

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 9/23/2016 9:03:01 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, September 23, 2016

Morning Clips – Friday, September 23, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: U.S. House to act soon on bill to authorize Charleston Harbor dredging

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929834/us-house-to-act-soon-on-bill-to-authorize-charleston-harbor-dredging>

Emma Dumain

Republican leaders announced Thursday the U.S. House will vote next week on a crucial water infrastructure bill that would, among other things, further the ongoing work to deepen Charleston Harbor. Plans to prioritize this vote is a victory for South Carolina legislators, from members of Congress to Gov. Nikki Haley, who have urged GOP leaders not to leave any uncertainty as to whether Congress will send the so-called Water Resources Development Act, to the president by the year's end. Still, the House's passage of the bill next week would not close the book on the matter. The House and Senate have different versions and must negotiate a final bill in November and December, when Congress returns from its pre-election recess. A major sticking point is whether to provide funding for the ongoing contaminated drinking water crisis in Flint, Mich. The Senate bill, which passed its chamber last week, contains that funding; House Republicans have resisted including that money in their bill.

ESPN: After North Carolina HB2 decision, Greenville, S.C., seeks NCAA events

http://www.espn.com/mens-college-basketball/story/_/id/17614326/south-carolina-hoping-capitalize-ncaa-decision-remove-events-north-carolina-due-hb2-law

Andy Katz

The Confederate flag's removal from the South Carolina state capitol in 2015 opened up the possibility of the NCAA men's basketball tournament returning to the state for the first time since 2002. Now, South Carolina is trying to capitalize on its border state's controversy by bidding for the 2017 first and second round of the men's tournament that was pulled by the NCAA from Greensboro, North Carolina, because of the controversial HB2 law. On Thursday, Furman athletic director Mike Buddie said on the ESPN/ABC News podcast Capital Games that the school and Southern Conference will formally put in its bid for 2017 for Greenville, South Carolina, on Friday in time for the Tuesday deadline. The NCAA will make a decision on the Greensboro replacement Oct. 7. Providence College, which hosted the NCAA first and second round last March, told ESPN it was also going to submit a bid. Louisville officials said a decision has not been made yet. South Carolina's athletic director Ray Tanner announced Wednesday the Gamecocks would not be making a bid for 2017 for their Columbia arena. Buddie said if Greenville wins the bid, it would "open the flood gate back to the state of South Carolina" for future hosting opportunities.

NOTE: He added that Gov. Nikki Haley, who pushed through the removal of the Confederate flag, wants to bring jobs and business development to the state and "look at the amount of money these events generate."

WACH: Haley willing to send assistance to Charlotte if requested

<http://wach.com/news/local/haley-willing-to-send-assistance-to-charlotte-if-requested>

Matthew Stevens

Governor Nikki Haley has offered the state's support if necessary following violent protests in Charlotte after a man was killed by police Tuesday. According to Haley's press secretary Chaney Adams, the governor has spoke with NC Gov. Pat McCrory Wednesday and Thursday. "Gov. Haley has been in touch with Gov. McCrory, and she has offered any assistance should North Carolina need it," said Adams. Adams added that Haley has spoken with SC law enforcement and asked them to keep up with the happenings in Charlotte. York County

EMD has a long-standing mutual agreement with Charlotte Police, but no specific requests for support has been made at this time. Gov. McCrory issued a state of emergency for Charlotte Wednesday night after one person was shot and is in critical condition.

WIS: More body cameras being added, but footage can be impossible to view

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33162056/more-body-cameras-being-added-but-footage-can-be-impossible-to-view>

Caroline Patrickis

More police shootings are being recorded on body cameras, but several states have laws that say the footage isn't always public record, including South Carolina. Gov. Nikki Haley signed a body camera bill into law in June 2015. The bill's passage came after the fatal shooting of Walter Scott by a police officer in 2015. The topic is back in the national spotlight. This time in North Carolina, following the Charlotte police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott, where authorities have said they have no plans to release any body camera footage related to this incident. North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory signed a body camera law that goes into effect Oct. 1. The law states that body camera and dash camera video no longer classify as police personnel and are not public record either. The theory is that the footage from the Charlotte shooting could bring clarity to a dispute over key facts, including whether Keith Lamont Scott was armed or not. However, a civil rights attorney in Columbia, Chris Mills, said while police have the right to withhold the footage with several exceptions related to investigations, they aren't prohibited from releasing it either.

Charlotte Protest Shooting:

Associated Press: Charlotte curfew ends after largely peaceful protest night

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5f9ea1c85b6f4ab9a04ff08b61c99153>

Tom Foreman and Jonathan Drew

A third night of protests over a fatal police shooting in Charlotte gave way to quiet streets as a curfew enacted by the city's mayor ended early Friday. The largely peaceful Thursday night demonstrations in the city's business district, watched over by rifle-toting members of the National Guard, called on police to release video that could resolve wildly different accounts of the shooting of a black man earlier this week. The family of Keith Lamont Scott, 43, was shown the footage Thursday of his fatal shooting and demanded that police release it to the public. Demonstrators chanted "release the tape" and "we want the tape" Thursday while briefly blocking an intersection near Bank of America headquarters and later climbing the steps to the door of the city government center. Later, several dozen demonstrators walked onto an interstate highway through the city, but they were pushed back by police in riot gear.

