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To:
Date: 6/14/2016 8:26:36 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, June 14, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: Moped bill is 'government overreach,' Gov. Haley says in veto message
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article83512847.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Gov. Nikki Haley has vetoed a bill that would require moped drivers younger than 21 to wear helmets and mandate all moped drivers wear reflective vests at night. Haley wrote in her veto message Friday that the bill's requirements are inconsistent with laws for similar vehicles and constitute government overreach. "I believe that adults over the age of 18 – who are allowed to vote and serve our military – should decide for themselves what they should wear for their personal safety," she said. State law already requires motorcycle drivers or passengers under 21 to wear a helmet.

Greenville News: Haley vetoes moped bill over helmet, vest provisions

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/06/13/haley-vetoes-moped-bill-over-helmet-vest-provisions/85833576/>

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley has vetoed a bill regulating mopeds, telling legislators that requirements for helmets and safety vests amounts to "government overreach." The bill would require owners to purchase license tags, register their vehicle, obtain either a moped license or a driver's license and follow traffic laws. It would also require operators to wear reflective vests at night and for those under 21 to wear helmets. "I believe adults over the age of 18 — who are allowed to vote and serve our military — should decide for themselves what they should wear for their personal safety," Haley wrote in her veto message Monday.

Post and Courier: Haley vetoes moped bill over helmets, safety vests

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160613/160619755/haley-vetoes-moped-bill-over-helmets-safety-vests>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley has vetoed two widely supported bills dealing with mopeds and mobile veterinary clinics due she said led to burdensome regulations. Haley said the moped bill went too far by requiring drivers under 21 to wear helmets and for all drivers and passengers wear reflective vests at night. "Mandating that adults must wear helmets or safety vests is government overreach," Haley said in her veto message. "I believe that adults over the age of 18 -- who are allowed to vote and serve our military -- should decide for themselves what they should wear for their personal safety." The General Assembly, which passed the moped bill on the last day of the legislative session, will take up the veto when lawmakers return to the Statehouse on Wednesday. Overriding the veto requires a two-thirds vote in the House and Senate.

Associated Press: Gov. Haley vetoes moped safety bill over helmets, vests

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

Seanna Adcox

Gov. Nikki Haley has vetoed a moped safety bill because it requires reflective vests for nighttime driving and helmets for drivers under 21. The Republican governor says the mandates on adults represent government overreach. People over 18 "should decide for themselves what they should wear for their personal safety," she wrote in her veto message, signed Friday. In her veto letter, Haley said the proposed restrictions for mopeds exceed those for motorcycle drivers.

WSPA: Gov. Haley Vetoes Study of Moving Confederate Relic Room

<http://wspa.com/2016/06/13/gov-haley-vetoes-study-of-moving-confederate-relic-room/>

Robert Kittle

One of the vetoes that Gov. Nikki Haley made in the state budget is a proviso to have the state study whether to move the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum from Columbia to Charleston. State lawmakers will be back at the Statehouse Wednesday to vote on whether to override her vetoes. She says when she worked with lawmakers last year to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds, part of the agreement was to move it to the Confederate Relic Room for eventual display. "That's the only conversations I ever had. That's the promise I made to them, that we would do this and we would do it right," she told reporters last week, at a news conference about her budget vetoes. "Never in any of those conversations with any of those people did they talk about moving it to Charleston, and so I think moving it to Charleston is because a couple of legislators, or former legislators, want it moved to Charleston."

WSPA: 'World Blood Donor Day' celebrated in the Upstate

<http://wspa.com/2016/06/14/world-blood-donor-day-celebrated-in-the-upstate/>

Christine Scarpelli

World Blood Donor Day has been celebrated annually since 2004, with the aim of improving the safety and adequacy of National Blood supplies. Governor Nikki R. Haley has proclaimed June as Blood Donor Appreciation Month. She's also declared June 14, 2016, as World Blood Donor Day in South Carolina. Tuesday, you can donate at locations all across the state. The Blood Connection is planning to celebrate with open house events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in all of its donation centers tomorrow. This year's theme is "Blood Connects Us All."

General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Lawmakers would have to hurdle 'lines in the sand' obstacle to pass ethics reform this week

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160612/PC1603/160619876>

Maya T. Prabhu

Lawmakers drew deep lines in the sand around ethics reform on the last day of this year's General Assembly, and no one knows whether there's room for compromise. But after a weeklong break, legislators will continue working toward consensus on two bills during a special session that begins Wednesday. It's their last chance this year to clean up several lingering matters. House and Senate members appear to be sticking firm over what's been called the breaking point in a bill that would create an independent eight-member ethics commission to investigate elected officials accused of wrongdoing.

