

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 7/20/2016 8:49:57 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Morning Clips – Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Koch brothers, Sheldon Adelson boosted Haley group coffers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160719/160719367/koch-brothers-sheldon-adelson-boosted-haley-group-coffers>

Gavin Jackson

Conservative mega-fundraisers Sheldon Adelson and the Koch brothers gave Gov. Nikki Haley's political advocacy group a major infusion of cash to help in her bid to remove four Republican state Senate rivals in primaries this spring. Adelson, a Las Vegas casino mogul who was the top Republican donor of the 2012 presidential campaign, sent \$250,000 to Haley's A Great Day SC three weeks before the June primaries. The Koch brothers gave the group \$50,000, according to quarterly Internal Revenue Service filings. The money represents about one-third of the nearly \$1 million given to A Great Day primarily by out-of-state donors. But the cash did not perform as Haley hoped since only one of the governor's four targets was defeated in the June primary. Winthrop University political science professor Scott Huffmon said the contributions from two of the nation's leading conservative backers had deeper significance; it showed their willingness to dabble in South Carolina politics. "It's hard to believe that people outside the state really cared about the fate of Sen. Hugh Leatherman," Huffmon said, referencing Haley's biggest foe in the Senate, the president pro tempore from Florence. "The Koch brothers do care about state-by-state politics, that has been their strategy," Huffmon said. "Adelson is betting on the future of Nikki Haley."

Post and Courier : RNC draws South Carolina governor and 'Top Chef,' live from Cleveland

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160720/160729966/rnc-draws-south-carolina-governor-and-top-chef-live-from-cleveland>

Emma Dumain

8:10 a.m.: Gov. Nikki Haley, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford have arrived in Cleveland for the Republican National Convention, joining U.S. Reps. Joe Wilson and Tom Rice, who have been here all week. Haley will headline the Wednesday morning breakfast meeting of the South Carolina GOP delegation. On Tuesday night, delegates attended a party in a "speakeasy"-type bar attached to the House of Blues in downtown Cleveland in honor of S.C. GOP Chairman Matt Moore. All the members of the S.C. delegation were invited. Attendees included Sanford, former state Republican Party chairman Chad Connelly and former State Rep. and Canada Ambassador David Wilkins. Also on Tuesday, the Post and Courier caught up with Tom Colicchio, a restaurateur best known as the head judge of the reality television cooking competition show "Top Chef," which filmed its most recent season in Charleston. Colicchio is also a food policy advocate, lobbying lawmakers to take the right votes, from expanding access to nutritious food to helping farmers maintain their livelihoods in an increasingly challenging environment.

India West: Handful of Indian Americans Join Republicans at Convention; Trump Clinches Nomination

http://www.indiawest.com/news/global_indian/handful-of-indian-americans-join-republicans-at-convention-trump-clinches/article_41f8b6e0-4e11-11e6-84fe-7b00bb8b194e.html

Sunita Sohrabji

As 16 Indian American delegates pledged to support Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump at the party's national convention in Cleveland, Ohio, beginning July 18, several long-time party supporters said they were still on the fence about the nominee. Trump won the nomination July 19 evening after each state announced their delegate vote counts, based on primary elections and caucuses. Trump won 1,725 votes; he needed 1,237 to clinch the nomination. Real estate broker Subba Kolla, a delegate from Virginia, announced the votes from his state during the delegate count. Kolla is the first-ever Indian American delegate from Virginia to the Republican convention. "I'm still concerned about Trump," Sudhir Parikh, founder of the Indian American Republican Council, told India-West. "Trump is too anti-immigrant, too anti-minority, and anti-trade. He sticks to his point of view and I'm not sure this represents the views of the Republican Party," said the New Jersey physician, a prominent fundraiser for the Bush presidential dynasty. "I have not decided yet whether to vote for Trump. I'm not going to sit this election out, but I will wait for four months – until the general election – to see what emerges," said Parikh, noting that many Republicans will follow conservative commentator Glenn Beck's call to action and vote for a third party candidate.

NOTE: South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley – a Republican – declined an invitation to speak at the convention. Haley said she would attend the meet, but maintain a low profile.

Times and Democrat: County to get \$32.6M facility

http://thetandd.com/news/local/county-to-get-m-facility/article_760cdcc9-9f56-5e54-a6c6-646d78fa252a.html

Gene Zaleski

An Arkansas wood chip company is planning to invest \$32.6 million in Holly Hill. Carolina Chips Inc., a subsidiary of Price Companies Inc., plans to create a minimum of 15 new jobs over the next five years, according to a release from the S.C. Department of Commerce. "This validates the importance of our strategic location in South Carolina's Global Logistics Triangle and our close proximity to Charleston," said Sen. John W. Matthews Jr., D-Bowman. Orangeburg County markets the areas near U.S. 301, Interstate 26 and Interstate 95 as the Global Logistics Triangle. "We welcome Carolina Chips to Holly Hill with open arms and are committed to a partnership of success," Matthews said. The company plans to construct and operate a new chip processing mill. It will process wood chips to be used by KapStone Paper's North Charleston plant.

