen different stops vanished at the end of July. The disappearance of the pokestops — where users can load up on pokeballs and set "lures" to attract the digital creatures — was a mystery. No state agency would own up to asking developer Niantic Labs to remove the State House as an active spot for the game, and — despite publicized efforts to remove pokestops from inappropriate or unwanted locations elsewhere — a spokesman for the developer couldn't say why the State House stops had been removed. Coming at the height of the Pokemon Go craze, users were upset by the sudden end to one of their favorite Pokemon hunting spots. The state Agriculture Department even planned a Pokemon-themed promotional event at the State House and were disappointed to discover the day of the event that the pokestops were no longer available.

NOTE: Even Gov. Nikki Haley took to Twitter to ask for the pokestops to return.

Aiken Standard: Cumbee Center to play host to domestic violence law training courses in October
<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160831/AIK0101/160839874>

Dan Brown

Training sessions will be made available to law enforcement, government and court officials this fall to become acclimated with the domestic violence law signed by Gov. Nikki Haley last year. Coordinated and presented by the Cumbee Center to Assist Abused Persons, there will be two sessions on Oct. 12, featuring guest speaker and South Carolina's Assistant Attorney General Megan Gresham. Gresham is expected to talk about the domestic violence law and help those attending on how to best understand and implement the law when working with victims and abusers. The training sessions are from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Aiken Municipal Building's conference center, 214 Park Ave., according to Susan Selden, Cumbee Center's executive director. There is no charge for the training sessions. Light refreshments will be provided.

NOTE: In a domestic violence summit in May, Haley and the S.C. Domestic Violence Task Force challenged all counties in the Palmetto State to become certified as safe places for those affected by domestic violence.

Union Daily Times: New after school program at JEMS

<http://uniondailytimes.com/features/lifestyle/7326/new-after-school-program-at-jems>

A local school will host an after school program sponsored by a foundation established by Gov. Nikki Haley. In a statement released late last week, Jonesville Elementary/Middle School announced that it will be hosting the after school program for middle school students which is sponsored by Gov. Nikki Haley's Original Six Foundation. The press release states that the program, which will begin Tuesday, Sept. 9, will operate Monday-Thursday from 3-5 p.m. The program will offer homework assistance, enrichment activities, social skills development, community involvement, technology, and mentoring services. The announcement further states that, to kick off the program, JEMS Principal Kathy Taylor, Assistant Principal Erica Murdaugh, and Reading Coach Crystal Bryant attended the Original Six Foundation's Taste of South Carolina event Sunday, Aug. 21. The event, which was held on the grounds of the Governor's Mansion, was held in appreciation of sponsors and to recognize communities receiving assistance in the areas of education and workforce reading. The press release concludes by stating that JEMS is looking forward to working with the Original Six Foundation and is very excited about the upcoming year.

NOTE: Haley was in Union County on Aug. 10 to take part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony formally opening Meeting Place on Main.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Ethics panel: Donations can buy clothes but not clean them

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5ztEvnbj

Sean Adcox

It's OK for state representatives to use campaign cash to buy clothes for the Statehouse, but it's never OK to pay the dry cleaning tab with donations, the House Ethics Committee said Thursday. That advice is part of a committee-approved list of what House members can and can't legally buy with donations. It won't be used to punish past spending. "We're all trying to tighten up and be as specific as we can. The laundry-list opinion is done to try to give people some guidance," said Ethics Chairman Kenny Bingham, R-Cayce. "People are petrified of making a mistake and getting a newspaper article written about them." The list of 25 do's and don'ts answered legislators' questions to the panel, asked amid prosecutor David Pascoe's investigation into possible Statehouse corruption.

That probe continues, two years after former House Speaker Bobby Harrell pleaded guilty to six misdemeanor campaign finance violations. No one else has been charged. "The whole environment clearly has brought awareness to people, which is a good thing," Bingham said. "People ought to have some comfort and confidence in where the lines are."

