

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 8/16/2016 4:09:41 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 16, 2016

Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, August 16, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Bloomberg: Food Stamp Rolls Drop as States Decline Federally Funded Benefit

<http://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2016-08-16/food-stamp-rolls-drop-as-states-decline-federally-funded-benefit>

Alan Bjerga

Food-stamp enrollment in the U.S. is declining from record levels, in part because some states are ending benefits earlier than they have to. Seven states, all led by Republicans, have decided this year to end waivers for some able-bodied recipients that were made available in the 2009 federal stimulus bill -- even though the benefits are federally funded. Enrollment in what's formally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is still nearly twice the level it was before the recession. But the most recent data, for May, showed 43.5 million people were receiving food stamps, down 9 percent from a 2012 peak and the fewest since 2010. Much of the drop comes from an improving economy, but efforts to reduce enrollments among able-bodied adults are also accelerating the decline. Under federal law, food stamp benefits are cut off after three months for adults under the age of 50 who don't have dependents unless they find work or engage in a volunteer or job-training activity. The stimulus bill permitted states to waive that provision in areas with high unemployment. NOTE: A build up of its job-training programs and growth in jobs means South Carolina doesn't need the waiver, its governor, Nikki Haley, said in an April news conference announcing the move. "We are in a position where we don't want that waiver anymore," Haley said. "We see this as an opportunity to give more people work." Some recipients who have had aid cut off say the disruption is significant.

Aiken Standard: Bondex expansion in Trenton expected to bring more than \$11M in new investment, 17 jobs

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160816/160819653/bondex-expansion-in-trenton-expected-to-bring-more-than-11m-in-new-investment-17-jobs>

Bondex Inc., a globally-recognized manufacturer of thermally-bonded nonwoven substrates, is expanding its manufacturing operations in Edgefield County, expecting to bring in \$11.5 million in new investment and create 17 jobs. The expansion will be located at 2 Maxwell Drive in Trenton, and Bondex intends to expand its existing manufacturing operations to support its new Spunlace manufacturing process, according to a news release. "Bondex is an important member of our industrial community in Edgefield County and we sincerely appreciate their continued growth in our county," said Edgefield County Council Chairman Dean Campbell. "These new jobs and investment are important to Edgefield County and we look forward to continuing an already-strong partnership with Bondex."

NOTE: "Bondex has been an important part of Team South Carolina for over 20 years and we couldn't be more excited that they have decided to expand in our state, creating 17 new jobs for Edgefield County," said Gov. Nikki Haley in the release.

Moultrie News: U.S. military members among those now learning online from The Citadel

<http://www.moultrienews.com/20160816/160819826/us-military-members-among-those-now-learning-online-from-the-citadel>

Members of the U.S. Military living around the country or on installations overseas are among those registering for The Citadel Graduate College's newly expanded online masters degrees and certificates, and undergraduate degrees. The non-cadet programs are ideal for busy professionals and military service members and their spouses wanting to continue their education. "As a naval officer, I am faced with increasingly complex operational, ethical and leadership challenges," said Lt. Cmdr. Eric Chitwood, U.S. Navy Reserves Defense Logistics Agency. "It was imperative I obtain the best possible leadership education in order to successfully meet those challenges. When I began my research to find the right academic institution, I wanted flexibility, due to my military lifestyle, and I wanted an institution with a reputation for excellence that was instantly recognizable amongst leaders from all organizations." In addition to serving as a naval commander, Chitwood works as a finance consultant for Eli Lilly and Company, a global pharmaceutical company. He, his wife Stephanie, and their four children live in Indianapolis, Indiana.

NOTE: People in 38 states and almost anywhere in the world are now able to learn from The Citadel because of changes in policies governing online learning that were recently approved by the Governor of South Carolina, Nikki Haley. The online degree programs include:

New York Times : Tim Kaine Lets Loose on the Campaign Trail, With Music, Beer and Fun

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/17/us/politics/tim-kaine-campaign.html?_r=0

Thomas Kaplan

Senator Tim Kaine played the harmonica. His wife gave an impromptu clogging performance. When it was over, Mr. Kaine had just one wish: another beer. For a vice-presidential candidate who was often described as being "boring," Mr. Kaine seemed more than comfortable letting loose — at least by campaign trail standards — in a night out on Monday. After a rally in Asheville, Mr. Kaine greeted patrons at a restaurant, Buxton Hall Barbecue, where he also sang "Happy Birthday" to his communications director, Karen Finney. At the end of the song, he threw his arms in the air in triumph. After having dinner — a meal that included two pitchers of beer, according to an aide — Mr. Kaine moved next door to an outpost of a local brewery, Catawba Brewing Company, where he showed off his musical side.

