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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Monday, September 19, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley asks SC agencies why they don't use all their money

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=GaO6vIBD

SC State Wire

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has told all state agencies to begin giving an explanation if they have money left in their budgets at the end of the year. Haley issued an executive order with the requirement on Monday. The Legislature when passing this year's budget asked agencies to provide a report of all fines and fees they collect as part of their budget and how that money is spent. The money is called the "other funds" budget. Haley says her order builds on that requirement and on her request last month that agencies report on programs that would reduce or eliminate if their budgets were cut by 3 percent. The governor says she wants to help agencies with long-term planning the next time the economy slows.

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley calls for greater agency transparency amid tighter fiscal constraints

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919364/gov-nikki-haley-calls-for-greater-agency-transparency-amid-tighter-fiscal-constraints>

Gavin Jackson

With budget dollars expected to be tight next year, Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order Monday requesting state agencies to explain why they are carrying billions of dollars over from year to year. A current budget stipulation already requires agencies to report the fines and fees they charge, collect and spend annually, but Haley wants more details on those cash balances, which reached \$10.3 billion this fiscal year, and an explanation of why agencies are sitting on those dollars. In a letter to House Ways and Means Chairman Brian White, R-Anderson, and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, Haley said this additional information will "help bring needed transparency to what has become the largest fund source in the Appropriations Act." White said some information Haley is seeking, such as budget dollars known as "other funds," was provided in previous annual reports.

NOTE: This move comes after Haley instructed agency heads to prepare for 3 percent cuts from budget requests due to projected lower budget growth. The budget is expected to grow by \$300 million next year, including \$140 million in one-time dollars.

Associated Press: The Latest: South Carolina's governor issues executive order

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Jzt8rT1Z

SC State Wire

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has issued another executive order to make it easier to keep gasoline supplies flowing to the state following a pipeline spill in Alabama. The order declares that an emergency exists and waives some federal weight, size and length limitations allowing larger trucks on the road to haul fuel. The order also extends one issued last week waiving limits on the number of hours that commercial drivers can be behind the wheel. Haley's press secretary Chaney Adams says the governor is working with state officials and industry leaders to ensure an adequate supply of gasoline in the state. Adams said that residents should continue to buy gasoline as they would normally.

Post and Courier: Order signed to transport gasoline to South Carolina faster after pipeline rupture
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919378/gov-haley-orders-state-of-emergency-to-transport-gasoline-more-easily-in-wake-of-alabama-pipeline-rupture>

Warren L. Wise

Terrell Hutchison wasn't taking any chances. Before heading home from a Charleston getaway, the Columbia resident swung by a downtown service station on Calhoun Street to fill up his vehicle after hearing that some gas stations in the Midlands might be running short on supplies. He wasn't alone. Gas stations saw a rush of business after a major pipeline rupture in Alabama disrupted supplies and caused prices to jump in several Southeast states, including parts of South Carolina. In response, Gov. Nikki Haley issued a statewide executive order Monday to help speed up gas shipments on trucks by declaring that an emergency exists. The move temporarily suspends federal rules that regulate hours of operation for commercial drivers and lifts certain vehicle restrictions. "The governor, who is working with state officials and industry leaders to monitor fuel supply issues, today issued an executive order waiving federal transportation regulations to ensure expedited fuel delivery," Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams said. "Consumers can and should purchase fuel as they would normally — and as engineers work to repair pipeline issues, we will continue to monitor developments in the region."

Associated Press: With some gas stations dry, pipeline works to send more fuel

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qJXMIM5E

Jeff Martin

Gas prices spiked and drivers found "out of service" bags covering pumps as the gas shortage in the South rolled into the work week, raising fears that the scattered disruptions could become more widespread. The shortage is blamed on a pipeline rupture and leak of at least 252,000 gallons (954,000 liters) of gas in Alabama. The pipeline company has two main lines and said Monday that it is shipping "significant volumes" on the second of the two lines to limit the impact of the interruption on the other line. Colonial Pipeline said it was working "around the clock" to repair the break and supplies have either been delivered or are on their way to locations in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Still, some motorists discovered bone-dry pumps.

Greenville News: Haley issues second executive order after Colonial Pipeline spill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/19/haley-issues-second-executive-order-after-colonial-pipeline-spill/90704742/>

Amanda Coyne

Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order Monday that waives federal transportation limits on fuel transport vehicles' weight and size in order to assuage the effects of an Alabama pipeline spill. The executive order is intended to expedite fuel transport. Fuel prices in the Upstate have spiked since the gasoline pipeline, operated by Colonial Pipeline, was shut down after a Sept. 9 spill in Helena, Alabama. The pipeline has terminals in Belton and Spartanburg, and average fuel prices have spiked since the pipeline was shut down. On the day of the spill, the average cost per gallon for regular grade gasoline was about \$1.90. Monday, the average price was \$2.19 — nearly 30 cents more in less than two weeks, according to fuel price tracking site GasBuddy.com. On Sept. 14, Haley issued her first executive order related to the pipeline issues, waiving hours of service requirements for fuel trucks and complying with states of emergency in Alabama and Georgia. Haley is currently working with state officials and members of the fuel industry to monitor supply issues in South Carolina, press secretary Chaney Adams said. "Consumers can and should purchase fuel as they would normally — and as engineers work to repair pipeline issues, we will continue to monitor developments in the region," Adams said in a statement.

Independent Mail: Gas price jumps 15 cents in one week

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/09/19/gas-price-jumps-15-cents-one-week/90689836/>

Abe Hardesty

While attending a meeting of North American fuel retailers in Canada on Monday, QuikTrip spokesman Mike Thornbrugh could not be blamed for wishing the U.S. lawmakers had approved that Canadian oil pipeline a decade ago. A pipeline would mean a few more refineries in the eastern U.S., which would make QuikTrip's task of getting fuel there much simpler. Instead, a fuel pipeline leak in Alabama has QuikTrip and other fuel retailers scrambling to get fuel from the large refineries near the Gulf of Mexico to the population centers in the East -- a scenario that has prices at the pump soaring. The price of the cheapest fuel, regular unleaded, was 15 cents a gallon higher in Anderson County on Monday than the previous week, according to GasBuddy.com. Anderson County's average price of unleaded was \$2.19 at noon Monday, four cents higher than a day earlier. One month ago, the average price was \$1.98.

