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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, July 22, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Palmetto Business Daily: Carolina Chips begins Orangeburg County operations

<http://palmettobusinessdaily.com/stories/510965233-carolina-chips-begins-orangeburg-county-operations>

Investing \$32 million to create an Orangeburg County plant, Price Companies subsidiary Carolina Chips Inc. is launching a new wood processing factory for the KapStone paper mill in North Charleston, to begin production in 2017. The new site, situated in Holly Hill, has been funded with a \$100,000 grant to subsidize area road improvements and will create 15 new jobs. “We are very happy about becoming a member of the Holly Hill and Orangeburg County community,” Dick Carmical, president and CEO of The Price Companies Inc., said. “We are also very proud and excited to be developing a long-term relationship with a solid, progressive and customer-driven company like KapStone.”

NOTE: Gov. Nikki Haley called the project “another big win for one of our rural communities,” while Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt noted that rural counties accounted for approximately 30 percent of jobs recruited to South Carolina in 2015. Orangeburg County Council Chairman Johnnie Wright, Sr. expressed gratitude.

Washington Post: Seven things you’ll see in Philadelphia that you didn’t see in Cleveland

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/plum-line/wp/2016/07/22/seven-things-youll-see-in-philadelphia-that-you-didnt-see-in-cleveland/>

Paul Waldman

Now that the Republican convention has finally come to its end — fittingly, with the party’s nominee shouting for 75 minutes that America is a dystopian nightmare of misery and fear that can be saved only through the intervention of a single powerful leader — we can turn our attention to the Democrats’ gathering next week. And while the two events will have a few superficial things in common (funny hats, drunkenness, bunting), the contrast between the conventions is going to be striking. So here are seven things you’re going to see in Philadelphia that you didn’t see in Cleveland...

NOTE: The party’s biggest stars on display. One of the most notable things about the Republican convention was how many important Republicans didn’t want to get within a hundred miles of the place. Neither of the two living Republican ex-presidents came, and none of the party’s rising minority stars — Nikki Haley, Tim Scott, Brian Sandoval, Susana Martinez — spoke to the crowd (Haley was there but didn’t speak; the others stayed away). But there’s barely an important Democrat in America who doesn’t want to be part of this convention. You’ll have two presidents (Obama and Clinton), the current vice president and First Lady, popular officeholders like Elizabeth Warren, and so many governors and senators that there will barely be time to fit them all in.

Post and Courier (Editorial): Pigskin perk not out of bounds

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160722/160729843/haley-tickets-dont-fumble-ethics>

However, commission member Frank Grimball, who had asked for the review of last year's opinion, found the change insufficient. He wanted the rule to restrict use of the tickets to "economic development." Chaney Adams, a spokeswoman for the governor, said Wednesday that as in previous gubernatorial administrations, Mrs. Haley has strictly used the suite "for state-related purposes, including economic development and business recruitment, because there's no better way to showcase the great things going on in our state." Mrs. Haley, a Clemson graduate, also has a Death Valley suite, provided by that university's board members and others, for the Tigers' home games. And as long as those tickets and suites for either school's games aren't being sold to benefit Mrs. Haley or anybody else, this gubernatorial perk hardly seems excessive or corrupting. Instead, it seems like a home-field advantage for the state's top elected official in the big game of bringing more business investment — and good jobs — to South Carolina. As for the Gamecocks, their chances of winning an SEC title in their first season under coach Will Muschamp look even slimmer than usual, coming off a 3-9 season that included a loss to The Citadel. On the other hand, USC has won five out of its last seven games against Clemson.

