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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, September 22, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Times and Democrat: Haley, Staley efforts help students

http://thetandd.com/news/local/haley-staley-efforts-help-students/article_34552f94-cd8e-5816-95ba-8c1161b8bc33.html

Dale Linder-Altman

Richard Carroll Elementary School students thanked Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday for helping them with their homework. The fifth- and sixth-graders are enrolled in a pilot afterschool program the governor helped implement this year. The students say it lets them get the help they need away from distractions. Sixth-grader Makayla Banks said the program, "is good so far. We learn a lot of new stuff ... and I hope they'll keep it going every year." Makayla says she can already tell her grades are getting better. Math teacher Terry Collins and English language arts teacher Arlene Crosby coordinate the program that was organized and funded by Haley's Original Six Foundation and Coach Dawn Staley's INNERSOLE. It focuses on improving academic performance, especially in science, technology and math. It leaves instructors with flexibility to meet individual student needs in areas where they need help. The program also emphasizes character building by incorporating into each student activity lessons related to life skills, social development and community outreach.

NOTE: The Original Six Foundation is a non-profit organization created by Haley soon after she took office in 2011. It's a statewide initiative to empower and lift up rural communities in South Carolina.

NOTE: INNERSOLE is an international initiative with the goal of providing new sneakers to children who are homeless or in need. It was co-founded by University of South Carolina Women's Basketball Coach Dawn Staley, who is involved with Haley in the afterschool program.

Times and Democrat: Bourbon barrel maker welcomed to Bamberg

http://thetandd.com/news/local/bourbon-barrel-maker-welcomed-to-bamberg/article_cfffe5be-5cf1-58ba-9758-562f82eeab1f.html

Dionne Gleaton

Gov. Nikki Haley returned home Wednesday to celebrate the opening of Bamberg County's new barrel-making company

Black Water Barrels LLC is investing more than \$3.6 million in the former Zeigler automotive facility to produce white oak barrels for the growing bourbon industry. During a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Black Water President Greg Pierce thanked the people of Bamberg County and the surrounding areas for their warmth and support. "Everybody's been very helpful. It's made it easy. They knew who I was before I knew who they were.

Everybody's been outstanding. If I was in a big city, it wouldn't be like that," Pierce said. Black Water Barrels is expected to create up to 60 new jobs over the next five years. Haley spoke warmly of her native Bamberg.

NOTE: "It is still neighbors taking care of neighbors. It is still that hometown that I remember," she said. Haley praised Pierce for transforming the former auto dealership into something the community can be proud of. She also touted the area's workforce, particularly the 21 workers currently employed with the company.

NOTE: "This is a top-notch group. They're ready, they're excited and if we do this right, we're working with the Department of Tourism. We want this to be a destination site. We want this to be a place that people travel to," Haley said. "As we're continuing to try to bring more jobs and opportunities to Bamberg, this is a great way to add to that," she said.

NOTE: Haley said Pierce could not have picked a better location than Bamberg after looking at eight counties in three states.

NOTE: "You really have come to one of the sweet spots in the state, and I am personally committed to you in

every way to make sure this is a success. We were already -- as we were touring in the back -- talking about expansion," Haley said. "This is an industry that you don't see a lot of, especially in South Carolina. So now we're on the map."

Times and Democrat: VIDEO: Gov. Nikki Haley at Black Water Barrels, LLC in Bamberg

http://thetandd.com/news/gov-nikki-haley-at-black-water-barrels-llc-in-bamberg/youtube_4824bc4f-67b2-5be1-974b-41c43464dba5.html

Independent Mail: S.C. technical colleges want more funding

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/education/2016/09/21/sc-technical-colleges-want-more-funding/90793314/>

Mike Eads

State leaders tout South Carolina's technical colleges as essential to attracting manufacturing jobs to the state, while Tri-County Technical College and other schools look for ways to cope with rising enrollments and aging facilities. Officials with the state's technical college system are thinking about asking for more than \$300 million in new, one-time funding next year to address space and equipment needs at the 16 schools. According to a draft budget presentation being considered by S.C. Technical College System officials for next year, the two-year schools could use \$311.4 million to update their facilities — \$70.6 million for equipment purchases and \$240.8 million for building needs. "We must keep facilities and equipment up-to-date and cutting-edge. ... This request does not demonstrate our entire capital need, but does reflect the top priorities in meeting the demands of business and industry in high-demand STEM, manufacturing and health care fields," said Susan Winsor, interim president until Central Carolina Technical College President Tim Hardee takes over the technical college system later this year.

NOTE: A proposal for a \$200 million, state-issued bond bill to help the state's two- and four-year public colleges failed in this year's legislative session, due in part to opposition from Gov. Nikki Haley.

NOTE: Haley's staff is quick to point out, however, that more than \$65 million from the state's capital reserve fund was approved this year to cover technical college requests — including \$3.5 million for a new science and technology building at Williamsburg and another \$5 million for projects on Tri-County campuses.

NOTE: "Workforce development is one of the governor's top priorities, and that's why we proposed funding for tech school programs such as ReadySC and Pathways, and signed into law nearly \$65 million in capital projects for tech schools across the state last year," said Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams.

Independent Mail: Two years ago, Tucker Hipps died

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/09/21/two-years-ago-tucker-hipps-died/90796210/>

On Sept. 22, 2014, Clemson University student Tucker Hipps died under mysterious circumstances while on an early morning run with fraternity brothers. A memorial now stands on the U.S. 93 bridge over Lake Hartwell. It was under that bridge that Hipps' body was found that afternoon. Wrongful death lawsuits filed by Hipps' parents against the university, three fraternity members, and the national and local branches of the Sigma Phi Epsilon are still pending in court. Law enforcement has reported no breakthroughs in the investigation. Hipps' mother, Cindy Hipps, is now an anti-hazing advocate. "We will never move on, and certainly not without answers," said Cindy Hipps, of Piedmont. "We will always fight for the other 19-year-olds out there who have no idea what they may be faced with one day."