NOTE: Thornbrugh said Friday's State of Emergency declaration by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley and other governors in the southeast has helped. "By being proactive, they were able to relax the rules for transport carriers, and that has helped keep the supply lines moving better," he said.

The Herald: Gas shortage leading to outages, increased demand at York County stations

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article102730657.html>

David Thackham

Several York County gas stations have run dry, and more are facing higher volumes of customers filling up in the face of a pipeline disruption that has affected much of the East Coast. Local stations are hoping and waiting for new deliveries of gas to satisfy a renewed rush of customers after a section of a major pipeline in Alabama was found to be leaking at least 336,000 gallons of gasoline. The pipeline serves an estimated 50 million people on the East Coast. The loss of gas has resulted in price rises from five to 12 cents per gallon throughout the Southeast. Haley Thomas, a cashier at the Marathon station (\$2.19 per gallon for unleaded) on U.S. 321 in York, said her station has been overrun with customers. Thomas said her station ran out of gas Sunday night, received a new shipment early Monday morning and was already close to running out by 11 a.m. "We've been running around like chickens with no heads for the past three days," Thomas said. "They fill up cars, gas cans -- anything they can fill up."

Island Packet: Some Beaufort County drivers hustle to fill up after pipeline leak

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article102768312.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Linda Moyd pumped gas into her red GMC Acadia while chatting with her brother-in-law at Stop N Go on Lady's Island on Monday. She had slipped away from work to fill up after a family member called to tell her about a possible supply shortage. "I had a half a tank," she said. "But I've got to fill my baby up." The station on Sams Point Road still had gas, and many gas stations throughout Beaufort County reported no issues Monday. But some pumps were closed. As news spread of a pipeline spill in Alabama that affected the supply of gasoline throughout the Southeast, some Beaufort County drivers hustled to fill up. Colonial Pipeline Co. must address issues in a faulty pipeline before fuel flows again, according to the U.S. Transportation Department. Between 252,000 and 336,000 gallons leaked from a pipeline near Helena, Ala., since the spill was first discovered Sept. 9. The company has begun building a temporary pipeline to bypass the leak, according to an update on its website. Coastal Pipeline said in a statement on its website Monday that gas had been gathered last week from Gulf Coast refiners and that fuel had been delivered or was on the way to terminals in affected areas, including South Carolina.

My Horry News: Grand Strand grapples with gas shortage

http://www.myhorrynews.com/news/local/horry_county/article_c4f84808-7e95-11e6-bb21-47c16ee9bdf3.html

August Dittbenner

Gas prices increased by about 20 cents per gallon almost overnight along the Grand Strand when word spread that the Colonial Pipeline in Alabama had sprung a leak. More than 330,000 gallons of

gasoline were reportedly lost, even though the pipeline was shut down within 20 minutes of the leak being discovered. An executive order from Gov. Nikki Haley suspended federal regulations on the hours commercial vehicles could run in an effort to help fuel get where it was needed. The state of emergency, according to the executive order, justified suspension of the federal rules. According to the executive order, the suspension would last 7 days or until the state of emergency was over, whichever was less. And while at most Grand Strand gas stations it was business as usual, some locations reported shortages or even being completely out over the weekend.

WIS: Gas prices on the rise in Midlands due to Colonial Pipeline break

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33126901/gas-prices-on-the-rise-in-midlands-due-to-colonial-pipeline-break>

Jeremy Turnage

A gas pipeline disruption in Alabama is causing gas prices to shoot up in the Midlands with many stations in South Carolina running out of fuel. The Colonial Pipeline in Helena, Alabama was shut down last week as a result of a gas leak. However, officials with the company that handles the pipeline say they are creating a temporary bypass around the leak in order to keep fuel flowing. More than 360,000 gallons of gas have spilled out of that pipeline in Helena since Sept. 9. According to AAA Carolinas, the price of a gallon of gas in South Carolina has gone up 13 cents since the same time last week. Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order late last week to increase the number of fuel truck deliveries into the state in hopes of quelling any potential shortages and price hikes. In Columbia, some pumps have run out of fuel. At the Kroger Gas Station on Killian Road, the pumps were supplied this morning after a run on the pumps over the weekend.

WCIV: Gov. Haley signs 2nd executive order in response to Colonial Pipeline

<http://abcnews4.com/news/local/gov-haley-signs-2nd-executive-order-in-response-to-colonial-pipeline>

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley signed another executive order Monday in attempt to ease the burden of a busted fuel pipeline in Alabama. Fuel supplies in at least five states - Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and the Carolinas are threatened by the issue. Monday's action is the second signed by the governor since Friday. It establishes height, weight and width requirements for trucks transferring goods in the state. It clarifies an extension to the hours during which drivers can deliver goods, and it details the process for anyone seeking an exception to height, weight and width regulation. Those interested in an exemption can call the South Carolina Department of Transportation at 803-737-6769 (8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.). For those needing a special exemption after regular business hours, 803-206-9566 can be called. The order Gov. Haley signed Friday suspended federal regulations limiting the hours fuel truck drivers can deliver gasoline. South Carolina gas stations that might be affected by the pipeline break are largely in the northwest part of the state along the Interstate 85 corridor.

Post and Courier: Governor's council works to stem opioid abuse

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919626/governors-council-works-to-stem-opioid-abuse>

Melissa Boughton

South Carolina was warned in 2013 by the state inspector general that if doctors didn't stop writing opioid prescriptions at such a high rate there would be a critical public health crisis. At the time, the state ranked 23rd highest in the country per capita for overdose deaths and 10th highest in the country for the number of painkiller prescriptions per capita. Over the next year, reported opioid deaths across the state jumped 118 percent from 237 in 2013 to 516 in 2014, according to data gathered by The Post and Courier. Gov. Nikki Haley responded to the report in 2014 by creating a Governor's Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Council. Opioid prescriptions have dropped from 4,866,458 in 2013 to 4,490,916 in 2015, according to data compiled by the Center for Public Integrity and The Associated Press. Members of the council said those numbers are continuing to steadily decline this year, as well. Bob Toomey, retired director of the S.C. Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services and former co-chairman of the council, said there was a knowledge deficit among prescribers and patients about prescription opioids, but the council's multifaceted approach is

helping to close the gap.

