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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, September 22, 2016

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## Afternoon Clips – Thursday, September 22, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: U.S. House to act soon on bill to authorize Charleston Harbor dredging

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929834/us-house-to-act-soon-on-bill-to-authorize-charleston-harbor-dredging>

Emma Dumain

Republican leaders announced Thursday the U.S. House will vote next week on a crucial water infrastructure bill that would, among other things, further the ongoing work to deepen Charleston Harbor. Plans to prioritize this vote is a victory for South Carolina legislators, from members of Congress to Gov. Nikki Haley, who have urged GOP leaders not to leave any uncertainty as to whether Congress will send the so-called Water Resources Development Act, to the president by the year's end. Still, the House's passage of the bill next week would not close the book on the matter. The House and Senate have different versions and must negotiate a final bill in November and December, when Congress returns from its pre-election recess. A major sticking point is whether to provide funding for the ongoing contaminated drinking water crisis in Flint, Mich. The Senate bill, which passed its chamber last week, contains that funding; House Republicans have resisted including that money in their bill.

WACH: Haley willing to send assistance to Charlotte if requested

<http://wach.com/news/local/haley-willing-to-send-assistance-to-charlotte-if-requested>

Matthew Stevens

Governor Nikki Haley has offered the state's support if necessary following violent protests in Charlotte after a man was killed by police Tuesday. According to Haley's press secretary Chaney Adams, the governor has spoke with NC Gov. Pat McCrory Wednesday and Thursday. "Gov. Haley has been in touch with Gov. McCrory, and she has offered any assistance should North Carolina need it," said Adams. Adams added that Haley has spoken with SC law enforcement and asked them to keep up with the happenings in Charlotte. York County EMD has a long-standing mutual agreement with Charlotte Police, but no specific requests for support has been made at this time. Gov. McCrory issued a state of emergency for Charlotte Wednesday night after one person was shot and is in critical condition.

Associated Press: Roll out the barrel: Haley welcomes barrel maker to Bamberg

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

SC State Wire

A new company will soon be rolling out the barrels in Gov. Nikki Haley's hometown. Media outlets report the governor returned to Bamberg on Wednesday where she helped cut the ribbon at Black Water Barrels LLC. The new company, which is creating about 60 jobs, will make white oak barrels in which to age bourbon. The company is investing \$3.6 million to start the operation in an old automotive plant. Black Water President Greg Pierce thanked local officials for the support they have given the endeavor. Haley said that neighbors helping neighbors is still the old hometown she remembers.

Times and Democrat: Bourbon barrel maker welcomed to Bamberg

[http://thetandd.com/news/local/bourbon-barrel-maker-welcomed-to-bamberg/article\\_cfffe5be-5cf1-58ba-9758-562f82eeab1f.html](http://thetandd.com/news/local/bourbon-barrel-maker-welcomed-to-bamberg/article_cfffe5be-5cf1-58ba-9758-562f82eeab1f.html)

Dionne Gleaton

Gov. Nikki Haley returned home Wednesday to celebrate the opening of Bamberg County's new barrel-making

company

Black Water Barrels LLC is investing more than \$3.6 million in the former Zeigler automotive facility to produce white oak barrels for the growing bourbon industry. During a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Black Water President Greg Pierce thanked the people of Bamberg County and the surrounding areas for their warmth and support. "Everybody's been very helpful. It's made it easy. They knew who I was before I knew who they were.

Everybody's been outstanding. If I was in a big city, it wouldn't be like that," Pierce said. Black Water Barrels is expected to create up to 60 new jobs over the next five years. Haley spoke warmly of her native Bamberg.

NOTE: "It is still neighbors taking care of neighbors. It is still that hometown that I remember," she said. Haley praised Pierce for transforming the former auto dealership into something the community can be proud of.

She also touted the area's workforce, particularly the 21 workers currently employed with the company.

NOTE: "This is a top-notch group. They're ready, they're excited and if we do this right, we're working with the Department of Tourism. We want this to be a destination site. We want this to be a place that people travel to," Haley said. "As we're continuing to try to bring more jobs and opportunities to Bamberg, this is a great way to add to that," she said.

NOTE: Haley said Pierce could not have picked a better location than Bamberg after looking at eight counties in three states.

NOTE: "You really have come to one of the sweet spots in the state, and I am personally committed to you in every way to make sure this is a success. We were already -- as we were touring in the back -- talking about expansion," Haley said. "This is an industry that you don't see a lot of, especially in South Carolina. So now we're on the map."

Times and Democrat: Haley, Staley efforts help students

[http://thetandd.com/news/local/haley-staley-efforts-help-students/article\\_34552f94-cd8e-5816-95ba-8c1161b8bc33.html](http://thetandd.com/news/local/haley-staley-efforts-help-students/article_34552f94-cd8e-5816-95ba-8c1161b8bc33.html)

Dale Linder-Altman

Richard Carroll Elementary School students thanked Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday for helping them with their homework. The fifth- and sixth-graders are enrolled in a pilot afterschool program the governor helped implement this year. The students say it lets them get the help they need away from distractions. Sixth-grader Makayla Banks said the program, "is good so far. We learn a lot of new stuff ... and I hope they'll keep it going every year." Makayla says she can already tell her grades are getting better. Math teacher Terry Collins and English language arts teacher Arlene Crosby coordinate the program that was organized and funded by Haley's Original Six Foundation and Coach Dawn Staley's INNERSOLE. It focuses on improving academic performance, especially in science, technology and math. It leaves instructors with flexibility to meet individual student needs in areas where they need help. The program also emphasizes character building by incorporating into each student activity lessons related to life skills, social development and community outreach.

NOTE: The Original Six Foundation is a non-profit organization created by Haley soon after she took office in 2011. It's a statewide initiative to empower and lift up rural communities in South Carolina.

NOTE: INNERSOLE is an international initiative with the goal of providing new sneakers to children who are homeless or in need. It was co-founded by University of South Carolina Women's Basketball Coach Dawn Staley, who is involved with Haley in the afterschool program.

Charlotte Protest Shooting:

Associated Press: Charlotte police refuse to release video of deadly shooting

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3b220507d6dc4376b2477f4942babf7d>

Mitch Weis and Meg Kinnard

Charlotte police refused under mounting pressure Thursday to release video that could resolve wildly different accounts of the shooting of a black man, as the National Guard arrived to try to head off a third night of violence in this city on edge. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Kerr Putney said that releasing police dashcam and body camera footage of the killing of 43-year Keith Lamont Scott could undermine the investigation. He told reporters the video will be made public when he believes there is a "compelling reason" to do so. "You shouldn't expect it to be released," Putney said. "I'm not going to jeopardize the investigation. "Meanwhile, an undisclosed number of National Guardsmen assembled in Charlotte, sent in by Gov. Pat

McCrory after a second straight night of racial unrest that seemed at odds with Charlotte's image as a diverse, forward-looking banking capital of the New South.