NOTE: Mr. Kaine appeared to delight in his brief turn as a musical act. "How 'bout it for the Nikki Haley Band?" he said to the crowd, mixing up Ms. Talley with Ms. Haley, the Republican governor of South Carolina. When the musical portion of the evening was over, Mr. Kaine was not quite finished. "Now I'm going to get one more beer," he said. His choice: Catawba's White Zombie White Ale. As for his performance, Mr. Kaine was pleased.

SC Political News:

Post and Courier: State budget narrowly misses estimate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160816/160819537/state-budget-narrowly-misses-estimate>

Gavin Jackson

State budget dollars were smaller than state economists predicted, narrowly missing a 4.6 percent growth target for the past fiscal year, official report. The shortfall will require cuts to several projects approved by the General Assembly. Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom said \$10.3 million that had been assigned to the state Aviation Fund, the Adjutant General's Office and more than half the funding for a pedestrian improvement plan near the Statehouse, will be cut. Missing the annual estimate by 0.3 percent led Eckstrom to call for greater savings. International economic pressures could impact South Carolina in coming years, he added. "As state government generates revenue

surpluses, it would be prudent to resist the temptation to 'spend it all' and to instead establish additional reserves for leaner times that appear to be emerging," he said.

Post and Courier: State dismisses ethics complaints against Mayor Summey

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160816/160819535/state-dismisses-ethics-complaints-against-mayor-summey->

Brenda Rindge

An ethics complaint filed against longtime North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey before last November's election has been dismissed. John Singletary, who ran unsuccessfully against Summey in last year's mayoral race, filed a complaint with the state Ethics Commission on Sept. 11 accusing Summey of violating a state law that prevents contractors who receive no-bid contracts from contributing to election campaigns. The law — known as the state's "pay to play" rule — also forbids officials from soliciting contributions in exchange for the award of a contract. After its review, the commission found Summey did not violate that law — and that the only contribution he received from a company that had won a no-bid city contract was not solicited by the mayor. In the dismissal order, Ethics Commission Chair James Warren wrote that the complaint "lacks probable cause to indicate that (Summey) violated the Ethics Act."

Post and Courier: Can the pace of the S.C. Senate go from tortoise to hare?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160815/160819588/can-the-pace-of-the-sc-senate-go-from-tortoise-to-hare>

Maya T. Prabhu

In the halls of the South Carolina Statehouse, it's the Senate chamber where the pace of legislating slows to a snail's pace. Some say that's a good thing, because it keeps taxpayer money safe. Others say it's a model for inefficiency, where doing nothing has become a well-honed art. Now, some lawmakers say, it's time for a kickstart. A group of seven state senators in the coming weeks will review if their process needs to move more quickly after some say the "deliberative body" is spending too much time deliberating. By this fall they plan to recommend rule changes to Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, who said he hopes to make the work of the Senate "more expeditious." Already there are objections. Hartsville Democrat Sen. Gerald Malloy, a member of the working group, said any changes made should actually be done to slow the process down, not speed it up. He pointed to the fact that Republicans are in firm control of the Legislature, as well as just about all of state government.

Greenville News: McMaster in Greenville: Trump won't be liability in a gubernatorial race

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2016/08/15/mcmaster-greenville-trump-wont-liability-gubernatorial-race/88767124/>

Rudolph Bell

Republican Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster said in Greenville Monday that he doesn't think his early and enthusiastic support for Donald Trump will be a political liability if he decides to run for governor in two years. Some Republicans aren't so sure, and Democrats are certain it will be. The South Carolina Democratic Party singled out McMaster in a recent news release, saying he was in for a "rude awakening" if he sees Trump's "dangerous divisiveness" as his "path to the governor's mansion in two years." McMaster, the first elected official to back Trump, the GOP's highly controversial presidential nominee, was in Greenville Monday to speak to members of the Upstate Republican Women. During an interview with The Greenville News at the Poinsett Club, McMaster said he'd "love" to run for governor a second time if the opportunity comes along. He also said he doesn't see his support for Trump as problematic if he does.

