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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, July 1, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley says passage of ethics reform overshadows Statehouse losses
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160630/160639957/gov-nikki-haley-says-passage-of-ethics-reform-overshadows-statehouse-losses>

Maya T. Prabhu

Gov. Nikki Haley shrugged off the 3-5 record of candidates she supported in the primaries, saying her top priority was getting ethics reform passed this year. "You win some, you lose some," she said Thursday during a press conference on the state's continuing response to last year's record flooding. "But my biggest win that I'm happiest with is the ethics reform. I'm relieved that we can finally no longer talk about it after four years." Haley and other lawmakers spent four years campaigning for comprehensive ethics reform that would require elected officials to disclose their sources of income and be investigated by an outside panel. Targeting certain lawmakers forced them to campaign on the issue, she said. "What my agenda was, was to bring ethics to the forefront," she said. "And what you saw in the races was every one of the incumbents had to talk about ethics for the first time. And so even the ones that tried to kill it had no choice but to campaign on it."

Associated Press: Gov. Haley: No regrets in campaigns against Republicans
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=h3z2UUC4

Jeffrey Collins

Only two of the seven candidates she endorsed won their races, and one of her best allies in the state Senate lost a runoff, but South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said she still thinks her campaigns against fellow Republicans in this year's primaries were successful. Haley said Thursday her main goal was to put enough pressure on lawmakers to pass ethics reform. The General Assembly did pass bills that require lawmakers and other public officials to reveal who pays their private salaries and have an independent panel investigate allegations of ethics violations against legislators. The governor said just the pressure of her potentially campaigning - and the more than \$500,000 her political group raised for those campaigns - forced the Legislature to act. "Every one of the incumbents had to talk about ethics for the first time. Even the ones who tried to kill it had no choice but to campaign on it," Haley said.

The State: Gov. Nikki Haley touts SC's flood recovery
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article86864497.html>

Avery G. Wilks

South Carolina suffered roughly \$741 million in losses to housing, \$137 million in damage to state roads and more than \$200 million in damage to other public assets during the historic storm last fall, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley announced Thursday. But fixed roads and ongoing repairs to storm-damaged homes highlighted Haley's rundown Thursday of the state's triumphs after record rain on Oct. 4. "We saw devastation like we had never seen, and we quickly got to work," Haley said. Just 36 of 541 state roads closed by the storm remain closed, and two-thirds of those are related to an unstable dam, Haley said. Hotel revenue is up 7.8 percent from last year, meaning 2016 will be the fourth straight

year of tourism growth, she announced. And the Haley-backed One S.C. Flood Recovery Fund has received nearly \$1.65 million in donations and \$12.7 million in donated skilled labor, she said.

Post and Courier: Gov. Haley touts flood recovery on eve of application period for farm aid she opposed

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160630/160639962/gov-haley-touts-flood-recovery-on-eve-of-application-period-for-farm-aid-she-opposed>

Maya T. Prabhu

Gov. Nikki Haley on Thursday touted the state's recovery from last October's record flooding, a day before South Carolina farmers will be able to apply for their share of \$40 million in aid — a program she opposed. Farmers who lost at least 40 percent of their crop can begin the application process Friday for their allocation of the money set aside by the General Assembly this year. Haley vetoed the measure, but the Legislature overrode her and reinstated the aid. "It is not that I don't want the farmers to be successful," Haley said at a Statehouse press conference. "I do. But I'm still driving down the street and seeing businesses that have never opened back up again after that. And that you don't forget." Haley praised the \$1.6 million in donations given to the One S.C. Recovery Fund effort she supports and urged people to continue giving while the state waits on \$156 million in federal housing aid.

Associated Press: Haley updates South Carolina on flood recovery efforts

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

SC State Wire

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley didn't want to wait for the anniversary of October's massive floods to update people on the recovery effort. The governor called a news conference Thursday to tout the \$1.6 million in donations to the One S.C. Recovery Fund she backs and to urge people to go to five town halls in early July and discuss the state's 110-page recovery plan. Haley says South Carolina still has a lot of work to do. The state is waiting for \$156 million in federal housing aid. Thirty-six of the 541 roads closed in the floods are still closed, but most are atop dams that private owners have not decided if they will repair. Nineteen people died and the flood did nearly \$1 billion in damage.