Associated Press: Charlotte police refuse to release video of deadly shooting

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

Mitch Weis and Meg Kinnard

Charlotte police refused under mounting pressure Thursday to release video that could resolve wildly different accounts of the shooting of a black man, as the National Guard arrived to try to head off a third night of violence in this city on edge. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Kerr Putney said that releasing police dashcam and body camera footage of the killing of 43-year Keith Lamont Scott could undermine the investigation. He told reporters the video will be made public when he believes there is a "compelling reason" to do so. "You shouldn't expect it to be released," Putney said. "I'm not going to jeopardize the investigation. "Meanwhile, an undisclosed number of National Guardsmen assembled in Charlotte, sent in by Gov. Pat McCrory after a second straight night of racial unrest that seemed at odds with Charlotte's image as a diverse, forward-looking banking capital of the New South.

Associated Press: The tale of the tape: when should police videos be released?

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1533ad91d2fc425098343a310891e33c>

Lisa Marie Pane

Two police shootings, both recorded by police. In one city, the police recordings were released almost immediately and protests remained calm. In the other, the chief has so far refused to provide the videos to

the public and violent protests have wrought destruction in the heart of the city. Two different outcomes that raise some key questions: How soon are police obligated to release the recordings and why might they keep a lid on it? In this era of a 24/7 cycle of citizen journalists and live video feeds, civil rights activists are saying the refusal to release video almost immediately underscores the fractured relationship between police and the community they serve. "There's a knee jerk reaction on the part of police departments. We used to call it the blue wall of silence," said Randolph M. McLaughlin, a civil rights attorney and professor at Pace Law School in New York City. "Now it's just a blue wall." Law enforcement officials, however, urge caution and contend police must resist caving into demands to release video or they risk tainting an ongoing investigation. They warn that video also isn't necessarily the most illuminating and could unduly influence a witness' version of events.

Charlotte Observer: Family, police see different tale in same videos

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

Mark Washburn and Jim Morrill

Two narratives of the police videos showing the fatal shooting of a Charlotte man emerged Thursday – one from police saying the shots appeared justified, another from the family of Keith Lamont Scott saying he was killed while walking backward, hands at his side. "After watching the videos," said Justin Bamberg, an attorney for Scott's relatives, "the family again has more questions than answers." Bamberg said the videos, from dashboard and body cameras worn by Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers, showed Scott getting out of his vehicle when ordered to by officers. Scott's demeanor was calm and nonaggressive, said Bamberg, who called upon CMPD to release the videos publicly in the name of transparency. "While police did give him several commands," the attorney said, "he did not aggressively approach them or raise his hands at members of law enforcement at any time." Bamberg echoed the observation of police who also examined the footage – that it was impossible to see whether Scott was holding a weapon, or anything else, in his hands.

WLTX: Midlands Activists Promote Peace in Charlotte

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/midlands-activists-promote-peace-in-charlotte/324087395>

Janae Frazier

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/midlands-activists-promote-peace-in-charlotte/324087395> Activists from the Midlands are headed to Charlotte to promote peace. "Although it's anger, it's still energy. You need to give them a target something to focus on," Kimani Davis, leader of community organization YNOTU2 explained. Davis says he understands the anger over a police officer shooting and killing Keith Scott in Charlotte Tuesday. He is going to Charlotte to speak with those who are rioting and destroying their city. "I believe we need to come together as community leaders and find a target something to focus on," Davis said. He's calling on leaders to step up and to get folks involved on another level like getting legislation for body cameras and for the public to have access to the footage. "Us getting involved into our political system by us starting to vote in local elections, in our school board elections, in our city council, county council, in all the local elections because that's where change really is impacted," National Action Network activist Tiffany James agreed. NOTE: Governor Nikki Haley says she has been speaking with North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory and has offered our state's assistance if needed.

The Herald: Charlotte violence: Former Carolina Panther, York Co. sheriff candidate urges unity

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article103389367.html>

Andrew Dys

Michael Scurlock, former York County deputy, sheriff candidate and Carolina Panther who is a friend of the Charlotte police officer who shot a man Tuesday prompting protests in Charlotte, urged the community to come together in the wake of the shooting. Scurlock said he met Charlotte officer Brentley Vinson, 26, the officer involved, years ago at a Bible study group and called Vinson after the incident to offer his support and prayers. Scurlock said that he has the family of Keith Lamont Scott, who was killed, in his prayers. Both families, Scurlock said, are going through a "tough situation." Scurlock, who lives in Fort Mill, was running for sheriff in the November election earlier this year as an independent write-in candidate, but dropped his bid after he was unable to get the required number of signatures to get on the ballot. His campaign was focused on breaking down racial divisions that Scurlock said are dividing the country.

McClatchy DC: Lawmaker apologizes for saying Charlotte protesters 'hate white people'

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/article103608492.html>

Colin Campbell

U.S. Rep. Robert Pittenger apologized Thursday after saying the violence in Charlotte stems from protesters who "hate white people because white people are successful and they're not." Pittenger is a Republican whose district includes parts of the city where protests have turned violent in the wake of a police shooting of a black man. He made the statement on a BBC-TV news program Thursday when asked to describe the "grievance" of the protesters. "The grievance in their minds – the animus, the anger – they hate white people because white people are successful and they're not," Pittenger said. He then criticized people who receive welfare. "It is a welfare state. We have spent trillions of dollars on welfare, and we've put people in bondage, so they can't be all they're capable of being."

Michael Slager Case:

Associated Press: Black driver shot by white officer: Potential jurors called

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9aJ0t55y

SC State Wire

A South Carolina judge has ordered 500 potential jurors summoned for the murder trial of a fired white police officer charged in the 2015 shooting death of a black motorist captured on cellphone video. Those being summoned can expect to hear a sheriff's deputy knocking on the door. Circuit Judge Clifton Newman issued an order Tuesday requiring deputies to serve summonses in the Michael Slager case. That's not unheard of, but generally jurors are summoned through the mail. The order also instructs Charleston County deputies to follow up if prospective jurors don't fill out a juror questionnaire accompanying the summons. It said the summonses should start going out Friday. The 34-year-old Slager, a former North Charleston police officer, stands trial next month in the death of 50-year-old Walter Scott, who was shot while running from traffic stop in April 2015. The shooting was recorded on a dramatic cellphone video that reignited the national debate over how blacks are treated by white police officers.

