

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>  
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, April 26, 2016

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## Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, April 26, 2016

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Associated Press:** Gov. Haley heads to Washington to discuss Guantanamo closure

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cLLmFwkw](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cLLmFwkw)

Meg Kinnard

Gov. Nikki Haley is going to Washington later this week to voice her concerns over the possible transfer of Guantanamo detainees to sites including South Carolina. The governor will be among those testifying Thursday before the U.S. House Homeland Security Committee, according to Haley's office. The panel discussion is focused on implications for state and local communities if the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, prison is closed. Haley, a second-term Republican, has been outspoken in her opposition to the transfer of remaining detainees.

**WACH:** Haley to testify against transfer of GITMO prisoners to Charleston

<http://wach.com/news/local/haley-to-testify-against-transfer-of-gitmo-prisoners-to-charleston>

Thomas Lanahan

Governor Nikki Haley is set to testify against transferring Guantanamo Bay prisoners to Charleston Thursday. Charleston is one of 13 cities on the list of possible transfer cities. Haley will speak to a congressional homeland security committee about the impact this could have to the Lowcountry. Republicans have continued to fight the administration if officials decide to move GITMO prisoners to the consolidated naval brig.

**CNBC:** Ted Cruz can save the GOP by losing to Hillary Clinton

<http://www.cnbc.com/2016/04/26/ted-cruz-can-save-the-gop-by-losing-to-hillary-clinton-commentary.html>

Stephen Myrow

Rather than simply pining for the glory of the bygone Reagan era though, the next generation of Republican leaders needs to forge its own modern vision of conservatism. They should start by following the example set by South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, who in her response to President Obama's State of the Union Address this past January, eloquently asserted, "During anxious times, it can be tempting to follow the siren call of the angriest voices. We must resist that temptation." Indeed, whatever policy positions the 2020 Republican nominee adopts, they need to be premised on the principles of civility and inclusivity if he or she is going to truly "Make America (and the GOP) Great Again."

**The Lowell Sun:** The July surprise: Republicans chose Gov. Haley, not bully Trump

[http://www.lowellsun.com/latestnews/ci\\_29815319/july-surprise-republicans-chose-gov-haley-not-bully](http://www.lowellsun.com/latestnews/ci_29815319/july-surprise-republicans-chose-gov-haley-not-bully)

Michael Goldman

We all remember 1880, right? OK, we don't, but it is nonetheless an interesting historical example of why I feel in the end the surprise winner of the Republican presidential nomination could well be the current little-known South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, and not either the foul-mouthed New York bully Trump or any of the opponents who opposed him this cycle. S. President Ulysses S. Grant, who, after leaving after two terms in the White House, is attempting to return for a third term. Receiving no votes on that first ballot was freshman U.S. Senator James Garfield, an Ohio Republican who, like the

aforementioned Gov. Haley, was not a candidate for president that cycle. And that, of course, is the key!

**The Washington Post (Opinion):** Who's on Cruz's VP short list?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/wp/2016/04/26/whos-on-cruzs-vp-short-list/>

Jennifer Rubin

As we anticipated yesterday, discussion of the pact between Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) and Ohio Gov. John Kasich has opened up fresh discussion about Cruz's VP pick. If you are going to start throwing Hail Marys, you might as well try one that could generate the most coverage and excitement, right? An early VP pick would qualify. If **Note:** From our vantage point, it makes sense to pick someone well in advance of the convention, and if possible to assist in stopping Trump before he hits 1,237 delegates. There are many talented choices if this were a regular election year (e.g., South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley) but this is no ordinary year.

**General Assembly News:**

**Associated Press:** House approves borrowing \$200M annually for K-12 schools

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=F0TY2XAf](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=F0TY2XAf)

Seanna Adcox

The South Carolina House has approved borrowing up to \$200 million annually for building and repairing K-12 schools. The House voted 98-5 Tuesday on legislation meant to partly address the state Supreme Court's ruling in November 2014 that the Legislature must do more to provide educational opportunities in poor, rural school districts. Borrowing could not begin until at least next year. The proposal first requires a statewide evaluation of districts' infrastructure needs. Legislators would then get a priority list of projects approved by the State Board of Education.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley proposed the idea in January, saying she can't ignore the leaky roofs, moldy walls and other unsafe conditions in schools she visits. She said then that education includes improving the buildings where students spend most of their day.