Charlotte Observer: National Guard and troopers arrive as SBI probes fatal police shooting in Charlotte  
<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/crime/article103367547.html>

Mark Washburn, Jim Morrill and Adam Bell

It was a tale of two cities on Thursday, two narratives in opposition: Mayor Jennifer Roberts proclaimed that Charlotte was open for business and assured citizens that order would be maintained. But on the streets, institutions across uptown shuttered their doors – some covered with plywood after marauders shattered facades in a rampage the night before sparked by the shooting of a black man by police. "People are walking the street, conducting business, as usual as normal" said Roberts, noting that Charlotte has largely and traditionally worked out its racial problems without violence. Meanwhile, armored Humvees pulled into Charlotte's National Guard garrison, responding to a state of emergency declared by Gov. Pat McCrory, who also ordered the State Highway Patrol to reinforce troopers in Charlotte. And the city's most prominent businesses – including Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Duke Energy, Fifth Third Bank and Ally Financial – encouraged tens of thousands of uptown staffers to work from home. Museums of the Levine Center for the Arts on Tryon Street closed.

Charlotte Observer: Charlotte police protests: Governor declares state of emergency as violence erupts for second night

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/crime/article103175292.html>

Adam Bell, Mark Price and Katherine Peralta

Protests turned violent for a second night in Charlotte after Tuesday's fatal police shooting of a black man. Late Wednesday, Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency for the city and deployed the National Guard and State Highway Patrol troopers to assist local police. One person was shot at the protest and was taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, Medic said. The city initially reported that he died, but later retracted that, saying he was on life-support. City leaders appealed for calm and promised a thorough investigation of the shooting that triggered hours of violent protest and shut down Interstate 85 on Tuesday. But the unrest continued Wednesday night, with police using tear gas to disperse hundreds of protesters who blocked the intersection of Trade and Tryon streets in the heart of uptown, then occupied the EpiCentre entertainment complex

Charlotte Observer: Governor calls out National Guard as Charlotte police shooting protests continue

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/national/article103336577.html>

Ely Portillo, Joe Maruska and Katherine Peralta

Protests turned violent for a second night in Charlotte after Tuesday's fatal police shooting of a black man. Late Wednesday, Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency for the city and deployed the National Guard and State Highway Patrol troopers to assist local police. One person was shot at the protest and was taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, Medic said. The city initially reported that he died, but later retracted that, saying he was on life-support. Medic said on Twitter that it was treating the patient for a gunshot wound en route to Carolinas Medical Center at about 8:45 p.m. The person was shot in the area of North College and East Trade streets.

McClatchy DC: "We cannot return violence with violence" in Charlotte, black GOP senator says

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/article103352457.html>

Vera Bergengruen

As a second night of protests erupted in Charlotte, N.C. on Wednesday in the wake of a police-involved shooting of a black man, Sen. Tim Scott urged for calm to "come together as an American family" and find solutions. "We cannot return violence with violence, or allow our frustration and sadness to lead to more heartbreak," he wrote on Twitter on Wednesday evening, as news broke that a person had been shot at the protest by a civilian. The fatal shooting of a black man, Keith Lamont Scott, by police led to protests that injured 16 Charlotte officers on Tuesday. Just days earlier, a video showed police gunning down Terence Crutcher in Tulsa, Okla., as the unarmed man held up his hands "The tragedies in Tulsa and Charlotte show us

the full magnitude of the challenges we face as a nation when it comes to police and community relations," Scott said. "When we see video like the one from Tulsa, it is impossible not to acknowledge the issues at hand," he said. "When we lack video and have conflicting stories, such as in Charlotte, it only makes the case further for body cameras."

Post and Courier: Tweet by son of Emanuel AME shooting victim goes viral during Wednesday's violent protests in Charlotte

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929823/tweet-by-son-of-emanuel-ame-shooting-victim-goes-viral-during-wednesdays-violent-protests-in-charlotte>

Caitlin Byrd

Last year, Chris Singleton walked onto a baseball field with a microphone clipped to his shirt just one day after his mother was killed during a Bible study at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. "Love is always stronger than hate," he told the crowd on June 18, 2015. "If we'd just love the way my Mom would, then the hate won't be anywhere close to what love is." His mother, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, was one of the nine black parishioners killed by an avowed racist at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston on June 17, 2015. Though Singleton was only 18 at the time, his words inspired a community and a nation reeling from the mass shooting. Now, Singleton has spoken up during another tumultuous time. The protests in Charlotte were held in response to the police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott, a 43-year-old Charleston native.

The State: Columbia TV station says reporters injured in Charlotte protests

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article103368577.html>

Jeff Kid

A photographer and a weekend anchor from Columbia television station WLTX were injured while covering violent protests in Charlotte on Wednesday, the station reported. Anchor Mary Sturgill, who is also a reporter for the station, tweeted that she was at Charlotte's Presbyterian Hospital after she was tackled and chief photographer Eric Alkire were hurt. In an on-air report, the station said some of its equipment was damaged, as well. Sturgill and Alkire were treated on the scene, then taken to the hospital for additional treatment. Sturgill tweeted again early Thursday. Earlier in the evening, Sturgill broadcast some of the protests over Facebook Live.

Greenville News: Upstate residents feel close connections to Charlotte

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2016/09/22/upstate-residents-feel-close-connections-charlotte/90807906/>

Bria N. Felicien

Two police shootings of black men by police have ignited passionate discussions this week on social media among Upstate residents who feel a deep connection to the events and the protests that have followed. Amber Anderson, 29, of Easley, was in bed Tuesday, scrolling through social media, when she found out Keith Lamont Scott was shot and killed by police in Charlotte. She went straight to bed that night after work, she says, because she was exhausted from reading the emerging details surrounding Terence Crutcher's death in Tulsa, but found herself watching a Facebook live video from Scott's daughter. Anderson is a basketball coach who runs a nonprofit called Operation Impact Life, and the shooting in Charlotte hit close to home for her – and the Upstate – because of its proximity. The Queen City is just about a 90-minute drive and around 100 miles northeast of Greenville. "I've never seen Tulsa, I've never seen Baton Rouge, I've never seen these other places where people have been killed," Anderson said. "But I know Charlotte. I know those streets of Charlotte. I have family in Charlotte."

