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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, July 26, 2016

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## Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, July 26, 2016

Democratic National Convention:

Associated Press: Clinton steps into history as 1st woman White House nominee

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d0dbc7cd58004f2da2bbd6238cde374b>

Julie Pace and Catherine Lucey

Taking her place in history, Hillary Clinton on Tuesday night will become the first woman to lead a major party toward the White House, a triumphant moment for Democrats to relish before plunging into a bruising general election against Republican Donald Trump. After the roll call of states formalizing Clinton's nomination, former President Bill Clinton will take the stage for a history-making appearance of his own at the Democratic convention. Former presidents often vouch for their potential successors, but never before has that candidate also been a spouse. Clinton's campaign hopes the night of achievement, personal stories and praise can chip away at the deep distrust many voters, including some Democrats, have of the former secretary of state, senator and first lady. Much of the convention's second night will be devoted to introducing voters to Clinton anew, including three hours of speakers who will highlight issues she has championed for years, including health care and advocacy for children and families.

Associated Press : Sanders supporters: Unmoved by plea to support Clinton

<http://bigstory.ap.org/dbde8529b1fa49beb8662548b595ee79>

Geoff Mulvihill and Megan Trimble

Undeterred by Sen. Bernie Sanders' plea for party unity behind Hillary Clinton, several hundred Sanders supporters chanting "Bernie or bust!" took to the streets under the hot sun Tuesday for another round of protests on Day 2 of the Democratic convention. They held a midday rally at City Hall with plans to join up later in the afternoon with groups decrying police brutality and economic injustice. Together they planned to make their way 4 miles down Broad Street to the convention site. Speakers at the rally charged that Sanders was cheated out of the nomination by Clinton. Demonstrators said they weren't swayed by Sanders' speech at the convention Monday night, in which he said: "Based on her ideas and her leadership, Hillary Clinton must become the next president of the United States. The choice is not even close." "He persuaded no one to vote for Hillary," said Greg Gregg, a retired 69-year-old nurse from Salem, Oregon. He said he intends to vote for Green Party candidate Jill Stein, quoting the turn-of-the-last-century socialist labor leader Eugene Debs as saying, "I'd rather vote for what I want and lose than what I don't want and win."

Associated Press: SC delegates: Time for Sanders to hit the trail for Clinton

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=II0HTIQV](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=II0HTIQV)

Meg Kinnard

Not all of Bernie Sanders' supporters are on board with his call to support Hillary Clinton, but some South Carolina delegates to the Democratic National Convention say the Vermont senator is perfectly primed to be one of her chief campaigners. Sanders has received thunderous support from many young voters around the country, drawing thousands of political neophytes and first-time voters to

campaign rallies. It's that ability to energize voters, state Sen. Marlon Kimpson said, that will bring necessary vigor to Clinton's campaign. "It's pretty clear: Sanders needs to have a prominent role in the campaign," Kimpson, a Charleston Democrat, said after Sanders' convention speech Monday night. "He can add tremendous value by firing up the troops and articulating the bread and butter issues that are passionately held by an important segment of the Democratic Party."

Post and Courier: 'I think she was treated unfairly': Jim Clyburn defends Debbie Wasserman Schultz at DNC

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160726/160729575/i-think-she-was-treated-unfairly-jim-clyburn-defends-debbie-wasserman-schultz-at-dnc>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., defended embattled Democratic National Committee Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz on Tuesday morning, saying she should not be held responsible for private emails of others in her organization. "I think she was treated unfairly," Clyburn told The Post and Courier. "Absolutely. No question in my mind." Clyburn added that Wasserman Schultz's decision to resign at the end of the week — and to steer clear of public activities throughout the Democratic National Convention — was "a magnanimous thing for her to do." "It was becoming a distraction," Clyburn added. "It had already become a distraction." Wasserman Schultz, a U.S. representative from Florida, is bearing the brunt of revelations that the DNC, under her watch, might have undertaken efforts to thwart Bernie Sanders in his campaign against the establishment's favorite for the Democratic nominee for president, Hillary Clinton. Thousands of emails from her subordinates were leaked just days before the convention in Philadelphia, and some suggested a negative view of Sanders, a U.S. senator from Vermont.