Post and Courier: Pharma contributions drop in South Carolina as opioid legislation gains steam
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160918/160919394/pharma-contributions-drop-in-south-carolina-as-opioid-legislation-gains-steam>

Gavin Jackson

The pharmaceutical industry has donated nearly \$800,000 to South Carolina lawmakers and political groups over the past decade, but contributions have waned in recent years. Peaking at \$104,450 in 2010, contributions dropped to \$49,250 last year — a timeframe when lawmakers approved legislation to combat mounting opioid-related deaths in the state. One leading measure came from Rep. Chip Huggins, R-Columbia, who sponsored legislation that gave addicts access to the life-saving opioid overdose antidote Narcan. Availability was increased when the law was bolstered this year when legislators gave pharmacists the ability to prescribe and administer the drug. Health advocates applauded the move, which made South Carolina one of a handful of states to have the option in place for what many see as an immediate intervention step to preventing a fatal occurrence.

NOTE: Republican Gov. Nikki Haley topped out at \$33,000 from the pharmaceutical industry during the past 10 years, while her two-time Democratic gubernatorial opponent, state Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Camden, received roughly half that at \$15,250. Both received hefty donations due to higher contribution limits than legislators.

Herald-Journal: Program to provide another drug treatment option in Spartanburg
<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160918/program-to-provide-another-drug-treatment-option-in-spartanburg?rssfeed=true>

Bob Montgomery

A Greenville addiction recovery program is expanding into Spartanburg. Rich Jones, executive director of FAVOR Greenville, said his three-year-old center has seen a rise in the number of young heroin addicts. Many either can't afford to get help or they're leery of programs that require strict commitments. "There's a huge need for recovery support in Spartanburg," he said. "There's been an increase in opiate addiction in younger people using drugs like heroin. It starts with prescriptions, then all substances and then into heroin. It's morphing into something we've never seen before." FAVOR's expansion is supported by the Spartanburg County Behavioral Taskforce, which was formed by area hospitals and the United Way of the Piedmont to address rising hospital emergency room visits and the lack of clinics to treat those with a severe mental illness. "The taskforce has had a partnership with FAVOR from the beginning," said Heather Witt, co-chair of the taskforce. "We continue to be supportive of their expansion into Spartanburg. Their offerings are complementary to our mission as well as the work of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), which we have supported."

Midlands Anchor: Gov. Nikki Haley to Receive 2016 Global Vision Award
<http://www.midlandsanchor.com/columbia-world-affairs-council/>

The Columbia World Affairs Council is pleased to announce that South Carolina Governor Nikki R. Haley will receive the 2016 Global Vision Award. She will be honored at a black-tie gala at the Columbia Marriott on Wednesday, November 30, 2016. This is the 23rd year the Columbia World Affairs Council has presented the award to a leader whose contributions have made a significant impact on South Carolina to help project the state globally. "Governor Haley has been an outstanding leader in connecting South Carolina to the global economy," says Columbia World Affairs Council Board of Directors Chair Bob Coble. "Her record for recruiting investment into South Carolina from the world is second to none." In 2011, Haley became both the first female and Indian-American governor of South Carolina. Born in Bamberg, South Carolina to Sikh immigrant parents, she is a graduate of Clemson University and represented Lexington County in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 2005 to 2011. Since 2011, the state has announced more than 80,000 jobs in 45 of 46 counties, and South Carolina's unemployment rate has hit a 15 year record low. Meanwhile, Gov. Haley has enhanced South Carolina's global image and presence. Her deft and compassionate

reactions to the shootings at the Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, the removal of the Confederate flag from the State House grounds, as well as her leadership in response to the devastating floods last October, have been watched globally and with acclaim.

SC Political News:

McClatchy DC: Lindsey Graham wants NY bomber treated as enemy combatant

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/article102775572.html>

Vera Bergengruen

The 28-year-old suspect in Saturday night's bombing in New York City should be treated as an enemy combatant, Sen. Lindsey Graham said on Monday. "I hope the Obama administration will consider holding Rahami as an enemy combatant for intelligence gathering purposes," the South Carolina Republican said in a statement. "The suspect, based upon his currently reported actions, clearly is a candidate for enemy combatant status." Ahmad Khan Rahami, a 28-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen from Afghanistan, was arrested after being wounded in a gunfight with police on Monday morning. He is believed to be connected to an explosive device that detonated in the Chelsea neighborhood in Manhattan on Saturday night, injuring 29 people. A cell phone found inside a second, undetonated device in Manhattan on Saturday was linked to Rahami, according to New York law enforcement. "We have every reason to believe this was an act of terror," New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a news conference Monday afternoon.

NOTE: Graham and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., called for the same treatment for Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev in 2013, which the White House refused to do. "I have little confidence the Obama Administration will take the course of action I am proposing. Instead, they will read him Miranda Rights as soon as possible," he said. Graham said that while the authorities gather information about how the attacks were planned, holding Rahami as an enemy combatant would also allow them to question him immediately instead of focusing on a "future domestic criminal trial that may take years to complete."

Post and Courier: Graham wants suspect in New York and New Jersey bombings held as 'enemy combatant'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919360/graham-wants-suspect-in-new-york-and-new-jersey-bombings-held-as-enemy-combatant>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham is calling for the suspect in a pair of bombings this weekend in New York and New Jersey to be held as an "enemy combatant." The South Carolina Republican said in a statement that keeping Ahmad Khan Rahami in custody under this designation would help government officials gather intelligence about the nature of the attacks and whether the alleged perpetrator has ties to organized terrorist groups. "Holding Rahami as an enemy combatant also allows us to question him about what attacks may follow in the future," said Graham. "That should be our focus, not a future domestic criminal trial that may take years to complete." A former military lawyer who now serves on the Senate Armed Services and Judiciary Committees, Graham said initial reports about Rahami and his actions indicate that he could qualify as an "enemy combatant," which would, among other things, deprive him of his Miranda rights — also known as his right to remain silent — as well as his right to an attorney.

