

Title: **Mo-peds subject to traffic regulations in bill sent to governor**
 Author: BY THE EDITORIAL BOARD
 Size: 46.81 column inches
 Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 61238



Mo-peds subject to traffic regulations in bill sent to governor

BY THE EDITORIAL BOARD

In the waning session of the S.C. General Assembly, legislators approved and sent to the governor non-controversial, comprehensive mo-ped reform and also overrode Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of legislation allowing Myrtle Beach to extend for another ten years a one-cent sales tax. The added penny raises millions of dollars for marketing tourism, real estate tax credits for city residents and capital improvements.

While there is widespread agreement on the need to regulate the pesky mo-peds – for years completely unregulated and outside the traffic laws governing other vehicles – many have objected to extending the sales tax without voters having a say via referendum.

Throughout South Carolina, mo-peds have frustrated law enforcement officers as well as all who drive S.C. roads. It's difficult to imagine motorists who have not experienced mo-ped mutterings as they are delayed by the slow-moving two-wheelers bearing only a MOPED label where motorcycles, for example, display a state license tag.

Sen. Greg Hembree of Little River, the former solicitor for Georgetown and Horry counties, has worked on mo-ped regulation for the four years he has served as a state senator representing Horry and Dillon counties. One of the concerns is traffic officers' inability to cite (write tickets) inebri-

ated mo-ped operators. Because mo-peds are not covered by the traffic code, DUI violations don't apply.

The need for reform was recognized in both the House and Senate. Hembree says the bill sent to the governor will subject "mo-peds to the same traffic regulations as vehicles and motorcycles." Mo-peds must be registered and licensed and operators must be licensed and at least 15 years of age. The two-wheelers would be restricted to "roads with a speed limit of 55 miles per hour or less."

TOURISM SALES TAX

The added penny on retail sales in the city of Myrtle Beach dates to 2009 when the legislature allowed the city council to impose the added tax, by city council action, as a means of promoting tourism in the wake of the Recession of 2008.

For two years, the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce received all the revenue from the one-cent tax.

After the two years, the city has received 20 percent of the revenue, providing nearly \$18 million for property tax credits for nearly 6,000 homeowners and \$8.5 million for tourism-related capital improvements. These include replacement of dunes crossovers for beachgoers, a new oceanfront park at 15th Avenue North, and the Third Avenue South Gateway.

The 80 percent going to the

chamber amounts to about \$20 million a year. The numbers illustrate the huge economic impact of retail sales. So, with the recession largely in the rear-view mirror, why the tax? Mayor John Rhodes and MBACC president Brad Dean point to growing numbers of new tourists. Rhodes says, "We have to have resources to promote the area, to compete with Virginia Beach and other places in Florida."

Haley's position, in explaining her veto, overridden handily, is that all local tax increases "should be allowed only if the citizens

subject to the tax agree to it through public referendum." It's worth nothing that a sales tax, regressive to begin with, affects millions of people beyond residents of the city – including visitors and area folks not city residents but who certainly spend money in the city.

Through the sales tax, all visitors to Myrtle Beach help pay for city services they receive, directly or indirectly. City homeowners receiving tax credits probably don't think about the fact that less well-off homeowners and those paying rentals are helping finance the real estate tax credits. It's highly unlikely homeowners would want to lose their property tax credits.

However valid objections may be, legislators have extended until 2029 the one-cent sales tax. Like it or not, that added penny will stick around.

Title: **Gov. Haley, allies clash in legislative endorsements**
 Author: BY SEANNA ADCOX Associated Press
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Gov. Haley, allies clash in legislative endorsements

BY SEANNA ADCOX

Associated Press

COLUMBIA

While 39 state legislators face primary challengers Tuesday, the spotlight will be on Republican Senate races that pit Gov. Nikki Haley against many of her longtime allies.

With two years left in her tenure, Haley is spending her time and political capital trying to oust several Republicans she sees as obstacles, notably the state's most powerful lawmaker, Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman of Florence, as well as Sens. Luke Rankin of Conway and Wes Hayes of Rock Hill.

She also opposes state Rep. Stephen Goldfinch of Murrells Inlet, who's in a four-way primary to replace retiring Sen. Ray Cleary.

A Haley political group is backing her opposition campaigns with hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of ads. The group - A Great Day SC - is named for the greeting Haley asked all state employees early in her tenure to give when they

answer the phone.

As of its last IRS filing in April, A Great Day SC had raised \$515,000 from six donors - one each from New Jersey, Florida, South Carolina, Missouri, Georgia and Texas. Haley political adviser Tim Pearson, who leads Great Day, is mum on how much the group has raised and spent since.

"We have gone after what have been some old-guard legislators. It is not personal," Haley said Thursday. "There are certain people who have tried to fight things every step of the way and made it difficult."

Haley's been at odds for years with Leatherman, who also heads the Senate's budget-writing committee and sits on a financial oversight board she chairs. Haley has criticized Rankin, chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee, for not backing her version of ethics reform. But Haley's opposition to Hayes, the lead senator on K-12 issues, stunned legislators and political

observers.

"I really don't understand it," said Hayes, first elected to the House in 1984 and to the Senate in 1991, noting his support of her education and ethics proposals.

Hayes' supporters include state schools Superintendent Molly Spearman, a Haley ally, who called Hayes a "tireless supporter of public education in our state" with "conservative, common-sense leadership."

Pearson called Hayes "a nice man" but criticized his support for legislation borrowing money for college construction - which Haley helped defeat - and a road-funding bill that several opponents of raising the gas tax blocked from receiving a vote on the Senate floor last year.

Meanwhile, incumbents supported by the SC Good Government Committee - the political arm of the state Chamber of Commerce - include Leatherman, Hayes and Goldfinch. Last month, it gave each \$1,000, the

state maximum for a legislative race.

That support is based on the incumbents' votes on legislation deemed pro-business, said chamber CEO Ted Pitts, Haley's former chief of staff.

"This isn't us going against her. It's just us identifying legislators who have been good on our issues," he said.