Post and Courier: S.C. Democrats energized on second day of the DNC, live from Philadelphia

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160726/160729570/sc-democrats-energized-on-second-day-of-the-dnc-live-from-philadelphia>

Emma Dumain

1:30 p.m.: U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn and S.C. Democratic Party Chairman Jaime Harrison co-headlined a state delegation lunch today where a major topic of discussion was how South Carolina, a traditionally "red" state, can go "blue" in 2016 and beyond. Clyburn, the third highest ranking member of the House and Congress's most senior black lawmaker, told delegates that Democrats had to stop listening to polls and start listening to people who actually know what's going on in the Palmetto State. "In 2008, I got very upset, because I was out there and I was feeling something different than what the polls said in South Carolina," Clyburn said. Yet the polls indicated South Carolina didn't have a chance of electing Barack Obama for president, and the campaign pulled thousands of dollars in resources out of the state. South Carolina ended up voting for Obama in 2008 with 45 percent of the vote. In 2012, the state gave Obama 44 percent. Clyburn wondered what might have happened had the campaign not been seduced by the conventional wisdom of outside forces.

The State: 'Not every voice' in harmony at Democratic Convention

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article91900327.html>

Beverly Frierson (Contributor)

"That's what democracy looks like," is the chant I heard last night in response to the fact that not every voice is currently in harmony within the Democratic National Party, but there is hope. There is hope because the sincerity of commitment is being acknowledged, and the Democrats realize that we are "Stronger Together." The "togetherness" includes people of all colors and religions; those who

are young and those who are seasoned with wisdom. Our Party embraces those who can physically run marathons and those of all ages who may need various devices to assist them with mobility. We have numerous voices in our party who are committed to issues that are not homogeneous, and we include people who embrace the lifestyle of the LGBTQ community. How does all of this come together? It takes great effort and open minds, but most of all, it requires respect.

The State: SC's Jim Clyburn warms up for convention speech at delegate breakfast

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article91884752.html>

Steven Porter

Democratic delegates from South Carolina got a preview of one of this week's big convention speakers when U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn spoke during breakfast on Tuesday. Clyburn advised them to lead with empathy for the plight of others, playing on the theme of the Democratic National Convention, "Stronger Together." "It behooves us all to treat every incident that we encounter as if that would be you in any other day in your life. And so when people come to you with a problem, treat it as if it's your own problem. Treat people with dignity and respect," Clyburn said until his words were overwhelmed by applause. "I believe that's the difference in our party and the others," he added. Clyburn, who represents South Carolina's sixth congressional district, is expected to speak Thursday evening, S.C. Democratic Party chairman Jaime Harrison said at Tuesday's breakfast. The assistant House leader is one of several South Carolinians scheduled to speak at the convention this week. During his remarks Tuesday, Clyburn said America is already great, but it can be greater.

Greenville News: Three rising SC Democrats to speak at party's convention

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/07/26/3-sc-democrats-speak-convention/87575346/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin=>

Caroline Kenny

South Carolina may not be viewed as a Democratic stronghold, but three of the state's young leaders will speak at this week's Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, shining a national spotlight on the Palmetto State. Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin, state Democratic Party Chairman Jaime Harrison and former state Rep. Bakari Sellers will speak at the convention, sharing the limelight with well-known Democrats such as Sen. Elizabeth Warren, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and even President Obama. Benjamin takes the podium Tuesday evening, while Harrison and Sellers will address the convention during Thursday's session. The lone Democrat in the state's congressional delegation, Rep. Jim Clyburn, also speaks Thursday night. Benjamin, Harrison and Sellers are among South Carolina's up-and-coming Democratic leaders.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Ex-lawmaker who helped bring Confederate flag off dome dies