**The State:** Some Richland legislators want solicitor to investigate Recreation Commission

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article73948402.html>

Sarah Ellis

Four members of the Richland County legislative delegation now are asking Sheriff Leon Lott to turn over an investigation of the Richland County Recreation Commission to 5th Circuit Solicitor Dan Johnson. In a letter sent Friday to Lott, Sen. John Scott, Sen. Darrell Jackson, Rep. Jimmy Bales and Rep. Christopher Hart ask Lott to engage the Solicitor's Office in investigating any possible criminal activities of the legislative-controlled Recreation Commission. Multiple lawsuits have been filed in recent weeks against the commission; its director, James Brown III; and some of its Legislature-appointed board members, alleging sexual harassment and other inappropriate behaviors.

**The State:** Fix for crumbling SC schools passes House

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article73964572.html>

Jamie Self

The S.C. House approved Tuesday borrowing up to \$200 million a year to renovate crumbling schools and build new ones. With Tuesday's 98-5 vote, the bill needs only one more routine approval from the House by Thursday to ensure it reaches the Senate before Sunday's crossover deadline for legislation, giving it a good chance of passing this year. Funding for school construction projects would depend on how much lawmakers agree to spend in the state budget each year.

**Greenville News:** Sen. Karl Allen honored by Greenville Tech

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/04/26/sen-allen-honored-greenville-tech/83545762/>

Nathaniel Cary

Sen. Karl Allen was recently recognized by Greenville Technical College as a champion of second chances for his efforts to provide opportunities for the poor, the under-served and the under-skilled. Allen, who serves on the Senate Corrections and Penology Committee and chairs the S.C. Expungement Committee hosts a Second Chance Forum each year, with speakers from Greenville Tech, the South Carolina Department of Corrections, the Solicitor's Office and the Pre-Trial Intervention Program. In the program's five years, 3,000 ex-offenders have attended to learn about opportunities, including Greenville Tech's Quick Jobs program, which can deliver job skills, typically in 90 days or less.

**Note:** Allen authored a bill signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley to create the South Carolina Expungement Study Committee and has been elected chairman of that committee.

**Associated Press:** Senate passes bill creating 'Eartha Kitt Day' in SC

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7G7DJ2Vc](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7G7DJ2Vc)

SC State Wire

Senators have given key approval to make every January 17th in South Carolina "Eartha Kitt Day" in honor of the late actress. The Senate approved the bill 35-5 on Tuesday. After one more routine vote, it heads to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk. Kitt was born on Jan. 17, 1927, on a farm near North in Orangeburg County. She spent six decades in entertainment, getting her big break dancing with the Katherine Dunham troupe. She sang on stage, movies and television and called herself a "sex kitten," punctuated with a cat-like purr. Kitt won two Emmys and also was nominated for several Tonys and two Grammys. She died in 2008. Democratic Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter of Orangeburg has been working for years to honor Kitt.

### SC Agency News:

**Associated Press:** Mother of 5 slain kids: SC agency could have stopped deaths

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=I74Mb3mT](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=I74Mb3mT)

Meg Kinnard

The mother of five South Carolina children allegedly killed by their father in 2014 says the state's social services agency knew the father was a threat and did nothing to stop him. The allegations are part of a lawsuit filed last week by Amber Jones. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against her ex-husband. Authorities say Timothy Ray Jones Jr. killed his five children at their Lexington County home in 2014 and drove around with their bodies in trash bags for nine days before dumping them in an Alabama field. A Social Services spokeswoman declined to comment on the lawsuit. The agency has previously released files showing that the father was visited by social workers multiple times but that authorities never found anything serious enough to remove the children.

**The State:** Mother of 5 slain Lexington County children sues SC DSS

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article73975777.html>

John Monk

The mother of five Lexington County children who were allegedly slain by their father in 2014 has filed suit against the S.C. Department of Social Services, claiming that the agency failed numerous times to safeguard the children despite many reports that the father, Timothy Jones, was a threat to their lives and well-being. "Repeated failures...were the factual and proximate cause of the brutal deaths of five innocent and vulnerable minor children," said the lawsuit, filed by Amber Jones, who is divorced from Timothy Jones.

