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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, July 11, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WIS: Confederate battle flag gone for 1 year: symbol gone but hate remains

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32413652/confederate-battle-flag-gone-for-1-year-symbol-gone-but-changes-still-needed>

Meaghan Norman

It's been one year since the Confederate battle flag was removed from the grounds of the South Carolina State House. "I think the flag coming down was essentially a miracle," said SC Rep. Jenny Horne, R-Dorchester. She said if the massacre hadn't happened at Mother Emanuel Church in Charleston, the flag would still be flying on the north side of the State House. Horne was part of what it took to bring down the flag. As debate dragged on through multiple amendments, Horne said she needed to remind her colleagues why they were there in the first place. "It was 8:00 in the evening and no one had mentioned -- no one who had debated the bill at all had mentioned the nine victims at Mother Emanuel AME Church," she said. Emotions were high with a lot at stake. "Blood was on the floor, so to speak, during that debate," she said. "I just felt compelled. I didn't know what I was going to say. And I just let my emotions take over and said what I felt inspired to say." It was a turning point. Two days later Governor Nikki Haley signed the bill and the flag came down.

Post and Courier: A year later, flag removal anchors Haley legacy, future

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160709/160709507/a-year-later-flag-removal-anchors-haley-legacy-future>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley may go down in history as the leader who stamped out the Confederate flag in South Carolina, but in the last year she's also sought to reinforce her march back to the right. Signing an abortion-restrictive bill — twice — continuing her anti-union rhetoric, defending voter ID and attempting to cut spending that many veteran Statehouse lawmakers wanted all played a part in keeping her Republican credentials current. College of Charleston political science professor Gibbs Knotts said Haley's ability to remove the flag served one national platform as she moved to reverse 50 years of Confederate display. But going forward, Haley's resume is still bound by GOP roots for the next two years, he said, as she looks for other possibilities beyond that. "Being able to successfully challenge the 'big symbol' of the South — the Confederate flag — and to be part of that transition to the new South in a real way, she deserves a lot of credit," Knotts said.

WRDW: Gov. Haley releases statement on recent police shooting rallies

<http://www.wrdw.com/content/news/Gov-Haley-releases-statement-on-recent-police-shooting-rallies-386269331.html>

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley released a statement late Sunday night about the weekend rallies held after a week of police-involved shootings across the country. Haley says while she appreciates the peaceful intent of the weekend rallies in the state, she did not want to put fellow citizens or law enforcement at risk by blocking highways. "Instead, let us remember the feelings of respect, cooperation, and brotherhood that brought our state through the last year, and made South Carolina an example, for all the world, of how to move forward in the wake of tragedy," said Gov. Haley. Gov. Haley said that citizens across the state have "rose to the occasion" when it came to passing the nation's first body camera law, removal of the Confederate Flag from the statehouse grounds, and helping each other through the floods.

SC Confederate Flag Rally:

Associated Press: Confederate flag back for a day at SC Statehouse

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gqXhiuK0

Meg Kinnard

The Confederate battle flag flew again outside the South Carolina Statehouse on Sunday - temporarily - during a rally that drew both supporters in Civil War garb and bullhorn-toting protesters. Groups for and against the flag were kept separate by metal barriers on the front lawn, and police officers supported by helicopters circling overhead kept the peace as the flag flew again for several hours. But the scene was tense at times after police killings of black men in Louisiana and Minnesota and the killings of officers by a black sniper in Dallas. A year ago Sunday, after a white man killed nine black people inside a Charleston church, the Confederate flag that had flown for years beside the Confederate Soldiers Monument was furled and sent to a museum.

The State: Confederate flag flies again – temporarily – at State House

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article88759697.html>

Bristow Marchant

After its removal from the State House grounds a year ago, the Confederate flag was back – if just for the day. Flag supporters staged a rally on the grounds Sunday – the one-year anniversary of the flag’s removal from a Confederate soldiers memorial – where an honor guard of Confederate re-enactors raised the flag once again on a temporary pole in the same spot. But it would fly only until the event permit expired, at 5 p.m. Sunday. The rally drew about 150 people from across South Carolina and beyond, according to an estimate from the S. C. Department of Public Safety, as well as a smaller number of anti-flag protesters. The event was organized by the S.C. Secessionist Party, which plans to make the raising an annual event. Party chairman James Bessenger said the flag is needed on the monument to honor the thousands of South Carolinians who lost their lives fighting for the Confederacy. “We memorialize those who died at Pearl Harbor and on 9 / 11,” Bessenger said. “We don’t defame soldiers today because they fight for oil and global bankers, and we shouldn’t defame (the Confederates).”

