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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, November 18, 2016

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Gov. Nikki Haley Speaks at Federalist Society Event:

Post and Courier: Haley talks Trump but stays silent on political future during DC speech Friday
http://www.postandcourier.com/news/haley-talks-trump-but-stays-silent-on-political-future-during/article_ea9f4be4-ad91-11e6-ab6f-2f5500c751f7.html

Emma Dumain

Gov. Nikki Haley may have met with President-elect Donald Trump the day before to discuss possible appointments to his administration, but in a speech Friday she made it clear she still considered his victory an anomaly in Republican politics. "If we as Republicans are going to lead effectively and have staying power as the governing party, we must accept that Donald Trump's election was not an affirmation of the way Republicans have conducted themselves," Haley told the conservative Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention. "He ran against both parties, against a political system he argued was fundamentally broken, an argument the voters subscribed to in massive numbers," she continued. "They rejected the political class of all stripes, Republicans included," she said. "And we have no one to blame but ourselves." Haley, who endorsed U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., during the 2016 presidential primary, took Trump to task during the primary season. She called him out for his inflammatory rhetoric on social media and in her statements to the press. Trump never shied away in striking back.

Associated Press: Gov. Haley: Voters Rejected the Political Class

http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/89ae8247abe8493fae24405546e9a1aa/Article_2016-11-18-US--Trump-The%20Latest/id-78897f8d6780403794b5dd725226ce8d

SC State Wire

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley says Donald Trump won election as president by running against both political parties. Haley is telling conservative lawyers who are meeting in Washington Friday that Trump's victory offers Republicans a chance to regain the public's trust, but only if the party restrains spending and returns power to the states. Haley says voters rejected "the political class of all stripes, Republicans included." She says now Republican control of the White House and Congress offers the party a rare opportunity, and that it's important that Trump and Republican leaders in Congress take action quickly and "we don't stop." Haley acknowledges that she was not Trump's "biggest cheerleader." But she said she voted for him and was thrilled that he won.

Washington Post: Nikki Haley: GOP can't forget immigrants, people of color

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2016/11/18/nikki-haley-gop-cant-forget-immigrants-people-of-color/>

Katie Zezima

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley upbraided the Republican establishment on Friday, arguing the party lost its way by ignoring anger and frustration, and that it must return to its core values of limited government and being a party for all people — including immigrants and people of color. Haley, speaking at the Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention in Washington, offered some praise for President-elect Donald Trump, telling the crowd of conservative lawyers that while she was never Trump's "biggest cheerleader," the Republican Party has an unprecedented opportunity to enact conservative policies and must take advantage of Trump's election. But she called for Republicans to conduct a detailed autopsy of the party's win — as it would in defeat — and said it

must remind people that it is the party who will offer opportunities "to all citizens, regardless of their race, gender or where they are born and raised."

The Hill: Haley: Trump's election not 'affirmation' of GOP conduct

<http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/306750-haley-trumps-election-not-affirmation-of-gop-conduct>

Ben Kamisar

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R) warned Friday that Donald Trump's election can't be seen as an "affirmation" of the Republican Party because his presidential campaign didn't celebrate GOP values. "If we as Republicans are going to lead effectively and have staying power as a governing party, we must accept that Donald Trump's election was not an affirmation of the way Republicans have conducted themselves," she said during a Federalist Society event in Washington, D.C. "The president-elect deserves tremendous credit for the way he was able to connect with the electorate, but he did not do it by celebrating the Republican Party. And the American people did not vote for him because he had an R next to his name," she said. Haley's name has been floated during the Trump transition process as a potential Cabinet appointee and she met with the president-elect at Trump Tower on Thursday. But there's no indication she's made it onto any short lists and transition officials have said that meetings aren't solely based on vetting appointees.

Newsmax: SC Gov. Nikki Haley: Trump Won With Voters, Not Extolling Values of GOP

<http://www.newsmax.com/Politics/nikki-haley-trump-won-voters/2016/11/18/id/759673/>

Mark Swanson

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley on Friday said she was "thrilled" that Donald Trump won the election, but added it's important that the GOP make the distinction of how the president-elect won the election and how he did not. "The president-elect deserves tremendous credit for the way he was able to connect with the electorate, but he did not do it by celebrating the Republican Party," Haley said. "And the American people did not vote for him because he had an 'R' next to his name." Haley made the comments during a speech at the Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention in Washington, D.C. "If we as Republicans are going to lead effectively and have staying power as a governing party, we must accept that Donald Trump's election was not an affirmation of the way Republicans have conducted themselves," Haley said.

TPM: Nikki Haley: Trump's GOP Must Be Party For People Of Color And Immigrants, Too

<http://talkingpointsmemo.com/livewire/nikki-haley-rebukes-republicans-trump>

Esme Cribb

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R) argued on Friday in an implicit rebuke of Donald Trump that the Republican Party must be a party for "all citizens, regardless of their race, gender or where they are born and raised." Speaking at the Federalist Society's National Lawyers Convention in Washington, Haley said that the President-elect's unexpected election victory "was not an affirmation of the way Republicans have conducted themselves," as quoted by the Washington Post. The report quoted Haley as saying that while she was never Trump's "biggest cheerleader," she saw his election as an opportunity for the GOP to remind voters that it will offer opportunities "to all citizens, regardless of their race, gender or where they are born and raised." "Republicans lost their way," the report quoted Haley as saying, citing the party's movement toward big government. "We have no one to blame but ourselves." On Thursday, the Post and Courier newspaper reported that Haley was scheduled to meet with Trump and that she was being considered for several posts in his incoming administration, including secretary of state.

WIS: Haley praises Trump's campaign as speculation continues about her future

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33747527/haley-praises-trumps-campaign-as-speculation-continues-about-her-future>

Jeremy Turnage

Gov. Nikki Haley is still under consideration to be a member of President-elect Donald Trump's

administration, but mum remains the word on what they discussed during their meeting on Thursday. On Friday, Haley spoke in Washington DC at the Federalist Society, a conservative law and public policy studies group. While she made no mention of her visit to the Trump Tower in New York yesterday, Haley did say she was excited about the election results and gave Donald Trump credit for the unique way he ran his campaign. "The president-elect deserves tremendous credit for the way he was able to connect with the electorate but he did not do it by celebrating the Republican Party," Haley said. "And the American people did not vote for him because he had an R next to his name. He ran against both parties, against the political system at large, a system he argued was fundamentally broken, an argument that the voters subscribed to in massive numbers."

WYFF4: After Thursday meeting with Trump, Gov. Haley speaks in Washington DC

<http://www.wyff4.com/article/after-thursday-meeting-with-trump-gov-haley-speaks-in-washington-dc/8306036>

Patrick Hussion

Gov. Nikki Haley called the current U.S. political climate "interesting" during a speech Friday in Washington, D.C. "We are currently living through what may be the most interesting time in American political history," Haley said at the Federalist Society prompting chuckles from those at the event. Haley, an accountant by trade, spoke to the group of conservative and libertarian attorneys about the state of politics in America and about the ramifications of filling a vacant seat on the Supreme Court that was held by the late Justice Antonin Scalia. "America, not just the Supreme Court and not just the legal community, but the nation as a whole, lost an icon this year with the passing of Justice Scalia," Haley said. The South Carolina governor met Thursday with President-elect Donald Trump at Trump Tower in New York. Trump's transition team is considering Haley as a candidate for Secretary of State, a source said earlier this week.

Reaction to Gov. Nikki Haley meeting with President-elect Donald Trump:

The State: SC's Nikki Haley could be DC-bound regardless of foreign policy inexperience

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/election/article115758533.html>

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who is being considered for secretary of state in a Trump administration, has an unusual background for the job: No foreign policy experience. But Capitol Hill lawmakers and South Carolinians said she'd be a strong addition to the team because of her stature in the Republican party and her background as one of the few minorities and women being considered. Haley, who ran as a jobs governor in 2010 and is in her second and final term, could be considered for other administration jobs, including secretary of commerce or an ambassadorship. "She's done a good job as governor of South Carolina," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. "She's talented, capable and would do a good job in any assignment given to her." "I think she's a competent person. She is competent and worthy of being considered," said Richard Riley, former South Carolina governor who worked in President Bill Clinton's administration. "It's a big job, not only putting together a Cabinet but then you have 4,000 sub-cabinets that make the government run. I hope he'll pick good people." Even some seasoned foreign policy experts say they don't think Haley's lack of foreign policy experience should stop her from serving as the nation's top diplomat.

CNN: Madam Secretary or not, Nikki Haley still a star

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/11/17/opinions/haley-secretary-of-state-bailey-opinion/>

Isaac Bailey

The oddest thing has happened. In the wake of the 2016 election and Hillary Clinton's loss, South Carolina has inadvertently positioned itself to become the state that could produce the nation's first woman president: Nikki Haley. Back in January, I wondered if Gov. Haley had missed her window to take advantage of her enormous political potential on a national stage. She's smart, a quick-learner and one of the craftiest politicians in the nation. Yet instead of running for the top job, she was then giving the GOP response to President Obama's final State of the Union address and being talked up as a vice presidential prospect for candidates who soon washed out of the race. Now, it looks as

though that window may not be closed after all, as Haley is reportedly in the running to be secretary of state in the Donald Trump administration. If, as the daughter of Indian immigrants, she becomes America's top diplomat (or even if she manages her consideration wisely), she will be back in line to do in her party what Obama did in his: break barriers while backed by a diverse coalition of Americans.

NOTE: But regardless of whether she actually gets this job, it's clear to me that those who dismiss Haley are making a serious mistake. I was there when Haley came through Myrtle Beach during her first run for governor and was being mocked then, too, by experts who said she had no shot in a state who had only elected white men for its highest office. Anyone paying attention to how she handled questions during press conferences way back then could see how clear it was that she was a force to be reckoned with. She was then dismissed again during her first term as she traded elbows with a Republican-controlled General Assembly not always allied with her -- until she got the job done, again and again.

CNN: Graham knocks Paul: 'He is my friend, he's a libertarian, but he's an outlier'

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/11/17/politics/lindsey-graham-rand-paul-donald-trump-confirmations/>
David Wright

Sen. Lindsey Graham gave his full support to both Rudy Giuliani and John Bolton as picks for secretary of state by the incoming Trump administration, while chiding critics like Sen. Rand Paul who have vowed to oppose the potential nominees. "You can put the Republicans in a very small car who are going to follow Rand Paul's advice when it comes to national security," Graham told CNN's John Berman and Kate Bolduan on "At This Hour." "He is my friend, he's a libertarian, but he's an outlier. "Graham expressed confidence that both Giuliani and Bolton could be confirmed as heads of the State Department despite early opposition from Paul and Democrats, who have seized on Giuliani's international consulting work and paid speaking engagements -- something Hillary Clinton was criticized for -- as potential conflicts of interest. He also dismissed Paul's complaint about the hawkish Bolton since his recess appointment during the Bush administration.

NOTE: Graham also said he could support another potential candidate -- his state's governor, Nikki Haley -- though his backing was more lukewarm. "I would say (Haley) did a good job as governor of South Carolina. She's talented, she's capable. I think she could do a good job in any assignment given. I don't know about her foreign policy. I haven't talked to her," he said, adding later, "At the end of the day, I would support her."