WIS: Gov. Nikki Haley praises state leaders on continued flood relief efforts

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32345253/gov-nikki-haley-praises-state-leaders-on-continued-flood-relief-efforts>

Jeremy Turnage

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley held a news conference on Thursday to discuss the state's continued flood relief efforts as the one-year anniversary steadfastly approaches. "[Washington] D.C. is slow," Haley said. "We could not wait on D.C." Haley mentioned there's still a lot to be done to the roads and infrastructure due to last year's October flooding. She mentioned one of the biggest challenges were the people still without homes and figuring out what needs to be done to get them back on their feet. Haley also mentioned the One SC fund has raised \$1.6 million towards helping citizens restore their homes. "We are not done yet," Haley said. "Just because the water is gone, there is still people in need. and we want to make sure we're constantly throughout the year to go forward."

Associated Press: SC farmers can begin applying for \$40 million in aid

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

Jeffrey Collins

When extension agent Charles Davis visits farms, he gets one question over and over again - when will South Carolina farmers start getting aid for crops damaged in last year's floods? Finally, Davis and his fellow agents have the paperwork. The state on Friday begins taking applications for \$40 million in aid approved by lawmakers in May over Gov. Nikki Haley's veto. The aid supplements crop insurance. It only covers 20 percent of losses from October's floods and subsequent months of

waterlogged fields and no farmer can get more than \$100,000. But that extra money will be vital to farmers who have tapped out their credit with months to go before getting paid for this year's crops. "We lost a heck of a lot of money in a short period of time," said Davis, the Clemson University extension agent for Calhoun and Richland counties.

NOTE: The farm aid bill turned into one of the biggest political battles of 2016. Dozens of farmers packed the Statehouse after Haley vetoed the bill, and just five of 156 House members and senators voted to sustain the veto.

NOTE: Haley said Thursday she still thinks farmers should not have been treated differently and given aid not available to other small businesses that lost everything. But she said she still wishes the state's farmers the best. "It's not that I don't want the farmers to be successful. I do. But I am still driving down the street and seeing businesses that have never opened back up again," Haley said.

Aiken Standard: Workshops for farmers to be held across S.C., funding period for farm aid grants opens today

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160701/160709988/workshops-for-farmers-to-be-held-across-sc-funding-period-for-farm-aid-grants-opens-today>

Christina Cleveland

South Carolina farmers could be months away from receiving money to help them recover from last year's flooding, in a measure that has been called a "life line" for the agricultural community. Starting today, farmers across the state who experienced losses due to last October's historic rains can now apply for South Carolina Farm Aid grants from the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, or SCDA. The application period will be open for up to 45 days as directed by law. The deadline is Aug. 15. In a news conference held at the State Farmers Market on Thursday, Agriculture Commissioner Hugh Weathers said the goal is that after 45 days of receiving applications and working with farmers, in another 45 days, dollars could go out to the farming community.

NOTE: A bill establishing the South Carolina Farm Aid Fund, a one-time \$40 million grant program, became law in May after the General Assembly voted to override S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of the legislation. Haley followed through with her promise to veto the bill, referring to the measure as a "bailout" and saying the state should do its best to help all industries and property owners affected by last year's flood fairly through the recovery process.

CCU wins 2016 CWS:

Associated Press: Baseball title making Coastal Carolina pride of mid-majors

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Nhv0Q14V

Eric Olson

Coastal Carolina showed that a baseball program from a school outside the power conferences can play with the best, and be the best. "All my brothers in arms at the mid-majors, they've been wearing my telephone out the whole week: 'Wear the banner for us. Show us it can be done,'" Chanticleers coach Gary Gilmore said after his team beat Arizona 4-3 in the deciding Game 3 of the College World Series finals Thursday. Coastal Carolina won its first national championship in any sport, and it came in the Chanticleers' 14th national tournament appearance in Gilmore's 21 seasons at the school. The title also was the first in a team sport in the 33-year history of the Big South Conference. The Big South could savor the accomplishment for only about eight hours. The Chanticleers became members of the Sun Belt Conference on Friday.

