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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, November 22, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Haley asks for prayer amid 2 murder trials

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=TOobu4gt

SC State Wire

Gov. Nikki Haley is asking South Carolinians to pray for healing amid two racially charged murder trials in Charleston and the recovery from Hurricane Matthew. Haley on Monday called on all places of worship to hold a prayer vigil at noon Tuesday. She also wants church bells to be rung statewide. The governor says she will be at "Mother Emanuel" AME Church in Charleston, where nine black worshippers were gunned down last year. A judge is weighing whether the white man accused of killing them is competent to stand trial. The trial of former North Charleston officer Michael Slager is underway. He's accused of fatally shooting a black motorist in the back as he fled. Haley says "we don't know what's going to come out of these murder trials." She says it's important "we all come together" and reflect.

Associated Press: Haley calls for church bells to ring, prayer at noon in SC

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

SC State Wire

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is calling for prayer vigils and church bells to ring across the state. Haley is calling for the vigils at noon Tuesday to ask for continued strength and healing as South Carolina recovers from Hurricane Matthew. Haley is also calling for prayers as the murder trial of North Charleston police officer Michael Slager continues and the death penalty trial for Dylann Roof in the killing of nine black Charleston church worshippers gets ready to start. Haley says faith, prayer and helping neighbors have helped South Carolina make it through tough times in 2015 and 2016. She says two days before Thanksgiving is a good time for people to count their blessings.

Aiken Standard: Gov. Haley calls for statewide prayer vigils today

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/gov-haley-calls-for-statewide-prayer-vigils-today/article_57c7b136-b006-11e6-882b-37b83f32729d.html

Christina Cleveland

Members of the faith community in Aiken County could be among those statewide encouraging residents to use today as a day for prayer. Gov. Nikki Haley announced this month a day of prayer vigils throughout the state today ahead of Thanksgiving and the holiday season, as residents in the Pee Dee region are still recovering from Hurricane Matthew and two high-profile criminal trials are underway in Charleston. Former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager is charged in the shooting death of unarmed motorist Walter Scott, and in a separate case, Dylann Roof is charged in the shooting deaths of nine black parishioners at the historic Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. Both incidents took place last year, a time the governor has described as "challenging." In a news release issued by the governor's office, Haley, along with leaders of the faith community, urge all people regardless of their faith or denomination to "pray for continued strength and healing across the state and give thanks for the state's blessings."

WIS: Statewide Day of Prayer Tuesday

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33714771/haley-organizes-day-of-prayer-on-nov-22>

Jermey Turnage

Tuesday is a Day of Prayer in South Carolina. Gov. Nikki Haley announced a day of prayer vigils in the Palmetto State in an effort to continue the healing after Hurricane Matthew and two criminal cases in Charleston. On Tuesday, Nov. 22, Haley said churches and other houses of worship will open at 12 p.m. and sound bells in observance of services statewide. "Faith, prayer and helping our neighbors is what got us through a challenging time last year, and those things will get us through these two trials and the aftermath of the hurricane," Haley said in a statement. "In South Carolina, we know how to have compassion toward each other, count our blessings, and remember that we are one state, one people." Governor Haley plans to attend a vigil at the Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston Tuesday, which was the site of a deadly shooting in where nine parishioners were killed. U.S. Senator Tim Scott is also scheduled to attend.

WLTx: South Carolina to Hold Day of Prayer Today

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/south-carolina-to-hold-day-of-prayer-today/354780342>

South Carolinians are being asked to come together today in prayer. Gov. Nikki Haley called for prayer vigils to be held statewide beginning at noon. She's asked that houses of worship throughout the state toll their bells at that exact time. The governor wants everyone--regardless of faith--to pray for continued strength and healing, and to give thanks for the state's blessings. She said in light of two high-profile murder trials going in the state, and the recent hardship caused by Hurricane Matthew, now was the time to come together. She said she remembered how the state pulled through last year's tragedy that included the Mother Emanuel AME Church massacre, the Walter Scott police killing, and the historic flooding. "I just felt it was a very important time that we all come together and just reflect back on 2015 and think about what brought us together in the first place what allowed the rest of the country and the world to notice the grace of South Carolinians," she said Monday. Haley herself plans to mark the moment at Mother Emanuel in Charleston.

WCSC: Haley expected at 'Mother' Emanuel for statewide day of prayer

<http://www.live5news.com/story/33768356/haley-expected-at-mother-emanuel-for-statewide-day-of-prayer>

Gov. Nikki Haley and Sen. Tim Scott will be at Mother Emanuel Church Tuesday as the governor calls for prayer vigils and church bells to ring across the state Tuesday at noon. Haley is asking for continued strength and healing as South Carolina recovers from Hurricane Matthew. The governor is also calling for prayers as the murder trial of North Charleston police officer Michael Slager continues and the death penalty trial for Dylann Roof in the killing of nine black Charleston church worshipers gets ready to start. Haley says faith, prayer and helping neighbors have helped South Carolina make it through tough times in 2015 and 2016. She says two days before Thanksgiving is a good time for people to count their blessings.