Orlando Shooting News:

Greenville News: Orlando shooting drives need for blood donors

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/06/13/orlando-shooting-drives-need-blood->

donors/85829358/

Elizabeth Sanders

Two Blood Connection buses parked outside of Walmart on Wade Hampton in Greer were full of donors on Monday morning after a shooting in Orlando on Sunday left dozens dead and dozens more injured. According to the Blood Connection there's been an influx of donors since news broke on the shooting. Donna Ehrlich, Director of Donor Resources and Marketing for the Blood Connection, said they posted on social media about an urgent need for donations after receiving a call from Orlando asking for help. Despite Sundays being typically slow, Ehrlich said they saw a big uptick in donations this week. That stream of donors continued Monday. According to Ehrlich, the group already shipped some donations to Orlando on Sunday.

Associated Press: Orlando mourns as possible motives emerge for club gunman

<http://bigstory.ap.org/761507bed75f461e9fd95a1422e63ef7>

Jason Dearen and Terrance Harris

As thousands in Orlando turned out to mourn 49 people killed inside a gay nightclub, federal investigators examined possible motives for the gunman who committed the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history. The White House and the FBI said 29-year-old Omar Mateen, an American born Muslim, appears to be a "homegrown extremist" who had touted support not just for the Islamic State, but other radical groups that are its enemies. "So far, we see no indication that this was a plot directed from outside the United States, and we see no indication that he was part of any kind of network," FBI Director James Comey said Monday. He said Mateen was clearly "radicalized," at least in part via the internet. Despite Mateen's pledge of support to the Islamic State, other possible explanations emerged.

Associated Press: Making no promises, Obama struggles for solution on violence

<http://bigstory.ap.org/817770ca8b27436699785e6a808dbd83>

Josh Lederman and Kathleen Hennessey

Was it homegrown terrorism, bigotry or random gun violence? Americans searching for answers after the Orlando shootings are finding no easy solutions from President Barack Obama, who is conceding that a deadly mix of extremism and easy gun access have made future tragedies almost a foregone conclusion. In the days after the deadliest shooting in modern U.S. history, Obama has offered no simple prescriptions or promises for new action — even as the candidates vying for his job put forward aggressive plans of their own. Instead, the president has suggested the root causes behind a "disturbed" man's actions are difficult to determine and may be less important than a sort of "soul searching" about what to do about it.

WACH: Local Muslim leaders speaking out in response to Orlando mass shootings

<http://wach.com/news/local/local-muslim-leaders-speaking-out-in-response-to-orlando-mass-shootings>

Melanie Barden

After the Islamic state claimed responsibility for the shooting in Orlando, local Muslim leaders are speaking out to set the record straight. Chaudhry Sadiq, president of Columbia's Peace and Integration Council of North America, put out a statement Sunday that the Islamic faith has nothing to do with terrorism. Sadiq says, "A crime is a crime, a criminal is a criminal, he or she does not have a faith. A terrorist is a terrorist they do not have anything to do with-- they must not be associated with their faith." Sadiq says Columbia's Muslim community often hosts community forums and informational events for the public.

WLTX: Midlands Muslims Talk About Their Faith

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/midlands-muslims-defend-religion/242831724>

Lana Harris

Some of the emotions of the country following the mass shooting in Orlando have included negative feelings about Muslims. Chaudhry Sadiq, president of Peace and Integration of North America (PICNA) and president of the board of directors for the Noor Ul Huda Mosque in Columbia, says the extremists should not automatically be associated with Islam. "When Dylan Roof, for example, shoots down nine innocent worshippers in a church, he is not identified by his Christian faith nor by his Lutheran denomination," Sadiq says. "On the other hand, when an 'Omar' or a 'Faruq' does anything that bad, which is inhuman, which is barbaric, he is identified by his faith." A faith, he says, that does not support their actions.