Michael Slager Case:

Associated Press: Black driver shot by white officer: Potential jurors called

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9aJ0t55y](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9aJ0t55y)

SC State Wire

A South Carolina judge has ordered 500 potential jurors summoned for the murder trial of a fired white police officer charged in the 2015 shooting death of a black motorist captured on cellphone video. Those being

summoned can expect to hear a sheriff's deputy knocking on the door. Circuit Judge Clifton Newman issued an order Tuesday requiring deputies to serve summonses in the Michael Slager case. That's not unheard of, but generally jurors are summoned through the mail. The order also instructs Charleston County deputies to follow up if prospective jurors don't fill out a juror questionnaire accompanying the summons. It said the summonses should start going out Friday. The 34-year-old Slager, a former North Charleston police officer, stands trial next month in the death of 50-year-old Walter Scott, who was shot while running from traffic stop in April 2015. The shooting was recorded on a dramatic cellphone video that reignited the national debate over how blacks are treated by white police officers.

Post and Courier: In 'serious' Michael Slager case, deputies will deliver jury summonses, 'gain compliance'  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929862/in-serious-michael-slager-case-deputies-will-deliver-jury-summonses-gain-compliance>

Andrew Knapp

In an unusual move, sheriff's deputies have been tasked with hand-delivering summonses to 500 prospective jurors before the murder trial of former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager. On Friday, the summonses and a questionnaire will start going out to Charleston County residents whose names were chosen at random, a court order stated. If deputies cannot serve the paperwork in person, it can be distributed by mail — the most common method of delivery. The potential jurors must fill out their questionnaires within five days and return them to the clerk of court. If they don't, the deputies will follow up "to gain compliance," Circuit Judge Clifton Newman said in the order. Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon said Wednesday that serving jury summonses is just one function of his agency. "Certainly in a serious case like this," he said, "you want to make sure people get the jury summons."

General Assembly News:

The State: House GOP Caucus allows investigators to review its financial records

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103545377.html>

Cassie Cope and John Monk

The Republican Caucus that controls the S.C. House has allowed investigators to review its financial records dating back to 1995, according to Caucus leaders. In a letter to Republican state representatives, the executive committee of the caucus confirmed there is an ongoing investigation by a State Grand Jury into the activities of House members, including caucus members. "The scope and the subject of this investigation are unknown to us at this point," said the letter. The letter was signed by nine of 10 members of the Republican Caucus' executive committee. House Majority Leader Bruce Bannister, R-Greenville, did not sign the letter. Bannister did not return calls Thursday to The State. The executive committee also denied it had hired former U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles to represent the caucus. Nettles, a Democrat, had said earlier Thursday that he was representing the caucus.

Post and Courier: Former U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles to help Republicans in corruption probe

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929810/former-us-attorney-bill-nettles-to-help-republicans-in-corruption-probe>

Eva Moore

Former U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles has been hired by the S.C. House Republican Caucus to help it respond to requests from the State Law Enforcement Division in the ongoing probe of Statehouse corruption. "I have been asked to join the team," Nettles confirmed Thursday. Nettles is no stranger to this corruption probe. Before stepping down in June as U.S. attorney, his office focused on House Speaker Bobby Harrell, who pleaded guilty to ethics violations and resigned in 2014. The state investigated the Charleston Republican at the same time as Nettles' office and ultimately prosecuted the former House Speaker. Nettles, an Obama administration appointee, remained closely involved, even attending hearings with 1st Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe, who was appointed to the case by S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson, who cited potential conflicts.

Post and Courier: Statehouse probe result of 'Lost Trust' ethics reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929843/statehouse-probe-result-of-lost-trust-ethics-reform->

Prentiss Findlay

The ongoing Statehouse probe aimed at weeding out public corruption has its roots in "Operation Lost Trust," the federal investigation that snared nearly 20 legislators more than two decades ago, the former U.S. attorney who handled the case said Wednesday. "The very Ethics Act which legislators are under investigation for violating now came about as a result of Operation Lost Trust. We laid the foundation for what's going on now," said Bart Daniel. But the investigations are quite different, he said. "Operation Lost Trust involved federal crimes, not state ethics violations," Daniel said. Lost Trust enlisted a lobbyist turned FBI informant to offer bribes to legislators. Daniel and two other attorneys who played key roles in Lost Trust, Gedney Howe and Ed Bell, were part of a Charleston School of Law forum on Wednesday.

Post and Courier: Berg named CIO of S.C. Retirement Systems Investment Commission

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929791/berg-named-cio-of-sc-retirement-systems-investment-commission>

Gavin Jackson

The South Carolina Retirement Systems Investment Commission announced Geoffrey Berg as its permanent chief investment officer Thursday after he served a year in the position as interim. RSIC Chairwoman Rebecca Gunnlaugsson said the commission, which directs investments of the state's pension funds, unanimously selected Berg as permanent CIO to handle the state's roughly \$27.9 billion in pension assets. Last September, Berg moved from internal managing director and head of public markets into the interim role after CIO Hershel Harper, Jr., resigned from the position after three years. RSIC Chief Executive Officer Michael Hitchcock said in a press release that, "Geoffrey has shown true vision and leadership in designing and implementing a strategy that already has raised our returns on both a real and relative basis." Prior to joining the RSIC in July 2008, Berg worked in mergers and acquisitions at a Fortune 1000 company. Since early 2009, he has held various director positions within the agency. Berg earned a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and a MBA from the University of Iowa. He holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a member of the CFA Society of South Carolina.

Post and Courier: Opioid antidote side effect: Complacency

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929802/opioid-antidote-side-effect-complacency>

Gavin Jackson

A roundtable with federal and local authorities Thursday revealed that as increased efforts to stymie the opioid epidemic continue in earnest, they are complicated by recent state laws designed to save lives from lethal prescription painkiller and heroin overdoses. State lawmakers this year passed legislation to increase patient access to the opioid antidote Narcan to combat climbing overdose death rates, but Charleston County Coroner Rae Wooten said the life-saving drug has the unfortunate side effect of complacency, though not invincibility. "It's getting this mindset that it's not a big deal. Get this shot of Narcan that will reverse this and I'll be OK," Wooten said. "A lot of these cases I see that have died, they got Narcan. They still died. It is not a silver bullet." With the influx of the highly potent painkiller fentanyl, which can be mixed with heroin, pressed into tablets or even sold to unsuspecting buyers as heroin, Wooten expects to see the current death rate in Charleston to increase by year's end.

