

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, October 31, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Noncompliance with REAL ID could mean real trouble for S.C. travelers
http://www.postandcourier.com/news/noncompliance-with-real-id-could-mean-real-trouble-for-s/article_bf679418-9c7f-11e6-be47-5fa2c51e2fff.html

Emma Dumain

A lot was happening on Oct. 13, 2016. The presidential race was taking another unexpected turn, baseball teams were vying to go to the World Series and singer-songwriter Bob Dylan won the Nobel Prize. There might have been no better time for the Department of Homeland Security to quietly transmit a memo to five state agencies - including the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles - to inform them their time was up. Starting Jan. 30, 2017, South Carolina IDs and driver's licenses that don't conform to "REAL ID" standards won't be accepted for entry into federal buildings, nuclear power plants and military bases. Starting Jan. 22, 2018, those same ID cards won't be sufficient for boarding a commercial airplane. And the federal government let state officials know they'd be delinquent. "DHS's review found that South Carolina has not committed to meeting all remaining requirements and has not provided adequate justification for continued noncompliance," the agency wrote to S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles Executive Director Kevin Shwedo.

NOTE: Today the task falls on his successor, Gov. Nikki Haley, to stave off a scenario where life and travel for state residents could soon become full of hassles and inconveniences, particularly those who don't have U.S. passports, the easiest alternative form of identification in lieu of a REAL ID.

NOTE: Haley, then a member of the state House of Representatives, voted for that law. So did then-state Reps. Mick Mulvaney and Jeff Duncan, Republicans who joined Congress in 2011.

NOTE: Haley's press secretary, Chaney Adams, told The Post and Courier "the governor's office will continue to follow" the 2007 law prohibiting the state's compliance with REAL ID.

NOTE: "State officials, however, will meet with the Department of Homeland Security to discuss the security of South Carolina's driver's licenses and identification cards in order to make sure our citizens are not inconvenienced by any federal mandate," Adams continued.

NOTE: In the event Haley decides it's in South Carolina's best interest to comply with the REAL ID statute, it could be necessary to overturn or at least significantly revise the existing state law. There's no guarantee the state Legislature would have the appetite to take on that fight.

Politico Magazine: How the GOP Can Survive Trump

<http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2016/10/republican-party-future-donald-trump-214402>

Glenn Thrush

here are few who understand the havoc that Donald Trump has wreaked on the Republican Party better than Mike DuHaime, Sarah Isgur Flores, David Kochel and Terry Sullivan. All top operatives for Trump's primary season opponents, the four of them watched from the front row as the real estate mogul tore through decades of Republican gospel to emerge as the party's nominee in July. With Election Day approaching, we convened these GOP gurus for a discussion—moderated by Politico's chief political correspondent, Glenn Thrush—about the future of their party post-November 8. We asked them what everyone seems to be wondering: Does 2016 and the rise of Trump signal some massive paradigm shift for Republicans? What should the party do about the nominee's anti-establishment base? And how can it regain the significant chunks of the electorate—women, minorities, immigrants—that the man at the top of the ticket has driven away?

NOTE: David Kochel, former chief strategist for Jeb Bush: I think the party is always one nominee away from a major paradigm shift, to the positive or to the negative. The nominee of a party has a tremendous amount of sway over how the national conversation goes in this intense period of time in the midst of a general election. Trump shades and clouds what has really been going on in the party, where you have a lot of up-and-coming leadership and a very deep bench that is very diverse—from Susana Martinez to Marco Rubio to Nikki Haley. Across the board we've got a broad, diverse party running in all kinds of states, with positive conservative governance.

New York Times: A Somber Charleston Reflects on Race as 2 Murder Trials Begin

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/31/us/charleston-dylann-roof-walter-scott.html?_r=0

Alan Blinder

Seventy-four days separated the fatal bursts of gunfire: the eight rounds a white police officer fired at Walter L. Scott, a black man in North Charleston, and then the shots that killed nine black churchgoers at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church here. And now, seven days will separate the trials of the officer, Michael T. Slager, and of Dylann S. Roof, the white supremacist accused of carrying out the church killings. Jury selection in the state trial of Mr. Slager, who was fired after the shooting, will begin on Monday; one week later, the same process is scheduled to begin in the federal case of Mr. Roof. Prosecutors, who are seeking the death penalty for Mr. Roof, rebuffed his offer to plead guilty. The proceedings — unusual in a country where, for different reasons, few police officers or mass killers stand trial — will draw renewed attention to, and more reflection within, the Charleston area, where many residents still struggle with killings that rattled the nation.

NOTE: Nikki R. Haley: There was a time where those tragedies haunted me, and I think they always will to a point. But more what I take away from those is how the people of South Carolina responded and, more important, how the families responded. During the time was hard. The anniversaries were hard, and now going through the trials will once again be hard. It's going to be difficult to hear it again and to get the details out again and all of that....