WCIV: Governor to attend prayer vigil in Charleston

<http://abcnews4.com/news/local/governor-to-attend-prayer-vigil-in-charleston>

Governor Nikki Haley has announced statewide prayer vigils on Tuesday. The governor has worked with leaders in the faith community and urges everyone to join together in prayer for continued strength and healing across the Palmetto State this holiday season. "Faith, prayer and helping our neighbors is what got us through a challenging time last year, and those things will get us through these two trials and the aftermath of the hurricane," said the governor. "In South Carolina, we know how to have compassion toward each other, count our blessings, and remember that we are one state, one people." Bells will ring at noon Tuesday, Nov. 22 to mark the start of the individual vigil services.

WCBD: Governor Haley to ask state to pray for South Carolina

<http://counton2.com/2016/11/21/governor-haley-to-ask-state-to-pray-for-south-carolina/>

Shawn Cabbagestalk

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley will be at Emanuel AME Church on Tuesday, November 21.

She is asking everyone in the state to pray for our state. Haley will be in downtown Charleston at 12 p.m. The governor is also encouraging South Carolinians to pray for the upcoming thanksgiving holiday, lingering effects of Hurricane Matthew, and for the two high profile trials happening in Charleston.

WOLO: Governor's Carolighting Set for December 1

<http://www.abccolumbia.com/2016/11/21/governors-carolighting-set-december-1/>

Crysty Vaughan

The state Christmas tree will light up for the holidays as Governor Nikki Haley hosts the 50th Annual Governor's Carolighting. It will be held on the north steps of the South Carolina Statehouse, on Thursday, December 1. Events will kick off at 6pm and the program will start at 7pm. It is open to the public. According to officials, this year's Carolighting is sponsored by the Columbia Metropolitan Convention and Visitor Bureau, the Columbia Garden Club and the Garden Club of South Carolina.

WCSC: Gov. Haley announces 50th annual Carolighting plans

<http://www.live5news.com/story/33764175/gov-haley-announces-50th-annual-carolighting-plans>

Patrick Philips

Gov. Nikki Haley Monday announced plans for the state's 50th annual Carolighting event in Columbia. The event, which is held on the steps of the South Carolina Statehouse, is scheduled for Dec. 1. "Each year, Michael, Rena, Nalin and I look forward to this special night when we can invite family and friends from every part of South Carolina to celebrate the holiday season and enjoy our beautiful Statehouse," Haley said. Family festivities begin at 6 p.m. while the program will begin at 7 p.m. It is free and open to the public. The state Christmas tree is a 35-foot-tall sheared Concolor Fir and comes from the Pinetum Christmas Tree Farm in Swanton, Maryland. Haley also encouraged residents to help those impacted by Hurricane Matthew in October and by the historic flooding in October 2015 by donating to the One SC Fund at www.onescfund.org. Family festivities begin at 6 p.m. while the program will begin at 7 p.m.

General Assembly News:

Aiken Standard: Proposed legislation could put S.C. superintendent of education in governor's cabinet

http://www.aikenstandard.com/education/proposed-legislation-could-put-s-c-superintendent-of-education-in/article_a6ddb338-add1-11e6-9cc4-539c736a2a04.html

Larry Wood

S.C. Sen. Tom Young, R-Aiken, said he intends to co-sponsor new legislation that would move the office of the state superintendent of education from an elected position to a cabinet position when the State Legislature convenes in January for the 2017 session. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley and S.C. Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman voiced their support for the change last week in a letter to members of the General Assembly. Young was the primary sponsor of similar legislation in 2011 when he was a member of the S.C. House of Representatives, representing District 81. He said state government restructuring plans have recommended making the superintendent's position a cabinet post chosen by the governor since the early 20th century.

The State: Second board member quits Richland Rec Commission

<http://www.thestate.com/latest-news/article116298753.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A second board member of the embattled Richland County Recreation Commission has resigned, bringing the number of remaining commissioners to five. Board secretary Weston Furgess Jr. turned in a resignation letter Friday announcing he was stepping down, said David Stringer, human resources director for the commission. While the commission did not immediately publicize Furgess' resignation, his nameplate was noticeably absent from the board dais during Monday's commission meeting. In the letter dated Nov. 17 and addressed to Gov. Nikki Haley, Furgess said he hopes his

decision to resign will help “lift the cloud hanging over the agency and that they will be able to move forward in prayer.” “My tenure with the agency was uplifting and a great opportunity to serve the citizens of Richland County,” Furgess said in the letter.

