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To:  
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Subject: Clips – Saturday, September 24, 2016

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## Clips – Saturday, September 24, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: SC is 'breaking the law' by ignoring poor schools <http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103762406.html>

Jamie Self

Valerie Williams remembers as a child being distracted by raindrops falling from the ceiling of the classroom in her Denmark elementary school. Today, more than two decades later, the 1950s-era elementary school still has a leaky roof. Its boiler overheats classrooms in winter. And, in the summer, air-conditioning window units buzz in classrooms while the tar-patched roof melts, sending black tar oozing earthward over the awnings. "When is it going to change?" said the 36-year-old Williams, whose three daughters — ages 17, 15 and 9 — attend the district's schools. Despite promises to improve public education for all students, South Carolina's GOP-controlled state government has not addressed the disparities between poor school districts — almost all in black communities and in Democratic areas of the state — and wealthy districts — most in white Republican communities — that have been decades in the making.

NOTE: At Gov. Nikki Haley's encouragement, lawmakers have spent more in recent years on reading coaches, technology and students in poverty. But this year, legislators failed to pass Haley's proposal — the first of its kind in nearly two decades — to spend state money to help poor districts build and renovate schools. For decades, districts have had to raise money locally to upgrade facilities — leaving wealthier districts with strong tax bases with a huge advantage in facilities over poorer ones.

NOTE: In an interview Monday with The State, Gov. Nikki Haley would not endorse creating a statewide approach to funding schools. Instead, the Lexington Republican said she wants to focus spending on programs that are needed, and work to ensure school districts are spending money wisely and consolidating resources when possible.

NOTE: Haley also touted recent increases in spending on students in poverty as "one of the best things we could have done" to make school funding more equitable.

NOTE: Meanwhile, the added money for reading coaches and technology in poor school systems — touted by Haley as "transformational" — has been too little, critics say.

NOTE: In January, Haley also asked lawmakers to approve borrowing up to \$200 million a year to send to districts to help renovate and build new schools.

NOTE: Haley's proposal was vague and did not pass. However, lawmakers have vowed to take it up in January, during the next legislative session. Meanwhile, the state is doing another study, surveying the building needs of districts.

Post and Courier: MUSC objects to public records request

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929749/musc-objects-to-public-records-request>

Lauren Sausser

The Medical University of South Carolina won't release internal emails that could shed light on reasons why the school sat on an economic impact study for several months before publishing it in August. MUSC attorney Annette Drachman argued in a letter to The Post and Courier this week that the documents don't meet the legal definition of "public record" and that releasing them would "constitute unreasonable invasion of personal privacy." She also said some of the papers can't be made public because "that would violate attorney/client relationships." The newspaper filed a Freedom of Information Act request on Aug. 31 to determine why MUSC waited five months to publish the study. MUSC's doctors' group paid the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce \$5,000 to write the paper. It was finished in April, but MUSC chose to release it

on Aug. 29 — one day after The Post and Courier published an investigation about MUSC Board of Trustees spending in its Sundayprint edition.

NOTE: That investigation quickly prompted an audit into board spending by the state's inspector general and a reprimand from Gov. Nikki Haley, who asked board members to refund MUSC for their lavish travel expenses.

India West: Gov. Nikki Haley Keynotes Pratham N.Y. Fundraiser, \$2.6 Million Raised to Rid Child Illiteracy in India

[http://www.indiawest.com/news/global\\_indian/gov-nikki-haley-keynotes-pratham-n-y-fundraiser-million-raised/article\\_03e3f27c-8113-11e6-9eea-87be02dc62f5.html](http://www.indiawest.com/news/global_indian/gov-nikki-haley-keynotes-pratham-n-y-fundraiser-million-raised/article_03e3f27c-8113-11e6-9eea-87be02dc62f5.html)

Pratham USA, one of the largest educational nonprofits in India that provides quality education to underprivileged children, hosted their annual New York Tri-State Gala Sept. 16 at the Waldorf Astoria. The event, attended by roughly 600 guests, raised more than \$2.6 million for Pratham's innovative, award-winning educational programs, according to a press release. The programs resonated deeply with the night's keynote speaker, South Carolina Gov. Nikki R. Haley, who engaged the crowd with her personal story about growing up as an Indian immigrant in the Deep South. Haley also drew attention to the problem that Pratham is trying to solve. "A demoralizing statistic facing India today is that it is the world's 10th largest economy, yet less than half of the nation's 250 million children can read adequately," the Indian American governor said. "A child who can't read is a child who can't learn, and a child who can't learn is a child without hope," she added.

Charlotte Protest Shooting:

Associated Press: Charlotte has 4th night of protest over police shooting

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e1262f970dad4a8c8e50e2e65598e9c9>

Meg Kinnard and Jonathan Drew

Demonstrators carried signs, chanted and marched in a peaceful protest hours after the family of a black man shot by police released video showing the events leading up to his death. Friday's march through Charlotte's business district was the fourth night of demonstrations over the shooting of Keith Lamont Scott earlier in the week. After darkness fell, dozens of people took to the streets to urge police to release dashboard and body camera video that could show more clearly what happened. Police have said Scott was armed, but witnesses say he held only a book. The group, which appeared smaller than previous nights, carried a banner that said "Just Release the Tapes." Earlier in the day, footage recorded by Keith Lamont Scott's wife and released by his family shows his wife repeatedly telling officers he is not armed and pleading with them not to shoot her husband as they shout at him to drop a gun.