Hurricane Matthew:

Island Packet: FEMA will foot most of Beaufort County's bill for private road debris removal

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/weather/hurricane/article111371332.html>

Kelly Meyerhofer

The Federal Emergency Management Agency approved Beaufort County's request for debris removal from private roads and rights-of-way under FEMA's Public Assistance Program Saturday, according to a letter from FEMA to county administrator Gary Kubic and Kim Stenson, the S.C. Emergency Management Division director. "We're very pleased to get permission to move forward with this given the extent of debris on both public and private roads," deputy county administrator Josh Gruber said. FEMA's approval requires the county to "provide a full and complete roster of all private property onto which it entered to remove debris under this authority," and to "assist the federal government in recovering any insurance proceeds after a reasonable search to ascertain from the property owners any insurance proceeds that they may have been paid for such debris removal under this program," according to the letter, which was obtained by The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette.

Sun News: FEMA: 'Ineligibility' status doesn't mean there's no hope for aid

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article111491842.html>

Emily Weaver

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is urging residents who have been turned down for disaster assistance to not give up in applying for aid. Sometimes, it might take an act as simple as filing missing paperwork to change an "ineligibility" status into "eligibility" for aid. Following FEMA's initial application review, South Carolina survivors who have applied for disaster assistance will receive a "letter of eligibility," according to a recent release from the federal agency. The letters will tell applicants whether they were found eligible or ineligible for assistance. If an applicant is eligible,

the letter explains the amount of the grant and how it is to be used. If the letter says a survivor is ineligible, the grant amount reads "0", but in many cases that is not the last word, according to the FEMA release.

Morning News: More than 20 Pee Dee roads remain closed weeks after Hurricane Matthew

http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_af7d5baa-9ef5-11e6-be0a-1fcd3f2f5348.html

Joshua Lloyd

Flash flooding from Hurricane Matthew left dozens of roads across the Pee Dee washed out, and officials say it may take months to repair many of them. According to the South Carolina Department of Transportation, some of the repairs have already begun, but many will not be completed until well after Thanksgiving. Lorena Pate, an SCDOT District 5 maintenance engineer, said many of the road damages are similar to the damages sustained in the "1,000-Year Flood" of 2015. "The damages are not the same places as last year, but it's same type of damages that need to be fixed," she said. "We have a lot of road washouts, collapsed bridges and shoulders of roadways damaged." Pate said the timeframe for many of these repairs is undetermined because of the severity of the damages.

Morning News: Mormon Helping Hands turns out to assist Pee Dee storm victims

http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_8a3bb178-9e11-11e6-b3f7-ff418efe8b22.html

More than 1,200 Mormon Helping Hands this weekend have gathered from across the Southeast in Florence and Conway to help with Hurricane Matthew cleanup missions. "It is a wonderful opportunity in the dark cloud of a natural disaster like Hurricane Matthew to come together as communities, friends and neighbors and offer Christ-like love and service to those suffering and in need," said Joseph Jennings, Florence stake, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, through a release on the event. More than 1,450 residents from Hartsville to Georgetown have reported needs associated with storm damage and cleanup, according to the release. Cory Wiedrich, director of public affairs for the church, said the goal this weekend was to accomplish up to 600 missions.

WMBF: Lugoff Fire-Rescue uses rescue boat acquired after October 2015 floods during Hurricane Matthew

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33517498/lugoff-fire-rescue-uses-rescue-boat-acquired-after-october-2015-floods-during-hurricane-matthew>

Matt Corpening

Lugoff Fire-Rescue and the Kershaw County Legislative Division will hold a news conference Monday to discuss how the knowledge gained from the historic flooding of October 2015 paid dividends during Hurricane Matthew. According to a LFR news release, the conference will be held at 892 Highway 1 South at 3 p.m. Following the October 2015 flooding, an after-action review highlighted Lugoff Fire-Rescue's need for Swiftwater Rescue equipment. SC Senator Vincent Sheheen spearheaded the effort that resulted in LFR receiving a rescue boat, motor, trailer and equipment specifically designed for water rescues. Members of the KCLD, the Lugoff Fire Board of Commissioners, firefighters and rescue swimmers will be on hand, in addition to the rescue equipment itself. LFR mobilized the equipment for responses during Hurricane Matthew in Lugoff and in Marion County. Rescue swimmers used it to access flooded homes on the Little Pee Dee River.

