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## Afternoon Clips – Thursday, November 10, 2016

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**ELLE Magazine:** Republican Women Explain Why They're Excited for a President Donald Trump  
<http://www.elle.com/culture/career-politics/news/a40667/republican-women-on-donald-trump-presidency/>

Megan Friedman

On Tuesday night, America lost its chance to elect its first woman president. But not all American women were upset about that. According to a CNN exit poll, Hillary Clinton received 54 percent of the votes from women across the country. But when divided by race, 53 percent of white women's votes went for Trump. No matter how you slice it, support for Clinton among women was far lower than many expected. But if you ask a Republican woman, she won't be surprised that Trump over-performed. Four women who have been working on the front lines to get Trump and other GOP officials elected spoke to Elle.com about what they want a Trump administration to look like—and what they wish people would stop getting wrong about conservative women.

**NOTE:** Who would you like to see as the first woman president? *I think Condoleezza Rice is a very bright woman. We have a number of states where the governors are women, and they're all incredible. Nikki Haley from South Carolina is doing a great job, she's a hard worker. Mary Fallin, the governor of Oklahoma, you know, there are some wonderful women. Any of those women would be great presidents. To me it's not so much the gender, it's the quality of the person. It needs to be the experience that's important.*

**McClatchy DC:** Clinton won't be America's first female president. Who will?

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/election/article113891963.html>

Lindsay Wise

To many voters who proudly wore pantsuits to the polls and expected to celebrate history with Hillary Clinton's election, the likelihood of a woman becoming America's commander in chief seems more remote than ever. Now Clinton's supporters are struggling to come to terms with the reality that the first female presidential nominee won't be the one to shatter what she calls the "highest and hardest glass ceiling." Clinton, looking shell-shocked herself, tried to reassure them that it would only be a matter of time. "Some day," Clinton said in her concession speech, "someone will, and hopefully sooner than we might think." But if not Clinton, then who? "In many ways it's ironic because people were looking for change election and the real change we could have seen in our democracy was not realized," said Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. Not only will the highest office in the land remain out of women's reach for now, Walsh said, but the number of female members of Congress will remain the same after this election, stalled at 104. There will be one more woman in the Senate, bringing the total to 21. In the House, the number of women will go down by one, to 83.

**NOTE:** Republican Nikki Haley, the Indian-American governor of South Carolina, could be a presidential contender. Her leadership after the fatal shooting of black South Carolinians in Charleston last year drew widespread praise and raised her profile nationally.

**Post and Courier:** Supplement maker moving HQ to Charleston area from Idaho

[http://www.postandcourier.com/business/supplement-maker-moving-hq-to-charleston-area-from-idaho/article\\_efa7e788-a6d2-11e6-b907-8b60b0c5fa73.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/business/supplement-maker-moving-hq-to-charleston-area-from-idaho/article_efa7e788-a6d2-11e6-b907-8b60b0c5fa73.html)

John McDermott

A growing maker of nutritional supplements is relocating its corporate headquarters and the rest of its business operations to Summerville in a deal that's being hailed as a major coup for the region's life-sciences industry. Thorne Research plans to complete its cross-country move to the South Carolina coast from northern tip of Idaho by late 2018, Tom McKenna, chief operating officer, said in a statement. The company is expected to bring several hundred research, manufacturing, distribution and support jobs to its future home in Berkeley County. Thorne's 270,000-square-foot building will be constructed on about 26 acres off U.S. Interstate 26 in Omni Industrial Campus, according to property records. The cost of the investment was not disclosed. "This new South Carolina facility will provide state-of-the-art research and development, production, laboratory, distribution and business operations," McKenna said in an announcement Wednesday.

**NOTE:** State officials, including Gov. Nikki Haley, and economic development representatives at the local level "have been integrally involved in helping make this course of action become a reality," McKenna said.

**NOTE:** "The region successfully competed against major U.S. metros to attract the largest life sciences headquarters and manufacturer in our community's history," Gallati said. "Gov. Haley was an influential and persuasive factor, along with a comprehensive group of local leaders, in Thorne Research's decision to locate in Berkeley County. We are proud to welcome Thorne to our region's growing life-sciences cluster."

**Island Packet:** Nikki Haley praises Beaufort family pillow company expansion as 'huge win'

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article113866493.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Gov. Nikki Haley praised a Beaufort pillow company's upcoming expansion as a "huge win" for Beaufort County and South Carolina's manufacturing industry this week. Harris Pillow Supply plans a \$2 million investment in moving into a new building and adding 22 new jobs during the next five years. The family company has operated at 3026 Trask Parkway and plans to move to a larger facility on Parker Drive by early next year. "Our state is on the move in so many ways, and this \$2.1 million investment that means 22 jobs is just one more example of Team South Carolina's hard work paying off for the talented people who make up our elite workforce," Haley said in a news release. The company recently received a \$225,000 grant from the county for the work on the new building, with the condition Harris Pillow meets its goal of added jobs. The new space — previously home to Beaufort Liquidation and 84 Lumber — will double the size of the current building. Harris Pillow started in 1956 by William Harris and has operated in Beaufort since 1980, now run by John Harris and his son, Patrick. The company makes and sells pillows to a variety of customers, including hotel chains and private labels. Harris Pillow also makes a machine that renovates old pillows. In Haley's news release, Patrick Harris said the expansion will allow the company to install more equipment and reach more markets.