Associated Press: Champion Chanticleers: Coastal Carolina wins CWS vs. Arizona

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=V4MPfE8Y

Eric Olson

Coastal Carolina coach Gary Gilmore often said he just wanted his team to reach the College World Series. Until this week, he never imagined the Chanticleers would do so much more: They're heading back to Conway, South Carolina, with the school's first national championship in any sport. The Chanticleers defeated Arizona 4-3 in the deciding Game 3 of the College World Series finals on Thursday, capitalizing on two errors on the same play to score four unearned runs in the sixth inning of a game delayed a day by bad weather. It was worth the wait.

Sun News: Coastal Carolina wins national championship, knocks off Arizona in CWS finale

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article86947762.html>

Ryan Young

Gary Gilmore had said at times this postseason that he felt as if his Coastal Carolina baseball team was one of destiny. Other coaches reached out to him with similar thoughts during this incredible, inspiring and seemingly improbable run. And perhaps they were all correct. The Chanticleers capitalized on back-to-back Arizona errors in the top of the sixth inning Thursday to score four runs and break open what had been a scoreless pitchers' duel to that point, and from there they held on through a dramatic bottom of the ninth for a 4-3 win over the Wildcats in the College World Series championship game before a crowd of 18,823 at TD Ameritrade Park. The Chants (55-18) – who were down to their last strike in the NCAA regionals at N.C. State, who won the super regionals on a walk-off single at LSU and then won five potential elimination games on the biggest stage of all – are now national champions.

Sun News: Chanticleers cheered by thousands on return from College World Series

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article87080112.html>

Emily Weaver

Thousands of Coastal Carolina University fans made the pilgrimage to the General Aviation Terminal at Myrtle Beach International Airport Thursday night to welcome their champions home. The Chanticleers were due to return by midnight on a redeye flight from Omaha, Neb., where the team beat the University of Arizona Wildcats in a nail-biting epic battle for the 2016 NCAA College World Series trophy. Flags waved. Banners flew and cheers erupted with the chant "C-C-U, C-C-U, C-C-U" as the plane taxied from the runway to the gate. "Congratulations to the sac-bunt-getting, homerun-hitting, complete-game-pitching Chanticleers of Coastal Carolina University. Way to go, baby," said Jay Martin of CCU's Class of 2011.

WBTW: Gov. Haley orders CCU flag to be flown over Statehouse

<http://wbtw.com/2016/06/30/gov-haley-orders-ccu-flag-to-be-flown-over-statehouse/>

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley called for the Coastal Carolina University flag to be flown over the Statehouse to honor the Chanticleer's national championship win over the University of Arizona in the College World Series. "Michael and I are proud to congratulate Coastal Carolina University on winning its first national championship in school history. This team embodied so many of the things we love about our state – and the fact that the Chanticleers are bringing the College World Series championship trophy back to South Carolina is something we can all celebrate. Cinderella is a Chanticleer," Haley said. The flag will be flown over the Statehouse until sunset on Friday.

WIS: Coastal Carolina flag raised atop SC State House

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32350578/coastal-carolina-flag-raised-atop-sc-statehouse>

Emery Glover

Shortly after the final out of the College World Series, the celebration was on. Fans across the Palmetto State celebrated Coastal Carolina's 4-3 win over Arizona to capture their first national championship. "Michael and I are proud to congratulate Coastal Carolina University on winning its first national championship in school history," said Gov. Nikki Haley in a statement. "This team embodied so many of the things we love about our state - and the fact that the Chanticleers are bringing the College World Series championship trophy back to South Carolina is something we can all celebrate. Cinderella is a Chanticleer!" Haley also ordered a Coastal Carolina flag be flown over the State House until July 1 to honor the Chants' title.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