NOTE: Earlier this year, Gov. Nikki Haley signed the Tucker Hipps Transparency Act, which requires the state's public universities to track and report fraternity and sorority misdeeds every semester.

Herald-Journal: Joint venture to invest \$14M, create 60 jobs in Duncan

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160921/joint-venture-to-invest-14m-create-60-jobs-in-duncan?rssfeed=true>

Bob Montgomery

A Duncan manufacturer and Germany-based company have joined forces to seek a greater share of the worldwide market for lightweight plastic products made of recycled materials. A joint venture between William Barnet & Son of Duncan and Albis Plastic of Hamburg, Germany, will invest \$14 million and create 60 new jobs, officials for both companies announced Wednesday at a gathering in Duncan. The new venture is

called Albis Barnet Polymers LLC, with Albis Plastic as the major shareholder. "Recycling of high quality, engineered resins has a great future," said Kertsin Muller-Kirchhofs, chief financial officer of Albis Plastic. Barnet's CEO Bill McCrary said some of the recycled products produced by the venture will be used by companies that make lightweight plastic parts that end up in cars. Albis Barnet spokesman Chuck Hall said BMW's manufacturing plant in Greer is an example of an auto manufacturer in the U.S. that might use parts made of materials from the Duncan facility.

Associated Press: Company restarts gasoline pipeline after leak in Alabama

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

SC State Wire

Colonial Pipeline restarted the gasoline pipeline in Alabama that had been shut down because of a major leak, which caused shortages and surging fuel prices across the South. The pipeline was reopened Wednesday evening, company officials said in a statement. The pipeline leak was discovered Sept. 9 near Helena, Alabama, when state workers noticed a strong gasoline odor and sheen on a man-made retention pond. The preliminary report does not identify the cause as the federal investigation continues. It wasn't initially possible to pinpoint the leak, partly because highly flammable benzene and gasoline vapors prevented firefighters and inspectors from approaching the site for days. The pipeline section that failed, built in 1963, runs from Mississippi to Atlanta.

WACH: Repairs completed to broken pipeline that caused gas price hikes in SC

<http://wach.com/news/local/repairs-completed-to-broken-pipeline-that-caused-gas-price-hikes-in-sc>

Matthew Stevens

Colonial Pipeline has confirmed that a line that broke last week and spilled more than 250,000 gallons of gasoline has returned to service. Colonial Pipeline announced the line reopened at 6:40pm, Wednesday. Officials said it took several days of around-the-clock work to fix the line, which broke September 9. The company says it will take several days for fuel delivery to return to normal and some markets may experience intermittent interruptions. Following the pipeline break, states across the Southeast, including SC, saw gas prices rise and in some cases gas stations without fuel. Governor Nikki Haley said Tuesday that there was no need to panic as the state was far from a crisis.

Charlotte Protest Shooting:

Associated Press: Charlotte sees 2nd night of violence over police shooting

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3b220507d6dc4376b2477f4942babf7d>

Jeffrey Collins

Violent protesters rampaged through parts of downtown Charlotte as anger continued to build over the deadly police shooting of a black man and the wildly different stories about what happened from authorities and the victim's family and neighbors. North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency Wednesday night in the state's largest city and called in the National Guard after Charlotte's police chief said he needed the help. A peaceful prayer vigil turned into an angry march and then a night of violence after a protester was shot and critically wounded as people charged police in riot gear trying to protect an upscale hotel in Charlotte's typically vibrant downtown. Police did not shoot the man, city officials said. Video obtained and verified by The Associated Press, which was recorded right after the shooting, shows someone lying in a pool of blood as people scream and a voice yells for someone to call for help. People are then told to back up from the scene.

Charlotte Observer: Charlotte police protests: Governor declares state of emergency as violence erupts for second night

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/crime/article103175292.html>

Adam Bell, Mark Price and Katherine Peralta

Protests turned violent for a second night in Charlotte after Tuesday's fatal police shooting of a black man. Late Wednesday, Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency for the city and deployed the National Guard and State Highway Patrol troopers to assist local police. One person was shot at the protest and was

taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, Medic said. The city initially reported that he died, but later retracted that, saying he was on life-support. City leaders appealed for calm and promised a thorough investigation of the shooting that triggered hours of violent protest and shut down Interstate 85 on Tuesday. But the unrest continued Wednesday night, with police using tear gas to disperse hundreds of protesters who blocked the intersection of Trade and Tryon streets in the heart of uptown, then occupied the EpiCentre entertainment complex

Charlotte Observer: Calm in uptown Charlotte Thursday after second night of violent police protests; curfew being considered

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/crime/article103367547.html>

Adam Bell and Mark Price

The streets of uptown Charlotte were calm early Thursday following a second night of protests that turned violent in the wake of Tuesday's fatal police shooting of a black man. Charlotte Mayor Jennifer Roberts told Good Morning America Thursday that "the city is talking about a curfew." Roberts' office will discuss a possible curfew with city police and the National Guard Thursday, but as of yet, no curfew has been planned for Thursday night, city spokeswoman Ashley Simmons said. "We want people to know we are open for business today," Roberts said. "We are hoping for a peaceful day. We are preparing for this evening." She also said President Barack Obama called to say his thoughts are with the city, and offered whatever federal resources the city needed. Late Wednesday, Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency for Charlotte and deployed the National Guard and State Highway Patrol troopers to assist local police.