**The Herald:** Fort Mill financial company expanding, to add 175 jobs

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/business/article113878453.html>

A Fort Mill financial company will expand and add 175 jobs at its York County site. South Carolina and York County officials announced Thursday that OneMain Holdings, which already has a location on Munn Road in Fort Mill near S.C. 160 and Interstate 77, has started hiring for new positions. OneMain Holdings has a presence in 44 states with more than 1,800 branches and 11,000 employees, a statement from state officials said. Britt Blackwell, York County Council chairman, said in a statement that the county congratulates the company on its expansion and choice to make York County a home for its business. "Their decision to expand here will create more diverse job opportunities for our vibrant workforce," Blackwell said in a statement.

**NOTE:** Gov. Nikki Haley also praised the expansion, saying South Carolina continues to work toward having the most competitive business environment and skilled work force possible. The area also is home to the Lash Group, which is adding 2,400 jobs to the area in its new headquarters.

## Presidential Election 2016:

**Associated Press:** 'Excellent' first meeting for Obama, Trump

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2245232cd2cf4a92a7a6d041593b0301>

In a cordial beginning to their transfer of power, President Barack Obama and President-elect Donald Trump met at the White House Thursday. Obama called the 90-minute meeting "excellent," and his successor said he looked forward to receiving the outgoing president's "counsel." At the close of the Oval Office sit-down, Obama said to Trump, "We now are going to want to do everything we can to help you succeed because if you succeed the country succeeds." The two men, who have been harshly critical of each other for years, were meeting for the first time, Trump said. The Republican called Obama a "very good man" and said he looked forward "to dealing with the president in the future, including counsel." Obama blasted Trump throughout the campaign as unfit to serve as a commander in chief. Trump spent years challenging the legitimacy of Obama's presidency, falsely suggesting Obama may have been born outside the United States. But at least publicly, the two men appeared to put aside their animosity. As the meeting concluded and journalists scrambled out of the Oval Office, Obama smiled at his successor and explained the unfolding scene.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: At Capitol, Trump lists top 3 priorities

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2965231d071e44b9a346c5e87353e2f8>

President-elect Donald Trump says his top three priorities are immigration, health care and jobs. "Big-league jobs," he says. Trump spoke briefly with reporters Thursday after meeting with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell at the Capitol. Trump is wrapping up his first trip to Washington since winning Tuesday's election. He's been meeting with President Barack Obama and House Speaker Paul Ryan. When a reporter asked if he would ask Congress to ban Muslims, Trump said "Thank you everybody," and walked away.

**Associated Press:** Trump bucks protocol on press access

<http://bigstory.ap.org/22b62277e34b47008a760c660084968a>

President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday refused to let a group of journalists travel with him to cover his historic first meeting with President Barack Obama, breaking a long-standing practice intended to ensure the public has a watchful eye on the nation's leader. Trump flew from New York to Washington on his private jet without that "pool" of reporters, photographers and television cameras that have traveled with presidents and presidents-elect. Trump's flouting of press access was one of his first public decisions since his election Tuesday. Trump's meeting with Obama on Thursday will be recorded by the pool of White House reporters, photographers and TV cameras who cover the president. News organizations had for weeks tried to coordinate a pool of journalists who could begin to travel with Trump immediately after Election Day if he won election. But his campaign did not cooperate with those requests and his senior advisers refused Wednesday, the day after the election, to discuss any such press arrangements.

**Associated Press:** The economy that Trump inherits: Durable but sluggish

<http://bigstory.ap.org/0e352c1b634b46e49a0a5a830a371f74>

Donald Trump inherits a much sturdier economy than the one Barack Obama carried into his second term four years ago. Back then, the scars of the Great Recession were still fresh. Joblessness was near 8 percent. Pay was flat. Europe faced a grave debt crisis that threatened to spread across the Atlantic. Now? The job market, with steady hiring and just 4.9 percent unemployment, has proved durable. Pay is finally accelerating. Auto sales are near a record pace. Housing is stronger. Europe's financial plight has stabilized. Yet the economy's long-standing shift toward workers with college degrees left people without them stuck with dimmer job opportunities and stagnant wages — a trend for which Trump blamed trade deals that he said led manufacturers to move overseas. The Americans who elected Trump are longing not just for change but for a reversal of the Obama era — one that will ignite growth, slash taxes, restore lost factory jobs and curb most federal regulations. Problem is, the economy's most vexing problems — from an aging workforce to listless productivity to

weak corporate spending — defy quick fixes. Trump has pledged an economic renaissance yet has avoided the broad policy prescriptions widely seen as necessary for managing a government.

**Associated Press:** Russia eyes better ties with Trump; says contacts underway

<http://bigstory.ap.org/323f28f7f5e242498f43e4a7188336bc>

A top Russian diplomat and Vladimir Putin's spokesman said Thursday that Russian experts were in contact with some members of President-elect Donald Trump's staff during the presidential campaign, a period in which the United States accused Russia of hacking into Democratic Party emails systems. A spokeswoman for Trump denied the assertion, but it raised the ongoing suspicions about the president-elect's relationship with Putin's government that had dogged his campaign with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Russia is hopeful that a Trump presidency will herald improved relations with the United States. But, in a sign of the cold realism that Putin is known for, Moscow is not betting on an immediate drastic turnaround in the strained relationship. And while Trump himself has said he wants to be friends with Russia and join forces in the fight against terrorism, he has outlined few specifics as to how he would go about it. President Barack Obama began his presidency with a similar goal, only to see progress unravel over the conflicts in Ukraine and Syria. Putin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told The Associated Press in an interview in New York that Russian experts had contacts with people in both the Trump and Clinton campaigns. He said such contacts are "quite natural, quite normal."