Post and Courier: Jim Clyburn interrupts moment of silence for Orlando shooting in call for action on gun violence

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC1603/160619717>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn and fellow congressional Democrats are not letting their Republican colleagues forget that a year has passed since the Emanuel AME Church shooting — and there's been no action on legislation to curb gun violence. The day after a gunman opened fire at a gay night club in Orlando, Fla., and killed 49 people, the South Carolina lawmaker broke the requisite moment of silence over the tragedy to ask when the House could expect to act on any number of pending bills to keep guns out of the wrong hands. Clyburn, the third-ranking House Democrat, was not afforded the opportunity by Republicans to make what he said was simply a "parliamentary inquiry." He allowed members to be silent for a few seconds, but interrupted with his request before the allotted time for quiet reflection had officially expired.

Post and Courier: After Orlando shooting, gunman's weapon faces revived scrutiny

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC16/160619716>

Deanna Pan

At ATP Gunshop & Range, you can choose from more than 15 models — in black, pink and green-camouflage — of the same type of firearm mass murderers in Orlando, Fla., Newtown, Conn., and Aurora, Colo., used to kill dozens for a few hundred or more than a thousand bucks. The AR-15, the civilian version of the U.S. military's M-16 rifle, and similar military-inspired semi-automatic weapons, have faced renewed scrutiny after Sunday's massacre in an Orlando nightclub. Authorities say gunman Omar Mateen used a legally purchased "AR-15-type assault rifle" to carry out the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history. In response to the shooting, Hillary Clinton, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, called for a renewal of the federal assault weapons ban, like the one originally enacted in 1994 by her husband, former President Bill Clinton. That law, which expired a decade later, banned the manufacturing of 18 specific semi-auto weapons, including some models of AR-15s and AK-47s, and high-capacity ammunition magazines carrying more than 10 rounds.

Associated Press: Gay clubs: Patrons treasure a place to feel safe, be oneself

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PfRg0old

SC State Wire

Like many gay men across America, Jamie Brown has treasured memories of nights spent reveling at a gay club, a boisterous community gathering place where he could feel safe and be himself. He remembers it as a sanctuary. After the nightclub massacre in Orlando, Florida, "it just won't be the same," Brown wrote in an emotional Facebook post. "The sanctuary has been defiled." Sunday's

attack on the Pulse nightclub, in which 49 people were killed and gunman Omar Mateen died in a gun battle with police, prompted an outpouring of reminiscence and reflection on the vital roles that such clubs have played for many lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people across the U.S. Note: "I imagine that a lot of young gay people could feel the same way about their own regular weekend hot spot as I did about Hula's," Brown wrote in his post. "It's where you go when you don't want to lie... It's where you go to connect, to experience community, forget your secret, and to combat the isolation that a secret of that magnitude can cause." Now 42, Brown lives in Columbia, South Carolina, and works as a brain-wave analyst for a hospital system. Two years ago, he married his longtime partner; they go out to clubs infrequently, usually for special occasions.

The State: Two with Midlands ties among dead in Orlando

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article83552702.html>

Avery G. Wilks, Glen Luke Flanagan and John Monk

Two of the 49 killed in Orlando early Sunday, in the country's deadliest mass shooting in history, had ties to the Midlands. Darryl Roman Burt II, 29, was a former student at Claflin University in Orangeburg. Deonka Deidra Drayton, 32, was raised in Eastover. They, along with the others slain, were honored at a vigil Monday night at Reformation Lutheran Church in Columbia that drew a crowd of more than 300. Among the speakers at the vigil was Omar Shaheed, imam of the Columbia mosque Masjid as-Salaam. Shaheed condemned the actions of shooter Omar Mateen – who is reported to have pledged allegiance to ISIS during his act of terrorism – as not in keeping with Islam.

Post and Courier: Hundreds attend Charleston rally for Orlando massacre victims

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC16/160619714>

Brenda Rindge

Many of those who packed a vigil Monday in Charleston for victims in the Orlando, Fla., massacre felt the need to show solidarity as residents of a city that recently faced its own tragedy. "Terrorists who think they can tear communities apart are seeing that instead we pull together," said Sara Williams of Mount Pleasant. "We did that last year after Emanuel, and we will do it any time anyone tries to break us down or tear us apart. Hate won't win." About 1,500 were expected for the event, organized by Charleston Pride and the Alliance for Full Acceptance, at the Charleston Visitor Center bus shed. It was one of many vigils, rallies and marches planned throughout the country Monday and later this week for the victims of the deadly attack early Sunday at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando. With 49 innocent people dead and more than 50 more injured, it is one of the deadliest mass shootings in U. S. history.