Charlotte Observer: Governor calls out National Guard as Charlotte police shooting protests continue

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/national/article103336577.html>

Ely Portillo, Joe Maruska and Katherine Peralta

Protests turned violent for a second night in Charlotte after Tuesday's fatal police shooting of a black man. Late Wednesday, Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency for the city and deployed the National Guard and State Highway Patrol troopers to assist local police. One person was shot at the protest and was taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, Medic said. The city initially reported that he died, but later retracted that, saying he was on life-support. Medic said on Twitter that it was treating the patient for a gunshot wound en route to Carolinas Medical Center at about 8:45 p.m. The person was shot in the area of North College and East Trade streets.

McClatchy DC: "We cannot return violence with violence" in Charlotte, black GOP senator says

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/article103352457.html>

Vera Bergengruen

As a second night of protests erupted in Charlotte, N.C. on Wednesday in the wake of a police-involved shooting of a black man, Sen. Tim Scott urged for calm to "come together as an American family" and find solutions. "We cannot return violence with violence, or allow our frustration and sadness to lead to more heartbreak," he wrote on Twitter on Wednesday evening, as news broke that a person had been shot at the protest by a civilian. The fatal shooting of a black man, Keith Lamont Scott, by police led to protests that injured 16 Charlotte officers on Tuesday. Just days earlier, a video showed police gunning down Terence Crutcher in Tulsa, Okla., as the unarmed man held up his hands. "The tragedies in Tulsa and Charlotte show us the full magnitude of the challenges we face as a nation when it comes to police and community relations," Scott said. "When we see video like the one from Tulsa, it is impossible not to acknowledge the issues at hand," he said. "When we lack video and have conflicting stories, such as in Charlotte, it only makes the case further for body cameras."

The State: Columbia TV station says reporters injured in Charlotte protests

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article103368577.html>

Jeff Kid

A photographer and a weekend anchor from Columbia television station WLTX were injured while covering violent protests in Charlotte on Wednesday, the station reported. Anchor Mary Sturgill, who is also a reporter for the station, tweeted that she was at Charlotte's Presbyterian Hospital after she was tackled and chief

photographer Eric Alkire were hurt. In an on-air report, the station said some of its equipment was damaged, as well. Sturgill and Alkire were treated on the scene, then taken to the hospital for additional treatment. Sturgill tweeted again early Thursday. Earlier in the evening, Sturgill broadcast some of the protests over Facebook Live.

Post and Courier: Violent protests in Charlotte rage on after peaceful Charleston vigil

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929908/violent-protests-in-charlotte-rage-on-after-peaceful-charleston-vigil>

Gregory Yee

As authorities continue to investigate the fatal police shooting of a Charleston native in Charlotte — an incident that sparked two nights of violent protests — family members say he didn't deserve to die. Keith Lamont Scott, 43, was raised in Charleston and attended James Island High School, said his mother, James Island resident Vernita Walker. Walker said her son would call her every day and that they spoke the day he was shot. She declined to comment on the shooting but said she plans to release a statement when enough time has passed. Daria Richardson, who identified herself as Scott's niece, said that her uncle was a family man who had been married for about 25 years and had seven children. "He was a very outgoing, spontaneous person," Richardson said. "He was very smart. He loved to dance. He loved to sing. It didn't matter what the situation was." Public address records show Scott lived in the Lowcountry through the early 2000s and was arrested more than a dozen times in the Charleston area.

WIS: Family of Keith Scott living in Midlands speaks out

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33153469/family-of-keith-scott-living-in-midlands-speak-out>

Billie Jean Shaw

Taking a closer look into the life of Keith Scott, we hear from his family in an exclusive interview about how they have been getting through the 24 hours since his death. The family says this has been a hard pill to swallow and they never thought Keith Scott's name would be reduced to a hashtag. Scott comes from a large family. He leaves behind seven children, seven siblings, and 34 nieces and nephews. Nayshondra Mercer, one of Scott's nieces, said he was in a near-death motorcycle crash last year and became disabled and had to walk with a cane. She said her uncle loved people, including law enforcement, and had a working relationship with them as a former security officer. "There isn't any ill will. He didn't have any bad blood, so to speak, with law enforcement because he actually worked alongside law enforcement," Mercer said. While the unrest in Charlotte surrounding Scott's death is expected to continue, his family has called for peace. However, they say they understand the frustrations of the protesters.

Michael Slager Case:

Post and Courier: In 'serious' Michael Slager case, deputies will deliver jury summonses, 'gain compliance'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929862/in-serious-michael-slager-case-deputies-will-deliver-jury-summonses-gain-compliance>

Andrew Knapp

In an unusual move, sheriff's deputies have been tasked with hand-delivering summonses to 500 prospective jurors before the murder trial of former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager. On Friday, the summonses and a questionnaire will start going out to Charleston County residents whose names were chosen at random, a court order stated. If deputies cannot serve the paperwork in person, it can be distributed by mail — the most common method of delivery. The potential jurors must fill out their questionnaires within five days and return them to the clerk of court. If they don't, the deputies will follow up "to gain compliance," Circuit Judge Clifton Newman said in the order. Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon said Wednesday that serving jury summonses is just one function of his agency. "Certainly in a serious case like this," he said, "you want to make sure people get the jury summons."