The State: Drone reports at SC nuclear weapons site spark federal scrutiny

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article86984572.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Reports of drones over the Savannah River Site nuclear weapons complex are drawing scrutiny from the federal government. Agents with the FBI interviewed a prominent nuclear watchdog this week about drones at the site. Meanwhile, the SRS "protective force" has confirmed several sightings of drones in June over the complex near Aiken, the U.S. Department of Energy said Thursday afternoon. "SRS takes these reports very seriously and is coordinating with appropriate federal, state, and local authorities," an Energy Department statement said. Agency spokesman Monte Volk said he did not know who was flying the drones over SRS or why they were being brought into the site's air space. He declined further comment.

Aiken Standard: Savannah River Site working with authorities after several drone sightings over airspace

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160630/160639978/savannah-river-site-working-with-authorities-after-several-drone-sightings-over-airspace>

Maayan Schechter

The Savannah River Site is taking reports of Unmanned Aerial Systems, better known as drones, flying in SRS airspace "very seriously" after several sightings were reported in June. Monte Volk, with the U.S. Department of Energy, confirmed the sightings on Thursday. Volk said SRS takes these reports very seriously, and is coordinating with appropriate federal, state and local authorities.

SC Agency News:

WYFF4: Exclusive footage: SC prisoner live-streams from inside prison

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/Exclusive-footage-SC-prisoner-live-streams-from-inside-prison/40301178>

Patrick Hussion

Smartphones are streamlining the way a prisoner can illegally chat with people far beyond the prison walls. And this week, an inmate in the South Carolina Department of Corrections used a cell phone to live-stream from inside his prison cell with help from the mobile app Periscope. SCDC spokeswoman Stephanie Givens confirmed the live-stream was being sent out from one of the prisons within the system on June 26 and 27. In the footage, there were 3 to 4 other prisoners in the cell drinking from an orange cooler and smoking a substance. Some of the other prisoners look to have cell phones as well. Viewers were able to comment and ask questions as prisoners responded in real time. At another point during the live-stream, a corrections officer walked into the cell, at which point the phone was hidden. The SCDC says two inmates have been identified but not charged. And there's an investigation underway to identify all involved. The location of the prison in South Carolina is not

being released at this time.

The State: DOR, Richland both claim victory in judge's full penny tax ruling

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article87038122.html>

Sarah Ellis and John Monk

Both sides claimed victory late Thursday after a state judge released his order in a historic dispute that pits the S.C. Department of Revenue against Richland County over the spending of millions of taxpayer dollars raised by the county's transportation penny sales tax. For the county, the 20-page ruling by G. Thomas Cooper Jr. of Camden was a win because Cooper ordered DOR to release some \$17 million of Richland County penny sales proceeds to it in the next few weeks. That portion of the ruling was made public Wednesday when Cooper's clerk alerted parties to it. DOR has no authority to withhold the money, Cooper said in the full ruling released Thursday. "We are very happy with the court's ruling that validates the county's authority over the penny tax revenues and ensured that the July money will come to the county and the CMRTA (bus system)," said Ned Nicholson, a private attorney hired by Richland County to argue the case. For DOR, the judge's ruling was a victory because Cooper said the state tax agency has "standing" to pursue its claims that Richland County has misspent some of the penny tax revenues in what DOR has called ways that involve "civil fraud."

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Washington flummoxed over federal Confederate flag displays

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=SjIFtU2M

Andrew Taylor

A year after South Carolina removed the Confederate flag from its capitol grounds, official Washington is struggling with further restrictions on the flag's display on federal property, including the U.S. Capitol complex. The National Park Service, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Army have longstanding guidelines for its cemeteries that permit the display of the Confederate flag one or two days a year. This is particularly true in Southern states that celebrate Confederate Memorial Day, giving descendants of Southern soldiers the chance to use the flag to commemorate their ancestors. In recent weeks, Republicans quietly dumped a provision preventing the flag from being flown over mass graves of Confederate soldiers from broader legislation to fund the Department of Veterans Affairs. Flag displays would still have been allowed over the graves of individual soldiers.