**Associated Press:** 'Not my president:' Trump denounced in protests across US

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2a936aa6a71b4238bd9a463f142e027c>

A day after Donald Trump's election to the presidency, campaign divisions appeared to widen as many thousands of demonstrators — some with signs with messages declaring "NOT MY PRESIDENT" — flooded streets across the country to protest his surprise triumph. From New England to heartland cities like Kansas City and along the West Coast, demonstrators bore flags and effigies of the president-elect, disrupting traffic and declaring that they refused to accept Trump's victory. Flames lit up the night sky in California cities Wednesday as thousands of protesters burned a giant papier-mache Trump head in Los Angeles and started fires in Oakland intersections. Los Angeles demonstrators also beat a Trump piñata and sprayed the Los Angeles Times building and news vans with anti-Trump profanity. One protester outside LA City Hall read a sign that simply said "this is very bad." Late in the evening several hundred people blocked one of the city's busiest freeways, U.S. 101 between downtown and Hollywood.

## SC Political News:

**The State:** How might Trump's economic policies impact S.C.?

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article113802098.html>

Sammy Fretwell and Roddie Burris

Manufacturers, homebuilders, military base supporters and health care officials were among those anxious Wednesday to see if Donald Trump's election will improve South Carolina's economy or result in unintended consequences. The New York Republican's statements during the campaign could mean lower taxes on industries and looser regulations on businesses that say such rules drive up their costs. But Trump's policies also could raise costs for some manufacturers and consumers, said business people and analysts. During the campaign, Trump pledged to lighten what many say is a regulatory burden that stifles economic growth. Many of those perceived obstacles are environmental rules, and include a plan to limit the release of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Trump is a skeptic of climate change. Trump also pledged to be a tougher trade negotiator than President Barack Obama. He blasted free trade agreements with Asia and Mexico, saying the United States was being taken advantage of by other nations in global trade. Changes to those agreements could cost manufacturers, although the full extent remains unclear, said Clemson University professor Scott Baier.

**Greenville News:** Donald Trump wins SC with margin larger than Romney, McCain

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/11/09/donald-trump-wins-sc-margin-larger-than-romney-mccain/93559042/>

Amanda Coyne

President-elect Donald Trump won South Carolina with a margin four points higher than recent Republican presidential candidates and increased Republican voter turnout in the Upstate and other rural and conservative counties, election results show. Both Gov. Mitt Romney and Sen. John McCain won South Carolina by 10 percentage points over President Barack Obama. As of Wednesday afternoon, Trump had beaten former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton by more than 14 points in the Palmetto State. Part of that margin of victory was activating so-called "missing" or "secret" Trump voters who had not previously voted or who had not voted for many years, said Bob Oldendick, a political science professor at the University of South Carolina. "We saw them come out in the primaries. A lot of people were shocked at the margin of Trump victory, that he was able to capture all the delegates and the congressional districts (in the primary)," Oldendick said. "It's because he was able to reach those voters. I don't know how many, but there were certainly enough people who hadn't voted for 20, 30 years who were dissatisfied with the system and connecting with what Trump was saying."

**The Herald:** Behind the numbers: Graphs show how York, Chester, Lancaster voters changed election

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article113734094.html>

David Thackham

York, Chester and Lancaster county voters made their voices heard in record numbers on election night Tuesday, but officials say a lack of competitive local races and a divided presidential campaign were to blame for a dip in the percentage of voter turnout. Although all three counties saw record numbers of actual ballots cast, both York and Chester counties recorded shrinking turnout percentages dating back to 2008. In the race for president, Republican Donald Trump coasted to a 14-percentage-point victory in South Carolina over Democrat Hillary Clinton. But the percentage of registered voters who came out to the polls dipped for the second straight general election for York (68.44 percent) and Chester (68.26 percent) counties. Both counties saw voter turnouts above 70 percent in 2012, and even higher numbers in 2008.

**Island Packet:** Election official apologizes for long Bluffton, Hilton Head Island voting lines

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/politics-government/election/article113789353.html>

Teresa Moss

The top Beaufort County election official apologized Wednesday for voting lines extending two hours or longer at some locations, citing limited resources as the main problem. "The only thing we can do is apologize," Marie Smalls, elections director, told The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette. "We had to move some voting locations, and it directly affected voters. We don't want there to be two-hour waits." Two-hour waits were not unusual Tuesday at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Bluffton and the county library's Bluffton branch, as well as at Christ Lutheran Church on Hilton Head Island. Natalie Hefter said she waited for more than two hours to cast her vote at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in a line that wrapped out the door and onto sidewalks lining Buckwalter Parkway. "I saw people walk away after waiting in line for an hour," she said. "It was frustrating to see. It was not a great experience."

**WIS:** South Carolina looking to update voting machines

<http://www.wistv.com/story/33674460/south-carolina-looking-to-update-voting-machines>

Caroline Patrickis

Election day is behind us and South Carolina election officials say the overall process was smooth across the state. There were a few scattered issues but no major problems, according to the South Carolina Election Commission. Most South Carolina voters went to the polls on Tuesday without experiencing problems. It all came down to long lines and voting machine glitches, which is

something they are looking at changing in the future. South Carolina Election Commission Director Chris Whitmire, says, for the most part, everything went better than expected. "Overall I think we had a pretty good election. In every election you are going to have some issues out there," Whitmire says.

The day got off to a rocky start with the voting machines having some calibration issues. "On Election Day, things happen like machines die, the batteries die, the screens go bad, the motherboard goes bad," Whitmire explains.