General Assembly News:

The State: House GOP Caucus allows investigators to review its financial records

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103545377.html>

Cassie Cope and John Monk

The Republican Caucus that controls the S.C. House has allowed investigators to review its financial records dating back to 1995, according to Caucus leaders. In a letter to Republican state representatives, the executive committee of the caucus confirmed there is an ongoing investigation by a State Grand Jury into the activities of House members, including caucus members. "The scope and the subject of this investigation are unknown to us at this point," said the letter. The letter was signed by nine of 10 members of the Republican Caucus' executive committee. House Majority Leader Bruce Bannister, R-Greenville, did not sign the letter. Bannister did not return calls Thursday to The State. The executive committee also denied it had hired former U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles to represent the caucus. Nettles, a Democrat, had said earlier Thursday that he was representing the caucus.

Post and Courier: Former U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles to help Republicans in corruption probe

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929810/former-us-attorney-bill-nettles-to-help-republicans-in-corruption-probe>

Eva Moore

Former U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles has been hired by the S.C. House Republican Caucus to help it respond to requests from the State Law Enforcement Division in the ongoing probe of Statehouse corruption. "I have been asked to join the team," Nettles confirmed Thursday. Nettles is no stranger to this corruption probe. Before stepping down in June as U.S. attorney, his office focused on House Speaker Bobby Harrell, who pleaded guilty to ethics violations and resigned in 2014. The state investigated the Charleston Republican at the same time as Nettles' office and ultimately prosecuted the former House Speaker. Nettles, an Obama administration

appointee, remained closely involved, even attending hearings with 1st Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe, who was appointed to the case by S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson, who cited potential conflicts.

Post and Courier: Opioid antidote side effect: Complacency

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929802/opioid-antidote-side-effect-complacency>

Gavin Jackson

A roundtable with federal and local authorities Thursday revealed that as increased efforts to stymie the opioid epidemic continue in earnest, they are complicated by recent state laws designed to save lives from lethal prescription painkiller and heroin overdoses. State lawmakers this year passed legislation to increase patient access to the opioid antidote Narcan to combat climbing overdose death rates, but Charleston County Coroner Rae Wooten said the life-saving drug has the unfortunate side effect of complacency, though not invincibility. "It's getting this mindset that it's not a big deal. Get this shot of Narcan that will reverse this and I'll be OK," Wooten said. "A lot of these cases I see that have died, they got Narcan. They still died. It is not a silver bullet." With the influx of the highly potent painkiller fentanyl, which can be mixed with heroin, pressed into tablets or even sold to unsuspecting buyers as heroin, Wooten expects to see the current death rate in Charleston to increase by year's end.

The State: Sending SC strays to other shelters under review by state panel

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103562007.html>

Cassie Cope

Nearly one in five animals received by the City of Columbia animal shelter were sent to another shelter or rescue group during the past year. That saves animal lives, said Columbia shelter director Marli Drum. However, the practice of sending stray pets to other shelters, including shipping them out of state, will be reviewed by a state panel of animal advocates. The panel also will review other state laws and policies about pets, looking for ways to keep S.C. pets out of animal shelters, reviewing the state's animal abuse and neglect laws, and the disparity in resources and money among shelters across the state. The recommendations that emerge before the next legislative session that starts in January hopefully will cut down on the number of stray animals in the state and save tax dollars, said state Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Kershaw, who is chairing the panel. Shipping pets to other shelters and rescue groups reduces their chances of being euthanized and the amount of time they spend in a shelter, Drum said.

The State: Veterans thankful for free dental care at State House clinic

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/military/article103545997.html>

Tracy Glantz

Stephen Parker of Columbia hadn't been to the dentist since he left the military "10 or 20 years ago," he said, his mouth numb with Novocain. The opportunity to fix a bad tooth came to the retired Marine on Thursday through the Healthy Mouth Movement sponsored by Aspen Dental, which has offices in the Midlands. Volunteers with a complete dental office, arranged in a 42-foot mobile office, parked outside the South Carolina State House to treat the dental needs of about 38 veterans for free. Sheri Willis of Irmo woke up with a painful, swollen mouth Sept. 8. The dental insurance with her new job hadn't kicked in yet so she's been waiting since then for relief. "They're going to fix my smile today, she said while waiting for her appointment. Many veterans signed up for an appointment weeks ago, as soon as they heard about the traveling clinic." A lot of veterans don't have access to dental care," said Dr. Logan Nalley, a dentist from Aiken, one of the dentists at the event. "A really infected tooth can quickly become life threatening."

Independent Mail: S.C. Senate candidate won't be on 122 overseas ballots

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/22/sc-senate-candidate-wont-122-overseas-ballots/90854402/>

Kirk Brown

A judge ruled Thursday that Williamston resident Mark Powell won't be listed as a Democratic candidate for the South Carolina Senate District 4 seat on 122 ballots that will be sent to overseas voters. At a hastily arranged hearing, Judge Cordell Maddox decided the Anderson County Board of Voter Registration and Elections can mail ballots without Powell's name to registered voters living abroad. Most of those voters are

serving in the military. Powell said he will continue his legal fight to compete against Republican Sen. Mike Gambrell of Honea Path in the Nov. 8 election. Powell filed to run as a Democrat in Senate District 4 on March 30, eight days after he finished last in a GOP primary for the same seat. Gambrell won the primary and a subsequent special election to fill the final months of the late Sen. Billy O'Dell's term. Gambrell now is seeking a full four-year term in the seat.