NOTE: Gov. Nikki Haley said the company's announcement is "another big win" for rural South Carolina. "We're excited to welcome Carolina Chips to the South Carolina family, and we look forward to watching it succeed and grow here for many years to come," Haley said.

SC Political News:

The State: Convention cheers SC's McMaster for speech nominating Trump

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article90618702.html>

Jamie Self

South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster had his moment in the spotlight Tuesday, winning the Republican National Convention's approval with his speech nominating Donald Trump to be the party's presidential nominee. McMaster opened with a joke at his own expense, saying he asked his wife if she had "ever, in her wildest dreams, seen me standing here nominating Donald Trump for president." His wife Peggy replied, "I hate to tell you, but I've never seen you in any of my wildest

dreams." In January, the Columbia Republican was the first statewide elected official in the country to endorse Trump. To thank him for his support, Trump asked McMaster to deliver a nominating speech. "The American people have had enough. I've had enough. you've had enough," McMaster shouted, raising a fist in the air. McMaster said he was impressed with Trump, a man of "uncommon strength" and determination. "He may be the only man equipped to win the ferocious battle ahead."

Post and Courier: McMaster delivers nominating speech for Donald Trump

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160719/160719366/mcmaster-delivers-nominating-speech-for-donald-trump>

Emma Dumain

On Tuesday night, the political world learned the name Henry McMaster. The South Carolina lieutenant governor was personally selected by Donald Trump to address the Republican National Convention, kicking off Trump's formal nomination as the GOP pick for president. "They tell me I was the first elected official to endorse Donald Trump," said McMaster, looking out at the crowd of packed delegates from the stage inside Quicken Loans Arena. "It was lonely for a while. But no more." McMaster recalled the famous quote from the Japanese admiral, Isoroku Yamamoto, who said after the attack on Pearl Harbor "I fear we have awakened a sleeping giant and filled him with terrible resolve." With Trump, said McMaster, "after eight years of incompetence, arrogance and disrespect for the rule of law, the American people have had enough. The sleeping giant of the American spirit has awakened, and is sounding the tocsin to make America great again. "He may be the only man perfectly equipped the win the battle ahead," he said. McMaster also spoke of Trump's kindness and generosity towards strangers and "tenderness" towards his wife, Melania. McMaster's speech drew early positive reviews from fellow members of the S.C. delegation, who stood at their floor seats during his remarks. "The Henry McMaster that we know and love shined through tonight. He was forceful and eloquent," said S.C. GOP Chairman Matt Moore.

NOTE: He follows in the distant footsteps of Gov. Nikki Haley, who in 2012 spoke about the boom of American-made manufacturing happening in South Carolina and emphasized the necessity of electing a president who would spread job growth across the country.

Greenville News : McMaster seconds Trump nomination at GOP convention

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/07/19/mcmaster-seconds-trump-nomination-gop-convention/87316590/>

On stage at the Republican National Convention, Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster said America is ready for sweeping change after eight years of "weakness, decline and ultimately chaos." "We've all had enough, and it's time to act," McMaster declared Tuesday night in a six-minute speech seconding the nomination of Donald Trump for president. "The sleeping giant of the American spirit has been awakened." McMaster was one of three elected officials chosen to put Trump's name officially into nomination, giving him a high-profile, albeit not prime-time, role in the pomp of Tuesday's Republican festivities. McMaster's remarks followed those by Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama and New York Rep. Chris Collins, who also nominated Trump. McMaster clearly relished his moment in the spotlight, and he used his brief remarks to extoll Trump as the only candidate strong enough to take on presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

The State : Up-and-comers court SC delegates at GOP convention

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article90645702.html>

Jamie Self

The Republican path to the White House requires visits – early and often – to the Palmetto State,

where voters are among the first in the nation to pick their presidential candidate. And this week's Republican National Convention has provided possible 2020 GOP candidates – from Tom Cotton to Ted Cruz to Scott Walker – with an opportunity to reach out. A number of GOP stars are courting the S.C. delegation this week: speaking at its breakfasts, hosting thank-you receptions and, more informally, posing for pictures when they pass through South Carolina's hoard on the sidewalk. Some clearly are eying a bid for a future presidential nomination.

NOTE: On Tuesday, Wisconsin Gov. Walker spoke to the delegation, praising S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley, like Walker, elected in 2010; Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, the S.C. Republican with the most prominent role at the Cleveland convention; and state lawmakers.