Post and Courier: Haley attends to RGA business, addresses Republican Jewish Coalition in Cleveland

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160721/160729890/haley-attends-to-rga-business-addresses-republican-jewish-coalition-in-cleveland>

Emma Dumain

6 p.m.: The South Carolina delegation to the Republican National Convention had a considerable amount of down time Thursday, the final day of the convention where Donald Trump will accept the nomination for president. Gov. Nikki Haley, however, was busy. Deputy chief of staff Rob Godfrey told The Post and Courier that Haley spent Thursday morning at a meeting related to Republican Governor Association business. Then, she and her husband, Michael Haley, "spent time visiting the area where Michael was adopted and grew up." Her afternoon schedule included an address to the Republican Jewish Coalition. Godfrey also said she planned to "thank members of South Carolina law enforcement who are assisting with the state of Ohio's security efforts." Haley plans to attend the RNC's Thursday evening programming but she might decide not to visit the convention floor if Wednesday night provided any preview of what to expect. Reporters, photographers and fans mobbed Haley when she came to visit the S.C. delegation, shoving microphones and cameras in her face while she tried to mingle with delegates. The field trip ended up being brief, with Haley retreating soon after she arrived. DeLinda Ridings, a Columbia delegate, said Haley told her she had to go so as not to distract from the main event. "She said she had to leave the floor so we could enjoy the convention," Ridings recalled.

Republican Convention in Cleveland:

Post and Courier: Five South Carolina GOP takeaways from the Republican convention

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160722/160729813/five-south-carolina-gop-takeaways-from-the-republican-convention>

Emma Dumain

The Republican National Convention ended late Thursday and South Carolina's delegation is now on its way home, some flying and some driving 10 hours back to the Lowcountry and elsewhere in the Palmetto State. Donald Trump did his best to unify the party, and the collective message is shifting toward November and the coming showdown with Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. Here are five South Carolina takeaways from the past five days...

NOTE: Gov. Nikki Haley was in Cleveland on Wednesday and Thursday, but apart from an

appearance at one delegation breakfast and one quick stop to the convention floor she stayed away from the festivities. Her absence from the speakers' lineup was strongly noted, as was her refusal to offer an unequivocal endorsement of Trump.

NOTE: Unlike Haley and members of Congress who did not project open enthusiasm for the party nominee, members of the S.C. convention delegation reported experiencing an increased level of excitement. Part of it was U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz's refusal to endorse Trump during his prime-time speech, which some said triggered a unity that the Texas Republican refused to embrace. Part of it was the selection of proven conservative Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as the VP running mate.

The State: SC delegates, others 'went absolutely wild' for Trump at RNC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article91241117.html>

Tyson Grinstead

The delegates from South Carolina cheered and applauded as Ivanka Trump came onto the stage. Ivanka talked about Donald Trump the father and businessman. She presented the Republican nominee as a person who cares about those around him and someone who fights for women, especially mothers, in America. When she introduced her father, and the arena went absolutely wild. All week, the South Carolina delegation has been debating how Donald Trump would approach the big night and most had high expectations – he didn't disappoint. Our delegates thought Donald Trump was inspiring, full of personality and uplifting. The packed crowd responded with applause as he laid out his agenda and interacted with them from the stage. When the speech concluded, the Trump and Pence families walked out onto the stage, and the millions of balloons finally started to fall onto the delegates, covering the floor and concluding a memorable week.

The State: Most SC Republicans in Cleveland unifying behind Trump

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article91176832.html>

Jamie Self

Donald Trump is capturing the hearts – or at least the support – of Palmetto State Republicans at the GOP convention. Among the converts in Cleveland are Ted Cruz loyalists and other delegates whose favorite candidates exited the race long ago, clearing the path for Trump to win the GOP's presidential nomination. Even a S.C. Cruz supporter, who proudly aided an effort to oust Trump at the Republican National Convention earlier this week, says the GOP nominee still could earn his support. Trump's naming of Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as his running mate was a positive move toward winning over K.C. Lombard, a 63-year-old Johns Island roofing contractor. Still not convinced, Lombard says he will decide later – maybe in November – whether to vote for Trump. For other S.C. delegates, the sell has been easier.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Poor school districts say Legislature violated court order