General Assembly News:

The State: State House corruption probe ongoing

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103297277.html>

Cassie Cope

Evidence that a probe into S.C. State House corruption is continuing emerged Wednesday with GOP leaders saying they support the House Republican Caucus cooperating with investigators. S.C. House GOP caucus leaders are cooperating with inquiries from the State Law Enforcement Division, said Assistant Majority Leader Gary Simrill, R-York. Simrill said he cannot comment on what SLED officers are investigating, citing an ongoing State Grand Jury investigation. But, he added, he supports the caucus fully cooperating with any and all SLED inquiries. "I certainly support transparency from the caucus point of view and the full cooperation with inquiries from SLED," said Simrill. House Majority Leader Bruce Bannister, R-Greenville, could not be reached for comment late Wednesday. In July, the S.C. Supreme Court ruled 4-1 that Attorney General Alan Wilson can not stop special prosecutor David Pascoe from investigating possible corruption in the General Assembly.

Post and Courier: Statehouse probe result of 'Lost Trust' ethics reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929843/statehouse-probe-result-of-lost-trust-ethics-reform->

Prentiss Findlay

The ongoing Statehouse probe aimed at weeding out public corruption has its roots in "Operation Lost Trust," the federal investigation that snared nearly 20 legislators more than two decades ago, the former U.S. attorney who handled the case said Wednesday. "The very Ethics Act which legislators are under investigation for violating now came about as a result of Operation Lost Trust. We laid the foundation for what's going on now," said Bart Daniel. But the investigations are quite different, he said. "Operation Lost Trust involved federal crimes, not state ethics violations," Daniel said. Lost Trust enlisted a lobbyist turned FBI informant to offer bribes to legislators. Daniel and two other attorneys who played key roles in Lost Trust, Gedney Howe and Ed Bell, were part of a Charleston School of Law forum on Wednesday.

Associated Press: Justices to continue overseeing education funding case

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=y7MS9hEB

Seanna Adcox

The Legislature must report back to the state Supreme Court next summer on its progress complying with the justices' 2014 order to fix South Carolina's education system. While applauding legislators' "studied and dedicated approach," justices rejected GOP leaders' request last month that the high court end its oversight on the 23-year-old case over adequate funding. "We commend the defendants on their efforts and await, with anticipation, reports on further implementation of the findings and recommendations," the justices wrote in Tuesday's order. "On that note, we opt to continue to monitor the progress towards a constitutionally compliant education system." The high court's latest order also requires rural school districts that initially sued in 1993 to detail their efforts. Both reports are due by June 30, 2017 - more than a month after the scheduled end of the legislative session that starts in January.

The State: SC Supreme Court will keep oversight of suit by poor, rural schools

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103224682.html>

Jamie Self

The S.C. Supreme Court will continue its oversight of a landmark 1993 school-equity lawsuit brought against the state by poor, rural school districts that say they need more money. In its order, dated Tuesday, the state's highest court also called on S.C. lawmakers and the districts that sued the state to update it by June 30 on steps both have taken to fix constitutional violations in the state's K-12 public schools. The order is a response to the school districts' request for the court to stay involved in the case. That request came after state leaders asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit, citing the steps the Legislature already has taken to address inequities in public education identified in the court's 2014 ruling. The school districts have criticized the state for passing laws calling for more studies - not immediate reforms - and for not focusing enough on helping poor schools. NOTE: It praised lawmakers and Gov. Nikki Haley for their efforts, saying it expected the state to study what would be necessary to ensure students in poor schools have access to "a minimally adequate education." NOTE: "Our clients stand ready to work with the Legislature and Gov. Haley's office in a collaborative fashion, as they have always have been, to do everything they can to help the students we represent," Epps said.

Post and Courier: Court commends state's progress toward educating poor students, but maintains oversight
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929864/court-commends-states-progress-toward-educating-poor-students-but-maintains-oversight>

Maya T. Prabhu

The work done by the General Assembly this year has placed the state on its way toward equally educating South Carolina students in poor and rural areas, but the S.C. Supreme Court will continue to monitor progress. The high court's ruling found that bills passed by the General Assembly this year show lawmakers are committed to providing quality education to all students. "We find the combined reports indicate a studied and dedicated approach has been and will continue to be taken by the defendants (the state) to resolve the issues identified by this court," the justices wrote in their order. Lawmakers filed a report earlier this summer in response to a 2014 court ruling that found the state had failed to provide students a constitutionally mandated adequate education. The case, filed by Abbeville School District and other rural districts, has lingered in the court system for two decades.

Post and Courier: Mixed feelings at race relations forum hosted by Reps. Gilliard, Limehouse

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929857/mixed-feelings-at-race-relations-forum-hosted-by-reps-gilliard-limehouse>

Derrek Asberry

Encouraged to be honest and open about his take on race relations in America, James Johnson said black folks are feeling frustrated about the ongoing shootings involving black men and white police officers. "The perception is that the police officers are not being held accountable, and that builds up hostility," said Johnson, state coordinator of the National Action Network. Johnson joined about a dozen others on a forum panel Wednesday at the College of Charleston. Two Charleston lawmakers, state Reps. Chip Limehouse, a Republican, and Wendell Gilliard, a Democrat, organized the forum, advertising it as a way to for people to air out their personal feelings on race issues. One panelist, Rafe O'Connor, is a student at the College of Charleston. A California native, O'Connor said she was never introduced to racism until she came to the South.