**WIS:** Mother of 5 children allegedly slain by father files suit against state, county Social Services

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31820786/mother-of-5-children-allegedly-slain-by-father-files-suit-against-state-county-social-services>

Chad Mills and Jeremy Turnage

The former wife of the man accused of brutally killing his five children then dumping their bodies in a

ditch in rural Alabama has filed a lawsuit against the state and Lexington County Department of Social Services for failing to protect the children from their murders. Amber Jones has filed the suit in Lexington County on Friday, according to documents, and is seeking an undetermined amount of damages for the "wrongful deaths and conscious pain and suffering of her children." "Each child suffer[ed] a horrific, but entirely preventable death," the lawsuit said.

**Associated Press:** Juvenile prisons looking for 45 new officers after riot

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PHB3waLI](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PHB3waLI)

Jeffrey Collins

South Carolina's main juvenile prison has seen a sharp rise in violence and gang activity, and the leader of the agency said Tuesday she is trying to hire 45 new guards to help. The extra guards are needed in part because the Department of Juvenile Justice is moving away from an earlier policy of making the juvenile prison in Columbia more like a dorm and less like a jail, agency director Sylvia Murray said. The problem is also part of DJJ's own success in moving less violent offenders who are better candidates for rehabilitation off to wilderness camps and away from a more traditional prison setting.

**The State:** After riot, SC juvenile justice boss seeks pay boost for officers

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article73970347.html>

Andy Shain

The head of South Carolina's juvenile justice agency told a special Senate panel on Tuesday that she needs to boost pay for corrections officers and find ways for them to better defend themselves in the wake of recent violent incidents. Inmates set fires and rioted at the agency's Broad River Road Complex, spurring hearings in the S.C. House and Senate to find solutions. Juvenile Justice director Sylvia Murray said her agency has trouble retaining corrections officers because of the job stress and low pay. Officer salaries start at nearly \$26,000 a year.

**WACH:** Department of Juvenile Justice testifies to Senate lawmakers about riots

<http://wach.com/news/local/departement-of-juvenile-justice-testifies-to-senate-lawmakers-about-riots>

Tara Pettitt

A second legislative investigation into the Department of Juvenile Justice officially launched Tuesday when a Senate panel heard testimony from the agency for the first time. The Special Study Committee was established after a WACH Fox News investigation made lawmakers aware of what some staffers at the agency called a "crisis" at the Department. That committee heard testimony for three hours Tuesday from DJJ staffers included the agency's director, Sylvia Murray. The DJJ director said Tuesday that more juveniles have committed major offenses in the last 120 days than the agency is used to. Many of them have been charged as adults and transferred to the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. Lawmakers suggested that having more people on staff would help decrease some of the disturbances.

### **Savannah River Site News:**

**Post and Courier:** Feds seek dismissal of MOX lawsuit; Gov. Haley says \$100M still owed to state

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160426/160429550/feds-seek-dismissal-of-mox-lawsuit-gov-haley-says-100m-still-owed-to-state->

Derrek Asberry

The Department of Energy says the MOX lawsuit South Carolina filed against the agency should be dismissed because the milestones that the agency failed to meet – which were outlined in a 2003 agreement – were only goals and should not be considered mandates. Furthermore, the \$100 million South Carolina is seeking is an issue that should be handled in Federal Claims Court instead of the U.S. District Court, the Energy Department stated.

**Note:** But Gov. Nikki Haley is not backing down from her stance that the federal government owes

South Carolina. "We won't back down on what is an important economic development and quality of life issue for the people of our state," said Chaney Adams, a spokesperson for Haley.