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

Seanna Adcox

Attorneys for rural school districts contend legislators' court-ordered plan for fixing South Carolina's education system isn't a plan at all, but an accounting of legislative meetings and list of budget items that don't address the problems. The latest court filing in the 23-year-old case accuses the Legislature of violating state Supreme Court orders and asks justices to at least set a new deadline of next summer. Justices gave legislators an end-of-session deadline this year for submitting a plan to

improve South Carolina schools, after ruling in November 2014 that poor, rural students lack educational opportunities. Legislators' 18-page report listed eight bills introduced in the House - four of which passed - and 18 items in the budget that started July 1. It also detailed meetings held this year by House and Senate panels created to study the issue.

SC Agency News:

The State: Rabies-infected fox bites person in West Columbia-Cayce area

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article91254807.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A fox that bit and scratched a person has tested positive for rabies, according to the state's health agency. An unidentified person was attacked by the fox in the West Columbia-Cayce area on July 16, according to a release by the Department of Health and Environmental Control. The agency's lab confirmed the fox had rabies on Tuesday. The fox marked the second animal to test positive for rabies in Lexington County so far this year. Statewide, there have been 60 confirmed cases of animal rabies in 2016. In 2015, Lexington County had 10 rabies cases out of 130 statewide. A bite by a rabid animal, if left untreated, can result in rabies, which is almost always fatal. DHEC officials suggest being cautious around stray and wild animals to reduce the risk of getting bitten. The agency also suggest keeping pets vaccinated to protect them as well.

Greenville News : DSS names new Greenville Co. director

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/22/87399018/>

Angelia Davis

The South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) has a new Greenville County director. Dena Reeves-Green has been promoted to that position, having served as the agency's interim county director since March. Reeves-Green has worked with DSS since 1992, when she began as a child protective services investigator in Greenville County. She later moved to a children's service coordinator position with the Intensive Foster Care and Clinical Services division, the agency said in a news release. She was promoted as the Pickens County DSS Human Services Program Coordinator in 2007. She remained in that role until 2011, when she was named director of Human Services for Greenville County DSS. She was promoted to deputy director of Greenville County DSS in 2015.

LGBT News:

Charlotte Observer: NC governor says NBA All-Star game decision is 'Total P.C. BS'

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article91225547.html>

Steve Harrison

N.C. Gov. Pat McCrory said the NBA's decision to move its 2017 All-Star game from Charlotte is "total P.C. (politically correct) BS." "I'm disappointed," McCrory said while speaking on WFAE's Charlotte Talks radio program Friday morning. "I strongly disagree with their decision. To put it bluntly it's total P.C. BS. It's an insult to our city and an insult to our state." The NBA said it was moving the game because of House Bill 2. HB2 nullified Charlotte's expanded nondiscrimination ordinance that extended legal protection for gay, lesbian and transgender individuals. It also requires transgender people to use the bathroom that corresponds with the gender on their birth certificate in government buildings. McCrory said he believes the NBA is practicing "selective outrage" over the issue. He also said he disagreed with the criticism of HB2 by the state's leading college basketball coaches, including Mike Krzyzewski, who said the legislation is "embarrassing."

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Judge: Roof attorney motion to block evidence to be sealed

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8tgSqFqQ

SC State Wire

A federal judge has ruled Dylann Roof's attorney does not have to explain publicly why she wants to keep some evidence out of Roof's Charleston church shooting trial. Assistant U.S. Public Defender Sarah Gannett wants to block admission of videos, transcripts and other documents affecting Roof's constitutional rights to be free from unreasonable searches and self-incrimination. Gannett asked the court's permission to file the motion under seal, saying to make it public could affect the court's ability seat an impartial jury in Roof's trial in November. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel issued an order Thursday saying the motion could be filed under seal and asked prosecutors to respond the same way. Roof faces the death penalty in the shootings of nine black parishioners at Emanuel AME Church in June 2015.