WMBF: Hurricane Matthew impacts sea life at Winyah Bay

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33511354/hurricane-matthew-impacts-sea-life-at-winyah-bay>

Michael Maely

The heavy rain from Hurricane Matthew left a vivid mark of damage, but less noticeable, is the mark storm water left as it made its way toward the ocean. It's there that the extreme weather can also impact marine life. WMBF News Anchor Michael Maely tagged along with CCU scientists for an explanation. "Yeah, it's a lot of work, yes. I love what I do, I wouldn't change it. I love sharks," said CCU graduate student Caroline Collatos. The CCU Marine Science students and staff on their boat in Winyah Bay in Georgetown County have their hands full, in the name of research, sending almost 200 long lines into the water since May. Collatos teaches younger students how to sample what's

beneath, while she pursues her PhD. "Ultimate goal of the research is to get a comprehensive picture, what species are in the bay, what time of year they come, why they're using the bay and how that may change from year to year. Are we noticing a decline in populations?" said Collatos. The crew is also testing the amount of salt and organisms in the water.

WMBF: United Methodist Church helps rebuild Nichols

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/33510805/united-methodist-church-helps-rebuild-nichols>

Eric Traphagen

Nichols is in a state of disrepair since it was inundated by flood waters following Hurricane Matthew and the United Methodist Church led a group of volunteers to gut out several homes. "So, what we're finding is the houses have some degree of water," said George Olive, the church's reverend who led the disaster response team. "Therefore flooring, carpeting, walls, cabinetry, appliances, a lot of the furniture all needs to be taken out and be disposed. And so we're in that clean out and tear out mode right now." Nichols was flooded for several days. In fact, people who live there said there are still puddles left from the flood waters. Many homes have mold growing up the walls, with it reaching five feet high on one house. "Clearly there are people here that need significant help," Olive said. "United Methodist will be here until we finish. If that takes two years that's what we're going to do."

WPDE: Out-of-state volunteers help families after Hurricane Matthew

<http://wpde.com/news/local/out-of-state-volunteers-help-families-after-hurricane-matthew>

Liz Cooper

Many families across our area are still struggling to put their lives together, three weeks after Hurricane Matthew triggered massive flooding. Now, thousands of volunteers from across the country are coming to our state to help. Not only are people dealing with flooding, but enormous trees fell down on their property as well. Men and women in yellow t-shirts are coming to the rescue for many families. They're called Mormon Helping Hands. "We offer help on a need basis. It's not financially based or religion based or anything else," said Rodney Brown, an organizer of Mormon Helping Hands. They connect with people in need through the Crisis Cleanup national organization. People who need help call and volunteers show up to help in any way they can.

Michael Slager Case:

Associated Press: Trial of officer seen on video shooting black man to begin

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Fulq0MFU

Bruce Smith

The trial is starting for a former South Carolina police officer captured on video shooting an unarmed black motorist. Potential jurors report Monday in Charleston as jury selection gets underway in the trial of 34-year-old Michael Slager. The nation was stunned by cellphone video recorded by a bystander showing Slager shooting 50-year-old Walter Scott as he ran from a traffic stop in April 2015. The jury will have to decide if the shooting is murder. If convicted Slager, faces 30 years to life. Jury selection is also being held this week in a similar case in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ray Tensing is charged with murder and voluntary manslaughter in the July 2015 shooting of Sam DuBose, who was pulled over for a missing license plate.

Associated Press: Memories of 2001 race riots hang over police shooting trial

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6f8WoQHK

Dan Sewell

Memories remain vivid of the 2001 race riots in this city after police killed a young, unarmed black man. Now, ahead of the trial of a white police officer who fatally shot an unarmed black man in a traffic stop, police are beefing up security and say they're prepared for anything, while officials and civic leaders are trying to stay in front of community tensions. Prospective jurors will be questioned Monday for Ray Tensing's trial on murder and voluntary manslaughter charges in the shooting of Sam DuBose after he was pulled over July 19, 2015, near the University of Cincinnati for

a missing front license plate. Tensing's attorney has said he feared for his life; the Hamilton County prosecutor has called the shooting, which was recorded by the officer's bodycam video, senseless and "asinine." "None of us want to revisit 2001," The Cincinnati Enquirer stated in a recent editorial in which the newspaper said it was encouraged by the steps taken by the city, the University of Cincinnati and others. The Black Lawyers Association and city councilwoman Yvette Simpson, for example, have held educational community forums to explain the legal process unfolding in the case. **NOTE:** In another of the cases, jury selection begins Monday in the murder trial of former North Charleston, South Carolina, police officer Michael Slager, who is white, in the April 2015 death of Water Scott, a black man shot in the back as he ran from a traffic stop.

Post and Courier: A look at what's in store as Michael Slager's murder trial begins

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/a-look-at-what-s-in-store-as-michael-slager/article_88c99cc2-9c74-11e6-8ebe-437b69795980.html

Andrew Knapp

The trial of Michael Slager for murder in Walter Scott's shooting promises to be a key moment in the recent nationwide call for scrutiny of police killings. But for what reason? The trial's conclusion could determine that. But with the outcome still in the balance, the nation's eyes will turn toward downtown Charleston, the host of this legal intrigue. In the courtroom, people may hear arguments Slager was just doing his job for a historically aggressive police agency in North Charleston when he was confronted with a decision to defend himself. They may hear a contention that Slager was out for immediate revenge when he executed the man who defied arrest, as prosecutors have said in the past. Members of area communities are bound to watch from afar, ready to demonstrate if their idea of justice isn't served. The video that so vividly depicted Scott's death has been seen by many worldwide, but experts say the case isn't as simple as it appears in the short clip.