USA Today: S.C. rep on Gov. Haley rumors: Cabinet doesn't need to be a Benetton ad

http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/11/17/sc-rep-gov-haley-rumors-cabinet-doesnt-need-benetton-ad/94032538/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

Eliza Collins

South Carolina Rep. Mark Sanford doesn't want Donald Trump's Cabinet to look like a "Benetton commercial" but he does think Gov. Nikki Haley's Indian heritage could help her if she was secretary of State. Sanford was speaking to MSNBC Thursday when he was asked about reports that his state's governor was being considered for secretary of State. President-elect Trump and Haley were scheduled to meet in New York Thursday. "I don't think the Cabinet needs to look like a Benetton commercial, but I think having folks of different ethnic backgrounds matters, particularly in that role. Given we're 5% of the world's population and most of the world doesn't look like us," he said. Benetton commercials are known for their diversity. In February Haley, who had endorsed Florida Sen. Marco Rubio — a Cuban-American — for president, said the new group of conservative leaders "looks like a Benetton commercial."

USA Today: Cabinet diversity? Eh, sure

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2016/11/17/short-list-thursday/94016232/>

There were no announcements from President-elect Donald Trump on his Cabinet picks Thursday, so the world keeps watching the Trump Tower elevator doors. And speculates. And gaffes. Example: South Carolina Rep. Mark Sanford said he doesn't think the Cabinet needs to look like a "Benetton

commercial." Explain: 1. Benetton ads are known for their diversity. 2. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley reportedly met with Trump Thursday about the secretary of State position. Haley's Indian heritage could be a plus for that role, Sanford said. Meanwhile, we haven't heard much from Trump: "My transition team, which is working long hours and doing a fantastic job, will be seeing many great candidates today," tweeted the tweeter-(elect)-in-chief.

MSNBC: Rep. Sanford on Trump, Gov. Nikki Haley

<http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc-news/watch/rep-sanford-on-trump-gov-nikki-haley-811563587678>

VIDEO: Rep. Mark Sanford, R - South Carolina, talks to Hallie Jackson about his state's governor, Nikki Haley, and her candidacy for Secretary of State in Donald Trump's administration.

WACH: Mark Sanford says Nikki Haley would be a good fit for Secretary of State

<http://wach.com/news/local/mark-sanford-says-nikki-haley-would-be-a-good-fit-for-secretary-of-state>
Matthew Stevens

Former South Carolina Governor and US Congressman Mark Sanford told MSNBC he thinks Gov. Nikki Haley would make a good Secretary of State. When asked if he thought Haley would be a good fit the Congressman responded, "Yeah I do. I think that having folks of different ethnic backgrounds matters, particularly in that role. Given we are five percent of the world's population and world doesn't look like us." Sanford then praised her handling of the historic floods and tragedies that the state has faced over the past few years. "I think at a whole host of different levels she has a lot to bear," said Sanford. Sanford noted that she was been recognized by her fellow governors after earlier this week Haley was chosen as the Vice President of the Republican Governor's Association. Speculation for Haley joining President elect Donald Trump's cabinet started Wednesday after reports surfaced that she was in the running for Secretary of State.

ABC News: Trump 'Absolutely' Open to Naming Former Rivals, Opponents to Cabinet, Adviser Says

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-absolutely-open-naming-rivals-opponents-cabinet-adviser/story?id=43619753>

Alana Abramson

President-elect Donald Trump is "absolutely" open to selecting former rivals -- some of whom he branded as liars and not smart -- to serve in top posts in his cabinet, his transition team Communications Director Jason Miller said. Trump, who is known for prizing loyalty, surrounds himself with a small, tight-knit group of advisers. However, people who opposed him during the campaign season, including South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley and 2012 Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, are now reportedly contenders for secretary of state. "I think the president-elect is going to select the people that he thinks will do the best job. That's what I've been most impressed about following the election, acknowledging the gravity of the job in front of him and the challenges our country faces and he wants to get the best people in there," Miller said on the ABC News' "Powerhouse Politics" podcast.

NOTE: Trump has been holding meetings with various figures since he became president-elect, including Haley, Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, and former Texas Sen. (and former rival) Ted Cruz. He is expected to meet with Romney this weekend. Haley drew Trump's ire during the campaign when she blasted him in February for not immediately disavowing the support of KKK former grand wizard David Duke. Trump, who later disavowed, tweeted...

ABC News: Donald Trump Holds Meetings With SC Gov. Nikki Haley and Henry Kissinger

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/donald-trump-holds-meetings-sc-gov-nikki-haley/story?id=43608308>

Katherine Faulders

Amid swirling speculation about his Cabinet picks, President-elect Donald Trump is in Trump Tower in New York City for another full day of meetings, where he is believed to be narrowing down his possible choices, with nominations expected within the next few weeks. Since his visit to Washington, D.C., last week, Trump has remained in his Manhattan headquarters and residence, with no public events, holding multiple meetings with top transition aides and various contenders for his Cabinet. The

meetings today were likely to focus on foreign policy and national security, including a mix of people who are providing counsel and those whose names are reportedly in the mix for Cabinet positions in the Trump administration.

NOTE: Among those who visited or were expected to head to Trump Tower today: Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., a contender for attorney general; South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, a possible secretary of state; and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

NOTE: Haley, a late endorser of Trump, originally threw her support behind Florida Sen. Marco Rubio before the South Carolina primary in February. "Marco Rubio is the only one that can defeat Donald Trump, and Marco Rubio can beat Hillary Clinton and will win in November," Haley said on ABC News' "This Week" in February.

NOTE: Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., voiced his support for Haley today, telling CNN, "She's talented, she's capable and could do a good job in any assignment given. I don't know her foreign policy. I haven't talked to her. Her husband was in the South Carolina National Guard. He deployed to Afghanistan. I think she's a traditional Republican when it comes to foreign policy. I certainly would support Nikki Haley. I like her a lot."

NOTE: "Gov. Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump," her deputy chief of staff Rob Godfrey said in a statement to ABC News after the meeting. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington."

CBS: Kellyanne Conway talks possible Trump Cabinet, meeting with Japanese PM

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/kellyanne-conway-talks-possible-trump-cabinet-meeting-with-japanese-pm/>

Reina Flores

On the day President-elect Donald Trump will gather with the first foreign head of state since his election victory, top senior adviser Kellyanne Conway joined "CBS This Morning" and gave a preview of the meeting, to be held with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. "I think any deeper conversations about policy and the relationship between Japan and the United States will have to wait until after the inauguration," Conway said Thursday when asked whether Mr. Trump and Abe would discuss the businessman's campaign trail promises to make Japan pay for its own defense. "Maybe they'll discuss that today," she added, but went on to say that it would be a "much more informal meeting than all of that since we have a current president and commander-in-chief." Conway weighed in on other news of the Trump transition team, including Mr. Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, who was reportedly seeking national security clearance earlier this week.

NOTE: On other names floated for Cabinet positions, Conway discussed the possibility of the secretary of state post getting filled by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, once a vocal critic of Mr. Trump's rhetoric on the campaign trail.

NOTE: "It would probably be irresponsible to go ahead and name all the people right at once," Conway said. "But we're very happy that Governor Haley is coming to meet with President-elect Trump. I'm sure they'll have a broad-- a wide ranging conversation."

Fox News: Should Nikki Haley be chosen to join Trump's Cabinet?

<http://video.foxnews.com/v/5214659734001/?#sp=show-clips>

VIDEO: McCarthy discuss the potential of Donald Trump choosing Governor Nikki Haley to join his Cabinet

Politico: What Trump's early picks say about his administration

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/11/trump-cabinet-selections-231617>

Eli Stokols

The Donald J. Trump administration is looking a whole lot like the coalition who brought him the White House win. On Friday, Trump rolled out three more picks for the most powerful jobs in Washington, and they offered up a little something for everyone. Establishment Republicans, many of whom are ambivalent about joining the Trump administration, were pleasantly surprised by the selection of Mike Pompeo, a Kansas congressman and West Point graduate, to lead the CIA. Trump's

fervent supporters got two high-profile selections who helped guide the tone and direction of Trump's scorched-earth campaign: former Gen. Mike Flynn, named as Trump's national security adviser, and Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, appointed to serve as attorney general.

NOTE: The selection of Romney or even South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who met with Trump earlier this week, "would go a long way as a green light for a lot of the party's best and brightest who are still sitting on the sidelines," according to a prominent GOP source on Capitol Hill. But with Trump, the improbable is always possible — and so are head fakes.

Post and Courier: Go big or go home? Gov. Haley could wind up with new job

http://www.postandcourier.com/columnists/go-big-or-go-home-gov-haley-could-wind-up/article_1b2afad2-acdf-11e6-ba59-d740edd19821.html

Brian Hicks

So are we about to lose our governor to Washington or has she been cast in a twisted new season of "The Apprentice"? Cabinet edition. Late Wednesday, word got out that Gov. Nikki Haley was on President-elect Trump's list of interviews for Secretary of State, or something. She reportedly met with him Thursday. As the incoming prez says, this could be yuge. The question here is whether Trump is really doing conciliatory outreach to political opponents — or just toying with them for the satisfaction of saying, in front of a national audience, "You're fired. Go back to the suite." Or the Statehouse, as the case may be. That's what Haley must determine as she listens to what is undoubtedly an attractive sales pitch, a ticket to the national (even international) stage. Folks say Trump holds grudges, and the governor was one of the few people who actually stood up to him during the campaign. You may recall back in the spring Trump sent a nasty Tweet about how the people of South Carolina were embarrassed by their governor. Haley responded with the ultra-classy "Bless your heart." Which really means, well, you know.

Post and Courier: Haley now has to wait for a Trump phone call, maybe

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/haley-s-office-confirms-meeting-with-trump-but-little-else/article_2523e17a-acd0-11e6-88f4-afa80a60b1f7.html

Schuyler Kropf and Andy Shain

From the top job in a state with no international borders, to maybe becoming the nation's chief diplomat, everyone is wondering whether President-elect Donald Trump will pop the question. After a whirlwind 24 hours of speculation, Gov. Nikki Haley met face-to-face Thursday with a previous political foe inside downtown Manhattan's Trump Tower. Neither side disclosed details of what was discussed, but Haley's long-shot possibility of becoming the nation's next secretary of state was widely considered the topic. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington," a Haley spokesman said in a statement after their midday session. While Haley has received high marks for handling domestic matters at home, her resume includes next to no experience in national security or foreign affairs, indicating the job may be a tough sell to the American people.

The State: How Gov. Haley's meeting with President-elect Trump went

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article115392398.html>

Jane Moon Dial

SC Gov. Nikki Haley traveled to New York City to meet with President-Elect Donald Trump Thursday, though there was no news yet of a new position for her in his administration. Haley met with Trump at his office in Trump Tower, and Rob Godfrey, Haley's deputy chief of staff, said the meeting went well. "Governor Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump," Godfrey said in an emailed statement. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington."

Reports had been circulating that both Haley and Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster were being considered for positions in Trump's administration. News outlets reported South Carolina's governor was being considered for the job of secretary of state, while McMaster, an early Trump supporter, could become Trump's attorney general. The meeting comes the day after Haley was named vice chair of the

Republican Governors Association, a nationally visible post that puts her in line to become the chair of the association in 2018.

The State: What if Gov. Haley, Lt. Gov. McMaster leave SC for Trump?

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article115380258.html>

Cassie Cope

With chatter that GOP Gov. Nikki Haley and Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster have been approached by President-elect Donald Trump's transition team about joining his administration, some are asking: What happens if one or both leave their S.C. posts? If only Haley leaves. If Haley gets a position in the Trump Administration — secretary of state or secretary of commerce have been speculated — McMaster would rise to the governor's office. That would give the Columbia Republican two years in office before he likely would run again for the governor's office in 2018. McMaster, a former S.C. attorney general, ran for the GOP nomination for governor in 2010 but endorsed Haley after placing third in the Republican primary. That would leave the lieutenant governor's office open, which would be filled by the president pro tempore of the Senate. State Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, is president pro tempore of the Senate. However, the power of the Senate leader, who controls appointments to many state government panels, along with Leatherman's chairmanship of the Senate's powerful budget-writing committee far outweighs the influence wielded by the state's lieutenant governor.