Charlotte Observer: Wife's video shows moments before Keith Scott's fatal shooting by Charlotte police

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/crime/article103629427.html>

The New York Times and NBC News said they obtained cellphone video from the wife of Keith Lamont Scott leading up to the moments when he was shot by a Charlotte police officer Tuesday. Police said Scott got out of the car with a handgun that they ordered him to drop, and was shot seconds later after police believed he posed an imminent deadly threat. But Scott's family said Thursday he was killed while walking backward, hands at his side. And police sources told Observer news partner WBTV that the gun in the case was loaded, and that Scott's DNA, blood and prints were found on the gun. On the video, Scott's wife can be heard yelling for the police not to shoot him. The shaky, two-minute video does not show Scott being shot.

Charlotte Observer: Staggered by protests, Charlotte regains its footing

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/crime/article103629427.html>

Rick Rothacker, Mark Washburn and Adam Bell

Still in an official state of emergency and under a midnight curfew, Charlotte's uptown relaxed Friday after three days of passionate protests and occasional violence. People went to restaurants, walked their dogs on the street and generally ratcheted down the tension that came in the wake of a police killing Tuesday of a man in University City. Even a dramatic video recording the fatal shots and released by attorneys for the family of the dead man, Keith Lamont Scott, did not appear to raise the level of anger or protest in the city's urban core. Police and National Guard troops maintained a visible presence throughout uptown. The EpiCentre

entertainment complex, magnet for some of the week's most tumultuous upheaval, closed down early.

Post and Courier: Young S.C. Democrat Justin Bamberg making name for himself in police-shooting cases  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929683/young-sc-democrat-justin-bamberg-making-name-for-himself-in-police-shooting-cases>

Maya T. Prabhu

Justin Bamberg stood before a sea of reporters in Charlotte shortly before watching footage of police shooting and killing Keith Lamont Scott. "There's too much talk," the 29-year-old attorney from Bamberg told reporters Thursday. "We're not going to deal in skepticism, we're here to find out facts." As a member of the team of attorneys representing Scott's family, the Democratic state lawmaker and son of two law enforcement officers was in a place he has been in twice in the past year and a half — representing the families of black men who have been shot and killed by police in high-profile cases. Bamberg has represented the families of Alton Sterling, who was shot and killed in Baton Rouge this summer, and Walter Scott, who was killed by a North Charleston officer last year.

WSPA: SC's Police Body Camera Law Would Not Release Shooting Video

<http://wsps.com/2016/09/23/scs-police-body-cam-law-would-not-release-shooting-video/>

Robert Kittle

The calls continue to grow louder for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police to release their video of the shooting death of Keith Lamont Scott, but Police Chief Kerr Putney is refusing, saying it would jeopardize the investigation. If the shooting had been in South Carolina, the state's body cam law would not let the public see the video either. Chief Putney says his department has video from at least one body camera and one dashboard camera of the shooting. Scott's wife shot cell phone video of the incident, but it doesn't show whether Scott had a gun. Police say he did and refused to drop it, while witnesses say he was holding a book and didn't have a gun. Jay Bender, a media attorney in South Carolina and expert on the Freedom of Information Act, says he thinks Charlotte police are making a mistake by not releasing the video. "The police will always release video when it shows the police doing something good. So that means if the police don't release a video, it's because it implicates the police in illegal or unethical conduct," he says

NOTE: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley signed the state's body cam law in June 2015. State lawmakers passed it after Walter Scott was shot in the back and killed by a North Charleston Police officer. That officer, Michael Slager, said that Scott had wrestled away his Taser so he feared for his life. But a bystander's cell phone video showed Scott running away from Slager when he was shot.

The State: 'Peaceful protest,' vigil planned next Saturday at SC State House

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article103739296.html>

Sarah Ellis

A group plans a peaceful protest and vigil in honor of recent African-American victims killed by police next Saturday, Oct. 1, at the S.C. State House. The organizers are not affiliated with the official Black Lives Matter organization, which has a local chapter. But a Facebook page promoting the event uses a "Black Lives Matter" cover photograph. The protest will be held the week following several nights of sometimes-violent protesting in Charlotte after Keith Lamont Scott was shot to death by a Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer. "We are tired of this systematic killing of our brothers, sisters, mothers, sons, partners," the organizers wrote on the event's Facebook page. "Let us create a space for discussion, grief, gathering, and healing." On Friday afternoon, more than 150 people had indicated on Facebook that they planned to attend the rally, and another 400-plus had responded that they are "interested" in the event. The State House Department of Administration does not have any reservations for activities on the grounds this Saturday, a spokesperson said.

Sun News: CCU students stage flash mob protest against police killings

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article103706252.html>

Christian Boschult

The Coastal Carolina University chapter of the NAACP organized a flash mob protest Friday to bring awareness to the issue of people dying at the hands of police. At exactly 12:15 p.m. in Hicks Dining Hall, students wearing

predominately black-colored clothes rose from their seats in unison. Some held signs, and most remained quiet. "See us, don't shoot us," some said. Others spoke the names of those who've died at the hands of officers. "Terence Crutcher." Within minutes, the crowd thinned as the protestors left the building or went back to their seats to eat lunch. Rahiem Burgess, president of the CCU NAACP, organized the event and spread the news by word of mouth and social media. "It spread like wildfire," said Burgess. "I think that speaks to the magnitude of how concerned people are about these issues. There's anger, there's confusion most importantly, because there are constant images of people who look like me dying by the hand of those who are supposed to protect us. And you have those who may not identify as African-American or black, completely disregarding it, or trying to justify it. Whether it was a black man or a white man or woman, I think the concern should be more about the fact that we are losing lives. And the fact that people are completely ignoring it terrifies me."