Independent Mail : Former GOP candidate from Williamston files lawsuit to run as a Democrat
<http://www.independentmail.com/news/former-gop-candidate-from-williamston-files-lawsuit-to-run-as-a-democrat-3a32d6c5-7700-5965-e053-010-390323731.html>

Kirk Brown

Williamston resident Mark Powell has filed a lawsuit seeking to get on the general election ballot as a Democratic candidate for the South Carolina Senate District 4 seat. Powell ran as a Republican for the same seat earlier this year after Sen. Billy O'Dell died. He finished last among five candidates in the March 22 GOP primary to fill the final months of O'Dell's term. The seat is now held by Mike Gambrell, a Republican from Honea Path. Eight days after the primary, Powell filed to run as a Democrat for a full four-year term in Senate District 4. Gambrell is the Republican nominee for the seat in November. Powell said he chose to run as a Democrat to call attention to what he sees as flaws in the state's open-primary system. He said South Carolina's political parties should have a right to vet candidates. He also said that only Republicans and Democrats should be permitted to vote in their parties' respective primaries.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: Another insurer leaves S Carolina's health exchange market
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vQfbZiz5

Seanna Adcox

Health insurer Aetna's decision to leave the federal health care exchange in 11 states means 8,000 South Carolinians will need new health insurance coverage in 2017. State Insurance Director Ray Farmer said Tuesday he was surprised by Aetna's withdrawal, as his agency was still reviewing the company's application for 2017 coverage and rate plans. "We were at the tail end of that process," Farmer said. Aetna, the nation's third-largest insurer, announced plans late Monday to leave nearly 70 percent of the counties nationwide where it currently sells Affordable Care Act policies, saying it's been swamped with higher than expected costs. Next year it will offer coverage in only four states. This year, Aetna sold policies through HealthCare.gov in just 14 of South Carolina's 46 counties. Those customers represent about 4 percent of the 216,000 residents covered through the exchange, according to the state insurance agency.

NOTE: The companies' exit shows "the Affordable Care Act is not working and has not worked under this current structure," said Farmer, whose boss, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley, staunchly opposes the federal law.

Post and Courier: Aetna will stop selling Obamacare plans in South Carolina
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160816/160819562/aetna-will-stop-selling-obamacare-plans-in-south-carolina>

Lauren Sausser

Another health insurance company announced this week it will exit the Obamacare marketplace, a move that leaves South Carolina customers who rely on the federal law for coverage with even fewer options next year. Aetna sells Affordable Care Act plans in 14 South Carolina counties, including Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester. Company officials announced Monday that Aetna will close this line of business in 2017 because it isn't profitable. United Healthcare, which also sells Obamacare plans in some South Carolina counties, made a similar announcement earlier this year. If nothing else changes, this leaves Affordable Care Act customers here with just two options for coverage next year — BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina or its subsidiary, BlueChoice. "Companies have given it their best shot and can't sustain that business model, can't make a profit," said S.C. Department of

Insurance Director Ray Farmer. "It does show that the Affordable Care Act has not worked, does not work and cannot work under this structure."

Associated Press : Insurers continue to abandon ACA exchanges, limiting choice

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

TomMurphy

Aetna will abandon Affordable Care Act insurance exchanges next year in more than two-thirds of the counties where it now sells the coverage, the latest in a string of defections by big insurers that will limit customer choice in many markets. Dwindling insurer participation is becoming a concern, especially for rural markets, in part because competition is supposed to help control insurance price hikes, and many carriers have already announced plans to seek increases of around 10 percent or more for 2017. "This is really going to be felt in Southern states and rural areas," said Cynthia Cox, associate director of health reform and private insurance for the Kaiser Family Foundation, which studies health care issues.