Greenville News: Nikki Haley appointment to Donald Trump cabinet would impact state

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/11/17/nikki-haley-donald-trump-cabinet/94044060/>

Amanda Coyne

The appointment of Gov. Nikki Haley or another South Carolina politician to President-elect Donald Trump's cabinet could have a serious impact on the state. Haley met Thursday with Trump in New York. The governor's office did not say what the pair discussed, but Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster has said Haley is under consideration for multiple cabinet positions, including secretary of state. If Haley were to join the Trump Administration, McMaster would assume the governorship, a position he has publicly considered running for in 2018. That could mean an advantageous position for McMaster, giving him experience with the job before campaigning begins. Two candidates — House Speaker Pro Tempore Tommy Pope and former Lt. Gov. Yancey McGill — have already publicly stated their intention to run for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, and multiple others are openly entertaining the idea.

Aiken Standard: Some 'optimistic' of possible South Carolina representation in Trump administration

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/some-optimistic-of-possible-south-carolina-representation-in-trump-administration/article_001bc436-acf5-11e6-bf23-9b2a2e464353.html

Maayan Schechter and Christina Cleveland

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley met with President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday in Trump Tower in New York City amid news her name has been floated around for secretary of state. Haley's Deputy Chief of Staff Rob Godfrey said through email Haley was pleased to meet with Trump. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington," he said. Haley's name first showed up as a possible addition to Trump's cabinet after "Morning Joe" host and former Florida Congressman Joe Scarborough tweeted on Wednesday afternoon, "Sources tell me Donald Trump is now considering Governor Nikki Haley for Secretary of State." Scarborough followed that with, "Trump has spent the past several days reaching out to political figures who opposed him in the Republican primary to fill major positions."

WCIV: Expert: Haley in Trump cabinet could help 'build a bridge'

<http://abcnews4.com/news/lowcountry-and-state-politics/gov-haley-encouraged-by-coming-trump-administration>

Bill Burr

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley backed Florida Senator Marco Rubio during the GOP primaries. She wasn't a fan of Donald Trump, but she voted for him last week. Thursday, she had what was possibly an interview for a major role in his cabinet that would put her on the world stage. Television cameras kept a watchful eye on Gov. Haley's whereabouts at Trump Tower in New York City. Back home in South Carolina, political observers ponder the possibility of Governor Haley leaving her post. "I'm sure she will give it very serious consideration if it were to be offered," said Dr. Scott Buchanan of the political science department at The Citadel. Buchanan said he understands why the nation's next president is interviewing a popular 2-term governor from South Carolina for a cabinet position. "Getting a conservative Republican into the administration helps build a bridge to some in the Republican party who still are not entirely sure about President-elect Trump," he said.

WIS: Gov. Nikki Haley meets President-elect Donald Trump, calls it 'good conversation'

[http://www.wistv.com/story/33737089/gov-nikki-haley-meets-president-elect-donald-trump-calls-it-good-conversation?](http://www.wistv.com/story/33737089/gov-nikki-haley-meets-president-elect-donald-trump-calls-it-good-conversation?clienttype=generic&utm_content=buffer9e01f&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

[clienttype=generic&utm_content=buffer9e01f&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer](http://www.wistv.com/story/33737089/gov-nikki-haley-meets-president-elect-donald-trump-calls-it-good-conversation?clienttype=generic&utm_content=buffer9e01f&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

Jeremy Turnage

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley met President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday at Trump Tower as speculation continues she's being considered for a cabinet-level position in Trump's administration. According to a statement from the governor's office, Haley met with Trump for a brief period of time but did not say what they discussed. "Governor Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump," Haley's Deputy Chief of Staff Rob Godfrey said. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington. "Reports on Wednesday indicated Haley was being considered for Secretary of State, but further reports said she was being considered for other cabinet positions in the Trump administration as well.

WIS: Trump, Haley's complicated relationship makes job opening curious

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33737287/trump-haleys-complicated-relationship-makes-job-opening-curious>

Jeremy Turnage

As Gov. Nikki Haley meets President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday to discuss her potentially becoming the next Secretary of State, the pair's complicated relationship over the past year is drifting back into the spotlight. From the beginning of the Republican primary back in 2015, Haley made it apparent she was not a fan of Trump's policies or rhetoric heading into South Carolina's GOP primary. In a December 2015 interview, Haley was asked about Trump's comments about Muslims. "That's an embarrassment for the Republican Party," Haley said. "It's un-American, it's unconstitutional. We have always been a great country because of the freedoms that we have. We are not going to start making laws based on religion." Haley also seemed to target Trump in the GOP Response to President Barack Obama's final State of the Union address in January 2016.

WIS: Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster wants to do what he can to help Trump succeed

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33737804/lt-gov-henry-mcmaster-wants-to-do-what-he-can-to-help-trump-succeed>

Jeremy Turnage

Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster says he has spoken to President-elect Donald Trump's transition team and he's open to taking a role in his administration. In brief remarks since Trump's stunning electoral victory last week, McMaster, who was one of the first mainstream Republicans to endorse Trump in the wide-open Republican primary in January 2016, said he wants to help Trump in the next four years. "I want to do whatever I can to help Mr. Trump succeed," McMaster said. "He's the perfect man for right now." McMaster, as well as Gov. Nikki Haley, have been floated as possible candidates for cabinet-level jobs within the Trump administration. A number of other more nationally prominent candidates for attorney general have been floated over the past week, and McMaster has also had his eyes on a run for governor. He says he'd have to seriously weigh both possibilities "You just have

to take those things as they come. The future of our state is wide open. We have enormous opportunities, more than I think any other state in the country. But our country is in trouble. We have great power and great potential but we've been going in the wrong direction. I want to do what I can to see our state goes to the top and also that our country gets stronger and stronger," McMaster said.

WLTX: Gov. Haley has 'Good Conversation' with President-Elect Trump

<http://www.wltx.com/news/politics/nikki-haley-pleased-to-meet-president-elect-trump/353432987>

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley met with President-Elect Donald Trump Thursday, in what some have reported is a discussion about a possible cabinet position. Haley's office confirmed in an afternoon statement that the two had a face-to-face at Trump Town in Manhattan. "Governor Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump," said Haley Deputy Chief of Staff Rob Godfrey. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington." A day earlier, reports began surfacing that Haley was being considered for the Secretary of State job in the new administration. South Carolina Lieutenant Governor Henry McMaster told the Associated Press that indeed was the case, and that he was a possible candidate for attorney general. Haley had verbally sparred a few times with Trump during the primary campaign, and she first supported Marco Rubio's candidacy, then Ted Cruz when he dropped out. But after Trump became the nominee, she said she supported him, and said he was a far better option for America than Democrat Hillary Clinton.

WACH: Gov. Haley 'encouraged' after meeting with President-elect Trump

<http://wach.com/news/local/gov-haley-encouraged-after-meeting-with-president-elect-trump>

Brian McConchie

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley reportedly had a positive meeting with President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday. Haley traveled to Trump Tower in New York for a face-to-face meeting with Trump. "Governor Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump," Rob Godfrey, Haley's Deputy Chief of Staff, said. "They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington." Wednesday afternoon, several reports surfaced indicating Haley was a potential candidate for the Secretary of State job in the Trump administration. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is also said to be a possible choice for attorney general. Haley had been critical of Trump's rhetoric while he was on the campaign trail. However, in late October, she publicly said she would vote for Trump, adding the election "turned her stomach upside down," calling it "embarrassing" for both the Republican and Democratic parties. Ultimately, Haley said "based on policies" Donald Trump was the best person for the job of president.

WACH: SC politicians high on Haley as Trump's Secretary of State

<http://wach.com/news/local/sc-politicians-high-on-haley-as-trumps-secretary-of-state>

Shelli Adamczyk

Governor Nikki Haley visited with Donald Trump in New York Thursday over the possibility of being the President-elect's Secretary of State. Haley's office said that the governor had a good meeting with Trump and was "very encouraged" about the new administration. Following that meeting, top SC politicians voiced their support for the governor for the cabinet position. "She has brought new, fresh ideas to government that is the same sort of ability and determination and vision she will take with her wherever she goes. I think Mr. Trump and the Trump transition team has recognized that talent," said Lt. Governor Henry McMaster. McMaster reportedly is being considered for Attorney General under Trump. McMaster spoke to Trump's transition team over the phone Thursday and said he fully supports Haley and that the President-elect's focus on South Carolina says a lot.

WSPA: Gov. Haley Meets with President-elect for Possible Cabinet Post

<http://wspa.com/2016/11/17/gov-haley-meets-with-president-elect-for-possible-cabinet-post/>

Robert Kittle

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley met with President-elect Donald Trump Thursday at Trump Tower in New York, reportedly to talk about the position of Secretary of State in his administration. Haley Chief

of Staff Rob Godfrey says, "Governor Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump. They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington." The Trump administration is also reportedly considering South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster for Attorney General or possibly another post. Lt. Gov. McMaster says he has not met with Mr. Trump yet. He would not say whether he would take a job in the administration if one is offered, but said he wants to do whatever he can to help Mr. Trump succeed. "I'm not particularly excited about going to Washington, or any other place. I like South Carolina, but I want to do all I can to help," he said Thursday in Columbia. McMaster was an early supporter of Donald Trump's and was the first elected official in the nation to endorse him. He served as U.S. Attorney for South Carolina under President Reagan and was elected Attorney General for South Carolina in 2002 and 2006. He ran for governor in 2010 but lost to eventual nominee Nikki Haley.

Red State: Ann Coulter Can't Stop Herself... Nastily Insults Nikki Haley

<http://www.redstate.com/mickeywhite2/2016/11/17/ann-coulter-cant-stop/>

Mickey White

Ann Coulter who has been relatively quiet on social media broke her silence in a big way this afternoon. After the rumors were floated that Nikki Haley was among those being considered for Cabinet positions, possibly even Secretary of State, Coulter tweeted this out to her over 1 million followers: She was apparently watching MSNBC at the time. Nikki Haley isn't even that kind of "Indian". She says she's being funny with this lean into the white nationalist stuff, but I fail to see the humor. Coulter appears to have spent the rest of the day tweeting links to InfoWars. As I've said previously Ann Coulter is one of the most disappointing figures of 2016. There was a time when many looked to her columns and books for smart analysis. Those days are no longer. Instead of piercing through the nonsense, to deliver the truth to her devoted fans, Coulter has become the noise. Rubbing elbows with the "alt-right", She's the reason people think Republicans are Racist. Did I mention she has over a Million followers on Twitter alone?

WIS: Ann Coulter suggests 'Tonto' for Secretary of State over Gov. Nikki Haley

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33746052/ann-coulter-suggests-tonto-for-secretary-of-state-over-gov-nikki-haley>

Jeremy Turnage

Conservative commentator and author Ann Coulter appears to not be a fan of President-elect Donald Trump potentially tapping Gov. Nikki Haley for a cabinet-level position in his administration. In a tweet posted just after Haley met with Trump and the transition team on Thursday, Coulter offered another suggestion for Secretary of State. Haley's name has been floated as a potential Secretary of State candidate as Trump looks to fill out roles in his cabinet ahead of the Jan. 20, 2017 inauguration. Coulter has blasted Haley in the past for several items. In Jan. 2016 following Haley's response to the State of the Union where the governor urged GOP voters to not listen to the angriest voices in the party, Coulter suggested Haley should be deported when Trump became president. Haley is an American citizen. Coulter also called Haley a "bimbo."