General Assembly News:

The State: Rec Commission chair tried to fight fire with fire after nepotism allegations

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article111479222.html>

Avery G. Wilks

When a group of legislators took aim earlier this month at Richland County Recreation Commission board members for nepotism, the commission's chairwoman did some digging of her own. Writing on the Rec Commission's official letterhead in early September, J. Marie Green filed open records requests for public records related to any S.C. State House employees who are relatives of state senators and representatives. Green's inquiries came the day after 10 members of Richland County's State House delegation demanded Green and four other board members quit, citing – among other grievances – “blatant abuses of nepotism” within the commission. Brandishing documents made available through their own open records request, the Richland legislators said on Aug. 31 that the Recreation Commission has at least 10 employees who are related or closely connected to the commission's embattled former director, James Brown III; his son, James A. Brown; or board chair Green.

NOTE: Writing to S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley on Oct. 13, legislators called Green's open record request “yet another example of the five commissioners' inability to oversee RCRC.”

WCIV: Treasurer: Unclaimed money is a treat, no trick

<http://abcnews4.com/news/local/treasurer-unclaimed-money-is-a-treat-no-trick>

Sandra Eklund

It's as easy as putting your name into a search bar, but county officials want to help you find out if you have unclaimed money on the books. The State Treasurer's Office is reaching out to citizens who may be eligible to collect unclaimed funds under South Carolina's Unclaimed Property Program. “It's no trick, but it could be a treat this Halloween if your name is on the list,” said Treasurer Curtis Loftis. “It only takes a few minutes to check out website to see if you have unclaimed property.” It's not just private citizens who have unclaimed funds, either. There are more than 250 entries when the word

"Charleston" is entered into the search and 25 Goose Creek businesses pop up when that city's name is used. That money is held until the legal owner is found or comes forward to claim the funds.

WLTX: The Treasurer May Have A Treat For You

<http://www.wltx.com/news/the-treasurer-may-have-a-treat-for-you/344974336>

Just in time for Halloween, Treasurer Curtis Loftis and the State Treasurer's Office has a list of the spooky names of owners who have unclaimed property and, that's no trick. Millions of dollars are transferred to the Unclaimed Property Program annually by companies that cannot locate the owners. Examples of the types of property covered by the program include dormant bank accounts, stock certificates, un-cashed checks (including paychecks), insurance proceeds and utility deposits. Some of the more interesting names include Jon Trick, Ferris Treat Williamston, Jason Blood, Casey Candy, and Michael Casper.

SC Election News:

Independent Mail: House District 8 candidates agree on Trump, little else

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/10/30/house-district-8-candidates-agree-trump-little-else/93012894/>

Kirk Brown

Two candidates from Townville who are vying for the South Carolina House of Representatives District 8 seat agree that Donald Trump should not be president and that the state ought to legalize medical marijuana. But Republican incumbent Jonathon Hill and his Democratic rival, Barbara Jo Mullis, have little else in common. They differ on the role of state government, as well as on specific issues such as funding road projects and the future of higher education in South Carolina. Hill, the Anderson tea party founder who is seeking a second term, said he believes that state government should seek to "do fewer things better." Mullis, a retired school teacher who unsuccessfully challenged U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan two years ago, said she believes government has a responsibility to "create a more perfect union."

SC Political News:

Independent Mail: Democrats in Anderson County see reasons for hope

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/10/30/democrats-anderson-county-see-reasons-hope/92949574/>

Kirk Brown

Anderson County Democrats are accustomed to losing. But they hope younger voters and an influx of new residents will eventually lead to different outcomes. Their current political plight was illustrated by results of the state's last two elections. In 2014, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley received 70 percent of the votes in Anderson County — 14 percentage points better than her statewide total. Two years earlier, GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney defeated President Obama by 27 percentage points here, compared to his statewide 11 point margin of victory. Across South Carolina, Democratic voters cast slightly more straight-ticket ballots than Republicans in 2012 and 2014. But In Anderson County, almost twice as many Republicans were straight-ticket voters than Democrats. Dan Harvell, chairman of the Anderson County Republican Party, said the county's GOP voters are savvy.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Charleston region a top site for manufacturers, but Ontario is gaining ground

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/charleston-region-a-top-site-for-manufacturers-but-ontario-is/article_fe807d0e-9c5c-11e6-90e5-0388261a5b4e.html