Greenville News: Legislative delegation votes on GHS trustees

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/11/21/legislative-delegation-votes-ghs-trustees/94222116/>

Liv Osby

Four out of six candidates nominated by Greenville Health System to serve on the board of trustees were approved by the Greenville County legislative delegation Monday. Of the remaining two, one vote was carried over to the January meeting and the other was rejected. Approved by the delegation for the three-year terms were former Rep. Lewis Vaughn for the House District 18, 20 and 36 seat and three at-large members: Scot L. Baddley, W. Michael Ellison and C. Michael Smith. Richard A. Phillips, who was nominated for the Oconee service area, was voted down, leaving GHS to submit another candidate. There was no discussion about why he wasn't approved. GHS had nominated Anna Kate Hipp for the House District 10, 17 and 19 seat. But the delegation voted to carry that seat over until January.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: Appeals court: 'King Kong' comment prejudiced all-white jury

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

Meg Kinnard

A black South Carolina man should be released from death row because a prosecutor's "racially coded references" made a fair sentencing before an all-white jury impossible, according to a ruling issued Monday by a panel of appellate judges. A three-judge panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel was right to throw out the death sentence against Johnny O. Bennett. Bennett, 46, has been on South Carolina's death row for more than two decades for the killing of 24-year-old Benton Darrell Smith, stabbed more than 60 times with a screwdriver in November 1990. Bennett, who is black, was first convicted and sentenced to death in 1997 by a mixed-race jury. The state Supreme Court upheld his conviction but overturned the sentence because a potential juror had said he would feel obligated to go along with whatever the majority of jurors had decided.

WSPA: SC Getting New Revenue Director

<http://wspa.com/2016/11/21/sc-getting-new-revenue-director/>

Robert Kittle

South Carolina will be getting a new director of the agency that collects and handles your state taxes. Gov. Nikki Haley on Monday announced Department of Revenue Director Rick Reames is leaving and Hartley Powell will replace him January 2nd. Reames is leaving to go back to the private sector. Gov. Haley commended him for the job he did taking over an agency after a massive computer hack that stole the personal information of almost every South Carolina taxpayer. “He was able to bring an agency together and really tackle the security issues, really tackle a way to make sure that we were doing everything possible so that this wouldn't happen again, and really built the morale of the agency back up so that they could be proud of who they were,” she said. She said he also saved millions of dollars by moving away from paper and almost completely to an electronic tax system, and that he also started an anti-fraud initiative.

Wildfires Across Southeast:

Associated Press: Evacuation notices in Lake Lure to end as fire threat eases

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

SC State Wire

Forestry officials in North Carolina say evacuation notices for the town of Lake Lure and surrounding neighborhoods have been canceled as the threat from the Party Rock fire has diminished. A statement released Monday said a state of emergency remains in effect for the town of Lake Lure. Fire and town officials caution residents that the recently burned areas contain many hazards, including damaged and standing dead trees called "snags," that can fall without warning at any time. As of Monday, the Party Rock fire was 45 percent contained. Officials say falling leaves are hitting smoldering areas and reigniting the Chestnut Knob fire in Burke County. Water-scooping planes and helicopters have been called in to drop water on the Pinnacle Mountain fire, which spans both North Carolina and South Carolina.

Herald-Journal: Wildfire spreads beyond Pickens County

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161121/wildfire-spreads-beyond-pickens-county?rssfeed=true>

Chris Lavender

The Pinnacle Mountain fire has spread beyond Pickens County, growing by about 500 acres on Monday, and officials worried that dry conditions overnight would hurt efforts to contain the blaze. The wildfire has burned about 6,000 acres and has spread into Greenville County and is approaching Transylvania County, N.C. Doug Wood, a spokesman with the S.C. Forestry Commission, said the fire spread into Greenville County late Sunday and early Monday. Sunday morning, Transylvania County Emergency Management was notified by the N.C. Forest Service that the fire had crossed over the state line. However, after a meeting Monday morning between the S.C. Forest Commission and N.C. Forest Service, it was determined that the fire was still about one mile away from the border. The fire remained at 35 percent containment Monday, according to the S.C. Forestry Commission. Jay Maret, deputy director of emergency management at the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, said firefighters dug additional containment lines Monday to try and keep the fire from spreading any further.

Post and Courier: Firefighters gain some ground on S.C., N.C. blazes

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/firefighters-gain-some-ground-on-s-c-n-c-blazes/article_2e4a67ea-b029-11e6-b56c-ff4516c9ce90.html

Bo Petersen

Laura Jones smells the thick smoke from the Pinnacle Mountain fire a mile from her home. But, so far, the wind has kept the blaze from spreading her way. If the winds turned, she would be frightened. Jones has had an uneasy week since she first noticed the smoke when she climbed the ridge above her Pumpkintown home near Table Rock Mountain. It was just a plume then, and she didn't think much of it until it began to course down the hill. Now the smoke has cleared enough that she can see that spot and the damage doesn't appear so bad. "They said it was mostly an underbrush fire. If you look out, you can't see anything burned. You can still see the leaves on the trees," said Jones, who also lives on Goat Island near Mount Pleasant.

Hurricane Matthew Recovery:

Associated Press: 5 parks still closed at Hilton Head by Hurricane Matthew

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Ep0HBkpU

SC State Wire

Five parks on Hilton Head Island are still closed more than six weeks after Hurricane Matthew struck the resort. The Island Packet of Hilton Head reported (<http://bit.ly/2fjXNv>) that most parks on the island have reopened, though some do have some restrictions. The area's biggest attractions, the beaches, are all open for the busy Thanksgiving holiday season. Town officials have cited debris cleanup and some damage for the reason why many of the parks and beaches were closed following the Oct. 8 storm. Honey Horn and the Chaplin Community Park are being used as debris-processing sites. Town officials say it could be six months before those parks reopen.