The State: SC House members can spend campaign money on clothing, charities

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article99269927.html>

Cassie Cope

The S.C. House ethics panel Thursday approved a list of items that state representatives can pay for with campaign money, including clothing and charities. The list — formulated in response to inquiries by House members — outlines "where's the line drawn," said Ethics Committee chairman Rep. Kenny Bingham, R-Lexington. The question of where that line is drawn has become more important to lawmakers in the wake of the prosecution of several legislators — including former House Speaker Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston — for improper use of campaign money. The panel passed an advisory opinion saying campaign money can be used to pay for...

Post and Courier: Lawmakers can't use campaign cash for their dry cleaning, House panel says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909952/lawmakers-cant-use-campaign-cash-for-their-dry-cleaning-house-panel-says>

Maya T. Prabhu

Members of the state House of Representatives can't use campaign money to pay for their dry cleaning but they can use that cash account to buy tickets to political events, a panel ruled Thursday. Those scenarios were among a list of campaign expense guidelines approved by the House Ethics Committee as lawmakers sought to clear up some of the fuzzy boundaries of where their spending can legally go. "We're all trying to tighten up and be as specific as we can," Ethics Chairman Kenny Bingham, R-Cayce, said. "The laundry list opinion is done to try to give some people some guidance because people are petrified of making a mistake and getting a negative newspaper article." The advisory opinion provides direction for House members on 26 scenarios. Many of them came out of lawmakers' own calls of requests for clarity at a time when special prosecutor 1st Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe is looking into possible Statehouse corruption on the part of legislators. Advisory opinions issued by the committee only act as a guideline for rulings on the actions of House lawmakers; they do not carry legal weight.

Post and Courier: S.C. senators coming to Charleston and crossing the state to hear from residents on gun laws

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909929/sc-senators-coming-to-charleston-and-crossing-the-state-to-hear-from-residents-on-gun-laws>

Maya T. Prabhu

Charleston residents will have a chance to tell a group of state senators this fall what they think should be done about South Carolina's gun laws. A hearing will be held at the College of Charleston's Stern Center Ballroom at 6 p.m. Oct. 3. Charleston is one of four locations where a panel of five state senators will take testimony to determine what, if any, gun reforms should be considered going into next legislative session. Meetings also will be held in Greenville, Hartsville and Columbia. The hearings come after bills introduced by Gerald Malloy, Senate Gun Issues Special Committee chairman, and Charleston Democrat Sen. Marlon Kimpson seeking to extend the firearm purchase background check period from three days to 28 days, got no traction. Both measures died in the Senate last session. "My intent is to hear citizens out and to have it open, such that we can get to the determine the pulse of our community and formulate a bill that will be a consensus bill, which is the

only way the bill will pass," said Malloy, D-Hartsville.

Post and Courier : Former Moncks Corner lawmaker's ethics fine dropped from nearly \$3,000 to \$100
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909939/former-moncks-corner-lawmakers-ethics-fine-dropped-from-nearly-3000-to-100>

Maya T. Prabhu

Former Republican state lawmaker Eddy Southard, who left office under a sexual harassment scandal, successfully appealed a nearly \$3,000 fine levied against him by a Statehouse panel. Instead he will only will have to pay \$100 for filing his campaign expenses late. Southard, of Moncks Corner, was late to file his Statement of Economic Interest report that was due in July, causing the House Ethics Committee to hit him with a \$2,900 fine. It was the first time from his five years of serving in the state House of Representatives that he filed late, committee counsel Jane Schuler said. Southard, who was not present during the Thursday meeting, previously told the House Ethics Committee staff he could not afford to pay the imposed \$2,900. Southard resigned from the House in April after being accused of sexual harassment by a female Statehouse page. Two other women later came forward with similar accusations.

Associated Press: ETV says it won't televise this year's SC candidate debates

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=U0R4bFN4

SC State Wire

South Carolina's public broadcasting network won't televise debates between the state's candidates ahead of this fall's general election. The State newspaper reports (<http://bit.ly/2bETzwi>) South Carolina Educational Television made the decision Monday after receiving a request to televise a planned 2nd District face-off between U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson and his Democratic challenger, Columbia librarian Arik Bjorn. SCETV spokesman Tom Posey says the network's decision is common in election cycles that don't include gubernatorial races. He also says ETV's resources and staffing played into the decision. Posey also said South Carolina's primaries are "generally more fertile ground for debate." In June, the network covered a GOP primary debate between U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford and state Rep. Jenny Horne. ETV still will carry special programming on election night.

