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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Forbes: A Third-Generation Bike Business Is Trying To Bring Manufacturing Back To The U.S.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestreptalks/2016/07/28/a-third-generation-bike-business-is-trying-to-bring-manufacturing-back-to-the-u-s/#177531951969>

Forbes Welcome

www.forbes.com

Forbes Welcome page -- Forbes is a global media company, focusing on business, investing, technology, entrepreneurship, leadership, and lifestyle.

Amy Feldman

Nearly two years ago, Kent International CEO Arnold Kamler opened a bicycle factory in Manning, S. C., the first major bike plant built in the U.S. in decades. Bike makers, including Kent, one of the nation's largest with revenues of more than \$200 million, fled this country for Asia in the 1980s and 1990s. Kent makes mass-market bikes, most of which sell for \$69 to \$199, at Walmart, Target, Toys R Us and Amazon. Kamler, 66, says that when he left the U.S. in 1991, he thought he'd never come back. But times changed as Walmart – which accounts for roughly half the more than 15 million bikes sold in this country – pushed its “buy American” campaign and the costs of manufacturing in China kept rising. For now, Kent's Bicycle Corporation of America division is assembling the bikes in South Carolina, but Kamler hopes long-term to manufacture the frames, forks and handlebars in the U.S. as well. In a conversation that's been edited and condensed, I spoke with Kamler about his hopes for the South Carolina factory, his struggle to get parts made in the U.S. and why he bought out Mark Cuban's stake in a balance bike startup that had appeared on “Shark Tank.”

NOTE: Feldman: You didn't think it would happen? **Kamler:** I didn't really think it would, but I'm always willing to consider new possibilities. Then I got an email from the bicycle buyer, and he said, “Arnold would you like to meet the governor of South Carolina, Nikki Haley?” So I had a meeting with Governor Haley, and she's very dynamic, a salesman's salesman. We were talking for a few minutes, and she looks at me and says, “Arnold, we have an airplane factory in South Carolina and a couple of car factories and truck tire factories. I want to tell the kids we have a bike factory in South Carolina.” And then she wrote down her cellphone number.

The State: Millions in tax credits available in SC school-choice program

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article92467232.html>

Jamie Self

More than \$7 million in S.C. tax credits are up for grabs in the state's private-school choice program. Taxpayers are eligible for the credits if they donate to a state program to help children with disabilities

pay private-school tuition or if they pay that tuition out of their own pocket. As of Thursday, a new nonprofit, recently formed by the state, had received about \$3.8 million in donations for the school-choice grants. Taxpayers who donate to the nonprofit can claim a tax credit reducing their state taxes owed by up to 60 percent. The state offers up to \$10 million in credits for donations to the program. The state also is offering \$2 million in credits to taxpayers who pay private-school tuition out of pocket for children with disabilities. As of Thursday, taxpayers had claimed about \$790,000 in those credits. **NOTE:** Senate Finance chairman Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, appoints two members with the advice of the S.C. Independent Schools Association. And Gov. Nikki Haley appoints one member with input from the Palmetto Association of Christian Schools. The board still must appoint an executive director who will drive fundraising efforts.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Trump transition tests outsider's governing ability

<http://bigstory.ap.org/daf85bc5a2f84201916f5175c23ea349>

Steve Peoples

His status as a presidential nominee barely a week old, Donald Trump is already tasked with assembling a complex transition team capable of hiring thousands of high-level government officials and crafting a detailed policy agenda should he win the presidency. It's a herculean task that will test the limits of Trump in particular, a political outsider who, thus far, has struggled to attract experienced talent to his presidential campaign. Experienced officials warn that the safety and economic security of the nation depends on both White House contenders aggressively preparing for the transition to a new presidency in the coming weeks, even as they intensify their political operations for the three-month sprint to Election Day. The New York billionaire has shrugged off recent political stumbles that were created, in large part, by extraordinary understaffing and inexperience within his bare bones organization. Yet there is less room for error as the responsibility shifts from winning an election to governing the world's most powerful nation.

