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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, June 17, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Haley endorses challenger in closely watched SC Senate race

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/06/16/haley-endorses-challenger-closely-watched-sc-senate-race/85982532/>

Rudolph Bell

Gov. Nikki Haley jumped into another contest between Republicans Thursday, endorsing Spartanburg lawyer Scott Talley in his bid to oust controversial state Sen. Lee Bright. Hoping to tilt the scales in one of the most closely watched races in South Carolina, Haley blasted Bright as an untrustworthy obstructionist while praising Talley as a true conservative reformer. The Republican governor said her biggest problem with Bright was his opposition to ethics reform, a favorite cause of Haley's.

Herald-Journal: Haley throws support to Talley in SC Senate District 12 runoff

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160616/ARTICLES/160619739>

Allison M. Roberts

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley endorsed Scott Talley Thursday in the Senate District 12 runoff election with incumbent state Sen. Lee Bright. Talley, a former state representative, will face Bright, R-Roebuck, on June 28 after neither candidate won more than 50 percent of the vote during Tuesday's four-way primary contest. This isn't the first time Haley has jumped into local politics to endorse a candidate. In 2012, she endorsed Bright when he ran against former state Sen. John Hawkins for the District 12 seat. "I endorsed him (Bright) last time. It didn't even take one week for him to do a solid flip," Haley said of Bright. "The biggest thing (then) was changing the rules of the Senate, and we desperately wanted to change the rules because right now one senator can kill any bill. Lee Bright got with the Democrats and killed that bill."

Associated Press: Gov. Haley enters primary runoff fray against Sen. Bright

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=TEAMKq8j

SC State Wire

Republican Gov. Nikki Haley is weighing into the GOP primary runoffs by working to unseat Sen. Lee Bright. Haley is endorsing former GOP Rep. Scott Talley on Thursday, four years after she endorsed Bright for the Upstate seat. In April, Haley criticized Bright's transgender bathroom bill, dismissing him by saying, "I don't sit there and focus on a lot of things Sen. Bright says." Bright becomes the fourth incumbent Republican senator targeted by Haley this year. Only one has lost so far. Bright is seeking a third term. He led a four-way primary Tuesday with 38 percent of the vote over Talley's 27 percent. Haley is joining the state Chamber of Commerce's campaign against Bright. The chamber's political committee released a third, anti-Bright radio ad Thursday.

The State: Gov. Haley endorses Bright opponent in Senate runoff

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article84222127>.

[html](#)

Cassie Cope

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley is endorsing former state Rep. Scott Talley in his GOP runoff bid to unseat libertarian firebrand Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg. Haley and another former challenger to Sen. Bright, Greer businessman David McCraw, were to attend a Talley campaign event Thursday night in Duncan. Bright and Talley will face off in a June 26 runoff for the District 12 Senate seat. In the June 12 primary, Bright finished first in a four-candidate race, but took only 38 percent of the vote. Talley was second at 27 percent. Bright, who is seeking a third term in the Senate, has made headlines for his proposals, including introducing a bill this year to ban transgender people from using the bathroom of their choice. The bill failed.

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley endorsing Scott Talley in runoff against Sen. Lee Bright

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160616/160619540/gov-nikki-haley-endorsing-scott-talley-in-runoff-against-sen-lee-bright>

Maya T. Prabhu

Gov. Nikki Haley on Thursday evening will endorse former Rep. Scott Talley in the runoff for Sen. Lee Bright's seat. Haley is expected to make the announcement at a 6 p.m. event at AFL Global in Duncan, Talley's campaign strategist Mark Knoop said. The two are scheduled for a June 28 runoff election, after Bright took nearly 38 percent of the vote to Talley's nearly 27 percent. Talley trailed by 1,087 votes, according to the South Carolina State Election Commission. Haley earlier this year spoke openly against a bill sponsored by Bright, a Republican from Roebuck, that would have required transgender people to use the bathroom according to the gender assigned on their birth certificate. The bill failed in the Senate.

WSPA: Lee Bright responds to Governor Haley's Scott Talley endorsement for District 12 runoff

<http://wspa.com/2016/06/16/lee-bright-chimes-in-on-governor-haleys-scott-talley-endorsement-for-district-12-runoff/>

Nickelle Smith

The fight for District 12 shifts into high gear with Governor Nikki Haley making her choice very clear. "It's time for Lee Bright to go," she said. "It's time to make South Carolina smile and bring Scott Talley in for senate." Talley's opponent begs to differ. "I have felt guilty in my service of not pointing out a lot of the flaws and hypocrisy that resides in our governor," said incumbent Lee Bright. Haley rallied for Talley at a stop in Duncan with both talking tough against the incumbent.