Aiken Standard: Aiken's Thompson defends Melania Trump

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160719/160719469/aikenx2019s-thompson-defends-melania-trump>

Dede Biles

Accusations of plagiarism filled the media's Republican National Convention reports after Melania Trump spoke Monday night in Cleveland. Portions of her talk were almost identical to what Michelle Obama had to say eight years ago at the Democratic National Convention. Aiken's Jane Page Thompson, however, defended Donald Trump's wife in a telephone interview Tuesday morning. Thompson, a South Carolina delegate, was at the Quicken Loans Arena for Melania's appearance. "I watched Michelle Obama's speech at the 2008 convention carefully," Thompson said. "Of course, there were going to be similarities. There were certain things that were going to resonate for both of them" because of their husbands' presidential campaigns. From her seat, Thompson was able to see a Teleprompter, and she read some of the words displayed on it during Melania's presentation. "There were times when she went off script," Thompson said. "When she talked about what a great privilege it is to be an American and how it was something she had worked hard to earn, there clearly was one sentence on the Teleprompter that she was supposed to say, but she added a couple more to drive her point home." In general, Thompson was impressed by Melania's performance.

Morning News : Florence's Republican Convention delegate sees security everywhere

http://www.scnow.com/news/article_e2580fcc-4dfe-11e6-9ba5-0bf7d455ebd9.html

Bill Pickle

I arrived Saturday in Cleveland for the Republican National Convention to find a city under lock and key. Everywhere you look, you see law enforcement. Reports say there are more than 3,000 federal agents (including Secret Service, Homeland Security, etc.), plus 1,000 officers, 3,000 police officers from all across the United States watching over the city and its guests. Everywhere you look, you see officers on bicycles, horseback, cars, SUVs, walking, on buildings, in buildings. Roads are barricaded or blocked by everything imaginable. There are huge snow plows parked sideways in the roads, and you dare not attempt to go around them. Proper ID and passes are required to enter every area, building and facility. Really, security at the "men's room entry"? On Sunday, we began the day with a worship service in a secured location. To my surprise, this was the first time worship services have been offered at any RNC Convention. The rest of the day was spent on our own. Four of us struck out to tour the surrounding area.

Post and Courier: Departing S.C. House Ethics Committee chairman accepts government affairs consulting job

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160719/160719369/departing-sc-house-ethics-committee-chairman-accepts-government-affairs-consulting-job>

Maya T. Prabhu

Cayce state Rep. Kenny Bingham has accepted a government affairs consulting job with a New

Orleans-based law firm. Bingham, a Republican, will leave the S.C. House of Representatives this year after serving 16 years, opting not to seek re-election. He said he will consult while still running his engineering company, American Engineering Consultants Inc. Bingham will serve as a leading adviser to the firm Adams and Reese's government relations practice team. The business has 16 offices across the South. The House Ethics Committee chairman said he worked with attorneys to ensure he did not violate any rules while negotiating the consulting job. Bingham will be assisting the firm's clients as they navigate the state's regulatory system or policy matters, said Adams and Reese partner Rob Bethea. The clients can include individuals and companies. Bingham said he did not need to resign his seat in order to take the position.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: 3 charged in SC inmate death; one had 7 weapons violations

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CqN8zo9G

SC State Wire

Authorities have charged three inmates with killing a fellow South Carolina prisoner, including one with at least seven weapons violations during his decade in custody. Arrest warrants say the men entered 35-year-old Ae Kingratsaiphon's cell at Lee Correctional Institution in Bishopville on June 22 and stabbed him and another inmate with a homemade knife. The other inmate survived. Prison records show 29-year-old Terrance Griffin has been disciplined more than two dozen times - seven of them for having a weapon - since he was sentenced to 30 years for voluntary manslaughter in Charleston County in 2006. Also charged with murder are 27-year-old Michael Wylie Jr., serving 16 years for attempted murder from York County and 20-year-old Quintin Lumpkin, serving 15 years for attempted armed robbery and assault from Orangeburg County.

The State: 3 charged in SC prison killing in June; 3 more stabbed Sunday

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article90538327.html>

Cythia Roldan

Three state inmates are facing murder charges for their alleged involvement in the killing of a fellow prisoner and attempted murder charges for another's injuries at Lee Correctional Institution in Bishopville. South Carolina Department of Corrections investigators say Terrance Griffin, 29, Quintin Lumpkins, 20, and Michael Wylie Jr., 27, were involved in the June 22 killing of Ae Kingratsaiphon, a 35-year-old inmate who was sentenced in 1999 to life in prison for murder. The announcement by state officials comes just days after three other inmates were stabbed in a separate incident, which took place on Sunday in the same dorm where Kingratsaiphon was killed. All three were taken to area hospitals for treatment. Two remain in the hospital, agency spokeswoman Stephanie Givens told The State newspaper. Both stabbing incidents took place at one of the most problematic dorms of the one of the state's most notorious and largest prisons. Lee Correctional is a maximum security facility that is currently housing an estimated 1,300 inmates.

The State: SC prison inmate charged with stalking

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article90593742.html>

Rachael Myers Lowe

A man being held at the Manning Correctional Institution in Columbia has been charged with stalking and threatening a Jasper County woman, the State Law Enforcement Division said in a news release. Joseph Singleton, Jr., 36, is accused of sending about 20 letters threatening to kill the victim, the warrant states. Singleton was in prison on a burglary charge and harassment charge. He was moved to the the Columbia facility in April and placed in pre-release status, the SC Department of

Corrections website showed. He was set to be released next month. Stalking is a felony and if convicted, Singleton could face 15 years in prison plus a \$10,000 fine.