WYFF4: Ann Coulter slams PEOTUS Trump's consideration of Gov. Nikki Haley for cabinet

<http://www.wyff4.com/article/ann-coulter-slams-peotus-trumps-consideration-of-gov-nikki-haley-for-cabinet/8302893>

Carla Field

On the day South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley met with President-elect Donald Trump and his transition team about a potential cabinet position, political commentator Ann Coulter made what appeared to be an obvious jab at the governor's heritage. Ann Hart Coulter tweeted Thursday afternoon: "If Trump wants an Indian Sec of State, how about Tonto?" Coulter describes herself as the author of 11 New York Times bestsellers, a legal correspondent for Human Events and writes a syndicated columnist for Universal Press Syndicate. She is known for incendiary remarks, particularly on social media. Haley was born in Bamberg, South Carolina, in 1972. Her birth name is Nimrata Nikki Randhawa. Her parents are Sikh immigrants from Punjab, India. CNN reported Wednesday that Haley has been

tapped as a nominee for Secretary of State, alongside top Trump adviser and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani. After the meeting Thursday with Trump, Haley's office released a statement saying: "Governor Haley was pleased to meet with President-elect Trump. They had a good discussion, and she is very encouraged about the coming administration and the new direction it will bring to Washington."

President-elect Trump News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Lawyers say deal will let Trump focus on nation

<http://bigstory.ap.org/67157defd7a64dda8b944efd57247109>

Lawyers for Donald Trump say a \$25 million settlement resolving lawsuits over Trump University will allow the president-elect to devote his full attention to the challenges facing the nation. The lawyers said they have no doubt Trump University would have won the cases if they had gone to trial. The legal agreement announced Friday by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman (SHNEYE'-dur-muhn) settles two class-action lawsuits in California and a civil suit filed by Schneiderman. The suits had alleged that Trump University failed to deliver the quality real estate investing education it promised. Schneiderman says the \$25 million to be paid by Trump or one of his business entities includes restitution for students and \$1 million in penalties to the state of New York. The deal doesn't require Trump to acknowledge wrongdoing.

Associated Press: Trump agrees to \$25M settlement to resolve Trump U lawsuits

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b6457d25591b4f45b22563e037251d17>

President-elect Donald Trump agreed Friday to pay \$25 million to settle several lawsuits alleging that his now-defunct school for real estate investors defrauded students who paid up to \$35,000 to enroll in Trump University programs. If approved by a judge, the deal announced by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman would settle a lawsuit he filed three years ago and two class-action lawsuits filed in California on behalf of former students. The suits alleged that Trump University failed to deliver on its promise to teach success in real estate. They accused the program of misleading students by calling itself a university when it was not an accredited school and by saying that Trump "hand-picked" instructors. Messages left with several of Trump's attorneys and a spokeswoman were not returned Friday. Trump has denied the allegations and said during the campaign that he would not settle. He told supporters at a May rally that he would come to San Diego to testify after winning the presidency.

Associated Press: AP FACT CHECK: Trump auto industry statements are misleading

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e7ebe4fbb21d4006b9c97af75c2c9cfc>

President-elect Donald Trump has a long list of deceptive statements about Ford Motor Co. and the auto industry, and he added to that list this week. Trump's tweet on Thursday asserting that he had dissuaded Ford from moving a Kentucky factory to Mexico was a stretch, at the very least. The company has no intention of moving the plant, and it had already agreed to keep production of one specific model there. Throughout the campaign, Trump accused Ford of exporting U.S. jobs south of the border and, in alarming terms, contended that auto jobs are leaving the country in mass. He also misstated the impact of trade agreements on U.S. auto jobs and has threatened to impose a 35 percent tariff on goods imported from Mexico. While it's true that Ford and others have spent billions of dollars on assembly and parts plants in Mexico, the industry also has added thousands of U.S. jobs since auto sales recovered from the Great Recession. There aren't as many jobs at U.S. auto plants as there were a decade ago, but that's due more to automation than to the free-trade agreements that Trump has criticized.

Associated Press: Heavy security at Trump Tower not going away anytime soon

<http://bigstory.ap.org/79b044c315974fb5b3c39759bcf9218f>

New York City officials are warning residents and businesses the police officers armed with assault weapons, bomb-sniffing dogs and concrete barricades outside Trump Tower aren't going away

anytime soon. Democratic Mayor Bill de Blasio (dih BLAH'-zee-oh) says the beefed-up security for Republican President-elect Donald Trump will continue for at least another two months until he's inaugurated. The mayor said Friday what happens after that depends on how Trump splits time between his Trump Tower apartment and the White House. The security effort has slowed motor and foot traffic outside the tower on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue and has raised concerns among retailers it could hurt business during the holiday shopping season. It also has prompted questions about cost. City officials say they want the federal government to chip in.

Associated Press: Pushing US policy rightward, Trump taps Sessions and Flynn

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f031d113b2f54a39804d782356c809d1>

President-elect Donald Trump signaled a sharp rightward shift in U.S. national security policy Friday with his announcement that he will nominate Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions as attorney general and Kansas Rep. Mike Pompeo to head the CIA, turning to a pair of staunch conservatives as he begins to fill out his Cabinet. Trump also named retired Lt. Gen Michael Flynn as his national security adviser. A former military intelligence chief, Flynn has accused the Obama administration of being too soft on terrorism and has cast Islam as a "political ideology" and driver of extremism. Sessions and Flynn were ardent Trump supporters during the campaign, and their promotions were seen in part as a reward for their loyalty. The selections form the first outlines of Trump's Cabinet and national security teams. Given his lack of governing experience and vague policy proposals during the campaign, his selection of advisers is being scrutinized both in the U.S. and abroad.

Associated Press: Flynn: Critic of Muslim militancy and culture

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9f7697a31c754f38a043522a4aced1a8>

Michael Flynn, the retired Army lieutenant general and intelligence officer who is Donald Trump's pick to serve as his national security adviser, is a harsh critic of Muslim extremism and the religion itself, calling "radical Islam" an existential threat to the United States. In strident speeches and public comments, including a fiery address at the Republican National Convention, Flynn has aggressively argued that Islamic State militants pose a threat on a global scale and demanded a far more aggressive U.S. military campaign against the group. In a June interview with CNN, Flynn complained the U.S. needs to "discredit" radical Islam, but that "we're not allowed to do that right now." But his comments about Islam, a religion practiced by more than 1.5 billion people worldwide, have at times gone beyond condemning radicals inside the faith. In Flynn's book, "The Field of Fight: How We Can Win the Global War Against Radical Islam and its Allies," he condemned U.S. leaders who have called Islam a religion of peace. "This insistence on denying the existence of jihad led President Obama to the absurd claim that the Islamic State has nothing to do with Islam," Flynn wrote.

Associated Press: Unlikely apprentice: Obama coaches Trump to be world leader

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9f936ed4bff04da5970ea35f55a9660f>

It's the last thing President Barack Obama ever expected he'd be doing in his final months in office: Coaching Donald Trump on how to be a world leader. As the president-elect holes up in his skyscraper, Obama is giving Trump policy advice, style tips and gentle nudges to let the fervor of the campaign give way to the sobriety of the Oval Office. And as Obama completes his last world tour, he's been thrust into the unexpected role of Trump translator to anxious U.S. allies. Standing next to German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin, Obama said Trump would quickly see that a president's responsibilities can't be treated casually and that diverse countries can only be governed by "listening and reaching out." "It is my hope that that is what will happen," Obama said. "And I'm going to do everything I can over the next two months to help assure that that happens." Though the outgoing president made clear his profound disdain for Trump throughout the campaign, perhaps no one is better positioned than Obama to get him up to speed in a matter of weeks.

Associated Press: House chairman: Trump favors privatizing air traffic control

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f286ef2e25a8413aad2bf99cbfee528a>

A House committee chairman says President-elect Donald Trump likes the idea of spinning off air

traffic control operations from the government and placing them under the control of a private, non-profit corporation chartered by Congress. Rep. Bill Shuster, head of the House transportation committee, told The Associated Press that he spoke to Trump about the idea several times both before and during the presidential election. He said he believes the president-elect would be supportive, although details would have to be worked out. "I have spoken to him on a number of occasions and he generally likes the idea," Shuster said. "We do need to sit down and put meat on the bones ... I think in general he sees it as something that's positive and we need to work on it." The Republican lawmaker endorsed Trump early on and campaigned twice with him in his Pennsylvania congressional district. He also campaigned twice with Vice President-elect Mike Pence.

SC Political News:

The State: McMaster praises Trump's AG choice, Clyburn critical

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article115663548.html>

Bristow Marchant and Cassie Cope

S.C. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster praised President-elect Donald Trump's nomination Friday of U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., as U.S. attorney general. Earlier this week, McMaster said he was under consideration for attorney general in Trump's incoming administration. However, that job went to Sessions, R-Ala., who like McMaster was an early ally of Trump's in the presidential campaign. The lieutenant governor called Sessions, who was a U.S. attorney at the same time as McMaster in the 1980s, "a great choice." While Trump's transition team approached McMaster about the attorney general's post, the lieutenant governor has said he would prefer to stay in South Carolina, where he plans to run for governor in 2018. The lone Democrat in the state's congressional delegation, however, was much more critical, citing Sessions's "appalling" civil rights record that once prevented Sessions from earning a federal judgeship, and compared him to Trump's controversial advisor Steve Bannon, who has been tied to white nationalists.

The State: Health experts: Enroll in Obamacare despite campaign rhetoric

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article115648408.html>

Bristow Marchant

In less than three weeks, Sharita Moultrie has helped dozens of people sign up for health care using a program the incoming Trump Administration vows to repeal. Since Nov. 1, the community health specialist has been signing people up at the Richland Library for health coverage under the federal Affordable Care Act – also known as "Obamacare." However, Republican Donald Trump campaigned on a promise to "repeal and replace" that law and, with an incoming Republican Congress, the president-elect would seem to be in a position to do it. But Moultrie is telling those she helps not to be too concerned about it. "What I tell them is: 'Nothing's changed,'" she said. "The ACA is the law, and that's not going to change tomorrow or next month." Whatever happens with the law after Trump becomes president in January, customers are signing a contract with an insurance company that guarantees them health coverage throughout 2017, explains Moultrie, who works for the library.

McClatchy DC: The 2020 presidential campaign is about to kick off. Is SC Sen. Tim Scott in the mix?

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/election/article115619858.html>

Matthew Schofield

There are cloak-room style whispers in Washington these days that South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott is being thought of as a Republican Plan B in case the yet to be formed Trump administration doesn't find its footing. Scott's office dismisses the talk as idle chit-chat, though admits they've been hearing such questions. But it's now been a full week since the last presidential election ended. Washington being Washington, it's time to get the rumors going for the 2020 election. There are experts and insiders who think this one makes a bit of sense. "This was an, um, unusual election," said Julian Zelizer, an author and public affairs expert who's a professor at Princeton University. "It makes sense that there would be a Plan B, and one that would be antithetical to Plan A. "It's important to remember, though, that Plan B is always predicated on things that haven't happened, while Plan A is

still in effect. Right now for Republicans, the reality is that it's Plan Trump."