A coalition of business groups has paid for mailers supporting Hayes and Goldfinch.

Spearman has also endorsed Leatherman. Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster has endorsed Hayes, Leatherman and Rankin.

Haley said Thursday she's not upset with McMaster. A former chairman of the state Republican Party and two-term attorney general, McMaster helped Haley get elected in 2010 after losing to her in a four-way primary.

"He's more than welcome to endorse anyone he feels like, just like I am," she said.

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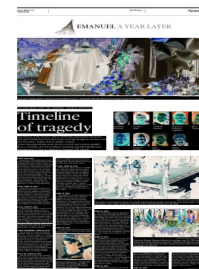
Gov. Nikki Haley



EVAN VUCCI AP

With two years left in her tenure, Haley is spending her time and political capital trying to oust several Republicans she sees as obstacles.

Title: **Timeline of tragedy**
 Author:
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DYLANN ROOF AND THE EMANUEL CHURCH SHOOTING

Timeline of tragedy

Churchgoers at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal in Charleston welcomed Dylann Roof into their prayer meeting, though no one there had met him before. Within an hour, gunfire erupted.

A mass shooting left nine dead, Roof in custody and a nation appalled.

Here is a timeline of events leading to, including and following the mass shooting June 17, 2015, at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church.

EARLY MAY 2015

Joey Meek of Red Bank gets a Facebook message from Dylann Storm Roof, a childhood friend he had not seen in several years. Meek says he invites Roof into his home, and his old friend stays there off and on for the next several weeks. However, Roof is not the same person Meek had known from childhood. Roof was once quiet, Meek said, but he now seems moodier. "I was trying to just treat him like he was the same friend and treat him like he was the same person," Meek later tells The State newspaper. "But people can change in that short time, and I just didn't see it" while it was happening.

5 P.M., JUNE 15, 2015

State Sen. Clementa Pinckney, 41, leaves the state Senate in Columbia to attend a church meeting at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal, in downtown Charleston, where he is pastor. The Rev. Pinckney first began preaching at age 13 and received his first appointment to pastor at the age of 18. His Senate district includes Jasper County and parts of Charleston, Beaufort, Colleton and Hampton counties.

8 P.M., JUNE 17, 2015

Pinckney and a dozen church members are holding a prayer circle. A young, white man enters the church and sits near Pinckney. By 9 p.m., police have received reports of a shooting at Emanuel. The shooter reloads at least once, according to witnesses. A child, reportedly 11, survives the shooting when an elderly woman falls on top of him. Surveillance cameras capture the

young, white man leaving the church and identify his vehicle as a four-door black sedan. A manhunt begins.

EARLY MORNING, JUNE 18, 2015

Nine people are reported dead at Emanuel. They are Pinckney; Cynthia Hurd, 54; Tywanza Sanders, 26; Sharronda Singleton; Myra Thompson, 59; Ethel Lance, 70; Susie Jackson, 87; the Rev. Daniel Simmons Sr.; and DePayne Doctor. Authorities identify the shooter as Dylann Storm Roof, 21, of Richland County. Roof grew up in the Columbia area and reportedly attended Rosewood Elementary, Hand Middle School, Dreher High School and Lexington County's White Knoll High School.

9:43 A.M., JUNE 18, 2015

The FBI announces it has opened a hate-crime investigation. Roof is identified as the suspect. His Facebook page has photos of him wearing a jacket with white supremacist patches that experts say are associated with former apartheid regimes of Rhodesia and South Africa. Another photo of Roof shows him with a car with a Confederate States of America vanity tag on front. Roof reportedly received a pistol as a birthday gift, Reuters News Service and the New York Daily News report.

11 A.M., JUNE 18, 2015

At least five police officers in Shelby, N.C., draw their guns and surround a black Hyundai sedan after a motorist recognizes Roof from an FBI bulletin and news reports. The skinny, blond driver lowers his window and calmly hands over his driver's license. "I'm Dylann Roof," he tells the officer, and

then he is arrested. Shelby is a mountainous area about 45 miles west of Charlotte and 244 miles – nearly a four-hour drive – from Charleston. Roof waives an extradition hearing and is flown back to South Carolina later the same night.

JUNE 19, 2015

Roof appears via video conferencing in magistrate's court for a weapons charge, one of several he faces in addition to nine counts of murder. Charleston County Magistrate James B. Gosnell sets a \$1 million bond on that charge but did not have the authority to set bond on the murder counts. However, it is not the legal proceedings that leave the greatest impression. One by one, the family members of slain Emanuel AME Church members face their loved ones' accused killer and express hope, not for his condemnation, but for his redemption. "I forgive you. My family forgives you," Anthony Thompson said to Roof while representing the family of Myra Thompson. "We would like you to take this opportunity to repent."

JUNE 20, 2015

A racist manifesto discovered online and attributed to Roof becomes known to the public.

JUNE 22, 2015

Gov. Nikki Haley calls for legislators to remove the Confederate flag from the grounds of the State House. Republican Haley, the state's first minority and first female governor, makes her declaration at a news conference flanked by

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several lawmakers. "One hundred and fifty years after the Civil War, the time has come," she said. Haley notes the flag has been a symbol of noble things for many people across the state, adding that would not change. However, it has remained an offensive symbol for many other state residents, she notes.

JUNE 24, 2015

Thousands of mourners come to the State House to pay respects to Pinckney, whose open casket is placed beneath the State House rotunda. The line, two-hours long at times, included former governors, elected officials, state employees, family and friends, and people from South Carolina and elsewhere who came to know Pinckney

only as they watched the Charleston church massacre – and the state's response – unfold. By the day's end, about 4,000 visitors – some dressed for a funeral, others for summer – make the slow journey from the State House grounds through its lobby, passing by the senator's body.