General Assembly News:

WSPA: SC Lawmakers Pass Ethics Reform & Override Vetoes

<http://wspa.com/2016/06/16/sc-lawmakers-pass-ethics-reform-override-vetoes/>

Robert Kittle

South Carolina lawmakers met late into Wednesday, passing ethics reform and overriding most of the governor's budget vetoes before going home for the year. They passed two ethics reform bills. One will require all elected and appointed officials to disclose their sources of income. Lynn Teague, with the SC League of Women Voters, says, "One important thing would be whether a school board member, for example, who was going to be voting on, having an effect on a contract, multi-million dollar building contract, has a spouse who's working for one of the construction companies. You want to know." While the bill requires disclosure of the sources of income it doesn't require disclosure of the amount. The second ethics bill sets up independent investigations of House members and Senators. Now, ethics complaints are investigated by the House or Senate Ethics committees, which

means lawmakers are investigating their colleagues. Under this bill, the State Ethics Commission will now investigate complaints against lawmakers.

Emanuel AME Shooting Anniversary:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: 'Stop the Violence' Saturday in Columbia

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160617/PC1603/160619498>

Maya T. Prabhu

Community and advocacy groups will hold a "Stop the Violence" rally at the Statehouse in Columbia on Saturday to call on lawmakers to tighten gun laws. Progress South, SC Equality and several other organizations are calling on lawmakers to pass universal background checks, institute and statewide assault weapons ban and pass a hate crimes law. The rally begins 10 a.m. Saturday on the south law of the South Carolina. "Whether we're talking about a nightclub in Orlando or Mother Emanuel in Charleston, the people of South Carolina are tired of feeling like there's nothing we can do to prevent tragedies," said Progress South Executive Director Michael Wukela in a press release. "We're not powerless. On Saturday, we can stand together and raise our voices together and force our leaders to action."

Associated Press: Charleston remembers victims on church shooting anniversary

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

Bruce Smith

Charleston, South Carolina, is pausing to remember the victims of the Mother Emanuel AME Church shootings on the anniversary of the massacre. Friday marks one year since nine black people were shot and killed while studying their Bibles in a basement room at the historic church. A white man, Dylann Roof, faces death penalty trials in both state and federal courts. An ecumenical service honoring the victims is planned Friday at the College of Charleston's TD Arena. It's the same venue where President Barack Obama last year led the congregation in "Amazing Grace" during a funeral for the church's pastor, state Sen. Clementa Pinckney.

The State: Thousands to gather for service today on anniversary of Emanuel shooting

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article84288517.html>

Sarah Ellis

It has been 366 days since the Emanuel Nine lost their lives on June 17, 2015. On the one-year anniversary of one of the most tragic killings in South Carolina history, Charleston returns to TD Arena to remember the lives that were taken and to honor those left behind. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley will be in attendance for the nondenominational service that begins at 10 a.m. Friday.

WCSC: Security tight for Emanuel AME remembrance service

<http://www.live5news.com/story/32244780/security-tight-for-emanuel-ame-remembrance-service>

Aaron Maybin

It's hard to believe it has been a year since that tragic night. Police say the suspect, now behind bars, wanted to start a race war. But this mass shooting did not break apart our city— it only brought the community closer. Friday morning, thousands will unite for a service at the TD Arena. Security is expected to be extremely tight. You must have a ticket to get in. There will be multiple checkpoints and you are not allowed to bring backpacks or large purses. The service starts at 10 a.m. and is set to last more than two hours with songs, prayers and celebration of the nine lives, survivors and the congregation.

WIS: Denominations come together one year after Emanuel AME church shooting for Ecumenical

service

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32243952/denominations-come-together-one-year-after-emanuel-ame-church-shooting-for-ecumenical-service>

Alexis Simmons

Friday is the one year anniversary of the Mother Emanuel AME church shooting.

Several denominations came together on Thursday evening for a final practice before the Ecumenical Service to remember the victims, and honor the survivors and church members. The special service that will take place Friday morning at TD Arena. It's bringing people and churches together. Minister of Music and organist at Emanuel AME, Wayne Singleton says the church reached out to the Tri-county for 300 voices for the service. "Baptist, Presbyterian, Catholic, AME, Methodist, United Methodist we wanted everyone to feel like they can participate and contribute to this Ecumenical Service," Singleton said. There was a strong response from the community "We just want to make a difference to minister to those that are hurting," Singleton said, "Our goal is to promote healing, maybe we'll sing a song that will touch someone and make them feel better about the entire situation."

WCSC: Mother Emanuel holds luncheon in memory of shooting victims

<http://www.live5news.com/story/32242539/mother-emanuel-holds-luncheon-in-memory-of-shooting-victims>

Karina Bolster

Mother Emanuel AME honored the memory of two of the victims who tragically died nearly a year ago at a luncheon Thursday afternoon. Susie Jackson and Ethel Lance were members of the Senior Citizens Program at the church. It was an event to honor not only their lives but also other senior citizens in the community. "They were ladies of graces who left us a legacy of love for eternity," said Reverend Dr. Betty Deas Clark. "The Mother Emanuel survivors and families have weathered the storm with their outpouring of love and humility. Their special spirit has warmed out hearts and souls since the tragedy." Representative Jenny Horne (R-Summerville) was the guest speaker for the luncheon.