Island Packet: Power struggles added to Beaufort County's re-entry confusion after Matthew

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article116313283.html>

Erin Heffernan and Kelly Meyerhoffer

Getting thousands of Beaufort County residents home after Hurricane Matthew was a difficult process made more frustrating by several layers of leadership fighting for control over re-entry decisions. There were mixed messages — and in some cases reports of outright resistance — among county, municipal and community association leaders. The power battles led to confusion in the days after the Category 2 hurricane hit the county, when evacuees were looking for a simple answer to their most pressing concern: When can I come home?

Island Packet: Beaufort County's early Hurricane Matthew road recovery was a well-oiled machine

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article116312488.html>

Erin Heffernan

Parts of Beaufort County were unrecognizable in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. After the hurricane hit on Oct. 8, roadways were a maze of tree damage, fallen power lines and flooding, especially on barrier islands hardest hit by the storm. But within days, the county became livable again, thanks to crews that quickly cleared roadways of a massive amount of damage. Plans put into place by local officials years before Hurricane Matthew and decisions to call for reinforcements were key to that work, local leaders say. "Every morning I would drive the county, and it would be a world better," Beaufort County Sheriff P.J. Tanner said. "You have got to give those people credit. They were able to do an incredible amount of work." Here's what went right to allow crews to clear most of the county roads in a short period of time...

Aiken Standard: Aiken Public Safety Animal Team reflects on animals saved during October floods in Upstate

http://www.aikenstandard.com/news/aiken-public-safety-animal-team-reflects-on-animals-saved-during/article_ef726ed8-ab77-11e6-816d-8b1ffefab8e4.html

Tripp Girardeau

Many residents may not realize that the Aiken Department of Public Safety has a Large Animal Rescue Team that is called on to save horses, cows, or any other large domesticated animal in danger in Aiken County and around the state. Just recently, the team from Aiken spent time in Marion County after Hurricane Matthew hit the Southeast. Sgt. Daymon Spann, with Aiken Public Safety, heads up the Large Animal Rescue Team, which has 24 members. The team is a part of the Technical Rescue Team with the agency. When the hurricane reached the upper parts of the state in mid-October, some small rural farming communities in Marion County saw flooding like never before, Spann said.

NOTE: The team saved the calf by swimming her to dry land. She lived and was named "Little Nicki," after Gov. Nikki Haley, who had been calling to get updates on their rescue, Spann said.

Michael Slagger Case:

Associated Press: Defense calling officer's old supervisor in motorist slaying

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PzE95FWO

Bruce Smith

Defense attorneys plan to call the officer who was Michael Slager's immediate supervisor on the day last year when the South Carolina patrolman shot and killed an unarmed black motorist. Slager, who is white and was fired from the North Charleston Police Department, faces 30 years to life if convicted of murder in the death of Walter Scott, who was shot while running from a traffic stop. The defense continues its case Tuesday and plans to call North Charleston police Sgt. Ronald Webb. In pretrial hearings, defense attorney Andy Savage has raised the issue that North Charleston officers had monthly quotas to stop a certain amount of pedestrians and motorists. The Scott shooting was captured on cellphone video that shocked the nation.

Associated Press: Defense lays out case officer stunned by own Taser

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ljLEUGY3

Bruce Smith

Michael Slager's defense called witnesses Monday to make a case that the white former South Carolina patrolman was stunned by his own Taser in a struggle before he shot a fleeing black motorist in the back. Slager faces 30 years to life if convicted of murder in the April 2015 death of Walter Scott. The 50-year-old motorist was hit with five of the officer's eight bullets as he tried to escape from a traffic stop. Mark Kroll, an expert on the effects of electrical shocks, testified that melted fibers on Slager's uniform could only have been caused by being stunned with a Taser at close range. "There's really no alternative source for the damage," Kroll testified. He later fired a Taser in the courtroom so the jury could hear the distinctive electronic sound the weapon makes and identify it in the cellphone video. The jury of eleven whites and one black has reviewed the video repeatedly, including several times frame by frame.

Associated Press: The Latest: Slager witness testifies about child support

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5Xp6Jn8r

SC State Wire

An attorney who practices mainly in family court has told the jury in the Michael Slager murder trial how the child support system works in South Carolina. That's key in the case of Slager, the white former North Charleston patrolman who is charged in the April 2015 slaying of Walter Scott, an unarmed black motorist shot while fleeing a traffic stop. Scott's family has said he may have fled because he worried about going back to jail because there was an outstanding bench warrant for not paying support. Attorney Amanda Haselden, testifying for the defense, said someone arrested on a bench warrant goes to jail until they can appear before a family court judge. But she said courts generally don't want to keep someone locked up if they have a job because getting the money for the children is their top concern. Scott was employed at the time of the shooting.