The State: Mayor Benjamin fills out his office staff, budget grows

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article99264732.html>

Clif Leblanc

Mayor Steve Benjamin has reorganized and filled out an enlarged staff of the mayor's office. Benjamin said the total salary for his new team is a little more than his three previous aides, largely because of mandated changes in workplace benefits. The overall budget for the mayor's office rose by \$15,055 to \$335,821, his staff said. Benjamin issued a statement that he has hired... In announcing five staffers on Tuesday, Benjamin has replaced two key staffers who had been with him since his first term. Policy adviser and speech writer Michael Wukela left late last year to head a nonprofit, advocacy organization. Aide Sam Johnson left in February to continue work on a law degree and to work at a downtown law firm. Belton remained on Benjamin's staff. When the mayor's office included Benjamin and three staffers the budget for the fiscal year that ended June 30 was \$320,766, including salaries and benefits, Harvin said. The new staff of four full-time and one part-time employee is \$335,821 for pay and benefits, he said.

Index-Journal: Duncan addresses constituent concerns

<http://www.indexjournal.com/news/Duncan-addresses-constituent-concerns-18004591>

Conor Hughes

The economy is the most important issue to many in the Upstate, said U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan, R-Laurens, during a Greenwood visit Wednesday as part of a tour Duncan was taking through his district. At the event, Duncan said he has been listening to the concerns of his constituents as he travels throughout his district. "The economy is still one of the big issues. Too many Americans are out of work. Too many people that I've talked with have relatives, friends, neighbors that can't find a job," Duncan said. "So what we see is the economic policies of this administration for the past eight years have not turned this country around." "There's a lot of focus on illegal immigration right now and what the future looks like in a Trump administration or a Clinton administration with regard to illegals," Duncan said. With the first commercial flight from the U.S. to Cuba in five decades landing in Cuba on Wednesday, Duncan also discussed his concerns on the normalization of relations between the two countries.

SC Agency News:

Post and Courier : Senor Tequila owner going to prison for deceiving Department of Labor

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909938/senor-tequila-owner-going-to-prison-for-deceiving-department-of-labor>

Hanna Raskin

The owner of three Senor Tequila restaurants in the Charleston area is going to prison for deceiving the Department of Labor. Jamie Villalpando in 2011 agreed to pay back wages to seven employees who were illegally denied minimum wage and overtime pay between 2008 and 2010, according to a press release from the Department of Justice. A Department of Labor investigation revealed Villalpando owed \$106,103.05. But rather than return the stolen money as instructed, Villalpando took three employees to Senor Tequila's bank and helped them set up accounts into which they deposited their back wage checks. Villalpando then demanded the employees gradually withdraw the money and return it to him; he provided the Department of Labor with copies of the cancelled checks to demonstrate he was complying with the agreement. In addition to prison time, U.S. District Judge David Norton of Charleston sentenced Villalpando to three years of supervised release and ordered him to pay \$76,575.92 in restitution to the Department of Labor.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Judge won't order document release in shooting settlement

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bCNsowP6

SC State Wire

A South Carolina judge has refused to make the city of North Charleston turn over documents involving its \$6.5 million settlement of a lawsuit with the family of a black motorist shot and killed by a white city police officer. News outlets report that Judge Clifton Newman refused to make the city release the material during a hearing Thursday. Attorneys for former officer Michael Slager had asked for the documents to help prepare his defense. Slager is charged with murder in the April 2015 shooting death of Walter Scott. His trial begins next month. City attorneys argued the documents were protected by attorney-client privilege. A cellphone video showed Scott being shot several times in the back as he ran from a traffic stop.

Michael Slager Case:

Post and Courier: Judge: North Charleston won't have to turn over documents on settlement with Walter Scott's family

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909954/judge-north-charleston-wont-have-to-turn-over-documents-on-settlement-with-walter-scotts-family>

Brenda Rindge

North Charleston city officials won't have to turn over documents related to settlement negotiations with Walter Scott's family, Circuit Judge Clifton Newman ruled Thursday. During a hearing in the case against former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager, Newman granted a motion to quash four of six items subpoenaed from the city by Slager's defense team, led by attorney Andy Savage. Newman agreed with the city's objection to supplying documents showing whether Slager or anyone else is responsible for Scott's death, any records that would exonerate Slager and any records that show a failure of institutional procedures that contributed to Scott's death. North Charleston had objected to the requests "because Mr. Slager asks to see inside the minds of the city's lawyers," according to court documents.