SC Agency News:

SCETV: VIDEO: A Mother's Voice

<https://scetv.org/blog/palmetto-scene/2016/mothers-voice>

A Crouch

There are almost 1,400 women incarcerated in South Carolina prisons, and 80 percent of those women are mothers—mothers who are missing integral parts of their children's developmental years. Through a program developed at The Riley Institute at Furman University's Diversity Leadership Initiative, along with S.C.'s Department of Correction, A Mother's Voice, has become a reality and is now helping to connect those mothers to their children.

Greenville News: DDSN: If provider's name not on website, admissions could be frozen

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/22/ddsn-if-providers-name-not-website-admissions-could-frozen/90772648/>

Tim Smith

When State Inspector General Patrick Maley told the board of the state's disabilities agency last week that the provider at the heart of his investigation had admissions frozen by the agency twice before this year due to problems found by the state, that came as news to two of the commissioners who were serving when the freezes occurred. Former Commissioners Debra McPherson and Nancy Benov told The Greenville News they do not recall ever being told by the agency that admissions to SC Mentor had been frozen because of problems with the private provider. Meeting minutes of the commission do not show any discussion of Mentor or any admissions freezes during the months before, during or after the agency notified Mentor it was freezing admissions. The commission has discussed problems with Mentor this year, both in closed-door talks and in open meetings, prior to Maley making his report.

SC Delegation News:

Post and Courier: S.C. lawmakers draw battle lines on short-term spending bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929799/sc-lawmakers-draw-battle-lines-on-short-term-spending-bill>

Emma Dumain

Some South Carolina lawmakers aren't enthused about the latest proposal to fund government operations between Oct. 1 and Dec. 9. U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., is one of them. Graham released a statement Thursday afternoon saying he would not be voting on the so-called "continuing resolution" introduced earlier in the day by his own party leadership. He said he was protesting the lack of funding for the Export-Import Bank, an important fixture of the South Carolina economy that has come under fierce scrutiny from conservatives in recent years. "We are losing American jobs to foreign competitors for no good reason," Graham said. "We need a fully functioning Ex-Im Bank to help ensure American manufacturers are able to compete in the international marketplace on a level playing field." The Ex-Im Bank is designed to help U.S. companies finance goods for sale overseas; detractors say the bank is tantamount to corporate cronyism.

Independent Mail: Rep. Duncan's remarks about Muslim student criticized

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/22/rep-duncans-remarks-muslim-student-criticized/90870196/>

Kirk Brown

The South Carolina Democratic Party criticized U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan on Thursday for comments he made about a Muslim student and the man accused of setting off an explosive in New York City that injured 31

people last week. Duncan spoke for several minutes Wednesday during a House Homeland Security Committee hearing. "We cannot rely on the federal government and its big bureaucracy to continue to keep us safe," Duncan said. "We'll continue to allow terrorists to come in here. We'll continue to attack the constitutional rights of Americans." Duncan added, "We'll continue to invite somebody who made something look like a bomb, brought it to school but now it's a 'clock' and we invite him into the White House. It is a good thing that the guy in New Jersey didn't say 'Oh, this is just a clock.'"

Aiken Standard: U.S. 2nd Congressional candidates to debate days before general election

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160922/160929807/us-2nd-congressional-candidates-to-debate-days-before-general-election>

Christina Cleveland

U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., Democratic candidate Arik Bjorn and American Party candidate Eddie McCain will take the stage, just four days before the Nov. 8 general election. The candidates are set to debate at River Bluff High School in Lexington at 9:30 a.m. Nov. 4, according to organizer Michael Burgess, also teacher at the center for Law and Global Policy Development. Burgess said there will be a moderator and panel of students asking questions on social, national and foreign policy issues at the event, which will be held to an audience of 800 high school juniors and seniors. The candidates are running to represent South Carolina's 2nd Congressional District, which includes Aiken County, in the U.S. House of Representatives. In a prepared statement sent to the Aiken Standard on Thursday, incumbent Wilson said he looked forward to "sharing my positive agenda" for the district in the upcoming debate.

The State: Wilson, Bjorn find home for 2nd District debate

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103404872.html>

Avery G. Wilks

The 2nd District congressional debate finally has a home. Republican U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, Democrat Arik Bjorn and American Party candidate Eddie McCain will square off Nov. 4 in front of roughly 800 students at River Bluff High School. The event is set for 9:30 a.m. – four days before election day – at the Lexington County high school's performing arts center. River Bluff has not yet decided on a moderator and still is exploring options for broadcasting the debate, said Michael Burgess, the event's organizer and a teacher at River Bluff's Center for Law and Global Policy Development. Wilson and Bjorn last month agreed to debate. But they did not find a host until this week. S.C. Education Television decided it would not televise the debate or any other S.C. debates this fall. After hearing of that hiccup, River Bluff's Teen Republicans and Young Democrats proposed their school host the event, Burgess said. The debate will be student-centered, with River Bluff's juniors and seniors pitching questions to candidates, he said.

SC Political News:

The State: Trump still gets no love from SC Republican donors

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article103633257.html>

Bristow Marchant

Even as the presidential election has heated up, Donald Trump continues to trail Hillary Clinton in S.C. fundraising. However, the New York businessman has increased his Palmetto State donations since he clinched the Republican nomination. Clinton has raised \$1,557,605 in South Carolina this year. Trump has raised just \$758,998 in the heavily Republican Palmetto State, according to filings with the Federal Election Commission. The most recent numbers available through the FEC show contributions through the end of August. U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham's short-lived GOP presidential campaign, which received its last S.C. receipt in mid-December 2015, sopped up many S.C. donations this election cycle. Graham raised more money in his home state than Trump, finishing with \$1,447,912, almost \$750,000 more than the GOP nominee.