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=D9vWqEwg](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=D9vWqEwg)

Seanna Adcox

Former South Carolina Rep. Bill Cotty, a champion for public education who helped bring the Confederate flag off the Statehouse dome, has died. He was 69. Cotty died at home in Columbia on Saturday after battling lung cancer, his wife, Amelia, told The Associated Press. Cotty helped develop the 2000 compromise that moved the Confederate flag from the dome to a 30-foot pole beside a monument to Confederate soldiers. It was a move he'd advocated since his 1994 election as a way to promote racial unity. "I can't believe this isn't the right time for us to say to the state, nation and the rest of the world that South Carolina can see the bigger picture, that we need to respect each other

and come together," he said in 1995, when he voted against a bill keeping the flag on the dome. Only one other Republican voted with him.

Associated Press: Former South Carolina Rep. Cotty has died at age 69

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=I0AwKfCt](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=I0AwKfCt)

SC State Wire

Former South Carolina Rep. Bill Cotty, a champion for public education who helped bring the Confederate flag off the Statehouse dome, has died. He was 69. His wife Amelia told The Associated Press that Cotty died at home in Columbia on Saturday after battling lung cancer. A native of Buffalo, New York, Cotty served in the South Carolina Army National Guard for 38 years. First elected in 1994, Cotty served 14 years in the state House representing suburban northeast Columbia. The former Richland 2 school board member was an outspoken opponent of using tax credits to help parents pay for private school. He also advocated expanding 4-year-old kindergarten. Cotty helped develop the compromise that moved the Confederate flag from the dome to the Statehouse lawn in 2000.

The State: Former state Rep. Bill Cotty, opponent of Confederate flag, has died

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article91870507.html>

Bristow Marchant

A former state representative from Richland County who helped to bring down the Confederate flag from South Carolina's Capitol dome has died. Bill Cotty, a Republican who represented northeast Richland in the S.C. State House for 14 years, passed away at his home on Saturday after a battle with lung cancer. He was 69. Cotty, a native of Buffalo, NY, who graduated from Erskine College and the University of South Carolina law school, "led the floor fight to remove the Confederate flag from the State House dome" during the 2000 debate over the rebel banner, as listed in his obituary. "I can't believe this isn't the right time for us to say to the state, nation and the rest of the world that South Carolina can see the bigger picture, that we need to respect each other and come together," Cotty said as early as 1995, when he was one of two Republicans to vote against keeping the flag atop the State House.

Associated Press: Officials to see if ex-NC lawmaker voted in both states

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=MSFoUBjO](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=MSFoUBjO)

SC State Wire

Officials in South Carolina have requested voting records to see if former North Carolina Rep. Charles Jeter voted twice in the 2004 election. North Carolina State Board of Elections records show Charles R. Jeter voted in the November 2004 election in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. South Carolina records show Charles R. Jeter also voted in Greenville County, South Carolina, on the same day. WBTV-TV first reported the story (<http://bit.ly/2auh9Ob>). Jeter told the station he did not vote twice. Records show the former Republican lawmaker has only voted in North Carolina since 2004. South Carolina Election Commission spokesman Chris Whitmire says it is possible a poll worker entered the wrong name. He says officials have asked for the poll logs from Greenville County to see if Jeter signed the voter list.

Charlotte Observer: Trump courts Sanders supporters in Winston-Salem

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/election/article91883672.html>

Bryan Anderson

Attempting to capitalize on signs of disunity among Democrats gathered in Philadelphia, Donald

Trump on Monday urged past opponents to join him against Hillary Clinton. The Republican presidential candidate and his running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, spoke to about 4,000 people in Winston-Salem. With several Republicans, including Sen. Richard Burr and Gov. Pat McCrory, joining him on the campaign trail for the first time, Trump focused on the Democratic Party primary process and the leak of Democratic National Committee emails that led to the resignation of U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz as committee chairwoman. "The system's rigged and she (Wasserman Schultz) was rigging the system for Hillary," Trump told supporters.