Associated Press : Computers hacked at Democrats' House campaign committee

<http://bigstory.ap.org/55c4bed542044613aba514caf7ed1d3f>

Alan Farm

The computers of the House Democratic campaign committee have been hacked, an intrusion that investigators say resembles the recent cyber breach of the Democratic National Committee for which the Russian government is the leading suspect. The digital break-in at the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which the organization acknowledged Friday, added another layer of mystery to the hacking of Democratic Party information that has been revealed in the heat of this year's presidential and congressional elections. Details were initially unclear about exactly who tapped into the computers and which information was accessed at the congressional campaign committee, which raises money and provides other assistance for Democratic House candidates. Spokeswoman Meredith Kelly said the committee was "the target of a cybersecurity incident" and was informed by investigators "that this is similar to other recent incidents, including the DNC breach."

The State: After DNC leak, Snowden says WikiLeaks shouldn't dump emails

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article92579912.html>

Bristow Marchant

WikiLeaks, the online organization that publicized the hacked emails from the Democratic National Committee, is taking criticism from an unexpected source - NSA leaker Edward Snowden. Snowden

tweeted his displeasure with WikiLeaks after the site posted thousands of emails stolen from the Democratic National Committee, – apparently leaked by Russian agents as an attempt to influence the U.S. presidential election, as reported by The Hill. WikiLeaks shot back at Snowden after his tweet, accusing him of looking for a way home from his current self-imposed exile in Russia, where Snowden is avoiding federal prosecution for his leak of information from the U.S. National Security Agency. “Opportunism won’t earn you a pardon from Clinton & curation is not censorship of ruling party cash flows,” it replied.

The State: SC delegate’s takeaway from convention: Love others

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article92569822.html>

Beverly Frierson

As my sister and I prepare to leave Philadelphia, I keep thinking about the simple concept of love. At every breakfast caucus, speakers emphasized biblical imperatives: loving others, caring for the least of these, and feeding the poor. At the convention, the power of “we” was emphasized. Recall the banners and chants of “Stronger Together.” All of these positive words and phrases, all of the shouts of elation, all of the goodwill can be as elusive as a puff of smoke if we are not committed to that which is stated in 2 Chronicles 7:14: “If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” Rev. Jesse Jackson inserted that passage in his message to the convention earlier in the week. But look at what is required for our nation to be healed. Are we humble? Do we even want to turn from our wicked ways? Turning the concept of love into reality requires us to examine our words and actions. It requires radical transformation because loving ain’t easy, ya’ll. Delaine is packing up as we prepare to leave the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection. The Frierson sisters are change makers. What about you?

Post and Courier: Five South Carolina takeaways from the Democratic convention

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160729/160729349/five-south-carolina-takeaways-from-the-democratic-convention>

Emma Dumain

South Carolina Democrats withstood sweltering heat, scattered thunderstorms and dense crowds to attend the Democratic National Convention and nominate the first woman to lead a major political party ticket. For many members of the Palmetto State contingent who backed Hillary Clinton in her 2008 bid against President Barack Obama, it was an affirming and deeply emotional event. For others, the week was about the experience of supporting Clinton for the very first time, or coming around to the Democratic nominee after Bernie Sanders’ exit from the campaign trail. Here are five South Carolina takeaways from the past five days: 1. Even Democrats have dysfunction. 2. South Carolina has stars. 3. Jaime Harrison for DNC chair? 4. South Carolina is still ‘first in the South.’ 5. Could South Carolina go blue?

Sun News: Growing number, influence of Hispanics in US shows during recent conventions

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/bob-bestler/article92618162.html>

Bob Bestler

During last week’s Republican Convention, Kentucky State Sen. Ralph Alvarado said a few Spanish phrases during a speech to delegates. A few days later, Sen. Tim Kaine, who is fluent in the language, also spoke a few Spanish phrases when he was introduced as Hillary Clinton’s vice presidential running mate. It seemed no more than a recognition of the many Hispanic citizens among us, but the whole thing was too much for conservative CNN political commentator Scottie Nell

Hughes. Donald Trump, she said, “spoke in a language all Americans can understand -- and that is English. The Institute of Cervantes, a non-profit organization created by Spain in 1991 to promote the Spanish language and culture around the world, reported recently that last year the United States surpassed Spain as the second largest Spanish speaking country in the world, after Mexico. It counted 41 million natural Spanish-speaking people and 11 million who have learned the language. Those stunning statistics further demonstrate the growing number and influence of Hispanics in our midst and no one should be surprised when signs and phone instructions are given in both English and Spanish - or when a political speaker from either party takes note of that important part of the electorate.