Note: Alabama, Alaska and Oklahoma are among the states that will have one health insurer selling individual coverage on their exchanges next year. South Carolina and most of North Carolina could join that list due to the Aetna decision, Cox noted.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Nuclear watchdog coalition files suit against Energy Department over liquid waste shipments to Savannah River Site

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160816/160819650/nuclear-watchdog-coalition-files-suit-against-energy-department-over-liquid-waste-shipments-to-savannah-river-site->

Thomas Gardiner

A coalition of nuclear and environmental watchdog organizations filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Energy this week, seeking an injunction into planned shipments of liquid radioactive waste from Canada to the Savannah River Site in Aiken County, South Carolina. According to the coalition press release, the lawsuit charges that the Energy Department and National Nuclear Security Administration failed to provide a thorough public process to fully analyze the hazards of transporting liquid highly radioactive waste as required under the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. Under the act, an environmental impact statement must be prepared and made available for other federal agencies and citizens to review and comment on, including a discussion of alternative ways to deal with the nuclear waste.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Attorneys want jury questionnaires in church shooting sealed

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0Gt7SPGC

SC State Wire

Attorneys in South Carolina have submitted proposed jury questionnaires for the upcoming federal death penalty trial of Dylann Roof in the Charleston church shooting and want a judge to keep them confidential. Both defense and prosecution attorneys submitted the proposed questionnaires in a joint motion Monday. They say the questions need to be sealed because public disclosure could affect the ability to seat an impartial jury in the case set to begin Nov. 7. The 22-year-old Roof faces numerous charges including hate crimes in the shooting deaths of nine black parishioners at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church in June 2015. Between 1,200 and 1,500 potential jurors are expected to be summoned from the Charleston area. Roof also faces the death penalty in a state murder trial to begin

early next year.

Michael Slagger Case:

Post and Courier : Scarlett Wilson responds to defense motion in Michael Slager case

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160816/160819543/scarlett-wilson-responds-to-defense-motion-in-michael-slager-case>

Gregory Yee

Ninth Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson filed a response in court Monday to requests by Michael Slager's attorney for contact information of a witness to the fatal shooting of Walter Scott last year. Slager's attorney, Andy Savage, requested contact information for Feidin Santana, who recorded cellphone video of the shooting. In her response, Wilson stated that Santana should be contacted through his attorney, Todd Rutherford, who is also a Richland County Democrat in the S.C. General Assembly. "While the Solicitor's Office is in contact with Representative Rutherford and Mr. Santana, the Solicitor's Office does not have his current address," the filing stated.

SC After Recent Violence:

The Herald: Tuesday public forum set for black men's group demanding answers from Rock Hill police

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article95783097.html>

Andrew Dys

A forum is set for Tuesday night for the public to hear from a group of black men who have made demands of the Rock Hill Police Department about accountability and the way black residents are treated. The group, called Concerned Black Men of the city of Rock Hill, marched to the police department July 16 and submitted a list of demands. The letter contained 10 demands the group says the department needs to respond to within 30 days. The 30 days are now up. The group's leaders since have met with Mayor Doug Echols, and met Monday afternoon with Chris Watts, the police chief. The forum, free and open to the public, is at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at 147 Oakland Ave. The building at the corner of Oakland Avenue and Wilson Street is the former Pix Theater that is now used by a church.

Island Packet : Ready for the worst: Port Royal police seek gear to face active shooter

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article95911037.html>

Joan McDonough

Port Royal Police Department wants to purchase \$18,000 worth of protective gear to keep its officers safe in the case of an active shooter situation. In light of the recent and frequent active shooter stories across the country, Deputy Chief of Police Maj. Ron Wekenmann said the department is hoping to provide its 24 officers with the tools he feels are necessary, including body armor, ballistic helmets and ballistic blankets. Port Royal Police Department wants to purchase \$18,000 worth of protective gear to keep its officers safe in the case of an active shooter situation. In light of the recent and frequent active shooter stories across the country, Deputy Chief of Police Maj. Ron Wekenmann said the department is hoping to provide its 24 officers with the tools he feels are necessary, including body armor, ballistic helmets and ballistic blankets.