David Wren

The license plate for the Canadian province of Ontario declares: "Yours to Discover." A lot of advanced manufacturing firms are taking that slogan to heart, according to an industrial site selection

expert who says Eastern Ontario is making strides in luring companies that normally would pick South Carolina or other locations in the United States."It's showing up as a competitor to Charleston," said John Boyd Jr., principal of The Boyd Co., who was in the Charleston region last week to meet with clients from around the Southeast. A report by his Princeton, N.J.-based firm shows that of 24 hot manufacturing markets, Eastern Ontario has the lowest operating costs when it comes to labor, utilities, taxes and other factors. The Charleston region finished No. 3, with costs that are nearly 16 percent higher than its north-of-the-border competitor. Greensboro, N.C., was the least-expensive U. S. site while California's Silicon Valley was the most expensive place for manufacturers, the study shows.

Local News:

Associated Press: Man killed, woman wounded in Walterboro shooting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=NpCwj7uh

SC State Wire

A man has been killed and a woman wounded in a shooting in Walterboro. Colleton County sheriff's deputies told local media outlets that the shooting happened around 11 p.m. Friday. A sheriff's report said two men came into a home through a back door and shot a woman and her boyfriend. The report said the suspects told the victims they had been sent to shoot them. Deputy Coroner Richard Carter said 43-year-old Lewis Kevin Ramsey died from his wounds. The woman's name has not been released. She was taken to Trident Medical Center. There was no word on her condition. No arrests have been reported.

Associated Press: Investigators say fight at apartment preceded fatal stabbing

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=XLGL5CZH

SC State Wire

A Gaffney man is dead after a dispute led to his fatal stabbing. Cherokee County Coroner Dennis Fowler says 34-year-old Jason Edward Brewton was stabbed to death early Sunday. Fowler says witnesses described Brewton coming to a local apartment complex and arguing on the front porch of one home for about a half an hour before the fight became physical. Brewton says the victim was stabbed multiple times and died at the scene. An autopsy is scheduled for Monday. Gaffney police are investigating.

Post and Courier: Family, police search for answers in Charleston man's beating death

http://www.postandcourier.com/news/family-police-search-for-answers-in-charleston-man-s-beating/article_311f9a5a-9c3b-11e6-8689-2f4be46047fd.html

Angie Jackson

Less than two weeks before he became the seventh of 12 homicide victims so far this year in Charleston, Gerald Dilligard concluded a reflective college essay with the sentiment that he wasn't going to become a statistic. Ten years ago, long before the 27-year-old was beaten to death in the home he shared with his father, his mother first heard him make a similar declaration with confidence. He had gotten in trouble in high school, and in a conversation with his principal he said, "I'm not going to be a statistic. ... I'm going to be something." Now Dilligard's words are almost prophetic to those who watched him make strides, only to see his dreams cut short when they say he was starting to flourish. Dilligard was the father to a young son, and he had recently started his studies at Trident Technical College with the goal of becoming a lawyer. Relatives can't stop thinking of his potential that's now lost.

Island Packet: New videos released in case of abused, special-needs preschooler

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/education/article111559007.html>

Rebecca Lurye

In just one morning drive to Bluffton Elementary School, bus monitor Lillian Jackson stands or reaches across the aisle to touch a special-needs preschooler 46 times. From the first punch to the

last grab, Jackson lays a hand on the tiny boy in the puffy, winter jacket nearly twice a minute. That's what's shown in a newly released video from the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office, which is prosecuting the former bus monitor on seven counts of unlawful neglect of a child in connection with allegedly abusing the 4-year-old victim numerous times between September 2014 and February 2015. The child is non-verbal and was 3 years old when the alleged abuse was first reported, according to police and court records.

The State: Midlands suicides have doubled in decade, leaving families with 'gut-wrenching' losses
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article111484727.html>

Sarah Ellis and Glen Luke Flanagan

It has been 15 years since Joshua Boyne hung himself. Two years since his younger brother Jesse Boyne shot himself. Five years since Willis Williams II put a bullet in his side. Four months since Ian McCoil felt he couldn't bear the weight of his anxieties anymore. He feared being a burden to those he loved. His parents found him shot dead in the back yard. "Every day I will miss Ian, and every day I will wish I could have done something different," said his younger brother, Kyle McCoil, a 21-year-old senior at the University of South Carolina. One of the leading causes of death nationally and locally is on the rise, claiming the life of someone like McCoil, Williams and the Boynes roughly every 11.5 hours in South Carolina. Richland and Lexington counties have had as many deaths by suicide so far this year as all of last, continuing an upward trend that's seen local suicides double in a decade. And the holidays, which tend to be a particularly bad period for suicides, are still ahead.