SC After Recent Violence:

The State: First Muslim chaplains among Richland Sheriff's Department additions

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article99284807.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

The Richland County Sheriff's Department swore in its first two Muslim chaplains and first Seventh-day Adventist chaplain Thursday. The ceremony added six new chaplains to the force, bringing the total up to 21 at the department. The department has one full-time chaplain, and the rest are volunteers, officials said. "We have lots of religions within Richland County, and we want to make sure that all those religions are represented," Sheriff Leon Lott said. Deputy Mohanad Gabr, who has been with the sheriff's department for almost 10 years, said it's good to have chaplains available who understand his Muslim faith. "It's a stressful job, and sometimes we face a lot of difficulties," Gabr said. "Sometimes you just feel like talking to someone to get a piece of advice – how to deal with issues at work or at home." Gabr said it's also good for Muslim residents of Richland County to see that there are people on the force who understand their beliefs and their community.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Storm emergency in some North Carolina counties

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vAtZ8cyn

SC State Wire

North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory has declared a state of emergency for 33 counties in the eastern part of the state as Hurricane Hermine advances toward the Southeast. McCrory issued the declaration Thursday after meeting with state emergency personnel. The emergency declaration helps ease the movement of resources needed to respond to and recover from the storm. The governor also issued an executive order waiving some truck restrictions on weight and hours of service, to help speed storm response. Public Safety Secretary Frank Perry said National Guard soldiers, Highway Patrol troopers and Department of Transportation crews have been mobilized across the state. The storm is expected to bring heavy rains, gusty winds and flooding to the state beginning Friday night.

Greenville News: South Carolina prepares for Hurricane Hermine

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/01/south-carolina-prepares-hurricane-hermine/89715574/>

Tim Smith

Almost a year after a perfect storm dumped up to two feet of rain on the Midlands, bursting dams, flooding homes and killing motorists, Hurricane Hermine churned toward South Carolina with predictions of flash floods and high winds after its arrival Friday. The storm was upgraded to hurricane status Thursday afternoon as it headed toward a Florida landfall and a path northeast through Georgia and the Carolinas, where it was forecast to once again become a tropical storm. The National Hurricane Center placed a tropical storm warning along the entire South Carolina coast for Friday with predictions of 4 to 8 inches of rain from the Midlands to the coast. The Upstate is forecast to receive much less rain, in some areas under 1 inch, officials said. The National Weather Service posted flash-flood watches for most of the state until 6 a.m. Saturday and warned wind gusts could reach as high as 55 mph along the coast. It forecast rainfall totals as much as 6 inches for Charleston.

Post and Courier: Dam owners issued heavy rain alert warning ahead of Hurricane Hermine
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909955/dam-owners-issued-heavy-rain-alert-warning-ahead-of-hurricane-hermine>

Gavin Jackson

State officials want dam owners to evaluate and possibly lower their pond levels ahead of the heavy rains expected to douse the state as Hurricane Hermine descends on South Carolina. Department of Health and Environmental Control officials said dam owners should ensure that spillways are clear and functioning properly so that water can pass safely through. Such issues led, in part, to the failure of 50 dams during last October's catastrophic historic flood.

"We are closely monitoring the status of the tropical storm system and are working with the S.C. Emergency Management Division to directly notify dam owners of the potential for significant rainfall and the need to monitor the condition of their dams," DHEC Bureau of Water Chief David Baize said in a statement. Baize issued the statement shortly before the storm in the Gulf of Mexico was upgraded to Category 1 hurricane Thursday afternoon.