Morning News: Racial Bridging Focus Group to hold pastors' breakfast Wednesday

http://www.scnow.com/living/faith_and_values/article_230e63c4-63c9-11e6-9d87-0be23aa49907.html

Shamira McCray

Local pastors are invited to attend the Helping Florence Flourish Racial Bridging Focus Group's pastors' breakfast Wednesday morning. The breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. at St. John's Church, 252 S. Dargan St., Florence, and will feature a performance by The Sensational Brown Brothers. At the meeting, Savannah Grove Baptist Church Pastor Ralph Canty will speak about a unity rally that was held at the church on July 11. "Reverend Canty will share briefly about what happened, and I think that it's something that he and other pastors are doing around the community," said Frances Swink, co-chairwoman of the Racial Bridging Focus Group. The unity rally featured a panel of Florence-area leaders. Community members were able to ask them questions and share their concerns about race relations and law enforcement, among other topics. At Wednesday's breakfast, pastors will be able to participate in roundtable discussions. The discussions will be moderated by members of the racial bridging focus group, and Swink said the purpose of the roundtable is to speak more about race relations, but she isn't certain what other topics may come up.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Scope: Why we shouldn't arrest kids, or adults, for cursing or being obnoxious
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article95772347.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

I HAD JUST LEFT the home of a friend who lives in one of those gated communities that rents a security guard to enforce its speed limit when I saw the blue lights flashing behind me. I pulled over, and the security guard walked up and asked if I realized I was driving 35 in a 30 zone. "Oh my goodness; you must be kidding," I said, allowing him to believe that I meant, "I can't believe I was driving so ridiculously fast." Of course what I actually meant was: "I can't believe you're wasting my time stopping me for driving five miles over the speed limit, when we both know that you're not going to write a ticket because I would go to court and the magistrate would laugh you out of the courtroom." But I didn't say that because you just don't say such things. I also wanted to make sure I didn't get carried away and throw in a profanity, which would have invited him to get carried away with South Carolina's ridiculously overbroad disorderly conduct law.

South Carolina News:

Island Packet: Beer + car = arrest. SCHP using emojis to send sober message to young drivers
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article95953837.html>

Caitlin Turner

When it comes to getting the public's attention about drinking and driving, the S.C. Highway Patrol is speaking a language everyone can understand — emoji. The patrol kicked off its Sober or Slammer! campaign Tuesday with the help of emoji advertising with DUI messages on ice boxes, gas pumps, billboards and box trucks, according to a S.C. Highway patrol news release. Sgt. Bob Beres of the S. C. Highway Patrol found himself the star of a new promotional video the patrol released to highlight the dangers of drinking and driving, and the patrol's increased attention to the issue as Labor Day nears. In the video, Beres pulls over an impaired driver in a emoji police cruiser. The alternative form of communication is nothing new to Beres, who frequently uses emojis to engage people on Twitter.

The State: Retired Columbia businessman Norman Arnold dies at 86
<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article95925722.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

Columbia businessman and philanthropist Norman Arnold died at his home early Tuesday morning, a spokeswoman for the Arnold Cos. confirmed. He was 86. Arnold built the liquor-distribution business

begun by his father, Ben, into the largest wholesaler in South Carolina before he sold it in 1984. He then became one of the city's leading downtown developers. He later ceded the business to his son, Ben, who has contributed some of downtown most notable projects. Norman Arnold was a leading benefactor for the University of South Carolina, and the Arnold School of Health is named after him. A \$7 million donation by Arnold announced in November expanded public health research at the university. The gift from him and his wife, Gerry Sue, established an institute named for them that will focus on improving stroke recovery, reducing dementia and curbing childhood obesity.

Local News:

Associated Press: Victim identified amid details of North Charleston shooting
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=s2yHI0oA

SC State Wire

Authorities say a 19-year-old man was the victim of a weekend shooting in North Charleston and have released more details about the incident. The Charleston County Coroner told local news outlets Monday that Demarco Jones was killed early Sunday morning at a home in the city. According to a police report, Jones suffered a gunshot wound to the head and was being cradled by his grandmother when officers arrived. A witness told police that he and Jones were sitting outside when three shots were fired from some distance. Police found shell casings in a yard down the street. The witness said he did not see the assailant. No arrests have been made. It was the 20th homicide in the city this year.

Associated Press: Body found in truck of garbage picked up in South Carolina
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=plqCTvkg

SC State Wire

Authorities are investigating after a body was found in a truck of garbage picked up in South Carolina. Local news outlets report that the body was discovered Friday inside a garbage truck in Edgefield County. Authorities determined that the body had been picked up with trash in neighboring Saluda County. Sheriff's offices from both counties are investigating and combing through missing persons reports. Investigators have not released details about the body, including whether it was a male or female. An autopsy was performed over the weekend, and evidence was sent to the State Law Enforcement Division.