Post and Courier: Paint analyst, ex-New York officer among defense witnesses in Michael Slager trial

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/paint-analyst-ex-new-york-officer-among-defense-witnesses-in/article_d7275e88-b06d-11e6-a9ba-075867cb624a.html

Andrew Knapp

A paint analyst, a doctor with insight on cocaine use, an expert in police uses of deadly force and Michael Slager's former supervisor are slated to testify Tuesday in his murder trial. Seven witnesses already have taken the stand for the defense over four days of court proceedings. Slager faces between 30 years and life in prison if convicted of murder in Walter Scott's shooting death. But Slager's attorneys say Scott's actions on April 4, 2015, forced the North Charleston policeman to open fire in self-defense even as Scott ran away in a scene captured on eyewitness video. Slager pulled over Scott's car that day, and Scott soon ran with the policeman chasing after him. In the ensuing confrontation, Slager said Scott grabbed his Taser and turned it on the officer.

Post and Courier: Taser almost certainly caused burns on Michael Slager's uniform, defense expert says

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/taser-almost-certainly-caused-burns-on-michael-slager-s-uniform/article_3d10a08e-af9b-11e6-854c-174c200ca7a0.html

Andrew Knapp

A Taser, which can send an electrical jolt four times hotter than the sun, could have burned North Charleston patrolman Michael Slager's shirt, or was it a meteor? Gunshot residue on Walter Scott's right hand could indicate that he grabbed Slager's gun before the policeman shot him to death, or did it get there when the officer handcuffed him after the shooting? Those were the kind of questions posed in front of jurors who on Monday, the 14th day of Slager's murder trial, started seeing evidence that his defense team says portrays the shooting as justified. The key piece: Two defense witnesses — a state investigator and a private expert — said they knew of nothing but a Taser that could have caused the burn marks on Slager's uniform. Slager's lawyers have said that Scott got control of the stun gun during an April 2015 confrontation and tried to use it. Slager, fearing Scott would then get

his pistol, said he acted in self-defense. The officer shot at Scott eight times as Scott ran away, a scene captured on the video that led to his arrest.

Dylann Roof Case:

The State: Roof's closed mental competency hearing to continue Tuesday

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article116311508.html>

John Monk

A hearing to determine whether Charleston church killer Dylann Roof is mentally fit to stand trial will continue Tuesday in federal court in Charleston. The hearing began Monday behind closed doors. U. S. Judge Richard Gergel said last week that he hoped to decide on Roof's competence after the hearing. A criminal defendant must be able to understand and participate in legal proceedings. Gergel may be wrestling with last-minute issues raised by Roof's lawyers, led by veteran anti-death penalty attorney David Bruck. Four nonpublic documents were filed Monday, making it impossible to say if the material came from federal prosecutors or Roof's lawyers. So far, 645 documents have been submitted, most of them private.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Don't condone vandals; do appropriate their idea

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article116211758.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

JUST LIKE THE woman who shinnied up the flag pole and tore down the Confederate flag on South Carolina's front lawn, and the vandals across the state who have splashed paint on statues of Confederate generals, the self-proclaimed "artists" at Winthrop University who used the tactics of white supremacists to condemn a notorious white supremacist need to be arrested and punished. The artist-vandals who call themselves the Association of Artists for Change said we should question "why this artwork is offensive and not the building itself," and there's an easy answer to that question: Tillman Hall — or rather, the name of the building, along with that creepy giant portrait of our brutal former governor inside of it — is offensive. But it is legal. What the students did last week was not.

South Carolina News:

The State: General: Move Fort Jackson's main gate to Percival Road

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article116309888.html>

Paul Osmundson

Fort Jackson's newest commanding general renewed the call Monday to move the fort's main gate from Forest Drive to Percival Road to reduce traffic congestion near Interstate 77. Maj. Gen. John P. "Pete" Johnson acknowledged that traffic frequently backs up at Gate 2, especially on most Wednesdays and Thursdays, when several thousand out-of-towners descend on the fort for family days and basic training graduations. "We want to figure out a way to lessen the impact on our neighbors while also improving the quality of the experience for the families that are coming in," Johnson said. The fort's 49th commanding general met with the media to discuss his first 100 days at the Army's largest basic training facility. Overall, he said, the fort and its role in the Army are in "great shape." "Our team's vision is to be the premier training post in the Army while also being a community of excellence where every soldier, civilian and family member can thrive," Johnson said.

Post and Courier: Chief of Boeing Commercial Airplanes retiring, replacement named

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/chief-of-boeing-commercial-airplanes-retiring-replacement-named/article_9ed0e9ce-b035-11e6-8f94-1f5cd7758944.html

David Wren

Kevin McAllister will replace Ray Conner as president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, the division that includes the company's 787 Dreamliner plant and other operations in North Charleston,

the aerospace giant said Monday. The appointment by Dennis Muilenburg, Boeing's president and CEO, is effective immediately. Connor, who at 61 is preparing to retire, will stay on through the end of next year as a company vice chairman. McAllister, 53, previously was president and CEO of GE Aviation Services. Muilenburg also appointed veteran Boeing executive Stanley Deal as president and CEO of Boeing Global Services, a new business unit that will be formed from the customer service groups within the existing commercial airplanes and defense, space and security business units.