Post and Courier : North Charleston residents recall October flooding, brace for Hermine
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909933/north-charleston-residents-recall-october-flooding-brace-for-hermine>

Derrek Asberry

In the 30 years Ben Kelly has lived in the Pepperhill neighborhood in North Charleston, he's never seen a storm as bad as the one in October that flooded his house and forced him to live elsewhere for three months. With Hurricane Hermine expected to cross over the Charleston area on Friday, Kelly said he learned his lesson from last year and now has flood insurance. "We got about a foot of water inside the house," Kelly said Thursday while thinking back to the historic flood. After the flood, many residents were evacuated by boat from the subdivision off of Ashley Phosphate Road. Kelly had to stay with family while three contractors worked to renovate his home. He had to pay for new siding on his house and workers had to tear into the walls to get rid of the mold. Kelly said he also had to get new carpeting and floors.

Associated Press : NASCAR cancels qualifying as Hermine approaches
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=VfppFo6w

SC State Wire

NASCAR has postponed all track activity Friday and canceled qualifying for its Sprint Cup and Xfinity races at Darlington Raceway in anticipation of Hermine bringing inclement weather to the South Carolina track. Hermine on Thursday strengthened into a hurricane. Both the Sprint Cup Series and the Xfinity Series had scheduled practices on Friday and were supposed to qualify on Saturday.

However, in the revamped weekend schedule, both series will line up the field based on points in the standings. The Xfinity Series race is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, while the Cup race is scheduled for Sunday evening.

Associated Press : South Carolina firms struggle to find construction workers

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

SC State Wire

A new survey shows contractors in South Carolina are having a harder time finding construction workers than those in most other states. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/2bK38f9>) that a report from the Associated General Contractors of America finds most contractors surveyed across the state plan to hire more people - even though the workers they have are pulling in higher wages. The survey released Wednesday finds 83 percent of South Carolina contractors surveyed said they are having a hard time finding workers compared with about 70 percent nationally. In July the construction industry in South Carolina added about 5,500 workers - up more than 6 percent from July of a year ago. The average construction worker in the state now makes more than \$900 a week.

Associated Press: Gas prices lowest in 11 years on Labor Day in Carolinas

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=sZrTR2Xm

SC State Wire

Travelers from the Carolinas hitting the road for the holiday weekend will find gasoline prices up a bit from recent weeks, but still the lowest on Labor Day in 11 years. AAA Carolinas reports the average price for a gallon of gas in South Carolina is \$1.96 a gallon while in North Carolina it's \$2.10. The difference is the higher North Carolina state gas tax. Motor club president and CEO Dave Parsons says gas prices in the Carolinas are among the lowest in the nation. The motor club estimates that just over 1 million North Carolinians and about 460,000 South Carolinians will drive more than 50 miles this weekend, a slight increase from last year. The most popular driving destinations are Charleston and Myrtle Beach followed by Orlando, Florida.

Post and Courier: 'Stakes couldn't be higher:' Obesity an issue in South Carolina, nationwide

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909967/stakes-couldnt-be-higher-obesity-an-issue-in-south-carolina-nationwide>

Derrek Asberry

South Carolina's ranking in adult obesity has slightly improved, mainly because obesity in other states is becoming more of a problem. The state ranks 13th in the nation for highest obesity rates in 2015 compared with being 10th in 2014, according to a report released Thursday by Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. "We've dropped down the list slightly, which is good news, but we've still got a major problem," said Dr. Justine DeCastro, a family health physician affiliated with East Cooper Medical Center. The Palmetto State had an obesity rate of 31.7 percent in 2015 compared with 32.1 percent in 2014. However, the 2015 rate is still a significant uptick from 27.8 percent a decade ago and 12 percent in 1990. The report shows that other states, particularly in the South, are also struggling with obesity.

Local News:

Greenville News: Police chief says clowns 'terrorizing public' will be arrested

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2016/09/01/sheriffs-office-police-address-clown-sightings/89729508/>

Anna Lee

No more clowning around. That's the message Greenville law enforcement officials sent to the clowns who have reportedly been sighted at apartment complexes across the county. Addressing the incidents at a media conference Thursday, Greenville Police Chief Ken Miller said officers will arrest and charge anyone dressed up as a clown. "It's illegal. It's dangerous. It's inappropriate, and it's creating community concern so it needs to stop," Miller said. Police have responded to four clown-related calls since Monday, two of which occurred at Shemwood Crossing Apartments. Another was reported on Deoyley Avenue in the Pleasant Valley community Tuesday afternoon. In the most recent sighting Wednesday night, officers responded to Park Haywood Apartments on Congaree Road after a woman reported seeing a middle-aged white man in clown-like facial makeup and red hair standing outside the laundromat. The woman told police the clown started at her as she walked out but didn't speak to or follow her. The Sheriff's Office has received two documented reports of clowns appearing in Greenville County on Aug. 19 and Aug. 29, said Master Deputy Ryan Flood.