WIS: Sister of Emanuel 9 victim speaks publicly about tragedy for the first time

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32243459/sister-of-emanuel-9-victim-speaks-publicly-about-tragedy-for-the-first-time>

Christel Bell

On the eve of the one-year anniversary of the Charleston church shooting, the sister of one of the victims speaks out publicly since the tragedy. Marjorie Cloakley McIver lost her dear sister, Myra Thompson on June 17, 2015. Sitting in the family room of her Conway home, McIver recalled the night of shooting. She said she was in Charleston earlier that day making visits to those she knew while in the hospital there. "It was just after 9 o'clock that evening and as soon as I got the bedroom to unpack, I got a phone call and it was by baby sister, Blondelle, She said, 'Retta,' that's my nickname, you've got to come back. I said, "Come back for what?" She said, "There was a shooting at Emanuel and Myra was there leading Bible study." McIver said she had to regroup, re-pack, and she got back on the road as quickly as she could. "Even though I was among family, there were so many crowds it didn't give me a chance to think, and I did not want to be angry, I just wanted to have more information," she explained.

WIS: Pastor opens up about Emanuel AME Massacre

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32243886/pastor-opens-up-about-emanuel-ame-massacre>

Billie Jean Shaw

Stepping out on faith, Rev. Betty Deas Clarke walked into one of the biggest roles of her lifetime. "I received a call from the secretary of my bishop's office saying that he wanted to meet with me," Clark said. "At the end of the meeting he shared with me he said, 'what would you, what you say if I told you I was thinking about appointing you as the pastor of Mother Emanuel?' Without hesitation, without thinking, I immediately said 'I'll be proud to serve.'" Clark, who was pastoring in Sumter, said she was teaching Bible study when she learned nine people were murdered during a Bible study at Mother Emanuel. "I turned on the television and saw that there was an incident at Mother Emanuel. One of which I couldn't believe." Seven months after tragedy struck the Holy City, Clark became the pastor of Mother Emanuel.

WLTX: Simmons Family Honors Grandfather with #HateWontWin Campaign

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/simmons-family-honors-grandfather-with-hatewontwin-campaign/247178014>

On June 17, 2015, nine church goers were murdered after their bible study at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Reverend Daniel L. Simmons Sr. was one of the victims. At the bond hearing for the person charged in the shooting, Simmons granddaughter, Alana, told the suspect, "Hate won't win." By the time Simmons left the courtroom, her words were trending on Twitter. In honor of her late grandfather and all the other victims of that tragic shooting, Simmons started a non-profit and movement, #HateWon'tWin. Simmons said, "We didn't just want him to be remembered for how he died, we wanted him to be remembered for how he lived."

Associated Press: Charleston church shooting sparked changes nationwide

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xE7eNT3Z

SC State Wire

In the wake of the shootings of nine black churchgoers in Charleston, South Carolina, officials nationwide have taken steps to distance themselves from Confederate symbols and names. Suspect Dylann Roof appeared in photos with the Confederate flag. Here is a look at some of those moves...

The State: How SC changed after Emanuel

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article84320222.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

When a self-proclaimed white supremacist gunned down nine worshipers in the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston a year ago today, it sent waves of shock and revulsion across the state, the nation and the world. It also sparked one of the most visible and politically charged changes in the Palmetto State in decades: The Confederate flag – which accused shooter Dylann Roof embraced prior to his rampage – was removed from the State House grounds. But did the horrific effusion of blood, the worldwide outpouring of emotion, the personal pain of loved ones lost and the stunning forgiveness of the victims' families for the emotionless, unrepentant killer cause real change in the state? Depends on who you ask, and how you frame the question.

Post and Courier: A day that changed Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160616/PC16/160619538>

The mass shooting at Emanuel AME Church on June 17, 2015, brought the community together in shared grief, outrage and purpose. We invited readers to share their thoughts on how this tragedy changed their lives and how the spirit of that time lives on with them. Below are the submissions...

McClatchy DC: Charleston: 'A silence that was deafening'

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/congress/article84239492.html>

Vera Bergengruen

In a chaotic week dominated by reaction to the mass shooting in Florida, South Carolina's senators appeared on the Senate floor on Thursday to remind their colleagues of the one-year anniversary of another tragic shooting – this one in their state. Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., became emotional as he remembered the events of June 17 last year, when a gunman killed nine black parishioners at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C., at a Wednesday night Bible study. Scott told his colleagues about texting his friend, Rev. Clementa Pinckney, the pastor at Emanuel AME and a state senator, to see if he was OK. He never got an answer. "It left a silence that was deafening," Scott said. But it was the grace and forgiveness shown by the families of the victims that turned the tragedy into a unifying event for the state, Scott said. He spoke of the victims reverentially, emotionally, often striking the note of a preacher.