Post and Courier: Lawsuit settlement could lead to more cellphone bans by trucking firms

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/lawsuit-settlement-could-lead-to-more-cellphone-bans-by-trucking/article_20a0dd2a-b026-11e6-a6cf-5741c6d13e5b.html

David Wren

A settlement agreement reached last week in a personal injury lawsuit brought by a Charleston firm could lead to safer roadways by prompting more trucking firms to adopt bans on their drivers' use of mobile phones. Unifi Inc., a North Carolina-based manufacturer of polyester and nylon yarns, agreed to pay \$3.75 million to a Bennettsville couple who were hurt when one of the company's trucks struck their vehicle from behind after the couple had slowed to turn into their driveway. The truck driver was talking on his phone at the time of the crash and Unifi, as a result of the case, has agreed to ban its drivers from using the devices while their trucks are on the road. "This company has 60 trucks using the roads in South Carolina every day, and until last week their drivers were engaged in dangerous behavior by talking on their cellphones for hours and making three-way calls," said Douglas Jennings, a Charleston lawyer who represented the couple. "Now that has changed, and hopefully more trucking companies will recognize the danger and get on board."

Local News:

The Herald: Suspect in fatal Rock Hill hit-and-run lied to police, has shown no remorse, detective says

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article116303463.html>

Teddy Kulmala

Victoria Kistler wasn't driving the Chrysler 300 that fatally struck a motorcyclist in Rock Hill on Nov. 12, but detectives say she violently assaulted the car's owner before stealing it, and then "all but had to jump over" the dead motorcyclist's body to get her purse from the car after the crash. Kistler and her boyfriend, Gilverto Corniel, both 24, are charged in the hit-and-run that killed 21-year-old Joshua Moore on Nov. 12. They were arrested Sunday night in Charlotte. Kistler is charged with obstruction of justice, grand larceny, possession of marijuana-second offense and possession with intent to distribute a Schedule IV controlled substance. Corniel remained jailed in Charlotte on Monday. It was unclear if he would waive extradition. Police say Corniel was driving the 2016 Chrysler 300 that fatally struck Moore at the intersection of Heckle Boulevard and Russell Street, and that he fled on foot after the crash before carjacking a Jeep that was later located in Charlotte.

Associated Press: Police: Human remains found during excavation

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

SC State Wire

Workers of a communications tower repair company have unearthed human remains in Greenville. The Greenville Police Department said in a news release that the crew found the remains while excavating a site adjacent to the Richland Cemetery on Monday. Police say it does not appear the area was ever part of the cemetery. The workers found a skull, portions of a mandible and what appeared to be a radius bone. A forensic anthropologist has not yet been able to determine the person's age, gender and year of death, but police believe the bones have been on the ground for an extended period of time. Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact authorities.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach community called to unite in war on gun violence

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article116343123.html>

Emily Weaver

Pastor Elizabeth Bowens lost her son to gun violence on April 9, 2005. Tony Hemingway was struck by a gunman, who returned to a nightclub he had just been ushered out of, Bowens said. Hemingway was bouncing at the club that night when the bullet struck him and took his life. He was 32 years old. Barbara Hightower lost her daughter to gun violence in 2006. And within the span of a year, Kendra Keel, lost two sons to gunfire from 2006 to 2007. "Enough is enough," said Bowens, who formed the S.C. Mothers Against Violence. Bowens, Hightower and Keel now share their painful stories through the club they say no mother wants to be a part of, in efforts to inspire local communities to come together to stop the threat that has ended so many young lives.

Post and Courier: Illumination Project unveils actions to improve police, community relations

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/illumination-project-unveils-actions-to-improve-police-community-relations/article_d7181bba-b033-11e6-a7d5-77d84bb0a863.html

Glenn Smith

Charleston police have signed on to a White House-led initiative to improve law enforcement transparency and trust by sharing more information with the public about traffic stops, calls for service, use of force and other activities. Charleston and Columbia are the only two South Carolina cities participating in the White House Police Data Initiative, which launched in May 2015 and now includes more than 50 police departments from across the country. Charleston's involvement grew out of the Illumination Project, a local effort funded by the nonprofit Charleston Police Fund to strengthen ties and trust with the community. The department's joining of the White House effort was announced Monday in a statement outlining progress that the Illumination Project is making on 86 strategies it adopted after a year-long effort of soliciting community input.

Independent Mail: Anderson University student finds racial forum disappointing

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/11/21/forum-anderson-tackles-racial-reconciliation/94231480/>

Kirk Brown

Justus Cox listened patiently for nearly two hours Monday night at a race and reconciliation forum at the Civic Center of Anderson. The Anderson University student who won an Upstate diversity award last year for his mentoring efforts heard elected officials bemoan the lack of young people at the event. Cox heard a judge talk about black gang members and whites arrested for using methamphetamine. He heard statistics about prison populations and complaints about decaying values in modern society. Then Cox took the microphone. He shared his view that the event that about 70 people attended "wasted everybody's time" because there was little meaningful discussion about race relations. He said one reason that few of his peers attended the forum is because "we are not being listened to." Young people are "definitely aware of what's going on," Cox said.

