

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Monday, April 25, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: Gov. Haley testifying before Congress about moving Gitmo detainees to SC
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article73781232.html>

Andy Shain

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will testify Thursday before the U.S. House Homeland Security Committee after the possibility of moving Guantanamo Bay detainees to a Navy brig outside Charleston. Haley has opposed moving the 80 detainees, including accused terrorists, to the facility in Goose Creek, less than 20 miles northwest from one of the state's top tourist destinations. "We're not going to allow that kind of character to come in," the governor said last year.

Note: Haley will speak about "state and local perspectives regarding the impact of transferring Guantanamo detainees to the homeland," according to the House committee.

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley to testify about impact of closing Guantanamo Bay on Capitol Hill Thursday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160425/PC1603/160429613>

Schuyler Kropf

Gov. Nikki Haley will testify in front of Congress' Homeland Security Committee on Thursday about the potential impact to the Charleston region if terror detainees from the Gitmo holding site in Cuba are transferred here. Haley is part of a panel of speakers who will address state and local perspectives about what moving potentially dozens of Guantanamo detainees to the U.S. mainland would mean.

WIS: Gov. Nikki Haley praises workplace training program for ex-convicts

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31810574/gov-nikki-haley-praises-workplace-training-program-for-ex-convicts>

Allie Spillyards

Gov. Nikki Haley is predicting a win-win with a program to put the state's ex-cons to work and find workers for businesses having trouble finding them. Haley met with convicts at the Manning Correctional to highlight its "Work Ready Initiative." The program prepares offenders for careers to better succeed once they get out. Haley says it teaches life skills like punctuality, a strong work ethic, and how to interview well. It also provides training in jobs that have been tough to fill for many years. "What we have to do is make sure we fill the funnel, and we tell these companies, 'Okay. You're saying you can't get enough. Okay. Guess what. We've got them. And if you'll take a chance on them, then we'll keep your funnel full,' and we'll go from there," Haley said.

LGBT Laws:

Associated Press: North Carolina LGBT law spurs demonstrations, repeal bill

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:45bfa6fa60d841f3a5e2436ef20acfa5>

Gary D. Robertson and Jonathan Drew

While demonstrations circled North Carolina's statehouse on Monday, for and against a Republican-backed law curtailing protections for LGBT people and limiting public bathroom access for

transgender people, House Democrats filed a repeal bill that stands little chance of passing. Thousands of Christian conservatives and other supporters of the law known as House Bill 2 gathered on a grassy mall behind the Legislative Building on the opening day of the legislature to praise the mostly Republican legislators and GOP Gov. Pat McCrory for passing the restrictions during a special session last month. "It took great courage for them to establish this bill," said Doug Woods, 82, of Raleigh, a rally attendee. "They need to stand firm."

SC Political News:

Post and Courier: Questioning gets heated during hearing for next S.C. Supreme Court chief justice
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160425/PC1603/160429601>

Maya T. Prabhu

The lone candidate to be the next chief justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court and the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee got into a testy exchange during a public hearing Monday that ended with Associate Justice Donald W. Beatty apologizing and asking his comments be stricken from the record. Beatty and Sen. Larry Martin, R-Pickens, locked horns after discussing comments the judge made at a 2013 solicitors' conference about unethical practices of prosecutors. Martin also questioned Beatty's conference comments on law pending at the time that would have reversed a 2012 court ruling addressing control of the state court system docket. The matter has commonly been referred to as the Langford case.

The Herald: Could Trump lose delegates at Rock Hill convention?

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/politics-government/article73717117.html>

Bristow Marchant

Who represents South Carolina at the quadrennial GOP national convention usually isn't of interest to anyone besides Republican party activists. But as with so many other things about this election, 2016 is different. With the possibility of the first contested convention in decades, which presidential candidate a local Republican delegate will ultimately cast his or her vote for is of great interest to those inside and outside the party. On Thursday, Rock Hill hosts the GOP convention for the Fifth Congressional District, where 126 delegates from across the district's 11 counties will meet to elect three of the state's 50 delegates to this summer's national convention in Cleveland. The convention will be held at 7 p.m. at the Rock Hill Holiday Inn on Galleria Boulevard.