The State: SC's Scott and Graham remember the 'Emanuel 9' in the US Senate Thursday

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article84282447.html>

South Carolina Senators Tim Scott and Lindsey Graham took to the US Senate floor on Thursday to comment on the one year anniversary of the shooting deaths of 9 people at Charleston's historic "Mother" Emanuel AME church on June 17, 2015.

Aiken Standard: Area residents call for tolerance, prayer, reform a year after Charleston shooting

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160616/AIK0101/160619551>

Christina Cleveland

A year after a shooting at the historic Emanuel AME Church in Charleston claimed the lives of nine parishioners, some Aiken area residents are calling on gun reform and others, prayer. But tolerance also seems to be a common theme, as they noted the importance of people accepting those who are not like them. As a symbol of solidarity, condolences poured in for the city and vigils and services were held across the state, including in Aiken. Robert Zipfel, who sat in front of New Moon Cafe in downtown Aiken on Thursday, said he was in Edisto a year ago when he heard the news. "It definitely affects me. It's made me more aware of my surroundings and it's also made me very sad," Zipfel said. "You hear about what happened and ... it's just terrible."

Island Packet: Emanuel AME victims remembered with calls for unity, stricter gun laws

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article84300797.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Bakari Sellers remembers seeing Clementa Pinckney at a church fish fry on the campaign trail in Walterboro. Sellers was running for lieutenant governor in 2014 and complaining to Pinckney about something, he recalled to the congregation at Beaufort's Grace Chapel AME Church on Thursday. The memorial service was to remember the nine victims of the Emanuel AME Church shooting in Charleston a year ago. The victims included Pinckney, a Ridgeland native, state senator and Emanuel AME pastor who was killed during the midweek Bible study. Pinckney also had preached at Beaufort's Jericho AME and Porter's Chapel in Port Royal. Sellers said Pinckney's response to his gripes was to look ahead.

Daily Beast: What It's Like When a Mass Shooting Changes Your Hometown

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/06/17/what-it-s-like-when-a-mass-shooting-changes-your-hometown.html>

Shani Gilchrist

Tragedy follows tragedy so quickly in our world of terror. For months—for almost a year now—I've been trying to come to terms with the loss of life at Mother Emanuel AME Church here in Charleston

last summer, and suddenly I realize in the aftermath of the slaughter in Orlando, where so many more people died, the atrocity in South Carolina may seem small to some. But while headlines make much of numbers, in our own lives it is the people around us, lost or living in shock, who matter most. One tries to make sense of it all. As a journalist, one tries to understand the local, national, and global ramifications of what Dylann Roof did when he killed nine people and wounded four one year ago, on June 17, 2015. I've attended press conferences. I've interviewed experts on gun control. I've spoken to academics about institutional and cultural racism in America. I have all of this stuff to back me up, and yet... I couldn't write the damned article. I typed words, but they all seemed like nonsense. I deleted them, then freaked out about not having any words at all.

Wall Street Journal: Charleston Marks Anniversary of Church Shooting Amid Orlando Aftermath

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/charleston-marks-anniversary-of-church-shooting-amid-orlando-aftermath-1466114177?cb=logged0.43640871112924606>

Valerie Baurlein and Cameron McWhirter

The anniversary of last year's June 17 massacre at a historic Charleston, S.C., church has an added poignancy, organizers said, in the wake of the recent slaughter of 49 people at an Orlando nightclub. The cities have been bound together by "the same kind of evil," Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg said. Both instances involved young men who were raised in the region. "Our communities will not let themselves be defined by an act of...

The State: S.C. gun-control advocates hope 'Charleston loophole' solution on horizon

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article84259117.html>

Avery G. Wilks

A year after losing her mother and two cousins in the Emanuel AME massacre, Sharon Risher continues to push to close the "Charleston loophole" that allowed Dylann Roof to buy a .45-caliber Glock handgun. Risher hopes testimony from others who have lost loved ones to gun violence will compel lawmakers to tighten South Carolina's law governing gun-background checks. They can share their stories in a S.C. Senate hearing planned for Charleston this summer. "If you can sit there as a lawmaker and listen to the pain that comes out of anybody's voice ... and you're not stirred in your soul, then I question your empathy," said Risher of Charlotte. S.C. gun-control advocates say a solution to the "Charleston loophole" could be on the horizon, more than a year after the slaying of nine black parishioners inside Charleston's Emanuel AME church.

