

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 7/7/2016 8:39:28 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, July 7, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Thousands sent emails to Gov. Nikki Haley to bring down Confederate flag, documents show

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709650/thousands-sent-emails-to-gov-nikki-haley-to-bring-down-confederate-flag-documents-show>

Doug Pardue and Jennifer Berry Hawes

In the days after the Emanuel AME Church shooting, Gov. Nikki Haley was inundated with thousands of emails from people around the country expressing everything from outrage to sympathy in beseeching her to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds. "The world is watching," an Asheville, N.C., writer said. Early on, only an occasional writer supported flying the flag, calling it a symbol of heritage. Others, however, offered cutting, racially charged comments. The comments are among a string of correspondence Haley's office received last summer in the wake of the Emanuel AME Church killings and subsequent debate over the flag. The more than 10,000 emails — some from as far away as Hawaii and Alaska — were released Wednesday after The Post and Courier and several other media outlets requested the documents through the state's Freedom of Information Act. The emails, along with handwritten letters, were turned over in boxes at the Statehouse.

The State: Nationwide praise, criticism for Haley after call to remove Confederate flag, emails show

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article88106507.html>

Jamie Self, Cassie Cope, Bristow Marchant and Avery Wilks

Praise and criticism from across the country flooded S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley's inbox last year as the state reeled from the shooting of nine parishioners in Charleston and grappled with whether to remove the Confederate flag from the State House grounds. The Lexington Republican on Wednesday released more than 10,000 pages of emails and letters related to the Confederate flag and the event that led her to call for its removal – a shooting at "Mother" Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, which claimed the lives of nine African-American churchgoers. In the days immediately following the shooting, emails overwhelmingly urged the governor to remove the divisive banner from its public perch. Many came from out of state. The emails, released to reporters Wednesday through an open records request, are being made public just days before Sunday's one-year anniversary of the flag's furling. The correspondence spans from June 18, the day after the church shooting, to July 13, three days after the Confederate flag was removed from the State House grounds.

Associated Press: Messages show Haley was praised, vilified on flag stance

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

Meg Kinnard and Jeffrey Collins

Thousands of people reached out to South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley after the slayings of nine black people at a historic Charleston church, condemning the violence as senseless and saddening. Many of these messages - included among more than 10,000 pages released Wednesday by Haley's office

- praise the Republican governor as courageous for calling to remove the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds. But many others, while criticizing the violence, urged her to leave the flag alone rather than make a "knee jerk" reaction to the shootings. The messages arrived from across the state and as far away as Texas, Washington and Hawaii. To many, Haley sent a standard response, thanking the writer for his or her message and praising South Carolina for unifying in the face of tragedy.

Associated Press: Excerpts: SC governor's correspondence over Confederate flag

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3jNtK1tO

SC State Wire

Poignant. Thoughtful. Angry. Racist. The thousands of emails and letters sent to Gov. Nikki Haley as lawmakers debated removing the Confederate flag outside the South Carolina Statehouse reflect all sorts of emotions. Haley's office released this correspondence Wednesday as part of a Freedom of Information Act request. Her office redacted last names, email addresses and other identifying information. Here are excerpts from a very small sample, as written...

Associated Press: The Latest: Haley's office tracked support for flag removal

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

SC State Wire

Gov. Nikki Haley's office received a chart of businesses, political leaders and community groups supporting the removal of the Confederate flag during last summer's debate. The chart shows up in 10,000 pages her office released under an open records request. Amid the many messages condemning the shootings at Emanuel AME Church, some also condemned Haley's call to take down the flag from the Statehouse grounds, while others supported lowering the flag, and praised the governor as courageous for speaking out. The documents also show the Confederate Relic Room initially put a \$1 million price tag on removing the flag in an email to Haley's staff. Two days after the shooting, the governor's office also told state agencies that for nine days, their employees did not have to say, "It's a great day in South Carolina" upon answering the phone. Haley instituted that cheery greeting in 2011.

Associated Press: The Latest: Haley docs detail church shooting, flag response

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

SC State Wire

Gov. Nikki Haley's office has released thousands of documents revealing details of communications surrounding her response to the shooting of nine black parishioners at a historic South Carolina church last summer. The more than 10,000 documents released to media organizations Wednesday under an open records request include communications between the governor and constituents in the aftermath of the June 2015 shootings at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. The documents include messages about the ensuing debate surrounding the Confederate flag that then flew on the Statehouse grounds. Dylann Roof, the white man charged in the shootings, had embraced the flag in pictures online and told a friend he wanted to start a race war with the shootings. Haley called for the flag's removal, and lawmakers voted to take it down several weeks after the shooting.

The State: Early emails urge SC Gov. Haley to remove Confederate flag

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article87966097.html>

Jamie Self

In the days after a racially motivated church shooting in Charleston – and before S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley called to remove the Confederate flag from the State House grounds – scores of emails from across the country urged the governor to remove the divisive banner from its public perch. A

California woman said "as a white citizen of this country, I am ashamed that a state government still flies a flag that is hurtful to all of us." "At this time of mourning for those who were murdered at Mother Emmanuel Church, to continue to allow a symbol of hate and pain to fly is the height of insensitivity," a New Jersey man said. S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley received more than 10,000 pages of emails and letters related to the Confederate flag and the shooting at "Mother Emanuel" in Charleston, which claimed the lives of nine African-American churchgoers. The emails, released to reporters Wednesday through an open records request, are being made public just days before the one-year anniversary of the flag's furling, which is Sunday.

NOTE: Several emails, angry about the flag, informed Haley of canceled plans to move to or vacation in South Carolina and threatened to boycott purchasing goods made in the Palmetto State. But not all of the correspondence Haley received were against the flag.

Post and Courier: All walks called on Gov. Nikki Haley to bring Confederate flag down, documents show

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709650/all-walks-called-on-gov-nikki-haley-to-bring-confederate-flag-down-documents-show>

Some of the early calls for the Confederate flag to come down after the racially motivated Emanuel AME Church shooting came from both white voters and minorities saying they were offended by its presence. One writer sent an email to Gov. Nikki Haley on June 26 urging her to remove the flag from the Statehouse and added, "I am a Caucasian daughter of a Klansman! I KNOW what that flag means to white supremacists and to be honest, so do you. Stop the charade. Take it down NOW." The comments are among thousands of emails Gov. Nikki Haley released today her office received last summer in the wake of the Emanuel AME Church killings and subsequent debate over whether the state should remove the Confederate flag from Statehouse grounds. Many of the emails ask Haley to remove the flag as a symbol of racial hatred.

NOTE: During the sensitive weeks in the aftermath of the church shooting, Haley's office fielded scores of contacts and phone calls from constituents, clergy and political figures. The June 17, 2015 shooting left nine black parishioners at the Charleston's church. The emails came in advance of the removal of the Confederate battle flag July 10. Haley urged lawmakers to vote to remove the flag from Statehouse grounds during a June 22 press conference last year.

Dylann Roof Case:

Post and Courier: Public defender: Solicitor 'reckless' in quest to try Dylann Roof

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709639/public-defender-solicitor-reckless-in-quest-to-try-dylann-roof>

Andrew Knapp

Charleston's top public defender said in a court filing Wednesday that a state prosecutor's attempt to try Dylann Roof before federal authorities is "reckless and shortsighted." Ninth Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson asked a state judge last month to set Roof's death penalty trial sooner than the Nov. 7 federal proceeding. She cited legal rules calling for the jurisdiction that first charges a defendant to first impose a sentence. But Circuit Public Defender Ashley Pennington called her argument "inaccurate and misleading." Such a shuffle risks violating Roof's due process rights, which could jeopardize the trial's outcome on appeal, and the legal fight over it has created an "unseemly spectacle," he said. The effort "to move the trial even earlier is just the sort of reckless and shortsighted ... tactic that has led to reversals and retrials," Pennington wrote in the document. "Altering the established trial dates ... will serve no interest but her own desire."

Associated Press: Charleston church shooting suspect wants fed case dismissed

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

Meg Kinnard

Dylann Roof's defense team is challenging the constitutionality of the federal hate crimes law, a legal longshot they say they'll drop if prosecutors agree not to pursue the death penalty in the killings of nine people inside a South Carolina church. The white man accused of shooting black parishioners inside the historic Emanuel AME church in Charleston wants a judge to dismiss the nearly three-dozen federal charges he faces, saying they infringe on the state's murder case. The hate crimes statute "affords the federal government virtually unchecked discretion to prosecute crimes already being punished by the states," his lawyers argue. Also, while South Carolina lacks a state hate crimes law, there's no data showing that such crimes are going unpunished even in states without their own statute, according to the motion attorney Sarah Gannett filed Tuesday to U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel.

Post and Courier: Arguing federal charges are unconstitutional, Dylann Roof lawyers seek dismissal <http://www.postandcourier.com/20160705/160709681/arguing-federal-charges-are-unconstitutional-dylann-roof-lawyers-seek-dismissal>

Andrew Knapp

Defense attorneys on Tuesday asked a judge to dismiss the federal case against Dylann Roof because it's unconstitutional. The motion came after Roof's two-man defense team added a lawyer, Sarah Gannett, with experience in appeals courts. Gannett argues in the filing that all 33 indictments against Roof should be thrown out for various reasons, including that they assert federal jurisdiction in a case that should be left to South Carolina authorities. The argument is based partially on the Constitution's Commerce Clause and the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery. Such a move was expected. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel had asked the defense to file any challenges to the charges by Tuesday. The attorneys offered to drop the challenge if federal prosecutors stop pursuing his execution and agree to a lifetime prison sentence. The prosecutors must respond by July 25.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, Fluor seek dismissal of federal case against them

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160706/160709645/savannah-river-nuclear-solutions-fluor-seek-dismissal-of-federal-case-against-them->

Thomas Gardiner

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions and one of its parent companies, Fluor Federal, have filed a new set of documents in an effort to have the federal lawsuit against them tossed out. The newest filing came from SRNS and Fluor on July 1, and re-enforces their original motion on May 20 to have the judge dismiss the case. The federal complaint alleges that SRNS and Fluor requested reimbursement payments from the government under its contract, but that the company overcharged the government by adding charges that were disallowed by the contract. According to the complaint, Fluor and SRNS charged the government \$1.19 million in home office expenses and about \$90,000 in bid and proposal costs. The complaint alleges those charges amount to \$1.2 million in unallowable expenses.

Aiken Standard: Drone spotted flying above Savannah River Site, again

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160706/160709671/drone-spotted-flying-above-savannah-river-site-again->

Thomas Gardiner

The eighth Unmanned Aerial System, better known as a drone, was spotted flying over the Savannah River Site on Tuesday, creating more suspense in an ongoing investigation. The sightings started on June 19, and SRS officials said the remote controlled aircraft has been spotted all over the site. Every sighting initiates an internal email to employees with information about the situation. In an email delivered to site employees after Tuesday's sighting, officials said, "Over the last two weeks, there

have been several reports of small Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) flying over various areas on SRS to include the K Area Complex, H Area, E Area and the MOX Facility. Although airspace over the SRS is not currently restricted, these flights do pose a safety and security concern." Many of these devices are built with photo and video equipment on board and can be flown considerable distances through streaming video sent back to the controller.

LGBT Laws:

Charlotte Observer: HB2 opponents book governor's living room for event

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/nation-world/national/article88131072.html>

Colin Campbell

Opponents of House Bill 2 have been blasting the governor's mansion with air horns every Wednesday for months. Now they've reserved the first floor of Gov. Pat McCrory's residence for a "garden party." "While the current resident of the Governor's Mansion isn't a supporter of equality, it's the people's house and so we're renting it out for the evening and throwing a party!" the liberal advocacy group Progress N.C. says in an invitation on its website. It's unusual for a group so vocally opposed to McCrory to get inside his house, but the governor's mansion has a policy of renting to any nonprofit groups that want to hold events on the first floor or in the gardens. A spokesman for the governor's office described the policy when asked why the mansion recently hosted an event for the Jesse Helms Center. So Progress N.C. leaders decided to test out the policy.

Charlotte Observer: Justice Department asks judge to halt implementation of HB2

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article87910867.html>

Katherine Peralta

The U.S. Department of Justice is asking a federal judge to halt implementation of North Carolina's House Bill 2, the controversial law that requires transgender people to use the restroom corresponding with the gender on their birth certificate in government facilities. According to the 70-page legal brief filed late Tuesday night, "excluding transgender men and women from bathroom and changing facilities consistent with their gender identity causes significant and irreparable physical, psychological, economic, social, and stigmatic harm to transgender people." The DOJ reiterated arguments previously made by the government against HB2, including claims that the law violates the Violence Against Women Act and Title IX. Hours earlier Tuesday, President Barack Obama visited Charlotte with Hillary Clinton, the Democratic presumptive nominee for president. Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee for president, also held a campaign event in Raleigh.

SC Agency News:

WSPA: SC Prison Telemedicine Program to Save Taxpayers Money

<http://wspa.com/2016/07/06/sc-prison-telemedicine-program-to-save-taxpayers-money/>

Robert Kittle

The South Carolina Department of Corrections has started a telemedicine program for inmates that will save taxpayers money, lower the chances of escapes, and give the inmates better health care. It's a pilot program between the prison system and the Medical University of South Carolina. Instead of two or three corrections officers having to drive an inmate to a doctor's office or hospital, the inmate will stay in the prison and go to the infirmary. There, a camera and TV monitor will connect to a doctor at MUSC. Nurses at the prison will help the doctor examine the inmate, who can see the inmate via a regular TV camera but also through specialized tools that will let the doctor see inside the ear, down the throat, and hear the inmates heart and lungs.

NOTE: Corrections director Bryan Stirling says, "It does save tax dollars by treating these folks inside

the institution. It's supplemental. Some folks will still have to go out, but we can do the initial assessment and decide what treatment is needed, and if they do have to go out they will go out." He says besides improving your safety by having fewer inmates outside prison fences while going to doctor visits, it will also improve safety within the prisons, because there will be more corrections officers there instead of transporting inmates.

WIS: New system means no more out of prison doctor visits for inmates

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32388524/new-system-means-no-more-out-of-prison-doctor-visits-for-inmates>

Jack Kuenzie

Some of the state's prison inmates will be staying put instead of being taken out of institutions to visit the doctor. A new tele-medicine system allows the doctor to treat patients from a remote location at MUSC. The program is already up and running at four prisons including the Kirkland Correctional Institution here in Columbia. Corrections officials say the system cuts the need for extra security measures and long transports back and forth from rural prisons - thus saving money and improving safety for officers.

NOTE: "Sometimes we have offenders that just want to go for a ride and I've seen it where they have faked a medical problem and we actually have nurses in some of our institutions at night so that doesn't happen because transport at night is a little more dangerous," explained Department of Corrections Director Bryan Stirling. "Now we will take them to a room where this cart will be and they will be able to be diagnosed and a decision will be made if they need to go out or they can be treated at the facility."

WLTX: Telemedicine Now Being Used For Inmates

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/telemedicine-now-being-used-for-inmates/265339477>

Telemedicine, a technology that allows doctors to see patients through a screen, is now being used in four South Carolina prisons. In a partnership between the Medical University of South Carolina and the state's Department of Corrections, the program is designed to address needs while being a cheaper, safer, more convenient alternative. Director of the D.O.C. Bryan Sterling said this is especially helpful for prisons because of the lack of resources when placed in rural areas of the state. "South Carolina made a decision, like many states, to put prisons in rural areas. and it's good for jobs, but like many rural areas, primary care physicians, there's not a lot of them," he said. "We're having to use technology to service these areas." He said it is convenient for both patient and doctor, as well as saving the taxpayer money and avoiding any false situations.

WYFF: Prison officials crack down on live videos by prisoners

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/prison-officials-crack-down-on-live-videos-by-prisoners/40387162>

Patrick Hussion

"Periscoping prisoners" are popping up in prisons across the country and officials are looking for a way to cut the lines of communication. Last week, an inmate in the South Carolina Department of Corrections used a cell phone to live-stream from inside his prison cell with help from the mobile app Periscope. That prisoner, shown in our exclusive footage, was identified by the SCDC and put into solitary confinement as punishment. But a viewer says that same prisoner was up Periscoping again from solitary. SCDC Director Bryan Sterling says it adds to the growing danger of prisoners getting their hands on contraband. "We need to be very careful," he said. "It's very dangerous, this unfettered access to the outside world. Whether it was back in the day when it was a note that was written or now with cell phones and with live streaming, we will continue to take it very serious." In footage taken from live streams, prisoners are seen drinking homemade alcohol called "Buck" from a cooler

and smoking. Periscope allows viewers to comment and ask questions as prisoners respond in real time. Sterling wants technology installed that will jam cell phone signals within the prison. However, he says federal law does not allow blocking cell phone signals in prison. He said he's looking to the Federal Communications Commission to review the law.

NOTE: And he commends Gov. Nikki Haley: "She was able to get a field hearing with the FCC and wrote a letter to the FCC chairman asking for the authority to implement technology that would block prisoner's cell phones."

WIS: Over 20 Midlands children now have forever families

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32385337/over-20-midlands-children-now-have-forever-families>

Billie Jean Shaw

More than 20 children from across the Midlands now have permanent homes as a part of DSS' forever families program. Nineteen families adopted 21 children on Wednesday at the Sumter Family Court under Judge George McFaddin, Jr. For the past eight years, McFaddin devotes two days out of the year to hold hearings exclusively for adoption. Mildred Gloria Bryant was one of the families who adopted a child on Wednesday. She has waited three years for this special moment. "I've had her ever since she's been 6 months," Bryant said. "I've had her sister since she's been 6 months and I'm excited that we could finally move forward. Everyone needs a family to feel like they belong and I have a lot of love to give." As of June 1st, a DSS official says there are 575 children across the state who are up for adoption.

SC Political News:

Palmetto Business Daily: Scott introduces bill to protect national park areas

<http://palmettobusinessdaily.com/stories/510953159-scott-introduces-bill-to-protect-national-park-areas>

In an effort to protect national parks in South Carolina's Lowcountry region, Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) has authored and introduced The Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park Act of 2016. The legislation is backed by the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce and the Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Historical Trust. It puts in place preservation management and maintenance plans for the parks and surrounding areas. "South Carolina's history is forever connected with the history of our nation as a whole, and establishing Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park will help ensure our history is preserved for generations to come," Scott said. The bill clearly defines the boundaries of federally managed areas as the parks. It also strives to spotlight the historical significance of the areas, which include Fort Sumter, Fort Moultrie, and the Sullivan's Island Life Saving Station Historic District.

Herald-Journal: Proposed SC ban on unsafe tire sales could return next session

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160706/articles/160709841>

Chris Lavender

Some state lawmakers say they will try again in the next legislative session to restrict the sale and installation of unsafe used tires on vehicles. State Rep. Gary Simrill, R-Rock Hill, said he doesn't plan to give up the fight after a bill he sponsored proposing new standards for used tire sales failed to pass the state Senate. The bill passed the House on a 74 to 29 vote on April 30, 2015, but failed to advance May 11 for debate in the Senate. Simrill said while that bill is dead, he plans to introduce a new one in 2017 designed to restrict the sale of used tires that are defined as unsafe. The bill that stalled in the state Senate defined unsafe used tires as those with tread depth worn to 2/32nds of an inch or less on any area of the tire, or having damage exposing the reinforcing piles of the tire

including cuts, cracks, bulges, punctures or scrapes.

Island Packet: Dear President Obama: SC mayors write to oppose seismic testing

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article87943687.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Beaufort Mayor Billy Keyserling has led a group of the state's coastal mayors in asking President Barack Obama to end the possibility of oil and gas exploration in the Atlantic. Fifteen South Carolina mayors, including Port Royal Mayor Sam Murray and Hilton Head Island Mayor David Bennett, joined the effort to write the president letters mailed this week to oppose pending federal permits for seismic testing. The Obama administration decided in March not to move forward with offshore drilling for oil in the Atlantic, but the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is still reviewing requests to conduct seismic testing. Eight companies are requesting permits to test in the Atlantic. "Ultimately, offshore drilling and seismic testing represent clear conflicts for the existing economic and environmental advantages enjoyed by our coastal communities," Keyserling wrote.

The State: Columbia Mayor touts city's 'My Brothers Keeper' accomplishments

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article88099247.html>

Rachael Myers Lowe

The city of Columbia was singled out by the White House on Wednesday for its success in implementing one of President Obama's signature programs, the My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge. Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin met in Washington, D.C., Wednesday with members of the administration to update them on the progress of the program, which in part helps kids get summer job experience and gets books to kids in barber shops. In 2014, Obama urged communities to help all kids meet their potential regardless of the circumstances into which they were born. In Columbia, the Summer Work Experience Leadership Program (SWELP) has grown since it was started in 2014 and has about 750 students participating this year, the mayor's office said. The Mayor's Barbershop Books program, which was launched in August, has put books in the hands of up to 22,000 boys in the Midlands as they wait to have their hair cut.

Post and Courier: Columbia mayor chosen to spotlight 'My Brother's Keeper' initiatives in South Carolina

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709640/columbia-mayor-chosen-to-spotlight-my-brothers-keeper-initiatives-in-south-carolina>

Emma Dumain

South Carolina's capital city has been singled out as a success story for how other towns can get inspired by "My Brother's Keeper," President Barack Obama's initiative to empower boys and young men of color through combinations of federal grants, public-private partnerships and ingenuity. Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin was invited to the White House on Wednesday to share with a small group of reporters what he and local partners were doing to promote MBK. Benjamin, a Democrat, was part of a panel that included Broderick Johnson, an assistant to Obama and chairman of the MBK task force, and Valerie Jarrett, a highly visible senior advisor to the president.

Post and Courier: SC Research Authority reorganizing to separate government contracting, economic development work

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709637/sc-research-authority-reorganizing-to-separate-government-contracting-economic-development-work>

Thad Moore

The South Carolina Research Authority is redrawing its organizational chart in an effort to separate its

government contracting arm from the rest of the agency. Advanced Technology International, as the contracting business is known, will run as more of a separate group in an effort to keep their missions separate, said SCRA spokeswoman Micki MacNaughton. ATI, which is based in Summerville, provides much of the revenue that keeps the state-chartered research-and-development agency running, MacNaughton said. It oversees government contracts that use technology developed in South Carolina. The unit will continue to send revenue into SCRA's coffers after the separation is finished.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Seventh Zika case reported among S.C. residents

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709635/seventh-zika-case-reported-among-sc-residents->

Derrek Asberry

A seventh South Carolina resident has been diagnosed with the Zika virus. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control reported on Tuesday that the patient contracted the virus while traveling internationally and was diagnosed after returning home. Six cases in this state have occurred that way. The other case involved a resident who had sexual contact with someone who acquired the Zika infection while traveling abroad. The Zika virus is transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes — both of which are found in South Carolina. There is no evidence that they are spreading the disease locally.

Greenville News: SC traffic deaths down slightly compared to 2015

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/06/sc-traffic-deaths-slightly-less-than-time-last-year/86745182/>

Tim Smith

South Carolinians are dying on the state's roads at a rate slightly less than at this time last year. According to preliminary data posted by the State Department of Public Safety, 466 people have lost their lives in road accidents as of Tuesday, compared to 475 for this time last year. But last year's numbers were a spike upward. Traffic fatalities overall increased by 16 percent in 2015. Deaths in Greenville County this year again lead the state but also are running slightly behind 2015, with 37 killed compared to 40 this time last year. "It's a positive that traffic fatalities are going down but we still have plenty of work to do," said Tiffany Wright, a spokeswoman for AAA Carolinas, a highway safety group based in Charlotte. South Carolina's traffic fatality rate annually ranks among the highest in the country.

Post and Courier: Travel + Leisure magazine names Charleston 'Best City in World'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709686/travel--leisure-magazine-names-charleston-best-city-in-world>

Warren L. Wise

Charleston is on top of the world. For the first time ever, readers of Travel + Leisure magazine voted the Holy City No. 1 on the planet in the tourism periodical's World's Best City ranking. It's also the first time a U.S. destination earned the honor. Readers also selected Charleston as the No. 1 city in the U.S. and Canada for the fourth consecutive year. The magazine announced the findings on its website Wednesday and on NBC's "Today Show." Nearby Savannah came in at No. 9. New Orleans ranked No. 7. No other U.S. cities made the magazine's Top 15 list. Charleston took top marks in the categories of sights/landmarks, culture/arts, restaurants/food, people/friendliness, shopping and value, scoring 91.66 overall.

Aiken Standard: Travel + Leisure magazine names Willcox No. 7 best hotel in the world, No. 1 best hotel in the South

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160706/160709675/travel--leisure-magazine-names-willcox-no-7-best-hotel-in-the-world-no-1-best-hotel-in-the-south->

Dan Brown

Travel + Leisure magazine has named Aiken's Willcox hotel the No. 7 best hotel in the world. The magazine gave the "equestrian escape" hotel a score of 97.25. Hotels were graded based upon rooms/facilities, location, service, food and value, according to the magazine's website. "And newcomers really shook up the rankings. The Spectator and the Singular are among them, as are the elegant, old-world Casa Gangotena in Quito, Ecuador, which came in eighth, and equestrian escape at the Willcox, in Aiken, South Carolina (No. 7)," the website states. The "World's Best" is a travel awards program run by Travel+Leisure and determined by an annual reader survey. In addition to hotels and hotel brands, readers rate airlines, airports, car-rental agencies, cities, cruise ships, destination spas, islands, tour operators, and safari outfitters. In addition to the No. 7 spot, The Willcox also took the magazine's No. 1 spot as best hotel in the South.

Local News:

Associated Press: Officials search ocean for missing 12-year-old swimmer

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4DuniNi6

SC State Wire

Emergency crews are searching for a 12-year-old boy who went missing in while swimming in Myrtle Beach. Myrtle Beach Police Lieutenant Joey Crosby tells local news outlets that crews began the search Wednesday afternoon after receiving a call about three distressed swimmers. One of the swimmers was able to get out of the water and was treated at the scene. The second swimmer was pulled from the ocean by lifeguards and bystanders. The third swimmer is still missing. Officials say the three people are related. Battalion Chief Bruce Arnel says crews were using jet skis and a helicopter to search for the missing person. Crosby says beachgoers made a human chain to assist with rescue efforts.

Sun News: Bystanders save screaming girl from ocean, search continues for brother

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article88027612.html>

Emily Weaver

A fellow beachgoer on a boogie board grabbed the girl and put her on his board to bring her in. Bischoff grabbed the teen and started to swim ashore, but the Robertsons could see he, too, was struggling in the strong current. When Pasco heard the screams and saw someone disappear under the water, he said he feared it was a shark attack. "I told my kids to get out of the water because I didn't know and then once I found out that it was actually a ... floating person, I swam out to help," he said. Pasco grabbed the young man to help Bischoff. The current was "extremely strong," he said. "When I actually grabbed the gentleman, I wasn't able to touch the ground and I was getting really scared because I had him by my arm and I was swimming with one arm and I'm not the best swimmer, but I just wanted to bring him in at that point." Another human chain with more than 20 beachgoers quickly formed to search the water for the missing 12-year-old as rescuers hit the surf in jet skis. "We looked and we looked and we tried and we tried and we did more than a quarter-mile up this way, but nothing. It's so upsetting because I have kids the same age," said Xiomara Gonzalez, who was at the beach on vacation from Maryland and joined the chain to help in the search.

The Herald: Julia Phillips, convicted killer of former York Mayor Melvin Roberts, dies in prison at age 72

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article88129397.html>

Andrew Dys

Julia Phillips, who was serving a life prison sentence for killing former York Mayor Melvin Roberts in 2010, died late Wednesday, York police said. Phillips was listed as 72 years old, and was believed to be the oldest female killer in South Carolina's prison system. Phillips was convicted of accessory to murder in 2013 after a trial where prosecutors and police said she made up a phony story of being attacked when Roberts, 79, was killed. Authorities say Phillips, his former girlfriend, concocted a scheme to kill Roberts in an attempt to secure her financial future when Roberts was getting ready to dump her. Yet her co-conspirator - or more than one - has never been caught or charged and the case remains open and actively under investigation. Phillips' death was confirmed by the York Police Department.

The Herald: Defendant in Chester councilman's killing charged with animal cruelty in Rock Hill

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article87932167.html>

Teddy Kulmala

A man charged as an accessory in the murder of a Chester City Council member was arrested and charged with animal cruelty after Rock Hill police say he and another man tortured three dogs. DeAngelo Roseboro, 21, was arrested Wednesday afternoon and charged with three counts of ill treatment of animals, according to Capt. Mark Bollinger of the Rock Hill Police Department. He was placed in the Rock Hill city jail, where he is expected at a bond hearing Thursday morning. Roseboro and another man, Tevin Anderson, 25, are accused of throwing lit fireworks at dogs that were chained up. Detectives have obtained a video that was recorded live on Roseboro's phone, according to a police report. The eight-minute video, recorded by Roseboro, shows Anderson "torturing" three dogs by lighting "dozens and dozens" of firecrackers and throwing them at the dogs so they exploded near the animals, police say.

Associated Press: Waitresses win \$700,000 in SC Texas Roadhouse wage suit

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article88080797.html>

John Monk

Two waitresses have won a \$700,000 class action lawsuit against Texas Roadhouse franchises, including one in Columbia, alleging the company used unfair pay practices to compensate its servers. In denying Texas Roadhouse's bid to keep the payout under seal, U.S. Judge Terry Wooten said "the public's right to access the settlement agreement" was not outweighed by the company's desire for secrecy. The settlement resulted from a 2015 in federal court against the restaurant owners filed by Rachel Bontempi and Tiffany Tatham, servers at the Texas Roadhouse restaurant on Columbiana Drive in Columbia. Texas Roadhouse is known for its American cuisine with an emphasis on steaks. It has containers of peanuts at every table and bills itself as having "Legendary Food, Legendary Service - all with lots of Legendary Fun."

Associated Press: Tiny South Carolina town bans sagging pants, threatens fines

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Z62tDGdi

SC State Wire

Wearing saggy pants could get expensive in tiny Timmonsville, South Carolina. A new town ordinance outlaws wearing sagging pants, trousers or shorts that intentionally display a person's underwear. After initial warnings, third and subsequent offenses carry a fine ranging from \$100 to \$600. Town administrator Mary Bines says the ordinance, which also bans nudity, passed the Town Council 5-1 on Tuesday night. The sagging style has been popular for years among young people and hip-hop artists. The text of the law says the town about 70 miles east of Columbia wishes to

maintain decorum on its streets. Council members have also said the ordinance is aimed at helping young people make better choices.