**Associated Press:** Federal government: Dismiss nuke fuel project lawsuit

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:a856067cbc34424e8ad25917b315cd6b>

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's lawsuit calling for million-dollar fines and plutonium removal should be dismissed because the state is wrongly interpreting the laws governing a long-delayed nuclear fuel project, the U.S. Energy Department said in court documents. In its first official response to the state's lawsuit, the federal government also argued Monday that any potential fines for project delays should be handled in a different court system, not federal district court. In February, South Carolina accused the federal government of acting unconstitutionally in failing to complete the mixed-oxide facility by Jan. 1, 2016. The lawsuit seeks daily fines of \$1 million and plutonium removal. The project at the Savannah River Site along the South Carolina-Georgia border is billions of dollars over budget. It was intended to turn weapons-grade plutonium into commercial nuclear reactor fuel to help the United States fulfill an agreement with Russia to dispose of at least 34 metric tons apiece of weapons-grade plutonium. That's an amount government officials say is enough for about 17,000 nuclear warheads.

**Aiken Standard:** U.S. Department of Energy files motion to dismiss South Carolina MOX lawsuit

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160426/AIK0101/160429631>

Michael Smith

South Carolina's lawsuit targeting the Savannah River Site MOX facility should be dismissed because the federal government isn't legally obligated to meet construction milestones listed in the 2003 agreement, according to recent court filings. The state's lawsuit filed in February says the U.S. Department of Energy reneged on mandates to either complete the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility at SRS or transfer 1 ton of weapons-grade plutonium per year to an off-site facility. In a motion to dismiss filed Monday, however, the DOE repeatedly uses the term "objective" instead of mandate to describe its interpretation of the MOX agreement.

**Note:** "The governor has been clear: South Carolina will not be a dumping ground for nuclear waste," Chaney Adams, press secretary for Gov. Nikki Haley, said in a statement. "We deserve better than the years of broken promises we've seen from the federal government, and we won't back down on what is an important economic development and quality of life issue for the people of our state."

## **LGBT Laws:**

**Associated Press:** North Carolina Dems pan 'keep our state straight' comment

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:10d630b801e04c8eb40bc569ac093a3e>

Jonathan Drew and Gary D. Robertson

Rhetorical skirmishes continued Tuesday in North Carolina over a law limiting protections for LGBT people, as Democrats criticized a Republican's plea to "keep our state straight" a day after dozens were arrested and dueling demonstrations were held for and against the law. Police arrested 54 protesters who came to voice opposition to the law late Monday as legislators returned to start their session. Earlier Monday, at a demonstration by thousands who support the law, the state's Republican nominee for attorney general exhorted the crowd to "keep our state straight." The North Carolina Democratic Party issued a statement Tuesday calling the comments hateful and discriminatory toward lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. They called for Newton, who shepherded the legislation through his chamber, to apologize and for Republican Gov. Pat McCrory to denounce Newton's remarks.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Bathroom law didn't deter transgender protesters

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:aaceaa0851a3410cbc3e857dcd5679ca>

The leader of a national advocacy group says transgender people used bathrooms aligned with their gender identity during protests in North Carolina's Legislative Building and weren't arrested for it,



despite a law curtailing LGBT rights. Mara Keisling, director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, said in a phone interview Tuesday that the stance of state Republican leaders toward transgender bathroom access is "nonsense." State law directs transgender people to use bathrooms corresponding to the sex on their birth certificate in many public buildings. On Monday, Keisling, who is a transgender woman, used women's bathrooms near one of the governor's offices and in the Legislative Building. She said others also used the rest rooms of their gender identity. Later, Keisling was among demonstrators arrested after entering a legislative leader's office or refusing to leave when the building closed, but the arrests weren't related to bathroom access.

**Charlotte Observer:** Demi Lovato, Nick Jonas Charlotte show canceled over HB2

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/entertainment/music-news-reviews/article73823087.html>

Mark Price

Demi Lovato and Nick Jonas have become the latest entertainers to cancel North Carolina concerts over the state's controversial HB2 law. Lovato and Jonas posted a joint letter on Twitter Monday saying that, after deliberation, they were canceling a July 2 concert in Raleigh and a June 30 concert at Charlotte's Time Warner Cable Arena. "One of our goals for the tour has always been to create an atmosphere where every single attendee feels equal, included, and accepted for who they are," the post said.

