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To:
Date: 9/15/2016 8:49:13 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, September 15, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley turns BabyNet over to South Carolina Medicaid agency
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=keuee2RK

SC State Wire

South Carolina is moving control of its program to help babies with development delays from the First Steps school readiness program to the state's Medicaid agency. Gov. Nikki Haley signed an executive order Wednesday putting BabyNet under control of the Department of Health and Human Services. A news release from the governor's office says the move will make BabyNet more efficient, since Medicaid already pays for more than half of births in the state and has a relationship with families before their children are born. BabyNet provides services for babies who are slow to talk, walk or have other developmental delays until they turn age 3. Haley says the move will become official next July.

Post and Courier: Gov. Haley headlining October GOP dinner in Vermont

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919680/gov-haley-headlining-october-gop-dinner-in-vermont>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley will be the keynote speaker at a Vermont Republican Party dinner and will attend a similar event in Atlanta, both early next month. Haley and others will meet privately with sponsors before the Vermont GOP Harvest Dinner in Burlington on Oct. 5. Ticket prices range from \$75 to \$4,000. The following week Haley will be the special guest at the Georgia Victory 2016 dinner in Atlanta. The Oct. 13 event includes members of Georgia's congressional delegation and other state Republicans held at the Georgia Aquarium. Before then, Haley will headline a fundraiser for several female GOP congressional candidates this Friday in Atlanta. One of those five candidates is Virginia U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock, who Haley helped fundraise for this past June in McLean, Va. The popular governor has headlined several state GOP dinners in her second term, including one in Indiana last October and another in Tennessee in May.

Area Development: JEAR Logistics Expands Its Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, Operations Center
<http://www.areadevelopment.com/newsItems/9-14-2016/jear-logistics-charleston-county-south-carolina.shtml>

JEAR Logistics, a third-party logistics company, is expanding its existing operations in Charleston County, South Carolina. The project is expected to result in \$2.8 million investment and create 152 new jobs. Founded in 2007, JEAR Logistics is a privately-held third-party logistics company and freight brokerage service that provides full and less-than truckload services – refrigerated, dry and flatbed – throughout the United States and Canada. Located at 3409 Salterbeck Street in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, the company will be expanding its existing workforce by 200 percent. Hiring for the new positions is expected to begin in the fourth quarter of this year. The Coordinating Council for Economic Development has approved job development credits related to this project.

NOTE: "The 152 new jobs JEAR Logistics is creating with this \$2.8 million investment is a huge win

for the people of Charleston County, and is a real reason to celebrate. Each time a company like JEAR decides to expand in our state, it shows the world that South Carolina is the place to be doing business because it proves that we have one of the most competitive business environments in the world in which companies of all kinds can find success and thrive," said Governor Nikki Haley.

Associated Press: Logistics company adding 150 jobs in Mount Pleasant

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

SC State Wire

A logistics company that provides truck shipping services throughout the United States and Canada is expanding its Charleston County operations, adding 150 jobs and investing almost \$3 million. JEAR Logistics LLC made the announcement Wednesday. The Mount Pleasant company provides shipping services including refrigerated and flatbed truck shipping.

Post and Courier : Mount Pleasant freight business to add 152 jobs

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919698/mount-pleasant-freight-business-to-add-152-jobs>

Thad Moore

Mount Pleasant-based JEAR Logistics plans to triple its workforce and invest nearly \$3 million, marking a new growth spurt for the transportation company. The S.C. Commerce Department said Wednesday the freight brokerage firm plans to hire 152 new employees starting later this year, adding to its current staff of 70 people. Also, the company will spend \$2.8 million to expand its operations. JEAR coordinates truck transportation for clients across the U.S. and Canada, and Mark Neumeyer, its president, has said it has been hiring aggressively to grow its sales staff. The company couldn't be reached for comment Wednesday to discuss its plans. "Our success begins with our people," Neumeyer said in a statement. "Their level of commitment to working together to serve is the core of our team-focused culture. Charleston ... gives us the perfect setting and infrastructure to continue our growth."

SC Political News:

Greenville News: Senators to hear about gun issues in Greenville

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2016/09/14/senators-hear-gun-issues-greenville/90350246/>

Nathaniel Cary

A South Carolina Senate subcommittee of five sitting senators will hold a public hearing Thursday at Greenville County Square about gun issues. The forum has no specific design or agenda other than to hear from residents on issues related to guns in South Carolina. Senators expect to hear from a variety of residents with varying positions on guns, including advocates for Second Amendment rights, victims of domestic violence and other crimes or those who are for or against extending the waiting period for background checks when purchasing a gun in South Carolina, said Sen. Gerald Malloy, the subcommittee's chairman. The forum will be held from 6-8 p.m. at Greenville County Council Chambers, 301 University Ridge. "The format of the program is to hear from as many people as we can and to allow people to put input and to give us suggestions of what needs to be changed in South Carolina, if anything," Malloy said.

Associated Press: Judge who is wife of Chester County sheriff reprimanded

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DHWxMJ14

Jeffrey Collins

A Chester County magistrate who is the wife of the current sheriff has been publicly reprimanded by the South Carolina Supreme Court because she wasn't disclosing her relationship before every case she heard involving the sheriff's office. Angel Underwood accepted Wednesday's reprimand, promising she will tell all defendants at the start of their cases that her husband is Chester County Sheriff Alex Underwood and give them time to talk to a lawyer before having her preside over their hearing, according to the ruling from the justices. The reprimand points out there have been no complaints about Angel Underwood's decisions on bond amounts or other rulings. The Supreme Court lifted the interim suspension it gave Underwood in May 2015. The public reprimand will be Angel Underwood's only punishment as long as she follows the rules. She had been announcing her relationship before a court session started, but the justices said that wasn't enough.

The Herald: Chester judge, wife of sheriff, reprimanded by SC Supreme Court

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article101787222.html>

Andrew Dys

The S.C. Supreme Court issued a public reprimand and lifted the suspension Wednesday against Chester County Magistrate Judge Angel Underwood, wife of Sheriff Alex Underwood. The court said Underwood had handled more than 100 cases in which she should have told parties involved she was married to the county's sheriff. Underwood, a judge in Chester since 2011, can return to the bench immediately. Underwood referred questions to her lawyer, Stanley Myers of Columbia, who said she is "happy to return to her duties" and could be back on the bench later this week. She "appreciates the court's decision," Myers said. The investigation and ruling clearly show that while she "complied with the spirit of the law," Myers said, Judge Underwood did not comply with technical disclosures in some cases and will handle that disclosure properly from now on.