JUNE 25, 2015

Pinckney is honored in a service at St. John African Methodist Episcopal

Church in Ridgeland and later in the day at Emanuel AME in Charleston. Services also begin for the other slain members of the "Emanuel Nine," starting June 25 with Sharonda Coleman-Singleton and concluding July 12 with services for Daniel Simmons. Tywanza

Sanders and his aunt, Susie Jackson, are laid to rest June 27 in a double funeral.

JUNE 26, 2015

Grace and racial reconciliation are

the themes during the nearly five-hour funeral service in Charleston for Pinckney. Among those delivering eulogies at TD Arena was President Barack Obama. "What a life Clementa Pinckney lived. What an example he set. What a model for his faith," Obama said. Obama moves many by singing "Amazing Grace"; others join in.

SEE TIMELINE, 10AClementa
PinckneyCynthia
HurdTywanza
SandersSharonda
Coleman-
SingletonMyra
ThompsonEthel
LanceDePayne
DoctorSusie
JacksonDaniel
Simmon

TIMELINE

FROM PAGE 9A

JULY 7, 2015

The S.C. Senate passes a bill to remove the Confederate battle flag from the State House grounds on July 7. The House follows suit in the wee hours, two days later. That afternoon, Haley signs the bill into law. Joining her at the ceremony are Malcolm Graham, brother of librarian Cynthia Hurd, who was killed; Annie Simmons, the wife of Rev. Daniel Simmons, who was killed; Daniel Simmons Jr, son of Simmons; and Harrison Rearden, a family friend of Simmons. The flag is to be removed by a state law-enforcement honor guard and delivered to the state's Confederate Relic Room.

JULY 10, 2015

County: Richland

The white-bordered, square banner bearing the St. Andrew's cross is lowered for the last time in front of the State House's Confederate Soldier Monument by an honor guard of seven S.C. Highway Patrol officers. They fold and roll up the 4-foot flag, then troopers march to the north steps of the S.C. State House and hand the flag to Allen Roberson. The director of the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum will eventually display the flag that was the source of so much political debate.

AUG. 6, 2015

Joey Meek, whose family occasionally accommodated Dylann Roof in their home in the weeks before the shooting, was one of

the first to call law enforcement June 18 after he saw the surveillance images from the church. Nonetheless, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Columbia informs Meek that he is a "potential target" of a federal criminal

investigation for withholding information from investigators. Several people Meek knows have already testified before a federal grand jury at that point. Meek maintains his innocence.

SEPT. 3, 2015

Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson announces she will

seek the death penalty against Roof in his trial on state charges. Federal prosecutors are mum on whether they also will seek death on their charges against Roof. Some victims' families wanted her to seek the death penalty, Wilson said, while others tell her their faith has led them to forgive Roof and that a life sentence would suffice.

SEPT. 17, 2015

Meek is arrested while at work. If Meek, who maintains he is not guilty, is charged with and convicted of making false statements, he could face five years in prison. That number rises to eight years if the false statements are found to concern certain types of crimes, including international or domestic terrorism.

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OCT. 20, 2015

Walterboro attorney Margie Bright Matthews becomes the second woman actively serving in the S.C. Senate. The Democrat won the special election to replace Pinckney just more than five months after he was gunned down inside his Charleston church alongside eight of his parishioners. She joins Republican Sen. Katrina Shealy of Lexington as the only women in the state's upper chamber. She is to finish out Pinckney's term, which ends in 2016.

NOV. 4, 2015

Magistrate Shiva Hodges approves a \$25,000 surety bond for Meek, garbed in an orange jail jumpsuit and manacled with hand and foot chains during a hearing in the Columbia federal courthouse. As part of the conditions for his release, Hodges tells Meek he cannot have contact with various potential witnesses in the ongoing criminal prosecution of Roof.

NOV. 28, 2015

The South Carolina and Clemson bands come together for their "SC Strong" halftime show during the Palmetto Bowl, to honor victims of the summer's Charleston shootings, as

well as the flood that devastated parts of the state in the fall. NCAA.com listed that performance as one of

"The best halftime shows of 2015."

JAN. 5, 2016

Pinckney's widow stands behind President Obama at the White House as he announces a series of executive actions that he said would curb gun violence. After he speaks, Obama hugs the family members of victims of gun violence, embracing Jennifer Pinckney and giving her a kiss on the cheek. State Sen. Gerald Malloy, D-Darlington,

sits in the the audience with the slain state senator's daughters, Eliana and Malana. While their father is missing from their lives physically, Clementa Pinckney is still with his daughters spiritually, Malloy says, calling the daughters "simply amazing."

APRIL 29, 2016

Joey Meek pleads guilty in federal court to withholding information from authorities and lying to an FBI agent.

He also admits that he knew details about Dylann Roof's plan a full week before the killings and that, when he heard television reports the night of

June 17, he told four friends who the shooter was and told them not to talk to police. But one friend called an FBI hotline. Meek will testify against Roof and be sentenced at a later time.

MAY 9, 2016

Clementa Pinckney, who was on pace to graduate with his classmates before his killing, receives a post-humous doctorate from the Wesley Theological Seminary during a ceremony at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. His widow and daughters stood at the altar on the rainy afternoon to accept the honor. "Clementa, you did it," said Jennifer Pinckney. Her daughters stood by her side, clutching their father's diploma and the hood that symbolized his academic achievement.

MAY 17, 2016

Defense attorneys say they have no objection to a state request for an independent mental examination of Roof. State prosecutors requested an outside evaluation, and Roof's defense team said in court documents filed last week they have no objection to an exam by the state Department of Mental Health as long as it complies with state law.

MAY 24, 2016

Federal prosecutors announce they will seek the death penalty against Roof in their case against him. The prosecutor handling state charges announced the previous fall it would seek death. It's rare for the federal government to carry out an execution in a death penalty case. Since 1988, the government has sought the death penalty against 502 defendants. So far, only three have been put to death. Eleven others have been sentenced to death and are appealing.

MAY 25, 2016

Clementa Pinckney's trademark smile returns to the state Senate chamber, as his portrait is unveiled. His family and colleagues reflect on the slain senator's legacy. "Being the humble person that he was, he would say: 'No, not me. I'm not worthy to be hung with such greatness,'" Pinckney's widow, Jennifer, said.