Independent Mail : S.C. agency sued over death of 1-year-old child in Pickens County

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/sc-agency-sued-over-death-of-1-year-old-child-in-pickens-county-3805a602-3dda-3672-e053-0100007f9d5f-387545391.html>

Kirk Brown

A lawsuit has been filed that accuses the South Carolina Department of Social Services of failing to protect a 1-year-old child in Pickens County who died last year. The suit alleges that the Department of Social Services was involved with the child's family for several months before his death but allowed him and his siblings to remain in the home despite knowing that it was unsafe, according to a statement issued Tuesday by the Hite and Stone law firm in Abbeville. According to the law firm's statement, the child was brutally attacked in March 2015. The child died several weeks later of shaken baby syndrome, according to the statement. "This tiny child suffered terrible abuse, pain and ultimately death," said attorney Heather Hite Stone, who filed the suit in May. She also said the child's life could have been saved if authorities had removed him from the home.

Greenville News: DSS: South Carolina child abuse and neglect deaths up

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/19/dss-south-carolina-child-abuse-and-neglect-deaths-up/87280766/>

Tim Smith

The number of South Carolina children dying from abuse and neglect increased to 28 last year, the state's child welfare agency reported Tuesday. The State Department of Social Services also says that the number of children served by DSS as a result of an indicated report of abuse or neglect increased to 20,309 in 2015 from 16,794 for 2014. The number of fatalities as a percentage of all children served by the agency remained about constant from 2014 to 2015, DSS reported. Tuesday's numbers, posted to the agency's website, compare to 22 children who died in 2014, 25 in 2013 and 14 in 2012, according to DSS. The agency, until Thursday, had reported 24 deaths in 2013 but said that number was in error.

SC Elections:

Associated Press: Rep. Sylleste Davis wins Republican primary

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

SC State Wire

Moncks Corner Rep. Sylleste Davis has won the special Republican primary for her seat. The Post and Courier of Charleston reported (<http://bit.ly/29ZTZ2Z>) that Davis got 73 percent of the vote in Tuesday's primary, defeating Robbie Metts. Davis had been sworn in June 8 to complete the term for former Rep. Eddy Southard, who resigned in April after allegations that he harassed a female page at the Statehouse. Southard withdrew from his re-election bid June 8 and filing was reopened for the seat. The district stretches from Moncks Corner to Summerville. The results will be certified Wednesday.

SC after Baton Rouge Shootings:

Island Packet : 'All Lives Matter': Beaufort group works to engage community

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article90578657.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Trimeka Smalls saw up close the result of a spate of violence in Beaufort last year. As an apprentice embalmer at Marshel's Wright-Donaldson Home for Funerals, she assisted in laying to rest multiple murder victims and saw the resulting effect on families. So Smalls responded when Mayor Billy Keyserling issued a call to action at Henry Frazier's funeral last year. Frazier was shot to death on Christmas Eve. In the wake of his death, community members — including Smalls and Frazier's sister, Jerri — have organized three events in Washington Street Park, with more planned. The events target the city's young people who otherwise don't have much to do. Options have been limited recently, including reduced programs at the Charles Lind Brown Activity Center on Greene Street, Keyserling said. "We're trying to get them to play together without having them fight and shoot each other," Smalls said. "We're trying to bring love back in the community. "We're trying to bring beautiful Beaufort back."

The Herald : In tense time, Rock Hill, York County police meet - and hug - their community

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andrew-dys/article90668032.html>

Andrew Dys

In an America where police officers have been shot to death in Dallas, killed in Louisiana, and gunned down in Kansas City, something different happened in Rock Hill on Tuesday night. Just when it seemed like America had flipped on its side, tilted on its axis, and the guns and violence from a tiny few had taken over, unity happened. No bullets. No guns. No hate. No us and them, no black and white. Just hugs. And selfies with cops. And thank-yous to the people in the tan of the York County Sheriff's Office, and the blue of the Rock Hill Police Department. At the 'Unity in the Community' meet and greet set up by York County Councilman William "Bump" Roddey, people stood together against all that hatred and violence nationally.

Dylann Roof Case:

The State: Feds move to have their psychiatric expert examine Dylann Roof

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article90620642.html>

John Monk

Federal prosecutors moved Tuesday to request an order from U.S. Judge Richard Gergel that would allow their psychiatric experts examine accused Charleston race killer Dylann Roof. Gergel is expected to approve the order. Already, Roof's defense team has served notice it intends to introduce expert evidence relating to Roof's mental condition, if the upcoming trial moves into a death penalty phase. The mental state of Roof, 22, of Columbia, an avowed white supremacist, is expected to be a significant issue before a federal jury in the case's death penalty phase, should the trial go that far. Issues such as whether Roof knew right from wrong at the time of last June's killings of nine African-Americans during their Bible study at Charleston's "Mother" Emanuel church are likely subjects of the psychiatric examinations by both sides in the case. The federal trial is expected to start Nov. 7 in Charleston. Roof's state trial on murder charges is slated to start in January, also in Charleston. State prosecutors are also seeking the death penalty.