Post and Courier: In opioid debate on Capitol Hill, few links found between money and votes for S. C. lawmakers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160918/160919392/in-opioid-debate-on-capitol-hill-few-links-found-between-money-and-votes-for-sc-lawmakers>

Emma Dumain

Earlier this year, Congress gave itself a collective pat on the back. It put aside partisan politics, for the most part, and passed what's being called the most sweeping bill ever to address the mounting opioid abuse crisis across the United States. It was an easy bill to vote for. The legislation authorized funding

for local governments to combat the painkiller addiction epidemic — without appropriating any substantial sum of money. The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, or CARA, also avoided conflict with the pharmaceutical industry by empowering local officials to tackle the crisis in their own communities, rather than addressing what role the opioid manufacturers might have played in making addictive opioids so widely available. The Center for Public Integrity and The Associated Press recently looked for links between opioid abuse legislation and the thousands of dollars federal officeholders have received between 2005 and 2015 from the giants of the drug industry, including those that manufacture the best-known, most widely used addictive painkillers.

The State: Clinton takes a sick day; Trump gets closer

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article102682017.html>

Bristow Marchant

What a difference a week makes. The polls are as close as they have been in weeks after Hillary Clinton gave a speech in which she placed half of Donald Trump's supporters in a "basket of deplorables," then took several days off the campaign trail last week after she stumbled out of a Sept. 11 memorial in New York. Her campaign later revealed she had been diagnosed with pneumonia. The illness kept Democrat Clinton out of the game for much of the week. It also reignited questions about her stamina and her trustworthiness among voters. The Republican Trump took advantage of Clinton's absence to lay out his plan for paid maternity leave, discuss his health with TV's Dr. Oz, and formally end his yearslong flirtation with the conspiracy theory that President Barack Obama had been born outside the United States. Most importantly, Trump's standing in polls grew.

Post and Courier: Health care tug-of-war expected to continue after presidential election

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919520/health-care-tug-of-war-expected-to-continue-after-presidential-election>

Derrek Asberry

State residents say the Obamacare tug-of-war will be a major issue next year regardless of which presidential candidate moves into the White House following November's election. "Insurance through the Affordable Care Act has been huge for me," said James Washington, a Charleston resident. "Before it, I had nothing. So it's important for me that it continues." Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton says she wants to expand Obamacare, which already insures more than 20 million Americans. Her opponent, Republican Donald Trump, says he wants to repeal and replace Obamacare. At the same time, Trump still wants affordable insurance for everyone, a position that contradicts itself, according to some experts. "Trump repeatedly refers to repealing and replacing Obamacare," said Bob Hartwig, an insurance specialist and professor at the University of South Carolina. "But part of his plan really overlaps things that are being proposed by Clinton."

Island Packet: How a school board member's call to a crisis line turned into a game of telephone

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article102740507.html>

Rebecca Lurye

School board member Michael Rivers did not threaten to use a gun at a Veterans Affairs facility, contrary to what a federal employee told local law enforcement last month, according to a report on the incident. That allegation, refuted in the finished Beaufort County Sheriff's Office report released Sept. 16, stemmed from a phone call the VA crisis line received Aug. 24 from Rivers, a longtime Beaufort County school board member and candidate for state office. An investigation revealed very different accounts of Rivers' 11-minute conversation. The 57-year-old, who's running as a Democrat for the District 121 seat of the S.C. House of Representatives and served in the U.S. Air Force, was reportedly upset about his benefits when he made the call, the report states. After Rivers hung up, the caseworker's supervisor, a law enforcement liaison, told the Sheriff's Office that he "advised that he had a weapon (a handgun) near him and was going to use it at an unspecified VA facility," according to the initial report, released Aug. 26. That's not what the caseworker herself remembers from the call, according to the final report. She told deputies Rivers answered "yes" to several standard crisis-line questions, including whether he had a firearm and whether he was homicidal, then hung up without

answering further questions. "Michael did not make any specific threats towards anyone, any location, or any type of weapon he would use with regards to the homicidal thoughts," the caseworker told deputies.

The State: SC residents can weigh in on state's ailing pension system

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article102727112.html>

Avery G. Wilks

S.C. residents later this month can weigh in with state lawmakers on possible changes to the state retirement system, which has unfunded obligations of \$16.75 billion. A panel of S.C. House members and senators, tasked with finding solutions, has set a Sept. 27 meeting to hear from the public. The meeting is the only chance for residents to offer policy recommendations before the next legislative session, which starts in January. It is scheduled for 10 a.m. in Room 110 of the State House complex's Blatt Building.

SC Agency News:

Post and Courier: State prison system looking at location technology to crack down on cellphone use

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919357/state-prison-system-looking-at-location-technology-to-crack-down-on-cellphone-use>

Maya T. Prabhu

The director of the S.C. Department of Corrections said he hopes to crack down on the use of cellphones in the state's prisons with new technology that helps staff locate the devices. The department recently got initial approval from the state's Joint Bond Review Committee to spend more than \$20,000 to install a system that uses cellphone towers to find the handsets that are being used by inmates in the facilities. Agency Director Bryan Stirling has been searching for ways to clamp down on the number of incidents involving cellphones, which he said are just as dangerous as weapons in inmate's hands. "It gives offenders unfettered access to the outside world to continue criminal activity, to intimidate witnesses and others involved in their case, or to find out information about corrections employees," he said. "The most dangerous thing our corrections officers can do is try to take a cellphone away from an offender." In 2015, the Corrections Department reported 1,610 incidents involving cellphones or their accessories, such as chargers or batteries. That number is up from 1,517 reported incidents in 2014 but down from 2011, when SCDC reported 1,941 cases.