### SC Political News:

**Post and Courier:** Rep. Mark Sanford champions measure to promote Uber-like 'flight sharing' in 'sharing economy'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160426/PC1603/160429548>

Emma Dumain

When U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford isn't fighting government spending he's championing legislation to expand individual rights and knock down bureaucratic barriers. The South Carolina Republican's latest effort to promote "flight sharing" fits this mold. Specifically, he wants to require the Federal Aviation Administration to make it easier for private pilots to communicate with the public about opportunities to share flights and split costs.

**Herald-Journal:** Beatty moves closer to becoming SC chief justice

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160426/articles/160429723>

S.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice Don Beatty has moved a big step closer to becoming chief justice of South Carolina's highest court. The Judicial Merit Selection Commission on Monday unanimously agreed that Beatty – the lone candidate for the post – is qualified to be nominated, said Sen. Larry Martin, R-Pickens, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. "He is qualified, there is no question in my mind," Martin told the Herald-Journal. "He's a single candidate for chief justice by being the most senior associate on the court." The commission will publish its decision May 12, after which Beatty can lobby lawmakers in both chambers for votes, Martin said.

### SC Elections:

**Post and Courier:** Coleman, Thompson drop out of Republican primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160426/PC16/160429553>

Brenda Ridge

Two Republican candidates have withdrawn from local races in Berkeley and Dorchester counties. Berkeley County Republican Tony Coleman has cut short his first run for political office. He was challenging state Sen. Paul Campbell in the Senate District 44 GOP primary but dropped out of the race Monday, said Elections Director Adam Hammons. Coleman's name will not appear on the Republican primary ballot June 14. In Dorchester County, Keith Thompson has notified the election commission that he will not run for the County Council District 4 seat currently held by Larry Hargett, elections executive director Todd Billman said. Because he was Hargett's only Republican

challenger, the races will likely not appear on the primary ballot, Billman said.

**Island Packet:** Jenny Horne to face Mark Sanford in Beaufort Congressional debate

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article73984732.html>

Stephen Fastenau

State Rep. Jenny Horne will face U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford in a televised 1st Congressional District debate in Beaufort in June, a news release from Horne's campaign said. The debate will be televised on S.C. ETV at 7 p.m. June 6. Charles Bierbauer, dean of the University of South Carolina journalism school and former longtime correspondent for CNN and ABC News, will serve as moderator. South Carolina's Congressional primary is June 14.

## **South Carolina News:**

**Island Packet:** Oil exploration could threaten endangered Atlantic whale

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/article73925647.html>

Mandy Matney

Oil exploration planned for the Atlantic Ocean between Delaware and Florida would jeopardize the survival of one of the world's most endangered whale species, according to a group of marine mammal scientists. A group of 27 whale experts recently wrote a letter to President Obama stating said the seismic surveys would threaten the existence of North Atlantic right whale, which is an endangered species consisting of no more than 500 animals, according to the Wildlife Conservation Society.

**The State:** Darlington Raceway president leaving, moving to Daytona

<http://www.thestate.com/sports/nascar-auto-racing/article73911887.html>

Scott Chancey

Chip Wile already knew the NASCAR business. As the president of Darlington Raceway, he learned so much more. He will take that knowledge with him to Daytona International Speedway. On Monday, Wile announced he is moving on to be the president at NASCAR's most sacred asphalt, the home of the Daytona 500.

## **Local News:**

**Post and Courier:** DEA to collect old prescription drugs Saturday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160426/PC16/160429544>

Christina Elmore

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and local law enforcement agencies will be on site Saturday throughout the Lowcountry to collect and dispose of old prescription drugs. The public can drop off the drugs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 17 sites throughout Charleston, North Charleston, Goose Creek, Johns Island, Moncks Corner, Mount Pleasant, Harleyville and Parris Island, according to the news release. In all, 5,000 sites are planned across the state and country for the national initiative. The DEA has destroyed 5.5 million pounds of unused prescriptions over the past five years, the agency reports. The service is free and open to the public with no questions asked, according to the DEA.

**Post and Courier:** Palmetto Primary Care Physicians closes two offices

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160426/PC16/160429557>

Lauren Sausser

Palmetto Primary Care Physicians recently closed offices in Goose Creek and Hanahan, but a spokeswoman for the company would not explain why. "PPCP does not comment on the private business matters of the partnership," Vivian Walton said. "Our top priority is and will always be our patients. While we strive to notify patients in a timely manner of changes, we are at times limited by issues beyond our control."