Note: Those delegates, like all of South Carolina's delegation, will be pledged to vote for Donald Trump, the winner of both the district and statewide primary votes last February – but only on the convention's first ballot. If none of the presidential contenders win a majority of votes on the first try, the convention will hold a second ballot where South Carolina and most other delegates will be free to vote for whomever they wish.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: APNewsBreak: Church shooting suspect's friend to plead
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4j6U5TkQ

Meg Kinnard

A friend of the white man accused of fatally shooting nine black parishioners in Charleston last year is set to plead guilty to two federal charges, according to an agreement signed by federal prosecutors and filed online Monday. Joey Meek, 21, has agreed to plead guilty to lying to authorities and failure to report a crime, according to the agreement, and a hearing is set for 1 p.m. Friday in Charleston. He could face up to eight years in prison on those charges, although prosecutors note in the agreement they will argue he deserves less time if he's helpful in their ongoing case.

The State: Roof friend Meek to plead guilty to federal charges in Charleston massacre case
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article73764177.html>

John Monk

Joseph Meek, the friend of accused race killer Dylann Roof, has agreed to plead guilty to two federal charges in connection with last June's Charleston church massacre of nine African-Americans at a downtown church. Specifically, Meek, 21, has agreed to plead guilty to one count of misprision of a felony (concealing information about a crime) and one count of lying to a federal agent, in this case, an FBI agent, according to documents in the case.

Post and Courier: Dylann Roof friend Joey Meek to plead guilty, testify in Charleston church shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160425/PC16/160429599>

Andrew Knapp

Seeking a lighter sentence, a friend of Dylann Roof's has agreed to plead guilty to federal charges and testify against the man accused of the deadly mass shooting at Emanuel AME Church, an agreement stated Monday. Joey Meek, 21, failed to warn authorities of Roof's plot to carry out the alleged hate crime and later lied to agents investigating it, federal officials have said.

The State: Five killed on S.C. roadways over the weekend

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article73735722.html>

South Carolina Department of Public Safety officials said there were five road deaths reported over the weekend. Officials said all five occurred on U.S. routes, S.C. roads and secondary roads. In one of the deaths, officials said a seat belt was used, while two others did not use a seat belt. In two other wrecks, seat belt usage is unknown. As of Sunday, 262 people have died on state highways, compared to 288 highway deaths during the same time period in 2015. Of the 181 motor-vehicle occupants who have died in 2016, 87 were not wearing seat belts. Thirty-six pedestrians have been killed compared to 37 during the same time period in 2015. Twenty-seven motorcyclists have been killed compared to 26 in 2015. Nine bicyclists have died in 2016 compared to eight this time in 2015.

Local News:

Greenville News: Taylors teen charged with stealing gun used to kill officer Jacobs

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/04/25/greenville-allen-jacobs-press-conference/83493044/>

Romando Dixson

A Taylors teenager has been charged with stealing a gun that Deontea Mackey used to shoot and kill Greenville police officer Allen Jacobs. Trystan David Merritt, 17, is charged with unlawful carrying of a pistol, and is being held at the Greenville County Detention Center without bond, according to a warrant and jail records. Merritt was arrested on March 23 by the State Law Enforcement Division. The charge is a misdemeanor and carries a penalty of up to one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine. Merritt is accused of possessing a Glock model 23 .40 caliber pistol that he had stolen from his grandfather, authorities said.

Associated Press: Horry County Police chief retires as investigation continues

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cm05NPgF

SC State Wire

Horry County Police Chief Sandra Rhodes is retiring in less than two weeks. Rhodes made the announcement Monday in a letter to county officials. Rhodes became the first African-American and the first woman to lead the agency in 2012. She had spent two decades with the force, working her way through the ranks as detective. Rhodes' letter gave no reason for her retirement effective May 6, and she wrote she was looking forward to new challenges.

Sun News: Horry County Police Chief Sandra Rhodes steps down

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article73738527.html>

Audrey Hudson

Horry County Police Chief Sandra Rhodes announced Monday she is retiring from her post after

four years at the helm and more than twenty years service with the department. Rhodes is the first African American and female to hold the county post. She did not give a reason for the decision, but said in a statement she was retiring with "great resolution and a strong sense of pride." Rhodes will be replaced by Assistant Police Chief Kelvin Waites, who has been named interim police chief.

Morning News: DEA, Florence Police to hold Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_9ad61318-0b02-11e6-8d8c-675d95141189.html

The Florence Police Department is partnering with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for their National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 30 in order to provide the public with a means of disposing of their prescription drugs. The DEA holds this program nationwide in order to provide communities with a way to discard expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs. This is the eleventh time in six years that the DEA has held this program.

The State: Police: Patient threatened to shoot everyone in Camden hospital

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article73750507.html>

Police arrested a woman who threatened to shoot everyone with an AR-15 at a Camden hospital early Saturday morning. Camden police responded to KershawHealth Medical Center, 1315 Roberts St., around 2 a.m. Saturday morning after receiving reports of a woman who stated she was going to get a gun and come back to the hospital, according to the incident report.

Post and Courier: Charleston airport vendors to add 100+ workers as terminal construction winds down

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160425/PC05/160429622>

Warren L. Wise

Vendors at Charleston International Airport expect to add more than 100 employees once their new concession areas are completed and construction on the nearly \$200 million terminal overhaul is finished in July. Food services provider Delaware North will spend \$8 million to build its bars and restaurants and double its airport workforce to 150, according to spokesman Greg Leonard. Meanwhile, retail services provider Hudson Group will lay out about \$5 million on its concessionaires and hire another 30 employees, according to General Manager Renee Davis. It now employs 30 workers at the airport.

National News:

Associated Press: Cleveland settles lawsuit over Tamir Rice shooting for \$6M

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:afe2c70d06ad4c57930065802e94540f>

Mark Gillispie

The city on Monday reached a \$6 million settlement in a lawsuit over the death of Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old black boy shot by a white police officer while playing with a pellet gun outside a recreation center. An order filed in U.S. District Court in Cleveland said the city will pay out \$3 million this year and \$3 million the next. There was no admission of wrongdoing in the settlement. Family attorney Subodh Chandra called the settlement historic but added: "The resolution is nothing to celebrate because a 12-year-old child needlessly lost his life." The wrongful death suit filed by his family and estate against the city and officers and dispatchers who were involved alleged police acted recklessly when they confronted the boy on Nov. 22, 2014.

Associated Press: Obama boosts Islamic State fight, asks Europe to do the same

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:4fd8b6e12d434a8ab0ef27c0d9b6a20e>

Kathleen Hennessey

Evoking history and appealing for solidarity, President Barack Obama on Monday cast his decision to send 250 more troops to Syria as a bid to keep up "momentum" in the campaign to dislodge Islamic State extremists. He pressed European allies to match the U.S. with new contributions of their own. Obama's announcement of the American troops, which capped a six-day tour to the Middle East and

Europe, reflected a steady deepening of U.S. military engagement, despite the president's professed reluctance to dive further into another Middle East conflict. As Obama gave notice of the move, he said he wanted the U.S. to share the increasing burden. Obama discussed the IS fight with British Prime Minister David Cameron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Francois Hollande and Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi.

Associated Press: At 'campaign crossroads,' rivals defend anti-Trump pact

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:2c7fe3233df943e295454016f2fb6fa3>

Steve Peoples and Will Weissert

Declaring the Republican presidential contest at "a fork in the road," Ted Cruz and John Kasich defended their extraordinary new alliance on Monday as the party's last, best chance to stop Donald Trump, even as the New York billionaire surged toward another big delegate haul. Trump, the Republican front-runner, lashed out at what he called collusion by desperate rivals, intensifying his attacks on the GOP presidential nomination system on the eve of Tuesday's round of primary elections in the Northeast. "If you collude in business, or if you collude in the stock market, they put you in jail," Trump said as he campaigned in Rhode Island.. "But in politics, because it's a rigged system, because it's a corrupt enterprise, in politics you're allowed to collude." "It shows how pathetic they are," he said of his Republican rivals.

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Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044