Post and Courier: Sharon Risher, a relative of three Emanuel Church victims, speaks out for gun reform on Capitol Hill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160616/PC1603/160619535>

Emma Dumain

The Rev. Sharon Risher had long planned to be in Charleston Friday for the anniversary of the Emanuel AME Church massacre, which claimed the lives of her mother and two cousins — but she took an unexpected detour along the way. On Wednesday night, Risher, a longtime hospital chaplain who now lives in Charlotte, N.C., got a call from Everytown for Gun Safety, asking her to fly to Washington, D.C. Several Democratic senators were going to hold a news conference Thursday morning after a 16-hour filibuster to demand votes to enforce stricter gun laws. The advocacy group wanted Risher there to share her story. At the news conference on Capitol Hill, Risher — wearing an "Everytown Survivor Network" pin and a "Survivor" pin on her green dress — brought senators to tears.

Orlando Shooting News:

Associated Press: Somber times in tourist haven after nightclub massacre

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6394b845e0154f5abbe5e31b603063e3>

Jay Reeves and Jason Dearen

After days of turmoil in a city that's supposed to be a happy paradise for tourists, residents paused with the president and vice president to mourn victims of the horrific massacre at a gay nightclub. Friends and relatives of Kimberly "KJ" Morris, a bouncer at Pulse Orlando, gathered under a cemetery awning to say goodbye to the woman, one of 49 people killed after Omar Mateen began shooting into the pulsating, dancing crowd early Sunday. Jessica Frazier, 29, of Orlando was among the mourners at Morris' funeral, held as other shooting victims were being cremated. "She was always very positive, no matter what was going on," Frazier said. Elsewhere, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden knelt to place white flowers at a memorial to victims. They also met privately with survivors and victims' families, the club owner and staff, with Obama telling them he was inspired by their courage and felt their pain.

Associated Press: Losses at Orlando's 'Pulse' nightclub felt in Puerto Rico

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f74f2b4f96dd403e8b8096087d6b6fea>

Ben Fox and Danica Coto

Ever since last week's shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, people in Puerto Rico have been frantically calling relatives in Central Florida, scrambling to book flights and making funeral arrangements. The massacre of 49 people early Sunday by a gunman with a semi-automatic rifle shocked people worldwide. But it has been felt particularly hard in this U.S. island territory because so many victims were either born here or were just a generation removed. As remains of some victims began arriving Thursday in Puerto Rico for burial, people around the island mourned what felt like an attack in their backyard. "It's a pain that touches all of us," Maritza Lopez said as she hugged friends at a San Juan vigil for people killed at Pulse. "Orlando has become a second Puerto Rico."

Morning News: Community gathers to remember Orlando shooting victims

http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_5bb3b5d4-3427-11e6-9b12-8f657e5c4425.html

Shamira McCray

A bell was rung and a new candle lit each time the name of a victim of the Orlando shooting was called at Thursday's service of prayer and remembrance. The special service was hosted by Central United Methodist Church and gave the community an opportunity to pray and sing hymns together while remembering victims of Sunday's shooting in Orlando. People who attended the service said the solemn hour was a touching one. The symbolism was beautiful, said Hank Leeke, one of the many people who attended. He said the shooting of innocent people shattered the lives not only of the victims, but also of the victims' families. "It's a tragedy," Leeke said. "We as Christians, we're here to support those people, to show them we love them, and to hopefully bring some hope." Several scriptures were read, and hymns were sung throughout the service.

The Herald: Sisters felt called to hold Rock Hill vigil for Orlando victims

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article84244522.html>

Tracy Kimball

When Lanie Johnson of Rock Hill heard 49 people were killed in a mass shooting at an Orlando, Fla., nightclub early Sunday, she said she felt God giving her a nudge. Johnson, 22, couldn't look away from the news as the names, photos and stories about the victims, who were shot at Pulse, the gay nightclub, emerged. "Before this happened, I had kind of been praying a lot," Johnson said. "I asked

God to change my heart to be more compassionate." So Johnson sprang into action, recruiting her sister Jessica Johnson to organize an event honoring the victims of the shooting, their families and first responders and medical teams that saved them.

Wilson-Pascoe Dispute:

The State: Pascoe: Allowing Wilson to fire him could derail State House investigation

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article84119112.html>

John Monk

Special prosecutor David Pascoe told S.C. Supreme Court justices on Thursday that if they agree that Attorney General Alan Wilson can fire him from an ongoing investigation into public corruption in the S.C. General Assembly, they will be giving Wilson unprecedented power to scuttle investigations he has recused himself from. Wilson, citing conflicts of interest, removed himself from the investigation last year and designated Pascoe, the state's 1st Circuit solicitor, as an independent special prosecutor in the case. But now Wilson is trying to fire Pascoe, who along with State Law Enforcement Chief Mark Keel, activated a State Grand Jury in March because, Pascoe told the justices Thursday, new information has prompted SLED to delve deeper into the allegations of public corruption.