Charlotte Observer: Vets greet Trump like one of their own

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article91910752.html>

Michael Gordon

Donald Trump was greeted with whoops and roars as he rock-starred onto the stage Tuesday before thousands of military veterans in Charlotte. Ten minutes later, he mentioned his Democratic candidate by name for the first time. "You know her. 'Crooked' Hillary Clinton," Trump said. "And she is crooked." "Lock her up," several vets yelled from the front rows. "God bless you," added Stewart Christenson of Ogden, Utah, as he filmed Trump with his smart phone, 20 rows back in the vast hall. Trump later noted that Clinton had appeared before the same audience the day before. "I guess she didn't do so good," he quipped, again to sustained roars. The energy flowing between the Republican presidential candidate and the delegates to the national convention for the Veterans of Foreign Wars was that visceral, leaving little doubt where most of the vets' allegiances lie in the upcoming presidential election.

The Herald: York County black leaders challenging senators over vacant magistrate judge slot

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article91888557.html>

His supporters are calling him capable, competent and a "breath of perspective," but they won't be satisfied until they see that Magistrate Judge Mandrile Young is named the No. 1 choice in the decision to fill a vacant York County magistrate job. Black leaders in York County spoke during a news conference Tuesday of their "deep concerns and reservations" over the conversations they've had with two state senators that hold the authority to appoint magistrate judges. The leaders, who include York County Councilman William "Bump" Roddey and former Rock Hill NAACP president Melvin Poole, spoke to media members at the Moss Justice Center in York to argue that 12-year veteran Young has been given less consideration than leading contender Stephanie Wood. The magistrate job that is called the Catawba Ebenezer Township position became open when Bob Davenport retired last month. State senators West Hayes, R-Rock Hill and Creighton Coleman, D-Winnsboro, dually have authority to appoint a successor.

Dylann Roof Case:

Associated Press: Prosecutors: Roof headed to Tennessee after church shootings

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ZAQnc97w](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ZAQnc97w)

Bruce Smith

The man charged with killing nine people at a Charleston church used the internet to scope out Emanuel AME and other historically black churches, and was trying to get away to Nashville, Tennessee, when he was arrested, federal prosecutors say. The new details are included in filings in which prosecutors outline how the charges against Dylann Roof involve interstate commerce. The defense wants the charges tossed, saying the shootings had no relation to interstate commerce as required under federal law to charge hate crimes. Roof faces 33 federal counts, including hate crimes, in the shooting deaths of nine black parishioners during a Bible study. His death penalty trial

is set to begin in November. In the filings, prosecutors note Roof drove on an interstate highway to Charleston and had a GPS set for Nashville when arrested in North Carolina the day after the shootings on June 17, 2015.

Post and Courier : U.S. Attorney's Office pushes back against motion to dismiss federal charges against Dylann Roof

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160726/160729562/us-attorneys-office-pushes-back-against-motion-to-dismiss-federal-charges-against-dylann-roof>

Gregory Lee

Federal prosecutors in the case against Dylann Roof have pushed back against a defense motion to dismiss 33 indictments in the Emanuel AME Church mass shooting last year. Beth Drake, acting U.S. attorney for South Carolina, and Vanita Gupta, deputy assistant attorney general with the U.S. Department of Justice, denied the defense's allegations that the indictments against Roof are unconstitutional and called for the judge to require him to stand trial. Monday's filing was a response to the July 5 defense motion arguing that the charges against Roof should be thrown out based on the Constitution's Commerce Clause and the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery. The defense also argued that the case should be left to state authorities.