Greenville News: Furman students sue county over voter registration

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/09/22/furman-students-sue-county-over-voter-registration/90863316/>

Nathaniel Cary

Three Furman University students have filed a lawsuit in Greenville County that challenges the county election commission's handling of voter registration for college students who choose their school address as their legal residence. The students claim a longstanding policy created by Greenville County Board of Voter Registration and Elections goes beyond state election law and has thwarted efforts of Furman University students for years who want to register to vote in the location where they live for much of the year. The policy created by the county voter registration board has served to depress the vote of Furman students for decades and differs from the voter registration rules in many other South Carolina counties, said Glen Halva-Neubauer, a Furman political science professor who is familiar with the lawsuit.

LGBT Laws:

Associated Press: SoCon officials delay decision on moving championships

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OsuQ1rAo

SC State Wire

Presidents and chancellors of the Southern Conference say they need more information before deciding whether league championships played in North Carolina should be relocated because of a state law that limits protections for LGBT people. The officials Thursday discussed the four championships scheduled to be played in North Carolina in 2016-17. Those include the men's and women's basketball championships planned for Asheville, North Carolina. The conference's council of presidents asked for additional information from the league office. The NCAA and the Atlantic Coast Conference both withdrew championships from the state earlier this month because of the state's HB2 law. Southern Conference Commissioner John Iamarino said the issue was complicated and the group chose to seek "more time and further study" before deciding.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Fix what ails S.C. pension plan

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929782/fix-what-ails-sc-pension-plan->

Editorial

S.C. legislators want to hear what people have to say about the state's retirement and pension system. They should plan to get an earful on Tuesday. That's when S.C. House Speaker Jay Lucas and Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman have invited the public to weigh in on what experts agree is the state's failing system. The meeting will be at 10 a.m. in Room 110 of the Blatt Building at the Statehouse complex. Of course, state employees and retirees will have plenty to say. Their pensions are at stake. But in reality all taxpayers should be concerned. Unless some changes are made, a bad situation will only get worse — to the point of a major financial crisis. In short, the pension's investment fund has been falling short of expectations. If that trend isn't checked, taxpayers could ultimately be liable for billions of dollars. And nobody wants to pay for other people's mismanagement.

Post and Courier: Destructive rage in Charlotte

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160923/160929781/destructive-rage-in-charlotte>

Editorial

Concerns about racial profiling in our nation — and disproportionate police violence against minorities — are legitimate. But premature assumptions that officers are in the wrong whenever they are involved in a shooting are irresponsible and dangerous. And regardless of the circumstances, riots carried out in the name of "protest" undermine efforts to improve law enforcement's relationship with the minority community. There's no justification for the appalling assaults, looting, burning and other offenses committed in Charlotte since the fatal police shooting of a black man there on Tuesday. Of course, police should use force, especially with guns, only when necessary. However, that doesn't mean officers should put their own lives at even greater jeopardy by not taking reasonable self-defense measures. And according to the Charlotte Police Department, a black plainclothes officer wearing a vest marked "Police" shot 43-year-old Keith Scott on Tuesday only after the man exited a car holding a gun, then refused several clear commands to drop it.

South Carolina News:

The State: ACT scores improve for SC high-school juniors

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103543632.html>

Jamie Self

Roughly one of every eight S.C. high-school juniors is ready to tackle a college course load with success, according to their performance on a standardized test. The results are an improvement from the previous year, state Education Department officials said Thursday. Last year, one in nine S.C. 11th graders were ready for the same challenge, scoring "ready" in four subject areas on the ACT standardized test. Being "ready" means students have a 50 percent chance of earning a B or higher or a 75 percent chance of scoring a C or higher in first-year college courses. Juniors take the ACT and WorkKeys tests in the spring. The tests, which assess a student's readiness for college or a career, are required under a 2014 law and announced each fall. Last spring's scores found more than half of S.C. juniors are "not ready" for success in college courses. Still, the high-school juniors made gains across all subject areas. For example, a higher percentage of students scored "ready" in English, math, reading and science than the previous year. State schools Superintendent Molly Spearman said she was pleased with the gains.

Post and Courier: Majority of S.C.'s class of 2017 not ready for college, according to ACT

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929794/majority-of-scs-class-of-2017-not-ready-for-college-according-to-act>

Deanna Pan

Students did better on the state-mandated ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessments this year, but the majority of the class of 2017 are not ready for college, according to results released by the state Department of Education Thursday. All 11th-grade students in South Carolina are required to take the ACT and ACT WorkKeys. These tests were administered to juniors for the first time in the spring of 2015. The ACT is a curriculum-based assessment of college readiness, composed of four sub-tests in English, math, reading and science while ACT WorkKeys is a jobs skills assessment that identifies how prepared students are for certain careers. More than 47,000 juniors statewide took the ACT this past spring. In math and science, more than three-fourths of all students failed to meet the ACT's "college-readiness" benchmarks, as did 61 percent of students in English and 71 percent of students in reading.