WIS: So, can you write in a candidate for president on a South Carolina ballot?

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32573792/so-can-you-write-in-a-candidate-for-president-on-a-south-carolina-ballot>

Jeremy Turnage

As Democrats and Republicans put forth two candidates that many of you do not like, you might be wondering if you can write in a candidate for president on your ballot come this November. Well, according to state law, you can't. State election laws state the following when it comes to writing in a candidate for political office instead of picking one of the registered candidates for president. "The ballots shall also contain a place for voters to write in the name of any other person for whom they wish to vote except on ballots for the election of the President and Vice President." So, if you're looking to register your disappointment in presidential and vice presidential choices this election year, you're not going to be able to write in Mickey Mouse for president and Donald Duck as his running mate. That said, you have at least four choices for president-vice president tickets in South Carolina...

SC Political News:

The State: Pokemon “No” at SC State House as pokestops disappear

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article92630202.html>

Bristow Marchant

South Carolina's State House has gone from Pokemon Go to Pokemon No. Users of the popular Pokemon Go virtual reality game were upset to learn the game's "pokestops" appear to have been removed from the grounds of the SC State House, forcing players to hunt Pikachu and Jigglypuff somewhere else. The State House had gained a reputation as a Pokemon hot spot after the game launched earlier this month. As late as last Saturday, a “Pokemon Go Walk” around the State House was organized on Facebook. On Friday, both the S.C. Department of Administration and the Department of Public Safety said their agencies had not requested the game's developer, Niantic, have the pokestops removed. An email requesting comment from the game developer had not been answered. Haile said other pokestops in the downtown area are still where they were before, and Pokemon could still be located at the State House. But without the pokestops – where players can load up on pokeballs and set “lures” to attract the digital creatures – the State House may no longer be the hangout for players it once was. “It's very irritating if somebody was bothered by it,” she said. “If it brings people to your State House, just let it happen.”

SC Agency News:

Greenville News: DOT corruption probe ongoing, department chairman says

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/07/29/dot-corruption-probe-ongoing-department-chairman-says/87709902/>

Tim Smith

The chairman of the state Department of Transportation confirmed Friday that a corruption investigation of the agency is ongoing but said he welcomes it. State Attorney General Alan Wilson announced Thursday that three former DOT officials were indicted by a state grand jury on corruptions charges but his office and a spokesman for the State Law Enforcement Division declined to say if the probe was ongoing. DOT Chairman Mike Wooten told The Greenville News Friday that it is and that DOT officials were the ones who brought law enforcement in to investigate the matter. He said he welcomed the investigation. "I think that any criminal needs to be caught and prosecuted, period," Wooten said. "I welcome the investigation and think it's a good thing. An organization the size of this, you're going to get a few bad apples. The quicker you find them and sort them out, the better for the whole organization." The three former DOT officials are accused in the indictments of accepting bribes, kickbacks or benefiting unlawfully from their positions. One former official allegedly was paid \$360,000 over the years by a company he had a secret ownership interest in and which did business with the DOT division the official headed.

NOTE: He said he believes the probe started while current Secretary Christy Hall was a deputy. Hall was made deputy secretary in 2011 and named by Gov. Nikki Haley as transportation secretary in November of last year.

Associated Press: Emergency repairs to close lane of I-26 east near Newberry

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4lgz0xcD

SC State Wire

The South Carolina Department of Transportation says it will need to close a lane on the main route from the Upstate to Columbia for emergency repairs to a bridge in Newberry County. Officials said in a news release that one eastbound lane of Interstate 26 near mile marker 81 east of Newberry will be closed starting at 8 p.m. Sunday. Crews hope to finish the work by the following Friday. About 42,000 vehicles drive on that part of I-26 each day. Workers will be making emergency repairs to the deck of the bridge that crosses the Palmetto Trail. Several other bridges in the state have had to close in the past few years for similar repairs

SC after Police Shootings:

Morning News: Florence residents question law enforcement leaders at forum

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_441d3ede-55a3-11e6-9a60-bfc980980c6b.html