The Herald: 'Hate will not win today': Chester Co. vigil honors Orlando attack victims

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article83450527.html>

Teddy Kulmala

An American flag suspended from a fire truck ladder flew high above Interstate 77 late Sunday night. Down below, in the parking lot of the Gateway Conference Center, candlelight flickered across the faces of about 30 people as they mourned and prayed for the victims of Sunday's terror attack at an Orlando nightclub. Fire engines from the Chester and Lando fire departments had their ladders extended toward the sky over the conference center. One ladder was lined in red, white and blue lights, and the American flag hung from the second one. After attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance, the Rev. Kevin Taylor, lead pastor of Ember Church in Chester, offered words of healing and perseverance.

The Herald: 'Sickening': York County gays react to mass shooting at Orlando nightclub

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andrew-dys/article83534067.html>

Andrew Dys

In America, again, guns plus hate has equaled death. This time the target of hate and bullets was not blacks, hated for their skin, but gay people. Hated for their love. People in York County's LGBT community – a misnomer, really, because gay people are people like everyone else and their community is our community – are shocked and sickened by the rampage of an apparent homophobic radical Muslim who shot up a gay nightclub in Orlando, Fla., on Sunday. The death toll at the hands of what appears to be an ISIS sympathizing, American-born, follower of Islam is at 50 and expected to rise, making it the worst mass shooting in American history. More than 50 more were wounded.

Island Packet: Beaufort waterfront vigil to honor Orlando victims

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article83514482.html>

Joan McDonough

Beaufort's Henry C. Chambers Waterfront park will be the scene of a vigil Tuesday night honoring those killed and wounded in the Orlando, Fla., night club shootings. The 30-minute vigil begins at 7 p. m. and is sponsored by the Welcoming Congregation Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort with the help of other local clergy. The program "will include singing, prayer, an honoring of those who died and a call to sow seeds of love and compassion," a congregation news release said.

Herald-Journal: Pride March & Festival safety considered in wake of mass shooting

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160613/articles/160619895>

Daniel J. Gross

Organizers of Upstate Pride SC's annual March & Festival in Spartanburg will consider whether security needs to be strengthened at this year's event in the wake of the mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Fla. This year's March & Festival is scheduled for Sept. 10 with a march through downtown Spartanburg leading to a day-long festival at Barnet Park. The Spartanburg-based LGBT advocacy group has existed since 2008 and has worked with the Spartanburg Police Department each year on event security.

Sun News: Orlando shootings hit home with Myrtle Beach area LGBT group

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article83614577.html>

Christian Boschult

The gathering was organized by Terry Livingston, executive director of Takeover Grand Strand, an LGBT advocacy group in Myrtle Beach. "We're having a vigil to just simply remember the 49 people whose lives were cut short just yesterday morning," he said. "It was a complete shock to the LGBT community here and other people as well." Livingston said the attack was a "horrific hate act" against the LGBT community as a whole. "Tonight we want to gather the local LGBT community and just support each other and hopefully at the end of the night we'll have achieved the mission of feeling more love than hate," he said. "We simply want to show that we can gather, we can bounce back and simply that love will conquer hate."

Aiken Standard: Aiken City Council offers support to Orlando victims

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160614/AIK0101/160619767>

Dan Brown

Aiken City Council reacted in a show of support for members of the Orlando community rocked by the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history prior to its Monday meeting. Mayor Rick Osbon called for a moment of silence before the meeting to remember those who perished in the shooting at an Orlando nightclub Sunday. Osbon said when the time was right, Aiken would reach out to Orlando to offer their community support in any way possible. "Acts such as this, which try to divide us and pull us apart, only stand to make us stronger," Osbon said.

Emanuel AME Shooting Anniversary:

Post and Courier: From Orlando, Emanuel AME pastor calls for stricter gun laws and unity after mass shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC1603/160619753>

Emma Dumain

Days before Charleston commemorates the anniversary of the Emanuel AME Church shooting, the church's pastor is in Orlando, Fla., to stand with a community reeling from a gun-related tragedy of its own. The Rev. Dr. Betty Deas Clark arrived some 24 hours after Omar Mateen opened fire on a gay nightclub, killing 49 people in the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history. Clark told reporters during a media telephone conference call she came to Orlando as a guest of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, which hosted the call that included a reverend from the First Unitarian Church of Orlando and the president of the African American Council of Christian Clergy. "We must have stricter regulations for individuals to have access to a gun," Clark said. "It is very important for us to join together and to push the envelope in every way possible to make sure that we do better as a society."