Greenville News: Disabilities assault case against director took 8 years

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/19/disabilities-assault-case-against-director-took-8-years/90363180/>

Tim Smith

Sherill Holder was the executive director of the Sumter County Disabilities and Special Needs Board when he was charged in 2008 with one count of kidnapping and two counts of criminal sexual conduct involving assaults of disabled men. But it wasn't until last December when prosecutors and Holder reached an agreement on his plea, allowing him to plead guilty to assault of a high and aggravated nature. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison, suspended to three years, with three years of probation and no listing as a sex offender. What happened in the case has raised questions among some vulnerable adult advocates about how well the system protects those with disabilities. But the prosecutor who handled the case told The Greenville News he was satisfied with the outcome because it was a difficult case. "I know we did the right thing," he said. The allegations dated back decades, while Holder was assistant director of the Clarendon County Disabilities and Special Needs Board. By the time the accusations surfaced, Holder had been hired as director in Sumter.

Post and Courier: County Council to vote on an additional \$500,000 for I-526

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919370/county-council-to-vote-on-an-additional-500000-for-i-526>

Diane Knich

Charleston County Council will vote Tuesday on whether to approve the use of up to \$500,000 from the 2004 half-cent sales tax to finish the federal approval process for the completion of Interstate 526. The measure is expected to pass because it sailed through the group's Finance Committee last week with a 6-2 vote. Only council members Dickie Schweers and Colleen Condon were opposed. The money will come from the \$2 million set aside for smaller road projects, such as repairing pot holes and resurfacing roads. County Council Chairman Teddie Pryor said the move is important because the process, known as the Environmental Impact Statement, must be completed by the end of the year. If it's not, the county would have to start over, including holding a new series of public meetings on the project. Schweers said he has serious concerns about the plan.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Savannah River Nuclear Solutions settles employee discrimination lawsuit

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160919/160919525/savannah-river-nuclear-solutions-settles-employee-discrimination-lawsuit>

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions has settled a lawsuit with a former employee over discrimination concerns. Victoria Brandner, a 42-year-old Hispanic woman, filed the lawsuit in October 2015 after being dismissed from her position in January 2015 after learning a less experienced white woman was named to the promotion she had sought, according to the lawsuit. Before Brandner sought the promotion, a coworker had brought a cake in the shape of a male body part to the her at work, court records state. The lawsuit says the Brandner later announced her intentions to apply for a vacant position that would have been a promotion. She was then notified she was under investigation for the cake incident, which led to her ultimate dismissal, according to court documents. The case was officially dismissed after the settlement at the end of August, but details of the settlement were not made public.

SC Law Enforcement News:

Sun News: County lawyer backs off court request to name women suing police

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article102701592.html>

Audrey Hudson

Several women suing the Horry County Police Department and former Detective Allen Large on sexual abuse related issues will not be forced to disclose their identity. Lawyer Samuel Arthur, representing the county and police department, dropped his request during a court hearing Monday morning. The county asked the court this summer for the hearing to request that an earlier court order protecting the names of the four women be vacated. Arthur told Circuit Judge Roger Henderson that after consultation with his clients, he decided to withdraw the motion. Asked after the hearing why the county decided not to pursue the matter, Arthur declined saying, "I'm not going to comment on my decision-making process." The court was also asked Monday by lawyers representing the women identified only as Jane Does to force the county police department to turn over personnel records of two other former police officers — one of whom, Todd Cox, was indicted along with Large by a grand jury last week. Large faces six counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct and five counts of misconduct in office. The Horry County grand jury indicted Cox on 16 counts of misconduct in office, charges that are unrelated to the lawsuits.

Local News:

Associated Press: Driver, 10-year-old child, 2 players die in NC bus crash

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ODx4tITc

Jeffrey Collins

The bus driver, two football players and a 10-year-old child are the four people killed after a bus carrying a South Carolina junior college football team to its first game ever crashed on a North

Carolina highway, state troopers said. The front left tire on the bus blew out around 2:30 p.m. Saturday, sending it into a guardrail, then scraping the side of a concrete bridge column on U.S. Highway 74 near Hamlet, North Carolina, Highway Patrol Lt. Jeff Gordon said. The National Transportation Safety Board is sending two investigators to the scene of the crash to investigate the tires on the bus, agency spokesman Christopher O'Neil said, adding the board hasn't decided whether it will do a full investigation of the wreck. The driver of the bus, Brian Kirkpatrick, 43, of Chester was killed as were Darice Hicks, 10, of Rock Hill; Devonte Gibson, 21, of Rock Hill; and Tito Hamilton, 19, of Pahokee, Florida. Two of the dead were ejected from the bus and two were rescued from inside, but died a short time later at the hospital, Gordon said. Gibson and Hamilton were each high school football players trying to continue their playing careers.

Associated Press: The Latest: Feds to check tire in bus crash that killed 4

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qHnf7TEB

SC State Wire

Two federal investigators are going to North Carolina to check the tires on a bus that crashed, killing four people on their way to a South Carolina junior college's first-ever football game. National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Christopher O'Neil said in a statement that the agency hasn't decided whether a full investigation is needed into the wreck that also injured 42 others Saturday afternoon on U.S. Highway 74 near Hamlet, North Carolina. Troopers say the left front tire of the bus blew out, sending the left side scraping against a concrete bridge column. The driver of the bus died, along with two men with the Ramah Jucco Academy team and a 10-year-old child. Most of the players went to Clinton College in Rock Hill. The school says it is canceling classes Monday and bringing in grief counselors.

The Herald: Boy, 8; 2 Clinton College students; driver killed after bus carrying football players from Rock Hill crashes in N.C.

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article102587567.html>

Teddy Kulmala and Andrew Dys

Clinton College officials are "devastated" by the Saturday bus crash in North Carolina where two of their students were among four people with area ties who died in the horrific crash in which more than 40 were injured. An 8-year-old boy from Rock Hill and the bus driver, who is from Chester, also died, police said. The crash happened around 2:30 p.m. Saturday near Hamlet, N.C., according to the State Highway Patrol. A 1993 charter bus was traveling east on the U.S. 74 bypass when the front left tire blew, causing the bus to go out of control and veer into the median, troopers say. The bus struck a median guardrail before sideswiping a concrete bridge column. The bus was traveling from Rock Hill to Fayetteville, N.C., to participate in a scheduled football game Saturday night against the University of God's Chosen, the Highway Patrol said. Both eastbound and westbound lanes of the U.S. 74 bypass were closed nearly 10 hours after the crash.