Shamira McCray

Florence County Sheriff Kenney Boone said Thursday evening that he thinks his office and staff have a pretty good relationship with the community, but he knows it can be made better. And he intends to do that. "You know, we hurt just like you hurt. And when things happen across our nation, that reflects on us," Boone said. "And it's not right and it's not good." Having conversations with the community, like the one that was held Thursday in the Rooms R Us parking lot, is important, he said. Florence businessman and pastor Tony McElveen hosted the outdoor forum at his store to provide the community an opportunity to have a dialogue with Florence County leaders. Boone, Captain George Mack of the Florence Police Department, South Carolina Highway Patrol Captain Joe Nell, Municipal Judge Linward Edwards and Florence Police Chief Allen Heidler were all panelists at the forum. The Rev. Parish Brown moderated. Over 85 community members attended the forum, and several asked the panelists questions or voiced their concerns about relationships involving law enforcement. People sought information about hands-on training for interacting with police, where to send

homeless individuals, services offered to law enforcements following tragedies and other situations they may face and whether it is OK for drivers to travel to a safe location when a cop is behind them and trying to perform a traffic stop. Several other concerns were also raised.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Local health experts believe S.C. mosquitoes will eventually spread Zika

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160729/160729341/local-health-experts-believe-sc-mosquitoes-will-eventually-spread-zika>

Lauren Sausser

Following Friday's announcement that mosquitoes in South Florida have likely acquired the Zika virus, a spokesman for the South Carolina health department acknowledged that insects in the Palmetto State may eventually spread the disease here, too. "There is a chance that some species could one day transmit the virus in our local communities," said Robert Yanity, a spokesman for the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. "That is why we have been preparing and implementing our Zika action plan for months." In fact, Dwight Williams, a local entomologist, said the possibility that mosquitoes in South Carolina will acquire the virus is "very likely." "In this case, it's probably going to travel with people, coming into the state who are infected and then passing it along to the mosquito," Williams said. The Zika virus is primarily transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, which lives in South Carolina and in several other states. The virus poses the greatest threat to pregnant women.

Associated Press: State's hurricane history changed as 1959's Gracie now Cat 4

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=y1XpbvPg

Jeffrey Collins

Scientists reviewing old weather data recently changed South Carolina's hurricane history, making Hurricane Gracie in 1959 only the third Category 4 storm in 165 years to strike the state. That means Gracie, which made landfall near Beaufort, joins Hurricane Hazel near Myrtle Beach in 1954 and Hurricane Hugo near Charleston in 1989 in the Category 4 club. South Carolina has never been hit by a Category 5, which is the strongest hurricane on the wind speed-based Saffir-Simpson scale. Gracie's upgrade came as National Hurricane Center researchers review the entire database of storms in the Atlantic Ocean going back to 1851, said Chris Landsea, science and operations officer at the center. The team is working its way toward 2000 and released its report earlier this week. Landsea's team reviewed data from hurricane hunter aircraft, which flew into Gracie's eye about an hour before landfall on Sept. 30, 1959, as well as the sparse data from weather instruments along the coast. They concluded through mathematical formulas and earlier research into other hurricanes that Gracie's top sustained winds were 130 mph instead of the old mark of 125 mph, just bumping the storm from a Category 3 to a Category 4.

The State: Spurrier explains joining Florida as an ambassador and consultant

<http://www.thestate.com/sports/college/university-of-south-carolina/usc-football/article92568142.html>

David Clininger

Columbia has been his home since 2005, but when the invitation to return to another home arrived, Steve Spurrier couldn't say no. "Florida's my alma mater, and we have a beach place about an hour from there," Spurrier said on Friday. "I'm looking forward to getting back." South Carolina's winningest coach has agreed to take a role with the Florida athletic department, the Gators announced on Friday. He will be an ambassador and consultant, a similar role to one he took at USC. Spurrier confirmed the switch to The State. He met with athletic director Ray Tanner on Friday. "I talked to

coach Tanner a little bit earlier,” Spurrier said. “I basically resigned today. I am not employed by the University of South Carolina. I will be employed by Florida today or tomorrow.” Spurrier signed a contract in 2013 to serve as an ambassador for the Gamecocks after leaving coaching. After resigning in the middle of the 2015 season, he began his new role in January, earning \$100,000 per year.