Post and Courier: Man who hurled racial slur at black TV reporter is getting treatment

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/man-who-hurled-racial-slur-at-black-tv-reporter-is/article_b102345c-af88-11e6-aa92-871c21fc638e.html

Derrek Asberry

The white male who hurled a racial slur at a black TV reporter last month in downtown Charleston will have another three months to get his life together before stepping back in front of a judge. Steve Crump, a longtime reporter with WBTV in Charlotte, was in Charleston on Oct. 8 to cover Hurricane Matthew when Brian Eybers, 21, started calling him names while filming him with his iPad. Crump and a cameraman filmed the incident, which included Eybers calling Crump the N-word and blocked the reporter's ability to drive away after the two exchanged words. Eybers was arrested after the incident and charged with congregating for an unlawful purpose and possession of drug paraphernalia. A police incident report states officers found a crack pipe during a search.

Sun News: International Drive not out of the woods, yet

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/latest-news/article116262463.html>

Audrey Hudson

A federal court decision in favor of International Drive has not ended a legal fight by road opponents who say they are contemplating their next move to block construction. U.S. District Judge Bryan Harwell on Friday dissolved his temporary injunction on construction and upheld the Army Corps of Engineer's issuance of a permit that allowed Horry County to begin road work this summer. However, Dana Beach, executive director of the Coastal Conservation League, said Monday they disagree with the judge's decision and plan to pursue further court action. "Of course we are disappointed," Beach said. "We have never seen a governmental body that has been so resistant to basic safeguards for people and nature. It is quite unusual, the level of resistance that has been mounted by Horry County against the taking of very sensitive steps to protect one of the most extraordinary resources in the southeast. You would think they would be proud of it."

Associated Press: Air cargo business booming in Spartanburg County

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=i1hObwLP

SC State Wire

A new air cargo service is booming between South Carolina and Germany. The Herald-Journal of Spartanburg reported (<http://bit.ly/2fWwx Eh>) that the "Atlantic Bridge" cargo service between the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport in Greer and Germany is a success after just six round trips. Officials want to expand the twice-a-week service. But airport officials said Monday they need more warehouse space and parking space for planes. The service using a Boeing 747-400 cargo jet started Nov. 5. The service was started by the German company Senator International. It brings the cargo jet from Europe to Greer on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The goods are then delivered to companies in the Upstate and elsewhere in the Southeast. BMW is the biggest customer of the new service.

Herald-Journal: Air cargo service exceeds expectations

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161121/air-cargo-service-exceeds-expectations?rssfeed=true>

Bob Montgomery

The new "Atlantic Bridge" air cargo service between GSP and Germany is such a success after just six round-trips that officials are talking about expanding the twice-weekly service to every other day. But before that happens, the airport will need to add more warehouse and apron space, airport officials said Monday. "These are all good problems for an airport to have," said Kevin Howell, vice president and chief operating officer at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport in Greer. Howell gave Airport Commission members an update Monday on how successful the Boeing 747-400 cargo jet has been since services began Nov. 5. "It's turning out to be a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day operation," he said. The service, launched by the German company Senator International, brings the plane to GSP with cargo from Europe on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The goods are then delivered to companies in the Upstate and elsewhere in the Southeast.

Independent Mail: First Quality plans expansion in Anderson, more jobs

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/11/21/94237108/>

Nikie Mayo

First Quality Enterprises plans to expand its operations in Anderson by adding a new tissue-making machine to its plant on Masters Boulevard. The company said in a prepared statement released Monday that adding a machine in Anderson County and another at a plant in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, would create "hundreds" of jobs in the two cities. The company did not provide specific job creation numbers. But Anderson County Administrator Rusty Burns said Monday that each time First Quality adds a tissue machine in its Upstate plant, that typically leads to the creation of "well over 200" jobs. "We are so pleased and so excited to be expanding our relationship with the folks at First Quality," Burns said. "They have already gone beyond what they promised, and we hope to have a relationship with them for a long time to come."

President-elect Trump News:

Associated Press: Farage 'flattered' by Trump suggestion he become ambassador

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f93053ff50c042a8aa83aae0c3224ce8>

Donald Trump has a suggestion for British Prime Minister Theresa May: Make Nigel Farage, who played a key role in Britain's vote to leave the European Union, her government's ambassador to the United States. But there are a few obstacles to the president-elect's desire to have the acting leader of the U.K. Independence Party serve as Britain's chief diplomat in the United States — not only is it the role of each country to name its overseas representatives, but there is already an ambassador in place. The highly unusual call from Trump clearly shows the scale of his liking for Farage, who played a key role shaping public opinion in favor of taking Britain out of the EU ahead of the June referendum. Trump tweeted late Monday night that "many people" would like to see Farage head Britain's U.S. mission, adding: "He would do a great job!"

Associated Press: Trump's pick for Justice Dept could influence immigration

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6d77cc9f859a4358a7e2d9f601f14a2d>

As a senator, Jeff Sessions became Congress' leading advocate not only for a cracking down on illegal immigration, but also for slowing all immigration, increasing mass deportations and scrutinizing more strictly those entering the U.S. As attorney general, he'd be well positioned to turn those ideas into reality. Immigration laws are enforced by other agencies, but the Justice Department plays a crucial role in setting the policies and legal underpinnings that shape the system. And if Donald Trump sticks with his campaign promises, immigration will be a top priority for his administration. As the nation's top law enforcement official, Sessions could execute maneuvers to limit which nationalities the U.S. would accept as refugees and to reverse a federal policy that protects young people from deportation. "The president has the clear power to suspend immigration to protect America," Sessions said during the Republican convention when he was discussing the threat of terrorism and the need to scrutinize refugees more closely.