The State: Remembering Emanuel: The unanswered phone call

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article83610097.html>

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott got the first call about 9 on a Wednesday night a year ago. A deputy sheriff told him there were reports of a shooting at Emanuel AME Church in his hometown of Charleston. Scott's first thought was to check in with his friend the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, the church's pastor. "I remember picking up the telephone to call Clementa to see what was happening, and it's probably my last text that I have to him," Scott said. Sitting in his office on Capitol Hill, Scott pulled out his phone and scrolled through his messages – all the way down to June 17 of last year.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Judge rules jury will mull case of church shooting suspect

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=944NVjFt

Meg Kinnard

Jury, not a judge, will consider hate crimes and other federal charges against the man charged in the shooting deaths of nine parishioners at a South Carolina church. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel ruled Monday that jurors will determine the guilt or innocence of Dylann Roof in his federal trial. If he's convicted, a jury will also hear arguments on a possible death sentence. Roof's lawyers had requested a bench trial. Earlier Monday, prosecutors filed papers opposing a bench trial.

Post and Courier: Federal judge rules Dylann Roof must face trial by jury

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC16/160619764>

Andrew Knapp

A federal judge ruled Monday that Dylann Roof must face a trial by jury in last year's deadly mass shooting at Emanuel AME Church. The ruling came after Roof's defense attorneys last week said he wanted to waive his right to a jury trial in the death penalty case and instead have U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel decide his fate. But under federal court rules, prosecutors must also agree to such a bench trial and a judge must approve. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jay Richardson said in a filing earlier Monday that the prosecutors did not agree. "The government advises the court that it does not consent and, instead, respectfully requests that a jury determine the defendant's guilt and appropriate punishment," Richardson said in the document.

The State: Roof must have jury in upcoming death penalty trial, judge rules

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article83560982.html>

John Monk

Accused Charleston church gunman Dylann Roof will not get a federal death penalty trial decided

solely by a judge. U.S. Judge Richard Gergel ruled Monday that Roof, an avowed white supremacist charged with killing nine African-Americans a year ago at a downtown Charleston church, must have a jury trial. Last week, Roof and his lawyers told Gergel that he wanted to waive his right to a jury trial. The trial is expected to begin in November. Federal prosecutors must agree to that request but made it clear in a filing Monday they will not do so. "The Government advises the Court that it does not consent and, instead, respectfully requests that a jury determine the Defendant's guilt and appropriate punishment." assistant U.S. Attorney Jay Richardson wrote. That objection means Roof's request won't be granted, Gergel said.

SC Elections:

Associated Press: 3 US House races, legislative contests highlight primary

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Qtv cv7Fn

Bruce Smith

A record 3 million people are registered to vote in South Carolina, but don't expect any voting records to be set when voters go to the polls Tuesday in the state primary. There are no statewide races, and in a relatively quiet campaign season, there are primaries in only three of the state's seven congressional districts. Across the state, 39 state legislators faces primary challenges. A look at Tuesday's primary, in which polls are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. EDT...

Associated Press: 2 congressmen, 39 legislators face primary challengers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ELT049kX

SC State Wire

Voters across South Carolina will determine whether two incumbent congressmen and 39 legislators survive primary contests to be on November's ballots. Polls opened at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. Tuesday. There are no statewide races. But both Gov. Nikki Haley and Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster are campaigning, though for opposing candidates. While Haley is working to oust several Senate leaders, McMaster and other Haley allies support the incumbents' re-election. A group connected to Haley has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars backing her opposition campaigns. The most watched congressional race pits former governor and U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford against state Rep. Jenny Horne of Summerville for the Lowcountry's 1st District.

WLTX: Voters Head to the Polls for Primary Day

<http://www.wltx.com/news/politics/voters-head-to-the-polls-for-primary-day/242783683>

Voters will go to the polls today to decide key primary races across the Midlands. Polls are open until 7 p.m. Among the key races are partisan contests for sheriff in Clarendon, Fairfield, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter Counties. Winners of those contests will go on to the November ballot, although many of those races are not expected to face opposition in the general election. In Lexington County, voters pick someone other than Donnie Myers to be the solicitor, after the longtime litigator decided to retire earlier this year. In Richland County, the race for the open District 10 county council seat will finally be decided, after no one got more than 50 percent of the vote two weeks ago during a special election, leading to a runoff.