JUNE 7, 2016

A judge sets a Nov. 7 trial date for Roof on federal charges. Jury selection would begin that day. His state trial is to begin in January.

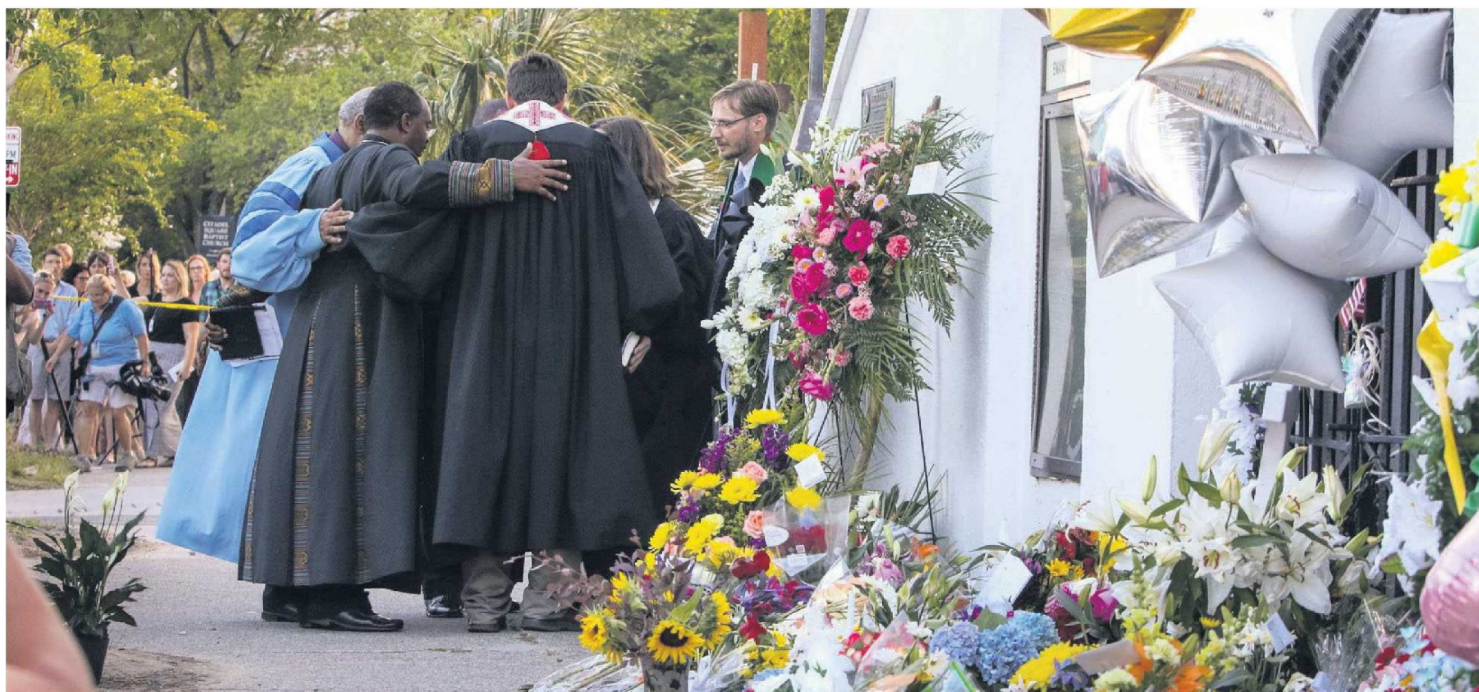
— COMPILED BY JEFF KIDD

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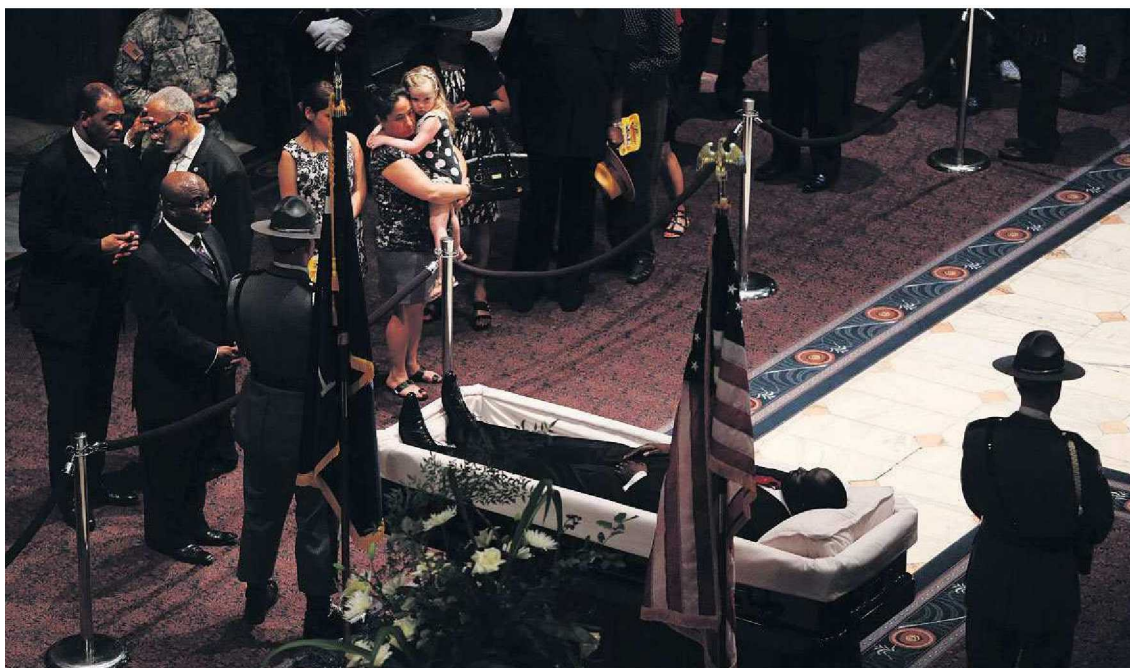
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TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

A group of clergy gathers outside Emanuel AME Church in Charleston the day after the shootings to pay their respects.



GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

The body of Clementa Pinckney, the South Carolina state senator and pastor of Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, lies in state inside the rotunda of the capitol building June 24, 2015.

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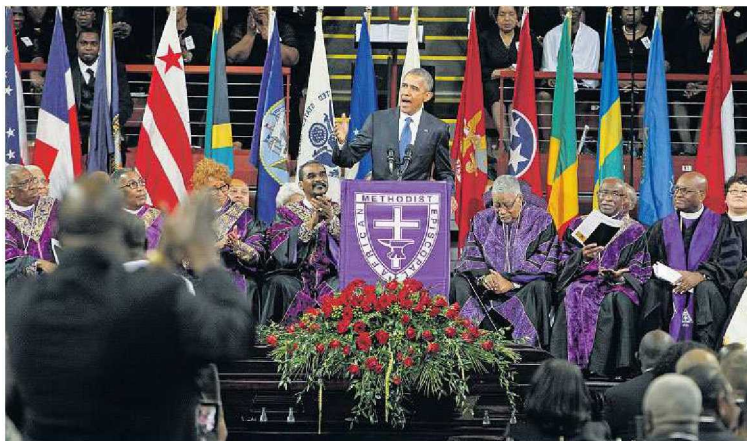
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CHUCK BURTON The Associated Press

Roof was captured in Shelby the day after the shootings after a motorist recognized him from television broadcasts.



GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

President Barack Obama delivers the eulogy June 26, 2015, for slain pastor and South Carolina state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, who was one of nine people shot to death inside Emanuel AME Church in Charleston on June 17.

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JOSH KENDALL jkendall@thestate.com

Marching bands from Clemson and the University of South Carolina form the words "SC STRONG" on the field during halftime of the schools' annual rivalry game in November 2015.



Joey Meek

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TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

The South Carolina Highway Patrol Honor Guard removed the Confederate Battle Flag from the State House grounds during a ceremony on July 10, 2015.



TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

With family members of Emanuel victims, former governors and state religious and political leaders looking on, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley on July 9, 2015, signed the bill that allowed for the Confederate battle flag to be removed from the State House grounds.

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PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS AP

President Barack Obama embraces Jennifer Pinckney, widow of Clementa Pinckney, after speaking in the White House on Jan. 5, 2016.



GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

Clementa Pinckney's wife Jennifer and daughters Eliana and Malana stand next to his portrait after unveiling it during a ceremony inside the Senate chambers of the State House on May 25, 2016.

Title: **How the Senate is stalling ethics reform**
 Author: TOMMY POPE Guest Columnist
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How the Senate is stalling ethics reform

TOMMY POPE

Guest Columnist

Every so often South Carolinians learn about another politician who has broken the rules and betrayed the trust of his constituency for personal gain. Genuine trust is hard to gain, but easily broken. And it is sad that a corrupt few erode the public's trust of the entire system.

Members of the S.C. House understand that meaningful ethics reform must take place in order to regain the public's trust in all elected officials. It starts with promoting accountability and transparency, two ideals that guided us into crafting a comprehensive ethics-reform package.

When House Speaker Jay Lucas assumed office in the fall of 2014, he immediately created an ad hoc committee to study our state's antiquated ethics code. Gov. Nikki Haley had urged the General Assembly to reform these laws in previous years, but the legislation died before both chambers passed it.

The ad hoc committee, of which I was a member, met several times and carefully crafted a dozen bills that established independent oversight, required disclosure of sources of in-

come, closed loopholes, redefined outdated terms and revised campaign-finance laws. Our sole intention was to restore the public's trust and begin to repair a fractured relationship that exists because of a few self-serving politicians.

By March of 2015, the House had passed every one of our bills with overwhelming and bipartisan margins. We purposefully passed them early in the two-year legislative session to give the Senate a year and half to act.

Out of the 12 bills in the House's ethics-reform package, one has been signed into law, two are stalled in a conference committee and nine did not make it out of committee.

The Senate eventually passed our independent-investigations bill, which establishes an independent body to oversee the investigation of all public officials, including legislators, but altered it significantly. So last month, the House, Senate and governor's office began detailed negotiations to find a compromise. The House believed that by working together, we could push the bill across the finish line more easily and that funda-

mental ethics reform would be on its way for South Carolinians.

After weeks of back and forth, five of the six members of the conference committee reached an agreement. House conferees were led to believe that the Senate would support the agreement without a major objection. Although the House made concessions in negotiations, representatives were pleased that our hard work would soon pay off and the independent-investigation bill would soon arrive on the governor's desk for signature.

Our hope turned to despair when in the very last hour of the regular legislative session, the deal fell apart. When it came time to vote, the Senate specifically rejected the agreement, with only one senator supporting our compromise. Even worse, the Senate's objection was over the independent investigators' ability to make public the existence and grounds of a complaint filed against a legislator.

I do not believe the House will or should abide by the Senate's position, because the only acceptable version of this bill is the one agreed upon in conference.

The sole purpose of creating an independent and autonomous investigative body is to ensure that legislators follow the same ethics rules as all other public officials. The public should always be entitled to know about substantiated accusations against their state representatives and senators.

This week, the House and Senate will meet to take up Gov. Haley's vetoes and consider conference reports. South Carolinians should still have some hope that the independent-investigation bill will become law this year.

But the only way this will happen is if senators put the interests of the public ahead of their own, come back to the conference table and uphold their end of the deal.

Mr. Pope is speaker pro tem of the S.C. House and a member of the conference committee on independent investigations of legislators' ethics; contact him at TommyPope@schouse.gov.