The State: Veterans thankful for free dental care at State House clinic

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/military/article103545997.html>

Tracy Glantz

Stephen Parker of Columbia hadn't been to the dentist since he left the military "10 or 20 years ago," he said, his mouth numb with Novocain. The opportunity to fix a bad tooth came to the retired Marine on Thursday through the Healthy Mouth Movement sponsored by Aspen Dental, which has offices in the Midlands. Volunteers with a complete dental office, arranged in a 42-foot mobile office, parked outside the South Carolina State House to treat the dental needs of about 38 veterans for free. Sheri Willis of Irmo woke up with a painful, swollen mouth Sept. 8. The dental insurance with her new job hadn't kicked in yet so she's been waiting since then for relief. "They're going to fix my smile today, she said while waiting for her appointment. Many veterans signed up for an appointment weeks ago, as soon as they heard about the traveling clinic. "A lot of veterans don't have access to dental care," said Dr. Logan Nalley, a dentist from Aiken, one of the

dentists at the event. "A really infected tooth can quickly become life threatening."

#### SC Agency News:

Post and Courier: Officials scramble to breathe new life into I-526 extension

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929804/officials-scramble-to-breathe-new-life-into-i-526-extension>

Diane Knich

Several Charleston County Council members said Chairman Elliott Summey told them that as part of a deal worked out with state Senate President Hugh Leatherman, the state would cover the roughly \$300 million shortfall to finish the final phase of Interstate 526. Summey, along with Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg and other local and state leaders who support the controversial highway extension across Johns and James islands, is trying to get the S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank board to reverse its decision to close the door on the road project. Local officials also want the board to give the county the \$420 million originally set aside for the project so work can begin on its first phase — the portion from where I-526 now ends in West Ashley to Maybank Highway on Johns Island. To move forward with the project — even just the first phase — county leaders must show there is a "reasonable availability" of funds to complete the entire project, which will end at the James Island connector.

Greenville News: DDSN: If provider's name not on website, admissions could be frozen

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/22/ddsn-if-providers-name-not-website-admissions-could-frozen/90772648/>

Tim Smith

When State Inspector General Patrick Maley told the board of the state's disabilities agency last week that the provider at the heart of his investigation had admissions frozen by the agency twice before this year due to problems found by the state, that came as news to two of the commissioners who were serving when the freezes occurred. Former Commissioners Debra McPherson and Nancy Benov told The Greenville News they do not recall ever being told by the agency that admissions to SC Mentor had been frozen because of problems with the private provider. Meeting minutes of the commission do not show any discussion of Mentor or any admissions freezes during the months before, during or after the agency notified Mentor it was freezing admissions. The commission has discussed problems with Mentor this year, both in closed-door talks and in open meetings, prior to Maley making his report.

#### SC Delegation News:

Post and Courier: S.C. lawmakers draw battle lines on short-term spending bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929799/sc-lawmakers-draw-battle-lines-on-short-term-spending-bill>

Emma Dumain

Some South Carolina lawmakers aren't enthused about the latest proposal to fund government operations between Oct. 1 and Dec. 9. U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., is one of them. Graham released a statement Thursday afternoon saying he would not be voting on the so-called "continuing resolution" introduced earlier in the day by his own party leadership. He said he was protesting the lack of funding for the Export-Import Bank, an important fixture of the South Carolina economy that has come under fierce scrutiny from conservatives in recent years. "We are losing American jobs to foreign competitors for no good reason," Graham said. "We need a fully functioning Ex-Im Bank to help ensure American manufacturers are able to compete in the international marketplace on a level playing field." The Ex-Im Bank is designed to help U.S. companies finance goods for sale overseas; detractors say the bank is tantamount to corporate cronyism.

The State: Wilson, Bjorn find home for 2nd District debate

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103404872.html>

Avery G. Wilks

The 2nd District congressional debate finally has a home. Republican U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, Democrat Arik Bjorn

and American Party candidate Eddie McCain will square off Nov. 4 in front of roughly 800 students at River Bluff High School. The event is set for 9:30 a.m. – four days before election day – at the Lexington County high school's performing arts center. River Bluff has not yet decided on a moderator and still is exploring options for broadcasting the debate, said Michael Burgess, the event's organizer and a teacher at River Bluff's Center for Law and Global Policy Development. Wilson and Bjorn last month agreed to debate. But they did not find a host until this week. S.C. Education Television decided it would not televise the debate or any other S.C. debates this fall. After hearing of that hiccup, River Bluff's Teen Republicans and Young Democrats proposed their school host the event, Burgess said. The debate will be student-centered, with River Bluff's juniors and seniors pitching questions to candidates, he said.

#### LGBT Laws:

Associated Press: SoCon officials delay decision on moving championships

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OsuQ1rAo](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OsuQ1rAo)

SC State Wire

Presidents and chancellors of the Southern Conference say they need more information before deciding whether league championships played in North Carolina should be relocated because of a state law that limits protections for LGBT people. The officials Thursday discussed the four championships scheduled to be played in North Carolina in 2016-17. Those include the men's and women's basketball championships planned for Asheville, North Carolina. The conference's council of presidents asked for additional information from the league office. The NCAA and the Atlantic Coast Conference both withdrew championships from the state earlier this month because of the state's HB2 law. Southern Conference Commissioner John Iamarino said the issue was complicated and the group chose to seek "more time and further study" before deciding.

#### South Carolina News:

Associated Press: US claims win in dispute with EU over aerospace subsidies

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=EpiaFXO8](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=EpiaFXO8)

SC State Wire

The Obama administration on Thursday claimed a victory in its long-running trade dispute with the European Union over whether the 28-country bloc is illegally helping airplane manufacturer Airbus. In June 2011, the World Trade Organization found that the EU and four of its member countries provided billions of dollars in subsidized financing to Airbus. While the EU subsequently claimed to have come into compliance, the United States disagreed and requested that a compliance panel intervene. The WTO panel on Thursday ruled mostly in favor of the U.S. The international body, which helps solve trade disputes, found the EU had provided billions of dollars more in subsidies, causing lost sales worth tens of billions of dollars for Airbus' archrival Boeing Co. The WTO, however, found that EU financing was acceptable for some Airbus models - notably the A380, the massive double-decker plane meant for long hauls. Boeing praised the overall ruling, which the EU can appeal, saying the "day of reckoning" has finally arrived. It went so far to say that Airbus might not even exist today if not for continued support of European governments.