SC Agency News:

The State: Upstate prisoner on the lam caught

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article103251042.html>

Cynthia Roldan

Authorities have caught an Upstate prisoner who went on the lam Tuesday. Blake Rochester, 25, was captured Wednesday at 2:30 p.m., in Cherokee County by S.C. Department of Corrections officials. Law enforcement officers from the State Law Enforcement Division and from the sheriff's offices of Cherokee and Spartanburg counties aided in the manhunt, according to SCDC spokesman Dexter Lee. Rochester escaped Tuesday at 8:26 a.m., from Livesay Correctional Institution, a minimum security facility in Spartanburg County. He was serving a sentence of four years, 10 months and six days for breaking into a motor vehicle, according to SCDC.

The Herald: Escaped inmate recaptured in Cherokee County

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160921/escaped-inmate-recaptured-in-cherokee-county?rssfeed=true>

Daniel J. Gross

A man who escaped a minimum-level security prison in Spartanburg Tuesday was captured in Cherokee County Wednesday afternoon. S.C. Department of Corrections officers took Blake Rochester, 25, into custody after finding him at a home in the Cherokee Creek community around 2:30 p.m. No one was injured, said Cherokee County Sheriff Steve Mueller. Rochester was brought to the Cherokee County jail Wednesday. Rochester was serving a nearly five-year prison sentence at Livesay Correctional Institution on Broadcast Drive in Spartanburg for breaking into a motor vehicle. Rochester escaped Livesay around 8:30 a.m., according to SCDC.

Greenville News: SC attorney general: Court would not uphold DDSN tape-recording rule

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/21/sc-attorney-general-court-would-not-uphold-ddsn-tape-recording-rule/90684580/>

Tim Smith

State Attorney General Alan Wilson's office believes a court would be reluctant to uphold a recent rule by the state Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Commission forbidding commissioners from tape recording public meetings, according to an opinion by the office issued last week. Assistant Attorney General Anita Fair said in the opinion that the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act allows anyone at a public meeting to use a tape recorder. "Since the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act authorizes recording of meetings 'by any person,' this office believes a court will be reluctant to uphold such a rule preventing anyone from recording a meeting," she wrote in the opinion. She wrote that the opinion is just that and only a court can interpret statutes and make determinations about the law.

SC Political News:

The State: Person, Second Lady Biden to fundraise in Charleston

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103217357.html>

Bristow Marchant

A S.C. congressional candidate is traveling outside his district for a fundraiser with the vice president's wife at the home of a former TV judge. Fran Person, the Democratic candidate in the 5th District, will appear with Jill Biden at two Charleston area fundraisers on Wednesday, Sept. 28. One will be at the home of Charleston attorney Akim Anastopoulo, who presided over the syndicated TV courtroom show "Eye for an Eye" as Judge "Extreme Akim" from 2003 to 2009. Person and Biden will join Anastopoulo for a dinner fundraiser at 5 p.m., following a luncheon at a home on Sullivan's Island. Person, who is running to oust Republican incumbent Mick Mulvaney in the Upstate congressional district, is a former aide to Vice President Joe Biden. Earlier this month, Biden campaigned with Person in Rock Hill and Fort Mill.

SC Delegation News:

Post and Courier: S.C. lawmakers on different sides of Saudi Arabia arms sale debate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929860/sc-lawmakers-on-different-sides-of-saudi-arabia-arms-sale-debate>

Emma Dumain

This week, Congress is debating the merits of blocking a \$1.15 billion sale of U.S. weaponry to Saudi Arabia, with two South Carolina Republicans taking leading roles on opposite sides of the issue. The action on Wednesday surrounded a vote by the U.S. Senate to rebuff a bipartisan effort to force consideration of a resolution to prevent the arms sale from going through. Proponents of the resolution cited a litany of concerns. Some said Congress never authorized the United States to assist Saudi Arabia in the war in Yemen; others argued the Saudi government should be held accountable for the mass civilian casualties there. They were not successful in advancing their proposal, but they are looking to allies in the U.S. House to help continue the fight — including South Carolina Republican Rep. Mick Mulvaney, the lead GOP co-sponsor of an identical resolution to the one thwarted in the Senate.

New York Daily: Republican congressman attacks clock-making Muslim teen Ahmed Mohamed in response to law enforcement officials' gun control calls

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/gop-congressman-attacks-muslim-clock-teen-gun-control-hearing-article-1.2801147>

Cameron Joseph

One House Republican didn't take kindly to calls from senior law enforcement officers for more gun control on Wednesday — and responded by tying an innocent Muslim teenager to the Chelsea bomber. Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-S.C.) was livid after NYPD Deputy Commissioner John Miller and other leading local law enforcement chiefs said during a House Homeland Security Committee hearing that more gun control would help keep Americans safe. After an extended rant, he turned on Ahmed Mohamed, a Texas teenager who was arrested after his teachers mistook a homemade clock the science nerd made out of spare parts to impress them for a bomb. That kid was cleared of any wrongdoing after his arrest, which led to national concerns about Islamophobia. The upside: He got a White House invitation from President Obama. That Mohamed's only misstep was an interest in science didn't seem to matter to Duncan, though, as he compared him to the terrorist who injured

29 people in Chelsea last weekend with a homemade bomb.

Post and Courier: Scott expands his 'Opportunity Agenda' with 'Opportunity Coalition'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929878/scott-expands-his-opportunity-agenda-with-opportunity-coalition>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott speaks often about the need for Republicans to address the nation's poverty epidemic in terms Americans can understand. It seems some of his fellow GOP lawmakers are catching on. On Wednesday morning, the South Carolina Republican formally unveiled his new "Senate Opportunity Coalition," a group of five Republicans he's brought together who share the same interest in promoting a kinder, gentler party often criticized for speaking past the problem with dispassionate graphs, charts and numbers. They are all committed to sharing both the success stories and the more troubling episodes they've witnessed back home, putting a spotlight on how poverty manifests itself in different ways, from rural areas to urban, from white communities to black to Latino and, for U.S. Sen. Dan Sullivan, the indigenous people who inhabit his state of Alaska.