SC after Baton Rouge Shootings:

Post and Courier: N. Charleston to sell city land after spending millions on police shooting settlement

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160722/160729783/n-charleston-to-sell-city-land-after-spending-millions-on-police-shooting-settlement>

Brenda Rindge

North Charleston is selling city-owned land in an effort to shore up its coffers after a record payout last year to avoid a lawsuit over a police officer's shooting of a man running from a traffic stop. "Let's just be open and blunt about it," Mayor Keith Summey said. "We used \$5 million out of our general fund balance to settle a lawsuit." In October, City Council voted unanimously to give the family of Walter Scott a \$6.5 million wrongful death settlement, one of the largest related to a police shooting that caught national attention. The death of Walter Scott, 50, was captured on a bystander's video. After running from an April 4, 2015, traffic stop, Scott got into a struggle with North Charleston officer Michael Slager. The officer said Scott grabbed his Taser during the scuffle. As Scott started running again, Slager fired eight shots, hitting him five times. Slager is awaiting trial on a murder charge.

Post and Courier: Marion Square protest includes call for nonviolence, care packages

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160722/160729788/marion-square-protest-includes-call-for-nonviolence-care-packages>

Derrek Asberry

Peaceful demonstrations in Marion Square have been pretty routine over the past couple weeks in the aftermath of multiple police-involved shootings of black males. But members of United People Against Inequality, the latest group to bring their signs to the downtown landmark, want their message to be clear: They're not protesting against police but against all of the recent shootings across the country. "Killing doesn't end killing, and violence doesn't end violence," group member Cory Johnson said during Friday's protest. "We don't wish retaliation on any police, especially the Charleston police who have been very kind to us."

Greenville News: Police chief encourages visitors downtown despite calls for protest

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/22/downtown-greenville-business-protests/87436710/>

Romando Dixson and Eric Connor

An activist group's call to conduct "massive" sit-ins at unspecified downtown businesses has

prompted Greenville's police chief to assure the public that the city's busy cultural hub will be safe for visitors. "The Greenville Police department will be on hand to deal with any disruptions and to enforce the law if necessary with any member of any group," Police Chief Ken Miller said Friday afternoon, referring to a promise made earlier in the day by the leader of Fighting Injustice Together to resume downtown protests in the form of sit-ins at local businesses. "The bottom line is our events downtown are going to go on," Miller said. "People are encouraged to participate in their recreation downtown, their dining downtown and all the amenities that downtown has to offer."

Post and Courier: Black Lives Matter activist arrested for disorderly conduct

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160721/160729857/black-lives-matter-activist-arrested-for-disorderly-conduct>

Brenda Rindge

The leader of the local Black Lives Matter movement was arrested after disrupting a North Charleston City Council committee meeting Thursday. Muhiyidin Elamin Moye, 31, of Charleston, also known as Muhiyidin d'Baha, was charged with disorderly conduct, according to the booking report. He is being held on \$470 bail. Moye was removed by four or five officers from the City Hall conference room where the Public Safety Committee was meeting. About 10 members of the group followed, chanting, "This is what democracy looks like." City Councilman Mike Brown trailed them, telling The Post and Courier he wanted to make sure that Moye was OK. Moye complained of wrist pain and was checked out by emergency medical personnel, police spokesman Spencer Pryor later said.

Greenville News: Upstate artist uses work to impact race relations

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/07/22/upstate-artist-uses-work-impact-race-relations/87440404/>

Lauren Petreacca

When Anthony Modesto Milian watched the video of Alton Sterling being killed by Baton Rouge police, he stayed up until 4 a.m. painting. The piece he created is called, "Body Snatchers." It shows a young man being arrested by police. The five officers surrounding him are grey, and the only thing in color is the man being arrested. Not all of Milian's pieces are this complex. One shows a man getting his hair cut in a barbershop. "My overall series is about black life," he says. "A lot of the images I work on have to do with black people encountering police or black people enjoying interactions with each other." Milian says working on this series has helped him cope with what's going on between police officers and the black community. "When you paint, you sit down and you kind of think more," he said. "You get to process things more."