Savannah River Site/MOX:

Aiken Standard : Cesium removal contractor added by Savannah River Remediation

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160719/160719456/cesium-removal-contractor-added-by-savannah-river-remediation>

Thomas Gardiner

Savannah River Remediation, or SRR, awarded a contract this week to implement emerging

technology to help supplement and expedite the closure of high-level liquid waste tanks at Savannah River Site, or SRS. According to a U.S. Department of Energy news release, the contract is valued at \$12.4 million and was awarded to Westinghouse Electric Company, headquartered in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania. The planned process is known as Tank Closure Cesium Removal, or TCCR, and is rooted in a dispute the DOE had with the Environmental Protection Agency and S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control between 2014 and 2015. The DOE asked the regulatory agencies to extend operational closure goals for four of the tanks at SRS.

Aiken Standard: Aiken Nuclear Symposium raises questions and concerns

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160719/160719432/aiken-nuclear-symposium-raises-questions-and-concerns->

Thomas Gardiner

Citizens, activists and scientists came together Tuesday evening for the Aiken Nuclear Symposium, organized by regional and state nuclear and environmental organizations. Items on the agenda included the Chem-Nuclear nuclear disposal site near Barnwell, dangers of spent nuclear reactor fuel from commercial electricity production and the dangers of shipping those materials to S.C. or any other U.S. repository site. The latter topics were informational items centered around shipments of spent nuclear reactor fuel from sources abroad, like Germany and Japan. An environmental assessment is ongoing for the proposed shipment from Germany, reportedly slated for reprocessing at H-Canyon at Savannah River Site, or SRS. Sponsoring organizations included state and local chapters of the Sierra Club, the League of Women Voters of S.C., Nuclear Information Resource Service, Savannah Riverkeeper, Carolina Peace Resource Center and Aiken Peace.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Legislators have duty to question Richland Recreation Commission

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/editorials/article90585127.html>

Editorial

DESPITE A LONG LIST OF problems at the Richland County Recreation Commission, state Sen. John Scott believes it's inappropriate for some of his fellow legislators to publicly ask basic questions now. Sen. Scott, a Democrat, believes asking questions publicly is inappropriate at this time even though county legislators appoint the commissioners who oversee the department. That means the 17 Richland County legislators are the only people directly elected by the public with even indirect oversight of the department. Sen. Scott says legislators should not get involved until the law enforcement investigations are complete. Citizens have every right to seek that information for whatever reason they want it. Legislators not only have the same right; they have an obligation to ask for it, and much more. We don't know whether the lawsuits and the criminal investigations will uncover widespread wrongdoing or clear Mr. Brown, the agency and the commission. But the elected officials entrusted with overseeing the commission can't wait until the criminal investigations are completed before they start asking questions.

Greenville News: Editorial: Court preserves special prosecutor's integrity

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/07/20/editorial-court-preserves-special-prosecutors-integrity/87283264/>

Editorial

The South Carolina Supreme Court made the only logical ruling available last week in a dispute between Attorney General Alan Wilson and Special Prosecutor David Pascoe over whether Pascoe had the authority to empanel a state grand jury. The dispute originated this spring when Wilson fired

Pascoe, whom he had appointed to investigate alleged corruption in the state Legislature, when Pascoe attempted to initiate the grand jury probe. Wilson argued that only his office had the authority to begin such an investigation. He went on, paradoxically, to discredit Pascoe's qualifications as a special prosecutor despite having praised Pascoe's "credibility, professionalism and integrity" when he initially appointed him. Rightly, the court ruled that by appointing Pascoe as a special prosecutor Wilson also was giving him the power to initiate Grand Jury proceedings. They also pointed out the most obvious logical flaw in Wilson's very weak argument. Wrote Chief Justice Costa Pleicones, "Were we to hold that only the elected office holder is authorized to initiate a state grand jury investigation, then even where the Attorney General himself became the subject of an investigation, only he could initiate a state grand jury proceeding in the case against him. We conclude such a holding would lead to an absurd result." No doubt.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: DNA testing shows SC bees weren't dangerous African variety

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zTbO7784

SC State Wire

Clemson University scientists say genetic testing shows a hive of bees suspected to be dangerous, volatile Africanized bees were actually a less dangerous European variety of honeybees. The Clemson Department of Plant Industry said in a news release that initial genetic testing showed at least a 93 percent chance the hybrid bees that attacked a beekeeper and others in May in Charleston were the Africanized bees. But the department did more extensive testing that determined the bees were European honeybees. Department chief Brad Cavin says both African and European bees are defensive and very similar genetically, but the Africanized bees are more dangerous. Clemson had to send the bee DNA out of state to be tested, but is planning to build its own lab.