Herald-Journal: Upstate firms monitor Brexit fallout

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160630/articles/160639970>

Bob Montgomery

Business leaders say Britain's vote to leave the European Union will not have an immediate impact on Upstate companies with global ties, but uncertainty over reworked trade agreements could affect exports. "BMW respects the British electorate's vote to leave the EU," said BMW Manufacturing spokeswoman Sky Foster. "While it is clear there will now be a period of uncertainty, there will be no immediate change to our operations in the UK." Last week's vote by Britain to leave the European Union caused a sharp sell-off in financial markets, which have somewhat recovered. Some economists said a turn toward protectionism by Great Britain could result in trade barriers and trigger a recession. Several Upstate companies have ties to Europe, including Germany-based BMW, France-based Michelin and Japan-based Fujifilm and Toray Industries.

SC Elections:

Greenville News : Voter discontent, well-funded opponent cost Fair senate seat

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/06/30/voter-discontent-well-funded-opponent-cost-fair-senate-seat/86559186/>

Amanda Coyne

It was a perfect storm of factors that swirled together and helped 32-year-old William Timmons unseat Sen. Mike Fair in Senate District 6. Fair, who's represented the district for 21 years, has fended off many a primary opponent during his tenure. He walloped challenger Chris Sullivan in the 2012 Republican primary, winning 78.4 percent of the vote. In that year's general election, Fair quashed Republican petition candidate Tommie Reece by nearly 40 percentage points. Incumbent legislators are often considered safe from challengers in South Carolina, said Brent Nelsen, a Furman University political science professor who lives in Senate District 6. "(Constituents) will vote for their senator until their senator decides they're done. There's a loyalty, and I think South Carolinians are generally loyal to their elected officials," Nelsen said. "But every once in a while, there is a historic moment when the elites don't look responsive to their constituents, and we're in one of those moments. That allows the pressure on the incumbent to grow."

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Flag-lowering occasions in South Carolina in 2015

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

SC State Wire

On nearly 90 percent of days last year, one or more states were flying the American flag at half-staff to memorialize the deaths of military members, public officials, police, first responders, prominent citizens, and victims of mass killings and disasters, The Associated Press found in analyzing information requested from all 50 states and the federal government. Instances of South Carolina ordering the flag flown at half-staff last year on at least some government property, separate from proclamations that came from the federal government...

Associated Press: Are we overusing the tribute of flying flag at half-staff?

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e4c9f803dc054175b226dfec4632fe95>

Jennifer Peltz

Nearly every day, somewhere in the country, the Stars and Stripes was lowered to half-staff last year in one of the most significant official gestures of mourning and respect, an Associated Press analysis found. The centuries-old practice can be a visible, public answer to extraordinary loss, as when more than four dozen people were killed last month at a gay nightclub in Florida. But as the nation marks Independence Day on Monday, flag buffs have noted that the honor has been extended more widely over time, including to celebrities and police dogs. And some have questioned whether the country has lowered the bar on the lowering of the flag. "It can be a very powerful symbol, but it can also be overdone to the point that it loses its significance," said John Hartvigsen, president of the North American Vexillological Association, a flag aficionados' group. "You can't spell everything out about this in rules and regulations, because it has so much to do with emotion."

Local News:

The State: Suspects in trafficking investigation denied bond

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article86950807.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

A judge denied bond Thursday afternoon for three suspects in a Richland County human trafficking investigation. The Richland County Sheriff's Department located three runaway teenage girls at a motel off of Broad River Road late Tuesday night. Deputies arrested Geordi Heyward, 23, and Kristopher Davis, 25, that night. Danielle Burns, 18, turned herself in to law enforcement the next day. Davis asked Judge Barbara Wofford-Kanwat for leniency in deciding his bond. "All I do is work," Davis said. "I'm no flight risk." Each of the suspects is slated for a first appearance in court July 25. Each one is charged with three counts of human trafficking. Heyward and Davis are charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Heyward is also charged with 3rd-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg girl, 15, among runaways found in Columbia human trafficking bust
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160630/articles/160639979>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Richland deputies located three runaway girls at a motel off Broad River Road in Columbia on Tuesday night and charged three people with human trafficking. One of the girls was from Spartanburg County. The other two were from Richland and Kershaw counties. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott said at a news conference Wednesday that the three victims were runaways aged 15 and 16 taken in by the men, held captive and offered for sex on backpage.com. Lott said the men used drugs "as one of the means to get control over these girls." "Fortunately for us, we had a mother of one of these runaways who was very persistent," Lott said. "She was going to find her daughter, and she did a lot of things to find her daughter."