The State: Challenge to Murphy's bid for Lex-Rich 5 board moves to courtroom

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article101846452.html>

Tim Flach

Two Lexington-Richland 5 School Board members are asking a judge to take anti-tax crusader Kim Murphy off the Nov. 8 ballot. It's the latest step by Robert Gantt and Ed White to thwart Murphy's effort to rejoin a board that ousted her in 2013 for alleged nonresidency in Richland County as required for the seat. The two filed suit after Richland County election officials declined to disqualify Murphy in the nonpartisan school board contest. Gantt and White cite an updated state survey of county borders in the Chapin area that determined Murphy lives in Lexington County, a decision she is challenging. The seven board members oversee schools with 17,000 students on the north side of Lake Murray.

Aiken Standard: Senators provide legislative review at club's meeting

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160914/160919747/senators-provide-legislative-review-at-clubx2019s-meeting>

Christina Cleveland

S.C. Senate Majority Leader Shane Massey said at the Aiken Republican Club luncheon Wednesday that state lawmakers left the Statehouse this year without completely solving the problem regarding the state's crumbling infrastructure. "We did not solve the problem. We made a big step, right?" Massey said at the luncheon, where he and state Sen. Tom Young provided a legislative presentation about the most recent session. "I don't want to discount what we've done, because I think we were able to do some very important things and we moved it in the right direction, but we have not solved the problem," Massey, an Edgefield Republican, said. "This issue is not going away." In the presentation involving a review of the last session, Young and Massey also talked about issues that could come up again in 2017, one of which includes the state's roads and bridges.

The Herald : Mulvaney, Person say economy a priority for 5th District voters

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160914/mulvaney-person-say-economy-priority-for-5th-district-voters?rssfeed=true>

Bob Montgomery

Both candidates in South Carolina's 5th Congressional District have a keen interest in who becomes the next president "A lot of the stuff I want to accomplish would require Donald Trump winning the presidency," said incumbent Republican U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney of Rock Hill. Mulvaney's Democratic opponent, Fran Person of Tega Cay, is a former aide to Vice President Joe Biden and a supporter of Hillary Clinton. The district includes York and Cherokee counties and portions of Spartanburg and Union counties. Both candidates say the effectiveness of the next president could depend on which party controls Congress.

The Herald : Deplorables? Clinton slams 'half the country' and many don't like it

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andrew-dys/article101860752.html>

Andrew Dys

David Neely stood for hours to get a good seat for Donald Trump's appearance in January at Winthrop Coliseum. A Vietnam combat veteran who retired after decades at Celanese textile mill, David Neely is a reflection of the toughness and hard work and compassion of York County. And he supports Donald Trump. Not all the way, not on everything, but he sides with Trump a lot more than Hillary Clinton who dropped napalm on guys like David Neely by calling half of Trump's supporters "deplorables." "I don't like a lot of what Mr. Trump says and how he says it, but here Mrs. Clinton is talking about half the country saying we are deplorable," Neely said. "I don't like it one bit." Neely wants a safer America with tough borders and respect for all people of all colors and religions. He fought for those values. He worked alongside people for so long for those same values. He simply sees Trump as better for the country than Clinton – for all people.

SC Agency News:

Greenville News : DDSN director warns providers over medication training

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/14/ddsn-director-warns-providers-over-medication-training/90346994/>

Tim Smith

The director of the state's disabilities agency is warning providers not to allow untrained staff to administer medications to vulnerable adults in their care after officials discovered that some providers have discontinued the training. The letter from Beverly Buscemi, director of the state Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, is on the agenda for Thursday's meeting of DDSN commissioners. "DDSN's increased monitorship in this area discovered that several providers have discontinued training staff in one of the approved programs," Buscemi wrote. "If your agency is currently allowing unlicensed staff who have not successfully completed a DDSN approved medication technician certification program (to) administer medications, they must stop doing so immediately."

Post and Courier: County pushing for phased approach, no tolls for I-526

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919663/county-pushing-for-phased-approach-no-tolls-for-i-526>

Diane Knich

If Interstate 526 ever is completed it won't be as a toll road. Several Charleston County and city of Charleston officials at a press conference Wednesday said they are continuing to push for the

controversial highway extension, possibly by building it in phases. A first phase could extend the road from where it ends now in West Ashley to Maybank Highway on Johns Island. The officials said building the project as a toll road is not an option because that financing mechanism would require starting over the lengthy federal approval process. Charleston County Council Chairman Elliott Summey said at the press conference that he wants S.C. Transportation Bank board chairman Vince Graham by the end of the day Friday to schedule a board meeting so he can make a presentation on his plan and the board can vote on it.

WCIV: I-526 saga continues; county threatens legal action with Friday deadline

<http://abcnews4.com/news/local/526-saga-continues-county-threatens-legal-action-with-friday-deadline>

Stacey Jacobson

Charleston leaders called a news conference Wednesday to discuss a lack of progress in I-526 negotiations. They said the State Infrastructure Bank cancelled a meeting that was supposed to take place Tuesday. The bank's board would've met with local leaders including Charleston County Council Chair Elliott Summey and Mayor John Tecklenburg. "It's important to note, during the last 60 days we've met several times with the leadership of the bank board, including Vince Graham and their attorney Jim Holly. We've presented ideas for what we think the next steps should be. Their response so far has been they can't speak unilaterally for the board. Therefore, it's imperative we meet with the board," Summey said. "We have a compromise we want to present to the SIB board if they will only agree to meet with us. I think they will, but we need to have that meeting soon," Tecklenburg said. Summey blamed SIB Chair Vince Graham for cancelling the meeting. Rep. Chip Limehouse (R- Charleston), a member of the board, confirmed Summey's account. "The board is not united in its plan for 526. But enough board members want to see it happen, so we would work something out in a meeting," Limehouse said.