The State: Claflin announces partnership with S.C. tech schools

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103458757.html>

Avery G. Wilks

S.C. technical college graduates will be able to seamlessly transfer to Claflin University through a new partnership, the state's oldest historically black college said Thursday. The deal allows graduates of South Carolina's 16 technical colleges to begin studying as juniors at the Orangeburg school. Claflin, which has more than 2,000 students, is the only historically black S.C. college to be part of the partnership, the school said in a news release. The S.C. technical college system serves more than 250,000 students a year, Claflin said. Claflin said it can give two-year college graduates a "much shorter path" to graduation through online accelerated degree programs.

The State: Many overdose, die as opioid and heroin epidemic hits SC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article103581867.html>

John Monk

Parents who leave opioid prescription drugs in home medicine cabinets may be killing their kids. And... Those were just a few observations by South Carolina-based DEA agents and federal prosecutors at a roundtable Thursday in Columbia aimed at increasing public awareness of the increasing dangers heroin and opioid abuse. Opioid abuse and deaths cut across all demographic lines: rich, poor, young, old, urban, rural, black, white, and high-school- and college-educated, they said. "It's our young athletes, it's our housewife, it's our businessman, it's our father of three," said Rae Wooten, Charleston County coroner and the only state or local official at the session. Her county has seen opioid and heroin abuse deaths shoot up to 58 in 2015 from 41 in 2014.

Aiken Standard: South Carolina EMTs get green light for epinephrine

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160922/160929822/south-carolina-emts-get-green-light-for-epinephrine>

Thomas Gardiner

The scope of practice for emergency medical technicians, or EMTs, in South Carolina was updated last month, changing the ways in which first responders can administer epinephrine in life-threatening situations. The changes allow EMTs to administer epinephrine by injection, meaning the drug is drawn into a needle from a vial, as opposed to using an auto-injector like the name brand EpiPen device. Epinephrine is used in life-threatening cases of serious allergic reactions. Allergies to insect bites, foods and medications can cause severe reactions that could lead to anaphylaxis, a potentially fatal condition which includes a sudden drop in blood pressure and narrowing of airways due to swelling. According to Robert Yarity, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control public information officer, "As a national standard, drawing up medication from a vial to administer is usually a paramedic skill."

Associated Press: Supplier: No listeria in product before going to Blue Bell

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5yIDWazI

SC State Wire

A supplier of cookie dough that Blue Bell Creameries blamed for a possible listeria contamination of some of its ice cream said Thursday that its product tested negative for the pathogen before it was sent to the Texas-based company. Blue Bell announced Wednesday it was recalling select flavors of ice cream distributed across the South and made at its Sylacauga, Alabama, plant after finding chocolate chip cookie dough from a third-party supplier - Iowa-based Aspen Hills Inc. - that was potentially contaminated with listeria. Blue Bell said Thursday evening in an email it stood by its test results that found listeria in the cookie dough product.

Local News:

Associated Press: Police: Man used app to lure victims in 4 armed robberies

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

SC State Wire

A Ladson man has been arrested after investigators say he used a mobile classifieds app to lure victims in four separate armed robberies in the Lowcountry. The Charleston County Sheriff's Office tells local media that 18-year-old Jumahn Tolbert was recently arrested and charged with four counts of armed robbery. All of the incidents occurred in September. Investigators say Tolbert talked to his victims of "Letgo," a mobile app for classified advertisements. He is accused of using aliases to set a buy or sell date with each of his victims. The sheriff's office says that after meeting each person, Tolbert pulled out a handgun and robbed them. None of the victims were injured. It's unclear if Tolbert has an attorney.

The Herald: Clinton College remembers those killed, injured in bus crash

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article103602157.html>

Amanda Harris

For the students, staff, family and friends of Clinton College, Thursday night was not a night of sadness, but of God's uplifting spirit. Gathered in the gym of black and yellow, a full house came together to remember Clinton students Devonte Gibson, 21, of Rock Hill and Tito Hamilton, 19, of Florida who were among the four people who died Saturday when a charter bus carrying members of the Ramah Juco Academy football team and others suffered a blown tire and crashed into a guardrail and bridge in North Carolina. More than 40 were injured in the crash, which also took the lives of Darice Lamont Hicks Jr., 8, of Rock Hill and bus driver Brian Andre Kirkpatrick, 43, of Chester. The Clinton community celebrated the lives of Gibson and Hamilton through prayer, song and scripture.

Post and Courier: Ex-officer who resigned under suspicion now teaching at Cane Bay police academy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929826/ex-officer-who-resigned-under-suspicion-now-teaching-at-cane-bay-police-academy>

Andrew Knapp

A cloud of suspicion hovered over Peter Wright's career when he left law enforcement more than a decade

ago. The policeman resigned after Summerville internal investigators questioned whether he had lied about getting shot while fighting a suspect. A prosecutor also noted a "disturbing" pattern over his career of getting injured in encounters with shadowy suspects, all of whom got away. Wright said in his resignation letter that he needed to get out of that line of work. "I'm just trying to put all this stuff behind me," he wrote. In the 13 years that followed, Wright made a sort of comeback. He helped care for his three children while earning degrees in history and criminal justice, his father said. This year he landed a full-time job as teacher for Cane Bay High School's new law enforcement academy.

Post and Courier: Locals calling for removal of Jamestown police chief following Facebook controversy
<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929821/locals-calling-for-removal-of-jamestown-police-chief-following-facebook-controversy>

Derrek Asberry

Many are calling for Jamestown Police Chief Jay High to be fired after he offended a woman on Facebook by asking if she was a single mom and posting other comments she believes had racist and sexist intent. High said his comments were taken out of context and that he has no plans to resign. "What's that that saying? Once you go black, you're a single mom?" High wrote in a Facebook thread on Monday that included three women. One of the women, Lainey Sanders, said she was trying to diffuse an online argument with the two other women when High jumped in. Sanders, who goes by Lolo Velasquez on Facebook, responded by telling High that his comments weren't true.