Associated Press: Suspect found guilty in shooting death of councilman
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ICup3DIz

SC State Wire

A jury has found a Chester County man guilty in the shooting death of a Chester city councilman. Local media outlets report Christopher Moore was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison Thursday in the 2014 shooting death of Odell Williams. Moore's previous trial ended in April with a deadlocked jury. Authorities say Moore shot the 69-year-old Williams in November 2014 after the councilman followed him and four other gang members because he heard they planned a robbery. Prosecutors believe Moore intended to shoot and kill the councilman. His public defender said Moore shot Williams in self-defense, and during his testimony, Moore said he didn't intend to kill Williams.

The Herald: Guilty: Chester councilman's killer gets life in prison
<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article86946462.html>

Teddy Kulmala

Christopher Moore will spend the rest of his life in prison, after a jury on Thursday found him guilty in the 2014 murder of Chester City Councilman Odell Williams. The Fairfield County jury deliberated for about two hours Thursday afternoon before returning with guilty verdicts for Moore on charges of murder and possession of a weapon during a violent crime. Circuit Court Judge Paul Burch sentenced Moore to life in prison without the possibility of parole on the murder charge, and an additional five years for the gun charge. Moore, 20, was stoic after the guilty verdicts were read, holding his fist to his mouth and staring ahead as his family members cried quietly beside him. But there were tears on both sides of the courtroom Thursday night. Burch warned both families before the verdicts were read to keep their composure. "Today is not a good day," Coretta Williams, one of the victim's daughters, said before sentencing. "That guilty verdict, it doesn't make my heart sing.

He's throwing his life away. My dad is not here anymore. I don't really know what to feel."

Post and Courier: College of Charleston and city taking hard look at drug supply and demand
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160630/160639960/college-of-charleston-and-city-taking-hard-look-at-drug-supply-and-demand>

Doug Pardue and tony Bartelme

College of Charleston and city officials may form a task force to take a comprehensive look at student drug use in the wake of a report that fraternity members and other young people operated major Ecstasy, marijuana and cocaine rings. A Post and Courier investigation on Sunday, "Cocaine, pills and textbooks," revealed allegations that fraternity members used pledges as drug mules and sold hundreds of thousands of dollars in drugs just steps from campus. In a statement posted Thursday on the College of Charleston's website, President Glenn McConnell said he was "extremely disappointed and saddened" that any former or current students might be involved in an organized drug network.

Associated Press: Marine Corps: 15 drill instructors under investigation
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mo1j0l7y

Susanne M. Schafer

The Marine Corps is looking into allegations of hazing, assault and physical abuse involving 15 drill instructors at Parris Island training depot in South Carolina, officials said Thursday. The allegations stem from an investigation into the death of a Parris Island recruit in March, Maj. Gen. James W. Lukeman, the commander of Marine Corps training and education at Quantico, Virginia, said in a statement. Raheel Siddiqui of Taylor, Michigan, 20, died after falling nearly 40 feet in a stairwell at the installation, the Naval Criminal Investigation Service has said. Once the Marine Corps' investigations are complete, it will be up to Lukeman to determine "appropriate administration and judicial actions necessary" based on the study's findings, the statement said.