**Post and Courier:** Student exit pollsters saw the election unfold up close

[http://www.postandcourier.com/news/student-exit-pollsters-saw-the-election-unfold-up-close/article\\_ab702314-a6aa-11e6-b8f6-333abc09d97b.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/student-exit-pollsters-saw-the-election-unfold-up-close/article_ab702314-a6aa-11e6-b8f6-333abc09d97b.html)

Paul Bowers

The army of student pollsters fanned out to voting sites as the sun warmed a chilly Tuesday morning. Some adults left the voting booths and shot suspicious glances toward the clipboard-toting youthful interlopers. More often than not, the voters opened up and shared who they voted for — and the students were all ears. Anne Adragna, a 17-year-old senior at the private University School of the Lowcountry in Mount Pleasant, was one of the students who helped poll 24 precincts in Tuesday's general election. Students at her school have been conducting exit polls for nine years, often with pinpoint accuracy. This year's poll was no exception. "It went much better than I expected, honestly," Adragna said. "Just the general demeanor of the people ... Most people were in a good mood, the lines were moving pretty quickly, and once we explained what we were doing a lot of the initial wariness went away."

**Post and Courier:** Donald Trump supporters hope presidential win piques local interest of like-minded candidates

[http://www.postandcourier.com/news/donald-trump-supporters-hope-presidential-win-piques-local-interest-of/article\\_d3f1534c-a512-11e6-a66f-af4b863b83a8.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/donald-trump-supporters-hope-presidential-win-piques-local-interest-of/article_d3f1534c-a512-11e6-a66f-af4b863b83a8.html)

Maya T. Prabhu

Keep an eye out for an influx of Trump-like candidates and messages in the next few years. At least that's what supporters of President-elect Donald Trump say South Carolinians can expect as the state prepares for the state, local and mid-term elections ahead and politicians examine the Trump phenomenon as a recognized formula. "It demonstrates very clearly you don't have to be an insider to win," said Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, one of Trump's first high-profile supporters during the presidential primary. "I think Trump's successful candidacy has demonstrated that you don't have to have a lot of connections," McMaster added. "If you have the strength and determination, and are willing to get involved and willing to take the heat, you can succeed." That desire for an outsider is what helped lead Trump to defeat former secretary of state Democrat Hillary Clinton for the White House on Tuesday. And it's "most definitely" what will inspire like-minded South Carolinians to run in coming years, McMaster said.

**WACH:** Lt. Gov: We will make America great again- greater than ever before

<http://wach.com/news/local/lt-gov-we-will-make-america-great-again-greater-than-ever-before>

Tara Petitt

After an astounding finish to an election unlike any ever seen in recent memory, the nation is still processing the results. Although South Carolina has historically been a "red" state in Presidential elections, not even experts could have predicted a "too close to call" race for the White House. While Hillary Clinton had support and endorsements from the current and past Presidents, Cabinet-level officials, Governors across the state and notable figures across the country, it wasn't enough to get her the number of electoral votes needed to beat Donald Trump. The business mogul, also, had hundreds of endorsements. The first elected official to publicly back him was South Carolina's Lieutenant Governor Henry McMaster. The Lieutenant Governor endorsed Trump in late January of 2016 and continued to support him throughout the entire campaign. "I knew that we were gonna have a fight- excluding the Republicans, that we were really gonna have a fight... not only to win, but also to do what's necessary for the country," said McMaster.

**The State:** 'We now have a country to run.' SC GOP leaders offer Trump advice

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article113754688.html>

Avery G. Wilks and Cassie Cope

State Rep. Phyllis Henderson stayed up past 3 a.m. Wednesday to watch Donald Trump's victory speech. The Greenville Republican was encouraged by Trump's calls for unity after the divisive presidential campaign. "Now, the governing part is going to be the hard part," said Henderson, who supported the bombastic New York billionaire businessman and reality-TV star but "wasn't a huge fan." Even with fellow Republicans controlling both chambers of Congress, President-elect Trump, a political novice, is not guaranteed success. Trump now must stay on task, rally Republicans around common causes and exercise humility in establishing relationships with congressional leaders, S.C. Republicans advised Wednesday. "We now have a country to run," longtime Trump critic U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-Seneca, wrote Wednesday in a statement pledging his support.

**Herald-Journal:** SC Republicans rally around Trump

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161109/sc-republicans-rally-around-trump?rssfeed=true>

Bob Montgomery

South Carolina voters helped elect Donald Trump, and state Republicans said Wednesday they're ready to hit the ground running in January. "The first thing he's going to do is repeal Obamacare," said 5th District U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney, a Trump supporter who beat Democratic challenger Fran Person. Mulvaney said voters had sent a clear message. "They want to turn Washington upside down, and I'm all for it," he said. Statewide, Trump beat Clinton 55 percent to 41 percent. In Spartanburg County, 63 percent voted for Trump, compared with 33 percent for Clinton. "I like him because he's not a politician," said Woodruff resident Carman Taylor, who said she waited in line for over an hour Tuesday to cast her vote. "He's a businessman," added Rodney Bridges, also of Woodruff. "If anyone can fix this mess, he can." Not all Republicans were on board with Trump when he started his presidential run more than a year ago. In the primaries, Mulvaney first backed Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, while South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott backed Florida Sen. Marco Rubio. Both state lawmakers eventually backed Trump.

**NOTE:** Gov. Nikki Haley was among those who weren't enthusiastic about Trump as the party's choice, but by late October she finally endorsed him.

**NOTE:** Woodard said in doing so, South Carolina's three rising political stars — Gowdy, Haley and Scott — could be rewarded with greater roles in the national limelight.

**Sun News:** President-elect Trump was no stranger to Myrtle Beach area in journey to victory

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article113895943.html>

Todd Garvin

Donald Trump was no stranger to the Myrtle Beach area, even before he threw his hat into the race for the White House. The Sun News takes a quick look back at some of President-elect Trump's visits to the area...