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Drone spotted flying over Savannah River Site for the ninth time

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160722/160729881/drone-spotted-flying-over-savannah-river-site-for-the-ninth-time>

Another Unmanned Aerial System, better known as a drone, was spotted flying over the Savannah River Site on Friday, according to a SRS security announcement. The announcement was made around 10:31 a.m., according to an Aiken Standard reporter on the ground. This is the time ninth drone spotting. The drone was spotted flying over K-Area, an old reactor building that currently houses plutonium. This is the second time a drone has been spotted flying over K-Area. The sightings started on June 19, and SRS officials told the newspaper the remote controlled aircraft has been spotted all over the site. Every sighting initiates an internal email to employees with information about the situation.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: SC unemployment falls to 15-year low in June

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FhK2FTL8

SC State Wire

South Carolina's unemployment rate has fallen to a 15-year low. The Department of Employment and Workforce said Friday that the state's jobless rate was 5.4 percent in June. That's down from 5.6 percent in May and is the lowest level since July 2001. In the past year, the state's labor force has grown by more than 60,000 people. Nationally, unemployment increased by 0.2 to 4.9 percent in June. Executive Director Cheryl Stanton heralded that drop, saying it's a sign businesses trust the state and are expanding in South Carolina. Professional and business services saw the biggest gains, with 3,200 jobs. The government jobs sector also grew by 2,600 positions.

Post and Courier: S.C. jobless rate falls to 15-year low; Charleston County posts lowest rate in state

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160722/160729823/sc-jobless-rate-falls-to-15-year-low-charleston-county-posts-lowest-rate-in-state>

Warren L. Wise

South Carolina's unemployment rate plummeted in June to a 15-year low of 5.4 percent, down from 5.6 percent in May. That's the lowest rate since July 2001, according to the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce. "South Carolina's job growth has been steady and robust over the first half of the year," averaging 2.5 percent, said Rick Kaglic, senior regional economist at the Charlotte branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. He noted a slight decline in the construction sector across the Palmetto State, but he said "it is one of the industries performing very strongly with year over year growth of 7.4 percent." Kaglic also mentioned a slight weakness in manufacturing, but cited solid growth in the service sector, especially professional services.

Local News:

Sun News: Federal judge will hear lawsuits against Horry County Police

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article91118662.html>

Audrey Hudson

Two lawsuits against the Horry County Police Department claiming a former detective abused victims of sexual assault will be heard in federal court. The cases were transferred from the Horry County Court of Common Pleas and are now under the jurisdiction of the U.S. District Court in Florence, according to federal court records. There are three lawsuits filed by victims identified as Jane Doe 1, Jane Doe 2 and Jane Doe 3. The only cases moved to federal court are those filed by Jane Does 2 and 3 because those cases allege that constitutional and civil rights were violated. The women are suing the police department and former Detective Allen Large alleging that the officer sexually harassed them and coerced them to participate in nude sexual fetish videos called catfighting. Two of the women, Jane Doe 1 and Jane Doe 2, say they were sexually assaulted by Large.

Independent Mail: No charges filed in case of stolen Rhody Farm Road petition

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/no-charges-filed-in-case-of-stolen-road-petition-383b55b8-dcc2-5c36-e053-0100007f3b07-387936952.html>

Nikie Mayo

A magistrate recently decided not to issue an arrest warrant in the case of the Rhody Farm Road petition stolen from a Starr convenience store. Former Anderson County Councilman Eddie Moore

returned the petition to the Redi-Mart Convenience Store earlier this week, according to his attorney, Bob Waldrep. Moore could not immediately be reached for comment Friday. Sheriff John Skipper said the magistrate who declined to issue a warrant is Judge Mary Frances Cole. "My officer has video evidence that clearly shows a crime being committed," Skipper said. "We believe that shows enough probable cause to issue a warrant. Obviously, the judge sees it a little differently."