Associated Press: Deputies investigate fatal shooting in Westminster

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Jyu4BWBI

SC State Wire

Oconee County sheriff's deputies are investigating the shooting death of a man in a home near the community of Westminster. Sheriff's spokesman Jimmy Watt said in a release that the shooting, which happened about 2 a.m. on Thursday, is being investigated as a homicide. The name of the victim has not yet been released. But authorities say there is no danger to the public.

Associated Press: South Carolina grandmother charged in dog dragging death

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

SC State Wire

A South Carolina grandmother has been charged with ill treatment of animals in the dragging death of a dog. Multiple media outlets say 66-year-old Rita Mintz was arrested by Calhoun County sheriff's deputies, who said she had dragged a dog behind a vehicle Aug. 26. Mintz told WLTX-TV (<http://bit.ly/2bMIQCX>) after she was released that the incident was an accident. She said she'd been trying to get the dog away from her grandson because it had snapped at the boy. It wasn't immediately clear whether Mintz has an attorney. A telephone listing for a Rita Mintz in Orangeburg wasn't in service.

Associated Press: Judge removes prosecutors from Horry County murder case

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rHyhe2nx

SC State Wire

A state judge has dismissed local prosecutors from trying a murder case in Horry County. Local news outlets report that Circuit Judge Larry Hyman agreed Wednesday to a defense request to remove the local prosecutor's office from trying the case of two men charged in the 2013 kidnapping and slaying of 19-year-old Zachary Malinowski. Defense attorneys argued that an assistant solicitor had worked as a public defender for one of the men charged, 22-year-old Christopher Brown, before beginning work for the prosecutor's office. Hyman said he was removing the local solicitor's office from the case out of an abundance of caution to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Post and Courier: Hanahan woman accused of smuggling contraband into jail surrenders to Georgetown County Sheriff's Office

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909946/hanahan-woman-accused-of-smuggling-contraband-into-jail-surrenders-to-georgetown-county-sheriffs-office>

Gregory Yee

A Hanahan woman accused of smuggling contraband items to her inmate son at Georgetown County Detention Center turned herself in to authorities Thursday. Linda Quackenbush Butler, a 66-year-old Foster Creek Road resident, surrendered to the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office and has been charged with furnishing contraband to a county prisoner. The crime is a felony that carries a sentence of between one and 10 years in prison and a fine of \$1,000 to \$10,000. Butler was booked at the county jail, the Sheriff's Office said. The contraband items, electronic devices, were discovered Aug. 8 in a jail vehicle and traced to Graham Taylor, Butler's son, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Island Packet: Hilton Head Island High principal got heads up from county before suing to keep sheriff's report secret

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/education/article99314092.html#storylink=cpy>

Lucas High

An attorney for Beaufort County tipped off a high school principal that two newspapers had requested a copy of an investigative report in which she was named and included language that set out what would be needed to keep the public documents secret and how much time she had to do it. On May 15, The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette filed the request for a Beaufort County Sheriff's Office investigative report into allegations of misconduct by a deputy. Three days later, assistant county attorney Allison Coppage sent a letter via email to an attorney representing Hilton Head High School principal Amanda O'Nan asking the attorney to let O'Nan know the newspapers were seeking the information. The letter goes on to explain that the county legally is required to respond within 15 business days. "Please allow this letter to serve as notice of the County's intent to release the requested documents on June 1, 2016, absent a court instruction to the contrary," Coppage writes.