SC Political News:

McClatchy DC: The Congressional Black Caucus wants Bill O'Reilly to apologize for saying he wants to 'slap' Rep. Jim Clyburn

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/article84283467.html>

Vera Bergengruen

The Congressional Black Caucus is demanding an apology from FOX News commentator Bill O'Reilly after he said that he wants to "slap" Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., for focusing on gun control over terrorism in the aftermath of the Orlando shooting. "The Congressional Black Caucus is outraged Bill O'Reilly would make such a disparaging statement on national television regarding an esteemed member of the CBC," the group's chairman G. K. Butterfield said in a statement on Thursday. O'Reilly made the comment on "Fox and Friends" on Thursday morning, while talking about the mass shooting in Orlando that left 49 people dead and 53 injured.

Post and Courier: Black Caucus demands Bill O'Reilly apologize for saying he wants to 'slap' Rep. Jim Clyburn

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160616/PC1603/160619536>

Caitlin Byrd

"You know, and I just want to slap him," O'Reilly said, "with all due respect." Congressional Black Caucus Chairman U.S. Rep. G.K. Butterfield, D-N.C., however, did not find anything respectful about what O'Reilly's said. "The Congressional Black Caucus is outraged Bill O'Reilly would make such a disparaging statement on national television regarding an esteemed member of the CBC," Butterfield said in a statement. "His statement is insulting, provocative and unbecoming of a professional commentator. Mr. O'Reilly should disavow his comments and issue an apology to Congressman Clyburn immediately." The Congressional Black Caucus is open to all black members of Congress, but is predominantly Democratic since there are only three black Republicans currently serving on Capitol Hill.

Associated Press: Former Drayton Hall director honored for SC preservation

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=NIT7gCtQ

SC State Wire

A man with a long history helping preserve one of South Carolina's most popular historic attractions is being honored for his work. George W. McDaniel is receiving the 2016 Governor's Award in Historic Preservation on Friday. For more than 25 years, McDaniel served as executive director of Drayton Hall Preservation Trust. The privately funded nonprofit is responsible for operation of Drayton Hall, a National Trust Historic Site. The 17th Century plantation is one of a handful of homes from that period that remains close to its original condition. Under McDaniel's leadership, Drayton Hall earned international acclaim for its preservation policies and projects. The awards are given by organizations including the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster will be on hand for the ceremony.

SC Elections:

Morning News: Primary turnout a mixed bag in Pee Dee

http://www.scnow.com/news/election_2016/article_6ad6233e-3356-11e6-b69c-8bbb257c23df.html

Joshua Lloyd

Each county in the Pee Dee region, excluding Florence County, was able to draw more than 20 percent of registered voters to the polls for Tuesday's primaries. Florence County had an 18.5 percent turnout. That's 15,648 voters out of nearly 85,000 registered. Darlington, Marlboro and Williamsburg counties were able to bring in turnouts in the mid-to-upper 20 percentage range, while Dillon County had more than a 36 percent turnout and Marion County had almost 40 percent of registered voters show up at the polls. Election officials say the turnout was on par with past primaries, which is usually much lower than the turnout for the November general election.

Aiken Standard: Editorial: Turnout disappointing in Aiken County races

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160617/AIK0201/160619559>

A common theme emerging from the Tuesday primary was the paltry turnout at the polls in Aiken County, where a mere 9 percent of voters cast ballots. In Aiken County, only 9,987 of more than 107,000 registered voters, or 9.33 percent, turned out to the polls, according to the S.C. Election Commission. Statewide the average wasn't much better at 10.59 percent. Turnout was lowest in Allendale County at 1.44 percent and highest in McCormick County at 39.38 percent. There are many possible reasons for the low turnout. Generally speaking, turnout is going to be lower during the June primary than the November general election. That will certainly be the case this November given the polarizing state of affairs in the 2016 presidential race – lines will be longer. Many observers during Tuesday's primary also blamed the weather, saying oppressive heat probably kept many voters indoors. While we understand turnout will likely be less during the primary, it's troubling that Aiken County saw single digit turnout.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: What Emanuel taught us

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160617/PC1002/160619504>

Editorial

If Emanuel AME Church and the community at large can show such extraordinary grace in such unspeakably horrible circumstances, the whole state should try to follow suit. The whole nation. Yes, love did triumph over death here a year ago because the people of Emanuel showed the way. They have exhibited strength and perseverance while living with immeasurable pain. They are using some

of the money donated to the church for scholarships. The Reverend Pinckney Scholars Program recently announced that 10 black high school seniors from Beaufort, Charleston and Jasper counties will divide \$80,000 to help with their educations.

Post and Courier: My family is forever changed, but our country is not

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160617/PC1002/160619506>

Editorial: Malcom Graham

One year ago today, this country witnessed an attack on a race of people, an attack on humanity. The crime was hate. The crime was racism. It happened in my hometown of Charleston, at the church where my siblings and I sang in the choir as children. On June 17, 2015, in this church, my sister Cynthia Graham Hurd and eight other innocent people were shot dead because of the color of their skin. The shootings in Charleston crushed the souls of my family, those eight families and countless others. We've cried. We've prayed. We will never be the same. I wish I could say America can and will be better, but how many more mass shootings have happened in the past year alone? Each one may shock us, but they certainly aren't surprising. Not anymore, not as the list of victimized communities continues to grow and grow.