Aiken Standard: As protests continue in Charlotte, Aiken leaders strive for solutions

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160923/160929769/as-protests-continue-in-charlotte-aiken-leaders-strive-for-solutions>

Dede Biles

Amid the hurricane of violence swirling around the nation, Aiken has remained an eye of calm in the storm. There have been riots in other cities following racial incidents and shootings. Locally, however, peaceful gatherings and marches have been the normal responses, along with discussions between community leaders and law enforcement officials. "You could never get me to say that nothing could ever happen here in a bad way," said Aiken Department of Public Safety Chief Charles Barranco on Friday. "But I feel good about the relationships that we have built and continue to build on, and I hope that they will help us through any situations that may arise." When discussing his philosophy about his profession, Barranco likes to refer to a Sir Robert Peel quote from the 1800s: "The police are the public, and the public are the police." Those words describe "how we have to operate," Barranco said. "Law enforcement is human, and we make mistakes. We need to own those mistakes when we make them, and figure out ways for continual improvement. We also have to have a relationship with the community and a dialogue with the community. That is the bottom line."

Aiken Standard: USC Aiken investigating 'inappropriate' tweet made after reported Black Lives Matter demonstration

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160923/160929783/usc-aiken-investigating-x2018inappropriatex2019-tweet-made-after-reported-black-lives-matter-demonstration>

Mayaan Schechter

USC Aiken officials are investigating an "inappropriate" tweet Friday reportedly made by one of its students in response to a Black Lives Matter demonstration at Westwood High School in Richland County. The Aiken Standard could not confirm the validity of the tweet, which uses a racial slur, calls Black Lives Matter a "joke," and threatens to "blow up westhood." In a statement to the Aiken Standard, Mary Driscoll, vice chancellor for University Advancement and External Relations, confirmed university authorities are looking into the tweet made Friday. "USC Aiken embraces diversity and encourages respectfulness and aspires to be a nurturing community where people support one another," Driscoll said. Driscoll did not confirm whether the tweet was made by a current student at the school or offer any additional details, adding. "Authorities will take the time they need to carefully evaluate the situation."

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Defense: Roof won't ask jury for mercy in church trial

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gw7gXyMu](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gw7gXyMu)

SC State Wire

Defense attorneys don't intend to have Dylann Roof ask the jury for mercy during the penalty phase of his federal trial in the Charleston church shootings. Prosecutors had asked U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel earlier this month to prohibit Roof from asking for mercy. In an order Friday, the judge denied the request as moot saying the defense has filed documents saying their client does not intend to do so. Those defense documents have been sealed. The 22-year-old Roof is charged with hate crimes and other counts in the June

2015 slayings of nine African-Americans at Emanuel AME Church. If Roof is found guilty, there will be a second phase of the trial to determine whether he receives life in prison or death. Initial jury screening begins Monday.

#### General Assembly News:

The State: SC House Democrats volunteer to give investigators financial records

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103706582.html>

Cassie Cope

The special prosecutor did not ask for them. But S.C. House Democrats will give David Pascoe an unsolicited look at their caucus' financial records anyway, they said Friday. The move comes a day after House Republicans, who control the S.C. House, revealed they have allowed investigators to review the GOP Caucus' financial records dating back more than two decades. In a letter to Republican state representatives, the executive committee of the GOP House caucus confirmed there is an ongoing investigation by a State Grand Jury into the activities of House members, including GOP caucus members. The GOP letter did not mention any Democrats. And no Democrats were named in the once-secret pages of a SLED report on State House corruption. However, Democrats — the minority party in both the House and Senate — plan to turn over their information unsolicited.

Post and Courier: State House Democrats, Republicans to turn over finance records to investigators

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929720/state-house-democrats-republicans-to-turn-over-finance-records-to-investigators>

Gavin Jackson

Amid an ongoing corruption investigation at the South Carolina House, Democratic House leaders confirmed Friday that they will voluntarily turn over caucus finance records to a special prosecutor. The move is part of an effort for "full transparency," Democrats say and comes after state investigators requested similar documents from Republicans. House GOP leaders said they are complying with the request for caucus financial records dating back to 1995. The investigation led by 1st Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe, an Orangeburg Democrat, has focused on House Republicans so far. Despite not having a request from Pascoe, House Democratic caucus finance records from 2013 will be turned over to the prosecutor, said House Minority Leader Todd Rutherford, D-Columbia. "House Democrats have absolutely nothing to hide and we are willing to voluntarily open up our books to the authorities to prove it," Rutherford said in a statement.

The State: SC Lt. Gov. McMaster hosts fundraiser for NC counterpart

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103676877.html>

Bristow Marchant

South Carolina's lieutenant governor is extending a helping hand to his Republican North Carolina counterpart. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is hosting a fundraiser for North Carolina's Lt. Gov. Dan Forest at his Columbia home on Oct. 11. Forest is running for re-election this year in a state that has become a tightly contested battleground between the two parties. The two presidential candidates are neck-and-neck in North Carolina opinion polls, and the state's Republican Gov. Pat McCrory — who is elected separately — is in a fierce fight for re-election against Attorney General Roy Cooper. GOP Sen. Richard Burr is also facing a strong challenge from Democrat Deborah Ross. Forest faces a challenge in November from former state Rep. Linda Coleman on the Democratic side. Donations being solicited for the event range from \$100 to \$5,100.