Associated Press: Dry Toga Parties: Charleston bans alcohol at Greek events

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mw9lwKvl

SC State Wire

No more beer pong for fraternities and sororities at the College of Charleston, at least for now. The South Carolina college announced this week it is suspending alcohol at all functions for Greek organizations after a series of incidents ranging from disruptive parties to students getting medical treatment for drinking too much. Local news outlets report college President Glenn McConnell sent a letter saying the ban is in effect until a school review of the Greek system. Members of Greek organizations also will have to receive instruction on substance abuse and high-risk behaviors. School spokesman Mike Robertson said there is no timetable for completing the review. The ban affects about 3,200 members of Greek organizations. The college has about 10,000 undergraduates.

Associated Press: SC State getting \$900,000 from feds to upgrade labs

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

SC State Wire

South Carolina State University is receiving almost \$900,000 from the federal government to upgrade laboratory space at the Orangeburg school. The grant is part of about \$19 million the U.S. Department of Agriculture is awarding to improve food science labs at historically black land-grant colleges and universities. The Times and Democrat of Orangeburg reports (<http://bit.ly/2bENNiQ>) that the university sought the grant to ensure its labs are safe, clean and properly equipped.

The State: USC plans \$15 million Honors College addition

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article99236087.html>

Avery G. Wilks

The University of South Carolina is not finished building at its acclaimed Honors College in downtown

Columbia. School officials say adding a \$15 million wing to the college's 537-bed residence hall — with more residential suites, classrooms and office space — will allow Honors College administrators to move their offices to the six-story facility. Most staff offices now are on USC's historic Horseshoe, though a few are at the residence hall. The addition will make room for the Honors College's growing incoming freshman classes, Honors College dean Steve Lynn said. "We don't want the size of our dorm to be a limiting factor in recruiting such superb students," Lynn said. The addition has not yet been approved by USC trustees. But the school already has landed some state money for the project, which will add a third wing to the now-F-shaped building on Blossom Street, between Main and Sumter streets. Construction tentatively is scheduled to begin during the 2018-19 academic year, USC spokesman Wes Hickman said.

Post and Courier: Shipping line that serves Charleston port files for bankruptcy, sends ripples
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160901/160909961/shipping-line-that-serves-charleston-port-files-for-bankruptcy-sends-ripples>

David Wren

The State Ports Authority does not anticipate any immediate impact from Hanjin Shipping's bankruptcy filing this week, but the maritime agency wants to make sure it does not lose any money on cargo tied to the South Korean company. "There are no Hanjin vessels en route to Charleston that we're aware of, and therefore don't anticipate any arrest situations," said SPA spokeswoman Erin Dhand. "We are working with customers to minimize impacts of this situation on their business as much as possible." Starting Friday, the SPA will demand payment in advance before it handles any future loaded import containers from Hanjin, and all charges will have to be settled before the cargo will be allowed to leave the terminal. The SPA will collect various charges of \$350 per container, with authorization required from Hanjin, before the cargo is released.

Sun News: New jobs coming in Myrtle Beach area company expansion

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article99222807.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

New jobs are coming to the Myrtle Beach area. Banton Media, an existing marketing and advertising business in Myrtle Beach, announced plans to extend its operations to include 30 new employees. The company plans to lease office space at the Compass Center off S.C. 707, according to a news release from the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation. The company plans to hire graphic design specialists, internet engineers, marketing specialists, and sales professionals. "I am thrilled to see such quick growth with my company. We are blessed with an amazing team, and large group of loyal clients. We all hope and pray this new venture will create more jobs, inspire us to be more creative, and add more valued clients to our Banton Media Family," said Banton Media Owner & CEO Brandie Turner, in the release.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Trump paints new target on legal immigration

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1b4a9aecc8fe48c789b78aadeec93dd2>

Nicholas Riccardi

Donald Trump's aggressive rhetoric on illegal immigration has obscured a potentially historic policy shift — the Republican presidential nominee is the first major party candidate in modern memory to propose limiting legal immigration. In his speech on immigration Wednesday night, Trump capped a list of steps to combat illegal immigration, with a final pledge to completely revamp the country's legal immigration system in order to lessen the number of people allowed into the United States. "We will

reform legal immigration to serve the best interests of America and its workers, the forgotten people," Trump said. "Workers. We're going to take care of our workers." Trump talked about limiting immigration to its historic norms. The share of foreign-born people in the United States -- 13 percent of the population -- is at its highest level since 1920. By making the case in a nationally televised address that immigration overall has to be limited, Trump has embraced the ideals of a small group of activists who, for decades, have sought to sharply reduce all forms of migration to the United States. "It's a big change," said one of those activists, Roy Beck, president of Numbers USA, who argued that Trump can espouse ideas that previous politicians, dependent on campaign contributions from business, cannot. "The politicians who are major speakers on this have always focused on rule of law."