Aiken Standard : DHEC: Fox potentially exposes one person to rabies in Aiken County

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160914/160919776/dhec-fox-potentially-exposes-one-person-to-rabies-in-aiken-county>

Maayan Schechter

A fox has potentially exposed at least one person to rabies in Aiken County, according to state health officials. A statement from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control on Wednesday said one person has been referred to their health care provider for consultation after potentially being exposed to rabies by a fox that tested positive for the disease. The state agency said the fox attacked the victim Sept. 9 near the intersection of Outing Club and Vaucluse roads in Aiken. The fox was submitted to DHEC's lab for testing that same day, and was confirmed to have rabies Sept. 12. The fox is the third animal in Aiken County to test positive for rabies in 2016, bringing the total to 72 confirmed cases of animal rabies in South Carolina this year, officials said.

SC Law Enforcement News:

The State: Turbeville state corrections officer arrested for withholding information in attempted murder case

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article101838612.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A state prison correctional officer has been arrested for withholding from investigators information about the attempted murder of an inmate. Jasmine Karlisa Cook is facing charges of misconduct in office and accessory after the fact for an incident that took place Sept. 4 at Turbeville Correctional

Institution, where she worked as a correctional officer, according to the arrest warrant. The warrant states another officer told Cook the identity of the two inmates who were responsible for the incident and that she said "she would take care of the situation." But after being questioned and giving two written statements, Cook did not relay the information to investigators. Dexter Lee, spokesman for the agency, said the investigation is ongoing and additional warrants for other suspects are pending.

Post and Courier : Turbeville correctional officer accused of withholding information about attempted murder

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919659/turbeville-correctional-officer-accused-of-withholding-information-about-attempted-murder>

Maya T. Prabhu

An officer at Turbeville Correctional Institution was arrested Wednesday and charged in connection to an attempted murder probe at the prison. Jasmine Karlisa Cook, 28, was taken into custody after an investigation, said Dexter Lee with the S.C. Department of Corrections. She is charged with misconduct in office and accessory after the fact. According to arrest warrants, a fellow officer told Cook the names of two people who were involved in an attempted murder, but she did not disclose their identities during an investigation into the incident. She allegedly withheld the names from investigators when she was questioned Sept. 4 and in two written statements, according to the warrants.

Morning News: Dillon correctional officer pleads guilty to bribery charges

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_317621fe-7ab2-11e6-b1d7-0ff5d420011d.html

A former Federal correctional officer from Dillon pled guilty to bribery charges on Wednesday, Sept. 14 and could face 15 years in prison and \$250,000 in fines. Angela McLeod, 44, entered a guilty plea in federal court in Florence after evidence established McLeod was accepting bribes from inmates during her time as a correctional officer, according to Acting U.S. Attorney Beth Drake. In exchange for the bribes McLeod brought contraband, specifically tobacco, to inmates at the Federal Correctional Institution in Bennettsville from 2013 to 2015, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. The case was investigated by agents of the Office of Inspector General for the Department of Justice. Assistant United States Attorney A. Bradley Parham of the Florence office is prosecuting the case.

Morning News: Latta holding town council meeting, voting on Moore's termination

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_9bccd166-7ab6-11e6-8575-f3b4a8ca13dd.html

Jessica Imbimbo

The Town of Latta is holding a council meeting on Thursday, Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. during which the council will vote on Police Chief Crystal Moore's termination. Moore sent the official agenda to multiple news outlets on Wednesday afternoon, stating that the town council is planning to make a decision regarding her termination. Moore said the vote is being held because council "did not follow their town ordinance" when they allegedly fired her on Sept. 8. Town Administrator Jarret Taylor confirmed that a council meeting was scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday but did not disclose what the meeting's agenda would entail. Attempts were made to contact both Taylor and Town of Latta Attorney Janet Byrd about the details of the meeting, but neither could be reached for comment.

The State: Shoplifting hearing postponed for ex-trooper who shot motorist

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article101860482.html>

John Monk

A court hearing involving a shoplifting charge against former S.C. Highway Patrol trooper Sean

Groubert will not take place, at least for the time being. Groubert, 33, who was arrested with his wife, Morgan, was charged with shoplifting at Wal-Mart last October. According to an arrest warrant in the case, the two allegedly switched price tags on items they had bought. On Sept. 4, 2014, Groubert, once an S.C. Highway Patrol trooper of the year, was the subject of nationwide publicity when he shot an unarmed African-American man whom he had stopped for an alleged seat belt violation. In March, Groubert pleaded guilty to assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature in the shooting case. He is now awaiting sentencing. No court date has been set for either the shoplifting charge or the shooting-related sentencing.

Post and Courier: Illumination Project final list aims to heal police-community relations

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919681/illumination-project-final-list-aims-to-heal-police-community-relations>

Paul Bowers

At its first community listening session in March, the Charleston Illumination Project sought to answer a question that vexes police departments nationwide: How can we keep our streets safe while building a relationship of trust between officers and the citizens they serve? Thirty-two listening sessions later and after gathering the complaints and suggestions of 858 Charlestonians, the project presented a final list of 86 strategies to Charleston City Council on Tuesday night. They ranged from the mundane to the daring. Many of the strategies are already underway, including special training for officers on topics such as unconscious bias and cultural differences. "We are at a pivotal moment in our country as it relates to police trust and legitimacy," Police Chief Greg Mullen wrote in a letter to the mayor and City Council. "To do nothing is not an option; to engage in a journey that has been challenging, risky and has the potential to inform generations to come has been our responsibility and honor."

Post and Courier : Hassled by 'The Man' extends reach

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160915/160919670/hassled-by-the-man-extends-reach>

Frank Wooten

So what are you doing in this neighborhood? According to a black friend, a Mount Pleasant policeman asked him that question a few years ago in the very white Old Village. According to a white friend, a Charleston policeman asked him roughly the same question more than a few years ago in what was still the very black (it's since been significantly gentrified toward being more white) East Side. And as the first sentence of Part 1 of the "Watched" series reported on this newspaper's front page Wednesday: "Police forces across the United States are stockpiling massive databases with personal information from millions of Americans who crossed paths with officers but were not charged with a crime." And: "Law enforcement agencies have for decades used what's known as field interview or contact cards to document everything from sketchy activity to random encounters with people on the street. But the digital age has greatly expanded the power and reach of this tool, allowing police to store indefinitely reams of data on those who draw their interest — long after any potential link to a crime has evaporated."