Associated Press: Good Samaritan killed after helping pull SUV from ditch
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=NY1vbPMO

SC State Wire

Two South Carolina teenagers are charged with murder in the shooting death of a good Samaritan who helped them pull an SUV out of a ditch. North Charleston police spokesman Spencer Pryor tells local news outlets the victim stopped to help the teens pull the vehicle out of a ditch about 11 p.m. Monday and was robbed and shot after the vehicle was freed. The name of the victim, who died at the scene, was not immediately released. Pryor says 17-year-old Deon Antonio Frasier and 19-year-old Michael Odell Anthony Dupree-Tyler, both of North Charleston, are charged with murder. Frasier is also charged with possession of a firearm during a violent crime. It was not immediately known if they had attorneys. It was the 21st homicide in North Charleston this year.

Associated Press : South Carolina returns the favor after LSU ravaged by floods
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=JQ7Oeye9

SC State Wire

Nearly a year after LSU gave the University of South Carolina football team a home field advantage as floodwaters ravaged Columbia, the Gamecocks are returning the help. South Carolina on Tuesday says it's coordinating the collection of items to be sent to Baton Rouge, which is battling historic flooding. The school says fans can drop off supplies this week at several locations in Columbia, including Williams-Brice Stadium. Items that are needed include diapers, baby formula, canned foods, towels and blankets. During massive flooding in South Carolina in October, LSU hosted the Gamecocks in a football game originally scheduled for Columbia. Billboards around Baton Rouge were programmed to read "Geaux Gamecocks! Make yourself at home." LSU donated net proceeds from the game to South Carolina.

The State: USC helps in relief efforts for LSU and Baton Rouge

<http://www.thestate.com/sports/college/university-of-south-carolina/usc-football/article95904177.html>

In response to the recent flooding and hardships faced by the Baton Rouge and LSU community, the University of South Carolina will be coordinating a collection of items that will be sent to flood victims. Between Wednesday and Friday of this week, fans can bring items to the Gamecock Football equipment truck, which will be located at the Bi-Lo on 4464 Devine Street, Williams-Brice Stadium and the Rice Athletics Center/Carolina Soccer Center. Fans attending the My Carolina Alumni Association Fall Sports Preview Party at the My Carolina Alumni Center on Thursday evening are encouraged to bring items to the event.

Associated Press: Sun and Sand: Gator lounges on South Carolina ocean beach

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xqivsL45

SC State Wire

Folks walking along the beach in Myrtle Beach found a companion out enjoying the sun and surf - a 4-foot alligator. Sharon Martin tells The Sun News (<http://bit.ly/2bescti>) that she and a friend were taking their daily walk along the beach on Monday evening when the gator came walking out of the ocean. They called 911 and emergency crews were dispatched. But after a short time lounging on the beach, the alligator headed back to the surf on its own. No one was injured. But Martin says she had never seen anything like it and that it was pretty frightening to see an alligator coming out of the surf.

Sun News: Beach-bound gator caught by Snake Chaser

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article95935552.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

An alligator that washed ashore Monday night along 43rd Avenue North was captured and put in a safe place. The 3-4 foot gator was seen coming shore 7 p.m., and Myrtle Beach Police were called out to track it down. Russell Cavender, a professional wildlife handler in Longs who goes by the name "The Snake Chaser," was also called, and he captured the lost gator around 11:30 p.m. Monday night. The gator is now in a safe location, Cavender said. No one was injured during the wrangle.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Clinton: Trump's foreign policy 'absolutely bewilders' her

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fee95630c18642738869b9822008be73>

Ken Thomas and Jill Colvin

Hillary Clinton vowed Tuesday to conduct a national security and foreign policy that Americans could be proud of, saying rival Donald Trump "just absolutely bewilders" her when he talks about his policies around the globe. Clinton embraced the U.S. Olympic team's success at a voter registration rally in Philadelphia, pointing to Team USA's gold as an example of an optimistic nation that runs

counter to what she considers Trump's pessimism and negativity."It just absolutely bewilders me when I hear Donald Trump try to talk about national security," Clinton said, pointing to Vice President Joe Biden's dissection of Trump's foreign policy at a Pennsylvania event on Monday. "What (Trump) often says hurts us. It sends the wrong message to friend and foe alike." Turning to the Olympic team, she said, "Team USA is showing the world what this country stands for." Trump on Monday said the country's national security requirements demanded "extreme" vetting of immigrants seeking admission to the United States, pointing to the threat of the Islamic State group and terrorism elements. But he offered few specifics about how the process might work or how it would be paid for by taxpayers.