**Associated Press:** Ex-women's player sues College of Charleston for negligence

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cLkiu2k3](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cLkiu2k3)

Pete Iacobelli

Former College of Charleston women's basketball player Zoe Wallis has sued the school, saying negligence by coach Candice Jackson and her staff led to Wallis collapsing during a training run over the city's iconic Ravenel Bridge. The lawsuit was filed Tuesday in Charleston and asks for unspecified damages and Wallis' readmission to the school through graduation. Wallis said in the filing that she suffered damage to her liver and kidneys during a timed, five-mile run in August 2014 across the span. Wallis collapsed during the run, saying she tried to tell coaches several times she needed to stop, the suit said.

**The State:** Richland 2 parent group hosts 'school-to-prison pipeline' panel

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article73938087.html>

Sarah Ellis

The Richland 2 Black Parents Association is hosting a forum this week to discuss issues relating to school discipline and what's commonly referred to as the "school-to-prison pipeline." A discussion will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Sandhills Research Center, 900 Clemson Road, Columbia. The American Civil Liberties Union, a partner in presenting this week's discussion, describes the "school-to-prison pipeline" as "policies and practices that push our nation's schoolchildren, especially our most at-risk children, out of classrooms and into the juvenile and criminal justice systems. This pipeline reflects the prioritization of incarceration over education," the organization's website says.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston session seeks public input on policing, community relations

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160426/PC16/160429555>

The Charleston Illumination Project will hold a listening session Wednesday evening to gather input and spur discussion on ways to bolster police ties and trust with the community. The 90-minute session will be at 7 p.m. in Shaw Community Center, 20 Mary St. The group has held several previous sessions as part of a yearlong effort to strengthen ties and build trust between Charleston police and the residents they serve.

**Greenville News:** Taylors teen charged with stealing gun used to kill officer Jacobs

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/04/25/greenville-allen-jacobs-press-conference/83493044/>

Romando Dixon

A Taylors teenager has been charged with stealing a gun that 17-year-old Deontea Mackey used to shoot and kill Greenville police officer Allen Jacobs, authorities said Monday. Trystan David Merritt, 17, is charged with unlawful carrying of a pistol, and is being held at the Greenville County Detention Center without bond, according to a warrant and jail records. Merritt was arrested on March 23 by the State Law Enforcement Division.

**National News:**

**Associated Press:** Governor signs bill about officers' use of force, grand jury

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:c2b01589581347eba2112f9f4689bd90>

Ryan Phillips

Police officers who use deadly force will still have a special privilege allowing them to make a statement before a grand jury, but they'll have to answer questions and won't be allowed to sit through the entire proceeding under a bill Gov. Nathan Deal signed into law Tuesday. Supporters of the new law said officers previously had an unfair advantage because they could listen to the prosecutor's case and make a statement at the end without facing any questioning. The bill preserves the special privilege that allows officers to make a statement in front of grand jurors, but now prosecutors and grand jurors will have a chance to ask questions following that statement. Other



people whose cases are heard by a grand jury are not given that opportunity and often don't even know their cases are being considered until an indictment is announced.

**New York Times:** Should 'ballot selfies' be allowed in voting booths?

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/27/us/politics/voting-booth-snapchat-selfies.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/27/us/politics/voting-booth-snapchat-selfies.html?_r=0)

Daniel Victor

To many, there's no better celebration of democracy than a voting booth photograph. It's the moment political talk turns to political action, one younger voters are especially eager to record and share with friends. But in several states, the right of free speech has clashed with the question of whether allowing photographs in the voting booth, a typically private space, could compromise elections. Some states, like Pennsylvania, have banned the practice. Last year, a federal court in New Hampshire overturned a ban on such photos, a decision still being appealed. Snapchat, the social network of choice for many younger voters, joined the fray on Friday, filing an amicus brief in New Hampshire arguing against the ban. It called ballot selfies "the latest way that voters, especially young voters, engage with the political process." Both supporters and detractors of the restrictions agree that there are significant freedoms at stake. They just disagree on which freedoms to focus on.