Island Packet: Beaufort County traffic deaths spike; suspect in hit-and-run death at large

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/traffic/article102747412.html>

Caitlin Turner

As troopers continue to investigate the Saturday hit-and-run death of a Ridgeland bicyclist on Hilton Head Island, the South Carolina Highway Patrol reported the highest number of Beaufort County traffic fatalities in four years. From Jan. 1 through Sept. 18, the Highway Patrol reported 19 traffic-related deaths in Beaufort County. The number surpasses that from the previous three years with 8 reported in 2015, 15 in 2014, and 8 in 2013 during the same time period, according to a patrol news release. "It's the popularity (of the county), and folks are moving there," Lance Cpl. Matthew Southern said Monday when asked why deaths have increased. "Anytime you have a spike in population, crashes go up. We strive to get folks to remember basic things that can prevent them from getting hurt or killed, like buckle your seat belt, don't drive impaired." The most recent death was reported Saturday around 2:45 a.m.

The State: Families remember two decades after day-care operator killed their babies

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article102660142.html>

Cliff Leblanc

They are parents whose wretched loss cost them their faith in day cares, much of humanity and even God. Davis Daniel, 61, and Lindy McClarrie, 51, share the pangs of losing their babies 23 years ago to Irmo day care owner Gail Cutro. Ashlan, Daniel's daughter, died Sept. 9, 1993, at age 4 months 18 days. McClarrie's son, Parker Colson, died at age 4 months, 29 days. Cutro is in the state's women's prison, serving a life sentence for killing them. Daniel, a towering man who speaks softly and seldom, sat last week in his den in Irmo trying to capture the devastation Cutro brought to him and his family over the loss of their little girl. "It was some rough times," said Daniel, who has had two heart attacks over the years. "I was real mad with God." He lives within a couple of miles of where Cutro ran her day care in the New Friarsgate subdivision. Daniel's home also is a short drive from where Ashlan is buried. Neither his son, Reid, nor Reid's children, nor the children of his wife of 17 years, Cindy, have put their kids in day care. "He refused to let his wife work," Daniel said of Reid Daniel.

The Herald: New software will help York County crime lab untangle complex DNA mixtures

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article102659752.html>

Teddy Kulmala

A printout marked with a series of numbers and colorful zig-zags may look like a foreign language to some people. But to Cristy Kissel, who leads the York County Sheriff's Office DNA laboratory, those lines and numbers represent the extent to which people's DNA is present in evidence collected during criminal investigations. Thanks to a new software recently purchased by the Sheriff's Office, Kissel and her co-workers will be better able to distinguish a specific DNA profile in samples that include multiple profiles. The lab routinely receives pieces of evidence gathered by investigators from crime scenes. "If we have a suspect or elimination samples, we'll try to compare those to those (evidence) samples to either eliminate them or include those individuals," she said. "If we don't have enough profiles from any known individuals, then we try to take that DNA profile and search it through CODIS."

Greenville News: Clemson campus police: Sexual assault did not occur

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/09/19/clemson-campus-police-sexual-assault-did-not-occur/90702956/>

Romando Dixson

An abduction and sexual assault reported on Clemson's campus earlier this month did not occur, the Police Department said Monday. A third party reported that a student was walking back to her apartment the evening of Sept. 10 when an unknown male forced her into an SUV and sexually assaulted her at an unknown location, police were told at the time. In the early hours of Sept. 11, the university issued a safe alert to report the incident. However, the alleged victim confirmed that it did not happen, the Clemson University Police Department said. The State Law Enforcement Division assisted in the investigation. "Our investigation revealed that this incident did not occur as reported, so we felt it was important to share that information with the campus community in order to alleviate any fear and anxiety the report may have caused," Chief Eric Hendricks said. "Ultimately, we are thankful that no one was harmed in this incident." Members of the campus community are encouraged to remain vigilant and continue to report instances of sexual misconduct to authorities.

Associated Press: 2 men plead guilty to lying about Howard's Rock vandalism

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=c46Jo0Hy

SC State Wire

Prosecutors say two men have been fined \$200 each after pleading guilty to lying to police about the person who chipped a large piece off of prized Howard's Rock at Clemson's football stadium. Solicitor Walt Wilkins said in a news release that 20-year-old Alden Gainey and 49-year-old Michael Rogers pleaded guilty Monday to giving false information to police. Court records show they can choose to pay the \$200 fine or spend 30 days in jail. It's a tradition for Clemson players to touch the rock before

taking the field on game days. Wilkins says the men met and agreed to say they were just taking pictures of the rock after being caught on surveillance video. Rogers' son, Micah Rogers, destroyed the protective case around the rock and chipped off a large piece in June 2013. A jury found him guilty of a lesser charge in July 2015 and he was allowed to serve 25 days of community service to avoid 30 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. No. 5 Clemson plays at Georgia Tech on Thursday night.

Greenville News: 2 plead guilty to cover up in Howard's Rock vandalism

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/09/19/2-plead-guilty-cover-up-howards-rock-vandalism/90699454/>

Romando Dixson

Two men pleaded guilty to attempting to cover up vandalism of Howard's Rock in June 2013, the Solicitor's Office said. Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins said Michael J. Rogers, 49, and Alden J. Gainey, 20, pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor charge of giving false information to police for their involvement in attempting to cover up Micah Rogers' vandalism of Howard's Rock. Micah Rogers, Michael's son, was convicted at trial last summer of malicious injury to property for vandalizing the Rock. Evidence presented at the plea hearing by Assistant Solicitor Baker Cleveland established that on June 20, 2013, Michael J. Rogers had a meeting at his home in North Carolina with his son Micah, Gainey, and Wynn to discuss video surveillance of Micah's truck and the three boys in the vicinity of Howard's Rock the night the vandalism occurred.