SC after Police Shootings:

Associated Press: Spartanburg patrol officers to wear body cams by Labor Day

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=k9yhRbUG](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=k9yhRbUG)

SC State Wire

All police patrol officers in Spartanburg should be wearing body cameras by Labor Day. Police Chief Alonzo Thompson tells local media outlets that the city is getting 85 additional cameras for the force through a \$185,000 Justice Department grant. Twenty of the department's traffic division officers had already been outfitted with the cameras. A nationwide call for law officers to be equipped with the cameras resulted from the 2014 police shooting of an unarmed man in Ferguson, Missouri. Thompson says the new cameras should arrive and officers trained in their use by Labor Day. The city is also getting 85 more stun guns.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Remains of lost Spanish fort found on South Carolina coast

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=jbDC32Vc](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=jbDC32Vc)

SC State Wire

Archaeologists have found the location of a long-sought Spanish fort on the South Carolina coast at the site of what was once the first capital of Spanish Florida. A release from the University of South Carolina says the site of San Marcos, one of five forts built during the 21-year history of the early settlement of Santa Elena, has finally been located on Parris Island near Hilton Head Island. University of South Carolina archaeologist Chester DePratter and Victor Thompson of the Center for Archaeological Sciences at the University of Georgia, have conducted research for the past two years to find the site of the 1577 fort. Using ground-penetrating radar and other high-tech equipment last month, they found the site and are publishing the details of their work this week in The Journal of Archaeology Science Reports.

Island Packet: Santa Elena fort found after decades-long search

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article91869597.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Improving technology helped archaeologists finally locate a 16th-century Spanish fort on what is now Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island. Archaeologists had been looking for San Marcos, one of several forts built on the Santa Elena settlement, for more than 20 years. The location was nailed down using radar and magnetometers. The machines have been in play for archaeologists for years, but the computer programs interpreting the data have vastly improved in recent years, said University of Georgia archaeologist Victor Thompson. Thompson has worked on the site with University of South Carolina archaeologist Chester DePratter, whose search for San Marcos began in 1993. The general location of the fort had been noted using documents archived in Spain. There was a drawing of the fort and a written description but nothing detailing the location. Traditional digging methods had failed to find the fort.

Local News:

The State: Video shows man kill 2 soldiers and walk off, Chapin bar owner says

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article91910657.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

The two soldiers who were killed at a Lake Murray restaurant Sunday came running toward the sound of gunshots to rescue a woman, the restaurant owner said Tuesday. Justin Brooks, owner of the Frayed Knot Bar & Grill on Dreher Island Road in Chapin, recounted security camera footage of a double homicide he said he has watched over and over Sunday and part of Monday. Staff Sgt. Charles Allen Judge Jr. and Sgt. 1st Class Jonathon Michael Prins died after they rushed to help after a quick but tense standoff with a man that deputies have identified as Joseph Elijah Mills, 25, of Little Mountain. "From the footage, there's a woman running from the far side of the parking lot, darting back and forth like she doesn't know which way to go," Brooks said. He said the woman went past the restaurant's front door and ran toward a dock area in the back. At that point, Mills tackled the woman and started hitting and kicking her, Brooks said. A group of about 10 people pulled him off, causing him to fall about a foot from the docks to the ground, the bar owner said.

Associated Press: Man gets 20 years for shooting man in back in home invasion

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zU3ippmh](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zU3ippmh)

SC State Wire

A Greenville man already serving prison time on other charges has been sentenced to 20 years in prison for shooting a man in the back multiple times during a home invasion. Local media outlets report that 20-year-old Michael McClean Lee pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter, conspiracy and other charges on Monday. Authorities say that the charges stemmed from the January 2013 shooting death of Darius Williams during a home invasion. Assistant Solicitor Allen Fretwell says Williams was shot several times in the back with his own gun during the incident. Lee will have to serve at least 85 percent of his sentence. A second man is also charged in the case.