**Post and Courier:** To the Archives! Charleston wrestles with presidential election results in 1948 (and it all sounds so familiar)

[http://www.postandcourier.com/news/to-the-archives-charleston-wrestles-with-presidential-election-results-in/article\\_83dd4306-a6bc-11e6-b57b-73842a2cfa23.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/to-the-archives-charleston-wrestles-with-presidential-election-results-in/article_83dd4306-a6bc-11e6-b57b-73842a2cfa23.html)

Caitlin Byrd

The world was a different place 68 years ago, but the post-election weariness of 1948 sounds eerily similar to 2016. The 1948 presidential election was one of confusion for American voters. In South Carolina, it was even more astounding. Republican presidential candidate Thomas Dewey of New York was challenging Democratic incumbent Harry S. Truman. For South Carolina voters and experts alike, the presidential victory was expected to be written in Republican red. But that's not what happened. The 1948 election would be seared into American history with the iconic image of Truman smiling and holding up a copy of the Chicago Daily Tribune that falsely declared in the big, bold

headline "Dewey Defeats Truman." On Tuesday night, another watershed moment in American history occurred when Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump beat Democratic challenger Hillary Clinton.

**The State:** Richland County deputy rants about Obama, 'worthless Democrats'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article113918283.html>

Cynthia Roldan

A Richland County deputy has removed a personal social media post in which he insulted President Barack Obama and made a reference to "worthless Democrats." Deputy Timothy Michaud took down the comments dated Wednesday at the request of the Sheriff Leon Lott. No disciplinary action will be taken, sheriff's spokesman Lt. Curtis Wilson said. Michaud said he served in the military under former President George W. Bush and Obama "and I can say serving under Obama in the military was a disaster" without further explanation. The rest of Michaud's remarks were laced with expletives. "This is not something the department condones and, as public servants, we must refrain from expressing opinions on social media," Lott said in a statement. "The sheriff's department will handle any social media posting that is detrimental to the department." This isn't the first time social media comments got public safety officials in the Midlands in hot water. In July, three Columbia firefighters were fired over Facebook posts aimed at Black Lives Matter protesters who had taken to the streets to protest. A Richland County paramedic was also fired for comments on social media in July.

### SC Delegation News:

**Post and Courier:** S.C. Republicans in Congress not yet ready to jump into governor's race talk

[http://www.postandcourier.com/news/s-c-republicans-in-congress-not-yet-ready-to-jump/article\\_e330f898-a6a8-11e6-8a59-73632410f66b.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/s-c-republicans-in-congress-not-yet-ready-to-jump/article_e330f898-a6a8-11e6-8a59-73632410f66b.html)

Emma Dumain

On Tuesday night, South Carolina's congressional Republicans were basking in the glow of their re-election victories and the excitement of getting to serve in a GOP-controlled Congress, answerable to a GOP president. By Wednesday morning, for those possibly toying with the prospect of running for governor in 2018, it was simply too early to say if they were prepared to shift focus away from freshly reaffirmed congressional careers to seek a less certain statewide race. U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., who staved off a Democratic challenger in what was arguably the only competitive South Carolina congressional race this cycle, suggested he might finally find joy in governing with Donald Trump in the White House. He's also less inclined to jump ship than if Democrat Hillary Clinton had prevailed. "The job was getting so frustrating and so disappointing," said Mulvaney, who has served in Congress only under President Barack Obama. "Now I can't tell you how excited I am to go to work, get back to Washington and actually get to stop playing defense and start getting things done."

**NOTE:** Another Republican whose name has been floated as a possible candidate to succeed term-limited Gov. Nikki Haley is U.S. Sen. Tim Scott.

**NOTE:** Scott, who was first appointed to fill a U.S. Senate vacancy by Haley in 2013, on Tuesday won election to his first, full six-year term. In 2014, he pledged to serve two full terms and then return to South Carolina, ruling out a 2018 run for governor entirely.

**McClatchy DC:** Gowdy unsure of Clinton investigation, instead focusing on 'opportunity to govern'

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/congress/article113720489.html>

Matthew Schofield

Especially in the latter stages of the presidential campaign, the call from the camp of now President-elect Donald Trump was that election day would not stop the pursuit of failed democrat contender Hillary Clinton, whom he had dubbed "Crooked Hillary" and alleged had been guilty of "very high crimes. Whether fairly or not, the name of Rep. Trey Gowdy (R-SC), who had led the Benghazi Committee that first uncovered the emails at the heart of the allegations against Clinton, was associated with whatever efforts might come after the vote. Now that the vote has passed, the question remains: Do Republicans go after a failed candidate, and will Gowdy lead that charge? The

day after a re-election, Gowdy's office didn't want to discuss that possibility, noting that the Benghazi Committee is now over and decisions from the House Oversight Committee (of which he is a member but does not lead) on what to do or not do regarding Clinton were decisions that others would be making.

### **General Assembly News:**

**Post and Courier:** Charleston County Democrat, GOP leaders see bright spots in general election results

[http://www.postandcourier.com/news/charleston-county-democrat-gop-leaders-see-bright-spots-in-general/article\\_f4e44a2c-a6ad-11e6-af16-83763f753d6b.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/charleston-county-democrat-gop-leaders-see-bright-spots-in-general/article_f4e44a2c-a6ad-11e6-af16-83763f753d6b.html)

Prentiss Findlay

A day after the general election, the Charleston County GOP chairman touted the party's new majority on County Council along with a Statehouse seat addition, while his Democratic counterpart celebrated wins for auditor and treasurer. Republican Brantley Moody won the County Council District 7 seat up for grabs following the retirement of Democrat Colleen Condon. Lin Bennett, former county GOP chair, was victorious in the race for the House District 114 seat in West Ashley. "Those are significant pickups," said Larry Kobrovsky, county Republican chair. County Democratic Party Chairman Brady Quirk-Garvan said Democrats' wins in races for county auditor and treasurer matter politically because they are great places to grow and recruit candidates. Mary Tinkler, who won the treasurer race, is nearing the end of her first and only term in the House District 114 seat now going to Bennett. Peter Tecklenburg won re-election as auditor.