Title: **Assembly OKs deertagprogram**
 Author: BY PHILLIP GENTRY Contributing Writer
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OUTDOORS

Assembly OKs deer tag program

BY PHILLIP GENTRY
 Contributing Writer

After more than two years of discussion, debate and public consensus meetings, the S.C. General Assembly passed legislation that will institute a deer tag program as part of the S.C. Department of Natural Resource's hunting and fishing license structure.

In addition, the bill will establish a limit on the number of antlered deer that can be harvested across the state.

In the late days of the 121st session, the General Assembly made final

amendments and passed Senate Bill 454 on May 26. The legislation has been sent to the governor's office.

In the new legislation, resident hunters who purchase a hunting license and big game permit will receive, at no additional charge, three buck tags with no antler restrictions, three unrestricted doe tags and eight date-specific doe or antlerless deer tags.

Resident deer hunters will have the option to purchase for \$5 each two more buck tags, which

carry an antler restriction of a minimum of four points on one antler or a minimum 12-inch inside antler spread.

Effectively, the legislation places the variety of regulations currently in place across Game Zones 1 and 2 in a deer tag format for the entire state with a few modifications. All deer harvested in South Carolina will be required to be tagged. The program will start out allowing a hunter who receives the three unre-

stricted buck tags and then purchases two restricted buck tags to kill five bucks in a season.

Under the current program, hunters are allowed to kill one doe per day on specified doe days without the use of a tag. In addition, hunters can purchase up to four doe tags to use at any time after Sept. 15. The program will replace doe days with date-specific tags as well as allow the use of "anytime" doe tags.

If signed by Gov. Nikki Haley, the new tagging program will take effect for the 2017 deer season.

Title: **'Talk about her legacy'**
 Author: BY JASON RYAN Special to The State
 Size: 212.66 column inches
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'Talk about her legacy'

The families of those who perished at Emanuel AME are unwilling to permit a moment of violence to overshadow the narratives of their loved one's lives.

BY JASON RYAN

Special to The State

CHARLESTON

Nine-year-old Kennedy Singleton had a question.

"Why did that man shoot my granny?"

It was a tough question, but Kennedy's aunt, Denise Quarles, calmly told her niece that the man didn't understand her grandmother. Granny had done nothing wrong; the man just didn't like black people.

Then, Kennedy asked another tough question.

"Will I be shot in a church, too?"

So go the family conversations

LEGACY

FROM PAGE 1A

Kennedy, Quarles and other grieving relatives have mourned their lost kin in different ways.

Some cannot speak of the departed without crying; others can.

Some have strong feelings about the justice that should occur in the coming months or years; others are less opinionated, content to let God have the final word.

Yet the families are united in one key respect: they do not define their relatives as victims.

Rather, the families associated with the Charleston church shooting remember their lost relatives as the many things they were before they took their last breath: mothers and fathers, grandparents, children, siblings, friends,

in the wake of one of South Carolina's most horrific crimes, when a basement Bible study became a bloodbath a year ago.

On the evening of June 17, 2015, a 21-year-old white man from the Midlands joined a Bible study at Emanuel AME Church in downtown Charleston. An

hour later, Dylann Roof is charged with starting a racism-inspired rampage, interrupting the discussion by shooting nine African-American churchgoers dead.

Among those killed was Myra Thompson, nine-year-old Kenne-

dy's grandmother and Quarles' mother.

As they prepare to mark the first anniversary of the shootings,

SEE LEGACY, 7A

➔ **ONLINE**

THESTATE.COM: Malcolm Graham talks about his sister, Cynthia Graham Hurd, who perished in the church shooting.

➔ **MORE INSIDE**

KEY MOMENTS: A timeline in the Emanuel shooting and what followed, **9A**

spiritual leaders, teacher, barber, librarian, politician, custodian, coach, college counselor and more.

They remember their senses of humor, their quirks, thoughtfulness and favorite sayings. They remember their presence during so many pivotal parts of their family's existence, long before they were taken away during a few moments of gunfire.

'SHE WASN'T JUST A VICTIM'

Quarles' mother, Thompson, had been a teacher in North Charleston for many years, helping shepherd rambunctious middle school students.

Thompson also was the matriarch of her family, keeping tabs on relatives and organizing family functions. Quarles talked to her mother a few

times each day. She also received plenty of texts, emails, FaceTime requests and recommended articles from her mother.

Now, she receives no messages, and Quarles is left to fill her shoes.

"I never thought I would have to do it this soon," she said.

Quarles' brother, Kevin Singleton, who is Kennedy's father, has responded to the tragedy by creating a nonprofit, Passion to Forgive, that helps students.

During the holidays, the nonprofit distributed toys to children. This month, it awarded five scholarships to high school students.

Singleton said the nonprofit honors the struggles and successes of his mother, who became pregnant with Singleton

as a teenager but still completed a college education.

"She didn't let anything stop her," said Singleton, who lives in Charlotte.

At Thompson's funeral last year, the church was filled by mourners. Until that moment, Quarles said she did not fully appreciate the network of love and friendship her mother had enjoyed.

"She wasn't just a victim.

She was a person. She had a family. She loved people. Always wanted to help," said Quarles, who lives in Atlanta.

Malcolm Graham feels similarly about his sister, Cynthia Graham Hurd, who also perished in the church shooting.

"We don't talk about how she died. ... We talk about her legacy, we celebrate her life," said Graham, a former City Councilman in Charlotte.

Title: **'Talk about her legacy'**
 Author: BY JASON RYAN Special to The State
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Hurd was a wife, an aunt, a friend and a sorority sister for many of her 54 years of life, as well as a longtime Charleston County librarian, he says. Since her passing, college scholarships and a literacy foundation have been created in her honor.

"She was so many other things than a victim," said Graham,

It is the same for those remembering Depayne Middleton.

Middleton's death is considered an ugly punctuation to an otherwise full and beautiful life.

Ten years separated Middleton from her cousin, Waltrina Middleton, yet Waltrina remembers her cousin like a beloved big sister.

It was Depayne who helped Waltrina buy her first bra as she came of age in rural Hollywood, about 20 miles west of Charleston. It was Depayne who helped fashion Waltrina's hair for her first day of high school.