Associated Press: Man dead from heat exposure had 109-degree body temperature

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=k0IU6D9q](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=k0IU6D9q)

SC State Wire

Authorities say a man who died from exposure to the heat in South Carolina was found with a body temperature of 109 degrees. York County Coroner Sabrina Gast said in a news release that 55-year-old Ronnie Moore was found on a trail at River Park in Rock Hill around 6:45 p.m. Monday by someone who called 911 and reported he was having seizures. Gast says Moore died a short time later, and he appears to have been killed by the heat. The high in Rock Hill was 97 degrees on

Monday, and a police report says Moore had a body temperature of 109 degrees when paramedics arrived.

Associated Press: 2 church fires in as many days in South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Vm7F5Dcv](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Vm7F5Dcv)

SC State Wire

The State Law Enforcement Division is investigating a fire that destroyed a church in Conway, the second church fire in South Carolina in as many days. Local media outlets report the fire broke out at the Abundant Faith Church late Sunday afternoon and at one point as many as 100 firefighters were on the scene. It took firefighters an hour to bring the blaze under control. No one was injured. Meanwhile two men are charged with arson after officials say they were hired to destroy a church in Laurens County in upstate South Carolina. Deputies say the men were at Laurel Hill Baptist Church just before that fire late Saturday. It took 10 fire departments to put out that blaze. One firefighter was hurt when a wall fell on him.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach to buy new radios, ambulances with \$1.5M loan

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article91929937.html>

Chloe Johnson

Myrtle Beach Fire Rescue will buy new radio equipment and a new ambulance and refurbish two other ambulances with a \$1.5 million loan approved in first reading by city council Tuesday. The loan is necessary, Myrtle Beach Chief Financial Officer Mike Shelton said, because paying out the entire cost of the upgrade at one time would force the city to make cuts in other departments. He also said the loan payments have already been figured into budget projections, because they will replace payments the city is making on older vehicles. "We don't keep money lying around for large capital purchases," Shelton said. Lt. Jonathan Evans of Myrtle Beach Fire Rescue said the purchase will allow the department to retire an older ambulance and ensure that it has an extra ambulance, which allows for flexibility in special situations. "It's a way for us to have a spare ambulance in case one of those goes down," Evans said. "And we can also use it for special events like the [Carolina Country Music Festival] or things like that—we have an ambulance on site."

Sun News: Ocean Boulevard will reduce to three lanes, add bike lanes along Golden Mile

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article91906827.html>

Chloe Johnson

Ocean Boulevard along the Golden Mile will be converted to three lanes of traffic with bike lanes on both sides after city council members voiced support for the measure at a morning workshop Tuesday. In its official meeting this afternoon, the council is likely to formalize the removal of about 60 parking spaces along the same stretch of road. That change occurred last week as the city faced a decision by the Army Corps of Engineers on whether its new parking plan along the boulevard ensured equitable access to the beach for non-city residents. However, during discussion of this ordinance, the council turned its attention to changing the lanes on the road. "That's one of the few sections of town that we don't have bike lanes," Mayor John Rhodes said.

Associated Press: No Relief: Drought tightens grip on upstate South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gllvinq1](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gllvinq1)

SC State Wire

Drought is tightening its grip on upstate South Carolina. Local media outlets report that it's been hot and dry and rainfall this month has been only about an inch - that's about a third of normal. The Independent Mail of Anderson (<http://bit.ly/2aHopFC>) reports the levels in Lake Hartwell and two

other reservoirs on the Savannah River have dropped. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says that will mean a drop in the amount of electricity generated by power plants on the lakes. Boaters are also being advised to be on the lookout for submerged objects because of the lower water and the lack of rain is affecting crops. The U.S. Drought Monitor classifies Abbeville, Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties as being in a severe to extreme drought.