Post and Courier: Gun control advocates continue efforts to close 'Charleston loophole'
http://www.postandcourier.com/news/gun-control-advocates-continue-efforts-to-close-charleston-loophole/article_1f76cb5e-9ed2-11e6-a46c-53d3d0908d52.html

Derek Asberry

Gun control advocates, including family members of the nine Emanuel AME Church parishioners killed last year, are continuing to push for lawmakers to close the "Charleston loophole." "This is a human issue, not a political one," said J.A. Moore, brother of Myra Thompson, a victim of the June 2015 mass shooting. Moore was one of many who spoke Sunday afternoon at Brittlebank Park during the 39th stop of the Gabby Giffords' Vocal Majority Tour. The tour is sponsored by U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, an Arizona Democrat who suffered a gunshot wound to the head on Jan. 8, 2011, in Tucson. Giffords, who was unable to attend Sunday's event, was one of many to survive the shooting. Six others were killed. The U.S. Government Accountability Office found in a July report that thousands of criminals have made gun purchases, even though they shouldn't have been allowed. The purchases go through because the three-day time limit for an FBI background check to clear expires before agents can complete the review.

Post and Courier: Summerville mayor wants to stop employees from talking for town
http://www.postandcourier.com/news/summerville-mayor-wants-to-stop-employees-from-talking-for-town/article_9962b424-9d41-11e6-8a67-bfb65d53c7b4.html

Brenda Rindge The mayor wants to muzzle employees, including the administrator, from speaking to the media or representing the town on issues without council's consent. "This is something that has, I assume, been going on for some time, but I feel that it is critical for the council to determine the direction of the town and not necessarily the staff make these determinations," Mayor Wiley Johnson said during a recent council meeting. But Councilman Walter Bailey, often on the opposite side of issues from Johnson, said such a policy would be illegal. "If you are trying to suppress people's opinions they make to the press just because they are town employees and you may disagree with what they are saying, it's a violation of First Amendment," Bailey said.

Associated Press: Summerville mayor wants to stop staff from talking for town
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PeVuf4ZI

SC State Wire

The mayor of Summerville is seeking to muzzle town employees, including the administrator, from

speaking to the media or representing the town on issues without the council's consent. The Post and Courier of Charleston (<http://bit.ly/2eZGjI5>) reports Mayor Wiley Johnson said during a recent council meeting that such a move would ensure that council members would be the ones determining the town's future, and not staff. Councilman Walter Bailey questioned the legality of such an approach, arguing that staff should have the freedom to voice their opinions to the press. Johnson says staff should be free to address ongoing issues, such as debris cleanup, but he says matters that have to do with the "direction of the town" should be left up to council members.

Sun News: Voters will decide on tax increase for \$600M to build roads

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article111557712.html>

Audrey Hudson

Horry County voters will decide on Election Day whether to approve a 1-cent sales tax to raise nearly \$600 million for major road construction projects across Horry County. This is the third time locals will vote on the temporary tax, which has funded more than a billion dollars since 1996 to build major highways, interchanges and to maintain existing roads. If voters approve the Road Improvement and Development Effort, or RIDE III, the tax will be raised for seven years to fund 15 projects, plus pave and resurface 200 miles of road. The new batch of projects would begin next year, even as several roads under the ongoing effort of RIDE II remain unfinished. Some delays were caused by objections from environmentalists over construction along Carolina Bays Parkway, which was ultimately tied to construction of S.C. 707. The Coastal Conservation League (CCL) is still challenging construction of International Drive, which is now tied up in the federal court system.

Post and Courier: Tour guides and carriage horses: Updates on two hot debates

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/tour-guides-and-carriage-horses-updates-on-two-hot-debates/article_2ca2bdd4-9c60-11e6-b36d-d73b9777d968.html

Dave Munday

The City of Charleston is looking for evidence that it's a bad idea to let people tell its history for money without a license, according to city attorney Susan Herdina. The city is fighting a lawsuit over its tour-guide ordinance from three people who failed the test and alleged they were being denied their First Amendment right to free speech. It's not likely the suit will be resolved until at least spring, Herdina told the city's Tourism Commission last week. "The city views the ordinance as very important and is defending it vigorously," she said. U.S. District Court Judge David Norton told the city in June that he wants more evidence that not requiring a license could cause harm. Charleston has required licenses for tour guides since 1952, council clerk Vanessa Turner Maybank told the commission. Several other cities have fought similar legal battles or are facing them, with varying results, Herdina said in her update.

The State: Share your thoughts on a Midlands transportation center at upcoming meeting

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article111498992.html>

Sarah Ellis

What are the Midlands' transportation needs as the region grows? Where could a regional transportation hub be located, and what features should it have? A public meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday to receive input on the concept of a regional transportation center that could be a hub for multiple modes of transportation, such as bus, train and car service. The previously scheduled meeting was postponed because of Hurricane Matthew. The Central Midlands Council of Governments is commissioning a study to identify a possible site for a regional transportation center and the features it might include – a centralized bus station, a future rail link? The gathering of public input on wants and needs is one of the first steps in what could be a five- to 10-year journey toward completing a transportation center that would connect various types of transit throughout the Midlands region.