Sun News: Bikefest towing decision draws ire from local businesses

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article88090467.html>

Chloe Johnson

The city's decision to send towing calls for stolen motorcycles to only one location during Bikefest has left some other towing companies disgruntled. Typically, the city calls one of five different companies if they need to have a vehicle towed, said Lt. Joey Crosby of Myrtle Beach police. Police rotate their calls, ensuring that in each situation they move to the next service. While all five companies received calls during Bikefest for some situations — such as arrests or crashes where vehicles had to be moved — only one, Corner Cars, was called this year when police recovered stolen bikes. Jeff Anderson, owner of Corner Cars, declined to comment for this story. Myrtle Beach recovered 55 stolen motorcycles during Bikefest, up from 44 the year before, according to crime statistics provided by the city.

Associated Press : Power purchase allows Century Aluminum SC plant to stay open

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tBf0RInc

SC State Wire

Century Aluminum says it's renegotiated an agreement to provide power for the smelter in Mount Holly, allowing the plant to keep operating at half capacity for now. Company officials said Wednesday that a third-party supplier will provide about 75 percent of the power and Santee Cooper will supply the remaining 25 percent. Century President and CEO Michael Bless says he hopes the company can soon purchase its full power requirement, allowing the plant to run at full capacity. He says that would allow Century to rehire 300 workers. About 300 people now work at the smelter, down from 600 a year ago.

Post and Courier: Last-minute deal saves 300 jobs at Century Aluminum's Mount Holly smelter

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160706/160709671/last-minute-deal-saves-300-jobs-at-century-aluminums-mount-holly-smelter>

David Wren

Century Aluminum has renegotiated a power deal that will keep its Mount Holly smelter, and its 300 employees, working for at least the next year to 18 months. Mike Bless, Century's president and CEO, told The Post and Courier on Wednesday that the deal with an out-of-state utility will provide three-fourths of Mount Holly's required 200 megawatts of electricity each day at about half the cost Santee Cooper charges for the other 25 percent. Under its current contract with Santee Cooper, Century must buy one-fourth of its power from the Moncks Corner utility. Bless did not name the out-of-state provider but said it is able to offer cheap electricity generated by natural gas. Santee Cooper uses more expensive and highly regulated coal to generate most of its electricity. Bless said it will continue to look for ways to buy all of its electricity out-of-state while the Mount Holly site continues to operate at 50 percent. An effort by state legislators to find such a solution failed this spring in the General Assembly.

Greenville News: Yanfeng Automotive Interiors expanding in Fountain Inn

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/2016/07/06/yanfeng-automotive-interiors-acquires-faurecia-plans-expand-fountain-inn/86748050/>

After acquiring automotive interior manufacturer Faurecia, Yanfeng Automotive Interiors will expand the existing Fountain Inn facility by 100,000 square feet, adding 35 new jobs. The expansion project is expected to bring \$71 million in new investment, according to the S.C. Department of Commerce. Yanfeng will supply BMW with components including door panels, instrument panels and floor

consoles for multiple car models. This will be an expansion of Yanfeng's current relationship with BMW, which has its U.S. manufacturing headquarters in Greer. "We are pleased to be part of the community and look forward to working with the employees at the plant, and expanding our relationship with BMW," said Nathan Bowen, vice president and general manager of Yanfeng Automotive Interiors, North America, in a Department of Commerce release. "We appreciate the partnership with our customers, as well as local and state officials, who are working closely with us as we transfer control of operations at this manufacturing facility."

Greenville News: Greenville Drive unveil \$10 million renovation plans

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/06/greenville-drive-luncheon/86745768/>

Eric Connor

If ever there were a season that missing the postseason would sting the least for the Greenville Drive, this would be the one. There is a deadline looming — and the sooner the work can start, the better. The Drive organization has plans for at least \$10 million worth of renovations to the ballpark — first reported in June by The Greenville News — that will include seats atop its replica left-field "Green Monster," a new upper-deck lounge and a remake of both its entrances. The team's owner, Craig Brown, told a group of business and community leaders during a luncheon Wednesday that he has set an "ambitious" deadline to have the work done in time to host the Gamecocks and Tigers in their early March baseball rivalry game at the field. The Class A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox will receive a \$5 million contribution from the city of Greenville to help with renovations at the 10-year-old stadium.

Greenville News: MRR seeks court order for Class 2 landfill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/07/06/mrr-seeks-court-order-class-2-landfill/86750866/>

Ron Barnett

Even as it continues to argue in the state Court of Appeals that it should be allowed to develop a coal-ash landfill near Liberty, MRR Pickens has asked a circuit judge to order Pickens County to allow it to move ahead with construction of a landfill on the site not designed to hold coal ash, according to court documents. The company bases its argument on statements made during a hearing in February, in which the county's attorney said the county doesn't object to MRR building a Class 2 landfill, which is designed only for non-hazardous materials such as construction debris. "To date, Pickens County has failed to comply with the Court's Order by refusing to move forward on any of MRR Pickens' requests to allow it to begin construction of the landfill in conformance with the Class 2 Permit issued on Nov. 3, 2008," the motion says. "Pickens County is continuing to erect roadblocks and is significantly delaying MRR Pickens' rights to a Development Permit."

National News:

Associated Press: Man fatally shot by police in Minnesota; video investigated

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2c7ef60fb98748cf9e69f3a5814af7e2>

Steve Karnowski

A Minnesota officer fatally shot a man in a car with a woman and a child, an official said, and authorities are looking into whether the aftermath was livestreamed in a widely shared Facebook video, which shows a woman in a vehicle with a man whose shirt appears to be soaked in blood telling the camera "police just shot my boyfriend for no apparent reason." St. Anthony Police interim police chief Jon Mangseth said the incident began when an officer pulled over a vehicle around 9 p. m. Wednesday in Falcon Heights, a St. Paul suburb Mangseth's department serves. Mangseth said

he did not have details about the reason for the traffic stop, but that at some point shots were fired. The man was struck but no one else was injured, he said. As word of the shooting and video spread, relatives of the man joined scores of people who gathered at the scene of the shooting and outside the hospital where the man died and identified him as Philando Castile of St. Paul, a 32-year-old cafeteria supervisor at a Montessori school.

Associated Press: Louisiana police shooting caught on video strains community

<http://bigstory.ap.org/dc8dd4c7d6e9409db663c54e1a3a2dcd>

Mike Kunzelman, Melinda Deslatte and Cain Burdeau

The mood was emotional, and at times angry, as evening unfolded in the working class, predominantly black Louisiana neighborhood where the police killing of a black man was caught on videotape. Hundreds of mourners, friends and family members of Alton Sterling, 37, gathered Wednesday in Baton Rouge for a second night of protest, prayer and remembrance. Sterling was shot early Tuesday as he wrestled with two white police officers outside the convenience store where he sold music and movies on compact discs. Police say he was armed. Cellphone video of the shooting posted online by a community activist set off angry protests, coming at a time when law enforcement officers across the country are under close scrutiny over what some see as indiscriminate use of deadly force against blacks.

Associated Press: FBI head to face Congress over Clinton email investigation

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c5ba063a01bd4e2986d6d5a94aa2b753>

Eric Tucker and Matthew Daly

FBI Director James Comey is set to make his first appearance before Congress since announcing the agency's recommendation to not prosecute Hillary Clinton over her private email setup. Comey will field questions Thursday from the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee about an FBI announcement that dispersed the threat of criminal charges but also revived public scrutiny of Clinton's handling of classified information. Attorney General Loretta Lynch said Wednesday that she accepted the recommendations and findings of Comey and of her career prosecutors and would not file charges against Clinton. Lynch is likely to face questions of her own next week at a separate oversight hearing of the House Judiciary Committee. Comey's decision, and the way he delivered it, infuriated Republicans who felt that the FBI director in his unusually detailed and critical televised statement Tuesday had laid out a sufficient basis for prosecution.

Associated Press: The Latest: Chaffetz: FBI's Comey has 'great integrity'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2826d1d0d549408daf771144e73f2fa8>

House Oversight Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz says he has plenty of questions for James Comey Thursday, but he doesn't question Comey's integrity. The Utah Republican congressman tells MSNBC that Comey "is a man of great integrity, that's why it's mystifying" that Comey he recommended no charges against Hillary Clinton despite the FBI's findings that classified information traveled through her homebrew email server. Chaffetz's committee is hearing from Comey Thursday about the investigation. Attorney General Loretta Lynch has accepted Comey's recommendation, igniting an inferno of criticism that what would clearly be a criminal infraction for others went unpunished for the Democratic presidential candidate and former secretary of state. On NBC's "Today" show, Chaffetz said he "absolutely" would have had Attorney General James Comey testify before his committee even if the decision had been to move toward an indictment.

Associated Press: Obama heads to Europe amid British referendum's aftershocks

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ed76542fb97e4b1295b8a4f0af945c79>

Kathleen Hennessey

President Barack Obama is slated to embark on a five-day, two-country mission to buck up a beleaguered Europe and brush back an aggressive Moscow on what is expected to be his last presidential visit to the continent. Obama is due to attend a summit of NATO allies in Warsaw, before moving on to Seville and Madrid for his first presidential visit to Spain. In both corners of the continent, he'll be surrounded by leaders still reeling from Britain's decision to pull out of the European Union and sorting through uncertainty about the future of the decades-old experiment in international cooperation. The White House says Obama will arrive with words of reassurance that the departure — whenever it occurs — won't disrupt the decades-old trans-Atlantic ties that bind. He'll emphasize that Britain's exit, which does not affect its membership in NATO, only makes the 28-member military alliance more essential and its cooperation with the European Union more important. And amid leaders' anxiety about whether his possible successor, Republican Donald Trump, would retrench from Europe, Obama will make case for stronger alliances and the benefits of globalization.

World News:

Associated Press: US punishing North Korean leader for human rights abuses

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ec908ce25ff54e7985390cd76de5eeba>

Matthew Pennington

The U.S. imposed sanctions Wednesday on North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and 10 other top officials for human rights abuses in an escalation of Washington's effort to isolate the authoritarian government. Although North Korea is already sanctioned to the hilt because of its nuclear weapons program, it is the first time that Kim has been personally sanctioned, and the first time that any North Korean officials have been blacklisted in connection with rights abuses, such as running the nation's notorious gulag and running down defectors. "Under Kim Jong Un, North Korea continues to inflict intolerable cruelty and hardship on millions of its own people, including extrajudicial killings, forced labor, and torture," Adam Szubin, acting under secretary for terrorism and financial intelligence, said in a statement. Szubin said the sanctions demonstrate the United States' "determination to see them stopped."

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