General Assembly News:

Independent Mail: Oconee roads to see \$1.7 million in state-funded improvements

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/11/18/oconee-roads-see-17-million-state-funded-improvements/94090470/>

Two roads feeding lower county traffic into exits 1 and 2 of Interstate 85 will see some state dollars flowing to them for repairs and improving ease of access. Funds for a turning lane for a planned Zaxby's in Walhalla, however, drew a split vote. The three members of Oconee County's "C" Fund committee voted unanimously Friday to approve \$1.1 million of state funds for S.C. 59 and S.C. 243, both going through the Fair Play community, connecting to the interstate. Sam Dickson, chairman of the committee, said the planned improvements were important for improving the access from the county's Golden Corner Commerce Park, off S.C. 11 in Fair Play. The park, which as yet has no industrial clients, is a prospective site for the county's next speculative building, Dickson said, and improved transportation would enhance the marketing of the building. The \$1.1 million was part of just over \$1.72 million in state "C" funds the committee dispersed Friday.

Post and Courier: State Infrastructure Bank board to discuss I-526 next month

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/state-infrastructure-bank-board-to-discuss-i--next-month/article_9416f2ea-ac10-11e6-8acd-d398836300c8.html

Diane Knich

The S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank board will discuss the completion of Interstate 526 in mid-December, but it remains unclear if members will reverse the decision to close the door on the project. Bank board Chairman Vince Graham said the group will meet at 10 a.m. Dec. 14 in Columbia. An agenda for the meeting hasn't been posted, but Graham said it will include a discussion on the highway extension. Retiring state Rep. Chip Limehouse, a Charleston Republican and member of the board, said he plans to press for the project at the meeting. "I am going to listen to options thrown on the table and I'm going to throw some options on the table." The bank board has not held a meeting in months. It was scheduled to meet Oct. 6, but Hurricane Matthew postponed the meeting.

WSPA: Bill could allow SC teachers to carry guns at school

<http://wspa.com/2016/11/17/bill-could-allow-sc-teachers-to-carry-guns-at-school/>

South Carolina Representative Joshua Putnam is working on a draft bill that would allow teachers to apply for a special concealed weapons permit that would allow them to carry guns at school. Putnam represents portions of Anderson, Pickens, and Greenville Counties including Townville where a September shooting claimed the life of 6-year-old Jacob Hall and injured another student and teacher. The special CWP would be voluntary and the bill would require principals and superintendents to vote to allow their teachers to take the class which would be taught by SLED. The class would be created by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and would be the same sort of training given to police officers when they are trained in active shooter situations. Teachers would only get the license if they passed the class.

WIS: November is National Family Caregivers Awareness Month in SC

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33742507/national-family-caregivers-awareness-month-script>

Leland Pinder

November is National Family Caregivers Awareness month in South Carolina. Thursday at the State House Lt. Governor Henry McMaster and Irmo native Leeza Gibbons marked the occasion recognizing the nearly 800,000 South Carolinians who provide free care and support to chronically ill and disabled loved ones. Gibbons runs Leeza's Care Connection, a family caregiver organization to help others inspired by her own experience caring for her mother who had Alzheimer's Disease. "470 billion dollars in unpaid care is what caregivers provide. That's twice as much as home care and nursing care combined so just think about what a tremendous service from family members who are

offering their love, their time," Gibbons said.

WOLO: Family Caregiver Awareness Month

<http://live-abccolumbia.pantheonsite.io/2016/11/17/family-caregiver-awareness-month/>

TV Personality and South Carolina Native Leeza Gibbons joined SC Lt. Governor Henry McMaster Thursday to honor Family Caregivers Awareness month. Gibbons wants caregivers to know there is help out there and support.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: South Carolina jobless rate falls for 6th consecutive month

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=as8FUVaM

SC State Wire

South Carolina's jobless rate has fallen for the sixth consecutive month. The Department of Employment and Workforce said Friday that South Carolina's unemployment rate was 4.7 percent in October, down from 4.9 percent in September. That marked the first time the state rate has fallen below 5 percent since April 2001. The agency says the number of South Carolinians working rose to a new high of nearly 2.2 million. The number of unemployed people who are looking for work declined to about 108,500. According to the federal Labor Department, the state's rate ranks 22nd lowest nationwide. The national jobless rate in October averaged 4.9 percent. New Hampshire and South Dakota both posted the lowest rate of 2.8 percent, while Alaska had the highest at 6.8 percent.

Post and Courier: South Carolina's jobless rate drops to 4.7 percent despite Hurricane Matthew

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/south-carolina-s-jobless-rate-drops-to-percent-despite-hurricane/article_9cabf39e-ad99-11e6-adbe-e792ad85f3c8.html

Thad Moore

South Carolina's jobless rate improved to 4.7 percent in October, even as job growth appeared to be hampered by Hurricane Matthew. The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce said Friday that the drop - from 4.9 percent in September - continues a six-month streak of improvements to the jobless rate, which was 5.8 percent in April. It's now at its lowest point in 15 years. Statewide, the workforce agency said roughly 3,400 fewer people were unable to find work in October. Some 108,500 people are now jobless, the fewest since August 2001. Despite the top-line progress, the October labor report presented a murky picture. The department's estimates of employment levels, based on two separate surveys, yielded two divergent results: Either the state added nearly 6,900 jobs last month, or it shed almost 10,000.

Post and Courier: Powder Keg: Low pay, low morale creating chaos inside and outside our prisons

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/powder-keg-low-pay-low-morale-creating-chaos-inside-and/article_204bbefa-aac0-11e6-b6f5-6711628717ec.html

Maya T. Prabhu

It's shortly after noon on April 11 in Pelzer. An officer at Perry Correctional Institution makes her rounds in the dorm. She sees a commotion on the other side of the building, a fight between inmates. As she approaches the wing, she sees inmates assaulting someone on the floor — another correctional officer. She calls for backup. But when help arrives, guards find inmates have taken the officer hostage. Calls for more help go out to local law enforcement agencies. Now the inmates in the A wing have begun to riot. They damage windows, lights and sprinkler systems. They start a fire. Like the growing blaze, the riot spreads to the B wing. More property is destroyed. More law enforcement agencies converge on the prison. More than an hour goes by before two prisoners carry and release their hostage outside. He's gathered up and taken to the hospital. After more than four hours, officers gain the upper hand and the melee ends. But the deeper problem remains.

Post and Courier: Former correctional officer says constant threat of danger, low pay and lack of leadership causes prison understaffing

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/former-correctional-officer-says-constant-threat-of-danger-low-pay/article_ab521a36-ace5-11e6-822d-7f46bba1b2eb.html

Maya T. Prabhu

The assaults were bad enough. But when Kevin Miller, a former Lieber Correctional Institution officer, was stabbed and beaten by two inmates, he decided to quit. Miller lives in Ridgeville near the tension-filled, maximum-security prison where he said he worked for nearly five years. In July 2015, he was looking for a contraband cellphone when prisoners jumped him and another officer inside a cell. He was stabbed with a broken broomstick, doused by his own pepper spray and pummeled for eight minutes before he was able to alert another officer to open the cell door. The attack on Miller is not an isolated incident. Prison officials say attempting to take a prisoner's cellphone is when officers are most at risk of being assaulted. "From my personal experience being at Lieber, the assaults have been through the roof," he said. "It's ridiculous. And there's not much you can do because people just keep leaving. It just gets worse and worse and it's going to continue to get worse."

WACH: Juvenile at DJJ joins SC Philharmonic for a day

<http://wach.com/news/local/juvenile-at-djj-joins-sc-philharmonic-for-a-day>

Tara Petitt

Musicians from the South Carolina Philharmonic were welcomed by the Department of Juvenile Justice Thursday. For almost two hours, juveniles were able to forget they were behind the fence and get lost in the music. One 17-year-old had the chance of a lifetime- he was welcomed on stage to perform with the orchestra. Jacob has played the violin for seven years. He started when he was eleven years old. When his DJJ music teacher learned that the Philharmonic was coming to play for the students, he asked if Jacob could join. "I was scared, but I'm glad I did it," said Jacob. "It was a good experience for me." The 17-year-old says he started playing the violin because he knew it was his mom's favorite instrument and he wanted to make her proud. "I already knew how to read music because I played trumpet in fifth grade, so by the time I got to sixth grade, I already knew how to read music," said Jacob.

WBTW: New SC Program Connects Moms in Prison & Their Kids

<http://wbtw.com/2016/11/17/new-sc-program-connects-moms-in-prison-their-kids/>

A new program in South Carolina aims to keep mothers who are in prison more connected to their young children at home, while also improving literacy levels for the women inmates and, eventually, their children. Called "Mother's Voice," the program provides the women with children's books that are able to record and playback audio. The women read the books out loud, their voices are recorded, and then the books are sent to their children, who can listen to them at night before bed or anytime they want to hear their mothers' voices. Department of Corrections Director Bryan Stirling says he remembers his parents reading to him as a child and the bond that created. "One of the things that's lacking for folks that come to the Department of Corrections is education, so it's about reading and learning and things of that nature, but it's also about the connection with the family," he says. The average SC prison inmate has a 10th-grade education, he says, so having the women get in the habit of reading aloud should help them improve their reading ability. It will also familiarize their children at home with the words as they read along, listening to their mothers' voices.

Wildfires Across Southeast:

Associated Press: Gasp! Wildfires cause hacking and wheezing across the South

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1plPpekC

SC State Wire

Asthma sufferers and others with breathing problems are turning up at hospitals and doctors' waiting rooms, wheezing and hacking. Schoolchildren are being kept inside at recess. And people whose lungs are easily irritated are being told to close the windows and run the air conditioner if they have one. Dozens of wildfires that have burned an estimated 190 square miles across the Southeast have thrown a shroud of smoke over the region in the past week or so, even in distant metropolitan areas

like Atlanta, leaving cities big and small smelling like a campfire jamboree, but without the fun. The murk - sometimes yellowish-brown, sometimes gray or milky - has veiled mountaintops, obscured Atlanta skyscrapers and intermittently turned the sun into a pale golden smudge over the city. At times, the flames have also cast a haze over Nashville and Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Charlotte, North Carolina.

Associated Press: The Latest: Governor offers reward in North Carolina fires

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

SC State Wire

North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory says the state is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for setting wildfires in the western part of the state. McCrory announced the reward during a briefing in Bat Cave, North Carolina, one of the towns evacuated because of threat of wildfires. McCrory also said dry conditions are causing the wildfires to spread, so people across the region need to continue taking steps to prevent wildfires. The governor said he was also concerned about air quality in western and central North Carolina. Smoke from the wildfires drifted eastward, specifically leaving a haze over the city of Charlotte. Also of concern is the weekend weather forecast, which calls for winds that could gust up to 50 mph.

Greenville News: Crews burn 1,300 acres to tame Pinnacle Mountain fire

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/11/17/families-evacuate-near-table-rock/94012830/>

Michael Burns and Anna Lee

Smoke cloaked Table Rock State Park all day Thursday as firefighters burned nearly 1,300 acres along the slopes of Table Rock in an effort to contain a wildfire of historic proportions. At 4 p.m., the Pinnacle Mountain fire had burned approximately 4,000 acres, though most of the growth came from the burnout operation to keep the fire from crossing Saluda Road, an official with the state Forestry Commission said. About 400 acres remain in the burnout area, said Forestry Commission spokesman Russell Hubright, and plans are to finish burning by mid-day Friday. Meanwhile, Pickens County Schools announced a two-hour delay Friday due to dangerous air quality conditions. Heavy smoke from the burnout operation was expected to combine with existing air pollutants to "create dangerous air quality conditions in parts of the county, especially in the morning," said school district spokesman John Eby.