Post and Courier: Former Gamecocks coach Steve Spurrier returning to Florida as ambassador, consultant

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160729/160729344/former-gamecocks-coach-steve-spurrier-returning-to-florida-as-ambassador-consultant>

David Caraviello

Steve Spurrier is heading home. The former South Carolina football coach has taken a position as ambassador and consultant to the Florida athletic department, the Gators announced Friday. Spurrier was a Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback at the school and won the 1996 national championship in a long and successful tenure as Florida’s head coach. “My wife Jerri and I are extremely excited to be returning home to our alma mater, and to Gainesville where we met on campus 50 years ago,” said Spurrier, who was appointed to the position by Gators athletic director Jeremy Foley. “I also want to say thanks to the University of South Carolina for allowing me to be their coach from 2005 to 2015. Also a special thanks to all the Gamecocks players, coaches and fans that allowed our teams to set so many school records,” Spurrier added in a release. “I will now pull for South Carolina to win every game but one, just as I did when I pulled for Florida to win every game but one as Gamecocks coach. I will try my best to promote and assist in any way I can to help the Gators continue to be one of the very best athletic programs in America.”

Local News:

Sun News: Tourism sales tax tightrope leaves North Myrtle Beach leaning toward referendum

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/business/tourism/article92594977.html>

Chloe Johnson

North Myrtle Beach City Council attempted to balance the input of residents and its relationship with the local chamber of commerce in a workshop Friday as it decided to defer to a referendum on the matter of passing a 1 percent sales tax for tourism advertising. The issue, the center of discussions between council and the North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce for months, was raised in a May 5 letter from chamber board member Bill Grist. The chamber requested that council pass the additional 1 percent sales tax, sometimes referred to as a Tourism Development Fee, by a supermajority of five members of the panel. Instead, the council will now send a letter to the chamber denying that request. Mayor Marilyn Hatley said it is too late to add an issue to the November ballot, and that the tax would likely go up for a referendum in January or February. “I think we would do a special election for that,” Hatley told The Sun News. “Let the people speak.”

Associated Press: No thanks, we prefer walking: SC island opposes pedicabs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=990Ti3sM

SC State Wire

Town leaders on upscale Sullivans Island say they oppose pedicabs, or large tricycles in which paying customers ride in back, as an alternate means of transportation. Pedicabs are allowed in nearby Charleston but island Mayor Pat O’Neil tells The Post and Courier (<http://bit.ly/2axQHVz>) he’s worried about narrow streets and public safety. He says a regular bike can get out of the way quickly for an emergency vehicle but a pedicab can’t. Town Administrator Andy Benke said the island’s small

parking district is congested and walking to the beach is part of the island's active lifestyle. Seth Abramson of Daniel Island Bike Taxi has launched a petition to allow the pedicabs. He hopes to get at least half of the island's 1,600 registered voters to sign.

Post and Courier: Trident announces \$13.5M project for ER expansion, other upgrades

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160729/160729351/trident-announces-135m-project-for-er-expansion-other-upgrades>

Lauren Sausser

Trident Health will spend \$13.5 million to expand its emergency department and build two new operating rooms in North Charleston, the hospital system announced Friday. In a press release about the project, Trident Health CEO Todd Gallati said "patient and physician demand" necessitated the expansion. "This year we expect to care for more than 65,000 patients in our Trident ER and perform more than 4,000 surgeries," he said. The investment will also allow Trident to buy new CT scan imaging technology, and to expand and renovate its outpatient services registration area and the post-anesthesia care unit. Dr. Karen Kriza, medical director of Trident Emergency Services, said earlier this year that the expansion was stalled for months by competitors who opposed the proposal. South Carolina's Certificate of Need regulation — commonly called CON — allows other hospitals to protest such projects.