Post and Courier: School board candidate banned from downtown schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919368/school-board-candidate-banned-from-downtown-schools>

Paul Bowers

Tony Lewis is an elected school official running for the Charleston County School Board, but he could be arrested for trespassing if he sets foot in a downtown public school. The school district office has received complaints about the Constituent District 20 School Board member's behavior for years, including recently when Lewis made "abusive and demanding" phone calls to the principal and staff of James Simons Elementary, according to a letter from the school district's general counsel, John Emerson, on Friday. "As you know, we have received ... many complaints about your conduct, treatment of Charleston County School District staff, abusive phone calls and of your misuse of your standing as a member of the Constituent 20 Board in many respects, including as a threat to vendors and to the jobs of staff members," Emerson wrote to Lewis.

Island Packet: National anthem controversy prompts area ADs to consider response

<http://www.islandpacket.com/sports/high-school/article102517342.html>

Jeff Shain

Thursday happened to be Military Appreciation Night at Beaufort High, and neither the Eagles nor visiting May River broke rank as the national anthem was played in the minutes before their football game. No kneeling. No sitting on the bench behind their teammates. Other than some absent-minded milling about on the outer concourse, it was the same way outside the playing field. In a locale where the Bible Belt intersects with a strong military presence, that really isn't a surprise. To date, the anthem protests of 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick and other athletes have not appeared at Lowcountry high schools. That hasn't been the case elsewhere, though, as prep athletes from New Jersey to Alabama to Iowa to Washington have taken a knee as a way to protest racial injustice. If nothing else, it has led administrators here to consider how to react to any such action.

Greenville News: Clemson among 'Best Places to Retire'

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/life/2016/09/19/clemson-among-best-places-retire/90685482/>

Elizabeth LaFluer

Planning a retirement move? You may not have to go too far. Clemson is among Forbes list of the "25 Best Places to Retire". The list, which includes communities from across the country, highlights Clemson's warm climate, low crime rate, cost of living and walkability. While many other entries on the

list also have cons, Clemson's cons category simply says "none".Charleston, Bluffton and Brevard also made the list.

Post and Courier: Construction moving ahead on new Mount Pleasant hotels

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160919/160919379/construction-moving-ahead-on-new-mount-pleasant-hotels>

Dave Munday

Construction is moving ahead on several of the 10 new hotels planned for Mount Pleasant. Financing has been approved for a 122-room Home2 Suites across from Town Centre and construction has started, according to an announcement from OTO Development of Spartanburg. Pilings were being unloaded Monday for a 100-room Staybridge Suites near the Ravenel Bridge at Johnnie Dodds Boulevard and Sessions Way. The 10 hotels that are under construction or have approved would add 1,319 rooms to the town. The Indigo Square development is on James Nelson Road behind a Walgreens drug store. The 38.5-acre parcel will also include 456 apartments and a grocery store, according to plans filed with the town.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Clinton says Trump gives 'aid, comfort' to ISIS recruiters

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a5f9bc0bbd0848c2a27cc3daefd9e0f1>

Catherine Lucey and Lisa Lerer

Hillary Clinton accused Donald Trump of giving "aid and comfort" to Islamic terrorists Monday, declaring after a weekend of violent attacks in three states that his anti-Muslim rhetoric helps groups like ISIS recruit new fighters. Trump showed no sign of changing, casting "many" foreigners coming to the U.S. as a "cancer within." The Democratic presidential candidate touted her own national security credentials at a hastily arranged news conference outside her campaign plane, saying she was the most qualified to combat terrorism and accusing Republican Trump for using the incidents to make "some kind of demagogic point." "I'm the only candidate in this race who's been part of the hard decisions to take terrorists off the battlefield," Clinton, a former secretary of state, told reporters. "I have sat at that table in the Situation Room." She added: "I know how to do this." The possibility of a home-grown terrorist plot cast a long shadow over the presidential race, diverting both candidates' attention from the daily controversies of the presidential race and giving them a high-profile opportunity to make their case to undecided voters.

Associated Press: The Latest: Trump says he'd admit people who 'love' USA

<http://bigstory.ap.org/658d5e960c1d4c9ea7c112d85543bfcb>

Donald Trump is blaming poor immigrant screening for a trio of recent attacks and says his administration would enact policies that would solely admit immigrants "who love our country." Speaking at a packed rally in Fort Myers, Florida, Trump did not say how he'd screen for that. But he declared that, "You can't have vetting if you don't look at ideology." The GOP nominee says recent attacks in New York, New Jersey and Minnesota are examples of how poor screening puts all Americans in danger. And he is repeating his call for "extreme" vetting that would include an assessment of whether potential immigrants share American values.

National News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Official says prints, footage helped ID suspect

<http://bigstory.ap.org/17030737ace4415599852bd4b80ba5f4>

A law enforcement official says fingerprints and surveillance video helped investigators identify the man suspected of setting off bombs in the New York area over the weekend. The official says Ahmad Khan Rahami is seen in surveillance footage "clear as day" at the scene of the Saturday night bombing in Manhattan. The official says investigators were also able to recover his fingerprints from the scene. Another law enforcement official says investigators pulled over a car "associated" with

Rahami when it appeared headed toward an airport Sunday. It had three men and two women in it. A third law enforcement official says Rahami wasn't on any terror or no-fly watch lists but had been interviewed for immigration purposes. The officials spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly about the case.

Associated Press: Immigrant wanted in NY-area bombings captured in shootout

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1863ca74ee724accb52dfe45805189c9>

Deepti Hajela and Jake Pearson

An Afghan immigrant wanted in the bombings that rocked a New York City neighborhood and a New Jersey shore town was captured Monday after being wounded in a gun battle with police that erupted when he was discovered sleeping in a bar doorway, authorities said. Ahmad Khan Rahami, 28, underwent surgery for a gunshot wound to the leg, and two officers were wounded but were not believed to be seriously hurt in the shootout that followed a weekend of fear and dread across New York and beyond. The arrest came just hours after police issued a bulletin and photo of Rahami, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Afghanistan who lived with his Muslim family in an apartment in Elizabeth, New Jersey, over a fried-chicken restaurant owned by his father. U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara, chief federal prosecutor in New York, said New Jersey officials will probably bring charges against Rahami in the police officers' shooting while federal authorities weigh charges of their own.

