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**From:** Tim T [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2016 5:09 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Re: Coastal Carolina Football | Budget Update

Yes, and what the hell are you doing up at 4:30am answering email?...I thought I was the only one crazy enough to do that...!

Sent from my iPad

On May 20, 2016, at 4:41 AM, Smith, Austin <AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Sorry I missed you last night. Do you have time for a call around 9?

On May 20, 2016, at 4:36 AM, Tim T [REDACTED]@msn.com> wrote:

FYI

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED]@aol.com  
**Date:** May 19, 2016 at 11:39:57 PM EDT  
**To:** jcarullo@che.sc.gov  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@msn.com  
**Subject:** Coastal Carolina Football | Budget Update

Julie  
Did Coastal Carolina do a work-around to avoid the need for CHE approval.  
Dr. Louis Lynn

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Among the new amendments that were adopted today, the following item was included in the nonrecurring surplus proviso (118.16):  
42) H170- Coastal Carolina University  
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Copies of the full text of the amendments on H 5001 and  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Julie Carullo <jcarullo@che.sc.gov>  
To: Batson, Paul <paul@batsontax.net>; Davis-Gross, Rose Ellen  
(Lynn's asst) (Lynn's asst) <regross@clermson.edu>; Dianne Kuhl  
(dkuhl@corbia.com) <dkuhl@corbia.com>; Edwards, Devron  
<[REDACTED]@sc.rr.com>; Hofferth, Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>; Horne,  
Bettie Rose <[REDACTED]@earthlink.net>; Love, Allison Dean  
<[REDACTED]@bellsouth.net>; Lynn, Louis <[REDACTED]@aol.com>;  
Munns, Charles <[REDACTED]@aol.com>; Parker, Clark  
<clark@phscpas.com>; Phillips, Kim <kphillips@hamrickmills.com>;  
Seckinger, Terry <[REDACTED]@comcast.net>; Settlemyer, Jennifer  
<[REDACTED]@me.com>; Stokes, Terra (Temple's asst) (Temple's asst.)  
<tstokes@htlawsc.com>; Sutherland, Diane (Whitaker's asst.)  
(Whitaker's asst.) <dsutherland@andersonuniversity.edu>; Temple,  
Hood <eh temple@htlawsc.com>; Whitaker, Evans  
<ewhitaker@andersonuniversity.edu>  
Cc: Gary Glenn <gglen@che.sc.gov>; Beth Rogers  
<brogers@che.sc.gov>; John Lane <jlane@che.sc.gov>; Karen  
Woodfaulk <kwoodfaulk@che.sc.gov>; Rick Moul  
<rmoul@pascalsc.org>  
Sent: Thu, May 19, 2016 5:50 pm  
Subject: Budget Update

Good Afternoon, All:

The House acted on the budget bills that had been returned from the  
Senate.

- On the Capital Reserve Fund Bill (H.5002), an amendment was adopted  
that in effect brought the bill back to the House version and then further  
amended by reducing the amount of one or two items and then adding  
number of items at \$1 that the Senate had included in their version of the  
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  - For CHE, there were no significant changes with regard to  
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priorities.
  - Among the new amendments that were adopted today,  
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surplus proviso (118.16):

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[http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121\\_2015-2016/nj16/20160519.htm](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121_2015-2016/nj16/20160519.htm).

We will send tomorrow bullets as to the key differences that will be conference considerations for CHE. In the interim, CHE core agency items and difference in the Senate and House as described in the earlier comparison is still applicable and available at  
[http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE\\_Docs/infocntr/legisl/2016/CHE\\_WeeklyUpdate\\_2-6May2016.pdf](http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/infocntr/legisl/2016/CHE_WeeklyUpdate_2-6May2016.pdf)

With respect to Conference Committee, the House also indicated that it was anticipating conference on Monday and approved a motion that if the Senate nonconcurs, the House would insist on its amendments and the Speaker would be allowed to appoint conferees which according to statements of White would be Reps White, Herbkersman, and Hosey. However, the Senate adjourned today before receiving the message from the House on the budget bills. As a result, it would not appear that conference could begin on Monday as it would be expected that the Senate would not act to nonconcur and name conferees until they return to session on Tuesday.

Thanks,  
Julie

Julie Carullo  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
803.737.2292 ofc / 803.730.3830 cell  
[jcarullo@che.sc.gov](mailto:jcarullo@che.sc.gov)

---

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2016 3:17 PM  
**To:** Godfrey, Rob  
**Cc:** Tim  
**Subject:** RE: follow up

Tim,

Can you have your folks review these facts for accuracy?

Thanks,

Austin

- South Carolina is blessed to be the home of nationally and internationally renowned institutions of higher education, including public and private colleges and universities and technical college, that afford our citizens unlimited opportunities to compete for jobs across the world.
- The Commission on Higher Education's job is to work with these institutions to ensure that higher education is accessible and affordable for every South Carolinian, that our institutions meet the highest standards for academic excellence, and that this process is transparent.
- Higher education in South Carolina is a \$4.5 billion industry.
- South Carolina has 13 public colleges and universities - in addition to 20 two year campuses and technical colleges and dozens of other private institutions of higher education - with enrollment ranging from under 2,000 to over 30,000.
- Despite having a variety of uniquely situated schools in the system, increases in undergraduate enrollment at schools at the top of the food chain has the potential to negatively impact enrollment at schools toward the bottom of the chain. In other words, when enrollment goes up at healthy schools, enrollment can go down at struggling schools. Declining enrollment could have disastrous effects at schools that have showed signs of financial distress like S.C. State, Lander and Winthrop.
- Nationally, higher education costs have outpaced other costs of living. From 1978 to 2012, food costs rose by 244%, health care by 601%, and college tuition and fees skyrocketed by 1,120%.
- Each higher education institution is required to submit a Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plan (CPIP) to CHE for consideration each year. Year 1 of the CPIP includes all permanent improvement projects expected during the coming fiscal year. The plans submitted to CHE included Year 1 funding of \$734 million in FY 2014-15 and \$531 million in FY 2015-16.
- University officials will tell you that these funds are privately raised or borrowed in ways that do not cause tuition to increase, but that simply isn't true. The bottom line is that tuition is a major revenue source for universities in addition to the hundreds of millions they receive in state appropriations and lottery funds; and money spent on buildings and ancillary programs – whether appropriated, raised, earned, or borrowed – is money unavailable for the core mission to educate South Carolina students.

- Moreover, South Carolina universities continue to increase tuition. Over the past five years, South Carolina's average in-state tuition has increased by nearly 13% at our four-year public colleges.
- South Carolina has the 8th highest average tuition and fees in the nation, and South Carolina students leave school with more debt than the national average.
- The net cost of attendance at our four year colleges and universities (after taking out grant aid) is \$15,700 per year, the highest in the South and \$3,400 over the Southern average.
- With that in mind, there is a critical need for CHE to thoroughly evaluate new buildings and programs before approving additional expenditures by schools at both ends of the spectrum – something that hasn't meaningfully happened in the past.
- Last fall, CHE approved a \$19 million stadium expansion for Coastal Carolina University (CCU). CCU subsequently requested approval to double the budget to \$38 million. CHE did not approve the revised project. CCU revised the project again to \$30 million, but it did not receive an approval for the project from CHE.
- In June, the CCU board of trustees approved a 3.29 percent increase in tuition and fees for both in-state and out-of-state students.
- As a result of CHE's decision not to approve CCU's project, the university went to lawmakers and asked them to pass a budget proviso that bypasses CHE entirely. The Joint Bond Review Committee then approved the project and convinced CCU to increase its budget by almost \$2 million.
- In a critical period for higher education, our state cannot afford to bend the rules and approve spending that hasn't been thoroughly vetted for the best interests of South Carolina students and families.

---

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2016 12:14 PM  
**To:** Mottel, Haley  
**Subject:** FW: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2016 12:11 PM  
**To:** Baker, Josh  
**Subject:** Fwd: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Date:** June 15, 2016 at 9:25:04 AM EDT  
**To:** Auston Smith <austinsmith@gov.sc.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Auston  
Per our conversation this morning...  
Tim

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gary Glenn <gglen@gche.sc.gov>  
**Date:** June 15, 2016 at 9:20:04 AM EDT  
**To:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Cc:** Julie Carullo <jcarullo@gche.sc.gov>, Lil Hayes <LilHayes@schouse.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Tim,

It's also important to recognize the number of projects approved that received directed state support. We staff approve those because the legislature has already approved the use of the funds for the specific purpose of the project. We noted in blue cells those where CHE approved. That is a significantly lower number of actions.

The CCU project as submitted was like no other on the list. It was the only one that proposed to fund an ancillary activity initially with total support from student tuition and even as amended, primarily with student tuition. The supporting documents continued to be questionable and the assumptions made by the institution were not adequately supported.

This project was by far the exception to the projects considered by CHE.

I've copied Lil. We should consider sending this to Kara as well.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 14, 2016, at 9:45 PM, Tim [REDACTED]@msn.com> wrote:

Ok...lets talk in the morning.  
Have a great evening!

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

On Jun 14, 2016, at 9:41 PM, Gary Glenn <[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)> wrote:

Morgan and I worked on it together. I approved everything before it was sent.

Gary S. Glenn  
Interim Executive Director and Director of Fiscal Affairs  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
Phone: (803) 737-2155  
Email: [gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)

---

**From:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 9:34 PM  
**To:** Gary Glenn  
**Subject:** Re: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Gary  
You should be dealing with Kara directly on this issue. she's NOT looking to help us and Morgan doesn't have the history.  
All of this should be going through you.  
Tim

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

On Jun 14, 2016, at 9:22 PM, Gary Glenn <[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)> wrote:

Here's the question and answer provided.

G

Gary S. Glenn  
Interim Executive Director and Director of  
Fiscal Affairs  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
Phone: (803) 737-2155  
Email: [gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)

---

**From:** Morgan Odonnell  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 6:18 PM  
**To:** 'Kara Brurok'  
**Cc:** Gary Glenn; Julie Carullo  
**Subject:** RE: Capital Projects Considered  
List - CHE

Kara – Yes, this includes any projects that have been denied. Please see the end of the list for the CPIP projects that were either moved to Year Two, and thus not considered for approval this year, or were removed completely from the CPIP due to various factors with the particular projects. There were no other non-CPIP projects that were denied since 9/23/2015.

Morgan O'Donnell –  
803.737.3921

**From:** Kara Brurok  
[mailto:[KaraBrurok@schouse.gov](mailto:KaraBrurok@schouse.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 6:08 PM  
**To:** Morgan Odonnell  
<[mmodonnell@che.sc.gov](mailto:mmodonnell@che.sc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Gary Glenn  
<[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)>; Julie Carullo  
<[jcarullo@che.sc.gov](mailto:jcarullo@che.sc.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Capital Projects  
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Morgan,

Does this show those that have been denied as well? It's hard for me to look at this on my phone so if it's there, forgive me.

Kara

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Morgan Odonnell  
<[modonnell@che.sc.gov](mailto:modonnell@che.sc.gov)>

Date: 6/14/16 6:02 PM (GMT-05:00)

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Cc: Gary Glenn  
<[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)>, Julie Carullo  
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related to the Brooks Stadium  
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**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2016 12:11 PM  
**To:** Baker, Josh  
**Subject:** Fwd: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE  
**Attachments:** Capital Projects Reviewed Since Sept 23 2015.xlsx; ATT00001.htm

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**From:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Date:** June 15, 2016 at 8:52:18 AM EDT  
**To:** Auston Smith <[austinsmith@che.sc.gov](mailto:austinsmith@che.sc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Auston

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**From:** Gary Glenn <[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)>  
**Date:** June 14, 2016 at 9:21:20 PM EDT  
**To:** 'Tim T' [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Tim,

Here is a spreadsheet we were asked to prepare for Kara Brurok. Per Julie, she wanted a list of all projects we had approved or denied since the CCU project was received.

She foliowed up with Morgan with a question. I'll send that exchange next.

G

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Interim Executive Director and Director of Fiscal Affairs  
SC Commission on Higher Education



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-----Original Message-----

From: Julie Carullo <jcarullo@che.sc.gov>  
To: Batson, Paul <paul@batsontax.net>; Davis-Gross, Rose Ellen (Lynn's asst) (Lynn's asst) <regross@clemson.edu>; Dianne Kuhl (dkuhl@corbia.com) <dkuhl@corbia.com>; Edwards, Devron [REDACTED]@sc.rr.com>; Hofferth, Tim [REDACTED]@msn.com>; Horne, Bettie Rose [REDACTED]@earthlink.net>; Love, Allison Dean [REDACTED]@bellsouth.net>; Lynn, Louis [REDACTED]@aol.com>; Munns, Charles [REDACTED]@aol.com>; Parker, Clark <clark@phscpas.com>; Phillips, Kim <kphillips@hamrickmills.com>; Seckinger, Terrye [REDACTED]@comcast.net>; Settlemyer, Jennifer [REDACTED]@me.com>; Stokes, Terra (Temple's asst) (Temple's asst.) <tlstokes@htlawsc.com>; Sutherland, Diane (Whitaker's asst.) (Whitaker's asst.) <dsutherland@andersonuniversity.edu>; Temple, Hood <eh temple@htlawsc.com>; Whitaker, Evans <ewhitaker@andersonuniversity.edu>  
Cc: Gary Glenn <gglenn@che.sc.gov>; Beth Rogers <br Rogers@che.sc.gov>; John Lane <jlane@che.sc.gov>; Karen Woodfaulk <kwoodfaulk@che.sc.gov>; Rick Moul <rmoul@pascalsc.org>  
Sent: Thu, May 19, 2016 5:50 pm  
Subject: Budget Update

Good Afternoon, All:

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Engineering \$100,000  
(42.1) Coastal Carolina University shall use the funds appropriated for Brooks Stadium Engineering to offset costs associated with expansion of the football stadium. Once the university has developed a plan for stadium expansion pursuant to any National Collegiate Athletic Association, conference, or contractual requirements, the university shall submit the plan for approval to the Joint Bond Review Committee and the State Fiscal Accountability Authority. Any other statutory requirements for state approval of this project are hereby suspended for the fiscal year.

Copies of the full text of the amendments on H.5001 and H.5002 are available in the House Journal at [http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121\\_2015-2016/hi16/20160519.htm](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121_2015-2016/hi16/20160519.htm).

We will send tomorrow bullets as to the key differences that will be conference considerations for CHE. In the interim, CHE core agency items and difference in the Senate and House as described in the earlier comparison is still applicable and available at [http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE\\_Docs/infocntr/legisl/2016/CHE\\_WeeklyUpdate\\_2-6May2016.pdf](http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/infocntr/legisl/2016/CHE_WeeklyUpdate_2-6May2016.pdf)

With respect to Conference Committee, the House also indicated that it was anticipating conference on Monday and approved a motion that if the Senate nonconcurs, the House would insist on its amendments and the Speaker would be allowed to appoint conferees which according to statements of White would be Reps White, Herbkersman, and Hosey. However, the Senate adjourned today before receiving the message from the House on the budget bills. As a result, it would not appear that conference could begin on Monday as it would be expected that the Senate would not act to nonconcur and name conferees until they return to session on Tuesday.

Thanks,  
Julie

Julie Carullo  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
803.737.2292 ofc / 803.730.3830 cell  
[jcarullo@che.sc.gov](mailto:jcarullo@che.sc.gov)

---

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2016 12:08 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine; Baker, Josh  
**Subject:** Fw: Requesting your insight on an important and time-sensitive matter...

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**From:** TMH <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:59 AM  
**To:** HKL@scsenate.gov; BRIAN WHITE  
**Cc:** DMullis@scsenate.gov; DianneCarraway@scsenate.gov; Quentin Hawkins; MikeShealy@scsenate.gov; DANIEL BOAN; CraigParks@scsenate.gov; Kara Brurok; Hood Temple; Gary Glenn  
**Subject:** Requesting your insight on an important and time-sensitive matter...

Dear Chairman Leatherman and Chairman White:

As you know, I have the honor of chairing the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. It's truly a privilege to serve the people of this great State and it is my personal hope that in performing this role I can help improve the lives of those we serve.

I have a pressing matter involving the Commission and I would appreciate your advice on how best to proceed. Here is a brief overview of the situation:

On October 1, 2015, Coastal Carolina University presented the CHE an interim capital project to expand their current football stadium to accommodate the requirements of accepting a recent invitation to join the Sunbelt Athletic Conference. Coastal Carolina University has been accepted into this Conference with a requirement that they increase their home football attendance, which would require expanding the existing football stadium. At the time the project was presented in October 2015, the projected cost of this addition to the football stadium was \$19,000,000.00. The project was tentatively approved with the requirement that it be brought back to the CHE's Finance and Facilities Committee when the final cost estimate was prepared.

On January 27, 2016, Coastal Carolina University presented their revised proposal which unfortunately doubled the cost of the project to approximately \$39,000,000.00. The proposal was supported by very limited information. The Committee remains very concerned that the revised project, with the cost of the addition doubling and the information to support those costs was presented only four business days prior to the Committee hearing. The Committee members did not have sufficient time or information to consider the appropriateness of this project. As a result, the Committee Chairman, Hood Temple, moved that the vote be postponed to give the Committee members an opportunity to review additional information. Officials at Coastal Carolina University have expressed concerns of potentially adverse consequences in the event of additional project delays.

As you know, the Joint Bond Review Committee (JBRC) meets on February 24, 2016 and doesn't meet again until June. Therefore, it is necessary that the CHE's, Finance and Facilities Committee meet again with Coastal Carolina prior to the JBRC meeting on the 24th. I would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to discuss this matter prior to Chairman Temple reconvening his subcommittee.

On a more fundamental note, I think it is important that you know that I, as well as many of my fellow CHE Commissioners have great concern regarding the fact that the CHE has very limited tools and resources to perform the functions that are necessary to ensure the thorough and complete vetting of each and every capital project that comes before the Commission. As you know, a proper 'vetting process' is critical in helping contain the skyrocketing costs in Higher Education. Over the last three decades Higher Education costs are up

over 1,100% nationally and the nations student debt is over \$1.4 trillion. The CHE can help slow this trend and be a viable entity in vetting capital projects on behalf of the State but it needs the tools to do it...

I thought it might be helpful for you to see the comments that are now being recorded in the minutes of every CHE Board meeting in which a capital project is voted on and approved:

**"In summary, Chairman Hofferth stated that the current process to evaluate capital projects is wholly inadequate to thoroughly and responsibly evaluate these projects. Presently, the superficial evaluation process currently in place provides a false sense of oversight for the General Assembly and other stakeholders who count on the Commission on Higher Education to properly and thoroughly evaluate capital projects.**

**Over the last decade, funding for the Commission on Higher Education has been reduced to minimal levels and as a result, the Commission on Higher Education has limited tools and resources to perform the functions tasked to it by the General Assembly including determining whether projects, like this one and a similar project last month, should be approved and are in the best interest of the State of South Carolina or the institution requesting approval.**

**Until such time as tools and resources are provided to the Commission on Higher Education to perform the tasks already statutorily required of the Commission, the vetting process performed by the Commission on Higher Education remains superficial at best and with very little instructive value."**

I want to personally thank you in advance for giving me a few minutes of your time. I truly appreciate your insight and look forward to the opportunity to discuss this matter with you in further detail. Please feel free to contact me directly to coordinate an appropriate meeting time.

Sincerely,

Tim Hofferth

Chairman

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

(O) 803-945-2000

(C) 973-

[\[REDACTED\]@msn.com](mailto: [REDACTED]@msn.com)

---

**From:** Koch, Paul  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 10:05 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Fwd: SFAA Agenda Notes

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Hart, Brenda" <[Brenda.Hart@admin.sc.gov](mailto:Brenda.Hart@admin.sc.gov)>  
**Date:** February 23, 2016 at 9:33:04 AM EST  
**To:** "Koch, Paul" <[Paul.Koch@admin.sc.gov](mailto:Paul.Koch@admin.sc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: SFAA Agenda Notes

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "O'Donnell, Morgan" <[Morgan.ODonnell@admin.sc.gov](mailto:Morgan.ODonnell@admin.sc.gov)>  
**Date:** February 23, 2016 at 9:19:03 AM EST  
**To:** "Hart, Brenda" <[Brenda.Hart@admin.sc.gov](mailto:Brenda.Hart@admin.sc.gov)>, "Gaines, Brian" <[Brian.Gaines@admin.sc.gov](mailto:Brian.Gaines@admin.sc.gov)>  
**Subject:** SFAA Agenda Notes

Here is the language I wrote for the Cliff Pitts project:

The appraised value of the land is \$1,475,000 and the purchase price is \$1,300,000. Clemson University owns approximately 518.23 acres, and this land is appraised at \$1,297,047 with proceeds of \$1,143,294 going to Clemson. Clemson University Land Stewardship Foundation owns approximately 71.1 acres, and this land is appraised at \$177,953 with proceeds of \$156,706 going to the foundation. Both Clemson and the Clemson University Land Stewardship Foundation are receiving approximately eighty-eight percent of their appraised value of land owned.