**Associated Press:** Prince's sister says musician had no known will

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:b7bcc90e42904f679c07158bf5e851a3>

Ryan Nakashima and Steve Karnowski

Prince's sister believes the superstar musician didn't have a will and asked a Minnesota court to appoint a special administrator to oversee his multimillion-dollar estate, according to court documents filed Tuesday that could signal a looming fight over Prince's assets. Tyka Nelson, Prince's only surviving full sibling, said in a court filing that immediate action was necessary to manage Prince's business interests following his death last week. The documents don't estimate how much his estate may be worth, but Prince made hundreds of millions of dollars for record companies, concert venues and others. Nelson asked that Bremer Trust, a corporate trust company, be named administrator of the estate. The court documents say Bremer Bank provided financial services to Prince for many years.

**Associated Press:** Johnny Manziel indicted in alleged attack on ex-girlfriend

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:2b4330f3a3fb4758b16e9c47a5229b69>

Nomaan Merchant

Former Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel was indicted by a grand jury on Tuesday on a misdemeanor charge stemming from a domestic violence complaint by his ex-girlfriend. The 2012 Heisman Trophy winner and Texas A&M star was accused by ex-girlfriend Colleen Crowley of hitting her and threatening to kill her during a night out on Jan. 30. Crowley said in court documents that Manziel struck her so hard that she temporarily lost hearing in one ear. The indictment accuses Manziel of striking Crowley and "forcing (her) into a vehicle and against a vehicle dashboard." Manziel faces a charge of misdemeanor assault related to family violence, which carries up to one year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

**World News:**

**Associated Press:** Al-Qaida says it killed Bangladesh gay activist, friend

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:ee7bcb4e446048b0a1be72b4ed60edd7>

The Bangladeshi branch of al-Qaida claimed responsibility Tuesday for the killing of a gay rights activist and his friend, undermining the prime minister's insistence just hours earlier that her political opponents were to blame for the attack and for a rising tide of violence against secular activists and writers. The claim by Ansar-al Islam — which said it targeted the two men on Monday night because they were "pioneers of practicing and promoting homosexuality" — raised doubts about Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's repeated assurances that authorities have the security situation under control.

**Associated Press:** Memories painful on Chernobyl's 30th anniversary

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:aa798c34d432495e868005ba083d9f07>

Mstyslav Chernov and Dmytro Vlasov

As Ukraine and Belarus on Tuesday marked the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident with solemn words and an angry protest, some of the men who were sent to the site in the first chaotic and frightening days were gripped by painful memories. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko led a ceremony in Chernobyl, where work is underway to complete a 2 billion euro (\$2.25 billion) long-term shelter over the building containing Chernobyl's exploded reactor. Once the structure is in place, work will begin to remove the reactor and its lava-like radioactive waste. The disaster shone a spotlight on lax safety standards and government secrecy in the former Soviet Union.

**Associated Press:** Spain king decides no party has enough support to form gov't

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:2ff14887f7104e06a0e949a01ac78726>

Ciaran Giles and Alan Clendenning

Spain's King Felipe VI has decided that no political party has enough support to form a government, meaning the country will hold repeat elections in June six months after a poll that marked the end of the nation's traditional two-party system. Felipe announced his decision in a statement Tuesday night after spending two days meeting with party leaders — including those in charge of the conservative Popular Party, the center-left Socialists, the far-left Podemos party and the business-friendly Ciudadanos party. The king's decision that no government will be able to assume control of the 350-member lower house of parliament by May 2, triggering a new election for June 26.

**Associated Press:** Sounds of silence: UK's Big Ben to fall quiet for repairs

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:bdd4805d0d264a13a1b15235a64ea260>

Jill Lawless

It's so long to Big Ben 's bongs — at least temporarily. British officials announced Tuesday that the famous bell of Parliament will fall silent for several months during repairs to its crumbling clock tower. The work, due to begin in January 2017 and last three years, is the biggest repair job on the tower for decades — and Steve Jaggs, Parliament's Keeper of the Great Clock, said it can't wait much longer. "The tower is not unstable," he said. "But unless we do something now it's going to get a lot worse. "We need to do the work pretty soon to keep this for future generations to enjoy."

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Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044