NOTE: The Boeing Company is the only American producer of large civil aircraft and is the largest single U.S. exporter. Boeing has major facilities around the country, including in Washington and South Carolina.

Members of the Washington congressional delegation joined the administration in hailing the ruling, which has the potential to result in tariffs that would likely cost Airbus market share.

Post and Courier: No bomb found in Boeing hangar after threat, evacuation

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929820/no-bomb-found-in-boeing-hangar-after-threat-evacuation>

Angie Jackson

Employees were evacuated from a Boeing hangar in North Charleston following a bomb threat Thursday morning. No bomb was found and the facility was declared safe for work to resume by the afternoon, said Elizabeth Merida, a Boeing spokeswoman, in an email Thursday afternoon. The threat was directed at the new paint hangar, which is under construction outside of the campus fence, adjacent to the south side of the site,

Merida said. Boeing security personnel and local authorities investigated the threat before declaring it safe. "Boeing and its contractor had evacuated approximately 300 contractors working on the facility earlier today following a bomb threat," she said. Merida did not specify which local authorities responded to the bomb threat. North Charleston police and fire departments said they were not called to the scene.

The State: ACT scores improve for SC high-school juniors

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103543632.html>

Jamie Self

Roughly one of every eight S.C. high-school juniors is ready to tackle a college course load with success, according to their performance on a standardized test. The results are an improvement from the previous year, state Education Department officials said Thursday. Last year, one in nine S.C. 11th graders were ready for the same challenge, scoring "ready" in four subject areas on the ACT standardized test. Being "ready" means students have a 50 percent chance of earning a B or higher or a 75 percent chance of scoring a C or higher in first-year college courses. Juniors take the ACT and WorkKeys tests in the spring. The tests, which assess a student's readiness for college or a career, are required under a 2014 law and announced each fall. Last spring's scores found more than half of S.C. juniors are "not ready" for success in college courses. Still, the high-school juniors made gains across all subject areas. For example, a higher percentage of students scored "ready" in English, math, reading and science than the previous year. State schools Superintendent Molly Spearman said she was pleased with the gains.

Post and Courier: Majority of S.C.'s class of 2017 not ready for college, according to ACT

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929794/majority-of-scs-class-of-2017-not-ready-for-college-according-to-act>

Deanna Pan

Students did better on the state-mandated ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessments this year, but the majority of the class of 2017 are not ready for college, according to results released by the state Department of Education Thursday. All 11th-grade students in South Carolina are required to take the ACT and ACT WorkKeys. These tests were administered to juniors for the first time in the spring of 2015. The ACT is a curriculum-based assessment of college readiness, composed of four sub-tests in English, math, reading and science while ACT WorkKeys is a jobs skills assessment that identifies how prepared students are for certain careers. More than 47,000 juniors statewide took the ACT this past spring. In math and science, more than three-fourths of all students failed to meet the ACT's "college-readiness" benchmarks, as did 61 percent of students in English and 71 percent of students in reading.

The State: Claflin announces partnership with S.C. tech schools

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103458757.html>

Avery G. Wilks

S.C. technical college graduates will be able to seamlessly transfer to Claflin University through a new partnership, the state's oldest historically black college said Thursday. The deal allows graduates of South Carolina's 16 technical colleges to begin studying as juniors at the Orangeburg school. Claflin, which has more than 2,000 students, is the only historically black S.C. college to be part of the partnership, the school said in a news release. The S.C. technical college system serves more than 250,000 students a year, Claflin said. Claflin said it can give two-year college graduates a "much shorter path" to graduation through online accelerated degree programs.

Local News:

Associated Press: Deputies say man killed his wife, fled to Georgia

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zldngtf0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zldngtf0)

SC State Wire

Authorities say a Berkeley County man killed his wife and then fled to the Savannah, Georgia, area where he was arrested. Chief Deputy Mike Cochran tells local media outlets that 40-year-old Vanessa Ruth Hilton was found dead in her home in the Sangaree area Wednesday. Authorities say she had been beaten to death.

Hilton's 39-year-old husband Shon Hilton was arrested later Wednesday on federal property near Fort Stewart, Georgia. Cochran says Hilton is being held on unrelated federal charges and is being charged with murder in South Carolina. It was not immediately known if Hilton had an attorney. Cochran says the slaying resulted from a domestic dispute.

Associated Press: 2 plead guilty in Charlotte in death of Lake Wylie couple

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=EplYcty7](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=EplYcty7)

SC State Wire

Federal prosecutors in Charlotte say two men have pleaded guilty in the deaths of a couple in Lake Wylie, South Carolina, in order to avoid a possible death sentence. A statement from U.S. Attorney Jill Westmoreland Rose said 24-year-old Jamell Lamon Cureton and 23-year-old Malcolm Jarrel Hartley pleaded guilty Wednesday to murder and other charges. They will be sentenced later. Prosecutors say the men were members of the United Blood Nation gang and were charged with killing Doug and Debbie London at their home in 2014. Prosecutors say the couple was killed to prevent them from testifying against two other gang members who had robbed their store in Pineville. Twelve people accused of being gang members have been indicted. Seven have signed plea agreements and agreed to cooperate with prosecutors.

Post and Courier: Ex-officer who resigned under suspicion now teaching at Cane Bay police academy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929826/ex-officer-who-resigned-under-suspicion-now-teaching-at-cane-bay-police-academy>

Andrew Knapp

A cloud of suspicion hovered over Peter Wright's career when he left law enforcement more than a decade ago. The policeman resigned after Summerville internal investigators questioned whether he had lied about getting shot while fighting a suspect. A prosecutor also noted a "disturbing" pattern over his career of getting injured in encounters with shadowy suspects, all of whom got away. Wright said in his resignation letter that he needed to get out of that line of work. "I'm just trying to put all this stuff behind me," he wrote. In the 13 years that followed, Wright made a sort of comeback. He helped care for his three children while earning degrees in history and criminal justice, his father said. This year he landed a full-time job as teacher for Cane Bay High School's new law enforcement academy.

Post and Courier: Locals calling for removal of Jamestown police chief following Facebook controversy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929821/locals-calling-for-removal-of-jamestown-police-chief-following-facebook-controversy>

Derrek Asberry

Many are calling for Jamestown Police Chief Jay High to be fired after he offended a woman on Facebook by asking if she was a single mom and posting other comments she believes had racist and sexist intent. High said his comments were taken out of context and that he has no plans to resign. "What's that that saying? Once you go black, you're a single mom?" High wrote in a Facebook thread on Monday that included three women. One of the women, Lainey Sanders, said she was trying to diffuse an online argument with the two other women when High jumped in. Sanders, who goes by Lolo Velasquez on Facebook, responded by telling High that his comments weren't true.