Also, CHE is meeting today at 4PM to discuss the Coastal Carolina Brook Stadium project.

Here are the parties associated with the Brooks Stadium project:

- Stubbs Muldrow Herin Architects, Architect of Record
- Heery International, Design and Sports Architect
- Seamon Whiteside + Associates, Civil
- ADC Engineering, Structural
- DWG, Inc., Electrical Mechanical, Plumbing, Fire Protection
- Aiken Cost Consultants, Estimator



Thanks,

Morgan O'Donnell  
*Capital Projects Manager, Executive Budget Office*

**The South Carolina  
Department of Administration**  
1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 529, Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 734-2264 | (803) 734-0645 fax

***Note: Act 121 of 2014 (SC Restructuring Act of 2014) abolished the Budget and Control Board. Effective July 1, 2015, the Executive Budget Office has been transferred to the Department of Administration. Please update your contact information.***

---

**From:** Tim T [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 5:00 AM  
**To:** Paul Batson  
**Cc:** Temple, Hood  
**Subject:** Re: NDSU/JSU Football

Paul

I can't thank you enough for making another trip to Columbia on behalf of the CHE to attend this important meeting. Having someone present with your financial expertise and insight was invaluable, YOU truly made a difference!

Paul, I want you to know that your personal and selfless contributions to our State are inspiring. You're truly a 'class' individual and it's such honor to serve on this Commission with you! I know that there's still much to be done but I wouldn't want to be doing it with anyone else..!

Thank you again and I'll talk to you soon!

Tim

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 23, 2016, at 11:03 PM, Paul Batson <[paul@batsontax.net](mailto:paul@batsontax.net)> wrote:

Very helpful, Tim. While not needed directly today, it confirmed some gut instinct.

What a great job you and all others did today. It was sad to say no but CHE reached a level of competence today that will speak volumes going forward, regardless of what happens with 4833. I suspect we will have blowback, but what we did was high road stuff.

I'm so proud to serve with you. What a great leader you are. And I thank you and Hood for pushing me last night to get there in person today. It was the right thing to do.

Reaction tomorrow will be interesting, but the focus ought to be placed on CCU, not us.

I'll try to get some info at a legislative reception tomorrow night that is being supported by SC Assoc of Technical College Commissioners.

Paul O. Batson, III, President  
Batson Accounting & Tax, P.A.  
20 Washington Park  
Greenville, SC 29601

Office: 864/235-6824

Fax: 864/232-5873

[www.batsontax.net](http://www.batsontax.net)

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\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Tim T [mailto: [REDACTED]@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 9:23 AM  
**To:** Paul Batson; Hood Temple  
**Subject:** Fwd: NDSU/JSU Football

FYI

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Moats, Kyle L" <KvleMoats@MissouriState.edu>  
**Date:** February 23, 2016 at 9:13:37 AM EST  
**To:** Tim T [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: NDSU/JSU Football

Please notice below. These number came from the EADA report. These two programs were the top two in our league last year. As you know NDSU has won 5 straight national championships and sells out their 17,00 seat stadium every game. You can decide for yourself if Coastal's numbers make sense. Seems to me that it would be difficult to get the revenue numbers that Coastal is saying unless they were charging twice as much as NDSU because their stadium is half the size of NDSU. I think their numbers are a million less than NDSU but again half the stadium size.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "O'Neal, Deborah M" <DebONeal@MissouriState.edu>  
**Subject:** NDSU/JSU Football  
**Date:** February 23, 2016 at 7:42:52 AM CST

To: "Moats, Kyle L" <[KyleMoats@MissouriState.edu](mailto:KyleMoats@MissouriState.edu)>

**North Dakota State**

Participants: 117

Game Day Expenses: \$1,183,929

Total Expenses: \$4,647,756

Total Revenues: \$4,647,756

**Jacksonville State**

Participants: 125

Game Day Expenses: \$686,391

Total Expenses: \$3,510,199

Total Revenues: \$3,510,199

**Deb O'Neal**

**Asst. AD for Business Administration**

**Missouri State University**

**901 S. National Ave.**

**Springfield, MO 65897**

**phone 417-836-4103 | fax 417-836-6344**

**[dboneal@missouristate.edu](mailto:dboneal@missouristate.edu) | [www.missouristate.edu](http://www.missouristate.edu)**

<image001.jpg>

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**From:** Tim T [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 12, 2016 11:11 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Cc:** Butch Bowers  
**Subject:** Petition · Nikki Haley: Petition In Support of Coastal Carolina University Brooks Stadium Expansion · Change.org

<https://www.change.org/p/nikki-haley-petition-in-support-of-coastal-carolina-university-brooks-stadium-expansion>

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

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**From:** Tim T [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 12, 2016 6:41 PM  
**To:** Tim Hofferth  
**Subject:** Fwd: Chairmen Henderson's Letter to CCU Stakeholders

FYI

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gary Glenn <gglenn@che.sc.gov>  
**Date:** May 12, 2016 at 6:11:22 PM EDT  
**To:** 'Tim T' [REDACTED]@msn.com>, "E. Hood Temple" <eh temple@htlawsc.com>, Dianne Kuhl <dkuhl@corbia.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Chairmen Henderson's Letter to CCU Stakeholders

Carrie Eberly shared this letter with me. She received it as a CCU alumnus.  
G

**From:** Carrie Eberly  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 12, 2016 6:00 PM  
**To:** Gary Glenn  
**Subject:** Chairmen Henderson's Letter to CCU Stakeholders

## COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

All stakeholders of Coastal Carolina University,

As you are probably aware, we have submitted our request for the Brooks Stadium expansion to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education four different times, and at the latest presentation we were told that there are not enough private funds included with the request. While I am not going to express to you my personal opinion about the politics surrounding this project, I do think it is important that we, as a University, move forward with a determined resolve that we will get this done. Take my word for it; we will get this done!

We have committed to the Sun Belt Conference our start date of July 1, 2016, and this has not changed. Your board and the administration had every legal right, as per state statute and board by-laws, to accept the invitation from the Sun Belt, and we remain committed to moving this University to the next level both academically and athletically. While this may be a small bump in the road, we are committed to working with the CHE and the Joint Bond Review Committee to get this project approved.

The total project cost is \$29.9 million with \$2 million in upfront private donations. While only 6.7 percent of the upfront cost is being supported by private donations, close to 50

percent of the ongoing quarterly installment payments related to the bonds is being supported by recurring private donations. These private donations include support from the Chanticleer Athletic Foundation, athletic department revenue, suite ticket sales and other private donations. As a young University only 23 years old, we do not have the luxury of some of the bigger schools that have billion-dollar endowments or thousands and thousands of alumni waiting in line to throw money at anything we want to build before there is even a design. As such, we have always bonded out the necessary funds to construct a project, and then sold naming rights to the project after construction. This model has always worked, and we have a very strong track record in acquiring the funds on the back end.

However, the CHE made it loud and clear at our last presentation that until we can prove that we have the necessary private funding, we will continue to struggle in convincing a majority of commissioners to vote for our project. That's where you, the stakeholders in CCU, need to get involved. What would it take to raise \$5 million dollars for this cause? Sure, we could sit and wait on one wealthy donor to come in and cut us one big check, but realistically, that may not happen in time for us to be ready for the 2018 football season. That's why I am appealing to everyone. If each of us could commit to some amount over the next 10 years, no doubt we could quickly raise \$5 million. Look at it like this: It would take only 100 stakeholders to commit to contributing \$5,000 per year for 10 years and we would have the \$5 million. Or, if you could contribute more, I would ask that you join my wife Stacy and me and commit to naming something at the expanded stadium with a donation of \$25,000, \$50,000 or more.

This new football stadium expansion belongs to our local community. The economic impact of an additional 10,000 seats and playing better teams that travel in large numbers is immeasurable. We all need to get involved, and get involved now. If you would like to help, I ask that you contact Chris Johnson, executive director of the Chanticleer Athletic Foundation, at [843.349.2466](tel:843.349.2466) or [cjohnson@coastal.edu](mailto:cjohnson@coastal.edu), and sign a pledge for any amount you can. No amount is too small. But the longer we wait to provide the private funding that CHE is looking for, the longer the stadium expansion will be delayed. Without the expansion, we will not be able to reap the benefits of full Sun Belt membership and FBS football. Join me, your board of trustees and your administration in committing to moving our University to the next level.

Go Chants!

D. Wyatt Henderson CPA, CFF, CFE  
*Class of 1998*  
Board Chair, Coastal Carolina University



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**From:** Peters, Hal  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 11:16 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** RE: CCU

Merci bien.

Hal Peters  
Policy Analyst  
Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley  
T 803.734.4062  
F 803.734.8051  
[halpeters@gov.sc.gov](mailto:halpeters@gov.sc.gov)

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 11:10 AM  
**To:** Peters, Hal  
**Subject:** Re: CCU

Correct

On May 18, 2016, at 10:37 AM, Peters, Hal <[HalPeters@gov.sc.gov](mailto:HalPeters@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

So we have no say in this currently?

It rests solely with CHE and then with JBRC?

Hal Peters  
Policy Analyst  
Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley  
T 803.734.4062  
F 803.734.8051  
[halpeters@gov.sc.gov](mailto:halpeters@gov.sc.gov)

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:36 AM  
**To:** Peters, Hal  
**Subject:** RE: CCU

No, Coastal has not gone before SFAA. They had an initial approval for half that amount last fall, and then they came back with a revised proposal that doubled the cost. With the revised proposal, they haven't cleared the CHE hurdle (then they would have to go before JBRC):  
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article75945117.html>

**From:** Peters, Hal  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:22 AM



**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** CCU

Did Coastal Carolina University recently receive a \$39,000,000.00 bond from SFAA to expand or build a stadium?

Do you have any details about this you can share with me so I can relay it to a constituent?

Hal Peters  
Policy Analyst  
Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley  
T 803.734.4062  
F 803.734.8051  
[halpeters@gov.sc.gov](mailto:halpeters@gov.sc.gov)

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**From:** Baker, Josh  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2016 7:18 PM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Coastal

Will you take a look at this:

House: 118.16: Coastal Carolina

First, this proviso appropriates \$100,000 to Coastal Carolina University for the purpose of paying for engineering work for a stadium expansion. The next sentence suspends, for this one project, the approvals for the stadium expansion project, effectively undermining decisions by the Commission on Higher Education.

This is problematic for several reasons:

1. First, this budget contains a million in new funding for CHE to beef up its review of institutions finances and review capital investment. In light of what we're dealing with this in this budget – SC State University, recent reports that the College of Charleston is running structural deficits – it seems disingenuous to vest additional resources in an oversight entity while in the same document display a willingness to totally disregard the regime we put in place as regional political whims desire. The practical effect of this provision is to undermine a decision by CHE to not allow this project to move forward for a number of reasons.

Second, the basis of this expansion is problematic. While we are questioning valid capital investments in higher education, our larger research institutions argue that athletics facilities and other so-called “enterprise” investment should fall outside of the regulatory purview of the state generally and CHE specifically because they are self-funding. In this instance, nothing could be farther from the truth. A fee is being directly applied to students to pay for this, effectively increasing tuition – it is not game revenues and television royalties that are paying for a significant portion of this stadium expansion.

Finally, and from a practical standpoint, this is a Rule 24 violation. The offending language in the second sentence suspends permanent law including, but not necessarily limited Section 59-103-110 which requires the commission to approve all new construction.

---

**From:** Tim [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2016 4:43 PM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Cc:** Baker, Josh  
**Subject:** Fwd: Coastal Carolina Proviso

Auston

Here are a few of our thoughts on vetoing the CCU Proviso from the CHE perspective. Please use as you see fit.

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@msn.com>

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Thomas Layzell [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@comcast.net>  
**Date:** June 8, 2016 at 4:37:04 PM EDT  
**To:** Tim T <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Cc:** Rich Rhoda <[REDACTED]@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** Coastal Carolina

Rich and I offer the following thoughts on points to include in veto language:

1. The proviso undermines CHE's statutory responsibility to review and consider higher education capital projects, and encourages other attempts to bypass CHE as it fulfills its legal responsibility to develop a coordinated, efficient, and responsive higher education system.
2. CHE has not approved the institution's plans for the stadium to date because of concerns about the viability of the financial plans for the project, particularly the extent of private funding for the project.
3. Che remains ready and willing to work with Coastal Carolina to develop a sound financial plan for the stadium project that will protect both the state and future generations of students. The established review process must be allowed to proceed without interference.
4. More than ever, SC needs a globally competitive educational system. CHE plays an essential part in the development of such a system, and its efforts to fulfill its responsibilities must be recognized and respected.

---

**From:** Baker, Josh  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2016 8:40 PM  
**To:** Smith, Austin

Charting a new course in higher education governance has been a topic of debate during my entire administration. After years of proposals surrounding accountability-based funding, consolidation of governance into a board of regents, and even privatizing many of the components of our state's college and university complex, nothing has changed.

To take this issue head-on, despite the unwillingness of many to reform our fragmented and inconsistent system of higher education, I installed a new Chair to the commission on higher education and have recommended additional resources for the commission to prove its competence and worth and an education oversight entity. The Commission has risen to the challenge and is now vetting capital projects and budgets, reversing past patterns of rubber-stamping any university with list brought before it.

Coastal Carolina University is proposing a new stadium, funding with tuition-backed debt, that has doubled in cost since its original proposal just XXXX MONTHS/YEARS ago, and was accordingly challenged and ultimately disapproved by the Commission. The fact is, the numbers don't work and few individuals in this state are more qualified and experienced than my current CHE Chairman to evaluate these types of college athletics proposals. Instead of responding the Commission's concerns, Coastal Carolina University has deployed an aggressive lobbying effort to undermine all of the state's checks on runaway capital expansion on a case-by-case basis. To guarantee that this would survive a legal challenge in light of recent state Supreme Court rulings, a nominal amount of funding was attached to language suspending all capital approvals for the stadium at the state level.

Such actions by a public institution are disappointing, and the fact that legislators have chosen to go along is even more so. In a year where our communities, schools, and businesses are crying out for a better educated and prepared workforce, a tone-deaf university administration is choosing to take a stand on a money-losing football stadium. I ask that you sustain this good-government veto and demonstrate your commitment to higher education reform and oversight.

Joshua D. Baker  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley  
803.734.5153 (o) 803.351.0981 (c)  
[joshbaker@gov.sc.gov](mailto:joshbaker@gov.sc.gov)

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**From:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2016 8:52 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Fwd: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE  
**Attachments:** Capital Projects Reviewed Since Sept 23 2015.xlsx; ATT00001.htm

Auston

Just an FYI...(I received this last night)

Tim

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gary Glenn <[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)>  
**Date:** June 14, 2016 at 9:21:20 PM EDT  
**To:** 'Tim T' <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Tim,

Here is a spreadsheet we were asked to prepare for Kara Brurok. Per Julie, she wanted a list of all projects we had approved or denied since the CCU project was received.

She followed up with Morgan with a question. I'll send that exchange next.

G

Gary S. Glenn  
Interim Executive Director and Director of Fiscal Affairs  
SC Commission on Higher Education  
Phone: (803) 737-2155  
Email: [gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)

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**From:** Morgan Odonnell  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 6:00 PM  
**To:** '[karabrurok@schoouse.gov](mailto:karabrurok@schoouse.gov)'  
**Cc:** Gary Glenn; Julie Carullo  
**Subject:** Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Kara,

Forwarded to you on behalf of Julie Carullo. This is the list of projects considered by staff and/or Commissioners since 9/23/2015. We have highlighted the actions taken specifically related to the Brooks Stadium Expansion project at Coastal Carolina. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks,

Morgan O'Donnell

SC Commission on Higher Education

[modonnell@che.sc.gov](mailto:modonnell@che.sc.gov)

803-737-3921

---

**From:** Tim [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2016 9:25 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Fwd: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Auston  
Per our conversation this morning...  
Tim

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gary Glenn <[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)>  
**Date:** June 15, 2016 at 9:20:04 AM EDT  
**To:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Cc:** Julie Carullo <[jcarullo@che.sc.gov](mailto:jcarullo@che.sc.gov)>, Lil Hayes <[LilHayes@schouse.giv](mailto:LilHayes@schouse.giv)>  
**Subject:** Re: Capital Projects Considered List - CHE

Tim,  
It's also important to recognize the number of projects approved that received directed state support. We staff approve those because the legislature has already approved the use of the funds for the specific purpose of the project. We noted in blue cells those where CHE approved. That is a significantly lower number of actions.

The CCU project as submitted was like no other on the list. It was the only one that proposed to fund an ancillary activity initially with total support from student tuition and even as amended, primarily with student tuition. The supporting documents continued to be questionable and the assumptions made by the institution were not adequately supported.

This project was by far the exception to the projects considered by CHE.

I've copied Lil. We should consider sending this to Kara as well.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 14, 2016, at 9:45 PM, Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com> wrote:

Ok...lets talk in the morning.  
Have a great evening!

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

On Jun 14, 2016, at 9:41 PM, Gary Glenn <[gglenn@che.sc.gov](mailto:gglenn@che.sc.gov)> wrote:

- Each higher education institution is required to submit a Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plan (CPIP) to CHE for consideration each year. Year 1 of the CPIP includes all permanent improvement projects expected during the coming fiscal year. The plans submitted to CHE included Year 1 funding of \$734 million in FY 2014-15 and \$531 million in FY 2015-16.
- University officials will tell you that these funds are privately raised or borrowed in ways that do not cause tuition to increase, but that simply isn't true. The bottom line is that tuition is a major revenue source for universities in addition to the hundreds of millions they receive in state appropriations and lottery funds; and money spent on buildings and ancillary programs – whether appropriated, raised, earned, or borrowed – is money unavailable for the core mission to educate South Carolina students.
- Moreover, South Carolina universities continue to increase tuition. Over the past five years, South Carolina's average in-state tuition has increased by nearly 13% at our four-year public colleges.
- South Carolina has the 8th highest average tuition and fees in the nation, and South Carolina students leave school with more debt than the national average.
- The net cost of attendance at our four year colleges and universities (after taking out grant aid) is \$15,700 per year, the highest in the South and \$3,400 over the Southern average.
- With that in mind, there is a critical need for CHE to thoroughly evaluate new buildings and programs before approving additional expenditures by schools at both ends of the spectrum – something that hasn't meaningfully happened in the past.
- Last fall, CHE approved a \$19 million stadium expansion for Coastal Carolina University (CCU). CCU subsequently requested approval to double the budget to \$38 million. CHE did not approve the revised project. CCU revised the project again to \$30 million, but it did not receive an approval for the project from CHE.
- In June, the CCU board of trustees approved a 3.29 percent increase in tuition and fees for both in-state and out-of-state students.
- As a result of CHE's decision not to approve CCU's project, the university went to lawmakers and asked them to pass a budget proviso that bypasses CHE entirely. The Joint Bond Review Committee then approved the project and convinced CCU to increase its budget by almost \$2 million.
- In a critical period for higher education, our state cannot afford to bend the rules and approve spending that hasn't been thoroughly vetted for the best interests of South Carolina students and families.



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**From:** Tim [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 4:19 PM  
**To:** Godfrey, Rob  
**Cc:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Re: Thoughts here?

Rob

Wow, this is a GREAT timeline and a tremendous recap! I think it would be great to send this overview along with a few industry-wide articles that speak to the pending crisis in higher education and maybe a few facts on where SC fits in nationally...?

Also, today's front page of The State paper on the student debt crisis was very timely!

We can finalize any details on what I advance to Charles in the morning, I'll send him an email after our meeting.

Thanks for all the help Rob, I'll see you in the morning.

Tim

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 14, 2016, at 2:55 PM, Godfrey, Rob <[RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov](mailto:RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

**The Sun News:** CCU stadium expansion request again denied by state  
<http://www.mvrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article75945117.html>  
MAY 5, 2016

The CHE, in turn, continued to express concerns over the lack of upfront private contributions toward the project, and CHE chairman Tim Hofferth continued to express his opinion that Coastal Carolina's financial projections do not thoroughly anticipate the cost of making this move to the FBS and Sun Belt.

This was the fourth time since February the university has brought the stadium proposal to the CHE for needed approval.

"We take the responsibility very seriously. This is not an easy decision. We champion everything that you're about as an institution," Hofferth said prior to the vote. "... At the end of the day, I've talked to a lot of athletic directors, a lot of presidents throughout the country, to bring it without significant private funding in today's environment [is risky]. The question is what's significant? I don't know. There's 13 [different] significant answers here. The fact of the matter is it's very relevant and the thing that I'm afraid of, the costs on the operating side are nowhere near what you anticipate them to be. ...