Associated Press: Analysis: Trump blasts nation-building but wants Iraq oil

<http://bigstory.ap.org/af96c6e40d034b58a4f3698009a9b27c>

Robert Burns

Donald Trump says that as president he would end "our current strategy of nation-building and regime change" because they don't work. His dislike for nation-building is shared by many, including none other than the target of his criticism, President Barack Obama. In fact it was Obama's predecessor, Republican George W. Bush, who committed the U.S. to large-scale nation-building projects in Iraq and Afghanistan. Obama discarded that strategy while trying to keep enough U.S. influence there to prevent those two countries from crumbling. Obama's approach may not have worked, but it's not Bush-like "nation-building." And while the Republican presidential nominee argued against nation-building in a foreign policy speech Monday, he advocated for something even more grandiose: seizing Iraq's oil wealth in the aftermath of the U.S. invasion in 2003 that toppled Saddam Hussein. "I have long said that we should have kept the oil in Iraq," he said in Youngstown, Ohio. "I said, 'Keep the oil. Keep the oil. Keep the oil. Don't let somebody else get it.'" It would have required U.S. troops to protect the oil, he said, but the benefit would have been clear today.

National News:

Associated Press : 40K homes damaged by Louisiana floods; 10 killed

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d25093775ff848d38294fdecc7e8b204>

Michael Kunzelman, Melinda Deslatte and Rebecca Sanatana

At least 40,000 homes were damaged and 10 people killed in the historic Louisiana floods, the governor said Tuesday, giving a stark assessment of the widespread disaster. Gov. John Bel Edwards spoke at a news conference alongside FEMA administrator Craig Fugate, saying "well over" 20,000 people have been rescued since the flooding began Friday. His office later increased that figure to more than 30,000. Beginning Friday, a torrent of about 2 feet of rain inundated the southern part of the state over a 48-hour period, and days later many homes and businesses were still underwater. While some areas were entering recovery mode, the governor warned new places downstream could see flooding and that officials are still in search and rescue mode. "I don't know we have a good handle on the number of people who are missing," the governor said. Some residents returned to their flood-damaged homes and businesses for the first time Tuesday and found a soggy mess.

Associated Press: Pennsylvania attorney general resigns a day after conviction

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9c2ed3d91b2641ab8d53ff96977f734c>

Marc Levy

Kathleen Kane, Pennsylvania's first elected female attorney general, announced her resignation Tuesday, a day after being convicted of abusing the powers of the state's top law enforcement office to smear a rival and lying under oath to cover it up. Kane's exit completes a spectacular fall for the

former county prosecutor who soared to victory four years ago as an outsider who promised to break up an "old-boys' network" in state government. But she squandered her early popularity, feuded with rivals and aides, and ultimately was undone by what prosecutors portrayed as a personal vendetta for her critics and perceived enemies.

license.Kane's office issued a two-sentence statement saying she would resign at the end of the workday Wednesday. "I have been honored to serve the people of Pennsylvania and I wish them health and safety in all their days," said Kane, a Democrat.

Associated Press: Christie signs bill requiring anti-Israel firms divestment

<http://bigstory.ap.org/0703265c53ce47e8839c0eb00ce4935f>

Gov. Chris Christie has signed legislation that would bar the state's public pension fund from investing with companies that boycott Israel or Israeli businesses. The Republican governor, pointing a finger at Democratic President Barack Obama for criticizing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, signed the legislation on Tuesday during a statehouse ceremony. "Israel is the beacon of democracy in a region that is constantly in turmoil," Christie said. The legislation passed with overwhelming support in the Democrat-led state Legislature in June. The measure is part of a broader effort to oppose a boycott, divestment and sanctions movement that targets Israel and Israeli businesses. The BDS movement, made up of unions, academic associations, churches and other grassroots efforts, describes itself as a Palestinian-led push "for freedom, justice and equality."

--

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044