Associated Press: Dealing with the Dry: Disaster loans for Oconee County

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

SC State Wire

The federal Small Business Administration is making loans available in drought-stricken Oconee County in northwestern South Carolina. The agency says in a new release that economic disaster loans are available to small businesses, agricultural cooperatives, nonprofits and businesses engaged in aquaculture. The agency does not provide loans directly to farmers. The loans are available for up to \$2 million at interest rates of 2.6 percent or 4 percent. Rainfall in the northwestern corner of the state has been about a third of normal in recent weeks. The U.S. Drought Monitor classifies Abbeville, Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties as being in a severe to extreme drought.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg's homeless find help beating the heat

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160729/articles/160729681>

Zach Fox

A small gash just above Matthew Dority's eye proves how dangerous the summertime heat can be in Spartanburg. Dority, a homeless man, passed out at the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen after walking roughly four miles in the 90-plus-degree heat Wednesday afternoon. "I felt like I was going to throw up," he said. "Next thing you know, I did a face-plant." The Soup Kitchen, along with Miracle Hill Rescue Mission and the Spartanburg County Headquarters Library, are places homeless Spartanburg residents go to beat the heat with air conditioning and water. "Don't stay out in the elements. We're full in the mission because people want to get out of the heat almost as bad as they want to get out of the cold," said Calvin Vinson, director of Miracle Hill. "I think we've learned the heat can be just as deadly as the cold can, sometimes, even more so." Vinson said during the summer, homeless residents are welcome in the mission to get some relief from the heat, as well as spend some time in air conditioning.

Associated Press: Hot controversy: Charleston to review carriage horse rules

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=G2vQl5os

SC State Wire

Charleston will review city rules on the treatment of carriage horses and mules after receiving dozens of complaints about the animals working in the heat this summer. Dan Riccio the director of the city's Department of Livability and Tourism tells The Post and Courier (<http://bit.ly/2a7LNKP>) the city received about 50 complaints in June and July in a year when the weather has been hotter than usual. Riccio said the committee will evaluate whether the temperature at which the animals are now pulled from the street is too high and whether the loads they pull are too heavy. Carriage horses in Charleston, as well as in Savannah, Georgia, now are now pulled from the street when the temperature reaches 98 degrees or when the heat index reaches 125 degrees. But Riccio said some cities require that horses be brought back to their barns when the temperature reaches 90 degrees.

Associated Press : Alligator removed from pond where elderly woman's body found

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

SC State Wire

Wildlife workers have removed an alligator from a pond near a Charleston nursing home although it's not clear if the creature had anything do with the death of an elderly resident found in the pond earlier this week. Local media outlets report the alligator was removed by Department of Natural Resources workers on Friday morning. It was taken from the same pond near the Brookdale Senior Living Center where the body of 90-year-old Bonnie Walker was found Wednesday afternoon after she was reported missing earlier that day. Charleston County coroner Rae Wooten said earlier it could take six to eight weeks to determine the exact cause of death. She was expected to release more information on the case later Friday.

Associated Press: Deputies: Grandmother hears shots, finds grandson dead

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ioEAF1Gz

SC State Wire

Spartanburg County deputies are investigating after a woman said she heard shots and found her grandson dead in the front yard of their home. Sheriff's Lt. Kevin Bobo tells local media outlets that the shooting happened late Wednesday night in Chesnee. County Coroner Rusty Clevenger identifies the victim as 27-year-old Don Russell Turner. Police are investigating the incident as a homicide. No arrests have been made. Authorities say the victim's grandmother was in the backyard of the home and heard shots but did not see anything else.

The State: 5 men wanted in mob assault may have info on shooting death

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article92609017.html>

Jane Moon Dial

Police are searching for five men they believe participated in a mob-style attack and who may also have information about a fatal shooting from earlier this month. The assault reportedly took place July 13 on Marilyn Avenue, according to a news release from Sumter Police Department. A group of men punched the victim in the face and body, the release stated. The victim's injuries were no life-threatening. Police are investigating the reason for the assault. Each of the five men face a charge of third degree assault and battery by a mob. Police are also working to identify a sixth man involved in the assault. The men are also wanted for questioning in the July 15 shooting death of Ante Witherspoon in Sumter. Witherspoon was shot to death near his family's home on Dibert Street.

The State: Who killed Charles Kusko? Daughters seek answers in Columbia homicide case

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article92577667.html>

Cynthia Roldan

Laurin Barnes and Kaitlin Huffstetler still stare at the door during holidays expecting their father to walk through. It's been almost 11 months since Charles Kusko, 48, was killed, and still police have few leads. His daughters want to understand the killer's motives. "For me it's just, why," Huffstetler said. "Why did he choose to take our dad's life, because now he won't be able to see his grandchildren, when we have children. Or walk me down the aisle." The killer, Huffstetler said, not only took Kusko's life, but also a part of his daughters' lives.