The State: Clemson says lab tests mistaken, killer bees not really in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article90579707.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Killer bees have not invaded South Carolina, after all, Clemson University says. In May, Clemson announced that a hive of aggressive Africanized bees had been found near Charleston. The announcement created a stir because the bees have been known to swarm and attack people with little provocation. Some people around the world have died after being stung multiple times. But on Tuesday, the university announced that the initial laboratory test results were wrong. The bees found in Charleston were actually of a less aggressive European strain.

Local News:

Sun News: Mother tells judge she's 'sorry for what happened' in infant son's death

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article90573812.html>

Emily Weaver

"I'm extremely sorry for what happened," a North Carolina woman said as her cheeks washed with tears during an initial hearing on a murder charge in the drowning death of her 6-week-old son. Jameisha Katara Alexander, 24, of Carrboro didn't say much else to Judge Aaron Butler during the hearing Tuesday afternoon at J. Reuben Long Detention Center, beyond the fact that she couldn't afford a lawyer. She didn't mention anything else about the events that occurred Saturday night when a security guard found her infant son face down and unresponsive in a pond at Tanger Outlets near U.S. 501 around 10 p.m. Alexander was found two hours later, after crashing her vehicle in the area

of U.S. 501 and Bill Jones Road in Aynor. Her son, King Khalil Jair Alexander, drowned, according to Horry County Deputy Coroner Michelle McSpadden. The child was from Chapel Hill, N.C., McSpadden said, and police added that Alexander had sole custody of him that night.

Associated Press: Deputies: Man shoots son to prevent him from burning house

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=J7XZ0tsA

SC State Wire

Sheriff's deputies in South Carolina say a man shot and wounded his son to prevent him from burning himself and a home in Columbia. Multiple media outlets reported that 31-year-old Felton Wayne Swindler doused himself with gasoline and tried to set himself and the house on fire Tuesday morning. Richland County Sheriff's spokeswoman Brittany Scott says Swindler's father shot him to prevent the fires. Deputies responded to the incident and took Swindler to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Scott says authorities arrested Swindler on charges of attempted arson and assault and battery. She says Swindler's father has not been charged.

The Herald: Judge sends case against former Rock Hill school official to trial

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article90610607.html>

Jennifer Becknell

The second of two victims in the sexual misconduct case against a former Northwestern High assistant principal has said he sent her five nude pictures of himself over a period of several months when she was 15, police testified Tuesday. Rock Hill Police Detective Brooks Felmet testified about the second victim during a preliminary hearing Tuesday on four of the 11 charges against Kenneth Andrew Williams. Judge Lewis Daniel Malphrus Jr. ruled that there is sufficient evidence for a trial on the four charges, the second such ruling this month. In a separate hearing earlier this month, another judge found enough evidence to prosecute Williams on five other charges. Williams, 31, who resigned from the Rock Hill school district in early June, is accused of sexual misconduct with two females, both Northwestern students at the time of the alleged crimes. He is free on \$125,000 bond.

Post and Courier: Elliott Summey disavows support for a South Carolina ban on certain guns

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160719/160719368/elliott-summey-disavows-support-for-a-south-carolina-ban-on-certain-guns>

Prentiss Findlay

Charleston County Council Chairman Elliott Summey, a guns rights advocate who said he owns "a pile of guns," now has said he mistakenly voted in favor of a resolution last week calling for state and federal authorities to outlaw the very type of firearms he owns. Summey said there was some confusion at last Thursday's vote because the resolution, as originally presented in writing, called for laws "banning all assault-style weapons" in South Carolina. Summey said he took that to mean fully automatic machine guns that fire hundreds of rounds, as were depicted in a video shown to council. The council action had no force of law — a resolution is a statement of opinion — but it's passage was noted by the National Rifle Association and websites such as Firearmslife. Summey, who switched political affiliations in 2012 and joined the Republican Party, issued a statement Monday disavowing his days-earlier support of the resolution. "I'm not voting to take away guns that I already own," Summey said Tuesday. "That's insane."

Post and Courier: Chief asks Folly Council to approve loitering law

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160720/160719608/chief-asks-folly-council-to-approve-loitering-law>

Prentiss Findlay

A proposed ordinance aimed at reducing loitering-related crime could become law in early August.

And while this coastal community has long celebrated its relatively laid-back nature, the change targets a few people who may take that to an extreme. "We've had some repeat calls on the same individuals over and over," said Chief Andrew Gilreath, director of public safety. If City Council ultimately approves the ordinance, he said the public need not worry that a trip to Folly to enjoy the ocean breeze or sunset will trigger new scrutiny from police checking to see if they are needlessly dawdling. "It doesn't punish somebody for their lifestyle," Gilreath said. "There's common sense that's applied with it so it's not like anybody just standing on the corner is going to get talked to."