The Herald: There's one thing we can do to prevent massacres

<http://www.heraldonline.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/james-werrell/article84277487.html>

Opinion: James Werrell

Gun violence has become a serious health issue in the United States. The proportion of Americans killed by guns – either intentionally or accidentally – is higher than nearly any other industrialized nation in the world. A majority of the public is sick of it. Yet we seem incapable of doing anything – anything – about it. Those who want to limit access to guns are stymied by the NRA and recalcitrant lawmakers who insist that the answer to the problem is more guns. So state legislatures make it easier to carry concealed weapons just about everywhere, including bars and school campuses. But gun control advocates have had little success in coming up with ideas that would be acceptable to most Americans and still be effective in reducing gun violence. Any effort to round up the guns people already own – and there are millions of them out there – is certain to fail. So, the gun control advocates are stumped. What can they do that will actually help stem the violence? Well, there is this: Restore the ban on the sale of military-style assault rifles. It wouldn't prevent massacres altogether, but it might lower the body count.

Post and Courier: Balancing act: Security and liberty

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160617/PC1002/160619503>

Editorial

Hindsight is 20/20. So the FBI's 2014 conclusion that Omar Mateen did not represent a terror threat now looks like a tragic blunder. After all, there were numerous ominous indicators about Mateen long before he carried out the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history early Sunday morning at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Fla. But beyond that specific atrocity committed in the name of radical Islam lies the general dilemma of how to minimize the spreading terror threat inspired by that jihadist ideology. Over the last several days, there have been assorted reports that Mateen's fanatical views were known to the authorities as early as 2013.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: South Carolina Guard gets new command sergeant major

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ykMzX8eF

SC State Wire

The South Carolina National Guard is holding a change of command and retirement ceremony to bid farewell to its State Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Brickley Jr. Brickley has served as the chief adviser on enlisted issues to Guard commander Maj. Gen. Robert Livingston since July of 2010. Friday's ceremony is being held at 1 p.m. in the National Guard Armory in Columbia, but it is not open to the general public. The ceremony marks the change of responsibility to State Command Sgt. Maj. Russell A. Vickery. He has served in the South Carolina National Guard since July of 1983.

Associated Press: Hit-and-run charge against Medal of Honor recipient dropped

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

SC State Wire

Officials say a hit-and-run charge against Medal of Honor recipient Kyle Carpenter has been dismissed. Fifth Circuit Solicitor's Office spokeswoman Nicole Holland said Thursday that the misdemeanor charge was dropped. Court records show Carpenter paid a \$237.50 fine for making an improper turn. The charges stemmed from a December incident in which Carpenter struck an 18-year-old man in a Columbia crosswalk. The man was treated at the scene for scrapes and a leg injury. Police say Carpenter stopped briefly but didn't leave his name or offer help.

Local News:

Sun News: Longtime Bikefest attendees say they are unfairly targeted

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/bike-rallies/article84291297.html>

Emily Weaver

Longtime Atlantic Beach Bikefest attendees say this Memorial Day weekend was the worst one they've experienced in Myrtle Beach and they blame that on the city "that doesn't want them." "This year was ridiculous," said Timothy Mathews, who has attended the Atlantic Beach Bikefest every year since 2009 – a reunion and celebration for riders that dates back more than 36 years. The colloquially termed "black bike week" festival is held in what is historically known as the South's only black beach. Mathews says it was the only beach his 101-year-old great grandmother could go to in the throes of segregation. But as the festival grew in attendance, swelling the four-block-wide, 128-acre city to capacity, attendees looked south for hotels. Mathews has been staying in Myrtle Beach for the festival since 2009. "This year was probably one of the worst years I've ever seen," he said.

Times and Democrat: Supporters 'never lost faith'; SCSU gives thanks for help during difficult times

http://thetandd.com/news/local/supporters-never-lost-faith-scsu-gives-thanks-for-help-during/article_be6c3041-687c-5418-b1b3-daa76fdc8c69.html

Gene Crider

On Thursday, the faith of Jones and other students paid off when the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools announced that it withdrew the university's probation. S.C. State is fully accredited, as before, but this time with no qualifiers. Now "all I can see is South Carolina State going up. All I can see is it going up," he said. Jones was one of a group of students, alumni, employees and public officials who filled the steps of Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium to hear the official announcement about S.C. State's accreditation. "We're on the right track and things are only going to get better," Interim President Dr. W. Franklin Evans said. It was a time of thanks, as Evans thanked the employees who stood by the institution and worked to retain and recruit students. He thanked the trustees, alumni, S.C. General Assembly, city, county, Gov. Nikki Haley and others.