The State: More than 15,000 apply in 2 days for housing assistance

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article91312852.html>

Sarah Ellis

More people applied this week for a popular public housing-assistance program than ever have in a two-day period in the Columbia area. In just 27 hours, the Columbia Housing Authority accepted 15,412 applications to be put on the waiting list to receive housing choice vouchers, commonly known as Section 8 vouchers, that provide rental assistance to low-income people. The application period closed at noon Friday. "Here is the proof of what we have been telling local government officials," said Gilbert Walker, executive director of the Columbia Housing Authority. "The need for affordable housing has never been greater in the Midlands."

Associated Press: Riding Rails: 3 routes in mix for Upstate high-speed line

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rWuc2p6s

SC State Wire

Three routes are being considered for a new high-speed rail line that would connect Charlotte and Atlanta. While two would pass through Greenville, the front-runner seems to be one that would bypass Greenville and go through Anderson. The Greenville News reports (<http://grnol.co/2ai51Q2>) maps with the proposed routes were discussed Thursday and a key study of the project is set to be completed next year. Stanley Meck of the Georgia Department of Transportation says that while the route through Anderson would require the most new infrastructure it could also mean the fastest trains with top speeds as high as 220 mph. He says it's not known when high-speed rail would become a reality but that the U.S. Department of Transportation has shown a lot of support for the project.

Post and Courier: Santee Cooper board approves \$52.4M bond sale

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160722/160729799/santee-cooper-board-approves-524m-bond-sale>

David Wren

Santee Cooper's Board of Directors approved the sale of \$52.4 million in revenue obligation bonds during a special meeting Friday at the electric utility's headquarters in Moncks Corner. The 2016C bond sale involves tax-exempt bonds with maturities from 2022 to 2036 and an interest rate of 3.108 percent, according to a news release. The proceeds will be used to refund and restructure existing debt. The issue received ratings of AA- from Standard & Poor's, A1 from Moody's and A+ from Fitch. The three agencies also reaffirmed existing ratings and a stable outlook for Santee Cooper's long-term debt. Friday's action follows Santee Cooper's sale of two long-term bond issues last month, totaling \$831 million. Proceeds from those sales primarily will be used to finance construction of two reactors at the V.C. Summer nuclear plant in Jenkinsville. Santee Cooper is a partner with South Carolina Electric & Gas in the nuclear project.

The Herald: Tega Cay sprays after Zika diagnosis

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/fort-mill-times/article91256322.html>

John Marks

As precaution, mosquito spraying in Tega Cay began Thursday after the state confirmed a Zika virus case with city ties. York County leaders held a press event July 18 confirming a Zika case. No local mosquitoes tested positive for the virus, but a local resident had contracted the virus while traveling. It was the 22nd travel-related Zika case in South Carolina. The first was in April. County officials sent an announcement July 21 announcing the mosquito spraying in Tega Cay. Hours after the county announcement, Tega Cay City Council met for its regular meeting. The city had few details. Because of privacy laws, the state offered little to city leaders except to say someone had the virus "at a critical time" for possible spreading while in Tega Cay.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama rejects Trump depiction of US in crisis

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1130c1837bae4f9b81e59056652578a4>

Darlene Superville and Bradley Klapper

President Barack Obama fiercely rejected Donald Trump's depiction of an America in crisis on Friday, arguing that violent crime and illegal immigration have plunged under his leadership to their lowest rates in decades. Looking to November's election, Obama said, "We're not going to make good decisions based on fears that don't have a basis in fact." At a news conference alongside Mexico's president, Obama sought to undermine two pillars of Trump's speech Thursday night in which he accepted the Republican presidential nomination. Trump said that if he is elected, "safety will be restored" at home and abroad. "This idea that American is somehow on the verge of collapse, this vision of violence and chaos everywhere, doesn't really jibe with the experience of most people," Obama told journalists.