Aiken Standard: Sen. Scott, coalition take new approach in fight against poverty

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160921/160929867/sen-scott-coalition-take-new-approach-in-fight-against-poverty>

Thomas Gardiner

A group of conservative senators, including Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., announced a new anti-poverty initiative Wednesday they've dubbed the Senate Opportunity Coalition. According to a press release from Scott, the Senate Opportunity Coalition is "a new initiative aiming to ensure every family across our nation has access to the American Dream." The coalition released the first documents from the initiative titled, Pave the Path to a Brighter Future. According to the document, "America has long been known as the land of opportunity. Yet, many Americans feel disconnected, like they have been left behind, and feel they are out of options. Our coalition believes in the American dream, and that we must ensure personal freedom, economic independence, and the chance to succeed to millions of Americans who are currently living in distressed situations." The coalition's release said that U.S. poverty is at comparable levels to the 1960s. It said there was a slight change under President Lyndon B. Johnson when the "War on Poverty" began in the 1960s, but levels have remained the same.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Labor union appeals to Hillary Clinton in ongoing MOX fight

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160921/160929881/labor-union-appeals-to-hillary-clinton-in-ongoing-mox-fight>

Thomas Gardiner

A labor union tossed its hat in the ring earlier this month in the national battle over the future of the multi-billion dollar Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, at the Savannah River Site near Aiken. The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America penned a letter to Hillary Clinton, addressed to her as "Secretary Clinton," dated Sept. 8. In the letter, the union voices concern over the Obama Administration's efforts to wash its hands of the MOX project. The letter said, "We are writing you to encourage you to urge the Obama Administration to not take any action to terminate MOX in fiscal year 2017." The letter asks that Congress have the chance to make a decision on the authorizations and financial appropriations for the facility's future.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Making S.C. prisons safer

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929855/making-sc-prisons-safer>

Editorial

"Out of sight, out of mind" thinking doesn't work with criminals in South Carolina's prisons. Tending to

inmates, and the staff who oversee them, is very important, but also costly and difficult for the state. Fortunately, the State Fiscal Accountability Authority Tuesday made two decisions that should improve safety and efficiency: The board approved more than \$20,000 to help the Department of Corrections pay for technology to catch prisoners as they use contraband cell phones. And it approved a \$45 million borrowing package to build a facility for violent sexual predators. Gov. Nikki Haley and the Department of Corrections have tried unsuccessfully for years to get federal permission to jam cell phone signals in prisons, where inmates regularly manage to get them and often use them to commit crimes and intimidate people on the outside. They have even been used to arrange murders. Jamming would be of broader value to prison staff, as it would disable any cell phones prisoners manage to get their hands on.

NOTE: The system will be used at three prisons that house some of the state's most dangerous inmates — Broad River, Lieber and McCormick. Gov. Haley said that if it works well, the technology might be expanded to all prisons at a cost of \$1.4 million.

Post and Courier: Deepen Charleston's port, and the big ships will come

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929853/deepen-charlestons-port-and-the-big-ships-will-come>

Editorial: George F. Will

Technology has put powerful computers in billions of pockets, but an invention much more mundane than the smartphone — the shipping container: a rectangular steel box — also has changed the world. Because of it, two of today's preoccupations — infrastructure and globalization — are connected by a chain of events that began more than 60 years ago and today runs through Congress and to the wharves of Charleston's booming port. In 1934, Malcolm McLean, a North Carolina high school graduate struggling in the Depression, spent \$120 earned pumping gas to buy a used truck. In 1955, running what would become the nation's fifth largest trucking company, McLean had an idea: The process of loading ships — swarms of stevedores stowing (and often pilfering) cargo packed into ships' holds in different sizes of wooden crates — was so slow that ships often spent more time in ports than at sea. Cargo brought to docks on trucks or rail cars and sealed in standardized containers could be loaded 20 times faster per ton, and for one-20th the cost. McLean was no Steve Jobs. He was, however, one reason your smartphone is so affordable, and one reason billions of people around the world, having been swept into the global trade system that McLean's boxes facilitate, can afford such phones.

South Carolina News:

The State: 6,000 more SC students could get lottery scholarships

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103288897.html>

Cassie Cope

About 6,000 more S.C. high school students could be eligible for S.C. lottery scholarships because the state recently moved to a 10-point grading scale. Eventually, that could cost S.C. taxpayers up to \$50 million a year. However, some lawmakers are balking at the cost, saying any extra money spent on education should go to the state's poor, rural schools — not college students. The new grading scale — an "A" now is a grade from 90 to 100 and a "B" from 80 to 89, when an "A" formerly was a grade from 93 to 100 and a "B" was 85 to 92 — means 6,000 more students will be eligible for the LIFE and Hope scholarships, according to the S.C. Commission on Higher Education estimates. Another 300 students now will qualify for larger Palmetto Fellows scholarships, worth from \$6,700 to \$10,000 a year. Previously, they would have qualified only for the Life Scholarship, worth \$5,000 to \$7,500 a year. Unless lawmakers make the scholarships more difficult to qualify for, the changes initially will cost the state about \$15 million but could rise to \$50 million a year. S.C. taxpayers already subsidize lottery scholarships.