Independent Mail: Industry to expand in Oconee County

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/10/30/industry-expand-oconee->

[county/93017014/](#)

Ray Chandler

Oconee County has won a tug of war with Mexico to be named the site of a major industrial expansion, county officials said Friday. The move will add investment and jobs, according to county officials, who said the county's record of netting such developments pushed the county's most recent unemployment figure to a 15-year low. Richard Blackwell, executive director of Oconee Alliance, a public-private effort promoting county economic development, said Friday that the company, the name of which officials are not yet releasing, already has a facility in Oconee County, and the expansion involved a new line being moved from the Midwest to either Oconee County or a Mexican site. Blackwell made the announcement Friday at the October meeting of Oconee Alliance directors.

Post and Courier: Charleston Boy Scouts scouting for new home after \$1.1M sale

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/charleston-boy-scouts-scouting-for-new-home-after-m-sale/article_38762516-9c50-11e6-8a74-b7bcabb7bd17.html

Warren L. Wise

The Charleston-area Boy Scouts will soon be setting up their regional headquarters camp someplace else. The group's Coastal Carolina Council has sold the 3.5-acre tract it has occupied at 1025 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. on the Ashley River for the past 34 years. Charles Tumbleston, who owns Tumbleston Photography Studio in West Ashley with his daughter Amy Tumbleston Brown bought the site for \$1.1 million. It includes a 10,000-square-foot building and unobstructed river views. The council is still scouting out locations for its new Lowcountry headquarters. The group wanted to be closer to its population base and realized the existing building needed some work, so they decided to sell it. "We are talking with the owners of a building in the North Area, but we don't have anything we can disclose yet," said Legare Clement, Scout executive for the Coastal Carolina Council.

Post and Courier: Grapevine: Some parking rates to rise at Charleston airport

http://www.postandcourier.com/business/grapevine-some-parking-rates-to-rise-at-charleston-airport/article_bf561f0e-9805-11e6-a543-ef29677c843f.html

Passengers parking at Charleston International Airport can expect to pay a little higher fees starting Tuesday. The cost for the surface lots will increase by \$2 a day to \$10, while valet parking will go up by \$3 a day to \$21. The rates for the garage will not change. The higher fees were approved to help finance the costs of building a second parking deck behind the existing structure. Work could begin by the summer. More parking is needed because of a 90 percent increase in arriving and departing passengers since 2010 - from 2 million to a projected 3.8 million this year. Also, starting Tuesday, people parking in handicapped spaces will pay the standard rates after the first 48 hours. The Charleston County Aviation Authority, which oversees the airport, curtailed its free parking policy for cars with disabled placards after learning of some suspected abuses.

The State: Famously dry? No rain in sight for Columbia

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article111478917.html>

Cynthia Roldan

Baby, it's dry outside. On Sunday marked 22 days since Columbia has received rain, placing the dry spell on the Top 20 consecutive driest stretches for the area, according to the Columbia office of National Weather Service. And with no rain in the forecast until at least Thursday, Columbia could hit the Top 10 for driest stretches, said Leonard Vaughn, a hydrologist and meteorologist based in Columbia for the National Weather Service. "We have a couple of chances to maybe get a little bit of rain, but there's really no good chance for rain in the next 10 days," Vaughn said. "There's a couple of fronts coming through, but they're probably coming through dry. We might get a few sprinkles." And sprinkles don't dump enough rain to make it count, Vaughn said. The record for the most consecutive days with no rain in Columbia was set in 1961, when it didn't rain for 40 days. The most recent stretches were in 2013, when 24 days passed without rain and in 2010 with 30 days. The fall is typically a dry season, Vaughn said.

The State: Storm drainage in neighborhoods perplexes Lexington County

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article111488617.html>

Tim Flach

Lexington County officials are bewildered about coping with storm water drainage impediments such as landscaping, fences, sheds and playground equipment atop underground pipes in yards. Getting past those features to the pipes delays work and makes it more costly, public works director Wrenn Barrett said. The county has to move what's there, then pay to put it back after the work is done on the pipes. The problem is only getting bigger as steady growth adds more neighborhoods, Barrett said in a report to County Council. But council members are wary of stirring up protests from homeowners by putting restrictions on where the features creating the problem can be placed.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Warrant to search newly found emails obtained by FBI

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6c37b97576d5429682da1d9d6162cd29>

The FBI has obtained a warrant to begin reviewing newly discovered emails that may be relevant to the Hillary Clinton email server investigation, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press. FBI investigators want to review emails of longtime Clinton aide Huma Abedin that were found on a device seized during an unrelated sexting investigation of Anthony Weiner, a former New York congressman and Abedin's estranged husband. The official, who has knowledge of the examination, would not say when investigators might complete the review of Abedin's emails but said Sunday they would move expeditiously. The Clinton email inquiry, which closed without charges in July, resurfaced on Friday when FBI Director James Comey alerted members of Congress to the existence of emails that he said could be pertinent to that investigation.