Post and Courier: Confederate flag supporters say ‘return flag to it where it belongs’ on S.C. Statehouse grounds

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160710/160719921/confederate-flag-supporters-say-return-flag-to-it-where-it-belongs-on-sc-statehouse-grounds>

Maya T. Prabhu

The Confederate flag flew once again Sunday at the South Carolina Statehouse, when members of the S.C. Secessionist Party raised the banner on the one-year anniversary of its removal. Bringing their own 30-foot pole with them, flag supporters raised the flag shortly after 11 a.m. in an attempt to show the rest of the state their Southern pride and heritage would not be erased, said party founder James Bessenger. “Our flag is missing and we’ve come to put it back. So without any more delay, let’s put it back,” Bessenger said to kick off the rally that at its peak drew about 150 people. Sunday marked one year since the General Assembly’s removal of the rebel banner from display in response to the murder of nine black parishioners at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. Accused shooter Dylann Roof was seen posing with the flag in pictures posted online. His acts helped fuel a nationwide Confederate backlash.

Washington Post: Confederate flag flies once again — for a few hours — at the South Carolina statehouse

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/07/11/confederate-flag-flies-once-again-for-a-few-hours-at-the-south-carolina-statehouse/>

Katie Mettler

On July 10, 2015, a flood of thousands gathered outside the South Carolina statehouse, intent to watch the Confederate flag fall and never return. It had been nearly a month since an avowed white supremacist gunman had murdered nine people in a historic black church in Charleston, S.C., just over 100 miles away. In photographs online, the shooter had posed with the Confederate symbol. So that morning in July, after an honor guard lowered the flag, then unclipped it, the emotional crowd bearing witness to history cheered and

applauded and chanted “U.S.A.!” The flag — a controversial symbol of the enslavement of African Americans and the bloody Civil War fought over that injustice — was taken away, destined for a museum, after waving on capitol grounds for 54 years. There were hugs and more cheers. There were tears. Then with less grandeur, a construction crew cleared away all evidence that the flag had ever flown there — the pole, the wrought iron fence that surrounded it, and even the concrete slab upon which it towered. A Confederate memorial still remained, but the flag, and its historical implications, were gone for good. Until Sunday, exactly one year since that day, when the Confederate flag reappeared.

NOTE: South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley also released a statement off of the night’s events, after both the Columbia protest and one in Greenville, S.C., that briefly shut down Interstate 385, reported TV station WLTX 19.

NOTE: “Last year South Carolina showed the power of listening, respect and kindness,” Haley said in the statement. “Whether passing the nation’s first body camera law, removing a divisive symbol of the past from the Statehouse, or helping neighbors through the floods, our people rose to the occasion. While I appreciate the peaceful intent of this weekend’s rallies, I’d ask that we not put our fellow citizens or law enforcement at risk — which is exactly what attempting to block highways does. Instead, let us remember the feelings of respect, cooperation, and brotherhood that brought our state through the last year, and made South Carolina an example, for all the world, of how to move forward in the wake of tragedy.”

New York Daily News: Confederate Flag rises again at South Carolina Statehouse in Secessionist rally
<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/confederate-flag-rises-south-carolina-statehouse-article-1.2706385>

Alfred NG

South Carolina’s Confederate flag rose again. A year after the controversial rebel banner fell from the Statehouse, the South Carolina Secessionist Party is looking to start a new annual tradition: a flag raising rally. Despite backlash from across the country, including calls from South Carolina’s governor Nikki Haley, President Obama and Vice President Biden to take down the Confederate flag from the state’s property after many considered it a symbol of hate in the wake of a racist massacre at a Charleston church, the Secessionist Party wanted to honor the stars and bars. The group called the flag’s takedown the “greatest treason” in the state’s history on its Facebook event page. “Fellow Southerners from across the Southern States will stand together in solidarity and defense of what we hold sacred,” the flag supporters said. The group was concerned, but undeterred in its mission as tensions continue to rise in the aftermath of police-involved killings of Philando Castile in Minnesota and Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, as well as five officers killed in Dallas by military-trained maniac Micah Johnson. South Carolina capitol police reached out to the Secessionist Party’s board chairman, James Bessenger, and asked to postpone the Sunday rally after the Dallas shootings — the group refused to back down, according to The State.