Post and Courier: Lowcountry voters to cast ballots in Tuesday's statewide primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC1603/160619754>

Alison Graham

Lowcountry voters can cast their ballots 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday in the statewide primaries. Republican voters will decide a combined 14 races in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties while Democratic voters will determine four contests. So far in Charleston County about 2,400 people

have voted absentee. The counts are higher than in recent turnouts because South Carolina launched an absentee ballot request form online, said Joe Debney, executive director of the Charleston County Board of Elections and Voter Registration.

The State: Key Midlands races on the ballot Tuesday

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article83511047.html>

A quick look at key races on the primary ballots Tuesday in Lexington and Richland counties...

Independent Mail: Polls are open: Decision day for primary voters is here

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/decision-day-for-primary-voters-352f3cb4-d378-5b8b-e053-0100007f4a40-382787601.html>

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. today for primaries in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties. Some of the key races include...

Herald-Journal: Vote Today: Polls open in Spartanburg, Cherokee & Union counties

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160614/articles/160619896>

South Carolina's primary election is Tuesday, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The election contests in Spartanburg County are all Republican; no Democrats face any challengers. About 900 people cast ballots through in-person absentee voting through Monday, said Spartanburg County Voter Registration and Elections Director Henry Laye. Any runoff elections, if needed, will be June 28.

Aiken Standard: Go vote: Primary day is today

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160614/AIK0101/160619774>

Christina Cleveland

Statewide primaries are today. Running in the primary in Aiken County are...

The Herald: York, Chester, Lancaster counties head to primaries Tuesday

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article83615097.html>

Voters in York, Chester and Lancaster counties will cast ballots in primary elections on Tuesday, determining party nominees for Congress, sheriff, county councils and other state and local offices. Here's what you need to know to vote...

Morning News: Election Day is here; Delmae No. 1 precinct voters will see a familiar face

http://www.scnow.com/news/article_4c9a8b44-31c6-11e6-9142-6bf4e95fc1d0.html

Joe Perry

When voters head to the polls at 7 a.m. today for primary elections, Butler will be back at a familiar spot in the cafeteria at the Delmae No. 1 precinct at Delmae Heights Elementary School as a precinct clerk, using his wide-ranging skillsets to ensure there are no derailments of the democratic process. "I enjoy doing it or I wouldn't do it," he said as he and poll manager Dick Mayer set up a trio of voting machines. "We sure don't do it for the pay. As Americans, we've got to give back; we can't just take."

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: State of grace? Not at the State House

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scoppe/article83546962.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

IT FELT, FOR a too-brief time, like everything truly had changed. People who understand the politics

of South Carolina said they had to act immediately to remove the flag because waiting until January would be too long. This wouldn't last, at least not inside the State House. And a year after the massacre, it seems all too clear that they were right. It was never realistic to think there would be policy changes beyond the flag, at least not in the short term. Even the politician who seemed the most deeply moved by the massacre, Gov. Nikki Haley, drew a very bright line between symbolism and tone on the one hand and public policy on the other.

Aiken Standard: Editorial: Best defense means rallying together

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160614/AIK0201/160619780>

The signature statement coming from Orlando, Florida, the scene of the latest terrorist attack where 50 people were killed, including the shooter, and 53 injured at a local dance club, is that hate and terror will not win. In front of the press and the public, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer said, "We will not be defined by the act of a cowardly hater. We'll be defined by how we respond as a community." Friday is the one year anniversary of the mass shooting at the historic Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. And South Carolinians know all too well the shock and sadness those in Florida are experiencing. Many communities across the U.S. came together in support of Orlando, including Augusta where a crowd estimated at more than 100 held candles and sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth" during the Orlando Solidarity Gathering on Sunday night at the Metropolitan Community Church of Our Redeemer. Some Aiken County residents attended the event, which offered comfort and an opportunity to grieve.

Sun News: LGBT Muslims do exist, and they are grieving. It's time for acceptance.

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/opinion/op-ed/article83568987.html>

Amanullah De Sony

Muslim Americans. LGBT Americans. One would imagine that the marginalized would unite. From the straight Muslim man who is profiled at the airport for his bushy, long beard to the transgender Muslim who fears being shunned from the mosque held so dear to heart and faith - is there so much distance? Yet those who are marginalized are not immune to their own prejudices and phobias. Omar Mateen, who killed at least 49 people in a gay nightclub in Orlando on Sunday morning, offers a chilling example. I've spent more than a decade researching Islamic masculinities, including five years living and teaching in Florida before I moved last year. I have heard some Western Muslim leaders step haltingly toward acceptance. But most of what I have heard, when Muslim leaders speak to the LGBT believers in their midst, is callous disregard or deafening silence.

