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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, August 25, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Index-Journal: Area teachers get dyslexia screening lessons

<http://www.indexjournal.com/news/Area-teachers-get-dyslexia-screening-lessons-17924664>

Ariel Gilreath

Because of a joint resolution passed by Gov. Nikki Haley in May, the Department of Education sent out training modules two weeks before school started to train all literacy coaches and kindergarten through third-grade teachers on dyslexia. The modules consisted of videos, slides and quizzes about the reading disorder and how to screen for it and effectively provide instruction. Rep. Gary Clary, R-Pickens, introduced the resolution in March and said public schools have not been adequately addressing the needs of children with dyslexia. "Shortly after I came to the General Assembly, I had several constituents who had children with dyslexia, and the local school district was not meeting their needs and they were attending a private school over in Greenville," Clary said. "So I became very interested in the fact that they were not receiving the services that they needed." The resolution required the Department of Education to provide training to district staff before the start of the 2016-17 school year, which had to include "evidence-based screenings, instructional methods and interventions."

The State: SC lawmakers will have added \$440 million to spend next year

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97799867.html>

Cassie Cope

S.C. lawmakers will have roughly an additional \$440 million to spend next year — about a third of the added money they spent this year, according to projections by the state's chief economist. This year, lawmakers included \$1.2 billion in new revenues in the state's \$7.5 billion general fund budget, made up largely of S.C. income and sales taxes. Lawmakers still face the same budget gaps they did a year ago, and will now have to attempt to fill them with fewer new dollars. For example, the GOP-controlled Legislature did not spend as much on counties and schools as state law says they should. In addition, lawmakers approved spending roughly \$200 million a year out of the state budget to borrow for road repairs. Many, including Republican Gov. Nikki Haley, have said that borrowing is not a long-term solution to the state's crumbling infrastructure. Lawmakers have also set out to tackle the state's unfunded \$16.75 billion obligation in the state's pension system.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: McMaster is 'hoping to be in' next South Carolina gov's race

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bPaEo7Tf

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster all but announced he's running for governor again in two years, saying Thursday that he's "hoping to be in" the 2018 race. McMaster's comments during a Facebook live broadcast with state GOP Chairman Matt Moore were the closest that the longtime Republican official has come to announcing his candidacy. "I'd love to do it," McMaster said. "It's too early to announce anything. But I hope I'm going to be able to do it. ... I'm hoping to be in that race. "Filing for the governor's race doesn't open until early 2018. And by not committing to running,

McMaster - the first elected official to officially endorse Donald Trump's candidacy - keeps himself open to possibly serving in a presidential administration, should Trump win in November. McMaster, 69, is a former state attorney general, U.S. Attorney and state GOP chairman. Finishing third in a four-way Republican primary in the 2010 governor's race, he went on to back the eventual winner, Nikki Haley, who tapped him to head up her transition team, as well as an ethics committee she created to make reform recommendations.

NOTE: Haley was re-elected in 2014, and McMaster was elected separately to serve as her lieutenant governor. Going forward, starting in 2018, governor and lieutenant governor will be elected on the same ticket in South Carolina.

NOTE: McMaster and Haley have worked together on a variety of issues but have clashed publicly over the presidential race. Haley initially backed Marco Rubio before saying she preferred Ted Cruz over Trump. Ultimately, she said she'll back the party's nominee but hasn't explicitly given an endorsement of Trump.

NOTE: At South Carolina's Republican convention this spring, McMaster said Trump was the only candidate who could unite the country. Haley made no mention of Trump at all, instead going after the Republican-dominated Legislature for spending time and money on projects that benefit themselves and their home districts.

The State: Graham wants special prosecutor for Clinton emails

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article97788592.html>

Bristow Marchant

South Carolina's senior senator waded into the controversy over Hillary Clinton's email use, calling for a special prosecutor to be named to investigate the Democratic candidate's email use while she was Secretary of State. Graham made the comments to Fox News. "We need a special prosecutor, someone outside the Justice Department, to look into this matter," Graham said. "If you're waiting on this Justice Department to hold anybody in the Obama-Clinton world accountable, you'll die of old age. It's sad but it's true." "The public statements Secretary Clinton has made about the e-mail systems have all fallen," continued Graham. "She said she turned over everything that was work-related but there's thousands of work-related e-mails that have not been turned over. It's time for a special prosecutor to investigate this matter." Republicans expressed outrage last month when the FBI declined to bring criminal charges against Clinton for her use of a private email server while she headed the State Department.