Years later, Depayne had become a mother. Waltrina watched her cousin lavish that same sweet affection on her four daughters.

"People loved her because she was very attentive and was very present with you. ... She gave our family so much life and energy," said Waltrina Middleton, who lives in Cleveland, Ohio, and is a minister at United Church of Christ.

Altogether, the families of those who perished at Emanuel AME are unwilling to permit a moment of violence to hijack the previously established narratives of their loved one's lives.

"I do miss her dearly. Every day and every hour," Nadine Collier of North Charleston said of her late mother, Ethel Lance.

"(But) I don't have no regrets with my mom," Collier

continued. "I treated her like a queen while she was alive, and I will continue treating her like a queen while she's dead."

'WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THESE ISSUES'

Much has occurred since the tragedy at Emanuel AME, both locally and nationally:

- A nation fatigued of mass shootings winced again, appalled by the suspect's racial hatred and the perversity of the massacre's setting – within a holy house. The crime struck a nerve nationally, enough to warrant the appearance of President Barack Obama at the funeral of the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, a state senator and the slain leader of Emanuel AME.

- In a reaction to Roof's allegedly racist motives, S.C. leaders removed the Confederate flag, long a divisive symbol, from the grounds of the State House and relocated it to a museum.

- The nation's gun laws were given fresh scrutiny, as many wondered how Roof, who previously had been arrested on drug charges, legally could obtain the firearm allegedly used in the killings.

- Several relatives of the shooting victims astonished onlookers at a bond hearing for Roof, offering the suspect forgiveness for the slayings, which had occurred less than two days earlier. Such sentiments were credited with helping avoid additional violence following the shooting and contributed to Emanuel AME being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

- Roof, meanwhile, is facing the death penalty in both state and federal courts for charges stemming from the church slayings.

The families of those killed in the church basement pay Roof little attention. Most relatives won't even speak his

name.

By and large, they do not view Roof's actions as those of an unhinged and delusional loner, but as a product of the racism that stubbornly lingers in the United States, a century and a half after slavery was abolished and half a century after the U.S. civil rights' movement was in its throes.

"Racism is taught, it's not the way you were born," said Quarles, who thinks racial violence can be stemmed by encouraging children to interact with all races and to look beyond differences that are only skin deep.

As a child, Quarles attended Buist Academy for Advanced Studies, a magnet school in downtown Charleston, located across the street from Emanuel AME.

"I went to integrated schools," said Quarles, who reconnected with some of her schoolmates after the tragedy. "Those classmates who don't look like me were some of the first ones to reach out to comfort me."

But many school populations in South Carolina remain racially skewed, and other victims' relatives bemoan the limited support that they perceive is received by predominantly black schools, citing, for example, recent closures of rural black schools.

The school problems reflect a wider lack of concern for blacks in society, some family members say.

Graham wonders when S.C. legislators will follow up on the removal of the Confederate flag and address other social

issues that deeply affect blacks, including the expansion of Medicaid, inadequate public-school funding and a criminal-justice system that disproportionately imprisons black males.

"We have to talk about these issues, uncomfortable as they

may be," said Graham.

In Waltrina Middleton's opinion, racist public policies and attitudes persist, too, even if they are not as blatant as they once were.

As a teenager, Middleton remembers the suspicious stares she received from store employees when making a trip to a Charleston mall, as if she was sure to shoplift.

"You're conditioned from birth, childhood at least, to be afraid, to behave a certain way," says Middleton. "No one should live like that."

More recently, she noted how state leaders, including Gov. Nikki Haley, responded to longstanding calls for the removal of the Confederate flag only after the slaying of nine black men and women.

"Now, we have the removal of the flag when the world is watching," says Middleton, who thinks Haley addresses inequality only "when it is politically expedient for her."

And while Haley and other leaders, including a former leader of Emanuel AME, praised South Carolinians for responding to the tragedy with grace and not additional violence, Middleton, Graham and others worry that response can be interpreted as too passive.

"Too often, we skip ahead to a narrative of forgiveness," said Middleton, with everyone holding hands and singing "We Shall Overcome."

It's important, she said, to "hold the evil to the light."

'I DON'T BELIEVE IN ... HATRED'

When Collier, who lost her mother, addressed Roof at his bond hearing last June, the world was shocked by the compassion she and others exhibited.

"I forgive you," Collier said in court. "You took something very precious from me. I will never talk to her again. I will

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never, ever hold her again. But I forgive you. And have mercy on your soul."

Collier says she was surprised by the attention paid to her remarks. She knew no other way to react.

"I don't believe in having hatred in my heart," she said recently, before reciting a lesson from her mother: "Don't do what people do to you. You're bigger than that. You're better than that."

Collier is fond of saying "forgiveness is power." But, a year after the shooting, she still occasionally is powerless to control her grieving.

She has good days and bad days, the bad days occurring more often than she would like.

On bad days, she said, her appetite goes missing, she doesn't want to talk to anyone, and she cries. She cries a lot, she says, and sometimes cannot stop.

"This is kind of something I have to shake off on my own," she said.

Collier does not sugarcoat the fact that Roof's alleged actions deeply hurt her family and others. She does not un-

derstand what Roof was hoping to accomplish by shooting nine people dead.

Still, despite her pain and lack of understanding, Collier expresses sympathy for her mother's alleged killer.

"He's not a man. This is a child - still learning life. Now, all his life is gone," says Collier. "I'm not saying what he did was right, but I feel bad for him, too."

Collier notes Roof never likely will attend college, never marry, never have children. At age 21, his life was just beginning. Now, the government is trying to end it through the death penalty.

'HATE HAS TO BE SENTENCED'

While some family members of those slain declined to comment on the death penalty, Charlotte's Graham says he thinks Roof should be executed if he is found guilty of the charges, which Graham described as a "premeditated, calculated, sinister" attack on a race of people, a church and "humanity itself."