Local News:

Sun News: Former detective's son sues Horry police, claims false arrest

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article83555957.html>

The son of a former police detective is suing the Horry County Police Department claiming that officers arrested him on false charges of participating in a fight at a St. James High School basketball game to humiliate the youth. Joshua Allan Large says he was wrongly accused of participating in the fight with students from Conway High School, and that he was trying to break up the altercation that occurred on Dec. 2, 2014. Large's lawyer, Bonnie Travaglio Hunt, said they tried to resolve the issue with the Horry County Police Department before filing the lawsuit Monday, but could not reach an agreement.

Aiken Standard: American Red Cross is asking for blood donors on World Blood Donor Day

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160614/AIK0101/160619765>

Tripp Girardeau

Today is World Blood Donor Day and the American Red Cross is celebrating by urging residents who are eligible blood and platelet donors to give more this month. Krystal Overmyer, Red Cross spokeswoman, said the Red Cross is partnering up with Nexcare Bandages and supermodel, blood recipient and Nexcare Give spokeswoman, Niki Taylor, for World Blood Donor Day. "The summer months can be an especially difficult time to collect the blood and platelets patients need for lifesaving transfusions," Overmyer said. "Vacation plans and other summer activities can cause some donors to be less available to give, but the need for blood remains. By sharing this information with the community, we can help ensure blood remains available all summer long."

The State: SCE&G asking for \$852 million more to finish Summer nuclear plants

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article83609292.html>

Roddie Burris

SCE&G is asking state regulators to approve an \$852 million increase in the projected cost of building two nuclear reactors in Fairfield County, but the company says the potential for any other cost increases is limited. Critics of the requested increase — which would be paid for by customers — call the request "stunning." If the state Public Service Commission approves the higher cost, South Carolina Electric & Gas Co.'s 702,000 electric customers would likely face higher rates. But SCE&G says its contract with the project's new construction company essentially "fixes" the reactors' cost in place. "The fixed-price option provides substantial value to our customers, investors and our company by limiting the risk of future cost increases," said Eric Boomhower, SCE&G spokesman.

Post and Courier: Charleston's CSI to provide mine-clearing vehicles to Afghan Army

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160613/PC05/160619756>

David Wren

Critical Solutions International, a Charleston-based company that provides blast-protected vehicles to the U.S. military and others, has been awarded a contract to supply the Afghan National Army with 464 mine rollers, the company announced Monday. The contract is worth more than \$30 million. Mine rollers are used to clear bombs and improvised explosive devices from battlefield areas. CSI is partnering with Philadelphia-based Humanistic Robotics Inc. on the project, which also will include operations and maintenance training.

Island Packet: Hilton Head considers giving \$300,000 to help private beach

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/article83545997.html>

Teresa Moss

Hilton Head Town Council is considering giving \$300,000 to help halt erosion on a private beach in Hilton Head Plantation. But some council members argue it's not the town's problem to fix. "It's a private beach that isn't available to tourists and all of our citizens," said Hilton Head Mayor David Bennett via text message. "I didn't and don't agree with the argument presented by (Hilton Head Plantation) relative to the storm and water retention and neither do those on town staff responsible for the stormwater management." Tuesday, Town Council will discuss its budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, which includes the \$300,000.

National News:

Associated Press: Clinton and Sanders to meet as DC marks the final primary

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b72c64f0e3f6443e907ed5dde53ee1a6>

Ken Thomas

Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders are ending the primary calendar with a face-to-face meeting on Tuesday that could set the tone for Democratic unity and next month's party convention in Philadelphia. Clinton and Sanders plan to meet on the night of the final presidential primary in the District of Columbia, a contest that will have no bearing on Clinton's role as the presumptive nominee but marks a transition in the lengthy primary fight between the two rivals. The Vermont senator has vowed to do all he can to prevent Republican Donald Trump from reaching the White House but suggested he will not endorse Clinton immediately. Sanders said the private meeting will help him determine how committed Clinton will be to the policy issues he has staked out during his 13-month campaign.

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