Sun News: Former Horry County Police officers to be arraigned Oct. 4

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article103397642.html>

Audrey Hudson

Four former Horry County police officers who were indicted by a grand jury for misconduct will be arraigned Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. in the Horry County Courthouse, according to Hayley Thrift Bledsoe, spokeswoman for the S.C. Attorney General office. Allen Large, Luke Green, Todd Cox and Daryl Williams were indicted last week by a grand jury on multiple charges. The state Attorney General's office is prosecuting the cases in which Large faces five counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and six counts of misconduct in office, which combined carries a maximum jail sentence of 110 years. The indictments say Williams failed to properly investigate 88 cases assigned to him, failed to properly investigate two cases of criminal sexual conduct, two cases of sexual assault and one kidnapping and sexual assault. Williams is also charged with using his county

vehicle and county paid time to work for a separate state agency, the Department of Social Services.

Associated Press: South Carolina chief says sexual misconduct probe concluded  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kiOmg6vL](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kiOmg6vL)

SC State Wire

The new chief of the Horry County Police Department says there will be no additional indictments stemming from allegations of sexual misconduct by former department officers. Chief Joe Hill tells local media outlets that on Monday, his first day on the job, he met with South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Chief Mark Keel. Hill says Keel told him that the SLED investigation into the misconduct has been completed. The state grand jury last week indicted four former department officers alleging they coerced women into sex or ignored nearly 100 cases they were supposed to be investigating. Several women have also filed lawsuits against the department.

The State: SRO found guilty in sexual assault of middle school student, to register as sex offender

<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article103401947.html>

Jane Moon Dial

A former school resource officer in the Lowcountry was found guilty of sexually violating a student and will have to register as a sex offender, according to officials. After a three-day trial, a jury found Larry Heyward guilty Wednesday of third degree criminal sexual conduct, engaging in a lewd act with a minor and misconduct in office by a public official, according to a news release from Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor Duffie Stone's office. Circuit Court Judge Thomas Cooper sentenced the 55-year-old former Hampton County sheriff's deputy to 15 years in prison. Cooper reportedly handed down the maximum sentence for each charge. Heyward will also have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life, the release stated.

The State: Mother confronts son's 'bullies' on school bus, assaults student, officials say

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article103473332.html>

Jane Moon Dial

An Eastover woman who claimed her son was being bullied was arrested after she allegedly boarded a school bus and pinched and grabbed a student, officials reported. Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance on a school bus at the 200 block of Lewis Scott Court in Eastover around 8 a.m. Thursday, according to a news release from the Richland County Sheriff's Department. Deputies arrested Princess Killingsworth, 30, at the scene. Deputies believe there was an ongoing incident between Killingsworth's son and a few other students. Killingsworth was at a bus stop and was reportedly yelling and using profanity at the students she claimed were bullying her son, according to the release. Once the bus arrived, the students boarded the bus, and Killingsworth followed. The bus driver then put himself between the suspect and the students and convinced her to leave, the release stated.

The State: On probation already, USC fraternity charged with another alcohol violation

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103424147.html>

Avery G. Wilks

One of the two University of South Carolina fraternities placed on probation this fall for alcohol-related misconduct violations is in trouble again – for the same problem. The Chi Psi fraternity at USC was charged Sept. 14 with possessing and consuming alcohol at its on-campus chapter facility before an off-campus social event, according to USC's organizational conduct page. As a result of the latest charge, USC extended the fraternity's conduct probation to May 12, 2017. The incident occurred Sept. 4, six days after Chi Psi was charged with possessing and consuming alcohol at an "alleged party" at its chapter facility in USC's Greek Village. After that incident, the chapter was placed on probation until Dec. 31, 2016.

Island Packet: Moss up for review, stands to get \$40K annuity contribution this year

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article103491777.html>

Rebecca Lurye

The Beaufort County school board will carry out its annual evaluation of superintendent Jeff Moss next month. Board members may begin independently evaluating Moss after their regularly scheduled board meeting Oct.

4, and will meet to discuss their feedback and create one review at a special-called meeting Oct. 6, chairwoman Mary Cordray said at Tuesday's board meeting. The board will schedule another meeting by Oct. 20 at which to present the final evaluation document to the superintendent. The evaluations cover July 1 of the previous year through June 30 of the current year. This year's review includes Moss' conduct from last fall, for which he admitted to two "unintentional and inadvertent" ethics violations this August. However, the board said at the time it would take no further action as a result of the South Carolina Ethics Commission's investigation. Moss' employment and annual salary of \$220,000 are not contingent on a positive evaluation. However, contributions to his annuity plan are, according to his contract. This year, he stands to receive a contribution of 18 percent of his salary by Oct. 31, a total of \$39,600.

The State: Richland 2 black parents group to host board candidates forum

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103450402.html>

Sarah Ellis

The Richland 2 Black Parents Association, which figured prominently in the most recent school board race two years ago, plans to host a candidates forum next month in advance of the November school board elections. A dozen candidates are vying for three at-large seats on the school board, which governs the Midlands' largest school district. In 2014, the Black Parents Association played an outspoken role in a racially charged election season that led to a shake-up in the racial composition of the Richland 2 board. The Black Parents Association has reached out to board candidates to attend the forum that will allow them to interact with parents and the community. The forum will take place Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. at the Love Fellowship Tabernacle Church, 224 O'Neil Court, Unit 5, Columbia. The candidates are: Lindsay Agostini, Anthony Bracy, Henry Counts, Monica Elkins (incumbent), Kay Harvey, Evangelina Hemphill, Bill McCracken, James Mobley, Keith Powell, Jamie Shadd, Shelly Williams and Milton Wright.

Post and Courier: Mount Pleasant councilman: Google's water demands 'threat to public health and safety'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929903/mount-pleasant-councilman-googles-water-demands-threat-to-public-health-and-safety>

David Slade

A proposal to pump up to 1.5 million gallons of water daily from an aquifer in order to cool Google's server farm near Goose Creek and Moncks Corner could imperil the area's drinking water, a town councilman said. "This aquifer is ... a primary source of water supply not only to 80,000 citizens of Mount Pleasant but also the surrounding Charleston County area," said Mark Smith, chairman of the town's Water Supply Committee and an ex-officio Mount Pleasant Waterworks commissioner. The application by Maguro Enterprises — the business name for Google's local operations — calls for pulling potentially 549 million gallons yearly from the aquifer. That's three times the amount it is currently permitted to withdraw. Aquifers are ancient reservoirs of fresh water located deep underground, about 1,600 feet in this case. They provide a source of drinking water but are also tapped for agriculture, irrigation and for use by industry.