Associated Press: Minnesota mall stabbing's potential terrorism raises fears

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9fb5b40f390047d9b8a82f2db081f335>

Jeff Baenen and Amy Forliti

The stabbings of nine people at a Minnesota mall look to be the work of a "lone attacker," officials said Monday, and federal authorities are looking at whether it was a potential act of terrorism in an immigrant-rich state that has struggled to stop the recruiting of its young men by groups including the Islamic State. "We haven't uncovered anything that would suggest other than a lone attacker at this point," St. Cloud Police Chief Blair Anderson said at a news conference with Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton. "If that changes, we will be transparent about that." A young Somali man dressed as a private security guard entered the Crossroads Center mall Saturday wielding what appeared to be a kitchen knife. Anderson has said the man reportedly made at least one reference to Allah and asked a victim if he or she was Muslim before attacking. The man was shot dead by an off-duty police officer. None of the injured suffered life-threatening wounds. The motive of Saturday's attack is still unclear, but FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Rick Thornton has said it is being investigated as a "potential act of terrorism." The Islamic State claimed responsibility, but it wasn't clear whether the attacker was radicalized. Authorities were digging into his background and possible motives, looking at social media accounts and electronic devices and talking to his associates, Thornton said.

Associated Press: Congress struggles to finish Zika aid, prevent shutdown

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d86ecccd86e24e729d19b0ea6ed50e8b>

Andrew Taylor

Congressional negotiators on Monday pressed to wrap up a must-do spending bill to prevent an election-season government shutdown and finally provide money to battle the threat of the Zika virus, but numerous sticking points remain and top Senate leaders again postponed a planned procedural vote. The stopgap measure would keep the government running past the end of the budget year this month. It's the only measure that has to pass before Congress adjourns for Election Day. As such, the talks have been tricky, with Republicans controlling Congress battling Democrats and the Obama administration. A controversy involving whether Planned Parenthood should be eligible for anti-Zika funding in Puerto Rico — which sparked a Democratic blockade of an earlier measure — appears to have been defused, lawmakers and aides say. But unrelated controversies over pesticide regulations, spending cuts and limitations on how many hours long-haul truckers can drive remain unresolved. A request by Democrats to add money to help the city of Flint, Michigan, fix its lead-tainted water system is being opposed by Republicans who want it to advance on a separate water projects measure.

Associated Press: More than 800 immigrants mistakenly granted citizenship

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5aa83cad5521484296a629863b068964>

Alicia A. Caldwell

The U.S. government has mistakenly granted citizenship to at least 858 immigrants from countries of concern to national security or with high rates of immigration fraud who had pending deportation orders, according to an internal Homeland Security audit released Monday. The Homeland Security Department's inspector general found that the immigrants used different names or birthdates to apply for citizenship with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and such discrepancies weren't caught because their fingerprints were missing from government databases. The report does not identify any of the immigrants by name, but Inspector General John Roth's auditors said they were all from "special interest countries" — those that present a national security concern for the United States — or neighboring countries with high rates of immigration fraud. The report did not identify those countries. In an emailed statement, the Department of Homeland Security said the findings reflect what has long been a problem for immigration officials — old paper-based records containing fingerprint information that can't be searched electronically. DHS says immigration officials are in the process of uploading these files and that officials will review "every file" identified as a case of possible fraud.

World News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Japan pledges \$2.8 billion to help refugees

<http://bigstory.ap.org/aeab50ebf13e4d62a7bd4f0da2799bac>

Japan's prime minister has committed \$2.8 billion in assistance to help tackle the global refugee crisis. His counterpart from China is pledging \$100 million in new aid. The commitments came as leaders from the 193 U.N. member states addressed a summit Monday on the plight of the world's 65.3 million displaced people. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the Japanese assistance would cover the period between 2016 and 2018. The aid is for the Mideast, North Africa and other parts of the world. Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said large movements of refugees and migrants could affect regional stability and trigger serious political and security concerns. He said China is also considering setting aside for refugee assistance a portion of a \$1 billion China-U.N. development fund it announced last year.

Associated Press: US and Russia seek to salvage truce; Syria calls it finished

<http://bigstory.ap.org/78f222939ae8490789fe51b3650beff7>

Bassem Mroue and Vladimir Isachenkov

Syria's military on Monday declared that the week-long U.S.-Russian brokered cease-fire was over as the government and opposition traded accusations over mounting violations. The U.S. said it's prepared to extend the fractured truce, and Russia — after blaming rebels for the violations — suggested it could still be salvaged. It was unclear Monday evening whether the agreement — which has brought a brief respite to the war-torn country — would truly collapse on the ground. Residents of opposition-run eastern Aleppo reported new airstrikes Monday night in their besieged areas. There were no immediate reports of casualties. The government also said it repelled an insurgent attack on areas it controls south of Aleppo. In the wake of the Syrian military declaration, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry expressed annoyance at Damascus and Moscow's handling of the cease-fire.

Associated Press: World leaders at UN approve plan for refugee crisis

<http://bigstory.ap.org/bc3eef02fb964eaf9eb2afc41d338fae>

Michael Astor

With more people forced to flee their homes than at any time since World War II, global leaders on Monday approved a declaration aimed at providing a more coordinated and humane response to the refugee crisis that has strained resources and stoked divisions from Africa to Europe. The issue of what to do about the world's 65.3 million displaced people took center stage at the U.N. General

Assembly with leaders from the 193 member states converging on New York for the first-ever summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants."The bitter truth is this summit was called because we have been largely failing. Failing the long-suffering people of Syria, in not ending the war in its infancy. Failing others in now chronic conflict zones, for the same reason. Failing millions of migrants who deserve far more than lives marked by cradle-to-grave indignity and desperation," said Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights. Zeid praised the political consensus reached in approving the New York Declaration on Migrants and Refugees, but warned against complacency and self-congratulation.

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