"That's my greatest concern in this environment. I want to get there. I'm just not there yet." ...

And so once again the commission had plenty of questions and concerns – above all else, the lack of committed private donations toward the project.

While the state does not provide the money for such capital projects, it takes on the liability if a school can't pay off its debts from the bonds that do fund the operation.

"I want to figure out a way to support it. I know this, for me the most important part is the private source of funding," Hofferth said. "That's a hard number. That number when it comes in, if it's \$10 million, \$15 [million], \$20 million, that's a hard number that regardless of economic conditions or the trends in higher education it [can be counted on]."

Said Terrye Seckinger, a CHE commissioner from Mount Pleasant: "I don't want you to make a mistake that's going to bankrupt your institution in a brief moment of excitement about football. I get it. We've got to calm down and look at the downside. We want to see, what are the downsides of this and why was there not a lot of money immediately when the Sun Belt came? ... I have to understand that I'm making a prudent financial decision, and I'm not convinced of that because of lack of private funding [and] lack of initiative [when thoughts of changing conferences] started."

**The Sun News:** "an entirely new vetting process for such projects"

<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article75510407.html#storylink=cpy>

[B]ut in the meanwhile, school leaders have already learned that they are dealing with an entirely new vetting process for such projects.

If the unexpected delays in approval to this point didn't make that clear, CHE chairman Tim Hofferth certainly did in a recent interview with The Sun News. ...

As a result, Coastal Carolina has found itself trying to push through a significant stadium expansion budgeted at \$38 million at a time when the vetting process for such capital projects has never been more exhaustive. It could be looked at as bad timing for the university, or the start of a new reality for schools across the state.

But, Hofferth emphasized, the CHE is not fundamentally opposed to what Coastal Carolina wants to do – the group simply wants to make sure the best decisions are being made by all parties.

"We want to figure out a way to be able to say yes to this project," Hofferth said. "It's not an adversarial type deal. They probably need to understand a little bit more about what I'm describing and see if there's a way to get that done. That's the spirit and intent to [how] we're going at this."

**The Sun News:** "University leaders have previously suggested there could be other avenues...around...CHE"

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article80794572.html#storylink=cpy>

MAY 30, 2016

University leaders have also previously suggested there could be other avenues to work around their stalemate with the CHE, but they have not offered any details as to what those might be.

"At this point we're looking at all options. We'll see what happens," DeCenzo reiterated Monday.

**The Sun News: Legislators help CCU bypass state committee to move stadium expansion forward**

**<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article84116977.html#storvlink=cpy>**

**JUNE 16, 2016**

**CCU leaders found a “work-around” to bypass the Commission on Higher Education and take their stadium plan to the Joint Bond Review Committee**

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**From:** Tim [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 3:48 PM  
**To:** Godfrey, Rob;Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Fwd: Background information for our meeting tomorrow at 11:00am  
**Attachments:** Attach. 1 SREB Cost Attendance.pdf; ATT00001.htm; Attach. 2 SHEEO Net Tuition.pdf; ATT00002.htm

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tim [REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Subject:** Background information for our meeting tomorrow at 11:00am  
**Date:** August 15, 2016 at 3:45:17 PM EDT  
**To:** Charles Rowe <crowe@postandcourier.com>  
**Cc:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>

Charles

Sorry for the delay, I had to go out of town late last week and I'm playing a little catch-up. I've attached is some general background information regarding trends in higher education, nationally and in South Carolina as well as a timeline of the Coastal Carolina football stadium expansion project for your review. I look forward to meeting you and discussing this topic in further detail.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at your office tomorrow at 11:00am.

All the best,

Tim Hofferth  
Chairman  
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
(c) 973-[REDACTED]

- National trends
  - The real crisis in higher education is about a lot more than debt (article)
  - Where are all the high school grads going? (article)
  - Education costs skyrocketed (article) (1978-2012) (chart from article)
    - Food costs increased 244%
    - Health care increased 601%
    - College tuition & fees increased 1,120%
  - Current student loan debt clock (\$1.38 trillion and counting)
- South Carolina trends
  - Cost of attendance for public 2 year colleges (SC tied 1<sup>st</sup> place with Louisiana and above national average) Attach. 1
  - Cost of attendance for public 4 year colleges & universities (SC first place and above national average) Attach. 1
  - SC Ranked 9<sup>th</sup> highest net tuition nationally Attach. 2

- Coastal Carolina project timeline
  - The Sun News: CCU stadium expansion request again denied by state
    - <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article75945117.html>
    - MAY 5, 2016
    - The CHE, in turn, continued to express concerns over the lack of upfront private contributions toward the project, and CHE chairman Tim Hofferth continued to express his opinion that Coastal Carolina's financial projections do not thoroughly anticipate the cost of making this move to the FBS and Sun Belt.
    - This was the fourth time since February the university has brought the stadium proposal to the CHE for needed approval.
    - "We take the responsibility very seriously. This is not an easy decision. We champion everything that you're about as an institution," Hofferth said prior to the vote. " ... At the end of the day, I've talked to a lot of athletic directors, a lot of presidents throughout the country, to bring it without significant private funding in today's environment [is risky]. The question is what's significant? I don't know. There's 13 [different] significant answers here. The fact of the matter is it's very relevant and the thing that I'm afraid of, the costs on the operating side are nowhere near what you anticipate them to be. ...
    - "That's my greatest concern in this environment. I want to get there. I'm just not there yet." ...
    - And so once again the commission had plenty of questions and concerns – above all else, the lack of committed private donations toward the project.
    - While the state does not provide the money for such capital projects, it takes on the liability if a school can't pay off its debts from the bonds that do fund the operation.
    - "I want to figure out a way to support it. I know this, for me the most important part is the private source of funding," Hofferth said. "That's a hard number. That number when it comes in, if it's \$10 million, \$15 [million], \$20 million, that's a hard number that regardless of economic conditions or the trends in higher education it [can be counted on]."
    - Said Terrye Seckinger, a CHE commissioner from Mount Pleasant: "I don't want you to make a mistake that's going to bankrupt your institution in a brief moment of excitement about football. I get it. We've got to calm down and look at the downside. We want to see, what are the downsides of this and why was there not a lot of money immediately when the Sun Belt came? ... I have to understand that I'm making a prudent financial decision, and I'm not convinced of that because of lack of private funding [and] lack of initiative [when thoughts of changing conferences] started."
  - The Sun News: "an entirely new vetting process for such projects"
    - <http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article75510407.html#storylink=cpy>
    - [B]ut in the meanwhile, school leaders have already learned that they are dealing with an entirely new vetting process for such projects.
    - If the unexpected delays in approval to this point didn't make that clear, CHE chairman Tim Hofferth certainly did in a recent interview with The Sun News. ...
    - As a result, Coastal Carolina has found itself trying to push through a significant stadium expansion budgeted at \$38 million at a time when the vetting process for such capital projects has never been more exhaustive. It could be looked at as bad timing for the university, or the start of a new reality for schools across the state.
    - But, Hofferth emphasized, the CHE is not fundamentally opposed to what Coastal Carolina wants to do – the group simply wants to make sure the best decisions are being made by all parties.
    - "We want to figure out a way to be able to say yes to this project," Hofferth said. "It's not an adversarial type deal. They probably need to understand a little bit more about what I'm describing and see if there's a way to get that done. That's the spirit and intent to [how] we're going at this."
  - The Sun News: "University leaders have previously suggested there could be other avenues...around...CHE"

- <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article80794572.html#storylink=cpy>
- MAY 30, 2016
- University leaders have also previously suggested there could be other avenues to work around their stalemate with the CHE, but they have not offered any details as to what those might be.
- “At this point we’re looking at all options. We’ll see what happens,” DeCenzo reiterated Monday.
- **The Sun News: Legislators help CCU bypass state committee to move stadium expansion forward**
  - <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article84116977.html#storylink=cpy>
  - JUNE 16, 2016
  - CCU leaders found a “work-around” to bypass the Commission on Higher Education and take their stadium plan to the Joint Bond Review Committee

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**From:** Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:01 PM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA request

FYI

Tim Hofferth  
[REDACTED]@msn.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gary Glenn <gglenn@che.sc.gov>  
**Date:** August 25, 2016 at 5:56:21 PM EDT  
**To:** 'Tim' [REDACTED]@msn.com>, Dianne Kuhl <dkuhl@corbia.com>, "'Temple, Hood'" <eh temple@htlawsc.com>  
**Subject:** FW: FOIA request

FYI.  
G

**From:** Wyatt Henderson CPA [mailto:wyatt@hendersonaccounting.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2016 12:43 PM  
**To:** Gary Glenn <gglenn@che.sc.gov>  
**Cc:** Timothy Meacham <tmeacham@coastal.edu>; 'Golding, Henrietta' <HGolding@mcnair.net>  
**Subject:** FOIA request

Mr Glenn, on behalf of what is permitted under FOIA, I would like to request the transcripts of each meeting of the Commission on Higher Education since January 1, 2016. Additionally, on behalf of what is permitted under FOIA, I would like to request all email or other written communication between members of CHE and any outside persons as it relates to Coastal Carolina University, Brooks Football Stadium expansion and the CCU Student Activity Fee Resolution.

Thank you for your time.

D. Wyatt Henderson CPA, CFF, CFE  
Chairman, Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees

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**From:** [REDACTED]@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2016 11:29 AM  
**To:** Tim  
**Cc:** Smith, Austin [REDACTED]@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Re: How Two Lawmakers Overruled Everybody to Get a Stadium Approved - The Nerve

Tim: This is good. Is the SC policy council well regarded? Influence legislative thinking? Rich

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 29, 2016, at 10:31 AM, Tim <[REDACTED]@msn.com> wrote:  
>  
>  
> <http://www.thenerve.org/ccu-stadium/>  
>  
>  
> Tim Hofferth  
> [REDACTED]@msn.com



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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 5:35 PM  
**To:** harvey@peelerco.com  
**Subject:** Fwd: CHE decision

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>  
**Date:** February 24, 2016 at 11:48:29 AM EST  
**To:** Kenny Bingham <kbingham@acc-sc.com>  
**Subject:** CHE decision



South Carolina  
Commission on Higher Education

Mr. Kenny Bingham  
Chairman  
ACC-SC  
1000 North Main Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
703.733.1234  
kbingham@acc-sc.com

February 23, 2016

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, in a specially convened meeting, voted 9-1 to reject the interim capital project proposed by Coastal Carolina University to expand their football stadium at a cost of \$38 million. After four hours of deliberation, the Commission concluded that the long-term financial implications of the interim capital project, as currently presented, could place an undue financial burden on the institution and its students.

Commissioners had substantial concern with the funding model, which included no private resources, but relied 100% on essential state funding.



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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:17 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Re: CCU

Great ideas. I'm available at 10:30am?

On Aug 25, 2016, at 9:06 AM, Smith, Austin <[AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov](mailto:AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

I've got a lot of information about higher ed in general, but I think the best thing we could send around on CCU would be Tim Hofferth's comments from the SFAA meeting. Along the same lines, I would like to identify a few folks in each body who care about keeping higher ed costs down and refocusing the system on educating South Carolina students – preferably including some folks who traditionally oppose us. You got any time tomorrow to huddle up on strategy?

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:24 AM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Cc:** Patel, Swati  
**Subject:** FW: CCU

AS – do you have any more information to provide to friendlies re: CCU? KV

**From:** Patel, Swati  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:55 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Subject:** CCU

CCU articles are a good explanation of the issue and our position. Please forward if you think appropriate to friendlies. Austin may have more info you could share as well.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Moore, Camlin](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:36 PM  
**Subject:** Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 23, 2016

## **Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 23, 2016**

### **Governor Nikki Haley News:**

**The State:** SC's Haley to stump for embattled NC Gov. Pat McCrory  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97420272.html>

Jamie Self

Facing a tough re-election challenge, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory will get some help on the campaign trail this week from his neighbor to the south. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will attend a fundraiser Thursday for McCrory in Fayetteville, Haley's office said. Aligning himself with Haley could help McCrory who has slid behind N.C. Attorney General Ray Cooper, his Democratic challenger, in the polls. N.C. Democrats hope to attract win over voters who are upset about a new state law that requires transgender people to use the bathroom of their birth sex. McCrory signed the controversial legislation, known as HB2. Haley rejected a similar proposal in South Carolina, saying it was unneeded. N.C. Democrats also are banking on GOP disillusionment with Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump to help them in down-ballot contests against Republicans, including McCrory. Haley has criticized Trump repeatedly, including during her nationally televised GOP response to President Obama's January State of the Union address. Haley enjoyed a rising national profile and popularity after she pushed to remove the Confederate flag last summer from the State House grounds in the wake of the massacre of nine African Americans in a Charleston church.

**The State:** Coastal Carolina's football stadium plan OK'd amid outcry from Gov. Haley  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97354587.html>

Jamie Self

Coastal Carolina University can move forward with a \$32 million plan to expand its football stadium after a state budget panel approved the project Tuesday, ignoring a higher education panel's veto of the proposal as too expensive. The S.C. Fiscal Accountability Authority approved the project by a 3-2 vote Tuesday. Coastal wants to add 11,486 seats to its stadium, which now has 9,214 seats. The school also plans to add restrooms, a hospitality suite and concession space. Gov. Nikki Haley and S.C. Treasurer Curtis Loftis opposed the project, noting the S.C. Commission on Higher Education had rejected proposals to expand the stadium four times. "If you override CHE today, then why have it?" Haley asked, adding the move would set a precedent for other universities and colleges to move forward on building projects without the commission's support. Approving the stadium project – a proposal that comes as Coastal moves into the Sun Belt Conference – would send a message to schools that they can lobby lawmakers directly for projects and ignore the commission's decisions, giving "every university the ability to say the CHE doesn't matter," she said.

**NOTE:** Haley vetoed that bill, but lawmakers overrode her veto. Haley said the commission recently had shifted its focus to provide more of a watchdog role over college and university spending. That role would be undercut if lawmakers approved the project despite the commission's veto, she added.

**Post and Courier:** \$31.8 million Coastal Carolina stadium project approved  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829756/318-million-coastal-carolina-stadium-project-approved>

Gavin Jackson

By a slim margin, the State Fiscal Accountability Authority approved a \$31.8 million expansion of Coastal Carolina University's Brooks Stadium for Chanticleer football but over the objection of Gov. Nikki Haley. Tuesday's contentious 3-2 vote cleared the way for the university to go forward even after the state Commission on Higher Education repeatedly rejected the costly expansion, citing the potential increases to student fees. Legislators earlier this year circumvented the commission's decision by adding two budget items related to the expansion. It was done to legally secure funding through the authority. Those budget provisos survived Haley's veto pen in June and her criticism

Tuesday that the body was setting a bad precedent "You have just given every university the ability to say 'CHE doesn't matter' and 'We'll just circumvent it, we'll get our lobbyist to it, the Legislature will approve it' and then it will happen," said Haley, who also heads the authority.

**NOTE:** State Treasurer Curtis Loftis joined Haley in voting against the plan, while the state's ranking budget writers, Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, and Rep. Brian White, R-Anderson, voted for it. The plan includes a \$22.9 million bond offering to fund the project, with the remainder coming from other university funds and private dollars.

**NOTE:** "One thing we need to bear in mind is we're not talking about an unfunded liability, those are actual liabilities we have to settle," Eckstrom said in opposition to Haley's stance. "We can speculate that this will turn into one."

**WBTW:** \$22.9M in bonds approved for CCU stadium expansion project

<http://wbtw.com/2016/08/23/22-9m-in-bonds-approved-for-ccu-stadium-expansion-project/>

Meghan Miller

Coastal Carolina University is moving forward with the multi-million dollar expansion of Brooks Stadium, following a State Fiscal Accountability Authority meeting on Tuesday. SFAA spokesman Delbert Singleton told News13 the SFAA board voted to approve \$22.9 million in bonds for Coastal Carolina University to use on its expansion and renovation of Brooks Stadium. Singleton says Gov. Nikki Haley was the only person to not vote in favor of the move. The expansion of Brooks Stadium at Coastal Carolina University is needed to comply with an agreement between the university and the Sun Belt Conference. Coastal Carolina University Athletic Director Matt Hogue says the project, in all, will cost \$31.8 million, up from a previous \$29.9 million. Approximately \$22.9 million comes from bonds approved by the SFAA Tuesday and the rest from a "combination of private sources and debt service allocation previously approved by the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees." Hogue says the expansion would put Brooks Stadium at 20,700 capacity. Approximately 1,100 seats previously cut from the project – totaling nearly \$2 million – have been re-added. Hogue says the school had the ability to re-add the seats if funding for them was privately sourced. University officials say they will immediately work with engineers and architects to put together plans for the bidding process. Those plans must first be approved by the state engineer in order to be put out to bid.

### **SC Political News:**

**The State:** State will pay hike in SC employees' health care costs

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97344347.html>

Jamie Self

The state will pick up the tab for the rising cost of health care for S.C. employees next year. The S.C. Fiscal Accountability Authority Tuesday approved the state paying the higher cost in employees' health plan — a 0.8 percent increase in the premium — passing on none of that cost to workers. Under the changes, the state's contribution to an employee's health plan will rise to \$363 from \$360 a month for the employee alone. For an employee's entire family, the state will pay \$900 monthly, up from \$893 last year. The amount that a state employee pays for health care insurance will remain the same as this year — almost \$98 a month for the employee only and almost \$307 monthly for a family. Last spring, S.C. lawmakers agreed to pick up the rising health care costs for state workers, who are being asked to pay more for their retirement plans.

**Post and Courier:** S.C. House tax policy reform group formed

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829754/sc-house-tax-policy-reform-group-formed>

Schuyler Kropf

House Speaker Jay Lucas has appointed 14 members of the S.C. House of Representatives to serve on a Tax Policy Review Committee that will investigate reforming outdated portions of the state tax code. This committee will submit suggestions to the speaker before the beginning of the next legislative session in January. The group will hold its first meeting Aug. 30 at 2 p.m. in room 516 of the Blatt Building in Columbia. Speaker Pro-Tempore Tommy Pope, R-York, will serve as chairman. Lowcountry lawmakers on the panel include Rep. Joe Daning, R-Goose Creek; and Rep. Joe Jefferson, D-Pineville.

**Aiken Standard:** Rep. Bill Taylor among S.C. House members named to committee reviewing state's tax code

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160823/160829803/rep-bill-taylor-among-sc-house-members-named-to-committee-reviewing-state-tax-code>

South Carolina House Speaker Jay Lucas has appointed 14 members of the State House, including Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, to serve on the House Tax Policy Review Committee, a group tasked with reviewing the state's current tax code. According to a news release sent Tuesday, the ad hoc committee will review the state's tax code and send its suggestions to the speaker before the start of the next legislative session. "Our outdated tax code needs a dramatic transformation in order to promote economic competitiveness and increase the size of our citizens' paychecks," Lucas said in the release. "Achieving this difficult task is long overdue, but necessary to ensure our tax code is fair for our taxpayers. A broader and flatter tax code will help continue to spur job growth and provide greater opportunities for South Carolina families." Speaker Pro-Tem Tommy Pope, District 47-York, will serve as chairman of the committee, according to the release.

**Post and Courier:** SC Republicans pick their Electoral College members

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829768/sc-republicans-pick-their-electoral-college-members>

Schuyler Kropf

The South Carolina Republican Party's Executive Committee has announced its nine potential voting members of the Electoral College. The nine presidential electors would cast their votes as part of the 538-member national Electoral College following the November 8 general election. The nine selected Saturday are: Glenn McCall of York County, statewide; State Chairman Matt Moore of Lexington County, statewide; Terry Hardesty of Berkeley County, 1st Congressional District; Jim Ulmer of Orangeburg County, 2nd Congressional District; Brenda Bedenbaugh of Saluda County, 3rd Congressional District; Bill Conley of Spartanburg County, 4th Congressional District; Shery Smith of Sumter County, 5th Congressional District; Moye Graham of Clarendon County, 6th Congressional District; Jerry Rovner of Georgetown County, 7th Congressional District. State Democrats are scheduled to make their picks Tuesday night as part of their party's executive committee meeting.

**Post and Courier:** Gulf War veterans being honored Saturday by Sen. Tim Scott

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829778/gulf-war-veterans-being-honored-saturday-by-sen-tim-scott>

Schuyler Kropf

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott will host ceremonies honoring veterans of the 1990-91 conflicts known as Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm this Saturday in Charleston and Greenville. Each veteran attendee will receive a certificate of appreciation and a lapel pin in commemoration of their service. The two military operations became the U.S. and international coalition forces' response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Census Bureau statistics indicate about 77,000 South Carolina veterans served during the Gulf War period, from 1990 to 2001. "These were critical campaigns for freedom, and it is a privilege for me to honor the brave South Carolina veterans who selflessly sacrificed so much to answer the call of duty," Scott, R-S.C., said in a media release. He has done similar events for other period veterans. The Lowcountry event will be held at 3 p.m. in the North Charleston Convention Center, 5000 Coliseum Drive.

**Morning News:** Congressman Rice to visit Florence on Wednesday

[http://www.scnw.com/news/article\\_b1efe038-6949-11e6-9dba-f722970f664f.html](http://www.scnw.com/news/article_b1efe038-6949-11e6-9dba-f722970f664f.html)

Republican U.S. House Rep. Tom Rice will be in Florence on Tuesday morning for a meet-and-greet with constituents. The "Coffee with Your Congressman" event will happen at 9 a.m. Wednesday, August 24 at Venus Restaurant & Catering. The restaurant is located at 471 W. Palmetto Street in Florence. According to a release from Rice's office, the event is a key part of his outreach and constituent service in the 7th Congressional District. Constituents will have the opportunity to meet with Rice and discuss federal issues as well as upcoming legislation.

### **SC Agency News:**

**The Herald:** Federal funds for Gold Hill/I-77 project approved

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/fort-mill-times/article97166747.html>

The SCDOT Commission approved approximately \$1.6 million in federal funds to help pay for the construction of a Pennies for Progress project at the Gold Hill/I-77 Interchange. This project includes upgrading the existing interchange to a design called "double crossover diamond interchange" or "diverging diamond interchange." This will be the first double crossover diamond interchange in the state, according to SCDOT. The total budget for this project is approximately \$14.1 million. In addition to the earmarked funds for this project, the county has also received \$825,000 through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program and \$11.65 million from the Pennies 3 referendum. Anticipated construction for this project will begin summer/fall of 2017 with a project completion date in 2019.

**WIS:** SCDOT blames contractor for subpar work in I-26 widening project

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32817753/scdot-blames-contractor-for-subpar-work-in-i-26-widening-project>

Chad Mills

On Monday night, dozens attended a special meeting with questions about the I-26 widening project and the South Carolina Department of Transportation had answers. The project, which is more than a year behind schedule, has drawn criticism from both residents and Senator Nikki Setzler for the big delay, the bumpy results, and stretches of substandard work that are still being replaced leaving the SCDOT's top official apologizing for what's been done thus far. The \$75 million construction was to widen 10 miles of I-26 through Lexington County and Calhoun County in the Sandy Run area. "This has not been a showcase project for us," said SCDOT Secretary Christy Hall. "Our contractor struggled with this project." Boggs Paving, the North Carolina

contractor working on the project, was blamed for the less-than-quality work by SCDOT Deputy Secretary Leland Colvin. According to Colvin, one of Boggs' leaders was indicted and convicted for a separate issue in North Carolina after he got the contract to do the work here. From that point, it was all downhill.

**Post and Courier: Meeting to focus on preventing Ravenel Bridge jumpers**

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829741/meeting-to-focus-on-preventing-ravenel-bridge-jumpers>

Prentiss Findlay

Options for preventing Ravenel Bridge jumpers will be discussed Wednesday at a meeting of officials that will include state Department of Transportation Secretary Christy Hall. The mayors of Charleston and Mount Pleasant, legislators and representatives of mental health advocacy groups are expected to attend, DOT spokesman Pete Poore said. "DOT has not made any decisions," he added. The 2 p.m. meeting is scheduled at North Charleston City Hall. DOT has conducted engineering studies, gathered ideas and collected information to determine what steps it might take to improve safety on the south-bound side of the bridge, where the railing is about three feet tall. That's much shorter than the railing along the bridge's bike and pedestrian path. Some advocates have proposed a suicide hotline phone on the span, while others have suggested a taller barrier. The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco has a net to catch jumpers. "By working together, we can determine what items can be implemented on the Ravenel Bridge to create barriers and counseling options for those in a state of crisis," Hall said recently.

**Greenville News: Greenville family files lawsuit in prisoner's death**

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/08/23/greenville-family-files-lawsuit-prisoners-death/89194568/>

Romando Dixon

A federal lawsuit against the South Carolina Department of Corrections alleges an inmate died of an untreated kidney infection that made him too weak to walk for at least seven days before he died. Victor Rogers, 27, died in March 2015 as an inmate at Lee Correctional Institution in Bishopville. The lawsuit alleges at least 12 individuals connected with the prison knew Rogers was experiencing "extreme physical pain but took no action to provide or request medical care" for him. The complaint named 17 defendants, including the director of the Department of Corrections, the warden of Lee Correctional, prison officers and medical staff. Department of Corrections officials do not comment on pending litigation, spokeswoman Stephanie Givens said Tuesday. The lawsuit, filed Monday on behalf of Rogers' family, alleges "illegal and unconstitutional actions" by the Department of Corrections led to Rogers' death. "Their illegal actions consist of their deliberate indifference to the obvious, serious medical needs of Victor Rogers while he was in their custody and care, and when they owed him a duty of care," the suit said.

**SC After Recent Violence:**

**Post and Courier: Insurer to pay \$380,000 to settle Taser lawsuit against North Charleston**

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829739/insurer-to-pay-380000-to-settle-taser-lawsuit-against-north-charleston>

Andrew Knapp

North Charleston's insurer has agreed to pay \$380,000 to an Iraq War veteran who said a police officer shocked him three times with a Taser for no reason. The recent settlement will end National Guardsman Brian Yates' excessive force lawsuit that a federal appeals court already had used to further define how police can use stun guns. As part of the agreement, the North Charleston Police Department and the officer, Christopher Terry, did not admit to wrongdoing. Terry had insisted that he fired the device during a December 2008 traffic stop because Yates was ignoring his orders and kept jerking away. The state's Insurance Reserve Fund, which backs North Charleston, negotiated the deal. It did not immediately comment on inquiries about the case. Brady Hair, a city attorney, said he was disappointed that the fund did not consult his office or the lawyers who defended North Charleston in the lawsuit. "The city believes the officer acted appropriately and used reasonable force based on the facts and circumstances of the encounter," Hair said. "We stand behind the officer's actions."

**The Herald:** Chester County approves cops at 3 high schools; deputies not on campus yet

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/education/article97307842.html>

Andrew Dys

Chester County's three high schools will finally get deputies in the schools but it still hasn't happened yet. County council unanimously approved a deal between the sheriff's office and school district late Monday that hit snags during late negotiations, forcing the school year to open Aug. 15 without school resource officers in the three high schools. Although the council approved the deal, school officials have not yet signed it even though the school board approved it, so officers as of Tuesday are still not stationed at the schools. The district dropped deputies in 2015 in favor of private guards, saying the schools could have a presence on all campuses for the same money rather than having to share deputies among campuses. But the decision has been rife with controversy. Sheriff Alex Underwood blasted the decision in 2015 as not in the best interest of child safety, and many parents complained.

**Post and Courier:** Black and white South Carolinians' opinions split on police in schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829742/black-and-white-south-carolinians-opinions-split-on-police-in-schools>

Paul Bowers

After a white school resource officer was filmed pulling a black student from her desk and throwing her across the floor last fall, South Carolinians' opinions about the incident are split along racial lines, according to a survey. In the phone survey conducted by University of South Carolina researchers, a majority of black respondents — 81 percent — said Richland County made the right decision in firing Deputy Ben Fields for his conduct at Spring Valley High School in Northeast Columbia. A plurality of white respondents — 43 percent — said firing Fields was the wrong decision. The phone survey of 334 randomly selected South Carolina adults began Oct. 29, three days after the Spring Valley incident and one day after Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced he was firing Fields. A student's cellphone video of the arrest had made national news by that time, and 95 percent of survey respondents said they had read or heard about it.

**Savannah River Site/MOX:**



**Aiken Standard:** MOX responds to Nuclear Regulatory Committee about construction violations

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160823/160829802/mox-responds-to-nuclear-regulatory-committee-about-construction-violations->

Thomas Gardiner

AREVA MOX Services, project management contractor for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, delivered a response letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Committee last week after receiving official notification of construction violations. In a letter dated July 25, 2016, the Nuclear Regulatory Committee notified MOX of violations connected to installation of ledgers. They were said to be undersize, less than specified length, undercut and had code prohibited joint design. Those ledgers are structural installations designed to support floor panels in a number of operations rooms. Due to the sensitive nature of MOX operations, details were not made available to the Aiken Standard. In a response, AREVA MOX Services identified shortcomings in operating procedures that contributed to the violations. According to the letter, the contract company failed to physically inspect the incoming materials in question and did not audit the company from which the ledgers were purchased.

### **Opinion/Editorial:**

**The State:** Scope: School discipline, academics and the 18th horse

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article97158492.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

AFTER I WROTE last week about our state's disturbingly broad disturbing schools law, I got a letter to the editor and a letter to me that both referred to the October incident when a Richland County sheriff's deputy tossed a student from her desk and arrested her. Both letters asked, essentially: How else was the deputy supposed to remove the student from the classroom if she wouldn't let go of the desk? And I remembered the story of the 18th horse. "Moral: The attitude of negotiation and problem solving is to find the '18th horse' — that is the common ground. Once a person is able to find the 18th horse, the issue is resolved. It is difficult at times. However, to reach a solution, the first step is to believe that there is a solution. If we think that there is no solution, we won't be able to reach any! Would be a good idea if all our politicians could do farmer math!" What else could the deputy have done at Spring Valley? What if that's the wrong question?

### **South Carolina News:**

**Associated Press:** Tropical Storm Gaston getting stronger in the Atlantic

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=C27BA3A6](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=C27BA3A6)

SC State Wire

Tropical Storm Gaston is strengthening as it moves over the far eastern Atlantic. The storm's maximum sustained winds had increased Tuesday to near 65 mph (100 kph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center says additional strengthening is forecast and Gaston is expected to become a hurricane by Wednesday. Gaston is centered about 685 miles (1105 kilometers) west of the southernmost Cabo Verde Islands and is moving west-northwest near 21 mph (33 kph). Elsewhere in the Atlantic, Fiona is breaking up as a tropical depression and should gradually weaken over the next couple of days. Maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 30 mph (45 kph). The National Hurricane Center has discontinued its advisories. Meanwhile in the Pacific, Kay is expected to become a remnant low later on Thursday.

**Greenville News: Report: SC household income plunged over seven-year period**  
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2016/08/23/report-sc-household-income-plunged-over-seven-year-period/89220780/>

Rudolph Bell

The median household income in South Carolina dropped 11 percent between 2007 and 2014, according to a new report on state economies. The report from the Joint Economic Committee in the U.S. Congress includes various data points showing how South Carolina's economy has fared since the Great Recession. It says South Carolina's inflation-adjusted median household income declined from \$50,500 before the recession in 2007 to \$44,900 in 2014, according to the latest data available. For the country as a whole, median household income dropped 6 percent over the same period, from \$57,400 in 2007 to \$53,700 in 2014. The report also says...

**Associated Press: Jury finds man not guilty in 1991 rape-murder retrial**  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=bgsZMeKb](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=bgsZMeKb)

SC State Wire

A jury on Tuesday found a man not guilty in his retrial in the rape and murder of a 77-year-old woman a quarter-century ago, after DNA evidence pointed to another man. Anthony Wright was sentenced to life without parole in the October 1991 slaying of his neighbor Louise Talley, whose nude body was found face-down on a bedroom floor in her North Philadelphia home. Talley had been raped and then stabbed 10 times in the neck, chest and back with a kitchen knife. Jurors spent less than two hours deliberating Tuesday before returning with the not guilty verdict. The district attorney's office agreed to a new trial in 2014 at the request of Wright's defense team, led by the Innocence Project, after DNA tests showed that sperm found inside Talley's body belonged to a former Philadelphia-area crack addict who died in a South Carolina prison. The testing also showed that only Talley's genetic material was inside clothing that homicide detectives alleged Wright told them he wore and that was found inside his bedroom in his mother's house.

### **Local News:**

**Associated Press: Deputies: Mom killed newborn by putting him in refrigerator**  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=FCov8U9m](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=FCov8U9m)

SC State Wire

A South Carolina mother killed her 4-day-old son by putting him in the refrigerator for three hours, authorities said. Angela Blackwell is charged with homicide by child abuse. During a brief court appearance on Tuesday, the judge explained that because of the severity of the charges no bond could be set at this initial hearing, in accordance to state law. She only nodded and shook her head, leaving the small courtroom after a few minutes without a sound. Blackwell, 27, was arrested Monday, nearly six months after her son died. Investigators said they have spent that time taking statements and getting forensic tests done on the baby. An autopsy showed that the boy, William David Blackwell, died from hypothermia with asphyxiation from being placed in the cold, according to Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker. First-responders tried to revive him on Feb. 27, but he was pronounced dead at a hospital.

**Associated Press: The Latest: No bond for mom accused of putting son in fridge**  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=0ZvQ89x0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=0ZvQ89x0)

SC State Wire

Bond has been denied for a mother charged with killing her infant son by putting him in the refrigerator for several hours. A magistrate judge made that determination during a brief hearing Tuesday for 27-year-old Angela Blackwell. She is charged with homicide by child abuse, and it will be up to a circuit court judge to determine if she can be released from jail on bond. Blackwell appeared in court with a public defender. Her next court date is Nov. 10. Blackwell was arrested Monday. Deputies say she was at her home February 27 when she put her 4-day-old son in the refrigerator and shut the door. After three hours, she took him out and sought medical attention. Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker says William David Blackwell died from hypothermia and asphyxiation.

**The Herald:** Chester Co. baby died after mother put him in fridge for 3 hours, warrant states

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article97307057.html>

Teddy Kulmala

Just four days after little William Blackwell took his first breaths of life, he died after his mother placed the newborn in a refrigerator for three hours, according to authorities. Angela Blackwell, 27, of 534 Rose St. in Chester, was arrested Monday and charged with homicide by child abuse, officials have said. She remains in the Chester County Detention Center without bond. William died from hypothermia with asphyxiation from being placed in the cold, according to Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker. The incident happened Feb. 27, just four days after William was born. Investigators say Blackwell put her infant son in the refrigerator for three hours and didn't seek medical attention until after she removed him from the fridge, according an arrest warrant.

**Associated Press:** 2 dead, 1 hurt in house fire near Dillon

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=zIH5kdxk](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=zIH5kdxk)

SC State Wire

Authorities are investigating the cause of a house fire that killed two people and injured a third near Dillon. Dillon County Coroner Donnie Grimsley tells local news outlets that firefighters received a call about 11 p.m. Monday to respond to a fire at a home in the Riverdale community just east of Dillon. Witnesses told WPDE-TV (<http://bit.ly/2c2q2SR>) that they heard an explosion and then saw the house in flames. The names of the two dead people were not immediately released. Authorities say a third person was taken to the Joseph Still Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia.

**Morning News:** Latta Police Chief Crystal Moore suspended, mayor confirms

[http://www.scnow.com/news/article\\_47faff4a-694a-11e6-bd1e-37aca314a3c6.html](http://www.scnow.com/news/article_47faff4a-694a-11e6-bd1e-37aca314a3c6.html)

Jessica Imbimbo

Latta's Police Chief Crystal Moore was suspended from her position Tuesday morning, according to Mayor Earl Bullard. It is the second time that Moore, who is running for sheriff of Dillon County, has been removed from the post. Moore, who is gay, received national attention in 2014 when Bullard fired her. She was reinstated after a state investigation. Bullard confirmed that an interim police chief has been named. Town Administrator Jarett Taylor said Assistant Police Chief Derrick Cartwright will act as interim police chief for the next five days. Taylor said it was the council's decision to suspend Moore and choose Cartwright as the interim chief. Moore said she is discussing the matter with her lawyer and said she has "no comment at this time." Bullard declined to comment on the nature of Moore's suspension, but Taylor said Moore's suspension was not without cause.

**Associated Press:** Openly gay police chief suspended from job in South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qJfkuW5m](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qJfkuW5m)

Jeffrey Collins

The openly gay police chief of a small South Carolina town has been suspended from her job for five days, but the town administrator said it has nothing to do with her sexual orientation. Latta Town Administrator Jarett Taylor said he can't give the exact reason for Moore's suspension because it's a personnel matter. "But I can tell you, we don't care what sexuality you are. If you can work, we'll let you work," Taylor said. Taylor said Moore is welcome to release the reason for her suspension. Moore declined to talk about it with a reporter Tuesday and her lawyer did not return a phone message. The town's investigation into Moore is finished and she is welcome back to the force next Tuesday unless some other information emerges, Taylor said. Moore was fired two years ago, after nearly two decades working in Latta, because of her sexuality. Taylor, who also sits on the Town Council, was instrumental in helping get her job back. Taylor recorded Latta's mayor after he fired Moore saying he would rather have a drunk watch his grandchildren than a gay person.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston area advocates, leaders seek community support in walk against domestic violence

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829745/charleston-area-advocates-leaders-seek-community-support-in-walk-against-domestic-violence>

Gregory Yee

Charleston area advocates are teaming up to raise funds and support for victims of domestic violence. Project Unity USA is partnering with Real Men Against Domestic Violence — a statewide nonprofit that provides domestic violence awareness, prevention and education — and My Sister's House to hold a walk Sept. 24 across the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge. The Hope Walk Against Domestic Violence will begin at 8 a.m. on the Charleston side of the bridge, 66 Columbus St., and will end in Mount Pleasant. A \$25 registration fee is required. Funds will go to My Sister's House, which is the tri-county area's only shelter for victims of domestic violence, and to other organizations that will be selected by a committee. Fees will jump to \$30 for those who register the day of the walk.

**Associated Press:** Deputies: 21 go to hospitals in bus pepper spray incident

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=LnltQVlj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=LnltQVlj)

SC State Wire

Authorities say 21 Richland County students were taken to hospitals to be checked after pepper spray was used during a fight on a school bus. Sheriff's Lt. Curtis Wilson tells local news outlets the fight broke out between groups of male and female students going to Westwood High School Tuesday morning. One of the female students used pepper spray during the incident. Authorities are checking surveillance video to determine what happened. It's not clear whether she was using the spray to defend herself or to attack other students. Wilson says it's not illegal to have pepper spray and whether students can carry it on a bus is up to individual school districts. He says it's legal to use pepper spray only for protection.

**The State:** Girl used pepper spray on bus, deputies say; 21 students taken to hospital

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article97314312.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

An argument involving several high schoolers — both males and females — led to a girl using pepper spray on a Richland County school bus Tuesday, deputies said. Deputies

responded to Hard Scrabble Road and Sloan Road at about 8:45 a.m. after the bus driver called law enforcement, sheriff's spokesman Lt. Curtis Wilson said. They found that an ongoing altercation between two students had led to an argument on the bus involving several teenagers, Wilson said. After one girl used pepper spray, 21 students were taken to local and area hospitals for observation, Wilson said. Whether the girl was trying to defend herself or attack someone was not immediately clear. "Obviously, it affected more than one student on that bus," Wilson said. "Whether it was her intention I don't know." There were no injuries reported, Wilson said. "Slowly but surely they're being released from the hospitals," he said. As of 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, only three students had returned to school, Wilson said.

**Sun News:** Ten of 13 suspended lifeguards had problems with certifications  
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article97384852.html>

Chloe Johnson

The lifeguard company that used to guard Myrtle Beach from 67th Avenue North to 77th Avenue North will likely not make it back on the sand this year. Myrtle Beach Lifeguards was pulled from the beach at the beginning of the month after the city began investigating whether all the company's guards had the correct certifications, which signify that guards have met Red Cross standards. City Manager John Pedersen said that after a review, 10 of the 13 guards were found to have issues. "Out of the 10 that didn't have [certifications] ... there was a mix of folks that previously had certifications that had expired and folks that never had been certified," Pedersen said. At City Council's workshop Tuesday morning, Myrtle Beach Lifeguards owner Gene Hudson and his lawyer, Stephen Goldfinch, defended the company and emphasized its 38-year history. "We'd like very much to go back to work," Hudson told City Council Tuesday morning. "The whole company is out of work, all the lifeguards."

**Post and Courier:** Third dead manatee reported in Charleston area in two weeks  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829764/third-dead-manatee-reported-in-charleston-area-in-two-weeks>

Prentiss Findlay

Another manatee apparently has been found dead in the Charleston area, making it the third death of its kind in two weeks. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources learned of a sighting of a dead manatee Tuesday morning. The manatee was seen floating in the Intracoastal Waterway near Garris Landing and Awendaw. DNR sent two staff members to the area to search for the carcass, but they had not found it as of late Tuesday morning. Adult manatees can grow to about 10 feet long and weigh up to one ton. Despite their large size, tracking one down can prove tricky. "Tides move them," said Phil Maier, DNR coastal reserves and outreach director. "If he's up in the marsh somewhere or stuck on a bank, it could be difficult and it could take a while to find them." If confirmed, it would be the third manatee death in the area in less than two weeks. Last week, biologists said they were concerned about whether manatees ate something toxic in the sea grass or other vegetation.

**The State:** Richland County wants residents to fight mosquitoes, help stop Zika  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97362582.html>

Bristol Marchant

To stop the spread of Zika in South Carolina, Richland County is asking residents to fight the growth of the mosquito population. Richland County called Tuesday on the public to work to eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed. The push is

part of a coordinated push by county health departments to stop Zika from spreading through South Carolina by halting the insects that carry the disease. "If everyone took a few minutes each week to walk around and make sure all standing water has been emptied, it would make things so much better," said Tammy Brewer of the county. "We have to work together." As of Aug. 22, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control had identified 38 Zika cases in South Carolina – 37 travel-related cases and one sexually transmitted case. Pregnant women are most at risk as the disease leads to severe birth defects and pregnancy complications.

**Associated Press:** Detour: Delta flight briefly diverted to Myrtle Beach  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=UFImSTCo](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=UFImSTCo)  
SC State Wire

A warning light indicating a possible mechanical problem forced a Delta flight from Norfolk, Virginia, to Atlanta to briefly divert to Myrtle Beach. Michael Thomas of Delta says that the Monday morning flight diverted when a warning indicated a possible issue with the aircraft's auxiliary power system. The plane carrying 160 passengers and six crew members landed at Myrtle Beach International Airport about 8 a.m. on Monday. The aircraft was checked out by ground mechanics and, after a short delay, resumed its flight to Atlanta.

### **Presidential Election 2016:**

**Associated Press:** Many donors to Clinton Foundation met with her at State  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/82df550e1ec646098b434f7d5771f625>

Stephen raun and Eileen Sullivan

More than half the people outside the government who met with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state gave money — either personally or through companies or groups — to the Clinton Foundation. It's an extraordinary proportion indicating her possible ethics challenges if elected president. At least 85 of 154 people from private interests who met or had phone conversations scheduled with Clinton while she led the State Department donated to her family charity or pledged commitments to its international programs, according to a review of State Department calendars released so far to The Associated Press. Combined, the 85 donors contributed as much as \$156 million. At least 40 donated more than \$100,000 each, and 20 gave more than \$1 million. Donors who were granted time with Clinton included an internationally known economist who asked for her help as the Bangladesh government pressured him to resign from a nonprofit bank he ran; a Wall Street executive who sought Clinton's help with a visa problem and Estee Lauder executives who were listed as meeting with Clinton while her department worked with the firm's corporate charity to counter gender-based violence in South Africa.

**Associated Press:** Trump aides covertly fought freeing of Ukraine prisoner  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/e7acd0dbb64c4bcd8e29736b99b1224c>

Jeff Horwitz and Chad Day

For more than three years, lobbyist Jim Slattery worked in Washington to secure the release in Ukraine of the imprisoned political rival of the country's then-president. He said the work was sometimes harder than expected. "I had a sense that there were people working on the other side," he said, "but they were doing it pretty secretly." Slattery's hunch was right. His unknown opponent: The consulting firm run by Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, and his deputy Rick Gates, now the campaign's liaison to the Republican National Committee. Manafort

resigned last week, shortly after disclosures by The Associated Press about his firm's covert lobbying on behalf of Ukraine's pro-Russian government at the time. The U.S. Foreign Agents Registration Act requires people working on behalf of foreign political leaders to disclose their efforts to the Justice Department, but neither Manafort and Gates nor U.S. lobbyists they directed did. Working on the other side, Slattery filled out the required paperwork describing contacts with Congress and State Department officials including specific phone calls and emails and the topics of their discussions.

### **National News:**

**Associated Press: Ex-host sues Fox claiming sexual harassment, retaliation**  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/2a8f8e0dfb7f4a5495f6579926e1d8d5>

Jake Pearson

A former Fox News host has sued the network, its ousted chairman and other top executives, claiming they retaliated after she detailed unwanted sexual advances made by her onetime boss, Roger Ailes. Andrea Tantaros described Fox in the lawsuit, filed Monday in New York, as a "sex-fueled, Playboy Mansion-like cult." She said after she complained last spring about Ailes, one of his top deputies, William Shine, warned her that Ailes was a "very powerful man" and that she "needed to let this one go." Shine was promoted to co-president of Fox News after Ailes resigned last month amid other allegations of sexual harassment. Ailes "may have been the primary culprit, but his actions were condoned by most senior lieutenants, who engaged in a concerted effort to silence Tantaros by threats, humiliation, and retaliation," the lawsuit said.

**Associated Press: Obama vows support for Louisiana after the 'cameras leave'**  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/0f2f3add6bdc41ed9de1dcf636d55348>

Kevin Freking

Standing amid piles of waterlogged debris, President Barack Obama on Tuesday promised a sustained national effort to rebuild flood-ravaged southern Louisiana "even after the TV cameras leave" on a visit aimed in part at stemming campaign-season criticism that he's been slow to respond to the disaster. As he toured a battered neighborhood and spoke to local officials, Obama tried to buck up beleaguered residents of the water-soaked region. "This is not a one-off, this is not a photo-op issue," Obama said. "I need all Americans to stay focused on this ... I know you will rebuild again." Obama's visit was a reminder of the political dangers and opportunities that natural disasters can pose. The president has been criticized for waiting until after he returned from his New England vacation to tour the Gulf Coast flooding. The timing, amid a heated presidential campaign, drew barbs from some local officials and Republicans political opponents, including GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump.

**Associated Press: Prisoner not seen publicly since 2002 at Gitmo hearing**  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/86ae658959ab41ebdb23806f6765599>

Robert Burns

The first high-profile al-Qaida terror suspect captured after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 appeared Tuesday at a U.S. government hearing called to determine whether he should remain in detention at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Abu Zubaydah, a Palestinian not seen publicly since his capture by the CIA in 2002, sat expressionless during the brief hearing. Zubaydah was also the first to vanish into the CIA's secret "black site" prison network and was subjected to "enhanced interrogation." The review panel issued no immediate ruling on his status. He has been held at Guantanamo Bay since September 2006. The U.S. contended that Zubaydah,

45, was one of the most senior figures in al-Qaida when he was captured in Pakistan. It has since dropped that claim. Zubaydah's lawyers deny he was a member of al-Qaida.

**World News:**

**Associated Press:** Turkey launches new artillery strikes at IS in Syria

<http://bigstory.ap.org/409dfe4dd8d948fcb93bf6d8c81600cc>

Suzan Fraser

Turkey's artillery shelled Islamic State group targets across the border in Syria for the second consecutive day on Tuesday, a senior Turkish official said, amid reports that Turkey-backed Syrian rebels were preparing an offensive against an IS-held border town in northern Syria. The latest developments have thrust the town of Jarablus into center stage in the ongoing Syrian civil war. The Ankara official said the Turkish shelling came after mortar rounds, believed to have been fired by the militants from Jarablus, landed on Turkish territory. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government regulations, did not provide further details. Turkey has increased security measures at its border opposite the Islamic State-held Jarablus, deploying tanks and armored personnel carriers in recent days. Syrian activists have said that hundreds of Turkish-backed Syrian opposition fighters are gathered in the Turkish border area of Karkamis in preparation for an attack on Jarablus.

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Camlin Moore

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Office: 803-734-8044



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**From:** Patel, Swati  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:55 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Subject:** CCU

CCU articles are a good explanation of the issue and our position. Please forward if you think appropriate to friendlies. Austin may have more info you could share as well.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**From:** Moore, Camlin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:36 PM  
**Subject:** Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 23, 2016

## **Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 23, 2016**

### **Governor Nikki Haley News:**

**The State:** SC's Haley to stump for embattled NC Gov. Pat McCrory  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97420272.html>

Jamie Self

Facing a tough re-election challenge, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory will get some help on the campaign trail this week from his neighbor to the south. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will attend a fundraiser Thursday for McCrory in Fayetteville, Haley's office said. Aligning himself with Haley could help McCrory who has slid behind N.C. Attorney General Ray Cooper, his Democratic challenger, in the polls. N.C. Democrats hope to attract win over voters who are upset about a new state law that requires transgender people to use the bathroom of their birth sex. McCrory signed the controversial legislation, known as HB2. Haley rejected a similar proposal in South Carolina, saying it was unneeded. N.C. Democrats also are banking on GOP disillusionment with Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump to help them in down-ballot contests against Republicans, including McCrory. Haley has criticized Trump repeatedly, including during her nationally televised GOP response to President Obama's January State of the Union address. Haley enjoyed a rising national profile and popularity after she pushed to remove the Confederate flag last summer from the State House grounds in the wake of the massacre of nine African Americans in a Charleston church.

**The State:** Coastal Carolina's football stadium plan OK'd amid outcry from Gov. Haley  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97354587.html>

Jamie Self

Coastal Carolina University can move forward with a \$32 million plan to expand its football stadium after a state budget panel approved the project Tuesday, ignoring a higher education panel's veto of the proposal as too expensive. The S.C. Fiscal Accountability Authority approved the project by a 3-2 vote Tuesday. Coastal wants to add 11,486 seats to its stadium, which now has 9,214 seats. The school also plans to add restrooms, a hospitality suite and concession space. Gov. Nikki Haley and

S.C. Treasurer Curtis Loftis opposed the project, noting the S.C. Commission on Higher Education had rejected proposals to expand the stadium four times. "If you override CHE today, then why have it?" Haley asked, adding the move would set a precedent for other universities and colleges to move forward on building projects without the commission's support. Approving the stadium project – a proposal that comes as Coastal moves into the Sun Belt Conference – would send a message to schools that they can lobby lawmakers directly for projects and ignore the commission's decisions, giving "every university the ability to say the CHE doesn't matter," she said.

**NOTE:** Haley vetoed that bill, but lawmakers overrode her veto. Haley said the commission recently had shifted its focus to provide more of a watchdog role over college and university spending. That role would be undercut if lawmakers approved the project despite the commission's veto, she added.

**Post and Courier:** \$31.8 million Coastal Carolina stadium project approved

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829756/318-million-coastal-carolina-stadium-project-approved>

Gavin Jackson

By a slim margin, the State Fiscal Accountability Authority approved a \$31.8 million expansion of Coastal Carolina University's Brooks Stadium for Chanticleer football but over the objection of Gov. Nikki Haley. Tuesday's contentious 3-2 vote cleared the way for the university to go forward even after the state Commission on Higher Education repeatedly rejected the costly expansion, citing the potential increases to student fees. Legislators earlier this year circumvented the commission's decision by adding two budget items related to the expansion. It was done to legally secure funding through the authority. Those budget provisos survived Haley's veto pen in June and her criticism Tuesday that the body was setting a bad precedent. "You have just given every university the ability to say 'CHE doesn't matter' and 'We'll just circumvent it, we'll get our lobbyist to it, the Legislature will approve it' and then it will happen," said Haley, who also heads the authority.

**NOTE:** State Treasurer Curtis Loftis joined Haley in voting against the plan, while the state's ranking budget writers, Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, and Rep. Brian White, R-Anderson, voted for it. The plan includes a \$22.9 million bond offering to fund the project, with the remainder coming from other university funds and private dollars.

**NOTE:** "One thing we need to bear in mind is we're not talking about an unfunded liability, those are actual liabilities we have to settle," Eckstrom said in opposition to Haley's stance. "We can speculate that this will turn into one."

**WBTW:** \$22.9M in bonds approved for CCU stadium expansion project

<http://wbtw.com/2016/08/23/22-9m-in-bonds-approved-for-ccu-stadium-expansion-project/>

Meghan Miller

Coastal Carolina University is moving forward with the multi-million dollar expansion of Brooks Stadium, following a State Fiscal Accountability Authority meeting on Tuesday. SFAA spokesman Delbert Singleton told News13 the SFAA board voted to approve \$22.9 million in bonds for Coastal Carolina University to use on its expansion and renovation of Brooks Stadium. Singleton says Gov. Nikki Haley was the only person to not vote in favor of the move. The expansion of Brooks Stadium at Coastal Carolina University is needed to comply with an agreement between the university and the Sun Belt Conference. Coastal Carolina University Athletic Director Matt Hogue says the project, in all, will cost \$31.8 million, up from a previous \$29.9 million. Approximately \$22.9 million comes from bonds approved by the SFAA Tuesday and the rest from a "combination of private sources and debt service allocation previously approved by the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees." Hogue says the expansion would put Brooks Stadium at 20,700 capacity. Approximately 1,100 seats previously cut from the project – totaling nearly \$2 million – have been re-added. Hogue says the school had the ability to re-add the seats if funding for them was privately sourced. University officials say they will immediately work with engineers and architects to put together plans for the bidding process. Those plans must first be approved by the state engineer in order to be put out to bid.

## **SC Political News:**

**The State:** State will pay hike in SC employees' health care costs

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97344347.html>

Jamie Self

The state will pick up the tab for the rising cost of health care for S.C. employees next year. The S.C. Fiscal Accountability Authority Tuesday approved the state paying the higher cost in employees' health plan — a 0.8 percent increase in the premium — passing on none of that cost to workers. Under the changes, the state's contribution to an employee's health plan will rise to \$363 from \$360 a month for the employee alone. For an employee's entire family, the state will pay \$900 monthly, up from \$893 last year. The amount that a state employee pays for health care insurance will remain the same as this year — almost \$98 a month for the employee only and almost \$307 monthly for a family. Last spring, S.C. lawmakers agreed to pick up the rising health care costs for state workers, who are being asked to pay more for their retirement plans.

**Post and Courier:** S.C. House tax policy reform group formed

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829754/sc-house-tax-policy-reform-group-formed>

Schuyler Kropf

House Speaker Jay Lucas has appointed 14 members of the S.C. House of Representatives to serve on a Tax Policy Review Committee that will investigate reforming outdated portions of the state tax code. This committee will submit suggestions to the speaker before the beginning of the next legislative session in January. The group will hold its first meeting Aug. 30 at 2 p.m. in room 516 of the Blatt Building in Columbia. Speaker Pro-Tempore Tommy Pope, R-York, will serve as chairman. Lowcountry lawmakers on the panel include Rep. Joe Daning, R-Goose Creek; and Rep. Joe Jefferson, D-Pineville.

**Aiken Standard:** Rep. Bill Taylor among S.C. House members named to committee reviewing state's tax code

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160823/160829803/rep-bill-taylor-among-sc-house-members-named-to-committee-reviewing-state-2019s-tax-code>

South Carolina House Speaker Jay Lucas has appointed 14 members of the State House, including Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, to serve on the House Tax Policy Review Committee, a group tasked with reviewing the state's current tax code. According to a news release sent Tuesday, the ad hoc committee will review the state's tax code and send its suggestions to the speaker before the start of the next legislative session. "Our outdated tax code needs a dramatic transformation in order to promote economic competitiveness and increase the size of our citizens' paychecks," Lucas said in the release. "Achieving this difficult task is long overdue, but necessary to ensure our tax code is fair for our taxpayers. A broader and flatter tax code will help continue to spur job growth and provide greater opportunities for South Carolina families." Speaker Pro-Tem Tommy Pope, District 47-York, will serve as chairman of the committee, according to the release.

**Post and Courier:** SC Republicans pick their Electoral College members

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829768/sc-republicans-pick-their-electoral-college-members>

Schuyler Kropf

The South Carolina Republican Party's Executive Committee has announced its nine potential voting members of the Electoral College. The nine presidential electors would cast their votes as part of the 538-member national Electoral College following the November 8 general election. The nine selected Saturday are: Glenn McCall of York County, statewide; State Chairman Matt Moore of Lexington

County, statewide; Terry Hardesty of Berkeley County, 1st Congressional District; Jim Ulmer of Orangeburg County, 2nd Congressional District; Brenda Bedenbaugh of Saluda County, 3rd Congressional District; Bill Conley of Spartanburg County, 4th Congressional District; Shery Smith of Sumter County, 5th Congressional District; Moye Graham of Clarendon County, 6th Congressional District; Jerry Rovner of Georgetown County, 7th Congressional District. State Democrats are scheduled to make their picks Tuesday night as part of their party's executive committee meeting.

**Post and Courier:** Gulf War veterans being honored Saturday by Sen. Tim Scott

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829778/gulf-war-veterans-being-honored-saturday-by-sen-tim-scott>

Schuyler Kropf

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott will host ceremonies honoring veterans of the 1990-91 conflicts known as Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm this Saturday in Charleston and Greenville. Each veteran attendee will receive a certificate of appreciation and a lapel pin in commemoration of their service. The two military operations became the U.S. and international coalition forces' response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Census Bureau statistics indicate about 77,000 South Carolina veterans served during the Gulf War period, from 1990 to 2001. "These were critical campaigns for freedom, and it is a privilege for me to honor the brave South Carolina veterans who selflessly sacrificed so much to answer the call of duty," Scott, R-S.C., said in a media release. He has done similar events for other period veterans. The Lowcountry event will be held at 3 p.m. in the North Charleston Convention Center, 5000 Coliseum Drive.

**Morning News:** Congressman Rice to visit Florence on Wednesday

[http://www.scnw.com/news/article\\_b1efe038-6949-11e6-9dba-f722970f664f.html](http://www.scnw.com/news/article_b1efe038-6949-11e6-9dba-f722970f664f.html)

Republican U.S. House Rep. Tom Rice will be in Florence on Tuesday morning for a meet-and-greet with constituents. The "Coffee with Your Congressman" event will happen at 9 a.m. Wednesday, August 24 at Venus Restaurant & Catering. The restaurant is located at 471 W. Palmetto Street in Florence. According to a release from Rice's office, the event is a key part of his outreach and constituent service in the 7th Congressional District. Constituents will have the opportunity to meet with Rice and discuss federal issues as well as upcoming legislation.

**SC Agency News:**

**The Herald:** Federal funds for Gold Hill/I-77 project approved

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/fort-mill-times/article97166747.html>

The SCDOT Commission approved approximately \$1.6 million in federal funds to help pay for the construction of a Pennies for Progress project at the Gold Hill/I-77 Interchange. This project includes upgrading the existing interchange to a design called "double crossover diamond interchange" or "diverging diamond interchange." This will be the first double crossover diamond interchange in the state, according to SCDOT. The total budget for this project is approximately \$14.1 million. In addition to the earmarked funds for this project, the county has also received \$825,000 through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program and \$11.65 million from the Pennies 3 referendum. Anticipated construction for this project will begin summer/fall of 2017 with a project completion date in 2019.

**WIS:** SCDOT blames contractor for subpar work in I-26 widening project

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32817753/scdot-blames-contractor-for-subpar-work-in-i-26-widening-project>

Chad Mills

On Monday night, dozens attended a special meeting with questions about the I-26 widening project and the South Carolina Department of Transportation had answers. The project, which is more than a

year behind schedule, has drawn criticism from both residents and Senator Nikki Setzler for the big delay, the bumpy results, and stretches of substandard work that are still being replaced leaving the SCDOT's top official apologizing for what's been done thus far. The \$75 million construction was to widen 10 miles of I-26 through Lexington County and Calhoun County in the Sandy Run area. "This has not been a showcase project for us," said SCDOT Secretary Christy Hall. "Our contractor struggled with this project." Boggs Paving, the North Carolina contractor working on the project, was blamed for the less-than-quality work by SCDOT Deputy Secretary Leland Colvin. According to Colvin, one of Boggs' leaders was indicted and convicted for a separate issue in North Carolina after he got the contract to do the work here. From that point, it was all downhill.

**Post and Courier: Meeting to focus on preventing Ravenel Bridge jumpers**

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829741/meeting-to-focus-on-preventing-ravenel-bridge-jumpers>

Prentiss Findlay

Options for preventing Ravenel Bridge jumpers will be discussed Wednesday at a meeting of officials that will include state Department of Transportation Secretary Christy Hall. The mayors of Charleston and Mount Pleasant, legislators and representatives of mental health advocacy groups are expected to attend, DOT spokesman Pete Poore said. "DOT has not made any decisions," he added. The 2 p.m. meeting is scheduled at North Charleston City Hall. DOT has conducted engineering studies, gathered ideas and collected information to determine what steps it might take to improve safety on the south-bound side of the bridge, where the railing is about three feet tall. That's much shorter than the railing along the bridge's bike and pedestrian path. Some advocates have proposed a suicide hotline phone on the span, while others have suggested a taller barrier. The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco has a net to catch jumpers. "By working together, we can determine what items can be implemented on the Ravenel Bridge to create barriers and counseling options for those in a state of crisis," Hall said recently.

**Greenville News: Greenville family files lawsuit in prisoner's death**

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/08/23/greenville-family-files-lawsuit-prisoners-death/89194568/>

Romando Dixon

A federal lawsuit against the South Carolina Department of Corrections alleges an inmate died of an untreated kidney infection that made him too weak to walk for at least seven days before he died. Victor Rogers, 27, died in March 2015 as an inmate at Lee Correctional Institution in Bishopville. The lawsuit alleges at least 12 individuals connected with the prison knew Rogers was experiencing "extreme physical pain but took no action to provide or request medical care" for him. The complaint named 17 defendants, including the director of the Department of Corrections, the warden of Lee Correctional, prison officers and medical staff. Department of Corrections officials do not comment on pending litigation, spokeswoman Stephanie Givens said Tuesday. The lawsuit, filed Monday on behalf of Rogers' family, alleges "illegal and unconstitutional actions" by the Department of Corrections led to Rogers' death. "Their illegal actions consist of their deliberate indifference to the obvious, serious medical needs of Victor Rogers while he was in their custody and care, and when they owed him a duty of care," the suit said.

**SC After Recent Violence:**

**Post and Courier: Insurer to pay \$380,000 to settle Taser lawsuit against North Charleston**

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829739/insurer-to-pay-380000-to-settle-taser-lawsuit-against-north-charleston>

Andrew Knapp

North Charleston's insurer has agreed to pay \$380,000 to an Iraq War veteran who said a police officer shocked him three times with a Taser for no reason. The recent settlement will end National Guardsman Brian Yates' excessive force lawsuit that a federal appeals court already had used to further define how police can use stun guns. As part of the agreement, the North Charleston Police Department and the officer, Christopher Terry, did not admit to wrongdoing. Terry had insisted that he fired the device during a December 2008 traffic stop because Yates was ignoring his orders and kept jerking away. The state's Insurance Reserve Fund, which backs North Charleston, negotiated the deal. It did not immediately comment on inquiries about the case. Brady Hair, a city attorney, said he was disappointed that the fund did not consult his office or the lawyers who defended North Charleston in the lawsuit. "The city believes the officer acted appropriately and used reasonable force based on the facts and circumstances of the encounter," Hair said. "We stand behind the officer's actions."

**The Herald:** Chester County approves cops at 3 high schools; deputies not on campus yet  
<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/education/article97307842.html>

Andrew Dys

Chester County's three high schools will finally get deputies in the schools but it still hasn't happened yet. County council unanimously approved a deal between the sheriff's office and school district late Monday that hit snags during late negotiations, forcing the school year to open Aug. 15 without school resource officers in the three high schools. Although the council approved the deal, school officials have not yet signed it even though the school board approved it, so officers as of Tuesday are still not stationed at the schools. The district dropped deputies in 2015 in favor of private guards, saying the schools could have a presence on all campuses for the same money rather than having to share deputies among campuses. But the decision has been rife with controversy. Sheriff Alex Underwood blasted the decision in 2015 as not in the best interest of child safety, and many parents complained.

**Post and Courier:** Black and white South Carolinians' opinions split on police in schools  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829742/black-and-white-south-carolinians-opinions-split-on-police-in-schools>

Paul Bowers

After a white school resource officer was filmed pulling a black student from her desk and throwing her across the floor last fall, South Carolinians' opinions about the incident are split along racial lines, according to a survey. In the phone survey conducted by University of South Carolina researchers, a majority of black respondents — 81 percent — said Richland County made the right decision in firing Deputy Ben Fields for his conduct at Spring Valley High School in Northeast Columbia. A plurality of white respondents — 43 percent — said firing Fields was the wrong decision. The phone survey of 334 randomly selected South Carolina adults began Oct. 29, three days after the Spring Valley incident and one day after Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced he was firing Fields. A student's cellphone video of the arrest had made national news by that time, and 95 percent of survey respondents said they had read or heard about it.

**Savannah River Site/MOX:**

**Aiken Standard:** MOX responds to Nuclear Regulatory Committee about construction violations  
<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160823/160829802/mox-responds-to-nuclear-regulatory-committee-about-construction-violations->

Thomas Gardiner

AREVA MOX Services, project management contractor for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, delivered a response letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Committee last week after receiving official notification of construction violations. In a letter dated July 25, 2016, the Nuclear Regulatory

Committee notified MOX of violations connected to installation of ledgers. They were said to be undersize, less than specified length, undercut and had code prohibited joint design. Those ledgers are structural installations designed to support floor panels in a number of operations rooms. Due to the sensitive nature of MOX operations, details were not made available to the Aiken Standard. In a response, AREVA MOX Services identified shortcomings in operating procedures that contributed to the violations. According to the letter, the contract company failed to physically inspect the incoming materials in question and did not audit the company from which the ledgers were purchased.

### **Opinion/Editorial:**

**The State:** Scope: School discipline, academics and the 18th horse

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article97158492.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

AFTER I WROTE last week about our state's disturbingly broad disturbing schools law, I got a letter to the editor and a letter to me that both referred to the October incident when a Richland County sheriff's deputy tossed a student from her desk and arrested her. Both letters asked, essentially: How else was the deputy supposed to remove the student from the classroom if she wouldn't let go of the desk? And I remembered the story of the 18th horse. "Moral: The attitude of negotiation and problem solving is to find the '18th horse' — that is the common ground. Once a person is able to find the 18th horse, the issue is resolved. It is difficult at times. However, to reach a solution, the first step is to believe that there is a solution. If we think that there is no solution, we won't be able to reach any! Would be a good idea if all our politicians could do farmer math!" What else could the deputy have done at Spring Valley? What if that's the wrong question?

### **South Carolina News:**

**Associated Press:** Tropical Storm Gaston getting stronger in the Atlantic

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=C27BA3A6](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=C27BA3A6)

SC State Wire

Tropical Storm Gaston is strengthening as it moves over the far eastern Atlantic. The storm's maximum sustained winds had increased Tuesday to near 65 mph (100 kph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center says additional strengthening is forecast and Gaston is expected to become a hurricane by Wednesday. Gaston is centered about 685 miles (1105 kilometers) west of the southernmost Cabo Verde Islands and is moving west-northwest near 21 mph (33 kph). Elsewhere in the Atlantic, Fiona is breaking up as a tropical depression and should gradually weaken over the next couple of days. Maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 30 mph (45 kph). The National Hurricane Center has discontinued its advisories. Meanwhile in the Pacific, Kay is expected to become a remnant low later on Thursday.

**Greenville News:** Report: SC household income plunged over seven-year period

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2016/08/23/report-sc-household-income-plunged-over-seven-year-period/89220780/>

Rudolph Bell

The median household income in South Carolina dropped 11 percent between 2007 and 2014, according to a new report on state economies. The report from the Joint Economic Committee in the U.S. Congress includes various data points showing how South Carolina's economy has fared since the Great Recession. It says South Carolina's inflation-adjusted median household income declined from \$50,500 before the recession in 2007 to \$44,900 in 2014, according to the latest data available. For the country as a whole, median household income dropped 6 percent over the same period, from \$57,400 in 2007 to \$53,700 in 2014. The report also says...

**Associated Press:** Jury finds man not guilty in 1991 rape-murder retrial

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=bqsZMeKb](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=bqsZMeKb)

SC State Wire

A jury on Tuesday found a man not guilty in his retrial in the rape and murder of a 77-year-old woman a quarter-century ago, after DNA evidence pointed to another man. Anthony Wright was sentenced to life without parole in the October 1991 slaying of his neighbor Louise Talley, whose nude body was found face-down on a bedroom floor in her North Philadelphia home. Talley had been raped and then stabbed 10 times in the neck, chest and back with a kitchen knife. Jurors spent less than two hours deliberating Tuesday before returning with the not guilty verdict. The district attorney's office agreed to a new trial in 2014 at the request of Wright's defense team, led by the Innocence Project, after DNA tests showed that sperm found inside Talley's body belonged to a former Philadelphia-area crack addict who died in a South Carolina prison. The testing also showed that only Talley's genetic material was inside clothing that homicide detectives alleged Wright told them he wore and that was found inside his bedroom in his mother's house.

### **Local News:**

**Associated Press:** Deputies: Mom killed newborn by putting him in refrigerator

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=FCoy8U9m](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=FCoy8U9m)

SC State Wire

A South Carolina mother killed her 4-day-old son by putting him in the refrigerator for three hours, authorities said. Angela Blackwell is charged with homicide by child abuse. During a brief court appearance on Tuesday, the judge explained that because of the severity of the charges no bond could be set at this initial hearing, in accordance to state law. She only nodded and shook her head, leaving the small courtroom after a few minutes without a sound. Blackwell, 27, was arrested Monday, nearly six months after her son died. Investigators said they have spent that time taking statements and getting forensic tests done on the baby. An autopsy showed that the boy, William David Blackwell, died from hypothermia with asphyxiation from being placed in the cold, according to Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker. First-responders tried to revive him on Feb. 27, but he was pronounced dead at a hospital.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: No bond for mom accused of putting son in fridge

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=0ZvQ89x0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=0ZvQ89x0)

SC State Wire

Bond has been denied for a mother charged with killing her infant son by putting him in the refrigerator for several hours. A magistrate judge made that determination during a brief hearing Tuesday for 27-year-old Angela Blackwell. She is charged with homicide by child abuse, and it will be up to a circuit court judge to determine if she can be released from jail on bond. Blackwell appeared in court with a public defender. Her next court date is Nov. 10. Blackwell was arrested Monday. Deputies say she was at her home February 27 when she put her 4-day-old son in the refrigerator and shut the door. After three hours, she took him out and sought medical attention. Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker says William David Blackwell died from hypothermia and asphyxiation.

**The Herald:** Chester Co. baby died after mother put him in fridge for 3 hours, warrant states

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article97307057.html>

Teddy Kulmala

Just four days after little William Blackwell took his first breaths of life, he died after his mother placed the newborn in a refrigerator for three hours, according to authorities. Angela Blackwell, 27, of 534 Rose St. in Chester, was arrested Monday and charged with homicide by child abuse, officials have said. She remains in the Chester County Detention Center without bond. William died from hypothermia with asphyxiation from being placed in the cold, according to Chester County Coroner



Terry Tinker. The incident happened Feb. 27, just four days after William was born. Investigators say Blackwell put her infant son in the refrigerator for three hours and didn't seek medical attention until after she removed him from the fridge, according an arrest warrant.

**Associated Press:** 2 dead, 1 hurt in house fire near Dillon

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zIH5kdxk](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zIH5kdxk)

SC State Wire

Authorities are investigating the cause of a house fire that killed two people and injured a third near Dillon. Dillon County Coroner Donnie Grimsley tells local news outlets that firefighters received a call about 11 p.m. Monday to respond to a fire at a home in the Riverdale community just east of Dillon. Witnesses told WPDE-TV (<http://bit.ly/2c2q2SR>) that they heard an explosion and then saw the house in flames. The names of the two dead people were not immediately released. Authorities say a third person was taken to the Joseph Still Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia.

**Morning News:** Latta Police Chief Crystal Moore suspended, mayor confirms

[http://www.scnw.com/news/article\\_47faff4a-694a-11e6-bd1e-37aca314a3c6.html](http://www.scnw.com/news/article_47faff4a-694a-11e6-bd1e-37aca314a3c6.html)

Jessica Imbimbo

Latta's Police Chief Crystal Moore was suspended from her position Tuesday morning, according to Mayor Earl Bullard. It is the second time that Moore, who is running for sheriff of Dillon County, has been removed from the post. Moore, who is gay, received national attention in 2014 when Bullard fired her. She was reinstated after a state investigation. Bullard confirmed that an interim police chief has been named. Town Administrator Jarett Taylor said Assistant Police Chief Derrick Cartwright will act as interim police chief for the next five days. Taylor said it was the council's decision to suspend Moore and choose Cartwright as the interim chief. Moore said she is discussing the matter with her lawyer and said she has "no comment at this time." Bullard declined to comment on the nature of Moore's suspension, but Taylor said Moore's suspension was not without cause.

**Associated Press:** Openly gay police chief suspended from job in South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qJfkuW5m](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qJfkuW5m)

Jeffrey Collins

The openly gay police chief of a small South Carolina town has been suspended from her job for five days, but the town administrator said it has nothing to do with her sexual orientation. Latta Town Administrator Jarett Taylor said he can't give the exact reason for Moore's suspension because it's a personnel matter. "But I can tell you, we don't care what sexuality you are. If you can work, we'll let you work," Taylor said. Taylor said Moore is welcome to release the reason for her suspension. Moore declined to talk about it with a reporter Tuesday and her lawyer did not return a phone message. The town's investigation into Moore is finished and she is welcome back to the force next Tuesday unless some other information emerges, Taylor said. Moore was fired two years ago, after nearly two decades working in Latta, because of her sexuality. Taylor, who also sits on the Town Council, was instrumental in helping get her job back. Taylor recorded Latta's mayor after he fired Moore saying he would rather have a drunk watch his grandchildren than a gay person.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston area advocates, leaders seek community support in walk against domestic violence

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829745/charleston-area-advocates-leaders-seek-community-support-in-walk-against-domestic-violence>

Gregory Yee

Charleston area advocates are teaming up to raise funds and support for victims of domestic violence. Project Unity USA is partnering with Real Men Against Domestic Violence — a statewide nonprofit that provides domestic violence awareness, prevention and education — and My Sister's House to hold a walk Sept. 24 across the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge. The Hope Walk Against Domestic

Violence will begin at 8 a.m. on the Charleston side of the bridge, 66 Columbus St., and will end in Mount Pleasant. A \$25 registration fee is required. Funds will go to My Sister's House, which is the tri-county area's only shelter for victims of domestic violence, and to other organizations that will be selected by a committee. Fees will jump to \$30 for those who register the day of the walk.

**Associated Press:** Deputies: 21 go to hospitals in bus pepper spray incident

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentid=LnlQVlj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentid=LnlQVlj)

SC State Wire

Authorities say 21 Richland County students were taken to hospitals to be checked after pepper spray was used during a fight on a school bus. Sheriff's Lt. Curtis Wilson tells local news outlets the fight broke out between groups of male and female students going to Westwood High School Tuesday morning. One of the female students used pepper spray during the incident. Authorities are checking surveillance video to determine what happened. It's not clear whether she was using the spray to defend herself or to attack other students. Wilson says it's not illegal to have pepper spray and whether students can carry it on a bus is up to individual school districts. He says it's legal to use pepper spray only for protection.

**The State:** Girl used pepper spray on bus, deputies say; 21 students taken to hospital

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article97314312.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

An argument involving several high schoolers – both males and females – led to a girl using pepper spray on a Richland County school bus Tuesday, deputies said. Deputies responded to Hard Scrabble Road and Sloan Road at about 8:45 a.m. after the bus driver called law enforcement, sheriff's spokesman Lt. Curtis Wilson said. They found that an ongoing altercation between two students had led to an argument on the bus involving several teenagers, Wilson said. After one girl used pepper spray, 21 students were taken to local and area hospitals for observation, Wilson said. Whether the girl was trying to defend herself or attack someone was not immediately clear. "Obviously, it affected more than one student on that bus," Wilson said. "Whether it was her intention I don't know." There were no injuries reported, Wilson said. "Slowly but surely they're being released from the hospitals," he said. As of 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, only three students had returned to school, Wilson said.

**Sun News:** Ten of 13 suspended lifeguards had problems with certifications

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article97384852.html>

Chloe Johnson

The lifeguard company that used to guard Myrtle Beach from 67th Avenue North to 77th Avenue North will likely not make it back on the sand this year. Myrtle Beach Lifeguards was pulled from the beach at the beginning of the month after the city began investigating whether all the company's guards had the correct certifications, which signify that guards have met Red Cross standards. City Manager John Pedersen said that after a review, 10 of the 13 guards were found to have issues. "Out of the 10 that didn't have [certifications] ... there was a mix of folks that previously had certifications that had expired and folks that never had been certified," Pedersen said. At City Council's workshop Tuesday morning, Myrtle Beach Lifeguards owner Gene Hudson and his lawyer, Stephen Goldfinch, defended the company and emphasized its 38-year history. "We'd like very much to go back to work," Hudson told City Council Tuesday morning. "The whole company is out of work, all the lifeguards."

**Post and Courier:** Third dead manatee reported in Charleston area in two weeks

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829764/third-dead-manatee-reported-in-charleston-area-in-two-weeks>

Prentiss Findlay

Another manatee apparently has been found dead in the Charleston area, making it the third death of its kind in two weeks. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources learned of a sighting of a dead

manatee Tuesday morning. The manatee was seen floating in the Intracoastal Waterway near Garris Landing and Awendaw. DNR sent two staff members to the area to search for the carcass, but they had not found it as of late Tuesday morning. Adult manatees can grow to about 10 feet long and weigh up to one ton. Despite their large size, tracking one down can prove tricky. "Tides move them," said Phil Maier, DNR coastal reserves and outreach director. "If he's up in the marsh somewhere or stuck on a bank, it could be difficult and it could take a while to find them." If confirmed, it would be the third manatee death in the area in less than two weeks. Last week, biologists said they were concerned about whether manatees ate something toxic in the sea grass or other vegetation.

**The State:** Richland County wants residents to fight mosquitoes, help stop Zika

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97362582.html>

Bristol Marchant

To stop the spread of Zika in South Carolina, Richland County is asking residents to fight the growth of the mosquito population. Richland County called Tuesday on the public to work to eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed. The push is part of a coordinated push by county health departments to stop Zika from spreading through South Carolina by halting the insects that carry the disease. "If everyone took a few minutes each week to walk around and make sure all standing water has been emptied, it would make things so much better," said Tammy Brewer of the county. "We have to work together." As of Aug. 22, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control had identified 38 Zika cases in South Carolina – 37 travel-related cases and one sexually transmitted case. Pregnant women are most at risk as the disease leads to severe birth defects and pregnancy complications.

**Associated Press:** Detour: Delta flight briefly diverted to Myrtle Beach

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=UFImsTCo](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentquid=UFImsTCo)

SC State Wire

A warning light indicating a possible mechanical problem forced a Delta flight from Norfolk, Virginia, to Atlanta to briefly divert to Myrtle Beach. Michael Thomas of Delta says that the Monday morning flight diverted when a warning indicated a possible issue with the aircraft's auxiliary power system. The plane carrying 160 passengers and six crew members landed at Myrtle Beach International Airport about 8 a.m. on Monday. The aircraft was checked out by ground mechanics and, after a short delay, resumed its flight to Atlanta.

## **Presidential Election 2016:**

**Associated Press:** Many donors to Clinton Foundation met with her at State

<http://bigstory.ap.org/82df550e1ec646098b434f7d5771f625>

Stephen raun and Eileen Sullivan

More than half the people outside the government who met with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state gave money — either personally or through companies or groups — to the Clinton Foundation. It's an extraordinary proportion indicating her possible ethics challenges if elected president. At least 85 of 154 people from private interests who met or had phone conversations scheduled with Clinton while she led the State Department donated to her family charity or pledged commitments to its international programs, according to a review of State Department calendars released so far to The Associated Press. Combined, the 85 donors contributed as much as \$156 million. At least 40 donated more than \$100,000 each, and 20 gave more than \$1 million. Donors who were granted time with Clinton included an internationally known economist who asked for her help as the Bangladesh government pressured him to resign from a nonprofit bank he ran; a Wall Street executive who sought Clinton's help with a visa problem and Estee Lauder executives who were

listed as meeting with Clinton while her department worked with the firm's corporate charity to counter gender-based violence in South Africa.

**Associated Press:** Trump aides covertly fought freeing of Ukraine prisoner

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e7acd0dbb64c4bcd8e29736b99b1224c>

Jeff Horwitz and Chad Day

For more than three years, lobbyist Jim Slattery worked in Washington to secure the release in Ukraine of the imprisoned political rival of the country's then-president. He said the work was sometimes harder than expected. "I had a sense that there were people working on the other side," he said, "but they were doing it pretty secretly." Slattery's hunch was right. His unknown opponent: The consulting firm run by Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, and his deputy Rick Gates, now the campaign's liaison to the Republican National Committee. Manafort resigned last week, shortly after disclosures by The Associated Press about his firm's covert lobbying on behalf of Ukraine's pro-Russian government at the time. The U.S. Foreign Agents Registration Act requires people working on behalf of foreign political leaders to disclose their efforts to the Justice Department, but neither Manafort and Gates nor U.S. lobbyists they directed did. Working on the other side, Slattery filled out the required paperwork describing contacts with Congress and State Department officials including specific phone calls and emails and the topics of their discussions.

### **National News:**

**Associated Press:** Ex-host sues Fox claiming sexual harassment, retaliation

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2a8f8e0dfb7f4a5495f6579926e1d8d5>

Jake Pearson

A former Fox News host has sued the network, its ousted chairman and other top executives, claiming they retaliated after she detailed unwanted sexual advances made by her onetime boss, Roger Ailes. Andrea Tantaros described Fox in the lawsuit, filed Monday in New York, as a "sex-fueled, Playboy Mansion-like cult." She said after she complained last spring about Ailes, one of his top deputies, William Shine, warned her that Ailes was a "very powerful man" and that she "needed to let this one go." Shine was promoted to co-president of Fox News after Ailes resigned last month amid other allegations of sexual harassment. Ailes "may have been the primary culprit, but his actions were condoned by most senior lieutenants, who engaged in a concerted effort to silence Tantaros by threats, humiliation, and retaliation," the lawsuit said.

**Associated Press:** Obama vows support for Louisiana after the 'cameras leave'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/0f2f3add6bdc41ed9de1dcf636d55348>

Kevin Freking

Standing amid piles of waterlogged debris, President Barack Obama on Tuesday promised a sustained national effort to rebuild flood-ravaged southern Louisiana "even after the TV cameras leave" on a visit aimed in part at stemming campaign-season criticism that he's been slow to respond to the disaster. As he toured a battered neighborhood and spoke to local officials, Obama tried to buck up beleaguered residents of the water-soaked region. "This is not a one-off, this is not a photo-op issue," Obama said. "I need all Americans to stay focused on this ... I know you will rebuild again." Obama's visit was a reminder of the political dangers and opportunities that natural disasters can pose. The president has been criticized for waiting until after he returned from his New England vacation to tour the Gulf Coast flooding. The timing, amid a heated presidential campaign, drew barbs from some local officials and Republicans political opponents, including GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump.

**Associated Press:** Prisoner not seen publicly since 2002 at Gitmo hearing

<http://bigstory.ap.org/86ae658959ab41ebdb23806f6765599>

Robert Burns

The first high-profile al-Qaida terror suspect captured after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 appeared Tuesday at a U.S. government hearing called to determine whether he should remain in detention at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Abu Zubaydah, a Palestinian not seen publicly since his capture by the CIA in 2002, sat expressionless during the brief hearing. Zubaydah was also the first to vanish into the CIA's secret "black site" prison network and was subjected to "enhanced interrogation." The review panel issued no immediate ruling on his status. He has been held at Guantanamo Bay since September 2006. The U.S. contended that Zubaydah, 45, was one of the most senior figures in al-Qaida when he was captured in Pakistan. It has since dropped that claim. Zubaydah's lawyers deny he was a member of al-Qaida.

### **World News:**

**Associated Press:** Turkey launches new artillery strikes at IS in Syria

<http://bigstory.ap.org/409dfe4dd8d948fcb93bf6d8c81600cc>

Suzan Fraser

Turkey's artillery shelled Islamic State group targets across the border in Syria for the second consecutive day on Tuesday, a senior Turkish official said, amid reports that Turkey-backed Syrian rebels were preparing an offensive against an IS-held border town in northern Syria. The latest developments have thrust the town of Jarablus into center stage in the ongoing Syrian civil war. The Ankara official said the Turkish shelling came after mortar rounds, believed to have been fired by the militants from Jarablus, landed on Turkish territory. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government regulations, did not provide further details. Turkey has increased security measures at its border opposite the Islamic State-held Jarablus, deploying tanks and armored personnel carriers in recent days. Syrian activists have said that hundreds of Turkish-backed Syrian opposition fighters are gathered in the Turkish border area of Karkamis in preparation for an attack on Jarablus.

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Camlin Moore

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Office: 803-734-8044

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**From:** Patel, Swati  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:55 AM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Cc:** Smith, Austin  
**Subject:** Re: CCU

Should include the P&C editorial as well.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2016, at 10:23 AM, Veldran, Katherine <[KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov](mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

AS – do you have any more information to provide to friendlies re: CCU? KV

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**From:** Patel, Swati  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:55 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Subject:** CCU

CCU articles are a good explanation of the issue and our position. Please forward if you think appropriate to friendlies. Austin may have more info you could share as well.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**From:** Moore, Camlin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:36 PM  
**Subject:** Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 23, 2016

## **Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 23, 2016**

### **Governor Nikki Haley News:**

**The State:** SC's Haley to stump for embattled NC Gov. Pat McCrory  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97420272.html>

Jamie Self

Facing a tough re-election challenge, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory will get some help on the campaign trail this week from his neighbor to the south. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will attend a fundraiser Thursday for McCrory in Fayetteville, Haley's office said. Aligning himself with Haley could help McCrory who has slid behind N.C. Attorney General Ray Cooper, his Democratic challenger, in the polls. N.C. Democrats hope to attract win over voters who are upset about a new state law that requires transgender people to use the bathroom of their birth sex. McCrory signed the controversial legislation, known as HB2. Haley rejected a similar proposal in South Carolina, saying it was unneeded. N.C. Democrats also are banking on GOP disillusionment with

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump to help them in down-ballot contests against Republicans, including McCrory. Haley has criticized Trump repeatedly, including during her nationally televised GOP response to President Obama's January State of the Union address. Haley enjoyed a rising national profile and popularity after she pushed to remove the Confederate flag last summer from the State House grounds in the wake of the massacre of nine African Americans in a Charleston church.

**The State:** Coastal Carolina's football stadium plan OK'd amid outcry from Gov. Haley  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97354587.html>

Jamie Self

Coastal Carolina University can move forward with a \$32 million plan to expand its football stadium after a state budget panel approved the project Tuesday, ignoring a higher education panel's veto of the proposal as too expensive. The S.C. Fiscal Accountability Authority approved the project by a 3-2 vote Tuesday. Coastal wants to add 11,486 seats to its stadium, which now has 9,214 seats. The school also plans to add restrooms, a hospitality suite and concession [space](#). Gov. Nikki Haley and S.C. Treasurer Curtis Loftis opposed the project, noting the S.C. Commission on Higher Education had rejected proposals to expand the stadium four times. "If you override CHE today, then why have it?" Haley asked, adding the move would set a precedent for other universities and colleges to move forward on building projects without the commission's support. Approving the stadium project – a proposal that comes as Coastal moves into the Sun Belt Conference – would send a message to schools that they can lobby lawmakers directly for projects and ignore the commission's decisions, giving "every university the ability to say the CHE doesn't matter," she said.

**NOTE:** Haley vetoed that bill, but lawmakers overrode her veto. Haley said the commission recently had shifted its focus to provide more of a watchdog role over college and university spending. That role would be undercut if lawmakers approved the project despite the commission's veto, she added.

**Post and Courier:** \$31.8 million Coastal Carolina stadium project approved  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829756/318-million-coastal-carolina-stadium-project-approved>

Gavin Jackson

By a slim margin, the State Fiscal Accountability Authority approved a \$31.8 million expansion of Coastal Carolina University's Brooks Stadium for Chanticleer football but over the objection of Gov. Nikki Haley. Tuesday's contentious 3-2 vote cleared the way for the university to go forward even after the state Commission on Higher Education repeatedly rejected the costly expansion, citing the potential increases to student fees. Legislators earlier this year circumvented the commission's decision by adding two budget items related to the expansion. It was done to legally secure funding through the authority. Those budget provisos survived Haley's veto pen in June and her criticism Tuesday that the body was setting a bad precedent. "You have just given every university the ability to say 'CHE doesn't matter' and 'We'll just circumvent it, we'll get our lobbyist to it, the Legislature will approve it' and then it will happen," said Haley, who also heads the authority.

**NOTE:** State Treasurer Curtis Loftis joined Haley in voting against the plan, while the state's ranking budget writers, Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, and Rep. Brian White, R-Anderson, voted for it. The plan includes a \$22.9 million bond offering to fund the project, with the remainder coming from other university funds and private dollars.

**NOTE:** "One thing we need to bear in mind is we're not talking about an unfunded liability, those are actual liabilities we have to settle," Eckstrom said in opposition to Haley's stance. "We can speculate that this will turn into one."

**WBTW:** \$22.9M in bonds approved for CCU stadium expansion project  
<http://wbtw.com/2016/08/23/22-9m-in-bonds-approved-for-ccu-stadium-expansion-project/>

Meghan Miller

Coastal Carolina University is moving forward with the multi-million dollar expansion of Brooks Stadium, following a State Fiscal Accountability Authority meeting on Tuesday. SFAA spokesman Delbert Singleton told News13 the SFAA board voted to approve \$22.9 million in bonds for Coastal Carolina University to use on its expansion and renovation of Brooks Stadium. Singleton says Gov. Nikki Haley was the only person to not vote in favor of the move. The expansion of Brooks Stadium at Coastal Carolina University is needed to comply with an agreement between the university and the Sun Belt Conference. Coastal Carolina University Athletic Director Matt Hogue says the project, in all, will cost \$31.8 million, up from a previous \$29.9 million. Approximately \$22.9 million comes from bonds approved by the SFAA Tuesday and the rest from a "combination of private sources and debt service allocation previously approved by the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees." Hogue says the expansion would put Brooks Stadium at 20,700 capacity. Approximately 1,100 seats previously cut from the project – totaling nearly \$2 million – have been re-added. Hogue says the school had the ability to re-add the seats if funding for them was privately sourced. University officials say they will immediately work with engineers and architects to put together plans for the bidding process. Those plans must first be approved by the state engineer in order to be put out to bid.

### **SC Political News:**

**The State:** State will pay hike in SC employees' health care costs  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97344347.html>

Jamie Self

The state will pick up the tab for the rising cost of health care for S.C. employees next year. The S.C. Fiscal Accountability Authority Tuesday approved the state paying the higher cost in employees' health plan — a 0.8 percent increase in the premium — passing on none of that cost to workers. Under the changes, the state's contribution to an employee's health plan will rise to \$363 from \$360 a month for the employee alone. For an employee's entire family, the state will pay \$900 monthly, up from \$893 last year. The amount that a state employee pays for health care insurance will remain the same as this year — almost \$98 a month for the employee only and almost \$307 monthly for a family. Last spring, S.C. lawmakers agreed to pick up the rising health care costs for state workers, who are being asked to pay more for their retirement plans.

**Post and Courier:** S.C. House tax policy reform group formed  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829754/sc-house-tax-policy-reform-group-formed>

Schuyler Kropf

House Speaker Jay Lucas has appointed 14 members of the S.C. House of Representatives to serve on a Tax Policy Review Committee that will investigate reforming outdated portions of the state tax code. This committee will submit



suggestions to the speaker before the beginning of the next legislative session in January. The group will hold its first meeting Aug. 30 at 2 p.m. in room 516 of the Blatt Building in Columbia. Speaker Pro-Tempore Tommy Pope, R-York, will serve as chairman. Lowcountry lawmakers on the panel include Rep. Joe Daning, R-Goose Creek; and Rep. Joe Jefferson, D-Pineville.

**Aiken Standard:** Rep. Bill Taylor among S.C. House members named to committee reviewing state's tax code

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160823/160829803/rep-bill-taylor-among-sc-house-members-named-to-committee-reviewing-state-tax-code>

South Carolina House Speaker Jay Lucas has appointed 14 members of the State House, including Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, to serve on the House Tax Policy Review Committee, a group tasked with reviewing the state's current tax code. According to a news release sent Tuesday, the ad hoc committee will review the state's tax code and send its suggestions to the speaker before the start of the next legislative session. "Our outdated tax code needs a dramatic transformation in order to promote economic competitiveness and increase the size of our citizens' paychecks," Lucas said in the release. "Achieving this difficult task is long overdue, but necessary to ensure our tax code is fair for our taxpayers. A broader and flatter tax code will help continue to spur job growth and provide greater opportunities for South Carolina families." Speaker Pro-Tem Tommy Pope, District 47-York, will serve as chairman of the committee, according to the release.

**Post and Courier:** SC Republicans pick their Electoral College members

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829768/sc-republicans-pick-their-electoral-college-members>

Schuyler Kropf

The South Carolina Republican Party's Executive Committee has announced its nine potential voting members of the Electoral College. The nine presidential electors would cast their votes as part of the 538-member national Electoral College following the November 8 general election. The nine selected Saturday are: Glenn McCall of York County, statewide; State Chairman Matt Moore of Lexington County, statewide; Terry Hardesty of Berkeley County, 1st Congressional District; Jim Ulmer of Orangeburg County, 2nd Congressional District; Brenda Bedenbaugh of Saluda County, 3rd Congressional District; Bill Conley of Spartanburg County, 4th Congressional District; Shery Smith of Sumter County, 5th Congressional District; Moye Graham of Clarendon County, 6th Congressional District; Jerry Rovner of Georgetown County, 7th Congressional District. State Democrats are scheduled to make their picks Tuesday night as part of their party's executive committee meeting.

**Post and Courier:** Gulf War veterans being honored Saturday by Sen. Tim Scott

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829778/gulf-war-veterans-being-honored-saturday-by-sen-tim-scott>

Schuyler Kropf

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott will host ceremonies honoring veterans of the 1990-91 conflicts known as Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm this Saturday in Charleston and Greenville. Each veteran attendee will receive a certificate of appreciation and a lapel pin in commemoration of their service. The two military operations became the U.S. and international coalition forces' response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Census Bureau statistics indicate about 77,000 South Carolina veterans served during the Gulf War period, from 1990 to 2001. "These were critical campaigns for freedom, and it is a

privilege for me to honor the brave South Carolina veterans who selflessly sacrificed so much to answer the call of duty," Scott, R-S.C., said in a media release. He has done similar events for other period veterans. The Lowcountry event will be held at 3 p.m. in the North Charleston Convention Center, 5000 Coliseum Drive.

**Morning News: Congressman Rice to visit Florence on Wednesday**

[http://www.scnw.com/news/article\\_b1efe038-6949-11e6-9dba-f722970f664f.html](http://www.scnw.com/news/article_b1efe038-6949-11e6-9dba-f722970f664f.html)  
Republican U.S. House Rep. Tom Rice will be in Florence on Tuesday morning for a meet-and-greet with constituents. The "Coffee with Your Congressman" event will happen at 9 a.m. Wednesday, August 24 at Venus Restaurant & Catering. The restaurant is located at 471 W. Palmetto Street in Florence. According to a release from Rice's office, the event is a key part of his outreach and constituent service in the 7th Congressional District. Constituents will have the opportunity to meet with Rice and discuss federal issues as well as upcoming legislation.

**SC Agency News:**

**The Herald: Federal funds for Gold Hill/I-77 project approved**

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/fort-mill-times/article97166747.html>  
The SCDOT Commission approved approximately \$1.6 million in federal funds to help pay for the construction of a Pennies for Progress project at the Gold Hill/I-77 Interchange. This project includes upgrading the existing interchange to a design called "double crossover diamond interchange" or "diverging diamond interchange." This will be the first double crossover diamond interchange in the state, according to SCDOT. The total budget for this project is approximately \$14.1 million. In addition to the earmarked funds for this project, the county has also received \$825,000 through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program and \$11.65 million from the Pennies 3 referendum. Anticipated construction for this project will begin summer/fall of 2017 with a project completion date in 2019.

**WIS: SCDOT blames contractor for subpar work in I-26 widening project**

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32817753/scdot-blames-contractor-for-subpar-work-in-i-26-widening-project>

Chad Mills

On Monday night, dozens attended a special meeting with questions about the I-26 widening project and the South Carolina Department of Transportation had answers. The project, which is more than a year behind schedule, has drawn criticism from both residents and Senator Nikki Setzler for the big delay, the bumpy results, and stretches of substandard work that are still being replaced leaving the SCDOT's top official apologizing for what's been done thus far. The \$75 million construction was to widen 10 miles of I-26 through Lexington County and Calhoun County in the Sandy Run area. "This has not been a showcase project for us," said SCDOT Secretary Christy Hall. "Our contractor struggled with this project." Boggs Paving, the North Carolina contractor working on the project, was blamed for the less-than-quality work by SCDOT Deputy Secretary Leland Colvin. According to Colvin, one of Boggs' leaders was indicted and convicted for a separate issue in North Carolina after he got the contract to do the work here. From that point, it was all downhill.

**Post and Courier: Meeting to focus on preventing Ravenel Bridge jumpers**

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829741/meeting-to-focus-on-preventing-ravenel-bridge-jumpers>

Prentiss Findlay

Options for preventing Ravenel Bridge jumpers will be discussed Wednesday at a meeting of officials that will include state Department of Transportation Secretary Christy Hall. The mayors of Charleston and Mount Pleasant, legislators and representatives of mental health advocacy groups are expected to attend, DOT spokesman Pete Poore said. "DOT has not made any decisions," he added. The 2 p.m. meeting is scheduled at North Charleston City Hall. DOT has conducted engineering studies, gathered ideas and collected information to determine what steps it might take to improve safety on the south-bound side of the bridge, where the railing is about three feet tall. That's much shorter than the railing along the bridge's bike and pedestrian path. Some advocates have proposed a suicide hotline phone on the span, while others have suggested a taller barrier. The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco has a net to catch jumpers. "By working together, we can determine what items can be implemented on the Ravenel Bridge to create barriers and counseling options for those in a state of crisis," Hall said recently.

**Greenville News:** Greenville family files lawsuit in prisoner's death

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/08/23/greenville-family-files-lawsuit-prisoners-death/89194568/>

Romando Dixon

A federal lawsuit against the South Carolina Department of Corrections alleges an inmate died of an untreated kidney infection that made him too weak to walk for at least seven days before he died. Victor Rogers, 27, died in March 2015 as an inmate at Lee Correctional Institution in Bishopville. The lawsuit alleges at least 12 individuals connected with the prison knew Rogers was experiencing "extreme physical pain but took no action to provide or request medical care" for him. The complaint named 17 defendants, including the director of the Department of Corrections, the warden of Lee Correctional, prison officers and medical staff. Department of Corrections officials do not comment on pending litigation, spokeswoman Stephanie Givens said Tuesday. The lawsuit, filed Monday on behalf of Rogers' family, alleges "illegal and unconstitutional actions" by the Department of Corrections led to Rogers' death. "Their illegal actions consist of their deliberate indifference to the obvious, serious medical needs of Victor Rogers while he was in their custody and care, and when they owed him a duty of care," the suit said.

### **SC After Recent Violence:**

**Post and Courier:** Insurer to pay \$380,000 to settle Taser lawsuit against North Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829739/insurer-to-pay-380000-to-settle-taser-lawsuit-against-north-charleston>

Andrew Knapp

North Charleston's insurer has agreed to pay \$380,000 to an Iraq War veteran who said a police officer shocked him three times with a Taser for no reason. The recent settlement will end National Guardsman Brian Yates' excessive force lawsuit that a federal appeals court already had used to further define how police can use stun guns. As part of the agreement, the North Charleston Police Department and the officer, Christopher Terry, did not admit to wrongdoing. Terry had insisted that he fired the device during a December 2008 traffic stop because Yates was ignoring his orders and kept jerking away. The state's Insurance Reserve Fund, which backs North Charleston, negotiated the deal. It did not immediately comment on inquiries about the case. Brady

Hair, a city attorney, said he was disappointed that the fund did not consult his office or the lawyers who defended North Charleston in the lawsuit. "The city believes the officer acted appropriately and used reasonable force based on the facts and circumstances of the encounter," Hair said. "We stand behind the officer's actions."

**The Herald:** Chester County approves cops at 3 high schools; deputies not on campus yet

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/education/article97307842.html>

Andrew Dys

Chester County's three high schools will finally get deputies in the schools but it still hasn't happened yet. County council unanimously approved a deal between the sheriff's office and school district late Monday that hit snags during late negotiations, forcing the school year to open Aug. 15 without school resource officers in the three high schools. Although the council approved the deal, school officials have not yet signed it even though the school board approved it, so officers as of Tuesday are still not stationed at the schools. The district dropped deputies in 2015 in favor of private guards, saying the schools could have a presence on all campuses for the same money rather than having to share deputies among campuses. But the decision has been rife with controversy. Sheriff Alex Underwood blasted the decision in 2015 as not in the best interest of child safety, and many parents complained.

**Post and Courier:** Black and white South Carolinians' opinions split on police in schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829742/black-and-white-south-carolinians-opinions-split-on-police-in-schools>

Paul Bowers

After a white school resource officer was filmed pulling a black student from her desk and throwing her across the floor last fall, South Carolinians' opinions about the incident are split along racial lines, according to a survey. In the phone survey conducted by University of South Carolina researchers, a majority of black respondents — 81 percent — said Richland County made the right decision in firing Deputy Ben Fields for his conduct at Spring Valley High School in Northeast Columbia. A plurality of white respondents — 43 percent — said firing Fields was the wrong decision. The phone survey of 334 randomly selected South Carolina adults began Oct. 29, three days after the Spring Valley incident and one day after Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced he was firing Fields. A student's cellphone video of the arrest had made national news by that time, and 95 percent of survey respondents said they had read or heard about it.