Michael Slager Case:

Post and Courier: Prosecutors seek experts, test results from Michael Slager's defense team

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919668/prosecutors-seek-experts-test-results-from-michael-slagers-defense-team>

Andrew Knapp

Prosecutors asked defense lawyers on Wednesday to reveal the expert witnesses who will testify for

Michael Slager and the scientific test results that will be used in his murder trial this fall. Picking a jury to decide the former North Charleston officer's fate in state court could take time. He's charged in the April 2015 shooting death of Walter Scott that was captured on a video that spread worldwide. Making the defense experts and their backgrounds known ahead of the Halloween trial date should help ensure that prospective jurors have no ties to the witnesses, 9th Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson said in a court filing. Wilson also said the defense might use witnesses who have information "that is beyond (prosecutors') expertise," prompting a delay in the trial so the authorities can find their own experts.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Witness lists to be on church shooting jury questionnaire

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ccBbw4e6

SC State Wire

A federal judge wants the defense and prosecution each to provide a list of potential witnesses as jury screening begins in Dylann Roof's trial stemming from the Charleston church shootings. In a Tuesday order, U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel said he wants the lists included on a questionnaire to determine if potential jurors know any witnesses. The order says attorneys should make the lists available to the court but do not have to share them with the other side. The 22-year-old Roof faces the death penalty in his November federal trial on hate crimes and other charges stemming from the June 2015 slayings of nine people at Emanuel AME Church. A pool of 3,000 potential jurors begins reporting to the courthouse later this month for initial screening.

LGBT Laws:

Charlotte Observer : ACC pulls football title game from Charlotte over HB2

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/sports/college/article101788782.html>

Rick Rothacker and Katherine Peralta

The Atlantic Coast Conference has pulled this year's football title game from Charlotte amid the ongoing firestorm over North Carolina's House Bill 2, the latest sports-related blow stemming from the controversial law. The ACC game, which was to be played Dec. 3 at Bank of America Stadium, had been expected to draw tens of thousands of fans and pour millions of dollars into Charlotte's economy. The announcement by the Greensboro-based conference came two days after the NCAA said it would yank seven championship events out of North Carolina over the law passed in March that limits antidiscrimination protections for LGBT individuals. The NBA in July moved its 2017 All-Star Game from Charlotte over the law.

Associated Press: The Latest: Another N Carolina legislator suggests repeal

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Rap1twtl

SC State Wire

Another North Carolina Republican legislator is raising the prospect of repealing a law about LGBT rights that's caused the NCAA and Atlantic Coast Conference to pull championships from the state this week. Sen. Rick Gunn of Burlington said in a statement late Wednesday he's concerned about the effect House Bill 2 is having on the state and the region he represents and believes it's time to modify or possibly repeal it. The ACC is headquartered in nearby Greensboro, which is also where early rounds of the NCAA men's basketball tournament would have been held in March. A GOP senator from suburban Raleigh on Tuesday also urged repeal. Otherwise, Republican legislative leaders and Gov. Pat McCrory have defended the law robustly. Law supporters say it was designed to

keep men or boys from sharing school restrooms or locker rooms with girls. Gunn says federal courts should act to do that.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg County looking to bid on NCAA events <http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160914/spartanburg-county-looking-to-bid-on-ncaa-events?rssfeed=true>

Chris Lavender

Spartanburg County is considering making bids to host NCAA championship events for this season following the organization's decision to relocate those games from North Carolina. Chris Jennings, Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau executive vice president, said South Carolina and especially Spartanburg are likely to aggressively pursue potential opportunities to host some of the 2016-17 championship events. "We're actively looking at what has been made available by the NCAA," Jennings said. "We would need to partner with one of our host schools here." The NCAA Board of Governors decided on Monday to move all previously awarded championship events from North Carolina for 2016-17 in response to the state's House Bill 2, which requires people to use public bathrooms based on their gender at birth. The board emphasized that NCAA championships and events must promote an inclusive atmosphere for all college athletes, coaches, administrators and fans.

Greenville News: ACC presidents move championships out of North Carolina because of HB2 <http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/entertainment/arts/paul-hyde/2016/09/14/acc-presidents-move-championships-out-north-carolina-because-lgbt-bill/90360122/>

Ron Barnett and Mike Eads

The state of North Carolina took another hit Wednesday over its controversial LGBT bathroom law, with the Atlantic Coast Conference pulling all neutral-site championship games that had been scheduled there out of the state for the rest of the academic year. The move, which follows similar action by the NCAA a day earlier, means if Clemson makes it back to the league championship game in football again this year, it won't be played in Charlotte, where the Tigers won the title last year. The presidents of the member institutions, meeting in Clemson, issued a statement saying the law is "inconsistent" with the league's values of non-discrimination. "As members of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the ACC Council of Presidents reaffirmed our collective commitment to uphold the values of equality, diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination," the statement says.

Post and Courier : Palmetto State poised to pursue NCAA, ACC events moved out of North Carolina <http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919666/palmetto-state-poised-to-pursue-ncaa-acc-events-moved-out-of-north-carolina>

Jeff Hartsell

With the NCAA and ACC pulling championship events out of North Carolina this week, Palmetto State officials are poised to pounce on some of those games and tournaments. In response to North Carolina's controversial HB2 law — the "bathroom bill" — first the NCAA and then the ACC announced they would remove championship events from the Tar Heel state in the 2016-17 academic year. Those include the lucrative NCAA's first- and second-round games of the men's basketball tournament in Greensboro, and the ACC football championship game set for Dec. 3 in Charlotte. Other events on the move include the NCAA Division I women's soccer, golf and lacrosse championships, and the ACC women's basketball and baseball tournaments.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard : Aiken official: Savannah River Site's MOX purposefully left out of NNSA discussion

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160914/160919745/aiken-official-savannah-river-sitex2019s-mox-purposefully-left-out-of-nnsa-discussion>

Thomas Gardiner

The speaker from the National Nuclear Security Administration at the Energy Communities Alliance meeting in Arlington, Virginia, this week intentionally snubbed the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, under construction at the Savannah River Site, one Aiken official said. Due to its relation to the Site, Aiken has delegate members that make up the ECA, an organization of local governments adjacent to or affected by Department of Energy activities that meet to discuss issues, establish policy positions and promote community interests. On Tuesday, Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce President and CEO David Jameson and Aiken County Councilman Chuck Smith were both in attendance, where National Nuclear Administration Principal Deputy Administrator Madelyn Creedon addressed NNSA projects nationwide. But Jameson said even with Smith, who is the current ECA chairman, seated just down the table from her, Creedon deliberately passed over the MOX project.