Independent Mail: Pinnacle fire grows, but burnout appears successful

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/11/18/pinnacle-fire-grows-but-burnout-appears-successful/94069052/>

The Pinnacle Mountain fire expanded significantly overnight, to 5,095 acres, because of controlled burns that have helped set up a fire line before it can reach homes just east of the fire borders. The fire line is holding and firefighters are working today using chainsaws and fire rakes to cut down flammable material to strengthen the fire lines, said Holly Welch, a public information officer with the South Carolina Forestry Commission. Firefighters call it mop-up and it is grueling work, requiring them to hike into areas carrying their gear. The biggest danger will be winds this weekend, which will require the fire line to hold or else the fire would reach homes in the area, which it has not done so far, Welch said. That's why firefighters are working in areas that were intentionally burned Thursday to deprive the fire of fuel, work requires lots of people, she said.

Herald-Journal: Massive burnout at Pinnacle fire termed a success

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161118/massive-burnout-at-pinnacle-fire-termed-success?rssfeed=true>

Thursday's large-scale burnout of 1,400 acres of forest at Table Rock was a success, according to fire managers at the Pinnacle Mountain fire in northern Pickens County. The wildfire, believed to be the largest mountain fire in South Carolina's history, grew to 5,095 acres as it entered its ninth day today. It is 35 percent contained. Embers from a campfire started the fire, which began on Nov. 9. "Yesterday went great!" incident commander Mike Bozzo, Incident Commander stated in a Facebook

post this morning. "There is still a lot of work to do today, but I slept a lot better last night."Originally, firefighters estimated 2,000 acres would be burned out to create a firewall. But that was reduced to 1,400 acres on Thursday, according to S.C. Forestry Commission spokesman Russell Hubright. Hubright said Thursday the firebreaks combined with areas that already burned have now encircled the fire, which should prevent it from spreading further.

The State: What smoke? Cold front expected to drag down smoke, but strong winds could affect its effects

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article115678138.html>

Cynthia Roldan

The worrying about the Columbia area's air quality may be in the past for the immediate future. Shifting winds that will accompany a cold front Saturday might drag more smoke from the Upstate – but the strength of the gusts could make the effects less noticeable than in recent days, said Chris Rohrbach, a meteorologist at the Columbia office of the National Weather Service. Strong breezes in the 20 to 25 miles per hour range are likely to gust to as much as 30 mph, according to Rohrbach and the forecast. "So if there is smoke in the Upstate, it would come down our way," he said. "It may also be well dispersed with how fast those wind speeds are. It may not be as noticeable." As of Friday afternoon, the state Department of Health and Environmental Control had not issued an air quality alert for Saturday. On Thursday, the agency declared the area's air quality was under "yellow code," which means the quality of air is acceptable, except for people who are "unusually sensitive" to air pollution.

Aiken Standard: Aiken County back under code orange air quality alert

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/aiken-county-back-under-code-orange-air-quality-alert/article_0a4d1a00-ac40-11e6-882a-2b0bf4f9af25.html

Maayan Schechter

Aiken County is back under a code orange air quality alert as of Wednesday afternoon, according to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The alert is for Aiken, Abbeville, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun and Charleston counties. The smoke seen lingering in Aiken County is due to a nearby wildfire in Pickens County that continued to grow. The South Carolina Fire Commission reported the Pinnacle Mountain Fire at Table Rock State Park grew from 2,312 acres on Sunday to 2,765 acres by late Monday.

Post and Courier: Code orange smoke alert in effect until midnight

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/code-orange-smoke-alert-in-effect-until-midnight/article_479068d8-ad83-11e6-be07-dba2a54045ec.html

Prentiss Findlay

Lowcountry residents will wake up Friday to another day of smoke from wildfires in the mountains. A code orange air quality alert is in effect for Charleston and Beaufort counties until midnight. The smoke is from numerous large wildfires in the southern Appalachian Mountains. The smoke plumes are expected to create unhealthy breathing conditions where the smoke is most concentrated. Smoke from these fires can irritate eyes and the respiratory system as well as exacerbate chronic heart and lung diseases. The state Department of Health and Environmental control recommends that those with respiratory health issues limit time spent outdoors to avoid the smoke, and take measures to prevent outdoor smoke from getting indoors.

Post and Courier: Lowcountry asthma patients suffering due to mountain wildfire

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/lowcountry-asthma-patients-suffering-due-to-mountain-wildfire/article_346777ea-acf4-11e6-aaea-f714ab132141.html

Derek Asberry

Jasmine Matthews, a 7-year-old asthma patient, has battled red and irritated eyes, chest pains and shortness of breath since Saturday. Her doctor at Charleston Allergy and Asthma put her on a breathing treatment Thursday, hoping it would offset the smoky conditions in the Lowcountry caused

by the mountainous wildfires, including one atop Pinnacle Mountain in Pickens County. "She came to me and told me how much her chest hurts and so the treatment should get her lung functioning back to where it needs to be," said Jennifer Matthews, Jasmine's mother. The state Department of Health and Environmental Control says the large wildfires are producing smoke plumes that are making conditions worse for those who suffer from chronic heart and lung diseases.

Sun News: Update: Air quality alert extended, unlikely in Horry County

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article115107618.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

An air quality alert has been issued for Georgetown and Murrells Inlet along the Grand Strand due to large smoke plumes produced by numerous wildfires in the southern Appalachian Mountain region, and health officials advise those with respiratory issues limit their time outside. The National Weather Service in Wilmington, N.C. issued the alert late Tuesday evening and has extended the alert until midnight Thursday for inland Georgetown County, including Kingstree, Andrews, Georgetown, and Murrells Inlet, according to weather officials. Williamsburg County is also under the alert.

Hurricane Matthew Recovery:

Associated Press: Coastal park hammered by Matthew reopening

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ltGJy8EZ

SC State Wire

A state park on the South Carolina coast that was hammered by Hurricane Matthew last month is reopening. The state Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism announced that Edisto Beach State Park between Charleston and Beaufort reopens Friday. The department said the beach front area for daily use, a highland campground, education center and boat ramp are all reopening. But the park's oceanfront campground suffered heavy damage and is still undergoing repairs. That area is not expected to reopen until September. In the adjacent town of Edisto Beach, Matthew pushed several feet of sand onto the beachfront avenue, destroyed an oceanfront home and clawed away at the foundations of numerous others.

The State: SC to give mobile homes to poorest survivors of October 2015 flood

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article115386128.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Some of the poorest survivors of the historic October 2015 storm could get a brand new home for Christmas. Before the new year begins, state disaster recovery officials expect to begin giving out the first of the free, 860-square-foot mobile homes to S.C. residents who need them. Officials plan to eventually deliver 600 or more homes to low- and moderate-income families still homeless or living in housing damaged by the storm, which dropped more than two feet of rain on parts of South Carolina. "These people have been in need for a long time," S.C. Disaster Recovery Office spokeswoman Beth Parks said. "For more than a year, they've been in these horrible situations and can't get out on their own." Federal recovery dollars will pay for the \$60,000 mobile homes, which state officials prefer to call "manufactured homes."

The Herald: 'They've lost it all': Nation Ford team helps clean up hurricane-ravaged SC town

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article115459753.html>

Bret McCormick

As John Young sifted through a stranger's belongings last week, he came across a photo of a young girl. Amid the soiled and destroyed contents of an elderly lady's house in Nichols, S.C., the partially torn photo felt important. The lady's reaction when Young showed her the picture confirmed it. "She grabbed on to it and held it like it was the last thing she had," he said. Young was one of 70 Nation Ford football players who traveled to Nichols the week of Nov. 9 to help the devastated town of 400 people continue to clean up. After Hurricane Matthew passed through in mid-October, rivers in the Pee Dee region of the Carolinas rose quickly, including the Lumber River, which passes just east of

Nichols. At least seven dams broke upstream and the the river's waters rose 17 feet in just a few hours, according to the AP.

Island Packet: Ridgeland disaster relief center to close soon; Beaufort County locations still open
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article115109658.html>
Wade Livingston

The Jasper County Disaster Recovery Center in Ridgeland is tentatively slated to close at 7 p.m. Friday, according to officials. While that center — located at 1509 Grays Highway — should shut down, Beaufort County relief centers will remain open, according to Jasper County Emergency Services. Those centers are located on Hilton Head Island at the Hilton Head Island Town Hall Council Chambers at 1 Town Center Court, and in Beaufort at Burton Wells Recreation Center at 1 Middleton Recreation Dr. The Hilton Head center's hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. The Beaufort location is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. Jasper residents in need of help after the Ridgeland center closes can register with FEMA disaster assistance at www.disasterassistance.gov or call 1-800- 621-3362.

Island Packet: FEMA approves debris removal for more Hilton Head private roads
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article115205338.html>
Teresa Moss

The Town of Hilton Head Island so far has hauled 636,038 cubic yards of Hurricane Matthew debris — enough to fill Madison Square Garden two times, town official Charles Cousins said Wednesday. And the debris piles keep growing. On Wednesday, the town was preparing to add another 16 private communities to its debris-removal list. The Federal Emergency Management Agency late last week approved the town's request for reimbursement of the removal in those areas. According to a letter sent Thursday to the town by FEMA, the approved neighborhoods include...

WACH: Recovery center to open in Sumter for Hurricane Matthew survivors
<http://wach.com/news/local/recovery-center-to-open-in-sumter-for-hurricane-matthew-survivors>
Matthew Stevens

State officials announced Thursday that they will open a disaster recovery center in Sumter to help Hurricane Matthew survivors. The center will be open for three days from November 21 through November 23. State, FEMA and USBA officials will be there to help survivors from October's hurricane to apply for disaster assistance and other necessary aid. Those impacted by Matthew may be eligible for federal and state assistance for temporary rental assistance and essential home repairs. The recovery center will be at the Cherryvale Community Center in Sumter on Confederate Road and will be open from 9am to 7pm.

Post and Courier: Miniature satellites to drive hurricane forecasting, tracking
http://www.postandcourier.com/news/miniature-satellites-to-drive-hurricane-forecasting-tracking/article_899f7ef6-ada3-11e6-8f38-dff33c2daab0.html
Bo Petersen

The core of a hurricane is a gyrating monster of thrashing seas, storms and wind. Next year, forecasters will be able to go along for the ride — real time — thanks to an array of "pocket rocket" satellites to be launched in December and a larger one that will be launched Saturday. The devices will feed data on wind speed in the eyewall at the sea surface of tropical systems, relaying it as often as every 30 seconds. Those are vital measurements that equipment so far has lost in the cover of heavy rain. The information will help predict subtleties such as sudden intensification of a storm that forecasters haven't been able to master, as well as improve tracking. NOAA meteorologist Jason Dunion has called the information the last piece of the forecasting challenge. The satellites also will provide data on other severe weather threats and to help predict longer term climate predictions such as drought.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Shipments of nuclear material to Savannah River Site could continue

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/shipments-of-nuclear-material-to-savannah-river-site-could-continue/article_52996fce-adc7-11e6-853a-3b61beb03e76.html

Thomas Gardiner

Spent fuel from a research reactor at the University of Alberta in Canada could soon be en route to South Carolina's Savannah River Site. According to documentation provided by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, shipping casks for the transfer are being reviewed and a planned shipping route has been approved. The exact route through the U.S. begins at the Sweet Grass, Montana, border crossing, and ends near Aiken County at the Savannah River Site. According to Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesperson Roger Hannah, actual routes are not publicized because of security concerns. However, the journey from Sweet Grass to Aiken County is close to 2,300 miles along major U.S. highways, depending on which cities the route goes through.