Sun News: Former Horry County Police officers to be arraigned Oct. 4

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article103397642.html>

Audrey Hudson

Four former Horry County police officers who were indicted by a grand jury for misconduct will be arraigned Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. in the Horry County Courthouse, according to Hayley Thrift Bledsoe, spokeswoman for the S.C. Attorney General office. Allen Large, Luke Green, Todd Cox and Daryl Williams were indicted last week by a grand jury on multiple charges. The state Attorney General's office is prosecuting the cases in which Large faces five counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and six counts of misconduct in office, which combined carries a maximum jail sentence of 110 years. The indictments say Williams failed to properly investigate 88 cases assigned to him, failed to properly investigate two cases of criminal sexual conduct, two cases of sexual assault and one kidnapping and sexual assault. Williams is also charged with using his county vehicle and county paid time to work for a separate state agency, the Department of Social Services.

The State: SRO found guilty in sexual assault of middle school student, to register as sex offender

<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article103401947.html>

Jane Moon Dial

A former school resource officer in the Lowcountry was found guilty of sexually violating a student and will have to register as a sex offender, according to officials. After a three-day trial, a jury found Larry Heyward guilty Wednesday of third degree criminal sexual conduct, engaging in a lewd act with a minor and misconduct in office by a public official, according to a news release from Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor Duffie Stone's office. Circuit Court Judge Thomas Cooper sentenced the 55-year-old former Hampton County sheriff's deputy to 15 years in prison. Cooper reportedly handed down the maximum sentence for each charge. Heyward will also have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life, the release stated.

The State: Mother confronts son's 'bullies' on school bus, assaults student, officials say

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article103473332.html>

Jane Moon Dial

An Eastover woman who claimed her son was being bullied was arrested after she allegedly boarded a school bus and pinched and grabbed a student, officials reported. Deputies responded to a report of a disturbance on a school bus at the 200 block of Lewis Scott Court in Eastover around 8 a.m. Thursday, according to a news release from the Richland County Sheriff's Department. Deputies arrested Princess Killingsworth, 30, at the scene. Deputies believe there was an ongoing incident between Killingsworth's son and a few other students. Killingsworth was at a bus stop and was reportedly yelling and using profanity at the students she claimed

were bullying her son, according to the release. Once the bus arrived, the students boarded the bus, and Killingsworth followed. The bus driver then put himself between the suspect and the students and convinced her to leave, the release stated.

The State: On probation already, USC fraternity charged with another alcohol violation

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article103424147.html>

Avery G. Wilks

One of the two University of South Carolina fraternities placed on probation this fall for alcohol-related misconduct violations is in trouble again – for the same problem. The Chi Psi fraternity at USC was charged Sept. 14 with possessing and consuming alcohol at its on-campus chapter facility before an off-campus social event, according to USC's organizational conduct page. As a result of the latest charge, USC extended the fraternity's conduct probation to May 12, 2017. The incident occurred Sept. 4, six days after Chi Psi was charged with possessing and consuming alcohol at an "alleged party" at its chapter facility in USC's Greek Village. After that incident, the chapter was placed on probation until Dec. 31, 2016.

The State: Exclusive: Recurring problems cited at Westinghouse nuclear plant

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article103589917.html>

Sammy Fretwell

An internal review of a Columbia nuclear fuel factory has identified multiple problems with how the site has been managed for atomic safety through the years. The report, compiled by plant operator Westinghouse, says the company wasn't always tough-minded enough about safety and it didn't ensure employees knew enough about nuclear safety while operating some of the factory's equipment. Westinghouse's report cited "long standing deficiencies" that led to a buildup of uranium in excess of federal nuclear safety standards in part of the Bluff Road plant. The 47-year-old plant employs about 1,000 people, but at least 170 have been laid off temporarily while Westinghouse and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission separately investigate why uranium built up in apparent violation of federal standards. Buildups of atomic material are of concern because they can lead to nuclear accidents, although that did not occur in this case. Nuclear safety advocates say Westinghouse needs to redouble its efforts to make sure other, more serious problems don't arise.

Sun News: International Drive supporter sued by environmental lawyer

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article103540567.html>

Audrey Hudson

The environmental lawyer leading the legal charge to block construction of International Drive is suing a road supporter, stating that criticisms published on Facebook, in emails and published letters to the editor of The Sun News are libelous. The lawsuit by Amy Armstrong, executive director of the S.C. Environmental Law Project (SCELP), also asked for a restraining order and injunction against Heritage Reserve resident Scott Dilliard to prohibit him from publishing "false, defamatory, or threatening statements" about the group or its director. Both the restraining order and injunction were granted Tuesday by 15th Judicial Circuit Judge Roger Henderson in Georgetown. Dilliard, who lives near International Drive, is a vocal supporter of the road's construction and against lawsuits filed by SCELP in state and federal courts on behalf of the Coastal Conservation League and S.C. Wildlife Federation.

Post and Courier: Charleston airport adopts new handicapped parking policy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929797/charleston-airport-adopts-new-handicapped-parking-policy>

Warren L. Wise

Handicapped patrons at Charleston International will be allowed to park free for 48 hours at the airport before being charged standard rates under a policy change approved Thursday. In a unanimous vote, the Charleston County Aviation Authority adopted the measure in an effort to crack down on suspected abuses of what is now a free service. The change takes effect Nov. 1, when higher overall parking fees at the airport will kick in.

Authority Chairman Billy Swails called the two-day policy a good compromise. Some board members voiced concerns this month about a proposal to eliminate free parking entirely for handicapped travelers. "We are

giving them premium parking spaces right next to the front of the terminal," airport CEO Paul Campbell said.