Associated Press: Woman admits to unemployment scheme involving fake business

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

SC State Wire

A New Jersey woman has admitted to operating an unemployment benefits fraud scheme in Connecticut. U.S. Attorney Deirdre Daly says 65-year-old Theresa Freeman, of Atlantic City, pleaded guilty Tuesday in New Haven to conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Prosecutors say Freeman filed incorporation paperwork in

Connecticut for a business called Tribal Organic Products. Freeman claimed she operated the business from Trumbull. However, the company did not exist. In December 2012, Freeman's son filed a claim for unemployment insurance benefits, saying he was laid off from Tribal Organic Products. Freeman's son received more than \$13,000 in benefits between January 2013 and July 2013. Freeman also admitted to operating similar schemes that defrauded the states of Pennsylvania and North Carolina. She has a federal conviction in South Carolina for similar conduct.

Associated Press: Blue Bell recalls some ice cream distributed in the South

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

SC State Wire

Blue Bell Creameries recalled select flavors of ice cream distributed across the South after finding chocolate chip cookie dough from a third-party supplier for use as an ingredient was potentially contaminated with listeria, the Brenham, Texas-based company announced Wednesday. Blue Bell said it was recalling half gallons and pints of Blue Bell Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough and half gallons of Blue Bell Cookie Two Step made at its Sylacauga, Alabama, creamery after intensified internal testing found the cookie dough from Garner, Iowa-based Aspen Hills Inc. potentially tainted, according to a Blue Bell statement. No illnesses have been reported from the ice cream distributed in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia, the company said.

Local News:

Associated Press: Man charged with murder after wife's body found outside home

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=W3eQieh

SC State Wire

Maine state police have charged a man with murder following the discovery of his wife's body. Police say they took Luc Tieman into custody Wednesday. He's charged in the death of Valerie Tieman, whose body was 200 to 300 yards behind the home of her in-laws. A state police spokesman says cadaver dogs found the body within minutes of beginning a search outside the home Tuesday. A medical examiner is performing an autopsy. Valerie Tieman was a Greenville, South Carolina, high school graduate whose parents live in Greenville County. She was reported missing by her parents Sept. 9. Maine state police joined the investigation last week. Luc Tieman was arrested in Waterville after spending the night in a motel. It's unclear if he has a lawyer. He can't be reached for comment while in custody.

The State: Mistrial declared – no reason given – for accused serial home invader, rapist

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article103227982.html>

John Monk

An accused serial home invader-rape had his wish granted Wednesday when Circuit Judge Knox McMahon declared a mistrial in a Columbia courtroom and sent the jury home. But the judge didn't give a reason he was calling off the trial, which was in its second day. The defendant, Nathan Martinez, 37, had asked for the mistrial late Wednesday morning after complaining about his court-appointed lawyer, Aimee Zmroczek. On Tuesday, the judge had granted a request from Martinez to fire Zmroczek and let him be his own lawyer in the case. She was still at the defense table as an adviser. His trial was in its second day. Prosecutors were in the process of introducing a succession of witnesses to put before the jury what prosecutors said in opening statements would be volumes of indisputable evidence against Martinez. Evidence included eyewitness testimony, DNA, fingerprints and possibly a statement Martinez gave to police after his arrest.

The State: Deputy who showed up at son's arrest was suspended without pay

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article103224117.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

The Richland County deputy accused of interfering with her son's Sept. 6 traffic stop in Kershaw County was suspended for three days without pay, Sheriff Leon Lott said. This disciplinary action came after an investigation by the sheriff's department's internal affairs unit, which was assisted by the Kershaw County Sheriff's Office, Lott said. The punishment was for "conduct detrimental to the operation of the sheriff's

department by driving her Richland County Sheriff's Department vehicle to her son's traffic stop and displaying behavior not representative of the Richland County Sheriff's Department." Lott said that the deputy, Lisa Grazioli, has already served her suspension. "No further action will be taken on this matter until resolution of the charge brought against her," he said.

Associated Press: Learn to protect against identity theft at law school talk

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

SC State Wire

Consumers may learn how to protect themselves against identity theft at a speech at the University of South Carolina School of Law. State Department of Consumer Affairs deputy administrator Marti Phillips is speaking Thursday at a breakfast event at 7:45 a.m. in the law school auditorium. The talk is part of a series of breakfast talks on technology and is free and open to the public. Phillips is also offering remedies for people who have been victims of identity theft.

Associated Press: South Carolina medical school to stop using live pigs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=76zEOVwK

SC State Wire

The University of South Carolina's School of Medicine will stop using live pigs in its emergency training after an animal-rights group complained about the practice. The State of Columbia reports (<http://bit.ly/2cSQexS>) that the school's dean sent an email with its decision Tuesday to the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. The group, which has lobbied for similar changes at other schools, seeks alternatives to using animals in medical education. In August, the group wrote to the U.S. Department of Agriculture saying the program instructs trainees to cut into live pigs to insert needles and tubes, and to spread the ribs to access the heart. After the training session, the animals are killed. USC and Palmetto Health issued a joint statement saying "continued advances in simulation technology make it possible for us to make this change at this time."

The State: USC med school to stop using live pigs after complaint

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103149112.html>

Avery G. Wilks

The University of South Carolina's School of Medicine will stop using live pigs in its emergency medicine training after an animal-rights group complained about the practice last month. The school's dean emailed its decision Tuesday to the Washington-based Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. In late August, that group called for a federal investigation into an emergency medicine residency program run by USC's Columbia-based medical school and Palmetto Health. It said the program violates the Animal Welfare Act by operating on pigs when alternatives are available. "We are not planning to seek renewal of the live animal training program at this time," USC and Palmetto Health said in a joint statement. "Continued advances in simulation technology make it possible for us to make this change at this time. In doing so, we affirm our belief that preparing health-care providers for the preservation of human life is our greatest responsibility and we are confident that this change will not adversely affect the quality of our training programs.