#### SC Delegation News:

Post and Courier: In opening of the national African-American history museum, Clyburn savors the moment

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929728/in-opening-of-the-national-african-american-history-museum-clyburn-savors-the-moment>

Emma Dumain

"After 87 years, it finally got here," U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn mused. "That's my first thought." The South Carolina Democrat was speaking about the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the new

Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., that will open its doors on Saturday morning in a celebration organizers say will draw crowds as if it were a “mini-inauguration.” Busloads of South Carolinians have come up for the event, from representatives of the Edisto Island Museum that donated a free-standing slave cabin to the family members of civil rights leader Esau Jenkins. Most of them will be standing out on the National Mall watching the dedication, featuring President Barack Obama, on giant television screens. Clyburn, the third-ranking House Democrat and most senior black lawmaker on Capitol Hill, will have a coveted seat for the festivities.

McClatchy DC: Here's another politician who paid family for campaign work

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/election/article103735016.html>

Vera Bergengruen

U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., paid his mother-in-law \$500 a month in campaign funds for consulting work during his 2010 campaign and his first term, records show. The payments don't appear to be illegal, and other lawmakers have paid family members for campaign work. But they could raise questions as Mulvaney faces a challenge from Democrat Fran Person for South Carolina's 5th Congressional District seat. An analysis of Federal Elections Commission filings by McClatchy found a total of \$13,886 paid to his mother-in-law, Isobel Lynch, from December 2009 to December 2011, the month she passed away. Roughly 15 percent is reimbursements for postage and campaign supplies. The rest is listed as “fundraising consulting,” “grass-roots consulting,” and “administrative support.” In one entry she is listed as “Isobel Lynch Consultant.”

Herald-Journal: Gowdy, Scott, challengers to hold conversation at Furman

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160923/gowdy-scott-challengers-to-hold-conversation-at-furman>

Furman University will host a “conversation” featuring four S.C. congressional candidates on Oct. 24. The event will feature Republican U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-Spartanburg, and Democratic challenger Chris Fedalei, candidates for the 4th Congressional District; and U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and Democratic challenger Thomas Dixon, who are U.S. Senate candidates.

Danielle Vinson, political science professor at Furman, said the event will feature 40 minutes of conversation between the two House candidates, 40 minutes with the Senate candidates and 20 minutes with all candidates on stage together. “This will be a wide-ranging, in-depth discussion with the candidates and not a timed debate,” Vinson said in a statement. “We want the candidates to come together and show that it's possible to have a civil, substantive conversation about important political issues even when we disagree with one another.”

SC Political News:

Charlotte Observer: Hillary Clinton delays Charlotte visit at mayor's request

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/election/article103741641.html>

Ronne Glassberg

Hillary Clinton has decided to delay a planned Sunday visit to Charlotte after Mayor Jennifer Roberts on Friday urged the presidential candidates to postpone trips, the campaign announced late Friday. Clinton is planning to reschedule the visit for a week later. Clinton's planned visit, announced Friday, would have come one day before her first debate with Donald Trump, and followed violent protests over Tuesday's fatal police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott. But Roberts said on CNN that she would prefer that the presidential candidates delay visits so security resources will not be stressed. Trump has also planned to visit Tuesday; it was not immediately clear whether that trip is still planned. “If possible, I would encourage them to come at a later date,” Roberts said, explaining that local law enforcement is strained now. “We would hope they would come a little bit later.” In a statement late Friday, Clinton communications director Jennifer Palmieri said: “Hillary is grateful for, and intends to honor, the invitation from faith leaders to visit with the Charlotte community. After further discussions with community leaders, we have decided to postpone Sunday's trip as to not impact the City's resources.

Greenville News: Court bars college dorm students from voting in Greenville, director says

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/23/court-bars-college-dorm-students-voting->

[greenville-director-says/90936892/](http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/22/furman-students-sue-county-over-voter-registration/90863316/)

Nathaniel Cary

If a college student who lives on campus at Clemson University wants to register to vote in Pickens County, they can just fill out a voter registration form and list their campus housing as their legal residence. Same with students at the University of South Carolina or the College of Charleston or any number of colleges in South Carolina. But not in Greenville County. If a college student who lives on campus at Furman University or Greenville Technical College or Bob Jones University or North Greenville University wants to register to vote in Greenville County, they're more than likely out of luck. That's because those students must complete an 11-question form with answers that satisfy the county's Board of Voter Registration and Elections. If they don't return the form within 10 days, the board will reject their registration. If they don't answer every question correctly with enough information to establish their residence in Greenville, the board will reject their registration.

Greenville News: Furman students sue county over voter registration

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/22/furman-students-sue-county-over-voter-registration/90863316/>

Nathaniel Cary

Three Furman University students have filed a lawsuit in Greenville County that challenges the county election commission's handling of voter registration for college students who choose their school address as their legal residence. The students claim a longstanding policy created by Greenville County Board of Voter Registration and Elections goes beyond state election law and has thwarted efforts of Furman University students for years who want to register to vote in the location where they live for much of the year. The policy created by the county voter registration board has served to depress the vote of Furman students for decades and differs from the voter registration rules in many other South Carolina counties, said Glen Halva-Neubauer, a Furman political science professor who is familiar with the lawsuit.