WFAE: A Year Later, Former SC Statehouse Confederate Flag Remains In Storage

<http://wfae.org/post/year-later-former-sc-statehouse-confederate-flag-remains-storage>

Sarah Delia

The Confederate battle flag flew above the South Carolina capitol or on its grounds for 44 years. That changed after the massacre at Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston. Photos emerged of accused killer Dylann Roof with the flag. Demands to take it down intensified, and the Confederate flag was gone three weeks later. It was sent to a state museum for display. But as Sarah Delia reports from Columbia, that display isn’t going to happen anytime soon. July 10, 2015 was a hot sticky day in Columbia some hundred miles away from where the tragedy in Charleston had occurred about three weeks before. Still, thousands gathered outside the statehouse to see one thing: the ceremonial lowering of the Confederate battle flag. Some came to say goodbye to what they felt was a piece of southern heritage. Others came to celebrate its removal. Just 24 hours earlier Governor Nikki Haley signed a bill that ordered the removal of the flag.

SC Protest:

The State: Black Lives Matter protest causes road closures, police activity

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article88831267.html>

A Black Lives Matter protest at the South Carolina State House caused a number of roads to be obstructed and closed on Sunday. The Columbia Police Department has been working with the group of about 800 protestors, and said that no arrests had been made and there were no reports of criminal activity. The protest began between 7 and 8 p.m., after the South Carolina Secessionist Party marked the one-year anniversary of the Confederate flag coming down from the South Carolina State House by raising the banner again on a temporary pole earlier in the day. "We've had open lines of communication to try and facilitate their movements as they move through the city," Columbia Chief of Police Skip Holbrook said of the protestors, adding his department has been aided by Bureau of Protective Services, S.C. Highway Patrol, SLED and the Richland County Sheriff's Department. "Our goal is to protect people and protect property and our (officers) have showed excellent restraint, a lot of common sense and exercised good judgment.

NOTE: Governor Nikki Haley released a statement regarding the protest and the road closures. "While I appreciate the peaceful intent of this weekend's rallies, I'd ask that we not put our fellow citizens or law enforcement at risk – which is exactly what attempting to block highways does," Haley said in the statement. "Instead, let us remember the feelings of respect, cooperation, and brotherhood that brought our state through the last year, and made South Carolina an example, for all the world, of how to move forward in the wake of tragedy."

Post and Courier: Anti-police violence march shuts down I-26 in Columbia, occupies Statehouse steps Sunday night

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160710/160719910/anti-police-violence-march-shuts-down-i-26-in-columbia-occupies-statehouse-steps-sunday-night>

Maya T. Prabhu

Interstate 26 into Columbia was shut down late Sunday night for nearly an hour as more than 500 people marched through the city to protest police violence, following a path that later saw them occupy the Statehouse steps. Chanting "No Justice, No Peace — No Racist Police" the crowd originally left from the Statehouse during the early evening, going down Main Street before ending up at the Statehouse again. They even passed the Governor's Mansion after dark. City intersections were blocked to car traffic as the marchers made it to their turnaround point near I-26 on the north side of town. The group — a mix of black and white mostly young people — marched as far as 4 miles across the city. Some angry slurs were yelled at police but there were no arrests or incidents of violence immediately reported.

NOTE: Gov. Nikki Haley issued a statement on the march late Sunday. "While I appreciate the peaceful intent of this weekend's rallies, I'd ask that we not put our fellow citizens or law enforcement at risk — which is exactly what attempting to block highways does," she said. "Instead, let us remember the feelings of respect, cooperation, and brotherhood that brought our state through the last year, and made South Carolina an example, for all the world, of how to move forward in the wake of tragedy," her statement added.

Associated Press: AP Mobile: Protests over police killings aim at occupying interstates

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/71594dd45e4746ac967b2b9d2fe803d0/protests-over-police-killings-aim-occupying-interstates>

Rebecca Santana and Michael Kunzelman

Police made dozens of arrests in Louisiana's capital city during weekend protests around the country in which people angry over police killings of young black men sought to block some major interstates. Riot police in full gear stopped a group of protesters in Baton Rouge late Sunday in their attempt to walk onto Interstate 110 in Baton Rouge, thwarting a protest tactic that social justice activists have increasingly tried in several U.S. cities. Tensions between black citizens and police have risen since last week's killings of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, and Philando Castile in Minnesota by white officers, and a retaliatory attack on white police by a black sniper in Dallas that killed five officers and wounded others.

NOTE: Elsewhere, hundreds blocked a segment of Interstate 94 in Minneapolis-St. Paul on Saturday. And hundreds also blocked motorists recently on part of Interstate 264 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Demonstrators have also tried but failed in recent days to block highways in Atlanta and Columbia, South Carolina.

NOTE: Some government and law enforcement officials have been outspoken in seeking to discourage protesters from blocking traffic. "While I appreciate the peaceful intent of this weekend's rallies, I'd ask that we not put our fellow citizens or law enforcement at risk — which is exactly what attempting to block

highways does," South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said in a statement.

Associated Press: South Carolina mostly peaceful in police shooting protests

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=MxFRvlg5

SC State Wire

Most of the protests in South Carolina were peaceful following last week's police shootings around the country. Protesters in Columbia closed a major intersection near the Statehouse on Sunday and later prompted the closing of a small stretch of Interstate 126. There were no arrests, no injuries and no property damage reported. There were several events in the Charleston area. About 200 people gathered in Charleston to pray, express their feelings and question local leaders. About 250 people gathered in Mount Pleasant for a unity rally and a march to the top of the Ravenel Bridge between Mount Pleasant and Charleston. A peaceful meeting in Greenville Sunday evening followed a confrontation Saturday night where five people were arrested and at least two people were injured.

The State: Protesters rally at SC State House Sunday night

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article88831482.html>

Cassie Cope and Cynthia Roldan

Hundreds of Black Lives Matter protesters marched through downtown Columbia and to the S.C. State House Sunday night, protesting last week's police shooting deaths of two African-American men in Louisiana and Minnesota. "I just came to support," said Zariyah Williams, 18, who was at the State House. "I'm tired of what's going on." State Rep. Todd Rutherford, D-Richland said he was driving earlier Sunday night when he saw I-126 was shut down at the Huger Street and Elmwood Avenue split. He said the roads appeared to be shut down by police to make sure no one got hurt during protests. They were reopened later. Rutherford said he parked and joined the protest. "I've been involved in police shootings for years," Rutherford said, adding he has seen the injustice. "To have a chance to voice my opposition to the way things go, I could not miss it."

Associated Press: Protests continue over Confederate flag, killings by police

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=eRusVIU9

SC State Wire

Several hundred people who started their day protesting the reappearance of the Confederate flag outside the South Carolina Statehouse were keeping up their protests into the night Sunday. The crowd was blocking a major intersection in downtown Columbia a block from the Statehouse complex. Police were out in force and a helicopter was monitoring the situation from overhead. Earlier Sunday the South Carolina Secessionist Party temporarily raised a Confederate battle flag at the same site where it was taken down by a vote of the legislature a year ago.

Greenville News: Arrests made after protesters threaten to shut down 385

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2016/07/09/peace-rally-held-second-night-falls-park/86902740/>

Anna Lee

Protesters scuffled with police late Saturday in what began as a peaceful Black Lives Matter rally in downtown Greenville. Several people were arrested by the Bon Secours Wellness Center after a crowd of about 150 tried to breach a police barricade and shut down Interstate 385, according to Greenville police spokesman Gilberto Franco. "We made the decision to intervene," Franco said. Among those arrested was Derrick Quarles, who led the march and is the founder of Upstate Black Lives Matter. Quarles was charged with creating a public nuisance and pedestrian in the roadway, court records show. On Church Street, officers armed with rifles stood by their cruisers as a barricade. Blue lights lit up the night, and two men could be seen in handcuffs near one patrol car.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: South Carolina chief justice frustrated with lawmakers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=E4q5CF4m

SC State Wire

South Carolina's chief justice is frustrated with the way state lawmakers treated the judicial branch in writing this year's state budget. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/29GMNrK>) that Chief Justice Costa Pleicones (Pluh-KON-Us) sent an email to legislators who are also lawyers complaining about what he called the "dismissive treatment" of the judiciary by state budget writers. Pleicones says the operational budget for the courts continues to be underfunded and hurts the ability of the courts to deliver the service South Carolinians expect. Pleicones did not mention specific dollar amounts but said legislative budget committees took part in what he called "a pre-ordained charade" in minimizing the judiciary's most recent budget request. He says he's not optimistic about the prospects for the future if the practice continues.

Post and Courier: S.C. chief justice slams Statehouse for underfunding the judiciary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160709/160709537/sc-chief-justice-slams-statehouse-for-underfunding-the-judiciary>

S.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Costa Pleicones let out his frustration in an email where he chided the poor treatment of the state's judicial branch at the hands of Statehouse budget writers. In a note to lawyer-legislators and those preparing to take office, Pleicones blasted what he called the General Assembly's "dismissive treatment" of the court system from the Legislature's budget committees. "Let me be clear that I am not referring to the failure of the legislature to approve a significant pay increase for the judiciary," his said. "The overarching problem is the continued underfunding of our operational budget. As a result, our ability to deliver the service rightly expected by our citizens has been imperiled." While Pleicones did not address specific dollar amounts in his letter, he said that both the House Ways and Means and the Senate Finance committees took part in "a pre-ordained charade" in low-balling the judiciary's most recent budget request. "While we should be able to survive, if barely, for the next fiscal year, I am not optimistic about our prospects going forward should this practice continue," he added.

SC Agency News:

Post and Courier: South Carolina inmates to receive telehealth care

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160711/160719973/south-carolina-inmates-to-receive-telehealth-care>

Derrek Asberry

The Medical University of South Carolina and the state Department of Corrections are teaming up to provide telehealth services to inmates in four South Carolina prisons. Using the service, a doctor in Charleston can consult with the care team at a prison any time of day via video conferencing equipment. Then, the doctor can remotely prescribe medications, treatments and procedures that prison officials can implement for the inmate. Bryan Stirling, director of the South Carolina Department of Corrections, said the partnership will enhance public safety by limiting offender transports. It also will save taxpayer money, he said in a press release. His agency oversees 20,620 offenders throughout the state with many facilities located in remote areas.

Opinion/Editorial:

Washington Post: Divisiveness must stop

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-dallas-police-chief-is-right-this-must-stop/2016/07/08/1dbce3c2-453e-11e6-88d0-6adec48be8bc_story.html

Editorial Board

"OFFICER DOWN." It is the call that police never want to hear. It means that one of their own is in desperate straits. On Thursday night, in Dallas, it became a tragic refrain as five police officers were systematically gunned down and seven others injured in a sniper ambush. Their deaths — "officer down" — are a grim reminder that we should never forget the dangers that police face and the sacrifices they make to do their jobs protecting the rest of us. "We are heartbroken. There are no words to describe the atrocity that occurred to our city," Dallas's shaken police chief, David O. Brown, said Friday of the deadliest single day for law enforcement in the United States since Sept. 11, 2001. The attack — "vicious, calculated and despicable," as President Obama said — occurred in the city's downtown as demonstrators were winding down what had

been a peaceful protest of police shootings in Minnesota and Louisiana that claimed the lives of African American men this week. As we wait for answers, it is important to spell out certain things. Police and citizens are united by common interests that must not be undermined by those so sick or twisted as to resort to violence. Yes, there are racial disparities in law enforcement that must be confronted. But that does not provide an excuse for violence. And, yes, the jobs that police are asked to do are difficult and dangerous. But that's all the more reason for police to instill community trust.

The State: Latest flag flareup highlights problems with Heritage Act

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article88523887.html>

Cindi Ross Scopes

THE SECESSIONISTS are right: Gov. Nikki Haley broke the law when she ordered the Coastal Carolina flag flown from the State House dome to celebrate the school's national baseball championship. And the governor, as usual, brushed aside the criticism, ignored the legalities and said, essentially, why should I obey a law that doesn't make sense? That pattern of breaking the law and acting as though it simply doesn't matter would make Hillary Clinton blush. But this is not a column about Gov. Haley, who clearly acted with the best of intentions. This is a column about the Heritage Act, which the Legislature amended on July 9, 2015, in order to remove the Confederate flag from the State House grounds — a mandate carried out on a sunny morning one year ago Sunday, in a solemn seven-minute ceremony attended by 10,000 and punctuated by understandable but unseemly cheers and chants. That was good for our state, but it produced unrealistic expectations, and unforeseen consequences.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Four more South Carolina residents contracted Zika; 11 total for state

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160709/160709480/four-more-south-carolina-residents-contracted-zika-11-total-for-state>

Derrek Asberry

Four more South Carolina residents have been diagnosed with the Zika virus bringing the state total to 11 confirmed cases. The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control reported on Friday that 10 of the cases involved residents who were infected while traveling abroad in impacted areas. "One case involved a South Carolina resident who had sexual contact with someone who acquired the Zika infection while traveling abroad," DHEC wrote on its website. The agency says it is unable to provide additional information concerning the patients' physical condition, hospitalization, age, sex, and residence.

Local News:

Greenville News: A plea for peace, unity follows night of confrontation in Greenville

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/10/five-arrested-taser-used-during-downtown-protest/86916554/>

Elizbeth LaFleur

A night after a peaceful rally turned confrontational in downtown Greenville, dozens of residents and community leaders gathered at historic Springfield Baptist Church to send a message of unity to the community. The church, organized by former slaves in 1867, played host to a gathering of residents and people in power who all stressed a unified message in the wake of tragedies across the country: Discourse and conversation are welcome, violence is not. State Rep. Leola Robinson-Simpson told those in attendance: "Stay on the battlefield, but be nonviolent." Robinson-Simpson spoke of her history as a protestor and demonstrator during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. She emphasized that they got their point across without violence, while encouraging young people to keep up the good fight.

Post and Courier: Charleston-area residents gather, reflect on a week of violence across the U.S.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160710/160719912/charleston-area-residents-gather-reflect-on-a-week-of-violence-across-the-us>

David Slade

At the end of a bloody week when the killings of police, and by police, shocked the nation, Charleston-area residents came together in different ways to seek peace, and solutions. At Charity Missionary Baptist Church in North Charleston about 200 people gathered Sunday evening to pray, speak their minds, and at times question local officials who attended, including Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon. Across the Cooper River in Mount Pleasant a crowd that grew to about 250 gathered in Waterfront Memorial Park for a unity rally and a walk to the top of the Ravenel Bridge. The church event was first planned following the killings by police of Alton Sterling, Tuesday in Louisiana, and Philando Castile, Wednesday in Minnesota, and was originally titled "How to get black men off the endangered species list." Following the Dallas sniper attack Thursday that killed 5 police officers and injured 7 more, the church refocused the event as a community forum titled "Part of the solution."

Island Packet: Hilton Head Island remembers lost lives with prayer vigil

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/article88819677.html>

Joan McDonough

Scores of neighbors and community members came together on Hilton Head Island to pray on Sunday night, holding hands and remembering those who lost their lives in some of the most recent shootings throughout the country. Veterans Memorial Park at Shelter Cove was filled with people of all ages, colors, faiths and backgrounds as the sun went down. At least 15 different faith communities were represented, offering up prayers for Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, Brent Thompson, Patrick Zamarripa, Michael Krol, Lorne Ahrens, Michael Smith and all of their loved ones. "The challenge for all of us is to create new and positive ways to turn all of our problems, differences and hate into love," said Blaine Lotz as he opened the prayer vigil. Mayor David Bennett addressed the community, asking them to be good Samaritans to one another, and treat everyone as a neighbor. "If we want to be a whole community, it starts with relationships," he said.

Island Packet: The birthday party young Hilton Head gunshot victims will never get to have ...

<http://www.islandpacket.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/liz-farrell/article88720702.html>

Liz Farrell

At around 6 Saturday evening, the crowd that was scattered across the picnic area at Jarvis Creek Park was called over to the main pavilion. It took some doing. Tracee Spencer made the announcement over the PA system. Then she made it again. As everyone finally situated themselves along the perimeter of the structure, which left a wide empty space in front, she told the younger attendees — the teenagers, the friends of Dominique Williams, who was shot and killed last July in Coligny Beach Park — where she wanted them to stand. "Come in close," she said. There was a message they needed to hear. The group was at the park to mark what would have been Dominique's 18th birthday, which is Sunday. They were there to celebrate what would have been another gunshot victim's birthday as well.

WIS: Residents take concealed carry classes after recent violence

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32408814/residents-take-concealed-carry-classes-after-recent-violence>

Caroline Patrickis

Recent violence across the country has convinced many gun owners to apply for concealed carry permits. We recently sat in on a CWP class Saturday at Sandhill Shooting Sports in Lugoff where students said having this permit gives them a little peace of mind. Most of the people attending the concealed carry class already own and know how to use a gun, with some saying they are simply applying for a permit to carry it concealed.

Dean Houck, a student in the class said he has owned a gun since he was 10. For others, like Coastal Carolina football player Andrew Mayfield, this was their first experience shooting a gun. "This is my first time even being around guns," Mayfield said. "With this country now, how things are today, you want to protect yourself. I try to learn something -- something new so I can be prepared for anything I am put into." Mayfield was not the only member of the class with those feelings.

Independent Mail: Detective brings humor to Clemson Police Department page on Facebook

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/detective-brings-humor-to-clemson-police-department-page-on-facebook-374cc8f7-8dc4-3b61-e053-0100007-386214591.html>

Allison Wells

There's a new funny man in town, and he wears a uniform and badge. Every morning Detective Michael Arflin of the city of Clemson Police Department shares information on the department Facebook page about the previous days' arrests. But he provides more than just the straight facts about cases of driving under the influence or breaks-ins. This officer uses humor. For example, he posted on June 29 that "There are two in the 'Gray-bar Inn' this morning. The first went to the local Neighborhood Market to do a little shopping I said shopping... not buying. The young man in question picked up a blue case of beer that someone had just left sitting there on the display with all the other similarly colored boxes, and went out the front door bypassing the checkout lines completely. He thought it cheaper and more time efficient that way." Or this one from July 6 about an officer stopping a passing motorcycle, "The motorcycle was travelling the speed limit...the problem arose when the officer noticed it had a 'MOPED' tag on it. The driver provided a license, he just missed the part about it needing to be 'his.' Once again, the spidey-sense we are issued went off and the officer asked him for his name. The driver, having not planned this out past a certain point (referred to as 'at all'), could only recite the first name on the ID." In a job that demands such professionalism, Arflin appreciates that he can let loose at least a little, he said.

Associated Press: S. Carolina megachurch ousts founder as senior pastor

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7clqarrf

SC State Wire

The founder of South Carolina's massive NewSpring Church has been ousted as senior pastor over problems including alcohol use. The Independent Mail in Anderson reports (<http://goo.gl/1yPf95>) that another church leader, executive pastor Shane Duffey, announced at a Sunday service that the Christian church had removed the Rev. Perry Noble on July 1. Duffey cited Noble's "unfortunate choices" and said the church's board had confronted Noble multiple times about his drinking. A statement attributed to Noble and read during the service confirmed that he overused alcohol, and said "No one is more disappointed in me than I am in myself." Noble didn't immediately respond to an email Sunday from The Associated Press.

The State: Some Lexington County homeowners eager to explore flood buyouts

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article88818122.html>

Tim Flach

Persistent flooding after downpours has Tami Rhodes ready to leave her home near Irmo even though it escaped major damage during last fall's record rain. "I definitely want to get out of here," she said. "It's stressful every time it rains." Rhodes is among homeowners eager to consider Lexington County's plan to acquire and demolish residences in flood-prone parts of the Challedon neighborhood. County officials are looking at using \$6 million in federal disaster aid received after October's floods to buy out homes along Kinley Creek, a stream that sometimes overflows in heavy rain. Which ones? It doesn't matter how much damage a home sustained in October: It matters where it sits, county officials say. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is recommending razing some homes that line the creek after reviewing drainage problems in the watershed through which it flows, from Broad River Road south to the lower Saluda River.

Associated Press: Duke Energy says most Carolinas customers have power back

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

SC State Wire

Duke Energy says it has restored power to all but a sliver of the hundreds of thousands of customers affected by recent storms. Company data shows that about 20,000 customers were still without power on Sunday. The Charlotte and Winston-Salem areas have the most people still waiting to have power restored. About 100 of the customers were in South Carolina. There were still more than 1,000 technicians out working to restore power. The work should be finished by Monday night.

Herald-Journal: Solar farm to bring power to Spartanburg neighborhoods

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160710/articles/160719983>

Alyssa Mulliger

Plans for a solar project that will reuse the former Arkwright landfill to deliver clean, renewable energy to Spartanburg residents are gaining more power. The \$7 million project will turn a former 35-acre Superfund

site with no alternative development potential into a solar farm that can generate enough electricity to power 500 homes in Spartanburg. Around 12,000 solar panels will be installed at the 3.5 megawatt site. The emissions offset of the project will be equal to removing about 4,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide from the environment, or taking 800 vehicles off the road. It will be the first-ever solar power facility placed on a South Carolina landfill.

Post and Courier: Volvo's export surge a good sign of things to come for Berkeley County

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160710/160719957/volvos-export-surge-a-good-sign-of-things-to-come-for-berkeley-county>

David Wren

The number of cars Volvo exports from its Gothenburg, Sweden, factory to the U.S. and other parts of the world has doubled over the past year. And that bodes well for Berkeley County. Between June 2015 and May of this year, roughly 170,000 Volvo cars were sent out through Gothenburg's port. It's an indication of the growing popularity of the carmaker's brand, both in America and elsewhere. "Volvo has produced a highly successful range of models at the Torslanda plant in recent years," Claes Sundmark, a vice president at the port, told Automotive Logistics magazine. Torslanda is a district within Gothenburg. Sundmark said "delivery to virtually every market takes place via the port in Gothenburg nowadays." Volvo's resurgence in the global automotive market is taking place while the carmaker is building its first U.S. manufacturing plant near Ridgeville in Berkeley County. The facility will make 100,000 cars a year — including a newly designed S60 sedan — with the first vehicle set to roll off the production line in late 2018.

National News:

Associated Press: Officials: Dallas suspect had plans for larger attack

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a8845a560ae54d16a9e5f26806e52774>

Nomaan Merchant

The gunman in the deadly attack on Dallas police had plans for a larger assault and possessed enough explosive material to inflict far greater harm, the city's police chief and top elected official said. Micah Johnson, a black Army veteran, began firing on officers while hundreds of people were gathered in downtown Dallas to protest recent fatal police shootings. Authorities have said the 25-year-old kept a journal of combat tactics and had amassed a personal arsenal at his home that included bomb-making materials. "We're convinced that this suspect had other plans and thought that what he was doing was righteous and believed that he was going to target law enforcement — make us pay for what he sees as law enforcement's efforts to punish people of color," Dallas Police Chief David Brown told CNN's "State of the Union" Sunday.

Associated Press: In Dallas remarks, Obama will aim to make sense of shootings

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5f68cf18786e4726ae0b790b063c602e>

Kathleen Hennessey

For President Barack Obama, the decision to return early from an overseas trip after a series of shocking shootings will prove to be easy compared to his next challenge: Comforting an America that has witnessed a rash of shootings. After arriving from Spain late Sunday, Obama will fly Tuesday to Dallas, the scene of the massacre of police officers that, on the heels of two caught-on-video police shootings, has emerged as a tipping point in the national debate about race and justice. Obama is due to deliver remarks at an interfaith memorial service and is expected to meet with victims' families and with local law enforcement officials mourning their own. To some degree, the trip is a familiar ritual for a president who has embarked in recent years on similar consolation missions with relentless frequency. But it's clear that Obama views the moment as distinct. In choosing to deliver a speech, rather than a private visit with families, Obama has tasked himself with ministering to Americans as they make sense of a frustrating cloud of issues swirling around the shootings.

Associated Press: Friend or foe? Open-carry law poses challenge to police

<http://bigstory.ap.org/45f4d45b5f874c82a64228aa2ba95639>

Lisa Marie Pane

Gun-rights activists, some of them wearing camouflage and military-style gear and openly toting rifles and handguns, marched alongside the hundreds of people who flocked to downtown Dallas last week to protest police shootings of blacks. Their presence was part of the new legal landscape in Texas, which earlier this year allowed people to openly carry firearms in public. Moments later, when a sniper gunned down officers patrolling the peaceful march, killing five, the attack ignited panic and confusion. Who was shooting? Were the people with weapons friend or foe? It was the same nightmare scenario that some law enforcement officials predicted when Texas approved the open-carry proposal.

World News:

Associated Press: N. Korea vows to end diplomat communication channel with US

<http://bigstory.ap.org/925ac285491f4b2aabb432f510aa6ccd>

Hyung-Jin Kim

North Korea said Monday it will end a diplomatic communication channel with the United States and hinted at harsher punishment for Americans detained in the country in retaliation for U.S. sanctions that target leader Kim Jong Un. The U.S. government last week imposed penalties on Kim and 10 other top officials for alleged human rights abuses. North Korea is already sanctioned because of its nuclear weapons program, but it was the first time that Kim has been personally sanctioned. The North called the sanctions tantamount to a war declaration. On Monday, the North's state media said it told the United States it will terminate contact through a U.N. channel in New York that allowed diplomats to communicate.

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