Michael Slagger Case:

Associated Press: The Latest: Defense witness says officer, motorist struggled

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=h0gFFCRN

SC State Wire

A defense witness says that enhanced video shows former South Carolina patrolman Michael Slager struggling on the ground with Walter Scott before Slager shot the black motorist as he ran away. Forensics video analyst Grant Fredericks testified Thursday that he enhanced the cellphone video taken by a passerby that recorded Slager's shooting of Scott in April 2015 during a traffic stop. Fredericks said the enhancement was intended to clarify and stabilize the images. Although the video is shaky and blurry in spots, Fredericks said it shows Scott on his side with his arm around Slager's upper body. Fredericks also said Slager's left hand can be seen holding Scott's wrist, and Taser wires tangled around Slager before the shooting. Slager is on trial for murder in the death of 50-year-old Scott.

Associated Press: Witness: Officer, black man struggled before shooting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IKxptn9c

Bruce Smith

Former South Carolina patrolman Michael Slager wrestled with Walter Scott on the ground and was entangled in Taser wires before shooting Scott as he fled a traffic stop, a defense witness testified Thursday. Slager, who is white, is charged with murder in the shooting death of the 50-year-old Scott, a black motorist who was unarmed when he ran from the officer in April 2015. Scott was shot five times in the back in a shooting captured on cellphone video that was shared on the internet and stunned the nation. Forensics video analyst Grant Fredericks testified that he used computers to enhance the video to stabilize it and make it clearer. Although the video shown to the jury was shaky and blurry in spots, Fredericks said it shows Scott on his side with his arm around Slager's upper body. He said Slager's left hand can be seen holding Scott's wrist and there are Taser wires tangled around Slager before the shooting.

Post and Courier: Defense says officer yelled, 'Let go of my Taser,' in disputed recordings of Walter Scott shooting

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/defense-says-officer-yelled-let-go-of-my-taser-in/article_4bf85696-ac71-11e6-9782-677402bdd996.html

Andrew Knapp

Defense attorneys for the North Charleston officer who killed Walter Scott want to tell jurors that Scott was cursing the police during a struggle with the lawman. Their evidence is based on an expert's interpretation of the sound featured in a video showing patrolman Michael Slager firing eight times as Scott ran away. But the defense case revolves around what happened before the shooting, and the lawyers contend that Scott's alleged words portrayed his animus toward law enforcement and could

explain his conduct that drew the officer's gunfire in self-defense. The officer's words, refined in other audio recordings, also support his account that Scott had gotten control of his Taser, the defense said. "Let go of my Taser," Slager said, according to the expert's version, "or I'll have to shoot you."

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Haley should be considered for Commerce, not Secretary of State

http://www.postandcourier.com/opinion/commentary/haley-should-be-considered-for-commerce-not-secretary-of-state/article_51e93a60-ad08-11e6-a418-83190f569e3a.html

Editorial: Lucas McMillan

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is under consideration for a Cabinet-level position in the administration of President-elect Donald J. Trump. My hope is that our president-elect will nominate Gov. Haley as U.S. Secretary of Commerce rather than other possible posts. Haley is very qualified to lead the Department of Commerce. Like many governors — and S.C. governors since Ernest F. Hollings — she has spent much of her governorship focused on issues related to the economy. Her actions indicate that she understands the global economy. She has sought to recruit domestic and foreign investment to our state as well as promote S.C. exports in the world. She has met with many business and political leaders from the U.S. and other countries in Columbia, but also has seen these leaders abroad as she traveled to Canada, Europe and Asia to promote South Carolina. Haley's 2014 trade mission to India received much attention and led to a presence of the S.C. Department of Commerce in New Delhi. This is a sign that we recognize India as a country with a growing global impact, particularly economic influence, because it has the second largest population, is the world's largest democracy, and still has tremendous economic growth prospects.

Post and Courier: Give Trump transition time

http://www.postandcourier.com/opinion/editorials/give-trump-transition-time/article_7856d470-aced-11e6-9c06-0f5d864c785b.html

Editorial

Donald Trump is the first president-elect to interview prospective Cabinet members at a 58-story building that he owns on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue. But he's not the first president-elect to draw early criticism for his reported roster of Cabinet candidates. And while there are valid concerns about what the Trump presidency will bring, condemning personnel decisions that have not been made is premature. It's also too soon to fret over stories that Mr. Trump's transition mission is rife with turmoil among his top advisers. He and various associates dispute those accounts. Yet even if his inner circle is sharply divided on who should and shouldn't be invited to join Mr. Trump's White House team, that doesn't preclude positive outcomes in the hiring process. Indeed, it might avert misguided choices. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley was among the prominent visitors who met with the president-elect Thursday at Trump Tower in Manhattan. Among the others: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Florida Gov. Rick Scott, Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas; and National Security Agency Director Adm. Michael Rogers.

NOTE: Supposedly and surprisingly, though, Gov. Haley is, despite her strong opposition to Mr. Trump during the primary season.

NOTE: And as Lander Professor Lucas McMillan points out on today's Commentary page, Gov. Haley would be a much better fit as Commerce Secretary.

South Carolina News:

Aiken Standard: Thanksgiving travel expected to increase in the Carolinas

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/thanksgiving-travel-expected-to-increase-in-the-carolinas/article_71d15944-ad0c-11e6-b4dd-ff57a206c513.html

Tripp Girardeau

As millions across the state and nation prepare to hit the roads for the Thanksgiving holiday, the

South Carolina Highway Patrol is urging motorists to take the necessary precautions and preparations for a safe trip. AAA Carolinas projects 2 million Carolinians will travel 50 miles or more from home this Thanksgiving, with just under 1.4 million North Carolinians and 670,000 South Carolinians traveling. This represents a 1.9 percent increase over 2015. This year's increase in Thanksgiving travel is spurred by improvements in the economy during the second half of the year, including rising wages, increased consumer spending and overall strength in consumer confidence, Tiffany Wright, spokeswoman with AAA Carolinas, said in a news release. Fuel prices are down slightly in North Carolina, but up in South Carolina, from this point last year.

Post and Courier: Charleston airport expects record number of travelers over Thanksgiving

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/charleston-airport-expects-record-number-of-travelers-over-thanksgiving/article_cfa3cbe2-adc5-11e6-a7e6-e35bd4686541.html

Warren L. Wise

About 3 percent of Charleston International Airport's annual travelers will trek through the terminal over the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Last year, 3.4 million ticket holders flew in and out of the state's busiest airport, with close to 100,000 navigating the temporary corridors and work zones during the terminal overhaul over the holiday weekend. This year, that number is expected to climb at the refurbished terminal, recently christened after a \$200 million face-lift that added five new gates and a slew of other bells and whistles. For those planning to fly this year, Charleston County Aviation Authority, the agency that oversees the airport, suggests arriving early to find a parking space and to maneuver through crowded security lines. Parking in recent years over the holidays has become a bigger problem as larger jets and more airlines ferry more passengers to more destinations from the Lowcountry.

Associated Press: Deputy US marshal, fugitive killed in Georgia shootout

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=M5EZ4fYV

SC State Wire

A fugitive accused of attempting to murder police officers fatally shot a deputy U.S. marshal trying to arrest him Friday in southeast Georgia, where other law officers returned fire and killed the suspect, federal authorities said. The U.S. Marshals Service said 53-year-old Patrick Carothers, deputy commander of the agency's Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force, died after being shot twice as a team of officers tried to serve a warrant at a mobile home in rural Long County. The slain suspect was identified as Dontrell Montese Carter. He was wanted in Sumter County, South Carolina, since September on charges of attempted murder of police officers, domestic violence and illegally discharging a weapon, the Marshals Service said in a news release. The agency said Carothers and his team had tracked Carter to a mobile home just outside Ludowici, about 55 miles southeast of Savannah. Carothers was shot as they were entering the home.

Associated Press: The Latest: Fugitive killed wanted for shooting at police

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WNPM1kmA

SC State Wire

A fugitive slain in a shootout that also killed a deputy U.S. marshal was wanted for shooting at police in South Carolina after a September car chase. The U.S. Marshals Service says 25-year-old Dontrell Montese Carter was shot multiple times by law officers Friday morning after he opened fire on them at a mobile home in southeast Georgia. Patrick Carothers, deputy commander of the agency's Southeast fugitive task force, died after being shot twice. Carter had been wanted since Sept. 18, when he fled Sumter County, South Carolina. The Sumter County Sheriff's Office at the time said officers were called after Carter assaulted his girlfriend and fired a gun into the home of a relative who intervened. Authorities said Carter led officers on a car chase, then fired his gun at police as he escaped on foot.

Local News:

Associated Press: SC man released after 39 years; says didn't kill man in 1973

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

SC State Wire

A South Carolina man who served 39 years in prison for a murder that he says he didn't commit has walked out of prison but isn't quite a free man. The Herald of Rock Hill reports (<http://bit.ly/2g35TKh>) 61-year-old James Robert McClurkin left Broad River Prison on Thursday as a parolee but not exonerated. Police and attorneys now say he didn't kill 74-year-old Claude Killian of Chester in August 1973. McClurkin and Ray Charles Degraffenreid were convicted of Killian's murder in 1977. The evidence against them was the word of a co-defendant. Last month, Chester County Sheriff Alex Underwood told the South Carolina parole board that McClurkin was innocent. McClurkin was paroled Oct. 11 but not released until Thursday. The newspaper reports that Degraffenreid is in a prison mental wing. McClurkin says Degraffenreid also should be released.

The Herald: 'I am free': Chester man imprisoned in 1973 murder goes home, still hoping to be cleared

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article115515988.html>

Andrew Dys

For the first time in 43 years Thursday, James Robert McClurkin saw the sky from outside prison walls. He breathed free air. It came at 10:43 a.m. It had been 43 years and a month since the Chester native went inside Broad River Correctional Institution. For 39 of those years, he was in for a murder he, and now police and lawyers, say he did not commit. "I am free," said McClurkin. "It is great. Just breathing this here is great....." Then McClurkin cried. McClurkin was paroled Oct. 11, on his 15th parole hearing on his conviction for the 1973 killing of Chester car wash clerk Claude Killian. In a 1977 trial, where a co-defendant – who later recanted and admitted he lied – blamed McClurkin and Ray Charles Degraffenreid for Killian's death.

Associated Press: Georgia man accused of killing missing Myrtle Beach man

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Nf4p6czK

SC State Wire

A Georgia man has been charged following the death of a missing Myrtle Beach man whose remains were found last week, more than a month after he went missing. Horry County police Lt. Raul Denis tells media outlets that 29-year-old Johnathan Lamar Hillary, of Augusta, is facing a murder charge in the death of 51-year-old Timothy Francis Buckley. Buckley was a former town council member and police officer in Riverhead, New York, who was last seen on Sept 28. His remains were discovered in a wooded lot in unincorporated Myrtle Beach on Nov. 10. Thirty-three-year-old Bernithia Young, of Atlanta, was charged with accessory after the fact to a felony. Both suspects were arrested in Atlanta and are expected to be extradited to South Carolina. It's unclear whether they have attorneys.

Sun News: Georgia man charged with murder in slaying of missing Myrtle Beach man

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article115471948.html>

Emily Weaver

A Georgia man has been charged with murder in the death of a Myrtle Beach man, whose remains were found in a field 41 days after he was reported missing. Horry County Police Department detectives have charged Johnathan Lamar Hillary, 29, of Augusta, Ga., with murder and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime in the death of former New York police officer Timothy Francis Buckley. Buckley, 51, was reported missing on Sept. 30, after he was last seen heading to his camper near the Springmaid Resort on the night of Sept. 28. No one heard from Buckley after that night. Buckley's remains were discovered in a wooded lot near U.S. 501 in unincorporated Myrtle Beach on Nov. 10. Officers were called about the discovery of bones, believed to be human, found off of Rodeo Drive, near U.S. 501 at 8 a.m. that day.