Post and Courier: Lindsey Graham wants special prosecutor to probe Clinton's use of private email server

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160825/160829623/lindsey-graham-wants-special-prosecutor-to-probe-clintons-use-of-private-email-server>

Emma Dumain

The FBI and the Justice Department have closed the investigation into the private email server Hillary Clinton maintained while secretary of state, but U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham doesn't want the matter to end there. The South Carolina Republican and member of the Judiciary Committee told Fox News on Wednesday he wanted a special prosecutor to be appointed to evaluate the Democratic presidential nominee's email use and determine appropriate next steps. "We need a special prosecutor, someone outside the Justice Department, to look into this matter," said Graham. "If you're waiting on this Justice Department to hold anybody in the Obama-Clinton world accountable, you'll die of old age. It's sad but it's true." FBI Director James Comey announced recently that while Clinton displayed carelessness and poor judgment in using a private email server to transmit sensitive information, she did not break any laws. The failure to indict Clinton has sparked fury among Republicans, who have taken to chanting "lock her up" at campaign rallies for GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump. Graham didn't suggest Wednesday that Clinton should go to jail, but he made it clear he believed Clinton's actions warranted further scrutiny.

The State: SC's Graham softens stance on Trump: 'He could actually win'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article97684567.html>

Jamie Self

Donald Trump is “doing better” and could win the White House if he continues improving his image, Republican U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said Wednesday, softening his criticism of his party’s presidential candidate. “Trump is doing better in the last week. (Hillary Clinton’s) email scandal with the Clinton Foundation ... is a game changer,” Graham said, referring to questions the Democratic presidential candidate has been facing about the access that foundation donors had to Clinton while she was secretary of state. Trump definitely will win South Carolina despite recent polls showing a tighter race here than Republicans typically face, Graham predicted Wednesday after speaking to the S.C. Chamber of Commerce. But to win nationally, Trump must adjust his strategy, the Seneca Republican said. “If he could overcome his image of not having the temperament or judgment for the job, he could actually win.”

Post and Courier: Sen. Lindsey Graham says Trump could ‘actually win’

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160824/160829641/sen-lindsey-graham-says-trump-could-actually-win>

Gavin Jackson

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham praised his former GOP presidential primary opponent, Republican nominee Donald Trump, for an improved showing this week, saying he could turn the tide on Hillary Clinton amid the email scandal that continues to plague the Democrat. “Trump is doing better in the last week,” Graham said Wednesday. “Her email scandal with the Clinton Foundation I think is a game-changer. If he could overcome his image of not having the temperament and judgments for the job, he would actually win.” Graham made the comment after he and fellow South Carolina congressional delegation members U.S. Reps. Tom Rice, Mark Sanford and Joe Wilson wrapped up a panel conversation on business-related issues hosted by the S.C. Chamber of Commerce. The delegation members said more Washington gridlock is on tap this fall until after the elections, despite lingering major budget and infrastructure issues.

Post and Courier: State treasurer announces another tool to help find unclaimed money

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160825/160829610/state-treasurer-announces-another-tool-to-help-find-unclaimed-money>

Dave Munday

Residents have another tool to help them find unclaimed money. The state has linked up with MissingMoney.com, a national database that includes unclaimed property being held by 42 states and provinces, according to an announcement Thursday from S.C. Treasurer Curtis M. Loftis Jr. The treasurer’s office is holding about \$500 million from bank accounts, uncashed checks, stock certificates, insurance policies and utility deposits. Residents can search if they are entitled to any of it at the website treasurer.sc.gov. But many residents have lived and worked in other states and could also have money there, and some residents have moved to other states. “By joining MissingMoney.com, we’ve provided our citizens with a single source for locating property across the country,” Loftis said in a statement.