Aiken Standard: Radioactive leak, other Savannah River Site concerns cited by report

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160914/160919731/radioactive-leak-other-savannah-river-site-concerns-cited-by-report>

Thomas Gardiner

In a report dated Aug. 12, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board listed a number of issues at the Savannah River Site, including both major management and operations contract companies (Savannah River Nuclear Solutions and Savannah River Remediation). The report noted concerns at both H Canyon and K Area, two primary activity areas for SRNS missions on site. H Canyon is the nation's only chemical separations facility for nuclear material; and K Area, sometimes referred to as the Fort Knox of nuclear material, is the storage area for plutonium, including approximately 7 metric tons that are subject to a non-proliferation and plutonium disposition agreement with Russia. H Canyon recently completed a new receiving bay, called the truck well, to accept the controversial liquid radioactive waste from Chalk River in Ontario, Canada.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: S.C. Democrats: 'Enough is enough'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160915/160919650/sc-democrats-enough-is-enough>

Editorials

In March 1854, 30 opponents of slavery gathered in Ripon, Wisconsin. These objectors recognized that America's future prosperity depended on its ability to expand opportunity to as many people as possible. They understood that this goal could only be achieved if the union, increasingly polarized by slavery and talks of secession, was preserved and secured. It was there that the Republican Party was born. In 2016, however, that same party now stands for division, exclusion and isolation. Donald Trump enjoys support of white nationalists, praises the tactics of autocrats (while also employing some of their supporters), advocates trade wars and tax cuts for the rich, and preaches a message of hate toward Mexicans and Muslims. Here in South Carolina, we have observed firsthand the deterioration of the Party of Lincoln into the Party of Trump. Democrats say, "Enough is enough." Our party offers a better way to bring opportunity, security and unity to South Carolina. S.C. Republicans have controlled the Governor's Mansion and both chambers of the General Assembly continuously since 2003.

NOTE: Just as Donald Trump would fail to unite us as one America, Republicans have failed to unite us as one South Carolina. Gov. Nikki Haley has talked a good game, saying in her State of the State

address that we are all brothers and sisters. But actions speak louder than words, and Republicans have allowed far too many South Carolinians to endure hardships they would never allow their own brothers and sisters to endure.

Post and Courier : 'Wake Up' to the opioid threat

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160915/160919652/wake-up-to-the-opioid-threat>

Editorial

For almost 50 years, the country has been at war with drugs. Even those in command agree it has failed. So good for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) that it is trying something new against the deadly enemy. It recently launched Wake Up, a campaign to end heroin and opioid deaths and abuse. Wake Up is different from the DEA's customary approach, which focuses on enforcing laws, making arrests and working internationally to reduce the availability of drugs in the U.S. This new program, introduced to Charleston last week, takes an approach that is more supportive than retributive. It aims to get parents, local police, coroners, chaplains and community members to spread the word about opioid use and the tragic number of deaths it causes. Sadly, the story tells itself. With 129 people per day across the nation dying from drug overdoses plenty of people have first-hand knowledge of one or more of them.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Julia weakens to tropical depression off US East Coast

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

SC State Wire

Julia has weakened to a tropical depression off South Carolina after bringing steady rains, but not the torrential downpours and widespread flooding that had been feared, to the coast of the Southeast from Florida to the Carolinas. The depression's maximum sustained winds early Thursday had decreased to near 35 mph (56 kph) with little change in strength forecast over the next two days. The National Weather Service forecast that most of the rain would now remain out at sea. As of 5 a.m. EDT, Julia was centered about 60 miles (96 kilometers) south-southeast of Charleston. The storm was forecast to meander and then dissipate offshore in the next few days. Flood watches were dropped for the South Carolina coast Thursday although forecasters issued a small craft advisory for waters near the shore and said there was a danger of rip currents along the coast through Thursday evening.

Associated Press: Tropical Storm Julia meanders near South Carolina, Georgia

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cwQzOb3W

SC State Wire

Slow-moving Tropical Storm Julia is expected to meander along the Atlantic coast where Georgia and South Carolina meet, dumping rain, but not posing major threats. Forecasters at the National Hurricane Center reported Wednesday evening that the storm to bring 2 to 4 inches of rain to the South Carolina coast. Earlier forecasts estimated twice as much rain. Still, any rain could pose a risk of flooding in an area soaked by Hermine less than two weeks ago. Schools and government offices remained open as the storm, which formed late Tuesday afternoon along Florida's Atlantic coast, skirted across Jacksonville and moved north, bringing rain and tropical winds to much of southern Georgia.

Post and Courier: Heaviest rain is over as Julia weakens to tropical depression

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160915/160919633/heaviest-rain-is-over-as-julia-weakens-to->

tropical-depression-

Angie Jackson

A coastal flood advisory remains in effect until 9 a.m., but meteorologists say the heaviest rain is over after Julia weakened to a tropical depression Thursday. Lowcountry residents are waking up to a chance of showers and 15-20 mph winds that could produce 30 mph gusts in coastal areas. Bob Bright, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Charleston, said the storm has weakened far enough offshore that it shouldn't inundate the area with rain. As of 5 a.m., the storm was crawling east at 2 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. It is expected to meander off the coast of Georgia and South Carolina for the next few days. "Some of the rain could be heavy at times, but we're not expecting what we saw yesterday," Bright said of Thursday's weather. Still, forecasters were cautioning of the possibility for shallow coastal flooding around high tide, which was projected to be between 6 and 7 feet around 7 a.m.

Associated Press: Scientists warn of deluges, droughts in Carolinas

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

SC State Wire

Experts warn the Carolinas will face droughts and deluges in coming years. The Charlotte Observer reported (<http://bit.ly/2cttsvv>) that scientists, farmers and water managers met in Charlotte this week to try to figure out how to deal with coming dry weather. And the sudden deluges the experts say will become more common. They cited the extensive flooding in South Carolina last October that was the worst weather disaster to hit the state since Hurricane Hugo in 1989. They also point to the more than 2 feet of rain in three days that fell in Louisiana last month. Susan White with the University of North Carolina's Water Resources Research Institute says the Southeast faces a future of too much water, too little water and water coming at the wrong times.