Associated Press: Google plan to pump water from aquifer draws opposition

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

SC State Wire

Local officials in South Carolina are worried about a proposal by internet giant Google to draw water from an aquifer to cool a server farm. The Post and Courier of Charleston (<http://bit.ly/2cNsGwz>) reports Google has applied to draw 1.5 million gallons of water a day from the aquifer to cool its servers in Berkeley County. Mount Pleasant Town Councilman Mark Smith says the Google plan is a threat to public health and safety. The town of 80,000 draws about 3.5 million gallons of water a day from the aquifer, a reservoir of fresh water about 1,600 feet underground. Officials with Mount Pleasant Waterworks want Google to review alternatives. Google says it will work with the community. Its consultants say the effect of pumping the water will be minimal.

Sun News: International Drive supporter sued for libeling environmental lawyer

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article103540567.html>

Audrey Hudson

The environmental lawyer leading the legal charge to block construction of International Drive is suing a road supporter, stating that criticisms published on Facebook, in emails and published letters to the editor of The Sun News are libelous. The lawsuit by Amy Armstrong, executive director of the S.C. Environmental Law Project (SCELP), also asked for a restraining order and injunction against Heritage Reserve resident Scott Dilliard to prohibit him from publishing "false, defamatory, or threatening statements" about the group or its director. Both the restraining order and injunction were granted Tuesday by 15th Judicial Circuit Judge Roger Henderson in Georgetown. Dilliard, who lives near International Drive, is a vocal supporter of the road's construction and against lawsuits filed by SCELPA in state and federal courts on behalf of the Coastal Conservation League and S.C. Wildlife Federation.

Sun News: Surfside files to dismiss lawsuit from disgruntled homeowners

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article103400422.html>

Chloe Johson

The town of Surfside Beach has filed a motion to dismiss itself from the suit in which local homeowners allege they were misled about flood regulations that affect their property. The motion was filed Tuesday, according to records from the Horry County Public Index. "Plaintiffs have not shown a legal duty owed to the Plaintiffs by the Town of Surfside Beach," according to a copy of the motion obtained by The Sun News. Doug Baxter, one of the attorneys for the town of Surfside Beach, said he could not comment on pending litigation. The case revolves around the home of Julian and Shirley Lazar, who bought a house in Surfside in 2015. The Sun News previously reported that after the purchase, the couple was told the bottom enclosure of the home would have to be ripped out. The electrical systems, heating and cooling and drywall present on the lower level do not comply with flood regulations, according to the town. An attorney for the Lazars could not be reached by phone.

Associated Press: Myrtle Beach's popular oceanfront boardwalk being extended

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QE12QVxa](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QE12QVxa)

SC State Wire

The popular oceanfront boardwalk in Myrtle Beach is being extended by another block. The Sun News of Myrtle Beach reports (<http://bit.ly/2ddsM0x>) that the north end of the boardwalk is being extended past where a developer is putting up a new oceanfront hotel. City planning director Carol Coleman says the new hotel was approved with some zoning exceptions in exchange for a public benefit for the city. The developers of the Hilton property will give the city the money to extend the boardwalk. An oceanfront park will also be built as part of the project. The boardwalk now extends more than a mile along the oceanfront in Myrtle Beach, which is the heart of the state's \$19 billion tourism industry.

Associated Press: Initial approval for hotel at site of ports office

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pl5DyjfL](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pl5DyjfL)

SC State Wire

A Los Angeles developer has received initial approval for a new luxury hotel on the Charleston waterfront where the South Carolina Ports Authority has its offices. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/2dhmYPv>) that a city zoning board approved the plan for the 225-room hotel Wednesday. Lowe Enterprises hopes to have the hotel open in four years. The project still needs several other approvals, including a green light from the city's Board of Architectural Review. The Ports Authority is selling the property and moving its headquarters to the Wando Terminal in Mount Pleasant to be closer to port operations. The authority headquarters have been in the downtown building for about 40 years.

Post and Courier: Charleston airport adopts new handicapped parking policy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929797/charleston-airport-adopts-new-handicapped-parking-policy>

Warren L. Wise

Handicapped patrons at Charleston International will be allowed to park free for 48 hours at the airport before being charged standard rates under a policy change approved Thursday. In a unanimous vote, the Charleston County Aviation Authority adopted the measure in an effort to crack down on suspected abuses of

what is now a free service. The change takes effect Nov. 1, when higher overall parking fees at the airport will kick in.

Authority Chairman Billy Swails called the two-day policy a good compromise. Some board members voiced concerns this month about a proposal to eliminate free parking entirely for handicapped travelers. "We are giving them premium parking spaces right next to the front of the terminal," airport CEO Paul Campbell said.

Morning News: Marion County job investment in shambles as CEO charged in \$30 million fraud scheme  
[http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article\\_2c049e12-8101-11e6-8841-9f7ba0bb3911.html](http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_2c049e12-8101-11e6-8841-9f7ba0bb3911.html)

Naeem McFadden

In March 2013, a Miami-based global resources company announced the largest initial investment in Marion County -- a \$54 million rice repackaging plant promising to employ at least 215 people over the course of five years to package imported rice and manufacture diapers at the old Blumenthal Mills property. After months of anticipation, it's now apparent the deal is in shambles. The former Chief Executive Officer of Essex Holdings, Inc. Navin Shankar Subramaniam Xavier was charged with two separate fraud schemes totaling more than \$30 million, according to a press release from the United States Attorney's Office Southern District of Florida. The first scheme involved nearly 100 investors who purportedly purchased interests in sugar transportation and iron ore mining in Chile. The second scheme involved unlawfully obtaining economic development funds from the State of South Carolina. Wifredo A. Ferrer, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and George L. Piro, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Miami Field Office, made the announcement last week.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Deplorable? Trump more so than Clinton, AP-GfK poll finds

<http://bigstory.ap.org/60cba70fd1b94135ba5978fcf74d4b5c>

Lisa Lerer and Emily Swanson

It was supposed to be her "47 percent" moment. When Hillary Clinton said that half of Donald Trump's supporters belonged in a "basket of deplorables," Republicans thought they just might have found her campaign-crushing blunder. The gaffe, they hoped, was a way to cement an image as an out-of-touch snob, just as Democrats did four years ago to Mitt Romney after he said "47 percent" of voters backed President Barack Obama because they were "dependent on government." But a new Associated Press-GfK poll finds that Clinton's stumble didn't have quite the impact that Trump and his supporters wanted. Instead, it's Trump who's viewed as most disconnected and disrespectful. Sixty percent of registered voters say he does not respect "ordinary Americans," according to the poll. That's far more than the 48 percent who say the same about Clinton.