Associated Press: 'Crushed': Some Hispanic leaders feel misled by Trump

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1e3f88e991894e59937a55db725e8270>

Jill Colvin

"Crushed." "Disappointed." "Confused." Some Hispanic leaders who have been advising Donald Trump say they feel betrayed after his long-awaited immigration speech that definitively ruled out a pathway to legal status for people living in the country illegally. Trump stopped short of calling for the mass deportation of millions of people who have not committed crimes beyond their immigration offenses. But he also ruled out what he dismissed as "amnesty," saying those who want to live legally in the U.S. will need to leave and head to the back of the line in their home countries. "People will know that you can't just smuggle in, hunker down and wait to be legalized," Trump declared in his hard-line speech Wednesday night. "Those days are over." The language caught off guard a group of Hispanic faith and business leaders who have been advising him, often in the face of criticism from their own communities. In closed-door meetings and phone calls, Trump had given many the impression that he was prepared to soften his stance on immigration as he tries to court more moderate, general election voters and boost his standing with Hispanics and other minorities.

National News:

Associated Press: Florida braces for 'life-threatening' Hurricane Hermine

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d276d62d92f14e5ebdfa2838d642136f>

Josh Replogle

Tropical Storm Hermine strengthened into a hurricane Thursday and steamed toward Florida's Gulf Coast, where people put up shutters, nailed plywood across store windows and braced for the first direct hit on the state from a hurricane in over a decade. The National Hurricane Center said the storm's winds reached about 75 mph in the afternoon, just above the 74 mph hurricane threshold. Hermine was expected to blow ashore late Thursday or early Friday along the state's Big Bend — the mostly rural and lightly populated corner where the Florida peninsula meets the Panhandle — then drop back down to a tropical storm and push into Georgia, the Carolinas and up the East Coast with the potential for drenching rain and deadly flooding. Florida Gov. Rick Scott warned of the danger of strong storm surge, high winds, downed trees and power outages, and urged people to move to inland shelters if necessary and make sure they have enough food, water and medicine.

Associated Press : Dallas chief who oversaw response to sniper attack to retire

<http://bigstory.ap.org/70225c0d3e04443ba3f60102edd89e9b>

Claudia Lauer and David Warren

Dallas police Chief David Brown announced his retirement Thursday, bringing an end to a tenure marked by clashes with police unions but perhaps most notably by widespread praise for his

response to a July sniper attack that killed five officers. Brown issued a statement saying he will retire Oct. 22 after 33 years with Dallas police and six years as chief. He was not immediately available for additional comment. "I became a Dallas cop in 1983 because of the crack cocaine epidemic's impact on my neighborhood," he said in the statement. "I wanted to be part of the solution. Since that time I have taken great pride in knowing that we have always been part of the solution and helped to make Dallas the world class city it is today." Arguably his defining moment leading a department of more than 3,600 officers was his steady, measured response to the July 7 fatal shootings of four Dallas officers and one transit officer during a protest march downtown. He drew broad praise from President Barack Obama and others for his leadership during one of the most wrenching times in the department's history.

Associated Press: Orlando releases 9 of the hundreds of 911 Pulse calls

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3ad71f9a4ae1415b857539510f89865b>

Mike Schneider

The city of Orlando has released a tiny fraction of the hundreds of calls that were made to 911 dispatchers during the Pulse nightclub massacre. The nine calls released Thursday mostly were from people outside the nightclub who were communicating with patrons trapped inside. Hundreds of other 911 calls are currently tied up in a legal battle between the city of Orlando and two dozen media groups, including The Associated Press. The media groups argue that the recordings will help the public evaluate the police response, but the city of Orlando claims the recordings are exempt under Florida public records law, and that the FBI insists releasing them may disrupt the ongoing investigation. During the June massacre, gunman Omar Mateen killed 49 people, and 53 others were hospitalized.

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