The State: Vista asks for more money for yellow shirt ambassadors; Main Street wants more, too
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article90663747.html>

Clif Leblanc

The capital city's Vista entertainment district, which produces the second highest amount of meal-tax revenue, is seeking more money for its yellow shirt safety and cleanliness program. The Congaree Vista Guild, an organization that advocates for businesses in the district, asked City Council on Tuesday for \$67,000 more so it could hire five yellow shirt ambassadors – up from the 2 1/2 the guild employs now. Council has approved \$108,000. The guild wants \$175,000. "We want to grow our program as we grow in the Vista," said the guild's director Meredith Atkinson of the new businesses and more visitors the retail and restaurant area along Gervais Street has been attracting. The trade off is the Vista no longer offers shuttle service that connects the district to the Main Street corridor or to Five Points. "We had to make that tough decision," Atkinson told council in making her plea for more public money.

Associated Press: Houston's Clowney part of Columbia business

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=E15bOrxt

SC State Wire

Former South Carolina defensive end Jadeveon Clowney is joining in a new business in his college town. The Houston Texans defender has opened the KURE vape shop in the Vista area not far from campus. Clowney's friend and advisor, Marty Sumichrast, said the player partnered with former South Carolina lawmaker Bakari Sellers and others to open the store, which is described as a "high-end, in-store retail and lounge experience" and comparable to a coffee shop. If the business succeeds, Sumichrast said Clowney might get involved in other similar ventures, including one in Houston. Clowney played three seasons at South Carolina from 2011 through 2013 and became the No. 1 overall pick in the 2014 NFL draft.

The State: Former USC star Jadeveon Clowney enters business in the Vista

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article90673977.html>

Roddie Burris

You might be wondering what drug store owners Ken and Cyndi Long; Charlotte capitalist Martin Sumichrast; and legendary college basketball announcer Billy Packer have in common. In Columbia, it is former USC Gamecock Jadeveon Clowney. Sumichrast, the Longs and Packer are investors in Clowney's first business venture, KURE Columbia Vaporium and Lounge, a sleek vaping bar and lounge that opened Tuesday in the Vista. The investors – friends of Clowney – were on hand for the Capital City opening, greeting about 50 guests and Gamecock fans. "When Jadeveon got interested in doing this, I was told one of the things he wanted was a local business person to help him oversee it," said Ken Long, an avid USC fan, donor and friend of USC athletics. "They called me and asked if I'd like to be involved ... and we thought it would be fun."

Morning News: Effingham lumber companies announce expansions

http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_39b3fa1a-4df5-11e6-acb9-4f2f9ba49ae3.html

Joe Perry

Charles Ingram Lumber Co. and sister company Willowcreek Lumber announced on Tuesday \$8.3 million expansions that will take place over the next five years. A family owned sawmill that can trace its roots to 1931 and currently employs approximately 160 people, Charles Ingram Lumber Co. is "expanding its operations significantly" with a \$6.5 million project, company officials said, while Willowcreek Lumber is expanding with a \$2.8 million investment. Facility construction along with machinery and equipment additions, which include upgrades to a planer mill and a new crane to increase log storage, are the underlying reasons for the growth, company officials said, with the added benefit of bolstering the economic development environment in Florence County and the Pee Dee region as a whole.

Morning News: Production company films second movie in Florence

http://www.scnw.com/entertainment/article_124122b6-4df3-11e6-b09b-d7c9d3d8b5db.html

Deborah Swearingen

Film crews from G It's Entertainment once again took over the streets of Florence and Marion this week while working on an upcoming production called, "An Inherited Life." The Murrells Inlet-based production company filmed in Florence for another production in the summer of 2015. On Monday, the crew filmed in various downtown Florence locations, including the Hotel Florence, the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce offices and the After Dark Jazz Café, before moving to Marion on Tuesday. In the process, the crew completely converted the jazz cafe into a southern diner. "We used a little bit of movie magic and transformed the area," said Brad Tarnowsky, unit production manager for G It's Entertainment. "An Inherited Life," which Tarnowsky calls a "working title," is about an overworked mother of two who gets laid off from her job in Los Angeles and moves to a house in Marion that she inherited from her great aunt, who recently passed away. The story follows the mother and her daughters as they transition from a Californian lifestyle to a Southern one.

Herald-Journal: Drought conditions affecting Spartanburg County farms

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160719/articles/160719686>

Chris Lavender

Drought conditions in Spartanburg County are forcing some farmers to adjust their planting season. The latest U.S. Drought Monitor report showed the county's northwest region is experiencing severe drought conditions with remaining areas in moderate drought. Cherokee and Union counties are experiencing abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions, according to the report. According to the National Weather Service, the rainfall deficit for 2016 at the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport is 4.22 inches, with a total of 21.68 inches of rain recorded at the airport through Tuesday morning. Jeffrey Taylor, meteorologist with the NWS at GSP, said recent thunderstorms in Spartanburg County have brought relief to some areas but not enough to end dry conditions. "We have seen hit-and-miss rain," Taylor said.