Associated Press: Americans who live near border say Trump's wall is unwelcome

<http://bigstory.ap.org/40d1078eecac4f6db463b17de01dcfde>

All along the winding Rio Grande, the people who live in this bustling, fertile region where the U.S. border meets the Gulf of Mexico never quite understood how Donald Trump's great wall could ever be much more than campaign rhetoric. Erecting a concrete barrier across the entire 1,954-mile frontier with Mexico, they know, collides head-on with multiple realities: the geology of the river valley, fierce local resistance and the immense cost. An electronically fortified "virtual wall" with surveillance technology that includes night-and-day video cameras, tethered observation balloons and high-flying drones makes a lot more sense to people here. It's already in wide use and expanding. If a 30- to 40-foot concrete wall is a panacea for illegal immigration, as Trump insisted during the campaign, the locals are not convinced. And few were surprised when the president-elect seemed to soften his position five days after the election, saying that the wall could include some fencing.

Associated Press: Asia laments Trump rejection of Pacific trade pact

<http://bigstory.ap.org/53f2c393af004ff99e44d661c5a81504>

President-elect Donald Trump says he wants to pull out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership but other Pacific Rim leaders are vowing to push market-opening efforts they say are vital for growth. The possible decline of the 12-nation TPP could give a boost to alternative initiatives including one promoted by China in which the United States is not taking part. Trump's message, in a brief video, was issued after President Barack Obama and other leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group, meeting in Peru, called Sunday for fighting the backlash against trade highlighted by Trump's victory and Britain's vote to leave the European Union. Promoters of the TPP say it is a step toward building a wider, pan-Pacific free trade zone, though critics object it would shift too much control over regulation to companies from governments and the public. "There is very strong support among the other 11 parties to the TPP to ratify it and to seek to bring it into force," said Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull.

National News:

Associated Press: School bus driver charged in deadly Chattanooga crash

<http://bigstory.ap.org/89500cbe67ab48ec8e6bbe3b265859d0>

The driver of a school bus that was filled with elementary students when it crashed in Chattanooga, killing at least five children, has been arrested and faces charges including vehicular homicide. Calling the Monday afternoon crash "every public safety professional's worst nightmare," Chattanooga Police Chief Fred Fletcher told an overnight news conference that 24-year-old bus driver Johnthony Walker was charged with five counts of vehicular homicide. Walker was also charged with reckless driving and reckless endangerment. Investigators were looking at speed "very, very strongly" as a factor in the crash, Fletcher said earlier. Police said overnight that five children were killed in the crash. Earlier in the day, Hamilton County District Attorney Neal Pinkston told news outlets the crash killed six. The Associated Press was not immediately able to reach officials early Tuesday to clarify the discrepancy. Thirty-five students from kindergarten through fifth grade were on board when the bus flipped onto its side and wrapped around a tree. The bus was the only vehicle involved in the crash, but Fletcher said the scene was complicated and covered a significant area.

Associated Press: Suspect in fatal police shooting upset over custody battle

<http://bigstory.ap.org/10810b95a18140c18e917ea38b7cdf70>

The suspect arrested in the ambush shooting of a San Antonio police detective has said he was angry about a child-custody battle and "lashed out at somebody who didn't deserve it." Otis Tyrone McKane was being led by police to the Bexar County Jail late Monday when he told reporters that he was angry with the court system for not letting him see his son and took it out on Detective Benjamin Marconi. "I've been through several custody battles, and I was upset at the situation I was in, and I lashed out at someone who didn't deserve it," McKane said. He said he wanted to apologize to the family of the slain officer. McKane, 31, of San Antonio, was arrested on a capital murder charge Monday afternoon in the fatal shooting of Marconi. The detective was shot as he sat in his squad car Sunday after making a traffic stop. Authorities have said a gunman walked up to Marconi's driver's-side window and fired.

World News:

Associated Press: A scare, then relief after powerful Japan quake and tsunami

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b14dad0557aa4cf5943baf888bb86ea6>

At first, it was 2011 all over again. "It really came back. And it was so awful. The sways to the side were huge," Kazuhiro Onuki said after northeastern Japan was jolted Tuesday by a magnitude-7.4 earthquake, the strongest since a devastating quake and tsunami five years ago. "But nothing fell from the shelves," Onuki, 68, said in a phone interview, his voice calm and quiet. Coastal residents returned home from higher ground, and fishing boats to port, after tsunami warnings were lifted along Japan's Pacific coast. The earthquake gave Tokyo — 240 kilometers (150 miles) away — a good shake, but was much less powerful than the magnitude-9.0 quake in 2011, and only moderate tsunami waves reached shore. The Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, which leaked radiation for kilometers (miles) after the 2011 tsunami, reported no abnormalities. Decommissioning work on the destroyed reactors was suspended and the site inspected.

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