### **Kala Brown Kidnapping:**

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Bodies on SC man's property were a couple

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Micki7x5](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Micki7x5)

SC State Wire

A coroner says two bodies that were found on the property of a South Carolina man linked to five other deaths were a couple who had been buried there for about a year. Coroner Rusty Clevenger said Wednesday that one of the victims was a 25-year-old woman who appears to have died from a gunshot wound to the head and the other was her husband, a 29-year-old man who had a gunshot wound to his torso. Last week, authorities searching the rural property found a woman alive and chained in a storage container. Investigators say they later found the woman's boyfriend in a shallow grave. Authorities say the property owner, Todd Kohlhepp, also has confessed to a quadruple killing at a motorcycle shop in 2003, linking him to seven deaths in all.

**Greenville News:** Spartanburg husband, wife identified as bodies on Kohlhepp land

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/11/09/spartanburg-coroner-release-identities-2-bodies-found-kohlhepp-land/93546930/>

Michael Burns

A husband and wife from Spartanburg were identified as the two bodies unearthed on Todd Kohlhepp's property on Sunday and Monday, Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger said Wednesday afternoon. Meagan Coxie, 25 of Shalann Drive and her husband, Johnny Coxie, 29, of the same address were believed to have been killed late last year, Clevenger said. Both had gunshot wounds but were clothed, he said. She was shot in the head and he was shot in the torso, Clevenger said. They were identified with the help of extensive tattoos, he said. They were reported missing in December of last year and both had recently been released from jail, said Lt. Kevin Bobo, spokesman for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office. Meagan had asked her mother to bond her out of jail because of she had a job lined up. The couple had a child together that is being cared for, Bobo said. They also had a history of panhandling, he said.

**Herald-Journal:** Bodies at crime scene identified as Spartanburg couple

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161109/bodies-at-crime-scene-identified-as-spartanburg-couple?rssfeed=true>

Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger identified the human remains found on suspected serial killer Todd Kohlhepp's wooded property on Wofford Road as Meagan Leigh McCraw Coxie and Johnny Joe Coxie, a couple in their 20s who lived on Shalann Drive in Spartanburg. Meagan was found Sunday, Johnny, on Monday, Clevenger said. Both sets of remains were removed Monday afternoon. They had been buried about 11 months, Clevenger said. "This is definitely a homicide," he said. Their discovery brings the total number of bodies associated with Kohlhepp, a Moore real estate agent and registered sex offender, to seven — including those killed in the 2003 quadruple homicide at Superbike Motorsports near Chesnee. He has only been charged with murder in the 2003 case so far. The Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office will keep a deputy guarding Kohlhepp's 96-acre property, though investigators believe all bodies there have been recovered, said Lt. Kevin Bobo.

**Independent Mail:** Nichole Carver released on personal recognizance bond

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/2016/11/09/nichole-carver-released-personal-recognizance-bond/93535662/>

Nikie Mayo

Nichole Carver, the estranged wife of Charles David Carver, was granted a \$2,500 personal recognizance bond when she appeared alone before an Anderson judge Wednesday. Carver, 35, is accused of impersonating Anderson Police Department Detective Charlynn Ezell. According to an arrest warrant and police report, Carver tried on Oct. 8 to get AT&T to "geo-locate" her estranged husband's cellphone. Judge Goetz Eaton said Nichole Carver had no criminal history. Carver told the judge she does not need a public defender. She said she had a private lawyer, whom she did not identify. After the hearing, Lt. Mike Aikens said his agency is still investigating posts that were made on Charles David Carver's Facebook page after his disappearance. Charges against someone connected to those posts are still possible, he said. "We are still looking at a lot of leads, a lot of new leads," Aikens said. "We are not done." Aikens said that just in the past few days the Anderson Police Department has gotten responses to search warrants the agency sought weeks ago.

**Michael Slager Case:**

**Associated Press:** Witness: Officer's DNA not on fingernails of black victim

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

Bruce Smith

A fired white police officer's defense lawyer told jurors at the start of his murder trial that he was provoked to shoot an unarmed black motorist when the fleeing man "physically and forcefully resisted" being subdued by a stun gun, "to the extent that they were both fighting on the ground." A DNA expert's testimony Thursday cast some doubt on that argument, revealing that none of the North Charleston officer's genetic material was found under the dead man's fingernails, and that a DNA analysis of his Taser was inconclusive. Samuel Stewart of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division testified at the trial of Michael Slager, whose shooting of 50-year-old Walter Scott in April 2015 was captured on a bystander's cellphone and shared worldwide. DNA from the Taser "is a mixture of two individuals, and Walter Scott and Michael Slager can't be excluded as contributors to the mix," Stewart testified. He also said there was DNA on three other areas on the stun gun that did not belong to either Scott or Slager.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Witness: Officer's DNA not found on victim

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kdAMfOZ1](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kdAMfOZ1)