Island Packet: USMC tight-lipped on investigation of Parris Island drill instructors
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/bg-military/article86836032.html>
Wade Livingston

Approximately 15 drill instructors and "affiliated leadership" at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island are under investigation for allegedly hazing, assaulting and physically abusing recruits. Those investigations follow the March 18 death of recruit Raheel Siddiqui and are related to the recent dismissal of two of the depot's top recruit commanders. The probe of the drill instructors dates back to November, according to a Marine Corps news release. But some of the allegations, which include "hazing, physical abuse, assault and failure of supervision," according to the release, stem from "the death investigation" of Siddiqui, who suffered a fatal 40-foot fall at the depot. "During the course of the Recruit Siddiqui death investigation," the Corps news release said, "facts revealed a drill instructor was improperly placed in charge of recruits while he was subject to an ongoing investigation. Existing orders, policies and procedures to prevent improper assignments were not followed," it said.

Times and Democrat: SLED arrests Calhoun coroner
http://thetandd.com/news/local/sled-arrests-calhoun-coroner/article_8c288143-e5a5-5abc-a2a0-875977bee63a.html

Martha Rose Brown

Calhoun County Coroner Donnie Barnett Porth is accused of pointing a gun as he went to confront boaters who were reportedly racing near children. The State Law Enforcement Division arrested the 61-year-old St. Matthews man on charges of misconduct in office and pointing a firearm at a person.

According to a SLED agent's affidavit, Porth was on a sandbar on the Congaree River, within Calhoun County, back on June 20, 2015 when he observed a group of boaters racing in the area. "Two boats raced by the area and came close to a group of children," the affidavit says. "Several individuals present on the sandbar began walking down to confront the boaters. Porth stopped them and volunteered to speak to the boaters himself." The affidavit states Porth retrieved his personal firearm and his Calhoun County coroner's badge from his boat and proceeded to confront the boaters.

Associated Press: Calhoun County coroner charged in gun-pointing incident

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CSkzh4gu

SC State Wire

State agents say they have arrested the Calhoun County coroner after he used his badge and gun to intimidate boaters racing on the Congaree River last year. The State Law Enforcement Division said 61-year-old Donnie Porth isn't licensed to carry a concealed weapon and the county has no policy about the coroner carrying a gun. Agents say Porth agreed to confront the racing boaters in June 2015 after they came close to children. He had on a swimsuit, and attached his coroner's badge to a T-shirt. Authorities say the boaters tackled Porth, knocking the gun from his hand. Porth's cousin fired a shot in the air as they struggled. Porth is charged with misconduct in office and presenting a firearm, which is a felony. He didn't return a message.

Post and Courier: State Criminal Justice Academy director retiring

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160630/160639950/state-criminal-justice-academy-director-retiring>

Melissa Boughton

The director of the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy is retiring after eight years of service there. Hubert F. Harrell, 72, announced Thursday that his retirement from the training and certification center in Columbia would be effective Friday. "It's been an incredible journey over the past several years, and I couldn't imagine being anywhere else but here as a member of Academy," he said. "It has been an honor to serve and protect while wearing this badge, and I will forever be thankful for the support given to this agency and me." Harrell served 24 years as a Navy officer. On June 17, Harrell was presented with the Order of the Palmetto by members of the S.C. Law Enforcement Training Council. The award is the state's highest civilian honor and it was given to Harrell in recognition of his extraordinary work and dedication to the residents of South Carolina, according to a news release.

Post and Courier: Santee Cooper authorizes \$831M debt sale to fund nuclear project

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160630/160639948/santee-cooper-authorizes-831m-debt-sale-to-fund-nuclear-project>

David Wren

Santee Cooper will use proceeds from a \$831 million bond sale to help pay for its share of escalating construction costs at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station expansion, the utility said Thursday. During a special meeting, the state-owned power provider's board also authorized Santee Cooper to secure a fixed-price option on the construction contract for the nuclear plant. The option substantially sets the costs to complete two new reactors at the facility in Jenkinsville. Moncks Corner-based Santee Cooper owns 45 percent of the nuclear plant while South Carolina Electric & Gas, a subsidiary of Cayce-based SCANA Corp., owns the rest.