**Savannah River Site/MOX:**

**Aiken Standard:** MOX responds to Nuclear Regulatory Committee about construction violations

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160823/160829802/mox-responds-to-nuclear-regulatory-committee-about-construction-violations->

Thomas Gardiner

AREVA MOX Services, project management contractor for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, delivered a response letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Committee last week after receiving official notification of construction violations. In a letter dated July 25, 2016, the Nuclear Regulatory Committee notified MOX of violations connected to installation of ledgers. They were said to be undersize, less than specified

length, undercut and had code prohibited joint design. Those ledgers are structural installations designed to support floor panels in a number of operations rooms. Due to the sensitive nature of MOX operations, details were not made available to the Aiken Standard. In a response, AREVA MOX Services identified shortcomings in operating procedures that contributed to the violations. According to the letter, the contract company failed to physically inspect the incoming materials in question and did not audit the company from which the ledgers were purchased.

### **Opinion/Editorial:**

**The State:** Scoppe: School discipline, academics and the 18th horse  
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article97158492.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

AFTER I WROTE last week about our state's disturbingly broad disturbing schools law, I got a letter to the editor and a letter to me that both referred to the October incident when a Richland County sheriff's deputy tossed a student from her desk and arrested her. Both letters asked, essentially: How else was the deputy supposed to remove the student from the classroom if she wouldn't let go of the desk? And I remembered the story of the 18th horse. "Moral: The attitude of negotiation and problem solving is to find the '18th horse' — that is the common ground. Once a person is able to find the 18th horse, the issue is resolved. It is difficult at times. However, to reach a solution, the first step is to believe that there is a solution. If we think that there is no solution, we won't be able to reach any! Would be a good idea if all our politicians could do farmer math!" What else could the deputy have done at Spring Valley? What if that's the wrong question?

### **South Carolina News:**

**Associated Press:** Tropical Storm Gaston getting stronger in the Atlantic  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=C27BA3A6](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=C27BA3A6)  
SC State Wire

Tropical Storm Gaston is strengthening as it moves over the far eastern Atlantic. The storm's maximum sustained winds had increased Tuesday to near 65 mph (100 kph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center says additional strengthening is forecast and Gaston is expected to become a hurricane by Wednesday. Gaston is centered about 685 miles (1105 kilometers) west of the southernmost Cabo Verde Islands and is moving west-northwest near 21 mph (33 kph). Elsewhere in the Atlantic, Fiona is breaking up as a tropical depression and should gradually weaken over the next couple of days. Maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 30 mph (45 kph). The National Hurricane Center has discontinued its advisories. Meanwhile in the Pacific, Kay is expected to become a remnant low later on Thursday.

**Greenville News:** Report: SC household income plunged over seven-year period  
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2016/08/23/report-sc-household-income-plunged-over-seven-year-period/89220780/>  
Rudolph Bell

The median household income in South Carolina dropped 11 percent between 2007 and 2014, according to a new report on state economies. The report from the Joint Economic Committee in the U.S. Congress includes various data points showing how South Carolina's economy has fared since the Great Recession. It says South Carolina's inflation-adjusted median household income declined from \$50,500 before the

recession in 2007 to \$44,900 in 2014, according to the latest data available. For the country as a whole, median household income dropped 6 percent over the same period, from \$57,400 in 2007 to \$53,700 in 2014. The report also says...

**Associated Press:** Jury finds man not guilty in 1991 rape-murder retrial  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bgsZMeKb](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bgsZMeKb)  
SC State Wire

A jury on Tuesday found a man not guilty in his retrial in the rape and murder of a 77-year-old woman a quarter-century ago, after DNA evidence pointed to another man. Anthony Wright was sentenced to life without parole in the October 1991 slaying of his neighbor Louise Talley, whose nude body was found face-down on a bedroom floor in her North Philadelphia home. Talley had been raped and then stabbed 10 times in the neck, chest and back with a kitchen knife. Jurors spent less than two hours deliberating Tuesday before returning with the not guilty verdict. The district attorney's office agreed to a new trial in 2014 at the request of Wright's defense team, led by the Innocence Project, after DNA tests showed that sperm found inside Talley's body belonged to a former Philadelphia-area crack addict who died in a South Carolina prison. The testing also showed that only Talley's genetic material was inside clothing that homicide detectives alleged Wright told them he wore and that was found inside his bedroom in his mother's house.

#### **Local News:**

**Associated Press:** Deputies: Mom killed newborn by putting him in refrigerator  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FCoy8U9m](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FCoy8U9m)  
SC State Wire

A South Carolina mother killed her 4-day-old son by putting him in the refrigerator for three hours, authorities said. Angela Blackwell is charged with homicide by child abuse. During a brief court appearance on Tuesday, the judge explained that because of the severity of the charges no bond could be set at this initial hearing, in accordance to state law. She only nodded and shook her head, leaving the small courtroom after a few minutes without a sound. Blackwell, 27, was arrested Monday, nearly six months after her son died. Investigators said they have spent that time taking statements and getting forensic tests done on the baby. An autopsy showed that the boy, William David Blackwell, died from hypothermia with asphyxiation from being placed in the cold, according to Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker. First-responders tried to revive him on Feb. 27, but he was pronounced dead at a hospital.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: No bond for mom accused of putting son in fridge  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0ZvQ89x0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0ZvQ89x0)  
SC State Wire

Bond has been denied for a mother charged with killing her infant son by putting him in the refrigerator for several hours. A magistrate judge made that determination during a brief hearing Tuesday for 27-year-old Angela Blackwell. She is charged with homicide by child abuse, and it will be up to a circuit court judge to determine if she can be released from jail on bond. Blackwell appeared in court with a public defender. Her next court date is Nov. 10. Blackwell was arrested Monday. Deputies say she was at her home February 27 when she put her 4-day-old son in the refrigerator and shut the door. After three hours, she took him out and sought medical attention. Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker says William David Blackwell died from hypothermia and asphyxiation.

**The Herald:** Chester Co. baby died after mother put him in fridge for 3 hours, warrant states

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article97307057.html>

Teddy Kulmala

Just four days after little William Blackwell took his first breaths of life, he died after his mother placed the newborn in a refrigerator for three hours, according to authorities. Angela Blackwell, 27, of 534 Rose St. in Chester, was arrested Monday and charged with homicide by child abuse, officials have said. She remains in the Chester County Detention Center without bond. William died from hypothermia with asphyxiation from being placed in the cold, according to Chester County Coroner Terry Tinker. The incident happened Feb. 27, just four days after William was born. Investigators say Blackwell put her infant son in the refrigerator for three hours and didn't seek medical attention until after she removed him from the fridge, according an arrest warrant.

**Associated Press:** 2 dead, 1 hurt in house fire near Dillon

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zIH5kdxk](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zIH5kdxk)

SC State Wire

Authorities are investigating the cause of a house fire that killed two people and injured a third near Dillon. Dillon County Coroner Donnie Grimsley tells local news outlets that firefighters received a call about 11 p.m. Monday to respond to a fire at a home in the Riverdale community just east of Dillon. Witnesses told WPDE-TV (<http://bit.ly/2c2q2SR>) that they heard an explosion and then saw the house in flames. The names of the two dead people were not immediately released. Authorities say a third person was taken to the Joseph Still Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia.

**Morning News:** Latta Police Chief Crystal Moore suspended, mayor confirms

[http://www.scnw.com/news/article\\_47faff4a-694a-11e6-bd1e-37aca314a3c6.html](http://www.scnw.com/news/article_47faff4a-694a-11e6-bd1e-37aca314a3c6.html)

Jessica Imbimbo

Latta's Police Chief Crystal Moore was suspended from her position Tuesday morning, according to Mayor Earl Bullard. It is the second time that Moore, who is running for sheriff of Dillon County, has been removed from the post. Moore, who is gay, received national attention in 2014 when Bullard fired her. She was reinstated after a state investigation. Bullard confirmed that an interim police chief has been named. Town Administrator Jarett Taylor said Assistant Police Chief Derrick Cartwright will act as interim police chief for the next five days. Taylor said it was the council's decision to suspend Moore and choose Cartwright as the interim chief. Moore said she is discussing the matter with her lawyer and said she has "no comment at this time." Bullard declined to comment on the nature of Moore's suspension, but Taylor said Moore's suspension was not without cause.

**Associated Press:** Openly gay police chief suspended from job in South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gJfkuW5m](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gJfkuW5m)

Jeffrey Collins

The openly gay police chief of a small South Carolina town has been suspended from her job for five days, but the town administrator said it has nothing to do with her sexual orientation. Latta Town Administrator Jarett Taylor said he can't give the exact reason for Moore's suspension because it's a personnel matter. "But I can tell you, we don't care what sexuality you are. If you can work, we'll let you work," Taylor said. Taylor said Moore is welcome to release the reason for her suspension. Moore declined to talk about it with a reporter Tuesday and her lawyer did not return a phone message. The

town's investigation into Moore is finished and she is welcome back to the force next Tuesday unless some other information emerges, Taylor said. Moore was fired two years ago, after nearly two decades working in Latta, because of her sexuality. Taylor, who also sits on the Town Council, was instrumental in helping get her job back. Taylor recorded Latta's mayor after he fired Moore saying he would rather have a drunk watch his grandchildren than a gay person.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston area advocates, leaders seek community support in walk against domestic violence

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829745/charleston-area-advocates-leaders-look-for-community-support-in-walk-against-domestic-violence>

Gregory Yee

Charleston area advocates are teaming up to raise funds and support for victims of domestic violence. Project Unity USA is partnering with Real Men Against Domestic Violence — a statewide nonprofit that provides domestic violence awareness, prevention and education — and My Sister's House to hold a walk Sept. 24 across the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge. The Hope Walk Against Domestic Violence will begin at 8 a.m. on the Charleston side of the bridge, 66 Columbus St., and will end in Mount Pleasant. A \$25 registration fee is required. Funds will go to My Sister's House, which is the tri-county area's only shelter for victims of domestic violence, and to other organizations that will be selected by a committee. Fees will jump to \$30 for those who register the day of the walk.

**Associated Press:** Deputies: 21 go to hospitals in bus pepper spray incident

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentid=LnlQVlj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentid=LnlQVlj)

SC State Wire

Authorities say 21 Richland County students were taken to hospitals to be checked after pepper spray was used during a fight on a school bus. Sheriff's Lt. Curtis Wilson tells local news outlets the fight broke out between groups of male and female students going to Westwood High School Tuesday morning. One of the female students used pepper spray during the incident. Authorities are checking surveillance video to determine what happened. It's not clear whether she was using the spray to defend herself or to attack other students. Wilson says it's not illegal to have pepper spray and whether students can carry it on a bus is up to individual school districts. He says it's legal to use pepper spray only for protection.

**The State:** Girl used pepper spray on bus, deputies say; 21 students taken to hospital

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article97314312.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

An argument involving several high schoolers — both males and females — led to a girl using pepper spray on a Richland County school bus Tuesday, deputies said. Deputies responded to Hard Scrabble Road and Sloan Road at about 8:45 a.m. after the bus driver called law enforcement, sheriff's spokesman Lt. Curtis Wilson said. They found that an ongoing altercation between two students had led to an argument on the bus involving several teenagers, Wilson said. After one girl used pepper spray, 21 students were taken to local and area hospitals for observation, Wilson said. Whether the girl was trying to defend herself or attack someone was not immediately clear. "Obviously, it affected more than one student on that bus," Wilson said. "Whether it was her intention I don't know." There were no injuries reported, Wilson said. "Slowly but surely they're being released from the hospitals," he said. As of 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, only three students had returned to school, Wilson said.



**Sun News:** Ten of 13 suspended lifeguards had problems with certifications  
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article97384852.html>

Chloe Johnson

The lifeguard company that used to guard Myrtle Beach from 67th Avenue North to 77th Avenue North will likely not make it back on the sand this year. Myrtle Beach Lifeguards was pulled from the beach at the beginning of the month after the city began investigating whether all the company's guards had the correct certifications, which signify that guards have met Red Cross standards. City Manager John Pedersen said that after a review, 10 of the 13 guards were found to have issues "Out of the 10 that didn't have [certifications] ... there was a mix of folks that previously had certifications that had expired and folks that never had been certified," Pedersen said. At City Council's workshop Tuesday morning, Myrtle Beach Lifeguards owner Gene Hudson and his lawyer, Stephen Goldfinch, defended the company and emphasized its 38-year history. "We'd like very much to go back to work," Hudson told City Council Tuesday morning. "The whole company is out of work, all the lifeguards."

**Post and Courier:** Third dead manatee reported in Charleston area in two weeks  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160823/160829764/third-dead-manatee-reported-in-charleston-area-in-two-weeks>

Prentiss Findlay

Another manatee apparently has been found dead in the Charleston area, making it the third death of its kind in two weeks. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources learned of a sighting of a dead manatee Tuesday morning. The manatee was seen floating in the Intracoastal Waterway near Garris Landing and Awendaw. DNR sent two staff members to the area to search for the carcass, but they had not found it as of late Tuesday morning. Adult manatees can grow to about 10 feet long and weigh up to one ton. Despite their large size, tracking one down can prove tricky. "Tides move them," said Phil Maier, DNR coastal reserves and outreach director. "If he's up in the marsh somewhere or stuck on a bank, it could be difficult and it could take a while to find them." If confirmed, it would be the third manatee death in the area in less than two weeks. Last week, biologists said they were concerned about whether manatees ate something toxic in the sea grass or other vegetation.

**The State:** Richland County wants residents to fight mosquitoes, help stop Zika  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97362582.html>

Bristol Marchant

To stop the spread of Zika in South Carolina, Richland County is asking residents to fight the growth of the mosquito population. Richland County called Tuesday on the public to work to eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed. The push is part of a coordinated push by county health departments to stop Zika from spreading through South Carolina by halting the insects that carry the disease. "If everyone took a few minutes each week to walk around and make sure all standing water has been emptied, it would make things so much better," said Tammy Brewer of the county. "We have to work together." As of Aug. 22, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control had identified 38 Zika cases in South Carolina – 37 travel-related cases and one sexually transmitted case. Pregnant women are most at risk as the disease leads to severe birth defects and pregnancy complications.

**Associated Press:** Detour: Delta flight briefly diverted to Myrtle Beach

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UFImSTCo](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UFImSTCo)  
SC State Wire

A warning light indicating a possible mechanical problem forced a Delta flight from Norfolk, Virginia, to Atlanta to briefly divert to Myrtle Beach. Michael Thomas of Delta says that the Monday morning flight diverted when a warning indicated a possible issue with the aircraft's auxiliary power system. The plane carrying 160 passengers and six crew members landed at Myrtle Beach International Airport about 8 a.m. on Monday. The aircraft was checked out by ground mechanics and, after a short delay, resumed its flight to Atlanta.

### **Presidential Election 2016:**

**Associated Press:** Many donors to Clinton Foundation met with her at State

<http://bigstory.ap.org/82df550e1ec646098b434f7d5771f625>

Stephen raun and Eileen Sullivan

More than half the people outside the government who met with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state gave money — either personally or through companies or groups — to the Clinton Foundation. It's an extraordinary proportion indicating her possible ethics challenges if elected president. At least 85 of 154 people from private interests who met or had phone conversations scheduled with Clinton while she led the State Department donated to her family charity or pledged commitments to its international programs, according to a review of State Department calendars released so far to The Associated Press. Combined, the 85 donors contributed as much as \$156 million. At least 40 donated more than \$100,000 each, and 20 gave more than \$1 million. Donors who were granted time with Clinton included an internationally known economist who asked for her help as the Bangladesh government pressured him to resign from a nonprofit bank he ran; a Wall Street executive who sought Clinton's help with a visa problem and Estee Lauder executives who were listed as meeting with Clinton while her department worked with the firm's corporate charity to counter gender-based violence in South Africa.

**Associated Press:** Trump aides covertly fought freeing of Ukraine prisoner

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e7acd0dbb64c4bcd8e29736b99b1224c>

Jeff Horwitz and Chad Day

For more than three years, lobbyist Jim Slattery worked in Washington to secure the release in Ukraine of the imprisoned political rival of the country's then-president. He said the work was sometimes harder than expected. "I had a sense that there were people working on the other side," he said, "but they were doing it pretty secretly." Slattery's hunch was right. His unknown opponent: The consulting firm run by Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, and his deputy Rick Gates, now the campaign's liaison to the Republican National Committee. Manafort resigned last week, shortly after disclosures by The Associated Press about his firm's covert lobbying on behalf of Ukraine's pro-Russian government at the time. The U.S. Foreign Agents Registration Act requires people working on behalf of foreign political leaders to disclose their efforts to the Justice Department, but neither Manafort and Gates nor U.S. lobbyists they directed did. Working on the other side, Slattery filled out the required paperwork describing contacts with Congress and State Department officials including specific phone calls and emails and the topics of their discussions.

### **National News:**

**Associated Press:** Ex-host sues Fox claiming sexual harassment, retaliation  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/2a8f8e0dfb7f4a5495f6579926e1d8d5>

Jake Pearson

A former Fox News host has sued the network, its ousted chairman and other top executives, claiming they retaliated after she detailed unwanted sexual advances made by her onetime boss, Roger Ailes. Andrea Tantaros described Fox in the lawsuit, filed Monday in New York, as a "sex-fueled, Playboy Mansion-like cult." She said after she complained last spring about Ailes, one of his top deputies, William Shine, warned her that Ailes was a "very powerful man" and that she "needed to let this one go." Shine was promoted to co-president of Fox News after Ailes resigned last month amid other allegations of sexual harassment. Ailes "may have been the primary culprit, but his actions were condoned by most senior lieutenants, who engaged in a concerted effort to silence Tantaros by threats, humiliation, and retaliation," the lawsuit said.

**Associated Press:** Obama vows support for Louisiana after the 'cameras leave'  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/0f2f3add6bdc41ed9de1dcf636d55348>

Kevin Freking

Standing amid piles of waterlogged debris, President Barack Obama on Tuesday promised a sustained national effort to rebuild flood-ravaged southern Louisiana "even after the TV cameras leave" on a visit aimed in part at stemming campaign-season criticism that he's been slow to respond to the disaster. As he toured a battered neighborhood and spoke to local officials, Obama tried to buck up beleaguered residents of the water-soaked region. "This is not a one-off, this is not a photo-op issue," Obama said. "I need all Americans to stay focused on this ... I know you will rebuild again." Obama's visit was a reminder of the political dangers and opportunities that natural disasters can pose. The president has been criticized for waiting until after he returned from his New England vacation to tour the Gulf Coast flooding. The timing, amid a heated presidential campaign, drew barbs from some local officials and Republicans political opponents, including GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump.

**Associated Press:** Prisoner not seen publicly since 2002 at Gitmo hearing  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/86ae658959ab41ebdb23806f6765599>

Robert Burns

The first high-profile al-Qaida terror suspect captured after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 appeared Tuesday at a U.S. government hearing called to determine whether he should remain in detention at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Abu Zubaydah, a Palestinian not seen publicly since his capture by the CIA in 2002, sat expressionless during the brief hearing. Zubaydah was also the first to vanish into the CIA's secret "black site" prison network and was subjected to "enhanced interrogation." The review panel issued no immediate ruling on his status. He has been held at Guantanamo Bay since September 2006. The U.S. contended that Zubaydah, 45, was one of the most senior figures in al-Qaida when he was captured in Pakistan. It has since dropped that claim. Zubaydah's lawyers deny he was a member of al-Qaida.

### **World News:**

**Associated Press:** Turkey launches new artillery strikes at IS in Syria  
<http://bigstory.ap.org/409dfe4dd8d948fcb93bf6d8c81600cc>

Suzan Fraser

Turkey's artillery shelled Islamic State group targets across the border in Syria for the second consecutive day on Tuesday, a senior Turkish official said, amid reports that

Turkey-backed Syrian rebels were preparing an offensive against an IS-held border town in northern Syria. The latest developments have thrust the town of Jarablus into center stage in the ongoing Syrian civil war. The Ankara official said the Turkish shelling came after mortar rounds, believed to have been fired by the militants from Jarablus, landed on Turkish territory. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government regulations, did not provide further details. Turkey has increased security measures at its border opposite the Islamic State-held Jarablus, deploying tanks and armored personnel carriers in recent days. Syrian activists have said that hundreds of Turkish-backed Syrian opposition fighters are gathered in the Turkish border area of Karkamis in preparation for an attack on Jarablus.

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