Post and Courier: Mount Pleasant councilman: Google's water demands 'threat to public health and safety'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160921/160929903/mount-pleasant-councilman-googles-water-demands-threat-to-public-health-and-safety>

David Slade

A proposal to pump up to 1.5 million gallons of water daily from an aquifer in order to cool Google's server farm near Goose Creek and Moncks Corner could imperil the area's drinking water, a town councilman said. "This aquifer is ... a primary source of water supply not only to 80,000 citizens of Mount Pleasant but also the surrounding Charleston County area," said Mark Smith, chairman of the town's Water Supply Committee and an ex-officio Mount Pleasant Waterworks commissioner. The application by Maguro Enterprises — the business name for Google's local operations — calls for pulling potentially 549 million gallons yearly from the aquifer. That's three times the amount it is currently permitted to withdraw. Aquifers are ancient reservoirs of fresh water located deep underground, about 1,600 feet in this case. They provide a source of drinking water but are also tapped for agriculture, irrigation and for use by industry.

Associated Press: Google plan to pump water from aquifer draws opposition

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

SC State Wire

Local officials in South Carolina are worried about a proposal by internet giant Google to draw water from an aquifer to cool a server farm. The Post and Courier of Charleston (<http://bit.ly/2cNsGwz>) reports Google has applied to draw 1.5 million gallons of water a day from the aquifer to cool its servers in Berkeley County. Mount Pleasant Town Councilman Mark Smith says the Google plan is a threat to public health and safety. The town of 80,000 draws about 3.5 million gallons of water a day from the aquifer, a reservoir of fresh water about 1,600 feet underground. Officials with Mount Pleasant Waterworks want Google to review alternatives. Google says it will work with the community. Its consultants say the effect of pumping the water will be minimal.

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Obama speaks, and listeners hear nothing but 'Donald Trump'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/67a4cbcf384e49c48456e2385f44f9bb>

Josh Lederman

It doesn't matter what President Barack Obama says these days, his listeners are bound to hear two words: Donald Trump. With his proclivity for dominating the conversation, the Republican presidential nominee is forcing Obama's final few months to be viewed almost entirely through the prism of campaign politics. As Obama carries out his presidential duties, voters can't help but wonder what the role would look like if it were inhabited by the gaudy billionaire. At the United Nations this week, Trump trailed the president both metaphorically and physically, as world leaders took stock of what a dramatic shift a Trump presidency would mean for American leadership. The fusion of the campaign with real-world governing was on vivid display Monday when White House and State Department officials mingled in the same Manhattan hotel lobby where Trump's advisers were gathered as their candidate met upstairs with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi.

Associated Press: The Latest: Trump says moderators shouldn't fact-check

<http://bigstory.ap.org/71686d08d9dc4864940dcdbf953007e8>

Donald Trump says debate moderator Lester Holt shouldn't try to fact-check the candidates at next week's presidential debate. Trump says it's up to the candidates themselves to call out their rivals when they are wrong. Trump spoke Thursday in a telephone interview on "Fox and Friends." He says the candidates should "argue it out." NBC's Matt Lauer has received criticism for not pointing out factual errors by Trump at a recent forum on national security. Trump says there's pressure on NBC's Holt ahead of Monday's debate at Hofstra University. He likens it to the pressure former Indiana University basketball coach and Trump supporter Bobby Knight used to put on referees. Trump says: "A lot of people are watching to see whether or not he succumbs to that pressure."

National News:

Associated Press: 2 potential bombing witnesses seen with suitcase are sought

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5284543924e34fa08d6ffec07e557962>

Jake Pearson and Megan Trimble

Investigators of last weekend's bombings have released an image of two men who took a suitcase they found on a city street, possibly without realizing a wired pressure cooker they removed from it and left behind could have blown them to bits. Police investigating the bombings in New York and New Jersey have been saying for several days they were looking for the men, who they stressed were being sought as potential witnesses in the case, not as suspects. "They're not in any jeopardy of being arrested," Jim Watters, chief of the New York Police Department's counterterrorism unit, said on Wednesday. "We have no reason to believe they're connected." Federal prosecutors have charged Ahmad Khan Rahami with detonating a pipe bomb in a New Jersey shore town on Saturday morning and a pressure cooker bomb in New York City's Chelsea neighborhood later that night. Thirty-one people were injured in the New York blast. A second pressure cooker bomb left in

Manhattan didn't explode and is the subject of the latest public plea.

World News:

Associated Press: AP Exclusive: Assad blames US for Syria truce collapse

<http://bigstory.ap.org/48f66e4501a945b69bc5ec3c0066d964>

Siena Karam and Ian Phillips

President Bashar Assad rejected U.S. accusations that Syrian or Russian planes struck an aid convoy in Aleppo or that his troops were preventing food from entering the city's rebel-held eastern neighborhoods, blaming the U.S. for the collapse of a cease-fire many had hoped would bring relief to the war-ravaged country. In an interview with The Associated Press in Damascus, Assad also said deadly U.S. airstrikes on Syrian troops last week were intentional, dismissing American officials' statements that they were an accident. Assad said the U.S. lacked "the will" to join forces with Russia in fighting extremists. Assad, who inherited power from his father and is now in his 16th year in office, cut a confident figure during the interview — a sign of how his rule, which once seemed threatened by the rebellion, has been solidified by his forces' military advances and by the air campaign of his ally Russia, which turned the tables on the battlefield last year.

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