Greenville News: VFW post elects first female commander

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/20/vfw-post-6734-elects-first-female-commander/87284078/>

Angelia Davis

An Upstate Veterans of Foreign Wars organization is celebrating its 70th anniversary with a few firsts. The Charles F. Gandy Jr. VFW Post 6734 in Piedmont has its first female commander in Margaret Richardson. The post also, for the first time, racked up several awards at the 2016 Department of South Carolina State Convention in Columbia. The post brought home Post of the Year, Outstanding

Member of the Year (Junior Vice Commander Roy Miller), Website of the Year, Quartermaster of the Year (G.L. "Woody" Woods), and Commander of the Year (past Commander E.J. Irick) honors from that convention. "We have never won all these at one time," said Irick. "We've never won Post of the Year." Irick attributes the awards to events at the post and the belief that members are "clicking. The chemistry is right." "It makes you feel good to know that you're doing the things that are necessary to make this post continue to grow," he said. "That's why we're here."

National News:

Associated Press: In bumpy coronation, Trump takes the crown

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a91aa3899e5746299b66c2c68c038fe5>

Kathleen Hennessey and Calvin Woodward

The art of the coronation has taken something of a beating at the Republican National Convention. Nevertheless, Donald Trump now has the crown — and a final chance to summon unity from the party's restive ranks in the ritual's closing days. The roll call of the states Tuesday night delivered Trump the nomination, which he welcomed from afar in a videotaped message saying "This is a movement, but we have to go all the way." House Speaker Paul Ryan announced that Trump had amassed 1,725 delegates, more than triple the number of his nearest competitor, the fruits of a political phenomenon without parallel in modern times. Day 3 of the convention will bring two conservative stalwarts to the stage: Trump's running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, a favorite of evangelicals; and the nominee's most tenacious challenger in the primaries, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, the man Trump used to call "Lyin' Ted."

Associated Press: Outnumbered and outmuscled, Dump-Trumpers thumped by GOP

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b700bdfe1002452b9654e05d8e357da5>

Alan Farm

After weeks of planning and one ferocious outburst that upstaged nearly everything on the Republican National Convention's first day, conservatives' feisty but always improbable effort to deny Donald Trump the GOP presidential nomination succumbed to multiple causes of death. The lack of vital signs grew daily, culminating during Tuesday's roll call of the states that formally put Trump over the top. That vote saw a fizzling of what conservatives hoped would be an effort by some delegates to brazenly ignore state party rules and back the candidate of their choice, not Trump. "Whatever may or may not have been planned, apparently it didn't happen," said Colorado delegate Kevin Grantham. He said party leaders wanted to "make sure that Donald Trump is the nominee, regardless of what the states said, regardless of what the delegates say."

Associated Press: Obama tapes television ad for Murphy's Senate campaign

<http://bigstory.ap.org/cc9d898387a34b2b9b8707d0c0d42ffc>

U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy of Florida will begin airing his first Senate campaign television ad, a 30-second spot featuring President Barack Obama. The ad will begin airing statewide on Wednesday, and it features the president speaking directly to the camera. Obama says Murphy is a strong progressive who stands up to the gun lobby and supports social security and protecting women's right to an abortion. Obama also acknowledges Murphy is targeted by opponents and tells viewers not to believe the negative attacks. He ends the ad by saying, "I count on Patrick Murphy. You can too." Murphy is facing U.S. Rep. Alan Grayson in the Democratic primary Aug. 30. The winner will either take on Republican Sen. Marco Rubio or developer Carlos Beruff.

World News:

Associated Press: Defense, foreign ministers to plan next steps against IS

<http://bigstory.ap.org/74a444a7efdb4a2fb1b281259162f401>

Lolita C. Baldor

Defense and foreign ministers from more than 30 nations are gathering in Washington to plan the next steps in the fight against the Islamic State and to determine what more they can do as the fights for key cities in Iraq and Syria move forward. Defense Secretary Ash Carter will meet with his counterparts on Wednesday to discuss how they can accelerate the campaign and build on some of the momentum, particularly in Iraq. The meeting comes as Iraqi security forces, aided by the coalition, are preparing to encircle and eventually attempt to retake the key northern city of Mosul. The meeting of defense ministers at Joint Base Andrews just outside Washington, D.C., will be the fourth time that Carter has convened an anti-Islamic State coalition meeting. Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook said Carter will talk about the military campaign, and how it can be accelerated.

Associated Press: Turkish jets strike rebels in Iraq following failed coup

<http://bigstory.ap.org/87c9b49d21da45a58c7192b0f05d43ed>

Suzan Fraser and Sarah El Deeb

Days after a failed coup attempt in Turkey, the country's jets carried out cross-border strikes against Kurdish rebel targets in northern Iraq, killing some 20 alleged militants, state media reported Wednesday. F-16 jets pounded targets belonging to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, in Iraq's Hakurk region, Anadolu Agency reported. The Turkish military has been regularly hitting suspected PKK hideouts and position in Iraq since last year, but Wednesday's strikes were the first since the July 15 botched takeover attempt by a faction within the armed forces, in which several F-16 pilots were involved. It came as the military was reeling from the failed putsch and appeared to be an attempt to show that the forces are on top of security matters. Authorities have rounded up close to 9,000 people — including 115 generals, 350 officers and some 4,800 other military personnel — for alleged involvement in the coup attempt.

--

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044