The State: Clemson ends Atlanta drought with win over Georgia Tech

<http://www.thestate.com/sports/college/acc/clemson-university/article103608917.html>

Matt Connolly

Clemson put to rest any concerns that it might struggle to be ready for Georgia Tech on a short week or have any lingering thoughts about past failures at Bobby Dodd Stadium in a hurry Thursday night, racing out to a 23-0 halftime lead and cruising to a 26-7 win over the Yellow Jackets. The third-ranked Tigers dominated on both sides of the ball in the first half, outgaining Georgia Tech 347 yards to 22. The win was Clemson's first at Georgia Tech since 2003 and ended a five-game losing streak to the Yellow Jackets in Atlanta. Clemson's offense did not produce much in the second half after Deshaun Watson accounted for 289 yards and two scores in the opening two quarters, and it didn't need to as Brent Venables' unit kept the clamps on Georgia Tech. "Mission accomplished," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. "We were really happy to get out of here with a W. It's been a long time. The last time we won here my son was just born. ... He had a bottle in his mouth. It's been long enough."

Presidential Election 2016:

Associated Press: Trump walks line between law and order, empathy for blacks

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c00146e02a714914a61a12bbda15c986>

Steve Peoples and Jill Colvin

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump is seeking to show law-and-order toughness along with empathy for African-Americans as he criticizes violent protests stemming from another fatal police shooting of a black man. His Democratic opponent, Hillary Clinton, was behind closed doors as she prepared for their initial debate and did not address on Thursday the escalating racial tensions in Charlotte, North Carolina. The city was under a midnight curfew after two previous nights of chaotic protests that led to one death as well as injuries, arrests and vandalism. Trump has spent the last several weeks asking black Americans for their support and asserting that President Barack Obama has failed the black community, but those appeals have been undermined at times. On Thursday, the Trump campaign accepted the resignation of an Ohio volunteer, Mahoning County chair Kathy Miller, who told the Guardian newspaper, "I don't think there was any racism until Obama got elected." Trump himself sent a mixed and at times unclear message that could rankle African-Americans even as he called for a nation united in "the spirit of togetherness."

Associated Press: The Latest: Obama encourages Trump to visit new museum

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f0fc9565928947fc906e5290414f947a>

President Barack Obama says it would be good for Donald Trump to visit the Smithsonian Institution's new National Museum of African American History and Culture that is opening this weekend. Obama was disputing the Republican presidential candidate's assertion that "African-American communities are absolutely in the worst shape that they have ever been in before." In an interview broadcast Friday on ABC's "Good Morning America," Obama said: "I think even most 8-year-olds would tell you that whole slavery thing wasn't very good for black people. Jim Crow wasn't very good for black people." When asked what advice he would give Hillary Clinton ahead of Monday's debate with Trump, Obama said she should be herself and explain what motivates her. He said: "She's in this for the right reasons."

National News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Obama says shootings 'a source of concern'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/32e9781e84dd4c8783712ffe8f156f2e>

President Barack Obama says recent reports of unarmed African Americans being shot by police "should be a source of concern for all Americans." In an interview with ABC's "Good Morning America," Obama declined to address specific cases, although he noted that the city of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has invited the Justice Department to investigate the shooting there. Authorities charged a white Tulsa police officer Thursday with first-degree manslaughter in the fatal shooting last week of Terence Crutcher, who was black and unarmed. Obama said

protesters expressing their frustrations by looting or breaking glass aren't going to "advance the cause" of racial justice. He added, "my hope is that in days to come people in the community pull together and say, 'How do we do this the right way?'" He said "it's important for all of us to say we want to get this right."

Associated Press: Criminal charges in Tulsa police shooting may prevent unrest

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fdc2414de9e44810a58069b9f97344ec>

Justin Juozapavicius and Sean Murphy

Less than a week after an unarmed black man was shot dead by a white police officer on a Tulsa street, prosecutors charged the officer with first-degree manslaughter, a decision that may prevent unrest in a city with a long history of tense race relations. Tulsa officer Betty Shelby "reacted unreasonably" when she fatally shot 40-year-old Terence Crutcher on Sept. 16, prosecutors wrote in an affidavit filed with the charge on Thursday. Police also acted quickly to provide videos of the shooting to black community leaders and members of Crutcher's family and then released them to the public. Shelby was booked in the Tulsa County jail at 1:11 a.m. Friday and was released at 1:31 a.m. after posting \$50,000 bond, according to jail records. The swift action in Tulsa stood in contrast to Charlotte, North Carolina, where police refused under mounting pressure Thursday to publicly release video of the shooting of another black man this week and the National Guard was called in after two nights of violent protests. Demonstrations in Tulsa since Crutcher's death have been consistently peaceful.

World News:

Associated Press: 115 bodies pulled of the waters after Egypt boat tragedy

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f3f10c76bfc34c0bb05b242c27d807f4>

Maggie Hyde

A senior Egyptian official says a total of 115 bodies were pulled out of the waters off the Egyptian coast, three days after hundreds of migrants heading to Europe drowned. Mohammed Sultan, the governor of Beheira province, told The Associated Press that dozens more are feared dead. The migrants' boat capsized on Wednesday, nearly 12 kilometers (7.5 miles) from the Nile Delta port city of Rosetta. The UNHCR estimated that the boat was packed with some 450 people, while the state news agency MENA said earlier that the number might be as high as 600. Some 150 people, mostly Egyptians, survived while many of the dead are women and children who were unable to swim away from the wreckage. Egypt has been a traditional route for migrants seeking to reach Europe by sea.

--

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044