Island Packet: New questions raised about Hilton Head's stormwater system

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/article87011152.html>

Teresa Moss

It is likely Hilton Head Island Town Council's recent approval of \$300,000 to help pay for a renourishment project for a private beach is the start of a long conversation about who is responsible for the town's stormwater management system. Council members continue to raise questions about how, when and who should protect the system, which is composed of a series of lagoons. They're questions council members themselves do not know the answers to. "I believe the stormwater system in many parts of the island is quite old, and I believe stormwater systems are pegged at a life of 30 years," said Bill Harkins, a council member. "I would like to have an understanding of the priority areas that are demonstrating need and the schedule to address those needs."

National News:

Associated Press: Official: AG will accept prosecutor call on Clinton case

<http://bigstory.ap.org/dde305412b0e4c37ad15615e46428b4f>

Eric Tucker

Attorney General Loretta Lynch intends to accept whatever recommendation career prosecutors and federal agents make in the investigation into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server, a Justice Department official said Friday. "The Attorney General expects to receive and accept the determinations and findings of the Department's career prosecutors and investigators, as well as the FBI Director," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the ongoing probe. Lynch was expected to discuss the matter further at a summit Friday in Aspen, Colorado. This revelation comes amid a controversy surrounding an impromptu private discussion that Lynch had aboard her plane on the tarmac at a Phoenix airport on Monday with Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton. That get-together has been criticized as inappropriate by Republicans and some Democrats at a time when the Justice Department has been investigating whether classified information was mishandled through Clinton's exclusive use of a private email server while she was secretary of state.

Associated Press: AP source: Gingrich being vetted for Trump VP

<http://bigstory.ap.org/68912260670547cab8e234cbeb38f37c>

Steve Peoples and Jill Colvin

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has begun formally vetting prospective vice presidential picks. The New York billionaire is considering former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, among what he previously described as a short list of possible running mates. Their inclusion was confirmed by people with direct knowledge of the vetting process who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the situation publicly. Trump begins the vetting process with less than three weeks before the start of the Republican National Convention, when he said he would publicly unveil his pick. Gingrich and Christie, who both received vetting paperwork in the last 24 hours, emerged as prominent Trump allies in recent months, even as the presumptive nominee faced deep and sustained skepticism from many GOP leaders. Trump's relationship with other would-be running mates was badly strained in the bruising Republican primary season, leaving him with a small pool of willing and qualified candidates.

World News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Alleged attack organizer had Swedish conviction

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fda76e4091a14140b0c30212f60139d0>

Swedish authorities say an ethnic Chechen identified as the organizer of the Istanbul airport bombing that killed 44 people was convicted of weapons smuggling in 2008. The chairman of the U.S. House

Committee on Homeland Security, along with Turkish and Swedish media, says Akhmed Chatayev directed the three suicide bombers who carried out the attack Tuesday. Chatayev's whereabouts are unclear.

The city court in the southern Sweden port city of Ystad says Chatayev was sentenced to 16 months for smuggling an automatic weapon and two handguns with munition and silencers into Sweden on March 3, 2008. Court documents obtained by The Associated Press on Friday show Chatayev had arrived by ferry boat from Germany. He and two others in the car said they were heading to Norway to go fishing and meet friends. Court documents show he denied knowing about the guns hidden in a spare wheel in the trunk. A local paper says he was freed from prison in January 2009.

Associated Press: US congressman: Chechen extremist behind Istanbul attack

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fad6ca6eda9142bead29b11b7b259981>

Dominique Soguel and Suzan Fraser

A Chechen extremist masterminded the triple suicide bombing at Istanbul's busiest airport that killed at least 44 people, a U.S. congressman has said. U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul, chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, told CNN that Akhmed Chatayev directed Tuesday night's gun-and-bomb attack at Ataturk Airport, one of the world's busiest, which also wounded more than 230 other people. Turkish and Swedish media have also identified Chatayev as the organizer, although Turkish authorities have not confirmed his involvement. Sabah newspaper, which is close to the government, said police had launched a manhunt to catch the alleged mastermind. McCaul said it is unclear where Chatayev is, but he is known to have served as a top lieutenant in the Islamic State group's war ministry.

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