The State: S.C. emergency officials, military review flood response

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article101908357.html>

Bristow Marchant

For two years, South Carolina's emergency responders and its federal military installations worked to coordinate their responses in the event of a disaster. Last year, that disaster came, in the form of an historic flood that swamped the Midlands. Now with the one-year anniversary of the flood coming up, federal, state and local representatives sat down again Wednesday in West Columbia to discuss their response and plan for South Carolina's next major disaster – with Tropical Storm Julia threatening to dump even more water onto the state. "To make it more realistic, we've cooked up a tropical storm," joked Kim Stenson, director of the S.C. Emergency Management Division, in opening the third annual seminar on the mutual support of local government and military installations at the emergency management headquarters. Both civilians and soldiers credit the ongoing meetings with improving the state's response to last year's flooding crisis.

Post and Courier: South Carolina helps tell African-American history at new national museum

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919653/south-carolina-helps-tell-african-american-history-at-new-national-museum>

Emma Dumain

A slave cabin, transported from Edisto Island and reconstructed piece by piece, is one of the crown jewels of the new National Museum of African American History and Culture. "We see the cabin as an artifact with many, many lives within it," said Nancy Bercaw, one of the museum curators. "Whenever I go near the cabin, I try to peak in the door — I'm not allowed to any more — and I try to see if those lives still speak to me." Reporters got a preview Wednesday of the newest addition to the Smithsonian

Institution, 10 days before the grand opening ceremonies where thousands of visitors will descend on the nation's capital. There are hundreds of totems throughout the museum that burn with the legacy of the black experience in America, from the transatlantic slave trade to the inauguration of the first African-American president and many things in-between. There's Nat Turner's Bible, brittle with age. There are the shards of glass from the 1963 bombing of the Birmingham Church that killed four girls. And also the boxing gloves of Cassius Clay, aka Muhammad Ali.

Island Packet: USMC: Days before death, recruit told Parris Island officials of suicide plans

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/bg-military/article101621322.html>

Wade Livingston

Five days before his fatal three-story plunge, Raheel Siddiqui told personnel at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island he planned to jump to his death. On the morning of March 13, Siddiqui, a Marine recruit, told someone in his platoon he wanted to kill himself, according to a Marine Corps official close to the death investigation who spoke on background Tuesday afternoon. When asked how he would kill himself, Siddiqui said he would "jump out of the squad bay window" and, if necessary, "cut the screen window" before doing so, the official said. Siddiqui, a 20-year-old Taylor, Mich., native, died March 18 from injuries sustained in a nearly 40-foot fall at his barracks. A recent Marine Corps command investigation — one of three linked to his death — determined he killed himself. The Naval Criminal Investigative Service continues to investigate the matter. Siddiqui's family disputes the Corps' claim of suicide and feels their son was "targeted and intentionally abused," according to a statement provided Tuesday by the family's attorney, Shiraz Khan.

Local News:

Associated Press: Authorities: Man threatens to kill domestic violence victim

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DTM1Ng2h

SC State Wire

Greenville County authorities are searching for a man who they say threatened the victim of a domestic violence incident. Department of Probation and Parole spokesman Peter O'Boyle tells local media that 47-year-old Raymond Roberson violated a permanent restraining order. Roberson has previous domestic violence charges. O'Boyle says that on Sept. 3, Roberson put a letter in the victim's mailbox saying "he was going to kill them all." Authorities believe the victim and a child "are in imminent danger." Roberson is 5 feet, 8 inches tall and about 190 pounds with brown hair and blue eyes. He has a tattoo of a snake wrapped around a rose on his right arm, and a heart and banner tattoo on his left arm. Anyone who sees Roberson is asked to contact authorities immediately.

Associated Press : Suspicious death investigated in Jonesville

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

SC State Wire

Authorities are investigating the death of a Jonesville man and say foul play may have been involved. Media outlets report that the body of 38-year-old Kenneth Therrell was found Wednesday afternoon lying on the road of a Jonesville neighborhood. Union County Sheriff David Taylor says Therrell's death appears to be suspicious. Investigators haven't determined whether Therrell was killed at the scene, or if he was brought there after he was already dead. An autopsy to determine the cause and manner of death has been scheduled for Thursday morning. Anyone with information on Therrell's death is asked to notify law enforcement.

Associated Press : Officer, driver attacked in South Carolina school bus fight

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

SC State Wire

Two South Carolina teens have been charged after a school resource officer and a bus driver were attacked during a school bus fight. Newberry County Sheriff Lee Foster said in a statement that two 14-year-old boys started fighting on a bus Wednesday morning. The sheriff said the school resource officer got on the bus and tried to help the bus driver break up the fight. Foster said one of the boys jumped on the officer's back and hit her several times. The sheriff said she was able to get both boys under control and take them into custody. She suffered a wrist injury. One boy is charged with fighting and assaulting a police officer while resisting arrest. He's been taken to the Department of Juvenile Justice in Columbia. The other teen is charged with fighting.

The State: Dreher students taken to hospital after school bus is sideswiped

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article101856672.html>

Cynthia Roldan

Eight students were taken to the hospital Wednesday after a school bus was sideswiped by a vehicle, a district official said. Dreher High School students were riding on a bus on South Beltline Boulevard at Rosewood Drive when a vehicle sideswiped the bus, said Karen York, spokeswoman for Richland County School District I. Eight of 27 students who were on the bus reported suffering from back and neck pain and were taken to the hospital. The Columbia Police Department continues to investigate.

Greenville News: 5-year-old slugs, injures teacher at Augusta Circle, officials say

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/09/14/5-year-old-assaults-injures-teacher-augusta-circle-district-says/90372802/>

Nahaniel Cary

Greenville Police are investigating after a 5-year-old student assaulted and injured a teacher at Augusta Circle Elementary School in Greenville on Wednesday, according to Greenville County Schools. "Because of the severity of the injuries and as required by statute, law enforcement was notified and is investigating," Beth Brotherton, school district spokeswoman, said. "The student has been suspended." The Greenville Police department responded to the school but the boy had gone home by the time officers arrived, said Gilberto Franco, Greenville Police spokesman. "The teacher reported she was struck several times by the student," Franco said. The police department's juvenile detectives will investigate the incident, he said.