SC State Wire

An expert is testifying that there was no DNA from a former white police officer found under the fingernails of a black South Carolina motorist who was fatally shot while fleeing a traffic stop. Samuel Stewart of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division testified Thursday during the murder trial of fired North Charleston patrolman Michael Slager, who was videotaped shooting Walter Scott. The

defense contends the two men struggled over Slager's stun gun before fleeing the scene. But Stewart testified that DNA from the dead man's fingernails contained none of Slager's DNA. An analysis of the Taser was less conclusive. Stewart testified that there was a mixture of the DNA of two individuals on the weapon and that DNA from both Slager and Scott could not be ruled out. Stewart said blood stains on Slager's uniform shirt and pants also were analyzed. He testified that the blood contained Slager's own DNA, and that while there was another person's DNA, there was not enough of it to analyze its source.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: CSI agent says stun gun was processed properly

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

SC State Wire

A state crime scene investigator says there was nothing nefarious about officers swabbing a Taser for DNA but not taking fingerprints from the stun gun an officer used before shooting an unarmed black motorist who was running away. Almon Brown, who works for the State Law Enforcement Division, testified at the murder trial of fired North Charleston officer Michael Slager on Thursday that the weapon was processed according to lab protocol. Brown, who combed the scene for evidence following the April 2015 shooting death of Walter Scott, says there is no doubt from the evidence that there was a struggle between Scott and Slager. The defense earlier questioned Brown about why no fingerprints were taken from the officer's Taser, which the defense contends Scott got control of before the shooting. A dramatic cellphone video seen worldwide shows Scott running away without the spent Taser and falling to the ground dozens of feet away from Slager after being shot five times in the back.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Brother worried victim bought Mercedes

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tvZW1j2N](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tvZW1j2N)

SC State Wire

The brother of Walter Scott says he was worried when his brother bought a 1990 Mercedes Benz because he lived in North Charleston, South Carolina, which is known for profiling black motorists. Anthony Scott took the stand Thursday at the trial of Michael Slager, the white former North Charleston patrolman charged in the death of Walter Scott. The motorist was shot and killed while running from a traffic stop in April of 2015. Anthony Scott says he worried that his brother, who was in the process of buying the car at the time he was shot, had fallen behind in child support payments. The day of the shooting Anthony Scott said he went to the scene of the shooting and saw his brother's car. As he testified: "When I saw the vehicle and I saw the tape around the car I knew it wasn't a good scene." Scott also testified about how his family learned about a cellphone video made by a bystander, which captured dramatic footage of Slager shooting Scott.

**Post and Courier:** Slager defense continues to try to show that the state investigation was incomplete

[http://www.postandcourier.com/news/slager-defense-continues-to-try-to-show-that-the-state/article\\_7f86b626-a6f7-11e6-bde3-d738fe7ac748.html](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/slager-defense-continues-to-try-to-show-that-the-state/article_7f86b626-a6f7-11e6-bde3-d738fe7ac748.html)

Andrew Knapp

State Law Enforcement investigators were not trying to slant the case when they collected and inspected evidence in the wake of the fatal shooting of Walter Scott, a SLED agent said Thursday. Almon Brown, once a special agent at the State Law Enforcement Division, returned to the stand Thursday to talk about the investigation and handling of evidence. Brown testified in Michael Slager's murder trial on Tuesday, but was unable to return to the stand Wednesday due to a doctor's appointment. The former agent said he and others on the case conferred and followed protocol based on their training. "Was there any nefarious intent on y'all's part not to take fingerprints (from Slager's Taser)?" Deputy Solicitor Bruce DuRant asked. "No, sir," Brown responded. But Slager lawyer Andy Savage continued his bid to make it look like the investigation was bungled. He pointed out that SLED didn't do 3D scan of Slager's car, as it did Scott's, because North Charleston police said Slager's car was unavailable.

## Hurricane Matthew Recovery:

**Island Packet:** Hunting Island to refund \$1 million in camping reservations

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article113903783.html>

Stephen Fastenau

The final cost of Hurricane Matthew's damage to Hunting Island isn't yet known, but the state will absorb at least a million-dollar hit in the coming weeks. The park will remain closed until at least next spring, and the oceanfront campground sites will be closed at least through next year. Those who reserved inland campsites through May 21 will receive refunds, and all the oceanfront site reservations next year will be refunded. In all, the park will give back \$1.1 million in camping fees, state parks spokeswoman Dawn Dawson-House said Thursday. "It's a jewel, and we've always known that," Dawson-House said. "It's like a child of ours.... It's important we recover and restore as quickly as we can." Notices will go out to those with reservations Friday. The refunds could take about two weeks to process. People who made reservations will have the chance to transfer the reservation to another state park for a 15 percent discount. The north end of Hunting Island, including the lighthouse, could reopen to visitors sometime this spring, Dawson-House said. The nature center and part of the fishing pier reopened in October.

## South Carolina News:

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Burn bans remain in Mississippi, Louisiana

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=S4LCPaQX](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=S4LCPaQX)

SC State Wire

The numbers are in from Mississippi: Since September 1, the state Forestry Commission has responded to 884 wildfires that burned 7,798 acres and damaged or destroyed 43 structures. But a total of 1,324 other structures were saved by firefighters. The drought continues to make for an extremely high fire risk across most of Mississippi, where outdoor burning is banned in 76 of 82 counties. Forestry Commission spokeswoman Brighton Forester said Thursday that no active fires were being suppressed. Neither are there active fires in Louisiana, where 59 of 64 parishes remain under a burn ban. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's commissioner, Mike Strain, says that since drought conditions began in the state on Oct. 11, wildland fire crews have responded to 140 wildfires burning nearly 619 acres.

**Associated Press:** Wildfires break out in Appalachia amid deepening drought

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=nCjvufk7](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=nCjvufk7)

Jeff Martin

Unseasonably warm dry weather has deepened a drought that's igniting forest fires across the southeastern U.S., forcing people to flee homes in the Appalachian Mountains and blanketing Atlanta in a smoky haze. Thursday's national drought report shows 41.6 million people in parts of 15 southern states living in drought conditions. The worst drought is in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, but extreme drought also is spreading into the western Carolinas, and Kentucky and Tennessee had the most fires. All but two of the 61 active large wildfires nationwide Thursday were in the Southeast, according to the U.S. Forest Service. Nearly a dozen large fires were uncontained, with 14 more breaking out Thursday alone.