Associated Press: Clinton seeks to use new FBI inquiry as galvanizing force

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f4e3c36473ea4972b81334cf725ca0b1>

Even before FBI Director James Comey jolted the presidential campaign, Hillary Clinton and her advisers were on edge. Never mind that preference polls had Clinton ahead of Republican Donald Trump nationally and in nearly every battleground state. Or that Democrats in Washington were starting to actively prepare for a Clinton presidency, speculating about top Cabinet nominees and next year's White House agenda. "The polls are going to tighten," Clinton communications director Jennifer Palmieri warned as she talked with the campaign's traveling press corps on Friday. After swatting away a rumor about post-election planning — this one about Vice President Joe Biden being considered to lead the State Department — Palmieri predicted, "Next week you guys are going to come to us and say, 'the polls are tightening and you were focused on the transition.'" "No," she added. "We are not."

Associated Press: The Latest: Former AG Holder Raps FBI's Comey for Email Move

<http://bigstory.ap.org/627fdbd1945f4c59b09816a687ade7c2>

Former Attorney General Eric Holder is assailing FBI Director James Comey for divulging that the bureau has reopened its investigation of Hillary Clinton's emails, saying he unleashed "a torrent of conspiracy theories and misrepresentations." "That decision was incorrect," Holder writes in an op-ed in Monday's editions of The Washington Post. "It violated longstanding Justice Department policies and tradition." Holder was referring to Comey's notification to the Republican heads of congressional committees that the scrutiny of Clinton's emails was being resumed in light of information turned up in connection with an unrelated investigation. That probe involves former Rep. Anthony Weiner, the estranged husband of Clinton aide and confidant Huma Abedin. He said he respects Comey but "good men make mistakes."

National News:

Associated Press: Massive Oklahoma manhunt ends with suspect in killings dead

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c4dccc981e0944cc8c2a54cbe8e7fada>

A massive, weeklong manhunt for a suspect in a string of violent crimes, including the killing of two relatives, the shooting of three law enforcement officers and multiple carjackings, has ended in a police chase and shootout that left the man dead in western Oklahoma. Authorities believe Michael Dale Vance Jr. posted two Facebook Live videos Oct. 24 documenting his run from police, although he had been silent since then. An Oklahoma state trooper shot and killed Vance late Sunday near Leedey, 130 miles northwest of Oklahoma City and 45 miles north of where he was last seen a week earlier. Earlier Sunday, Vance shot and wounded a Dewey County officer and fled in a car, according to Dave Turk, spokesman for the U.S. Marshals Service in Washington, D.C., which participated in the manhunt. Officers pursued Vance for about half an hour when he was approached by an Oklahoma state trooper.

World News:

Associated Press: Italy's premier vows help for 15,000+ displaced by quakes

<http://bigstory.ap.org/cd2faf3587af47549e082fbc3f210933>

Italy's premier pledged Monday to find temporary housing for all those displaced by a series of powerful earthquakes in a central mountainous region, as the nation's strongest temblor in 36 years pushed those needing assistance to more than 15,000. Sunday morning's quake with a magnitude 6.6 caused no deaths or serious injuries, largely because most fragile city centers had already been closed because of previous damage and many homes had been vacated. But it did complicate quake relief efforts in a zone that was still coping with the aftermath of an August quake that killed nearly 300 in the same region, and a pair of powerful aftershocks last week that also claimed no lives. Civil protection officials said they expect the number of people needing assistance to continue to rise, as it doesn't count the many people who slept in vehicles or made other arrangements and are likely to seek help. Temperatures overnight reached near freezing, and officials have expressed concern for the many elderly residents of these mountain communities.

Associated Press: 2 women unite to take 'honor' out of killing in Pakistan

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fc55153640b64ccab250ca1e4d9d503e>

So much divides two women who fought in the battle to take the "honor" out of killing in Pakistan. Naeema Kishwar shrouds herself in a burqa, showing only her eyes. She belongs to a political party that has been linked to the Taliban. And she comes from deeply conservative tribal lands where girls have been killed for going to school. Sughra Imam sometimes wears a scarf draped lightly on her hair, but often her head is bare. She belongs to a liberal party whose leader, Benazir Bhutto, the first female prime minister of this predominantly Muslim nation, was assassinated by extremists. She comes from a prominent Pakistani family and was educated at Harvard. But at least one thing unites the two: they have spent their political careers fighting for women. Although they have never met, and usually are on opposite sides of the aisle, Kishwar and Imam became unlikely allies in the battle to pass a historic law to protect women from murder by members of their own families.

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Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044