The State: USC sororities propose banning liquor, events in Five Points

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article101763272.html>

Cassie Cope

The University of South Carolina's Sorority Council is proposing to ban liquor at social events and end events being held in Columbia's bar-heavy Five Points entertainment district. The proposed restrictions could be adopted by a two-thirds vote of sorority chapters, according to a USC Sorority Council statement. "In the short few weeks that we have been back at school, our community has seen a significant increase in high risk behaviors," according to the statement. "A large number of our members have been found in very dangerous situations and this has caused many to question the current way our community functions." The proposal comes after Five Points-area residents complained of USC students' behavior, including naked or partially clothed students in their neighborhood.

The State: USC AD Tanner to add role as student mentor <http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article101772957.html>

Avery G. Wilks

The University of South Carolina has called Ray Tanner's number to coach up the school's student body about proper behavior. The USC athletics director, who led the Gamecocks' baseball team to back-to-back national championships in 2010 and 2011, has accepted an additional role at USC as a student mentor, president Harris Pastides said Wednesday. "When he does talk to the broader student body, he has huge respect," Pastides said after his State of the University address Wednesday. "I'm looking for someone who is impactful." The announcement comes amid increased attention to poor student behavior at USC and nationwide. However, Pastides and Tanner said the move is not a reaction to recent incidents at USC.

Post and Courier: USC athletics director becomes campus mentor after bad student behavior
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160914/160919667/usc-athletics-director-becomes-campus-mentor-after-bad-student-behavior>

Andy Shain

The University of South Carolina has called in the Gamecocks' athletics director to mentor students campuswide about proper behavior after a spate of discipline problems. Ray Tanner, who won two NCAA national championships as the Gamecocks baseball coach, will add duties with the school's student affairs office because he is so well respected at the state's flagship college, USC President Harris Pastides said Wednesday. "I'm looking for someone who will be impactful," Pastides said shortly after announcing the athletics director's new duties during his annual State of the University address.

Associated Press : Anita Hill giving lecture at University of South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9tMjQA9j

SC State Wire

A woman who famously accused then-U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexual harassment more than two decades ago is in South Carolina to speak about one of the court's recent decisions. The University of South Carolina says Anita Hill is the featured speaker on Thursday at the Adrenée Glover Freeman Lecture. The school says Hill is discussing how the high court's recent decision confirming the 1968 Fair Housing Act could change the way housing, employment and education bias cases are argued. This year marks the 25th anniversary of Hill's testimony during Thomas' confirmation hearings. Hill publicly accused Thomas of making sexually inappropriate comments when she worked for him. Thomas denied Hill's allegations. Hill is currently a professor of law, public policy and women's studies at Brandeis University.

Associated Press: Religious freedoms attorney to speak at Bob Jones University

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=903T4JVp

SC State Wire

An attorney who has made a career out of arguing in favor of religious freedoms is speaking at an evangelical Christian college in South Carolina. Bob Jones University officials say Jay Sekulow is headlining the school's Presidential Leadership Series on Thursday. The address is scheduled for 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. It's entitled "Liberty and the American Ideal." Sekulow is chief counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice and the European Centre for Law and Justice. Organizers say he has argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in numerous cases involving religious liberty.

Associated Press: Hopkins addresses Swinney's comments on anthem protest

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

SC State Wire

Former Clemson star DeAndre Hopkins said he respects Tigers coach Dabo Swinney. The Houston Texans receiver also made it clear that he thinks Swinney's recent comments about 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick's anthem protest showed a lack of understanding. "You can't speak on something unless you've been put in that situation," Hopkins told The Associated Press. "I wouldn't speak on something about something else if I had no idea what was going on or how they felt because I couldn't relate to it. So I don't suggest anybody else do it." Swinney talked at length about Kaepernick's protest Tuesday and said he wouldn't discipline his players for protesting the national anthem because they have that right. However, that's a moot point at Clemson because players remain in the locker room while the anthem is played.

Morning News : Education must be 'accessible, affordable and excellent,' leaders say at Florence meeting

http://www.scnw.com/news/education/article_76ed1e7c-7ad5-11e6-9d8d-9b8c7f3d34de.html

Joe Perry

Community leaders gathered at the Florence Civic Center early Wednesday morning to hear from three of the Pee Dee's educational heavyweights: Francis Marion University President Fred Carter, Florence-Darlington Technical College President Ben Dillard and Hood Temple, representative of the 7th District for the Commission on Higher Education. The event was sponsored by the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce. Dillard and Carter gave updates on what programs and initiatives their institutions are undertaking or ramping up. "Everything that we do at Florence-Darlington Tech revolves around workforce development," Dillard said. "We've got a lot of exciting things going on. "Preparing students for college even before they exit the K-12 system is getting a huge push now," Dillard said.

The State: Columbia could again see floods like last year's <http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article101893977.html>

Sammy Fretwell

The deluge that swamped South Carolina almost a year ago showed people in the Columbia area that flooding isn't just a coastal issue — which is a lesson folks should never forget, scientists and weather experts said Wednesday. Columbia, the state's largest city, suffered extensive damage last October when the massive storm hovered over South Carolina and dropped more than 1.5 feet of rain in 24 hours on the Midlands. Thousands of people fled to higher ground as creeks rose in heavily developed parts of the area. Dams from Lexington to Forest Acres burst and streams spilled their banks. Water reached the rooftops of many homes, while intersections flooded. Nine people died in the disaster. Hope Mizzell, South Carolina's state climatologist, said the public needs to be prepared for the next storm.