Associated Press: VA holds Rock Hill town hall for military veterans

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Fi62fN9S

SC State Wire

The Veterans Administration is holding a town hall for military veterans living in the Rock Hill area to offer information about benefits, medical care and nursing services. Dorn VA Medical Center spokesman Robert Hall said Friday's event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the New American Legion Post 34 on Heckle Boulevard in Rock Hill. Officials from the Dorn VA Medical Center, the VA's Rock Hill outpatient clinic and the Veteran's Benefit Administration will be available for queries.

Island Packet: Coast Guard: Beaufort Memorial Hospital responsible for oil spill

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article84105237.html>

Wade Livingston

The U.S. Coast Guard says Beaufort Memorial Hospital is responsible for the oil spill that fouled the waters of the Beaufort River and Factory Creek late last month. Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Shannon Scaff said Thursday samples taken from the river behind the hospital and the creek near Lady's Island Marina were tested and are "conclusive." "And what the lab results tell us," Scaff said, "is that the hospital has been identified as the responsible party." He later added that he'd been told the test was "100 percent accurate." The hospital will be responsible for clean up costs, the Coast Guard said, "but to what degree I'm not sure," Scaff said.

Associated Press: Joint Base Charleston begins spraying to kill mosquitoes

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Cchpcq7D

SC State Wire

The commander of Joint Base Charleston is warning people sensitive to pesticides that aerial spraying to kill mosquitoes is taking place on the installation. Base commander Col. Robert Lyman says recent storms and high tides have caused an increase in the mosquito population. Lyman says the application of chemicals to kill larvae and ground fogging sprays have failed to reduce the population. The aerial spraying at the Weapons Station takes place Friday about two hours before sunset.

Aiken Standard: Alligators in the area are not abundant, but are still dangerous

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160616/AIK0101/160619553>

Thomas Gardiner

Much of the Southeastern U.S. is associated with swamps, including South Carolina, whose wet, brackish landscapes are home to vast populations of American alligators. Fatal attacks are rare, with 18 reported deaths since 2000. The most recent death occurred this week, when a 2-year-old boy was killed by an alligator at a Walt Disney World resort. Florida was home to all but two of those attacks, one of which happened near Savannah, Georgia, the other in Texas. Alligators are well-known in Aiken County and surrounding areas, including Brick Pond Park of North Augusta where alligator removal caused a stir in 2012. Whit Gibbons, head of the Environmental Outreach and Education at Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, said American alligators live mostly in coastal areas but travel as far inland as the fall line. The fall line is the division between upland and plain regions and marks the end of navigable waters in a river. North Augusta is located just below the fall line, and much of the South Fork Edisto River in Aiken County is below that line as well. "They're not abundant," said Gibbons, "if you took a boat from Augusta to Savannah you might see a half dozen alligators if you were looking."

Sun News: State's first continuous wakeboarding park opens Friday in North Myrtle Beach

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/business/article84260167.html>

Chloe Johnson

Grand Strand watersports lovers will have a new place to practice as Shark Wake Park opens Friday. The park, in the North Myrtle Beach Park and Sports Complex, was founded by Greg Norman Jr., who has gone to cable wakeboarding parks from the time he was 16. Norman said the park is unique in South Carolina – no other complex allows multiple riders on the water at the same time, while his five-tower circuit allows seven people to ride at once. "You could be riding right in front of or right behind one of the best cable park riders in the world," Norman said. "You can see how they ride, you can interact with them, you can create that cable park community and culture."

World News:

Associated Press : Iraqi special forces enter center of IS-held Fallujah

<http://bigstory.ap.org/62c713b3e8d346a6a1b2c17f37097df5>

Qasim Abdul Zahra

Iraqi special forces entered the center of Fallujah city early Friday, taking over a government complex and a neighborhood that served as a base for the Islamic State group militants after intense fighting, a commander said. Commander Haidar al-Obeidi, of the special forces, told The Associated Press that the forces are now besieging the nearby central hospital, clashing with IS snipers in adjacent buildings. Aid groups estimate that 50,000 civilians remain trapped inside Fallujah, which has been under IS control for over two years. It is the last major city in western Iraq to be held by the extremist group. "Iraqi forces are now in the center of the city. They had not been there since the beginning of 2014," al-Obeidi told AP. He said IS militants "collapsed," suggesting that most of them fled after the Iraqi forces moved in on al-Nazzal neighborhood.

Associated Press: UK mourns Jo Cox as group says suspect had far-right ties

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a5853006291d49368aa94a6c0eedd9e7>

Shawn Pogatchnik and Jill Lawless

Campaigning in Britain's European Union membership referendum remained suspended Friday as the country absorbed the daylight slaying of lawmaker Jo Cox with shock, and worry that the political fury unleashed by the EU campaign was somehow connected to the killing. A U.S. civil rights group said the man suspected of the gun and knife attack had links to an American white supremacist organization. The Southern Poverty Law Center said it has records showing Thomas Mair was a supporter of the National Alliance. The center said Mair purchased a manual from the group in 1999 that included instructions on how to build a pistol.

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