Associated Press: Obama, Mexican president stress importance of relationship

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1386e12fe5bd48f181da93996f728f8f>

Darlene Superville

President Barack Obama and Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto reaffirmed the importance of the US-Mexico relationship Friday, promoting the benefits of trade and friendship in an election year that has sometimes stressed that alliance. In a news conference with Pena Nieto at the White House, Obama said trade with Mexico brings important investment and jobs to the U.S. He said the United States sells more to Mexico than to China, India and Russia combined. Obama said he has worked to deepen the relationship during his presidency. "We're not just strategic and economic partners, we're also neighbors and we're friends," Obama said.

Associated Press: AP source: Clinton's choice for VP to be announced Friday

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2cb63450364e4256a1e538723a1e9bae>

Ken Thomas and Jonathan Lemire

Hillary Clinton will introduce her running mate Friday, seeking to snatch attention from newly crowned Republican nominee Donald Trump just hours after he closed out his convention with a fiery and foreboding turn at the podium. A person familiar with the Clinton campaign's plans said Friday first word would come later in the day in a text message to supporters and the new team will appear together in Florida on Saturday. The person was not authorized to discuss the campaign's internal plans publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine is the leading contender, according to a pair of Democrats familiar with Clinton's search. Active in the Senate on foreign relations and military affairs, Kaine has a reputation for working with both parties as Virginia's governor and Richmond's mayor.

Associated Press : Ex-KKK leader David Duke signs up to run for US Senate seat

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8ef9762cc2fe4ccfa059c2d9beb9dc43>

Melinda Deslatte

Former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, an avowed white supremacist, officially signed up Friday to run for U.S. Senate in Louisiana, saying "the climate of this country has moved in my direction." "I believe my time has come," Duke said after submitting his paperwork for the ballot. He added: "The people of this country, the patriotic, decent, God-fearing people of this country are now right with me." Duke's candidacy comes one day after Donald Trump accepted the GOP nomination for president, and Duke said he's espoused principles for years that are similar to the themes Republicans are now supporting in Trump's campaign, on issues such as immigration and trade. He said the majority of Americans are "embracing the core issues I have fought for my entire life."

World News:

Associated Press: 6 dead in Munich mall shooting; police hunt up to 3 suspects

<http://bigstory.ap.org/da1525e82f40482787ea69e447df823a>

Michael Faulhaber and Frank Jordans

Munich police warned people to stay inside and avoid public places Friday as they hunted for the shooter or shooters who opened fire at a shopping mall, killing six people and wounding others in a rampage they described as suspected terrorism.

"At the moment no culprit has been arrested," police in the Bavarian capital said on social media. "The search is taking place at high speed." Germany's elite GSG9 anti-terror police, as well as federal police, were called in to help. Witnesses reported seeing three men with firearms near the Olympia Einkaufszentrum mall. Munich police spokesman Marcus Martins told The Associated Press police were aware of media reports that a man killed himself as officers closed in, but said there was no confirmation of that.

Associated Press: Turkey criticizes US over cleric accused of coup plot

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8630dc9d295d43da9e5e3a7999fee053>

Christopher Torchia and Cinar Kiper

A top Turkish official on Friday accused the United States of "standing up for savages" by not immediately handing over a U.S.-based Muslim cleric who the government claims orchestrated last week's failed coup. Speaking in Washington, President Barack Obama said there was a legal process for extradition and encouraged Turkey to present evidence. In a sign of increasing tension, Turkey said it was dispatching its justice and interior ministers to the United States next week to push for the extradition of the cleric, Fethullah Gulen. The two NATO countries are allies in the fight against the Islamic State group; American military jets have been flying missions against extremists in Iraq and Syria out of the Turkish air base at Incirlik. U.S. officials said Friday that electric power was restored to the Incirlik base, which had been operating on a backup generator since July 16, when power was shut off at all military bases in Turkey following the failed coup.

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