Aiken Standard: Aiken County hosts FEMA flood insurance rate maps open house

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160914/160919744/aiken-county-hosts-fema-flood-insurance-rate-maps-open-house->

Christina Cleveland

With the recent rain events causing heavy rains and the potential for flooding in the state, residents in Aiken County have a way to learn about their flood risk. On Wednesday, Aiken County government hosted a public open house on revisions to the FEMA flood insurance rate maps. Among other things, residents who attended the open house in Aiken were able to learn what their flood risk is and ask questions about flood insurance or the three-year mapping study conducted by AECOM. For Aiken County, Maria Lamm, state NFIP coordinator at the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, said

there were two areas that were studied, mainly on the Savannah River, including 11 miles on the Savannah River, as well as the Savannah River Site, which was unmapped because it is federal property. Lamm said the open houses are being held in areas in the state where mapping studies are being finished so residents can be informed and ask questions.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Clinton back on campaign trail after releasing health info

<http://bigstory.ap.org/91becc7fea574021bfce8e29e15afaa2>

Julie Pace and Lisa Lerer

Hillary Clinton returns to the campaign trail Thursday following a bout of pneumonia that sidelined her for three days and revived questions about both the Democratic nominee and Republican Donald Trump's transparency regarding their health. Clinton's campaign responded with a new letter from her doctor Wednesday declaring her "fit to serve" as president and recovering well from her recent illness. The letter — the first substantial update on her health in more than a year — details the medications she is taking, her cholesterol levels and other results from a physical exam. Trump says he, too, plans to release details from a recent physical, though it's unclear when that will happen and how much information he will provide. So far, the businessman has only released a widely mocked letter from his longtime physician declaring he would be the healthiest president in history.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama will create first marine national monument in Atlantic

<http://bigstory.ap.org/4ca31b2435e34c88b27d1368917dad42>

Kevin Freking

President Barack Obama will establish on Thursday the first national marine monument in the Atlantic, a move that's designed to permanently protect nearly 5,000 square miles of underwater canyons and mountains off the coast of New England. The White House said the designation will lead to a ban on commercial fishing, mining and drilling, though a 7-year exception will occur for the lobster and red crab industries. Also, recreational fishing will be allowed within the monument. The designation of the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument marks the 27th time Obama has acted to create or expand a national monument. As he prepares to complete his presidency, Obama has made frequent use of the authorities granted under the Antiquities Act, much to the delight of environmental groups but to the consternation of some lawmakers and industry groups.

Associated Press: Safety recommendations unfulfilled 7 years after Flight 1549

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fcbc48b46d6749d388597c4007a41bf9>

Joan Lowy

More than seven years after an airline captain saved 155 lives by ditching his crippled airliner in the Hudson River, now the basis of a new movie, most of the safety recommendations stemming from the accident haven't been carried out. Of the 35 recommendations made by the National Transportation Safety Board in response to the incident involving US Airways Flight 1549, only six have been successfully completed, according to an Associated Press review of board records. Fourteen of the recommendations issued to the Federal Aviation Administration and its European counterpart, EASA, are marked by the NTSB as "closed-unacceptable." One has been withdrawn, and the rest remain unresolved. The movie "Sully," which opened in theaters last week, celebrates how veteran pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, played by Tom Hanks, along with his co-pilot, flight

attendants, air traffic controllers, ferry boat operators and first responders did their jobs with professionalism and competence, averting a potential tragedy. The plane lost thrust in both engines after colliding with a flock of Canada geese shortly after takeoff from LaGuardia Airport in New York. No one died, and only five people were seriously injured.

Associated Press: Suspect in mosque fire had made anti-Islamic Facebook posts

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c2f8191d7b774e57aafcbd8a6f7b34b9>

Terry Spencer

about two months before Joseph Michael Schreiber allegedly tried to burn down a mosque sometimes attended by Orlando nightclub shooter Omar Mateen, he posted on Facebook that "All Islam is radical" and that all Muslims should be treated as terrorists and criminals. Schreiber, 32, was arrested without incident Wednesday afternoon and was being interrogated by investigators looking into the fire set late Sunday at the Islamic Center of Fort Pierce, said Maj. David Thompson of the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office. A July post placed on Facebook by Schreiber, who is Jewish, stated that, "IF AMERICA truly wants peace and safety and pursuit of happiness they should consider all forms of ISLAM as radical. ... ALL ISLAM IS RADICAL, and should be considered TERRORIST AND CRIMINALS (sic) and all hoo (sic) participate in such activity should be found guilty of WAR CRIM (sic) until law and order is restored in this beautiful free country."

World News:

Associated Press: Obama's vow to lift economic sanctions welcomed in Myanmar

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8708f1d116c24f389500daa744cb0502>

Esther Htusan

Myanmar economists and businessmen on Thursday welcomed President Barack Obama's announcement that the U.S. will lift economic sanctions and restore long-lost trade benefits to the Southeast Asian country as it emerges from half a century of oppressive military rule. The nation of more than 50 million is rich in natural resources, and before a military coup in the early 1960s it was among the region's stronger economies. Today it's among Asia's least developed and poorest countries, with more than a quarter of the population living in poverty. Experts hope the lifting of sanctions helps change that by making it easier for U.S. companies to invest and do business here. "There will be more trading and investment as the result of lifting sanctions on our country. It will really benefit the citizens of this country and be a great hope for Myanmar's economic development," said Khin Maung Nyo, a Myanmar economist.

Associated Press: Syria's cease-fire holding but aid hasn't reached Aleppo yet

<http://bigstory.ap.org/29f0adc8549a4055b889227a6af2e273>

Activists say Syria's cease-fire is still holding despite some violations but aid has not yet reached besieged rebel-held neighborhoods of the northern city of Aleppo. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says government forces and opposition fighters are now ready to withdraw from the Castello road, a main artery into Aleppo, to hand it over to Russian troops. It says Thursday that government forces will not start pulling out until the rebels begin to do the same. The cease-fire that went into effect Monday is part of a U.S.-Russia agreement that also calls for allowing humanitarian aid to reach besieged areas in Aleppo. The U.N says some 20 trucks carrying U.N aid and destined for rebel-held Aleppo remained in the customs area on the border with Turkey on Wednesday.

Associated Press : Witness says Philippine president ordered killings of 1,000

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f4079273e0ae4ec8af6da0f68e28ea84>

Jim Gomez and Teresa Cerojano

A former Filipino militiaman testified before the country's Senate on Thursday that President Rodrigo Duterte, when he was still a city mayor, ordered him and other members of a liquidation squad to kill criminals and opponents in gangland-style assaults that left about 1,000 dead. Edgar Matobato, 57, told the nationally televised Senate committee hearing that he heard Duterte order some of the killings, and acknowledged that he himself carried out about 50 deadly assaults as an assassin, including a suspected kidnapper fed to a crocodile in 2007 in southern Davao del Sur province. Rights groups have long accused Duterte of involvement in death squads, claims he has denied, even while engaging in tough talk in which he stated his approach to criminals was to "kill them all." Matobato is the first person to admit any role in such killings, and to directly implicate Duterte under oath in a public hearing.

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