Post and Courier: Hundreds of Charleston County poll managers needed for election day

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929692/hundreds-of-charleston-county-poll-managers-needed-for-election-day>

Prentiss Findlay

Charleston County is thinking outside the box when it comes to strategies for recruiting hundreds of poll workers needed for the Nov. 8 general election. So far, some 600 people have signed up to be a poll manager but 700 more are needed, said Joe Debney, executive director of the county Board of Elections and Voter Registration. Attracting enough people to work the polls is a challenge. "It is a long day. It is a stressful day," Debney said. The election board is drawing on its list of past poll workers to try to fill the gap, and it is putting the word out at the county website. "We go to schools and colleges," he said. "We do more outreach than any other county in the state." Debney has reached out to the camp of Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter Darius Rucker of Mount Pleasant to see if he would record a public service announcement. "We're waiting to hear back from them," he said. Being a poll worker offers a different way to be engaged in the political process by helping ensure voting goes smoothly. Those who complete two-to-three hours of training, pass a certification test and complete their duties on election day receive \$120.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Savannah River Remediation progress is topic of American Nuclear Society meeting

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160923/160929789/savannah-river-remediation-progress-is-topic-of-american-nuclear-society-meeting>

Thomas Gardiner

The first meeting of the 2016-17 year for the Savannah River Section of the American Nuclear Society got underway with a featured speaker from Savannah River Remediation at Augusta's Boll Weevil on Tuesday night. SRR Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Project Manager Mark Schmitz presented recent progress in the liquid waste processing missions at Savannah River Site and honed in on SRR's safety record and utilization of technology, high-tech and low. The Savannah River Section of the American Nuclear Society is comprised of

nuclear industry professionals from government and industrial entities throughout the CSRA. Nuclear industries are not limited to government operations and electricity production but also include disciplines such as archaeology, medicine and even agriculture. Schmitz highlighted the successes SRR touted throughout the year, including a tank closure, celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Defense Waste Processing Facility and construction completion of the Salt Waste Processing Facility.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: County looks to DOT for blame

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160924/160929669/county-looks-to-dot-for-blame>

Editorial

Charleston County Council must think poorly of the S.C. Department of Transportation. By asking the department for feedback about the proposed bike and pedestrian lane over the Ashley River, members are suggesting the department hasn't been doing its job adequately for the past two years. Or, just as bad, they are hoping SCDOT will bend to the political pressure to kill the project that has already received the necessary approval. SCDOT has been kept informed during the process of conceiving, designing and testing the bridge lane from the beginning. It has received the reports, seen the tests and had ample opportunity to pull the plug on the project. That hasn't happened, so it stands to reason that department officials were satisfied with what they read. But under pressure from some Charleston City Council members who were on the losing side of their bike lane vote, County Council is giving the DOT a chance to say that its staff has been wrong all along — or has simply been negligent.

Post and Courier: Charlotte riots extend scary trend

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160924/160929667/charlotte-riots-extend-scary-trend>

Editorial: R.L. Schreadley

They initially were organized as peaceful protests over the shooting of an African American man by a Charlotte-Mecklenburg policeman (who also happens to be black). On the second night riots grew out of what began as a prayer vigil for Keith Lamont Scott, the man who was shot. On the first night of the riots, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Chief of Police Kerr Putney (also black) reported on national television that the slain man was holding a gun, which he refused to put down when confronted by the police who were responding to a call concerning a possibly unrelated incident involving a man with a gun. A gun was found at the site of Scott's shooting, the police say. Scott's family disputes this. They claim that what was in his hand was only a book. No family members were at the scene of the shooting. Enter Black Lives Matter. It seized on this moment to reinforce the narrative that when a black man is shot by the police it is indisputable evidence of racist policing — even, apparently, when the officer or officers involved are black.

Index-Journal: Changing Senate rules? Try regulating mopeds

<http://www.indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Changing-Senate-rules--Try-regulating-mopeds-18265886>

Editorial

Depending on which senator is talking about the S.C. Senate rules, they hinder progress or are good for the Senate as a deliberative body and protect the rights of the minority. "Senate rules are the biggest single problem in making progress," said Greg Hembree of Little River. He alludes to the inglorious demise of legislation that would have placed mopeds under state traffic laws like other motor vehicles, including motorcycles. Mopeds and their operators remain totally unregulated in South Carolina; neither the two-wheelers nor their drivers are required to have licenses. The General Assembly passed reasonable reform but Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed the legislation, claiming it would be wrong to require moped operators to wear reflective vests and to require that riders under age 21 wear helmets. The House overrode the veto, but one senator, Gerald Malloy of Hartsville, blocked a vote to override by delaying action. It was late and everyone was tired and ready to leave. Soon there was no quorum and no vote.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Nearly as many opioid deaths as traffic accidents in state

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=10tIAm8g](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=10tIAm8g)

SC State Wire

Experts are warning about the dangers of opioid and heroin abuse in South Carolina, pointing out that almost as many people die from overdoses of such drugs as are killed in accidents each year on the state's highways. During a seminar Thursday by the Drug Enforcement Administration and federal prosecutors, authorities also said overdoses cause more deaths than violent crime and major fast food restaurants in the state probably have at least one illegal drug transaction in their parking lots each day. Local media report the session was held to increase public awareness about opioid and heroin abuse. Last year, 637 people died in motor vehicle accidents in South Carolina while 550 died of heroin and opioid abuse. Acting U.S. Attorney for South Carolina Beth Drake warned that children need to be taught by middle school the dangers of opioid abuse. Many youngsters who get addicted start by taking medicine from the family medicine cabinet.

Independent Mail: Anderson eluding heroin spike so far

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/09/23/anderson-eluding-heroin-spike-so-far/90933118/>

Mike Eads

Heroin-related deaths and arrests aren't that common in Anderson County, but they are on the rise in the area and around South Carolina. Statewide last year, 637 people died in motor vehicle accidents in South Carolina, and 550 died as the result of heroin and opioid abuse, according to local and state officials who spoke at a Thursday seminar in Columbia with federal drug enforcement officers. Anderson County Deputy Coroner Don McCown said his office hasn't encountered a spike in heroin and/or fentanyl overdoses, but he believes an increase is coming. "I think I've seen one fentanyl overdose on the EMS side this year," said McCown, who also works for Medshore Ambulance Service. "They (users) still seem to be abusing prescription pills like oxycontin. ... We have not seen a lot of that yet, but we know it's inevitable."

Local News:

Post and Courier: Charleston police chief exploring ways to remove innocents from field contact database

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160924/160929725/charleston-police-chief-exploring-ways-to-remove-innocents-from-field-contact-database>

Andrew Knapp and Glenn Smith

Charleston Police Chief Greg Mullen said he is exploring ways to remove innocent people from his department's massive field contact database after a Post and Courier series questioned law enforcement's stockpiling of personal data on Americans not tied to specific crimes. Mullen said he has formed a group to study how his department could weed out people who encountered officers or drew suspicion but were not arrested or linked to criminal behavior. The database contains police observations and personal information culled from some 35,000 people — roughly equal to a quarter of the city's population. Mullen's comments came a week after The Post and Courier's "Watched" series revealed that millions of people had landed in law enforcement databases across the United States after crossing paths with officers on the nation's streets.

Post and Courier: Shot in back by Charleston County deputy, man's lawsuit heads to trial

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160924/160929825/shot-in-back-by-charleston-county-deputy-mans-lawsuit-heads-to-trial>

Andrew Knapp

A few weeks before a former policeman goes on trial in Walter Scott's killing, attorneys in a separate case will argue whether a Charleston County deputy shot an unarmed motorist in the back as he tried to run away. Ricky Jennings, now 57, ran from a traffic stop in June 2013, got shocked with a Taser and fought the deputy on the ground. After he got back to his feet, a bullet crumpled him back to the ground. He survived but is paralyzed from the waist down. The shooting bears similarities to Scott's, but there is a key difference: no video confirming Jennings' account. Jennings sued Deputy Kimberly Poirier in federal court, and a jury trial is set to start Oct. 4 in downtown Charleston. Though he admits to resisting arrest — a failed attempt by the felon to avoid more time behind bars — Jennings said the deputy used excessive force.

Independent Mail: Family of Pat Charles Mackey to ask for officials' help

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/09/23/family-pat-charles-mackey-ask-officials-help/90919436/>

Nikie Mayo

The family of Pat Charles Mackey and representatives of Freedom Fighters say they plan to ask the Anderson City Council for help in getting information about his fatal shooting. Mackey, 57, was killed in Iva in late July during a dispute with his neighbor, according to the Anderson County Sheriff's Office. The identity of Mackey's neighbor has not been disclosed by investigators, and the man has not been charged. Traci Fant, an Upstate activist, said that even though the shooting happened in Iva, she and Mackey's family are going to Anderson city officials because they hope to get help from Mayor Terence Roberts and others. Fant said she wonders if this case would have been handled differently if Mackey had not been a black man shot by a white man. "We want to be able to brief all the (Anderson) City Council members on what happened to Mr. Mackey and ask if any of them are willing to speak out or to inquire about what is going on with this investigation," Fant said. "We feel like it is very essential to involve Anderson's mayor, because as a black mayor, we hope he will be willing to hear us. We hope he will be willing to speak out after he hears what we have to say."

Associated Press: Man told police that wife OD'd; autopsy finds she was shot

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=925i3lkq](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=925i3lkq)

SC State Wire

A man charged with killing his wife told police he watched her overdose, but an autopsy shows she was shot twice in the head, according to court documents. Luc Tieman was ordered held without bail Friday after his first court appearance since being charged with murder in the death of 34-year-old Valerie Tieman. Her partially buried body was found Tuesday by cadaver dogs about 200 to 300 yards behind her in-laws' home in Fairfield. Luc Tieman, 32, didn't answer questions from reporters as he left the courthouse. He was arrested in Waterville after spending the night in a motel. Defense lawyer Stephen Smith said Tieman was an honorably discharged Army veteran who'd served in several combat zones. He said, "We expect that the public will not exercise a rush to judgment." Tieman initially told police his wife disappeared Aug. 30 from their parked truck while he was inside a Wal-Mart, but a review of store surveillance video did not show their truck parked outside.

Associated Press: Man convicted of killing teen in Charleston home

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WurEGh1K](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WurEGh1K)

SC State Wire

A jury has convicted a North Charleston man in the stabbing of a teen in 2014. Multiple media outlets reported that 19-year-old Terrell A. Smith was convicted of murder, attempted murder and possession of a weapon during a violent crime on Thursday. Smith was charged with stabbing 18-year-old Brandon Bennett of Charleston at his home on June 11, 2014. Bennett's father said he was also attacked by Smith. Prosecutors said Smith faces between 30 years and life in prison when he is sentenced in December. Smith had been arrested in Birmingham, Alabama several days after the stabbing.

Post and Courier: Burke High School teacher under investigation for alleged inappropriate activities with students

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929676/burke-high-school-teacher-under-investigation-for-alleged-inappropriate-activities-with-students>

Gregory Yee

A Burke High School teacher has been placed on administrative leave after allegations of inappropriate activities with students. Officials with the Charleston Police Department and the Charleston County School District did not say Friday what the alleged activities were. A police report provided to The Post and Courier contained scant information, including a three sentence narrative on the timeline after the alleged misconduct was reported. Principal Anna Dassing contacted a school resource officer on Monday about the alleged inappropriate activities, the report said. The teacher's name is redacted from the report, which makes reference to "juvenile students."

The State: Lexington 3 to provide heart tests for student athletes after Lewis Simpkins' death

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article103666217.html>

Tim Flach

School officials in Batesburg-Leesville are urging student athletes to undergo advanced heart tests as a life-saving precaution. Lexington 3 educators are taking the step after the death of football player Lewis Simpkins in August during practice at nearby River Bluff High School. Heart condition, heat combined to kill River Bluff player. Tests taken after Simpkins' death determined he died from a pre-existing heart condition exacerbated by heat. Simpkins' death was a lesson learned, Lexington 3 officials said. "We knew this was something we needed to provide for our students," Superintendent Randall Gary said. A fund-raising campaign is starting to pay for tests for 400 Lexington 3 student athletes in 7th through 12th grades, officials said Friday. The goal is \$20,000. The tests will not be required but encouraged, officials said.

Post and Courier: Facebook post about Moultrie Middle School student's skirt goes viral, reignites dress code debate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929680/facebook-post-about-moultrie-middle-school-students-skirt-goes-viral-reignites-dress-code-debate>

Caitlin Byrd

When Suzie Webster wrote an 818-word Facebook status this week about her sixth-grade daughter's upsetting dress code experience at Moultrie Middle School, she ended it with three words: "feeling fed up." She also made a plea: "Please. Share." They did. By Friday afternoon, Webster's post had been shared almost 700 times on Facebook. Students wear scarlet letters, claiming gender bias in dress code enforcement. It all started Wednesday. That's when Webster's daughter, Reese Franyo, went to school wearing a denim skirt from H&M. The outfit is one Franyo said she has worn to school many times before: A navy Moultrie Middle School shirt, an A-line jean skirt with brass buttons down the front and a pair of ankle boots. So when Franyo wore the skirt to school one day before her 12th birthday, she never thought she would get reprimanded for her attire. She was wrong.

Associated Press: High-tech in South Carolina schools replacing lockers

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Ucw157yz](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Ucw157yz)

SC State Wire

A school being built in Horry County reflects a national trend of high-tech computers and tablets replacing low-tech lockers. The Sun News of Myrtle Beach reports (<http://bit.ly/2d9DGUt>) that school officials got a tour Thursday of a new middle school being built in the Carolina Forest area. It has 48 classrooms, a gym, cafeteria and no lockers. Robert Ferris is CEO of First Floor K-12 Solutions in Raleigh, North Carolina, and says most schools the company is designing no longer have lockers. The firm is building five schools in the county. School board member Holly Heniford says lockers are not as much in demand because with computers, students don't have to lug the books they had to carry in years past. All middle school students in Horry County get iPads.

The State: Only 25% of Columbia landlords have required permits a week before deadline

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article103785591.html>

Cliff Leblanc

Despite an extended deadline that's about a week from expiring, the vast majority of Columbia landlords have not gotten mandatory new city permits for apartments they rent. Owners who don't register by an Oct. 1 deadline could face as much as a \$500-per-day, per-unit fine if they continue to rent an apartment. On the whole, landlords seem to be aware of the city's new ordinance designed to keep properties from becoming dangerous or rundown and tenants from being neighborhood problems. The landlords are just procrastinating. Slightly more than one-fourth of the estimated 4,000 properties the police department calculates are used as apartments had been registered as of late this week. Owners had registered 1,034 properties as of Thursday, said David Hatcher, the city's chief codes enforcer.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Cruz to vote for Trump, whom he once called 'utterly amoral'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c00146e02a714914a61a12bbda15c986>

Steve Peoples and Will Weissert

Ted Cruz announced Friday he will vote for Donald Trump, a dramatic about-face that may help unite a deeply divided Republican Party months after the fiery Texas conservative called Trump a "pathological liar" and "utterly amoral." Cruz said he was simply following through on a promise to support his party's presidential nominee, even though the New York billionaire had nicknamed him "Lyin' Ted," insulted his wife and linked his father to the John F. Kennedy assassination. But facing intensifying political pressure to back Trump, Cruz said he would cast a vote for Trump, while stopping short of an official endorsement in a statement posted Friday on Facebook. The distinction may matter little to voters, but helps Cruz save face among those supporters still unwilling to forgive Trump's heated attacks during their ugly and often intensely personal primary campaign. Cruz was booed by Trump supporters at the national convention for encouraging Republicans to "vote your conscience."

Associated Press: Trump campaign plans \$140 million ad buy

<http://bigstory.ap.org/0486eeaa75a14464bd3f507f02e1067b>

Julie Bykowicz and Jill Colvin

Donald Trump's campaign is planning for what it says will amount to \$140 million worth of advertising from now until Election Day. The total, if executed, would include \$100 million in television airtime and \$40 million in digital ads, according to senior communications adviser Jason Miller. The plan represents a new approach for the billionaire businessman, who has repeatedly bragged in recent weeks about how much less he's spent than Democratic rival Hillary Clinton and seemed to rely heavily on free media coverage of his large rallies. Through this week, the Trump campaign has put only about \$22 million into TV and radio ads for the general election, according to Kantar Media's political advertising tracker. Clinton has spent more than five times as much on those kinds of ads, \$124 million so far.

Associated Press: The Latest: Clinton taps longtime adviser for debate prep

<http://bigstory.ap.org/827df181f63a4492b70dfc66e3e684ac>

Hillary Clinton has tapped longtime adviser Philippe Reines to play Donald Trump in her mock debate preparations, according to a person familiar with Reines' involvement. Reines worked closely with Clinton during her years as a senator and secretary of state, as well as during her first presidential campaign. He's a combative political operative and fierce defender of Clinton's but has not had a formal role in the 2016 campaign. Democratic strategist Michael Feldman, who is not involved in the Clinton campaign, said Reines "does verbal combat at a high level and has for a long time." Clinton has spent weeks preparing for Monday's first debate against Trump. The person familiar with the debate preparations was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and insisted on anonymity.

National News:

Associated Press: Police hunt gunman who killed 5 at Washington state mall

<http://bigstory.ap.org/431b2c8b28584a25b3a3e3932cfeaf43>

Lisa Baumann and Manuel Valdes

Police searched Saturday for a gunman authorities said opened fire in the makeup department of a Macy's store at a mall north of Seattle, killing four females and one man, before fleeing toward an interstate on foot. People fled, customers hid in dressing rooms and employees locked the doors of nearby stores after gunshots rang out just after 7 p.m. Friday at the Cascade Mall. A helicopter, search teams and K-9 units scoured the area for a rifle-carrying man. "We are still actively looking for the shooter," Washington State Patrol spokesman Sgt. Mark Francis said at a news conference. "Stay indoors, stay secure." Police said they were looking for a Hispanic man wearing black and armed with a "hunting-type" rifle and last seen walking toward Interstate 5. The description, including that he appeared Hispanic, was based on statements from witnesses, said Given Kutz, a spokesman for the Skagit County Emergency Operations Center.

Associated Press: New Smithsonian museum chronicling black history opens

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b353bad74cc74981a113ffda67299ee9>

Jesse J. Holland and Darlene Superville

Centuries of struggles and strife, decades of planning and pain, and years of hoping for a place that African-American history can call home will culminate as President Barack Obama officially opens the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. A shining bronze beacon on the National Mall, only steps away from a monument dedicated to a slaveholder president, the new Smithsonian will chronicle the complex relationship between the United States and a people it once enslaved, and tell the story of those who worked to make the necessary changes to bring the country to where it is today. "It doesn't gauze up some bygone era or avoid uncomfortable truths," Obama said in his weekly radio and internet talk. "Rather, it embraces the patriotic recognition that America is a constant work in progress, that each successive generation can look upon our imperfections and decide that it is within our collective power to align this nation with the high ideals of our founding."

Associated Press: Lawmakers vow to override Obama's veto of Sept. 11 bill

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1b7a2705e16f4c41ac99355f2d450832>

Richard Lardner

Democrats and Republicans are vowing to decisively override President Barack Obama's veto of a bill to allow families of Sept. 11 victims to sue the government of Saudi Arabia for the kingdom's alleged backing of the terrorists who killed nearly 3,000 people. Obama rejected the bill Friday, warning of a host of unintended and severe consequences if it were enacted. The legislation, according to Obama, could leave American troops and diplomats overseas vulnerable to lawsuits in foreign courts from people seeking redress for actions taken by armed groups that are backed or trained by the United States. The bill's proponents disputed Obama's rationale, arguing the measure is narrowly tailored and applies only to acts of terrorism that occur on U.S. soil. "This is a disappointing decision that will be swiftly and soundly overturned in Congress," said Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., who sponsored the bill. "If the Saudis did nothing wrong, they should not fear this legislation. If they were culpable in 9/11, they should be held accountable."

World News:

Associated Press: Syrian troops advance near Aleppo, water cut off across city

<http://bigstory.ap.org/afea29b8b2b04652abd27773832b4358>

Bassem Mroue

Syrian government forces captured a rebel-held area on the edge of Aleppo on Saturday, tightening their siege on opposition-held neighborhoods in the northern city as an ongoing wave of airstrikes destroyed more buildings. The new government push came as the U.N. said that nearly 2 million people in Aleppo, Syria's largest city and onetime commercial center, are without running water following an escalation in fighting over the past few days. Government forces captured the rebel-held Palestinian refugee camp of Handarat as airstrikes pounded rebel-held eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo, killing at least 25 people, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The Local Coordination Committees, another monitoring group, said 49 were killed on Saturday alone. The Observatory said the death toll in Aleppo is expected to rise since many wounded people are in critical condition and rescue workers are still digging through the rubble.

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