Associated Press: Trump debate challenge: Keeping his cool if Clinton attacks

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ee6341b04a5942268b94832123c9ec19>

Julie Pace

Donald Trump's advisers are urging him to keep his cool during next week's presidential debate and resist attempts by Hillary Clinton to provoke him with questions about his business record, wealth or controversial comments about minorities. The focus underscores the campaign's concern that too many Americans still don't believe the Republican has the temperament to be president, which could be a difference-maker in a close race with Clinton. "He can't let Hillary get under his skin," said Newt Gingrich, the former House speaker and Trump adviser. Gingrich is part of a rotating cast of politicians and policy experts traveling with Trump on his private plane for mid-flight debate preparations, according to Republicans familiar with the preparations. Others include retired Lt. Gen. Mike Flynn, who is advising Trump on national security, and economist Peter Navarro. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, a loyal Trump supporter, has been helping on issues such as the federal government's relationship with the states.

Associated Press: The Latest: Trump Jr. says Skittles tweet was about risk

<http://bigstory.ap.org/71686d08d9dc4864940dcd953007e8>

Donald Trump Jr. says he was being straightforward and not dabbling in "microaggression" when he compared

Syrian refugees to a bowl of poisoned Skittles candy in a tweet earlier this week. The eldest son of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump said Thursday in Boise, Idaho, that he's surprised by the reaction because he viewed the post as raising concern about properly vetting people coming to the United States. He said it takes a special type a person to find a message that isn't there. Trump Jr. tweeted a picture of a bowl of Skittles with the warning: "If I had a bowl of skittles and I told you just three would kill you, would you take a handful?" Monday's tweet went on: "That's our Syrian refugee problem." Roughly 20 people holding signs and Skittles protested outside the event in Boise, which has more Syrian refugees than Los Angeles and New York City combined.

Associated Press: Clinton yukks it up 'Between Two Ferns'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5ebeef7886c34d43b50f58f3b0ebf7bc>

Ken Thomas

Hillary Clinton fielded oddball questions on power ties, pant suits and the Scott Baio vote on the online comedy program, "Between Two Ferns." The interview with comedian Zack Galifianakis appeared on the Funny or Die website Thursday. Among Galifianakis' questions was whether she ever watched Donald Trump and thought, "I should be more racist." Clinton just shook her head, smiling. "I really regret doing this," Clinton deadpanned at one point during the tongue-and-cheek interview. Galifianakis' popular online program generated more than 35 million views when President Barack Obama appeared on it in 2014 while he was encouraging young people to sign up for the Affordable Care Act. The latest interview comes as Clinton has been courting young voters in her campaign against Trump.

National News:

Associated Press: Tulsa, Oklahoma, police officer charged in man's death

<http://bigstory.ap.org/14ce6ee113ff47f894fb1e7e3fcb3892>

Justin Juozapavicius and Sean Murphy

Prosecutors charged a white Oklahoma police officer with first-degree manslaughter Thursday, less than a week after she fatally shot an unarmed black man on a city street and just days after police released graphic videos, saying in court documents that the officer "reacted unreasonably." Tulsa County District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler charged Tulsa officer Betty Shelby in the Sept. 16 shooting death of 40-year-old Terence Crutcher. Kunzweiler said arrangements were being made for Shelby's surrender. Shelby "reacted unreasonably by escalating the situation from a confrontation with Mr. Crutcher, who was not responding to verbal commands and was walking away from her with his hands held up, becoming emotionally involved to the point that she over reacted," according to an affidavit filed with the charge.

Associated Press: Kansas AG questions feds' \$26K in spending on Gitmo surveys

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d158e35f70e74659809ee9721bf74683>

Kansas' attorney general has released a document showing that the U.S. Department of Defense spent nearly \$26,000 surveying potential sites last year for housing terror suspects now held in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Republican Attorney General Derek Schmidt says he's concerned the federal agency may have violated a prohibition from Congress on spending federal money to move the prisoners to U.S. soil. Fort Leavenworth, an Army base in Kansas, was among the sites surveyed. Local and state officials strongly oppose moving detainees there. In a letter Thursday to Kansas' congressional delegation, Schmidt said he obtained the one-page report after filing a federal lawsuit in July seeking documents related to the Obama administration's plan to move detainees. Defense Department spokeswoman Lt. Col. Valerie Henderson says the agency doesn't comment on ongoing lawsuits.

Associated Press: Fishermen who fled slavery in San Francisco sue boat owner

<http://bigstory.ap.org/753c13460d5b40b9a0eed67ffd3e1014>

Martha Mendoza

Two Indonesian fishermen who escaped slavery aboard a Honolulu-based tuna and swordfish vessel when it docked at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf are suing the boat's owner for tricking them into accepting dangerous jobs they say they weren't allowed to leave. Attorneys for Abdul Fatah and Sorihin, who uses one

name, say in a lawsuit filed in federal court Thursday that they were recruited in Indonesia seven years ago to work in Hawaii's commercial fishing fleet without realizing they would never be allowed onshore. They have since been issued visas for victims of human trafficking and are living in the San Francisco area. The lawsuit alleges that San Jose, California, resident Thoai Nguyen, owner and captain of the Sea Queen II, forced Sorihin and Fatah to work up to 20-hour shifts, denied them medical treatment and demanded thousands of dollars if they wanted to leave before their contracts expired. Nguyen did not return calls seeking comment.

World News:

Associated Press: Kerry admits Syrian diplomacy at impasse after truce's end

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3cfc398e951a4cdd93269db580c00bdf>

Matthew Lee

Secretary of State John Kerry says the current trajectory of efforts to work out a diplomatic solution for Syria can't continue after the collapse of the cease-fire and the Syrian government's announcement of a new offensive on Aleppo. Kerry says the U.S. will continue pushing for a negotiated truce and political transition that can end five years of war. But he says Washington cannot be successful alone, and needs Syria's government and its chief backer, Russia, to do their part. Kerry says, "We can't go out to the world and say we have an agreement when we don't." He spoke Thursday after meeting with the top diplomats of Russia and more than a dozen European and Arab countries.

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