SC Agency News:

Greenville News: SC guard shortage leads to prison lockdowns

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/08/24/sc-guard-shortage-leads-prison-lockdowns/89197024/>

Tim Smith

State prison officer shortages this year have grown so dire that officials have ordered regular lockdowns at some prisons statewide, officials told The Greenville News. But the prison system’s director said he hopes a series of actions his agency has taken this summer has turned the corner on vacancies and helped persuade more officers to remain at the state Department of Corrections. The

prison system, which operates 23 prisons holding more than 21,000 inmates, faced a shortage of more than 700 officers in January, according to the department, and a 28 percent vacancy rate..But after implementing a \$1,500 pay raise and aggressive recruiting, officials say they have whittled that deficit by more than 200.

NOTE: Bryan Stirling, director of the state Department of Corrections, said prisons hurt at manpower whenever the economy improves and good jobs are available."It's literally an inverse relationship from the unemployment rate to our hiring or our vacancy rate," he said. "Once the unemployment rate starts going down, our vacancy rate starts going up."

NOTE: Volvo's new plant in the Lowcountry is great news for job seekers in that area, Stirling said, but because the facility will be located within a couple miles of the McDougal Correctional Institution near Ridgeville, it will affect vacancies at the prison.

NOTE: Lockdowns, in which inmates are confined to their cells, can be caused by a variety of factors, including inmates' misbehavior. Stirling said operations officials monitor staffing and safety conditions and decide if lockdowns are necessary, in which dorms and for how long. Prisoners are regularly locked down overnight.

NOTE: "With our officer vacancy rate, it does go hand in hand," Stirling said. "So yes there have been more lockdowns." But Stirling said they have been a constant in a number of prisons, including Perry Correctional Institution near Piedmont, occurring several times a week.

NOTE: Stirling said the agency has taken other steps, not only to reduce vacancies but also to improve retention rates, which he said are about 50 percent in the first year of an officer's employment.

Post and Courier: New panel to make recommendations to DOT on preventing bridge jumpers
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160824/160829640/new-panel-to-make-recommendations-to-dot-on-preventing-bridge-jumpers>

Prentiss Findlay

Finding ways to prevent suicide jumpers on the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge was the focus Wednesday of a gathering of mental health experts, emergency first responders, highway engineers and lawmakers."We can't engineer the perfect solution to the crisis. It's not as simple as going in and installing some taller barriers," said state Department of Transportation Secretary Christy Hall. Adding to the height of barriers on the bridge would first require wind-tunnel testing to ensure that the span would still be safe. DOT is willing to fund those studies, Hall said. The meeting of about 100 people led to the formation of a 15-member committee to study the problem and make recommendations to the DOT. "I want a desperately needed two way dialogue here," Hall said. "I believe that by working together we can make some improvements. I envision this as part of the first step," she added. Options discussed Wednesday ranged from relatively low-cost suicide hotline phones to hugely expensive nets like the ones planned for installation on the Golden Gate Bridge.

Associated Press: Panel to study how to prevent Ravenel Bridge suicides
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=qixJ7Cgs
SC State Wire

A committee is discussing ways to try to stop people from jumping to their deaths from the Ravenel Bridge linking Charleston and Mount Pleasant after more than two dozen people have killed themselves since the bridge was opened more than a decade ago. The group met Wednesday and local media outlets report its 15 members include everyone from mental health experts and lawmakers to highway engineers. Ideas discussed included installing hotline telephones and placing nets beneath the bridge. In the 11 years since the bridge opened, 25 people have jumped to their deaths. Most of them jumped from the sidewalk on the south side of the bridge, climbing over a fence more than 6 feet tall. "We can't engineer the perfect solution to the crisis. It's not as simple as going in and installing some taller barriers," said state Department of Transportation Secretary Christy Hall.

SC After Recent Violence:

Post and Courier: Local Black Lives Matter leader found guilty of disorderly conduct

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160825/160829624/local-black-lives-matter-leader-found-guilty-of-disorderly-conduct>

Brenda Rindge

A man arrested after he disrupted a North Charleston City Council committee meeting failed to show for his court date Thursday. Muhiyidin Elamin Moye, 31, of Charleston, also known as Muhiyidin d'Baha, was charged July 21 with disorderly conduct, according to North Charleston police. He was found guilty in his absence Thursday by North Charleston Municipal Judge Thad Doughty and forfeited \$232 bail. D'Baha, leader of the local Black Lives Matter movement, and other members of the group went to City Hall on July 21 to speak at the Public Safety Committee meeting to renew their demands for a citizens' review board with subpoena powers and community oversight over the police department, according to a meeting notice. D'Baha and two others signed up to speak, but at committee meetings, input is allowed only on agenda items or committee business. The review board was not on the agenda. Before the meeting, committee Chairman Bob King told him he would not be allowed to speak.

The State: West Columbia police to purchase AR-15s with donation

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article97671252.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Police in West Columbia will be carrying new patrol rifles after a donation of \$10,000. Police will use the donation – from retired Columbia officer David Arnold to the West Columbia Police Officers Foundation – to purchase about a dozen AR-15s, officials said. The department already has about eight surplus M16 rifles from the Army. Capt. Scott Morrison, spokesman for the department, said it's important for officers to have this semi-automatic firepower because of how heavily armed shooters in recent terrorist attacks have been. "This way, if an incident like that were to occur, we could deploy at least the same type of weaponry to defend ourselves and defend the citizens," Morrison said. Jarrod Bruder, executive director of the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association, said issuing rifles to officers is becoming increasingly common since a terrorist attack last year in San Bernadino, Calif.

Post and Courier: North Charleston may buy bulletproof vests for firefighters

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160824/160829661/north-charleston-may-buy-bulletproof-vests-for-firefighters>

Brenda Rindge

North Charleston could become the first local city to outfit its firefighters with bulletproof vests for responding to calls that involve gunfire. City Council will meet Thursday and is expected to consider approving \$236,500 for 462 "active shooter kits" for the city's police and fire departments. Council's Finance Committee unanimously approved the purchase last week. "We can't let our first responders, police or firemen, be out there with active shooters and wish we had done this," Finance Committee Chairman Ron Brinson said. In 2013, the Federal Emergency Management Agency recommended that firefighters and emergency medical technicians go into active shooter incidents with law enforcement. FEMA also said firefighters should wear bulletproof protective gear. "It does represent a paradigm shift for firefighters," North Charleston Fire Chief Greg Bulanow said. "What they are finding in lessons learned from (mass shootings) is that many more lives could be saved if firefighters and EMS respond into the so-called 'warm zone,' the areas where the shooter isn't active, but had been. By going in and quickly controlling bleeding and evacuating patients, they can save a lot of lives."

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Feds to remove cottage on site once owned by founding father

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HrWSUVW7

SC State Wire

The National Park Service wants to demolish a run-down cottage at a South Carolina plantation once owned by one of the nation's founding fathers. The agency is taking comments on plans to remove

the caretaker cottage at the Charles Pinkney National Historic Site. The site outside Charleston preserves part of a plantation once owned by Pinckney, who was an author and a signer of the U.S. Constitution. The cottage was built in 1936 and before the National Park Service acquired the site in 1990 it had partially collapsed. Since then it has become overgrown with vegetation and officials say it's a safety hazard. The agency plans to take more photographs to document the cottage before it's removed. The Park Service will then prepare an interpretive display for the Pinckney site.

Associated Press: South Carolina Aquarium releasing 200th rehabilitated turtle

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=icKCyp5

SC State Wire

Two more loggerhead sea turtles treated at the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston are being released, bringing the number of threatened and endangered sea turtles rehabilitated at the aquarium's hospital to 200. The turtles are being released Thursday at the Isle of Palms. One of the turtles is named Moon, a 93-pound juvenile loggerhead, found in April near Garden City. Moon was emaciated after not eating for months, was lethargic and was covered with barnacles and leeches. The second turtle is named Marsh. It was found in pluff mud at Huntington Beach State Park in May. Veterinarians say that Marsh was injured in a shark attack.

Local News:

Associated Press: Homicide investigation: Man shot, killed near Conway

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8oBj8W1X

SC State Wire

Horry County police are investigating the shooting death of man near Conway. Deputy Coroner Tony Hendrick tells local media outlets that a man was shot and killed about 1 a.m. Thursday on a road just off U.S. 701 south of Conway. Police are investigating the death as a homicide. Prosecutor Jimmy Richardson says authorities are interviewing several people and are not looking for any additional suspects. Richardson says there is no danger to the public. The name of the victim is being withheld until relatives can be notified.

Independent Mail: Anderson jury find Frost guilty of murder, other charges

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/anderson-jury-find-frost-guilty-of-murder-other-charges-3ae9d009-5e9a-4a8e-e053-0100007fc610-391315691.html>

Mike Ellis

After deliberating for about two hours Thursday, a jury found Robert Joe Frost guilty on all charges. Frost was convicted of murder, attempted murder, burglary, armed robbery and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime. Frost killed his stepfather, who died with at least 18 stab wounds, and stabbed his mother twice in July 2012. Fayette Davenport testified against her son, saying she saw him stab her husband after kicking in the door of the couple's Iva home. Frost said he barged into the home, breaking a weak hinge, but did not kick the door down. Frost admitted to stabbing his stepfather, James Davenport, that night but said he only stabbed but did not slash him. Frost said his stepfather hit him in the head with a baseball bat before he stabbed the older man.

Post and Courier: DEA seizes more than 35 tons of chemical at Port of Charleston used to make meth

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160825/160829625/dea-seizes-more-than-35-tons-of-chemical-at-port-of-charleston-used-to-make-meth>

Gregory Yee

Authorities have seized more than 30 tons of a chemical at the Port of Charleston used to make methamphetamine and are working to uncover whether it is tied to a criminal enterprise. Federal agents with the Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security Investigations and Customs and Border Protection seized 35.6 tons of benzaldehyde Aug. 17 on a ship that called at the port, said Jason Sandoval, resident agent in charge at the Charleston DEA office. The chemical is used in

about 51 percent of methamphetamine analyzed today, Sandoval said. That amount of benzaldehyde is enough to manufacture 60.5 tons of meth. The benzaldehyde was not properly declared, leading customs agents to believe that it was being transported for use in the drug trade, he said.

Morning News: Suspended Latta Police Chief Crystal Moore addresses health rumors

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_cf6c1518-6adf-11e6-957d-3b3a3afcfe77.html

Suspended Latta Police Chief Crystal Moore has released a statement on her Facebook page Thursday morning addressing rumors about her health. Moore was suspended from her position as chief for five days starting Tuesday morning for reasons that have not yet been released. Assistant Police Chief Derrick Cartwright will act as interim police chief for the duration of the suspension. It is the second time that Moore, who is running for sheriff of Dillon County, has been removed from the post. Moore, who is gay, received national attention in 2014 when Mayor Earl Bullard fired her. She was reinstated after a state investigation. In her most recent statement, Moore acknowledged her suspension but said she does not want to address it. Instead, she spoke of health rumors that have been circulating and revealed that she was recently diagnosed with Sarcoma, a cancer that affects the soft tissue.

Associated Press: Docs ask feds to probe use of live animals at USC med school

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

Meg Kinnard

The emergency-medicine training program at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine violates federal law by using live animals, according to a complaint filed Thursday by a doctors group that seeks alternatives to using animals in medical education and research. In a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine claimed that the institution is violating the federal Animal Welfare Act. In a training program at its Columbia campus, the group said, the medical school instructs trainees to cut into live pigs to insert needles and tubes, and to spread the ribs to access the heart. After the training session, the animals are killed. The letter is the result of a two-and-a-half-year attempt by the group to get the medical school to change its practices, according to Dr. John Pippin, director of academic affairs for the Physicians Committee. After approaching various officials at the school, including its chair of emergency medicine and the dean, the group went to the USDA with its concerns. "They're accustomed to doing it this way," Pippin said. "But we feel that, although they're entitled to their opinion, they're not entitled to their own version of the facts."

The State: Animal-rights group wants investigation of USC medical school's use of live pigs

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article97791252.html>

Avery G. Wilks

An animal-rights group on Thursday called for a federal investigation into the University of South Carolina's use of live pigs in emergency medicine training. The Washington, D.C.-based Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine says the emergency medicine residency program run by USC School of Medicine and Palmetto Health violates the Animal Welfare Act by operating on pigs when alternatives are available. The group, which has filed similar complaints at other schools across the country, says the use of live animals in emergency medicine training is inhumane and outdated. It has asked a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to investigate. A USC spokesman said in an emailed statement the program follows local, state and federal laws while using animals in teaching and research activities. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's unannounced, April 2016 inspection of the school found no problems, USC said. "Both the School of Medicine and Palmetto Health believe that our greatest responsibility as health educators is to prepare health care providers to preserve human life," a USC spokesman said in a statement. "The use of animals in the training of emergency medicine physicians is limited to a very small number of circumstances which cannot be adequately replicated by simulation experiences."

The State: You can help decide how \$36 M in flood disaster aid should be spent

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article97813412.html>

Clif Leblanc

Some victims of the October flood have other chances this week and next to speak up about plans to spend more than \$36 million in federal disaster aid. Columbia city officials have scheduled a meeting Thursday evening to present draft plans to spend about \$20 million in Community Development Block Grant disaster money to help low- to moderate-income people. Each government entity must draft a plan with significant input from the public before it may spend the money to assist flood victims. Thursday's two-hour meeting is at Drew Wellness Center, 2101 Walker Solomon Way, starting at 6 p. m. Flood victims will get an opportunity to review the draft plan and offer changes about use of the money that is released through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Lexington County as \$16.3 million from the same disaster aid pot. Low- to moderate-income residents of that county are invited to review those plans during a Sept. 1 meeting at Seven Oaks Park. The two-hour meeting begins at 6 p.m. at the park, located at 200 Leisure Lane off St. Andrews Road.

Associated Press: Boeing agrees to stay with RBC Heritage through 2021

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rQTjM1ZO

SC State Wire

The Boeing Co. is sticking around as presenting sponsor of the RBC Heritage on Hilton Head Island through 2021. The airline manufacturer and PGA Tour announced the extension on Thursday. Boeing has been presenting sponsor since 2011. Earlier this year, the Heritage Classic Foundation announced that RBC signed to back the event through 2023. Boeing has made headlines at Harbour Town Golf Links with several airline flyovers of the course during tournament week. Boeing has a manufacturing plant in North Charleston, about two hours north of Harbour Town Golf Links. The RBC Heritage will take place from April 13-16, 2017.

Island Packet: Boeing extension keeps sponsorship picture intact at RBC Heritage <http://www.islandpacket.com/sports/golf/rbc-heritage-tournament/article97805642.html>

Jeff Shain

The final sponsorship piece to sustain the PGA Tour's annual visit to Hilton Head Island fell into place Thursday, as aerospace conglomerate Boeing signed a five-year extension to remain as presenting sponsor of the RBC Heritage. The new agreement runs through the 2021 edition of the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing. Last month, banking giant RBC locked in its affiliation with South Carolina's largest sporting event for an additional six years through 2023. The corporations first teamed up for sponsorship in June 2011, stepping in to rescue the Heritage Classic from a possible shutdown after going more than a year without sponsorship. The tournament will celebrate its 50th edition in two years. Next year's tournament is set for April 13-16 at Harbour Town Golf Links, where Branden Grace is expected to defend his title. The event also will feature a higher payout than this year's \$5.9 million, rising \$600,000 to \$6.5 million. "Boeing is continuing to make a difference in the state of South Carolina," tournament chief Steve Wilmot said, "and we are extremely proud that they have chosen once again to support the RBC Heritage. We are very excited about the next five years and the positive impact we will be able to make in the communities we serve."

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Chicago Story: Trump sends GOP donors spinning

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2ea4eb204d6e4297bd2cf82696f52295>

Julie Bykowicz

Ron Gidwitz, Dan Webb and William Kunkler are veteran Republicans — and friends — from Chicago's political money circuit. They raised buckets of cash for Mitt Romney four years ago. This time, however, their party's nominee has sent them spinning off in three directions. Gidwitz is hosting fundraisers for Donald Trump. Webb wrote a big check for Hillary Clinton. And Kunkler won't do anything for either candidate, saying he prefers not to enable "stupid behavior." "Everyone is trying to make the best of a bad situation," Kunkler said. Illinois is especially ripe for this hodgepodge of

political feelings. Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner pretends Trump doesn't exist, Republican Sen. Mark Kirk trashes him, and the state's top GOP donors, mostly moderate business leaders, squirm at his racially charged comments. It's also a tale in miniature of the Republican fundraising scene across the country. Many top donors boycotted or sulked their way through the national convention last month. And nearly every day, it seems, a Republican announces support for Clinton, some promising financial help. Her campaign has a formal GOP outreach effort. While big crossover donors like Webb are rare so far, there's evidence that many Republicans are taking the Kunkler route of sitting on the sidelines, an Associated Press analysis of Federal Election Commission filings found.

Associated Press: Suddenly it's Trump sounding soft on illegal immigration

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f4f3f361a7404edaa3f39c4d03edb746>

Erica Werner

Donald Trump defeated 16 rivals in the Republican primaries by being the most anti-immigrant of them all, promising to build a giant wall on the border and deport millions. He labeled opponents like Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio as weak and amnesty-loving, and his extreme rhetoric pushed the entire debate over immigration to the right. But suddenly, Trump is sounding like some of the people he defeated. In an appearance on Fox News Channel's "Hannity" show Wednesday, Trump talked about how tough it is to break up families for deportation, suggesting that maybe upstanding people who've been in this country for years should be allowed to stay if they pay back taxes and insisting, just as Bush and Rubio were repeatedly forced to do, that such actions would not amount to "amnesty." "Everywhere I go I get the same reaction. They want toughness. They want firmness. They want to obey the law," Trump said. "But they feel that throwing them out as a whole family when they've been here for a long time, it's a tough thing."

Associated Press: Trump rebukes racism claims as Clinton warns of radicalism

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ce2b1e8814cf43839c4bfae196083809>

Jonathan Lemire and Lisa Lerer

Donald Trump confronted head-on allegations that he is racist on Thursday, defending his hard-line approach to immigration while trying to make the case to minority voters that Democrats have abandoned them. His poll numbers slipping behind Hillary Clinton's with less than three months until Election Day, Trump tried to get ahead of the Democratic nominee, who addressed a rally in Reno, Nevada minutes later, warning that the Republican Party is being taken over by "a radical fringe," motivated by "prejudice and paranoia." Her speech focused on the so-called "alt-right" movement, which is often associated with efforts on the far right to preserve "white identity," oppose multiculturalism and defend "Western values." "Hillary Clinton is going to try to accuse this campaign, and the millions of decent Americans who support this campaign, of being racists," Trump predicted at his rally in Manchester, New Hampshire. "It's the oldest play in the Democratic playbook: say 'You're racist, you're racist, you're racist.' It's a tired, disgusting argument. It's the last refuge of the discredited Democratic politician."

World News:

Associated Press: Aftershocks rattle Italian quake zone; toll rises to 250

<http://bigstory.ap.org/151f83ea96754bb5beaeb355c2e7fc8b>

Trisha Thomas, Frances D'Emilio and Nicole Winfield

Aftershocks in central Italy rattled residents and rescue workers alike Thursday, as crews worked to find more earthquake survivors and the country anguished over its repeated failure to protect ancient towns and modern cities from seismic catastrophes. A day after a shallow quake killed 250 people and leveled three small towns, a 4.3 magnitude aftershock sent up plumes of thick gray dust in the hard-hit town of Amatrice. The aftershock crumbled already cracked buildings, prompted authorities to close roads and sent another person to the hospital. It was only one of the more than 470 temblors that have followed Wednesday's pre-dawn quake. Firefighters and rescue crews using sniffer dogs worked in teams around the hard-hit areas in central Italy, pulling chunks of cement, rock and metal

from mounds of rubble where homes once stood. Rescuers refused to say when their work would shift from saving lives to recovering bodies, noting that one person was pulled alive from the rubble 72 hours after the 2009 quake in the Italian town of L'Aquila.

Associated Press: Iran: Forces will warn any vessel after US warship incident

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3b3227f410bd41f29d9bb903a1229d92>

Iran's naval forces will warn or confront any foreign ship entering the country's territorial waters, the Iranian defense minister said Thursday, remarks that came after an incident this week involving a U. S. warship. The semi-official Tasnim news agency quoted Gen. Hosein Dehghan as saying that "if any foreign vessel enters our waters, we warn them, and if it's an invasion, we confront." He added that Iranian boats patrol to monitor traffic and foreign vessels in its territorial waters. Dehghan's comments came after four Iranian small boats sailed near the guided missile destroyer USS Nitze on Wednesday in the Persian Gulf. The U.S. Navy described the incident as "unsafe and unprofessional" and said it occurred in international waters in the narrow Strait of Hormuz. U.S. Navy video of the incident obtained by The Associated Press shows American sailors on the Nitze firing flares and sounding the warship's horn as the Iranian boats approached.

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