National News:

Associated Press: Anti-abortion duo behind Planned Parenthood videos cleared

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6246f88b36324923b5045378058cd06b>

Michael Graczyk

A Texas judge on Tuesday dismissed the last remaining charge against two California anti-abortion activists who made undercover videos of themselves trying to buy fetal tissue from Planned Parenthood. District Judge Brock Thomas dismissed the tampering with government records charges against David Daleiden, 27, and Sandra Merritt, 63, at the request of the Harris County prosecutor's office, which determined that the grand jury had exceeded its authority by investigating the activists after clearing Planned Parenthood of wrongdoing. "The grand jury took the investigation where the facts led it, however Texas law limits what can be investigated after a grand jury extension order is issued," District Attorney Devon Anderson said in a statement. "In light of this and after careful research and review, this office dismissed the indictments." Anderson, a Republican who ran as a "proud, pro-life Texan mother of two" during the 2014 election, supported the charges when they were handed down in January, stressing at the time that at the outset of the investigation, she stated that "we must go where the evidence leads us." That didn't sit well with many members of her party.

World News:

Associated Press: The Latest: 1 extremist in French attack was a local boy

<http://bigstory.ap.org/52671f84a5d643bea1718fd1d0fb70d9>

One of the extremists who attacked a Normandy church has been identified as Adel Kermiche, a local youth whose parents flagged his radical behavior to authorities. A police official and people who know Kermiche's family provided the name to The Associated Press. Family friend Jonathan Sacarabany says Kermiche grew up in a housing project in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray. That is the town where two assailants claiming allegiance to the Islamic State group slit the throat of a priest and took hostages Tuesday before being shot to death by police. The family friend says Kermiche had a sister who is a doctor in the nearby city of Rouen, and a brother. Their mother is a professor. The family alerted authorities to his radicalism to try to stop him from going to Syria, Sacarabany said. Kermiche was arrested trying to go to Syria and was put under judicial supervision upon his return, with an electronic bracelet that was deactivated for five hours a day allowing him to leave home without surveillance, according to a police official with knowledge of the investigation. Kermiche was required to check in with police once a day, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to divulge details.

Associated Press: IS group claims attack that killed 85-year-old French priest

<http://bigstory.ap.org/80be0ba6a9ad42d2926bfe7107b75180>

Elaine Ganley and Alex Turnbull

Two attackers slit the throat of an 85-year-old priest celebrating Mass in a French church, killing him and gravely injuring one of the few worshippers present before being shot to death by police. A nun who escaped said she saw the attackers take a video of themselves and "give a sermon in Arabic"

around the altar. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack, the first inside a church in the West. Police rescued three people inside the church — including a second nun — in the small northwestern town of Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, said Interior Ministry spokesman Pierre-Henry Brandet. A regional Muslim leader said one of the two attackers was known to police, and a police official said he had tried to go to Syria. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to reveal details of the investigation, said the man was under police supervision and wore an electronic bracelet to monitor his movements. A statement published by the Islamic State-affiliated Amaq news agency said the attack was carried out by "two soldiers of the Islamic State" who acted in response to calls to target nations in the U.S.-led coalition fighting IS in Iraq and Syria.

Associated Press: Rare mass killing raises questions about security in Japan

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a923bec1b7dd471595688097bacb52b9>

Ken Moritsugu and Satoshi Sugiyama

The killing of 19 people at a home for the mentally disabled raised questions about whether Japan's reputation as one of the safest countries in the world is creating a false sense of security. The deadliest mass killing in Japan in the post-World War II era unfolded early Tuesday in Sagami-hara, a city about 50 kilometers (30 miles) west of central Tokyo, when authorities say a former employee broke into the facility and stabbed more than 40 people before calmly turning himself in to police. The suspect, identified as 26-year-old Satoshi Uematsu, had worked at the facility from 2014 until February, when he was let go. He wrote to Parliament outlining the bloody plan and saying all disabled should be put to death. While not immune to violent crime, Japan has a relatively low homicide rate of well under one per 100,000 people. Mass killings usually are seen half a world away on the nightly news, although seven Japanese were among the dead in a recent hostage-taking in Bangladesh that targeted non-Muslims.

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