"He has showed no signs of remorse. He has not asked for

forgiveness," said Graham. "Hate has to be put on trial. Hate has to be prosecuted. Hate has to be sentenced publicly."

Quarles, too, supports the death penalty for her mother's alleged killer.

She refuses, too, to be held hostage by his actions and let his actions dictate the story of her own life.

As she gently told her niece, Kennedy, no, she could not promise that she would not be shot in a church. But that doesn't mean she or anyone else should expect to encounter the same violence Kennedy's grandmother suffered.

"I'm not going to live life in fear," said Quarles, "thinking that's going to happen to me."

Jason Ryan, a former staff writer for The State, lives in Charleston

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'SHE WASN'T JUST A VICTIM. SHE WAS A PERSON. SHE HAD A FAMILY.

SHE LOVED PEOPLE.'

Denise Quarles on her mother, Myra Thompson, one of nine parishioners slain last June at Emanuel AME Church

“

'I DON'T BELIEVE IN HAVING HATRED IN MY HEART. ... DON'T DO WHAT PEOPLE DO TO YOU. YOU'RE BIGGER THAN THAT. YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT.'

Nadine Collier of North Charleston, who lost her mother, Ethel Lance

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GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

Malcolm Graham is the brother of shooting victim Cynthia Graham Hurd, one of the Emanuel Nine. She is pictured in an illustration on Malcolm's wall at his Charlotte home. "It was really an attack on a race of people," he said of the event.

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SPECIAL TO THE STATE/Provided by the family

Denise Quarles, left, with her mother,
Myra Thompson.



SPECIAL TO THE STATE/Provided by family

Nadine Collier, right, with her mother,
Ethel Lance.



Title: **Boydrightchoicefor S.C. Senate**

Author:

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Boyd right choice for S.C. Senate

I encourage the residents of Senate District 34 to pay careful attention to this important Senate race, examine the candidates and their backgrounds carefully, and cast a vote on Tuesday, June 14 for the candidate that we clearly need to represent us – Reese Boyd.

Boyd supports term limits, real ethics reform, transparency and accountability for all branches of government. He will push to create a more open, accountable government that South Carolina needs.

Boyd will fight for tax reform and to keep government off the backs of small business. He will fight for education and school choice so that we can truly say no child will be left behind in South Carolina.

Gov. Haley's strong endorsement of Boyd strengthens my belief that he is, indeed, the best person to represent District 34 in the South Carolina Senate. If your readers will carefully examine each candidate, I believe that they will agree.

– *Barbara Happe VanBlarcum,*
Murrells Inlet

Title: **Vote Boyd, the true conservative**

Author: BY BREN GIBSON

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OTHER VOICES

Vote Boyd, the true conservative

BY BREN GIBSON

I was reading the recent opinion of a writer from Pawleys Island. He seems to think that it is not important to us who gets elected and we should only be interested in our own district. Most bills that are passed are voted on by all the Senate and House members.

If you are pro-life, you want pro-life candidates to be elected. If you believe in small government, want ethics reform that requires lawmakers to disclose their sources of income, if you want fair and independent investigations of ethics claims against legislators, then you do not vote for candidates who continually vote against these measures.

It was important enough for Gov. Haley to make a trip to Georgetown County to endorse Reese Boyd III. I think she did this because she has been fighting for ethics reform since she took office and would like to have more support while she is still in office.

She told us how disappointed she was with certain candidates. She told us about nepotism. She told us about legislators voting themselves a big pay raise and for tax increases. You can check this out through the S.C. Legislature website.

She said we need a conservative who does not want to personally benefit themselves. She said it is time to send people to Columbia that work for us. Every Senate and House seat impacts

me and my family. So yes, I want to see good Christian people elected that are true servants of the people.

I met Reese working with the Republican party where he has served in many rolls. You can also find him at the South Carolina Palmetto Council where he currently serves as board chairman.

He serves as a board member for the South Carolina Statewide Public Charter Schools District. He will be there for "we the people."

I pray that you will support him and give South Carolina another true conservative legislator.

The writer lives in North Myrtle Beach.

Title: **Gov. Haley, stay out of Myrtle Beach elections; it's our concern**
 Author: BY JOHN W. DENNIS, JR.
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OTHER VOICES

Gov. Haley, stay out of Myrtle Beach elections; it's our concern

BY JOHN W. DENNIS, JR.

Gov. Haley,
 My wife and I have watched, with much interest, your extensive and apparently very expensive slander advertisements over the past few weeks.

The interesting part is that these advertisements are not about anyone running against you but instead are against members of your own party, people who are already serving our state in either the House or Senate.

It makes us wonder why you would have your staff spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to make highly questionable, sometimes half-true statements about the people who currently represent us.

We understand that you have pledged to campaign against lawmakers who have not supported your agenda to the letter, but you

seem to have forgotten one very important fact: we, the actual voters, do not send representatives to Columbia to support *your* agenda.

We send representatives to Columbia to support *our* agenda. They work for us, not you.

We vote them into office and replace them when we see fit.

Spend your money, my dear, to spread slander and half-truths if you wish while you remember that you also work for us.

My family has always supported you in the past and now you have disappointed us, perhaps beyond redemption.

We do not care who you support; it is not your business to be involved in our business.

It was a great day in South Carolina – until the governor became mean and ugly.

The writer lives in Conway.

Title: **Haleysignsbill banning law enforcement ticket quotas**
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Haley signs bill banning law enforcement ticket quotas

A new law bars South Carolina law enforcement agencies from setting ticket quotas for officers.

Gov. Nikki Haley signed the ban into law Thursday.

Its sponsor, Democratic state Rep. Justin Bamberg, says quotas pressure officers to stop people for minor offenses. He thinks the law will help improve officers' relationships with residents.

Bamberg also represents the family of Water Scott, the black man fatally shot as he ran from a North Charleston police officer last year. He'd been pulled over for a broken third brake light.

The law says officers can't be required to write a certain number of tickets within a specified time.

Officers can be evaluated on their interactions with residents and businesses and involvement in community initiatives.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS