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**Subject:** Morning Clips – Wednesday, May 25, 2016

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## Morning Clips – Wednesday, May 25, 2016

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: 'The View' hosts gush about Gov. Nikki Haley

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1603/160529608>

Maya T. Prabhu

Hosts of ABC's "The View" on Tuesday turned their conversation about Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's low approval ratings to the relative high marks of Gov. Nikki Haley. The hosts discussed of being a strong woman makes things more difficult for politicians. "There are women in office like Nikki Haley and (Massachusetts Sen.) Elizabeth Warren that have very high approval ratings," Candace Cameron Bure said. "So what is it that they have that Hillary doesn't?" Haley received a 59 percent approval rating among South Carolinians in an April [Winthrop Poll](#). Clinton received a 41 percent favorable rating in a [Washington Post-ABC News poll](#) released earlier this week.

Greenville News: Nikki Haley signs bill to make Conestee park a sanctuary

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2016/05/24/haley-signs-bill-make-park-wildlife-sanctuary/84867004/>

Scott Keeler

As a privately owned park, Lake Conestee Nature Park, has not enjoyed the same protections that state parks automatically have. It got much closer on Tuesday though. Conestee Foundation officials announced that the park has the highest level of protection afforded by state law to a privately owned facility. That protection came when Gov. Nikki Haley signed House Bill 4743, which made the park a Wildlife Sanctuary. Conestee Foundation Executive Director Dr. David Hargett said this sanctuary status provides for the protection and conservation of game, songbirds, waterfowl, fish, amphibians and other animals, and plant life.

### General Assembly News:

Associated Press: House OKs \$2B road borrowing bill liked by Senate and Haley

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=V6i5RZW6](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=V6i5RZW6)

Jeffrey Collins

A bill that would borrow \$2 billion to fix major highways and bridges in South Carolina may have only a short distance left to go. The House voted 102-3 Tuesday to give key approval to a combined bill with both the extra money for roads and a change in the commission that runs the state Department of Transportation. The Senate passed similar proposals separately, and Gov. Nikki Haley has indicated she supports them.

Post and Courier: House approves billions of dollars for roads, reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160524/160529622/house-approves-billions-of-dollars-for-roads-reform>

Cynthia Roldan

The House gave key approval Tuesday to the state's best shot at improving roads this year in a bill that sends reforms and billions of dollars to fix crumbling highways to the state Department of Transportation. Before the vote, several members of the Charleston delegation had a provision removed that prevented money from going toward projects such as the expansion of Interstate 526 in Charleston.

Note: House Speaker Jay Lucas, R-Hartsville, met with Gov. Nikki Haley before the start of the session

Tuesday. Shortly after the meeting, Haley took to social media to proclaim the need for "a roads bill with reform." Reform has been a critical component to get more funding this year and lays the groundwork going

forward.

The State: S.C. House passes road-repair plan that includes Malfunction Junction fix

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article79629582.html#storylink=apmobile>

Cassie Cope

The S.C. House passed a plan Tuesday — 102-3 — that will pay for more than \$4 billion in road-repair projects, sending it back to the Senate with five days left in the legislative session. Under the 10-year plan, the Transportation Department says nearly 400 bridges would be replaced. Malfunction Junction — since 2008, the state Transportation Department's No. 1 priority to fix — also would be reworked.

Note: As part of the proposal, state representatives voted to change the structure of the commission that oversees the Transportation Department. The House approved giving the governor the authority to appoint all eight of that commission's members.

Greenville News: House gives key approval to road-funding, DOT reform bill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/24/house-gives-key-approval-road-funding-dot-reform-bill/84871172/>

Tim Smith

The House has given key approval to a bill that would mean \$4 billion for work on South Carolina's crumbling roads and bridges as well as a new system of governance for the state's highway agency. The House on Tuesday passed the bill by a vote of 102-3 with five more days left in this year's legislative session.

Note: Simrill said Gov. Nikki Haley supports the bill, which he described as a funding mechanism for roads, not a bond bill.

Greenville News: Senate gives moped bill key approval

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/24/senate-gives-moped-bill-key-approval/84861478/>

Tim Smith

The Senate has given key approval to a House-passed bill to regulate mopeds but debate still awaits before final passage. The legislation, years in the making, would require moped operators to be licensed, insured and for the first time fall under traffic laws that govern other vehicle operators. Sen. Greg Hembree, an Horry County Republican and former prosecutor, told the Senate the legislation is aimed at finding the "sweet spot" that allows regulation as well as a way for those who cannot afford other forms of transportation a way to use mopeds.

Post and Courier: Lee Bright, gun laws and common sense: Which doesn't go with the others?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC16/160529649>

Brian Hicks

This is what passes for logic in the mind of Sen. Lee "Not-So" Bright: "Once you start allowing people from other states to carry in our state without the training requirements, it's only common sense to realize that we shouldn't be forcing folks in our state to go through these infringements." What? Yes, "Ain't" Bright wants to allow anyone in the country to carry guns anywhere in South Carolina. And he's trying to use reciprocity as an excuse to discard the already laughably simple requirements the state has for getting a concealed weapons permit.

Associated Press: Senate unveiling portrait of slain Sen. Clementa Pinckney

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

SC State Wire

The South Carolina Senate is unveiling its official portrait of slain Sen. Clementa Pinckney. Sen. Gerald Malloy said the ceremony will be in Senate chambers at 4 p.m. Wednesday. A Senate committee picked artist Larry Lebby to paint Pinckney's picture. His other portraits in the Statehouse include paintings of South Carolina civil rights heroes Benjamin E. Mays and Modjeska Simkins.

The State: Prayer, portrait will honor slain SC Sen. Pinckney's life

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article79674082.html#storylink=apmobile>

Jamie Self

Slain S.C. Sen. Clementa Pinckney feared in 2000 that South Carolinians would be debating what to do about the Confederate flag at the State House for more than a decade. "I'm afraid, as many in my generation are afraid, that five, 10, 15 years down the road, we will still be discussing this issue," then-state Rep. Pinckney said, before lawmakers struck a compromise to remove the banner from the State House dome and fly it on the grounds. On Wednesday, Pinckney's legacy and his memory will be honored when the state Senate unveils his portrait.

Dylann Roof Case:

Daily Mail: Charleston church shooter faces death penalty in federal trial

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/afp/article-3607706/US-prosecutors-seek-death-penalty-Charleston-church-shooter.html>

AFP

The man accused of gunning down nine African American churchgoers in South Carolina last year will face two death penalty trials, after federal prosecutors announced they would seek capital punishment. Dylann Roof, 22, allegedly joined an evening Bible study class at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, then shot participants with a .45-caliber Glock handgun. Three people survived the shooting. He has been indicted for the killings in both state and federal court. It is not yet clear when the federal trial will begin.

Note: The local county prosecutor there, Scarlett Wilson, said in September that she would seek the death penalty for Roof. South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley has also backed execution in the case, labeling Roof as "a person filled with hate."

New York Times: Death Penalty Is Sought for Dylann Roof in Charleston Church Killings

[http://mobile.nytimes.com/2016/05/25/us/dylann-roof-will-face-federal-death-penalty-in-charleston-church-killings.html?\\_r=0&referrer=https://www.google.com/](http://mobile.nytimes.com/2016/05/25/us/dylann-roof-will-face-federal-death-penalty-in-charleston-church-killings.html?_r=0&referrer=https://www.google.com/)

Alan Blinder

Dylann S. Roof, who is accused of killing nine people during a racially motivated assault last June at a Charleston, S.C., church, will face two death penalty trials after the Justice Department said Tuesday that it would seek his execution. "Following the department's rigorous review process to thoroughly consider all relevant factual and legal issues, I have determined that the Justice Department will seek the death penalty," Attorney General Loretta Lynch said in a statement about the case against Mr. Roof, who was arrested less than a day after the shooting at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, a historic and predominantly black congregation.

Note: Although Gov. Nikki R. Haley has called for Mr. Roof to be put to death, others said they wanted to avoid the pain of a trial and the potential for protracted appeals.

Associated Press: Suspect in Charleston church shooting faces highest penalty

<http://bigstory.ap.org/314aa92bd9be40caaaf068c528c88328>

Eric Tucker and Meg Kinnard

Nearly a year after the brutal shooting deaths of nine black parishioners at a Charleston, South Carolina, church, the U.S. Justice Department announced Tuesday its intent to seek the death penalty against the man facing federal hate crime charges in the killings. The decision means that both state and federal prosecutors are seeking the maximum penalty against Dylann Roof, 22, in the June 17 Emanuel AME Church shooting, which contributed to a national conversation about race relations and ultimately led to the removal of a Confederate battle flag from the grounds of the South Carolina Statehouse.

Associated Press: US seeking death penalty in Charleston church massacre case

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gHSE8Pk3](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gHSE8Pk3)

Eric Tucker and Meg Kinnard

The Justice Department intends to seek the death penalty against Dylann Roof, the man charged with killing nine black parishioners last year in a church in Charleston, South Carolina, Attorney General Loretta Lynch said Tuesday. "The nature of the alleged crime and the resulting harm compelled this decision," Lynch said in a brief statement that said the department had considered "all relevant factual and legal issues."

The State: Feds to seek death penalty against accused Charleston church killer Roof

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article79593702.html>

John Monk

Federal prosecutors on Tuesday announced their intent to seek the death penalty against accused hate crimes Charleston church killer Dylann Roof. "Dylann Roof has expressed hatred and contempt towards African Americans, as well as other groups, and his animosity towards African Americans played a role in the murders charged in the (last July's) indictment," the notice said. "Roof targeted men and women participating in a Bible-study group at the Emanuel AME Church in order to magnify the societal impact of the offenses," the notice said.

Post and Courier: Federal authorities to seek death penalty against Dylann Roof

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160524/PC16/160529650>

Andrew Knapp and Jennifer Berry Hawes

Nearly a year since gunfire interrupted a Bible study at Emanuel AME Church, federal prosecutors said Tuesday that they will seek the death penalty against Dylann Roof, the 22-year-old suspect in the attack that killed nine people. Roof's substantial planning before the assault, his expressions of hatred toward black people and his lack of remorse after the slayings helped drive the decision, a notice in U.S. District Court stated.

LGBT Laws:

Charlotte Observer: Black pastors rally support for N. Carolina's HB2

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article79526142.html>

Craig Jarvis

About 40 preachers, mostly African-American, rallied on the State Capitol grounds on Tuesday to take offense at comparing the fight for LGBT protections to the civil rights movement of the 1960s. The idea for the rally crystallized after Clarence Henderson, one of the students who participated in sit-ins at the Woolworth's diner in Greensboro in 1960, wrote an op-ed piece in last week's Charlotte Observer saying it was a gross exaggeration to compare the two issues. U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, in announcing a lawsuit against North Carolina over the new law, described the controversy as part of an arc of history related to discrimination in all its forms.

Post and Courier: Berkeley schools won't change transgender bathroom policy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160524/PC16/160529616>

Brenda Rindge and Gavin Jackson

With just three school days left in the year, the Berkeley County School District on Tuesday opted not to change its decision regarding transgender student bathroom use. Last month, the district was the first in the Lowcountry to say that students can use the restroom with which they identify. The board, which issued a statement two weeks ago, did not discuss the issue Tuesday. Several board members told The Post and Courier they could not see taking changing its directive this late in the school year.

Greenville News: Senators halt Berkeley County school bathroom bill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/24/senators-halt-berkeley-county-school-bathroom-bill/84840580/>

Tim Smith

Two Republican senators have stopped a bill that would require Berkeley County students next year to use bathrooms, locker rooms and showers of their biological sex, with five more days left in the legislative session. One of the two senators was the co-sponsor of the Senate bill. "This should be handled by the school board

and the school administration," Sen. Paul Campbell, a Berkeley County, told The Greenville News.

#### SC Political News:

Post and Courier: Congress continues to challenge Obama administration on Gitmo closure and relocation plans

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160524/PC1603/160529628>

Emma Dumain

South Carolina didn't come up once during Tuesday afternoon's congressional hearing on ramifications for closing Guantanamo Bay. But ardent opponents of the Obama administration's hope to relocate some of the 80 remaining suspected terrorists to facilities within the United States — the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston in Hanahan among them — might have been paying attention. For just around an hour, the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security heard testimony from experts on the current population at the Cuban detention center and what threat they do or do not pose to the United States should they be relocated or released.

Associated Press: Beatty expected to become state's 2nd black chief justice

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=j3VAEn27](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=j3VAEn27)

SC State Wire

Legislators are expected to elect South Carolina's second black chief justice since Reconstruction. Don Beatty is the only person running to be the next chief justice of the state Supreme Court. State lawmakers on Wednesday will elect the replacement for Costa Pleicones (pluh-KOH'- nus), who must retire Dec. 31 because he's reached the state's mandatory retirement age of 72. Beatty is currently senior associate justice. He's been on the state's high court since 2007.

Herald-Journal: World Relief leader encourages Spartanburg churches to support refugees

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160524/articles/160529807>

Daniel J. Gross

The director of a local aid agency that assists refugees is urging the faith community to become involved in resettlement efforts in Spartanburg. World Relief Local Director Jason Lee spoke about the process of bringing refugees to the area at a Spartanburg Interfaith Alliance meeting Tuesday morning at Temple B'nai Israel. He said last year World Relief helped resettle 49 refugees fleeing persecution. This year the organization has been approved to resettle 120 refugees in Spartanburg, he said.

#### SC Agency News:

Associated Press: State says local governments must take lead in fighting Zika

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

SC State Wire

State health officials say that it's up to local governments to take the lead in battling mosquitoes that could carry the Zika virus. Media outlets report lawmakers and others attending a forum in Columbia on Tuesday were told while the state is preparing for a Zika outbreak, one is not expected. DHEC Director Catherine Heigel said local governments must take the lead in educating people on ways to eliminate mosquitoes in their yards.

Post and Courier: State DHEC officials urge local governments to prepare for Zika virus

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160524/PC1603/160529629>

Maya T. Prabhu

Officials from the state Department of Health and Environmental Control urged local jurisdictions to bolster their mosquito control programs heading into the summer months in preparation for a possible Zika virus outbreak. DHEC Director Catherine Heigel said it is up to local governments to educate their residents about ways to cut down on the number of mosquitoes in the area. She stressed focusing on public awareness messages, such as removing standing water from yards and mosquito-proofing homes. Heigel said the department is depending on local jurisdictions to control potential outbreaks.

The State: 'Majority' of SC unprepared for a Zika outbreak

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article79654462.html#storylink=apmobile>

Avery G. Wilks

Nearly two-thirds of S.C. counties have put little or no resources behind mosquito-control efforts to ward off a Zika virus breakout, state health officials said Tuesday. Many of those approximately 30 counties are in the Upstate, according to S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control officials. They added only 45 S.C. cities have mosquito-control programs. "The majority of South Carolina is unprotected," DHEC entomologist Chris Evans said. "They do not have the resources to go out and face a public health threat like Zika."

SC Elections:

Herald-Journal: Lee Bright dismisses opposition to his S.C. Senate re-election bid

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160524/articles/160529806>

Chris Lavender

State Sen. Lee Bright of Roebuck said he isn't fazed by the opposition to his re-election campaign for the District 12 seat. Bright is facing three challengers in the June 14 Republican primary — Duncan Mayor Lisa Scott, Greer businessman David McCraw and former state Rep. Scott Talley. The senator brushed off criticism from his opponents about his absence at candidate forums this year. "Most of the voters know who I am," Bright said. "I spend time going door to door. It's hard to attend some events."

The Herald: York County sheriff refutes candidate's claims about ticket quotas

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article79678807.html>

Teddy Kulmala

York County Sheriff Bruce Bryant on Tuesday criticized former investigator John H. Williams and his statements about ticket quotas during Williams' campaign to succeed the sheriff. Williams was an officer and crime scene investigator at the York County Sheriff's Office for 33 years and has made the elimination of traffic ticket quotas part of his campaign to become the next sheriff. While his opponent, Kevin Tolson, argued during a Monday debate that such quotas do not exist, Williams maintained that they are a problem and held up a packet of papers that, he said, show the agency's "goals" for traffic tickets in 2013.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: A voter edge over politicians

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1002/160529626>

Editorial

Many prospective voters are despairing over having to pick either Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton as our next president. But at least they have until Nov. 8 to make that decision — and even then, don't have to reveal their choices. Politicians, though, apparently feel the need to show their hands much sooner. That's a stressful scenario for many elected officials, including South Carolina's senior U.S. Senator.

Aiken Standard: Senator missing the point on FOIA reform

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160525/AIK0201/160529731>

Editorial

Sen. Margie Bright Matthews, D-Walterboro, says advocates of open government are bullying her. If that's case, we must be bullies, too. We stand in unison with the taxpaying public that has been calling upon the Colleton County Democrat to lift her baffling objection to a common sense bill that makes government more accessible for — you guessed it — the public. House Bill 3191, which includes several S.C. Freedom of Information Act reforms, is not a "media bill," as Bright Matthews asserts.

Post and Courier: Time to end the Lincoln debate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160525/PC1002/160529627>

## Editorial

The three black members of the Charleston County School Board underscored their opposition to closing Lincoln High School by walking out of the panel's meeting on Monday and then holding a news conference about the issue. The debate over the controversial proposal earlier this month should have been sufficient. The closure of Lincoln was settled by the board's 6-3 vote on May 9. The fact that the Charleston County School District suffered a budgetary shortfall of \$18 million as a result of mismanagement dating back to the previous administration left the board with limited options.

## South Carolina News:

News & Observer: North Carolina-South Carolina border could shift after years of debate

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article79676662.html>

Colin Campbell

After roughly 20 years of debate, North Carolina legislators are getting close to resolving a border dispute with South Carolina. The N.C. Senate is scheduled to vote Wednesday on a long-delayed plan to shift the state line in several locations in Gaston and Union counties near Charlotte. If the proposal passes the Senate – and then wins approval from the N.C. House, the South Carolina legislature and both states' governors – 16 South Carolina homeowners will wake up to find themselves in North Carolina on Jan. 1. Three homes in North Carolina would end up south of the border.

## Local News:

Independent Mail: Seneca chief says officer who shot Zachary Hammond not yet eligible for raise

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/seneca-chief-says-officer-who-shot-zachary-hammond-not-yet-eligible-for-raise-339ad1b0-5298-2a76-e05-380732921.html>

Mike Ellis

Lt. Mark Tiller, a Seneca officer who shot and killed unarmed Zachary Hammond, 19, in a botched July drug sting, may not be eligible for a \$5,000 raise the rest of the city's officers could get, Chief John Covington said Tuesday. Angie Hammond, Zachary's mother, said Tuesday that she was glad to hear the city will now be excluding Tiller from the raise, after officials said Monday the officer would be eligible. The proposed raise had been questioned by Hammond's parents, Angie and Paul, who sent a letter last week to city officials calling it a "grossly unjustified reward."

Post and Courier: Attorneys for Slager request more information on city settlement before trial

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160524/PC16/160529642>

Melissa Boughton

Attorneys for the former North Charleston police officer who killed Walter Scott filed a motion Tuesday asking for information that led to the city's \$6.5 million settlement with Scott's family. The filing is Michael Slager's 13th motion for discovery, the process through which opposing attorneys must share certain information. The request, the 19-page document states, is meaningful for the proper preparation of Slager's defense. Scott, 50, was a motorist who fled from an April 4, 2015, traffic stop and fought with Slager before the policeman shot him five times as he ran away. Slager said that Scott had grabbed his Taser before a bystander captured the shooting death on video.

Associated Press: Retrial set for man charged in Chester councilman's killing

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UKStM8Pu](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UKStM8Pu)

SC State Wire

A retrial has been set for a 19-year-old man charged with killing a Chester city councilman. The Herald-Journal of Spartanburg (<http://bit.ly/27S5tfe>) reports that Christopher Moore is expected to go back on trial June 27 in Fairfield County to face a murder charge in connection with the shooting death of 69-year-old Chester City Councilman Odell Williams. A jury last month was deadlocked in trying to determine whether Moore had committed murder by shooting Williams in November 2014.

The Herald: Retrial June 27 for admitted shooter who claims self-defense in Chester councilman killing  
<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article79578002.html>

Andrew Dys

A retrial on murder charges is set for June 27 against the admitted shooter in the 2014 death of Chester City Councilman Odell Williams. It comes just two months after the first trial ended with a hung jury. Christopher Moore, the admitted killer, blames Williams. Prosecutors and police blame Moore. The trial in Fairfield County alleging Christopher Moore committed murder despite Moore claiming self-defense after Williams shot first is expected to be in the same courthouse in front of the same judge where a dozen jurors last month could not decide if the killing was justified or murder.

Greenville News: Eastside High lockdown unrelated to bomb threat hoaxes

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/05/24/eastside-high-lockdown-unrelated-bomb-threat-hoaxes/84856766/>

Nathaniel Cary

The lockdown at Eastside High School Monday was unrelated to a wave of bomb threats at schools across the country that led to widespread lockdowns and evacuations Monday. At least schools in 18 states were affected. At Eastside, the Greenville County Sheriff's Office locked the school down to conduct a pre-planned investigation Monday morning, said Greenville County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Jennings Autrey.

Greenville News: Greenville parents ask for school metal detectors

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/05/24/greenville-parents-ask-school-metal-detectors/84864914/>

Nathaniel Cary

Anzula Banks grew up in New York City and walked through a metal detector every day she went to school. "We had metal detectors in our high schools and I felt safe going to school every day because we had those metal detectors in our schools," Banks said. "I knew going to class that I didn't have to worry about someone in the classroom having a gun or having a knife." It's time, Banks said, for Greenville County Schools to install metal detectors in its schools. Banks joined a group of parents and community members who delivered a petition to the district's school board Tuesday asking for the district to install metal detectors in the wake of the first reported shooting inside of a school in recent history at Southside High School on May 13.

The State: Documents: USC trustee baited and shot trapped hawks

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article79668337.html>

John Monk

University of South Carolina board of trustees member Charles Williams orchestrated an illegal scheme to bait and trap rare red-tailed wild hawks with pigeons and then execute the hawks with a pistol, according to new legal documents. Williams, 65, killed the hawks so they wouldn't prey on the "pen-raised quail" he had on his 1,790-acre Orangeburg County plantation, where he had quail-hunting parties, according to the documents. The documents, called a sentencing memorandum, were filed in U.S. District Court as part of the government's case against Williams and three associates, who have agreed to plead guilty to wildlife-related charges during a June 6 federal hearing in Charleston before U.S. Magistrate Judge Shiva Hodges.

Greenville News: Greenville Schools approve 10-point grading scale

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/05/24/greenville-schools-approve-10-point-grading-scale/84888326/>

Nathaniel Cary

Beginning next school year, all students in Greenville County Schools will switch to a 10-point grading scale after the Greenville County School Board approved the change from a 7-point scale on Tuesday. The change in the grading scale aligns all students from grades 3-12 in the same grading scale. The switch comes after the state Board of Education changed the grading scale for all high school credit courses to a 10-point scale starting in the 2016-2017 school year.

The State: Lexington County might use flood aid to fix roads, creek that overflowed

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article79638182.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

Lexington County officials might use \$16.3 million in federal aid to repair damaged roads and reduce flooding along Kinley Creek. The proposal outlined to County Council on Tuesday is the first indication of how aid received for recovery from October flooding could be used. It would earmark aid mainly to fix roads in the southern part of the county and make drainage improvements on the creek near Irmo. No specifics were given. A dozen rural roads remain impassable after sections were washed out, while 99 homes along the creek were damaged.

Greenville News: Housing authority tries to calm fears over public housing move

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/greenville/downtown/2016/05/24/housing-authority-tries-calm-fears-over-public-housing-move/84857624/>

Eric Connor

The leadership of the Greenville Housing Authority tried Tuesday to assure residents of the Brookhaven and Westview public housing communities that they would not permanently lose their homes as part of a \$22 million renovation project. However, the news conference became an argument between housing officials and residents who were present over whether the authority is being truthful and, if so, whether temporary housing will be safe.

The State: Fort Jackson, community set to celebrate post's 100th anniversary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article79645617.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

More than 30 businesses, organizations, sporting events and festivals are partnering with Fort Jackson for its centennial celebration, beginning with the 241st Army Birthday Ball June 18 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. When it turns 100 on June 2, 2017, Fort Jackson — which began as a World War I training base — will have trained an estimated 5 million soldiers. Today it is the nation's largest basic training facility. To celebrate the milestone, the Army and community are planning a year-long series of events and commemorations, both on post and off, ranging from a June 18 Lexington County Blowfish game to the nationally televised Sept. 3 Bojangles Southern 500 NASCAR race in Darlington, to Columbia's restaurant week in January.

National News:

Associated Press: Anti-Trump protests turn violent outside New Mexico rally

<http://bigstory.ap.org/02520ebc961941e485e75544800fe07c>

Jill Colvin and Russell Contreras

In one of the presidential campaign year's more grisly spectacles, protesters in New Mexico opposing Donald Trump's candidacy threw burning T-shirts, plastic bottles and other items at police officers, injuring several, and toppled trash cans and barricades. Police responded by firing pepper spray and smoke grenades into the crowd outside the Albuquerque Convention Center. During the rally, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee was interrupted repeatedly by protesters, who shouted, held up banners and resisted removal by security officers.

World News:

Associated Press: Afghan Taliban appoint new leader after Mansour's death

<http://bigstory.ap.org/91132652d33d48a5b0dae82ea93b47e8>

Lynne O'Donnell and Mirwais Khan

The Afghan Taliban confirmed on Wednesday that their leader Mullah Akhtar Mansour was killed in a U.S. drone strike last week and that they have appointed a successor — a scholar known for extremist views who is unlikely to back a peace process with Kabul. The announcement came as a suicide bomber struck a minibus carrying court employees in the Afghan capital, killing at least 11 people, an official said. The Taliban promptly claimed responsibility for the attack.

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