Sun News: Sidney Moorer going to jail for violating gag order

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article92599887.html>

Christian Boschult

Sidney Moorer was sentenced to five months in jail Friday for violating a gag order in the Heather Elvis case. The gag order, put in place March 21, 2014 by Judge Steven John, prohibits Moorer, attorneys and others involved in the case from speaking publicly about it. Moorer gave an interview with WBTW News 13 in June on the second day of his trial on the charge of kidnapping 20-year-old Elvis, who went missing in December 2013 and hasn't been found. Judge Markley Dennis Jr. found Moorer to be in contempt of court for giving the interview, during which he alleged that a pregnancy test he had bought was for his wife, not Heather Elvis.

Associated Press: Defendant gets 5 months in jail for talking about his case

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dzZA5b7t

SC State Wire

A man whose kidnapping case ended in a mistrial has been sentenced to five months in jail for talking to the media about his case. Media outlets report that Circuit Judge R. Markley Dennis accepted an apology from Sidney Moorer in court Friday, but still ruled he was in contempt of court for violating his gag order. Moorer spoke to a reporter after the second day of his kidnapping trial in the December 2013 disappearance of then 19-year-old Heather Elvis, who has not been seen since. The jury deadlocked, and prosecutors plan to try Moorer again. Moorer was taken to jail immediately to begin serving his sentence.

National News:

Associated Press: Mosquitoes have apparently begun spreading Zika in U.S.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/63778f53d2e34bbb8c199c859c0d797f>

Mike Schneider and Jennifer Kay

Mosquitoes have apparently begun spreading the Zika virus on the U.S. mainland for the first time, health officials said Friday in a long-feared turn in the epidemic sweeping through Latin America and the Caribbean. Four recently infected people in the Miami area — one woman and three men — are believed to have caught the virus locally through mosquito bites, Gov. Rick Scott said at a news conference. U.S. health officials said they do not expect a widespread outbreak of the sort seen in Brazil and other countries. While officials have long predicted mosquitoes in the continental U.S. would begin spreading Zika this summer, they have also said they expect only isolated clusters of infections. No mosquitoes in Florida have actually been found to be carrying Zika, despite the testing of 19,000 by the state lab. But other methods of Zika transmission, such as travel to a stricken country or sex with an infected person, have been ruled out.

Associated Press: 2 San Diego police officers shot, 1 fatally, in traffic stop

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d3a1d29a14704d40a0a52831eec67d07>

Elliot Spagat and Julie Watson

One San Diego police officer was killed and another was wounded in a shootout following a late-night traffic stop, authorities said Friday. A suspect was wounded and taken into custody a short time later and hours later police surrounded a home as they searched for man described as a possible accomplice. The slain officer, a husband and father of two children, suffered multiple gunshot wounds and died early Friday, Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman said. The other officer underwent surgery and was expected to survive. His wife was at the hospital. The officers, members of the department's gang suppression unit, made the traffic stop around 11 p.m. Thursday in San Diego's blue-collar Southcrest area and were shot in the upper torso. They quickly called for assistance from other officers, and the critically injured officer was rushed to the hospital in a police vehicle.

World News:

Associated Press: Turkey's Erdogan slams US reaction to failed coup

<http://bigstory.ap.org/79008ca114d14d7c9860b236d49e1a64>

Suzan Fraser and Elena Becatoros

Turkey's president slammed the United States on Friday, claiming it was not standing firmly against a failed military coup and accused it of harboring the plot's alleged mastermind, as a government crackdown in the coup's aftermath strained Turkey's ties with key allies. Turkey has demanded the United States extradite Fethullah Gulen, a cleric living in self-imposed exile in Pennsylvania whom it accuses of being behind the violent July 15 coup attempt that left 290 people dead. It is accusing Western nations of not extending sufficient support to its efforts to counter further threats from followers of the Gulen movement, which it says have infiltrated the country's state institutions. Turkey considers Gulen's movement a terrorist organization. Gulen has denied any prior knowledge of the plot and says his movement espouses interfaith dialogue. The United States has asked Turkey for evidence of his involvement, and said the U.S. extradition process must take its course.

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