Island Packet: Suspect in Hilton Head teen's shooting death to be tried as adult

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article115698333.html>

Caitlin Turner

A Hilton Head Island teenager who was 15 when he allegedly shot and killed Dominique Williams in an island park in 2015 will be tried as an adult, a Beaufort County Family Court judge ruled Wednesday. John Duncan, now 17, is accused of shooting and killing the 17-year-old Williams at Coligny Beach Park on July 19, 2015. Judge Pete Fuge granted the motion by the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office to charge Duncan as an adult late Wednesday. The solicitor's office announced the ruling in a news release Friday. Duncan's case has been transferred to General Sessions Court, and he is being transferred to the Beaufort County Detention Center from a juvenile detention center in Columbia. He will remain in the Beaufort County facility until he has a bond hearing on the murder charge, according to the Solicitor's Office news release.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach's recent shooting was 'gang-related.' So they built a fence.

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article115631608.html>

Chloe Johnson

A move to install a fence and security cameras around the edge of Futrell Park has divided some members of the Booker T. Washington community. In a Nov. 8 city council workshop, City Manager John Pedersen was discussing a recent shooting in downtown Myrtle Beach that police said was driven by gang activity when he suggested constructing a fence near the park. "I believe that the breeding grounds for gang activity is the area right outside of Futrell Park and Carver Apartments known as 'Three Poles,'" he said. However, the people who spend time in that area, named for three yellow columns in the middle of a concrete path, deny they are part of a gang. On Thursday morning, Jordan Pyatt was hanging around the fence with several friends, and said he and his friends are part of a music group, Beach Boy Entertainment. "Don't pay no attention to what they saying about us, because it's not the truth," Pyatt said.

Sun News: He had a bright future until a stray bullet took his life, just like his father

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article115551183.html>

Emily Weaver

Levi Moody had a gift. He could make people laugh. He could entertain. He could draw the folks in his community — often marred by poverty and plagued by violence — into another world built on hope and promise. "If you were ever in his presence, you'd know it," said his mother, Veronica Thompson. "He was a comedian. ... Ever since he was a baby he was this way." Gunfire stole the laughter Saturday when 19-year-old Levi Herman Moody was struck down by a bullet that loved ones say was never intended for him. When the gunfire ceased, Moody was found lying on Freemont Road in the Freemont community of Longs. Thompson said he was barely breathing as her cousin rushed to his side and tried to get him to hold on with the words "your momma's coming; your momma's coming." "Moody was a promising athlete and scholar, but he grew up in a corner of the world that offered more tragedy than promises.

The Herald: Winthrop police: Student, 18, 'pinned to ground,' sexually assaulted on campus

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article115619203.html>

David Thackham

Winthrop University officials are asking for the public's help in tracking down the suspect in an October rape on campus that was reported Thursday. An 18-year-old Winthrop University student reported to campus police Thursday that she was the victim of an Oct. 29 sex assault on campus while walking in the area behind Bancroft Hall. According to a Winthrop police report, the student said that she was pinned to the ground and sexually assaulted about 9:30 p.m. Oct. 29 by an unknown male in the area behind Bancroft Hall, by Margaret Nance and Owens halls. The report said the victim was looking for a friend's keys in the courtyard area but that she could not find them. Police say a male suspect approached her from behind, and that the woman stumbled on a light fixture and fell to the ground as she tried to walk away. The report said the suspect got on top of the victim, had her perform oral sex on him and then fled.

Island Packet: Minority students suspended, expelled at higher rates in Beaufort County schools — and it's getting worse

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article115662058.html>

Rebecca Lurye

Minority students continue to be disciplined at far higher rates than their white peers in Beaufort County public schools, according to data released Friday at a Board of Education work session. While minority students — who identify as black, Hispanic or another race other than white — represent about 60 percent of the district's 21,750 students, they have typically received a disproportionate number of suspensions and expulsions in the Beaufort County School District, as in most school systems nationwide. But data show the trend isn't getting much better in local schools. The school board discussed the Student Services Report's discipline statistics Friday, but not these racial breakdowns.

Aiken Standard: Hearing scheduled in lawsuit over 2014 traffic stop

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/hearing-scheduled-in-lawsuit-over-traffic-stop/article_b0e10f8e-acd6-11e6-a1e7-2fe844ec5d47.html

Maayan Schechter

Lawyers for four former and current Aiken police officers and the agency's chief of police plan to appear in court next month to discuss matters related to scheduling and more in the lawsuit filed by an Aiken County couple who claim they were unconstitutionally searched in broad daylight in 2014. New court filings state a status conference and motion hearing on all pending motions has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Dec. 2 in the federal courthouse in Columbia. The case will be before Magistrate Judge Paige J. Gossett, filings state. "All counsel participating in the hearing should be prepared to discuss matters related to scheduling and any other topics which may aid in the disposition of this case," filings said. "Counsel are instructed to have their calendars available during the hearing to facilitate scheduling."

Herald-Journal: Body camera policies vary among Upstate departments

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161117/body-camera-policies-vary-among-upstate-departments?rssfeed=true>

Daniel J. Gross

More law enforcement agencies are acquiring body-worn cameras to improve documentation and transparency, but a review of policies from local agencies shows wide variations in how cameras are handled. The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy is requiring agencies to submit a policy by March 7 to the Law Enforcement Training Council, regardless of whether they already had cameras or are applying for new ones. The academy provided guidelines for law enforcement to use while developing their policies, but gave departments leeway to include additional standards. The guidelines address which officers must wear body cameras, when the cameras should be activated, what restrictions there are for recording, how long recordings should be retained and who is permitted to review the recordings. "(Agencies) couldn't do any less than what we provided, but they could definitely go above. It's up to the agency," said Maj. Florence McCants, a spokeswoman for the academy.

The State: Narcotics bust part of Richland Sheriff's continuing effort to address citizen complaints

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article115697118.html>

Cynthia Roldan

The brick house along the 800 block of Prescott Road in North Columbia blended in with the rest of the neighborhood during the day. At night, because of its broken streetlight, the home is shrouded in darkness where neighbors barely can see what's happening. Neighbors have been complaining to the authorities for weeks about curious comings and goings that raised their suspicions. The 1,200-square-foot house, which sits just outside of the city's limits, is off Fairfield Road. Richland County Sheriff's Department narcotics agents have been watching and were convinced that drugs were being sold from the house that sits across from John P. Thomas Elementary School. On Thursday night,

they raided it, found drugs and cash in plain view and arrested four people.

The State: 3 plead guilty for billing \$3 million in fake invoices to Providence Hospital

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article115687903.html>

Jane Moon Dial

Three people connected to a scheme to send \$3 million in fake invoices to a Columbia orthopedic practice have pleaded guilty to federal conspiracy charges, officials said. Timothy Weldon Arthur, 39, of Columbia and Danielle Nicole Burroughs, 35, of Duncan pleaded guilty to conspiracy in federal court Wednesday, according to a news release from acting U.S. Attorney Beth Drake. U.S. District Judge Mary Geiger Lewis accepted the guilty pleas and will sentence the two at a later date, Drake said. Gary Lee Joiner, 56, of Columbia pleaded guilty to the same offense on Sept. 29, Drake said. Joiner was the director of orthopedic services for Moore Orthopedic Clinic between 2006 and 2015. Conspiracy carries a sentence up to 20 years and \$250,000 in fines.

Morning News: Florence County steps toward tax agreement for Honda expansion

http://www.scnow.com/news/business/article_9bd45d38-ad41-11e6-a456-3ff75b9fe37a.html

Joshua Lloyd

The Florence County Council moved forward on Thursday with a tax agreement to facilitate Honda of South Carolina's forthcoming expansion, formerly known as Project Mirror. The Morning News reported in August on Honda's announcement of \$45 million investment in the county-- a 115,000-square-foot-expansion that will bring 250 new jobs to the area.

The Herald: Catawba Indian Nation ends talks with producer on potential \$350M movie studio

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article115505843.html>

David Thackham

The Catawba Indian Nation voted this week to end negotiations with a film producer to build and manage a movie studio on tribal land in eastern York County near Rock Hill. The Catawbas announced Wednesday that they are halting a proposed \$350 million project with Studio South of Charlotte, but said they will keep the door open for future deals. The board of directors for The Corporate Nation voted "no" to the business deal, but tribal administrator Elizabeth Harris said in a statement Thursday that the Catawbas remain open to opportunities. "We were certainly inspired by the excitement in our community around the idea of doing a movie studio," she said in the statement. "We believe that there is still great potential for a movie studio business model that makes sense for all parties involved."

Associated Press: Catawba Indian Nation turns down movie studio near Rock Hill

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=iBDh2YZg

SC State Wire

The Catawba Indian Nation has voted to end negotiations with a film producer to build and manage a movie studio on tribal land near Rock Hill. The Herald of Rock Hill reports (<http://bit.ly/2fLlxZk>) the tribe announced earlier this week that it's not pursuing a proposed \$350 million project with Studio South of Charlotte. Tribal administrator Elizabeth Harris said in an email Thursday that the project's scope and financing plan weren't fully developed. Tribal leaders said last year that they were considering the \$350 million deal, which was projected to bring sound stages, a hotel, a new Catawba Cultural Center, a magnet school for film and music plus retail and office space on up to 124 acres of tribal land.

The State: USC to build life-sized, \$85,000 Cocky statue

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article115638023.html>

Avery G. Wilks

A bronze, life-sized Cocky statue is coming soon to a park bench on the University of South Carolina's downtown Columbia campus. USC trustees on Friday gave early approval to an \$85,000 project that would place a model of the school's popular mascot on a bench near the Melton

Observatory on Greene Street. The bench will become an iconic spot where prospective students want to have their photos taken on campus tours, USC Vice President of Student Affairs Dennis Pruitt told the board. "For us, it's really part of the admissions process." Other colleges already have such locations, like the arch at the University of Georgia or the columns at the University of Missouri, Pruitt said.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama blocks new oil, gas drilling in Arctic Ocean

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f6ba2e91193540ebbde18b1d18385f0a>

The Obama administration is blocking new oil and gas drilling in the Arctic Ocean, handing a victory to environmentalists who say industrial activity in the icy waters will harm whales, walruses and other wildlife and exacerbate global warming. A five-year offshore drilling plan announced on Friday blocks the planned sale of new oil and gas drilling rights in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas north of Alaska. The plan allows drilling to go forward in Alaska's Cook Inlet southwest of Anchorage. The blueprint for drilling from 2017 to 2022 can be rewritten by President-elect Donald Trump, in a process that could take months or years. Besides Cook Inlet, the plan also allows drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, long the center of U.S. offshore oil production. Ten of the 11 lease sales proposed in the five-year plan are in the Gulf, mostly off the coasts of Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Alabama.

World News:

Associated Press: 'I want to live': UK girl gets wish to be frozen after death

<http://bigstory.ap.org/11b50897da61491d8918372086fefbf8>

The teenage girl's instructions were direct: She didn't want to be buried, but to be frozen — with the hope she can continue her life in the future when cancer is cured. "I want to live and live longer and I think that in the future they may find a cure for my cancer and wake me up," the 14-year-old wrote to a British judge before her recent death. She said "being cryopreserved gives me a chance to be cured and woken up — even in hundreds of years' time." Her plaintive words convinced High Court Judge Peter Jackson to grant her final wishes in what he called the first case of its kind in England — and possibly the world. The judge said the girl had chosen the most basic preservation option at a cost of about 37,000 pounds (\$46,000).

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