**The State:** Smoke in the Midlands likely coming from out of state

<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article113654319.html>

Jane Moon Dial

Residents in the Midlands who see or smell smoke likely do not need to panic. The Newberry County Sheriff's Office released an advisory that smoke seen in the area is likely from forest fires in North Carolina. NCSO reported the smoke should clear by in the afternoon as it moves south, and it has

already cleared before noon in the northern areas of Newberry County. The office stated it has no reports of controlled burns or uncontrolled fires in the area. The Associated Press reported the forest fire near Lake Lure near Asheville, N.C. has been burning for four days. Up to 35 homes near Lake Lure will be affected, and others may be evacuated, the AP reported.

**Herald-Journal:** WNC wildfire leads to Upstate burning ban

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20161110/wnc-wildfire-leads-to-upstate-burning-ban?rssfeed=true>

The S.C. Forestry Commission on Thursday issued a burning ban for Spartanburg and four other Upstate counties until further notice. State Forester Gene Kodama enacted the ban because of weather conditions in the Upstate that present an elevated risk of wildfire, according to the commission. "The ongoing drought, combined with leaf fall, low humidity and high winds, is making conditions ripe for a wildfire," said state Fire Chief Darryl Jones. "The intent of this burning ban is to help us avoid the number and severity of wildfires that we're seeing in all our neighboring states. "Forestry Commission crews and a National Guard helicopter are battling a wildfire on Pinnacle Mountain in Table Rock Park in northern Pickens County, Jones said. A wildfire near Lake Lure in Rutherford County, N.C., entered its fifth day on Thursday, spreading to more than 400 acres and forcing the evacuation of residents near the fire.

**Sun News:** Surfside Beach tabbed as No. 7 burglary hot spot in South Carolina

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article113874608.html>

Surfside Beach is listed as a "hot spot" for burglaries on a report by a security company. ProtectAmerica.com tabbed the Grand Strand town as the No. 7 hotspot in the state of South Carolina for a burglary to occur. The ranking is based on the cities with the highest burglary rates per capita. According to statistics, there have been 85 burglaries in 2016 within the city, which has a population of 4,276.

**Local News:**

**Associated Press:** Upstate man, woman face human trafficking charges

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

SC State Wire

An Upstate man and woman are facing federal sex trafficking charges after they were accused of recruiting two minors for prostitution. The State newspaper of Columbia (<http://bit.ly/2eNajWQ>) reports 27-year-old Ashford J. Simmons and 22-year-old Brittany Smith are facing 12 federal counts relating to the sex trafficking of minors and transporting them across state lines to North Carolina for prostitution. Court records show the case has been ongoing for more than a year. The latest indictment, returned Wednesday, says Simmons and Smith would recruit minors and young women to work for them as prostitutes, and split their earnings. Both are facing life in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000. It is unclear whether either suspect has an attorney.

**Associated Press:** 2 men found dead at home in Travelers Rest

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0QqPLvfA](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0QqPLvfA)

SC State Wire

Greenville County sheriff's deputies are investigating after two people have been found shot to death in a home in Travelers Rest. Master Deputy Ryan Flood told local media that deputies were called to check on a resident's welfare about 2:40 p.m. Wednesday. The coroner's office said two men were found dead in the home. Their names have not been released. Autopsies were planned Thursday. No arrests have been made.

**Associated Press:** Woman found dead in closet in Hanahan, boyfriend arrested

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=m1wWqscC](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=m1wWqscC)

SC State Wire

A man has been arrested and charged with murder after his girlfriend's body was found in a closet of

their apartment in Hanahan. Berkeley County Coroner Bill Salisbury said in a statement that police found the body of 39-year-old Melanie Rivera on Tuesday afternoon. Hanahan Police Capt. Michael Fowler said officers checked the apartment after getting a call from Rivera's co-workers, who had not heard from her in several days. Salisbury said her body had been in the closet for more than 24 hours. Thirty-five-year-old Michael Patrick Strait Jr. was arrested during a traffic stop Tuesday night. It was not known if Strait has an attorney. An autopsy scheduled for Thursday is expected to reveal more about how Rivera died. There was no indication of a motive.

**Associated Press:** Man kills suspected robber with gun he had in vehicle

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

SC State Wire

Authorities in South Carolina say a man who was forced back into his car by a robber while pumping gas was able to grab his gun inside the vehicle and shoot the suspect. Aiken County Sheriff's Capt. Eric Abdullah said in a news release that a man was pumping gas about 6:20 a.m. Thursday when 39-year-old Steven Kilmek approached him, demanded money, and told him to get back in his vehicle. Coroner Tim Carlton says the man gave Kilmek \$15, but authorities say the two then started fighting. They say Kilmek fired his gun and missed before the man grabbed his own gun and shot Kilmek several times. Paramedics pronounced Kilmek dead at the scene. The robbery victim's name was not released. No charges have been filed.

**Sun News:** Shots fired outside home of Heather Elvis family

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article113905618.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

A man reported being shot at outside the family home of kidnapping victim Heather Elvis on Wednesday night, and Horry County police are investigating the incident, which they are calling an attempted murder, according to a police report. Officers were called about 10 p.m. Wednesday night to a home off Sly Fox Trail, which an online search showed is the home of the Elvis family. The call was in reference to a shooting, police said, and they met with a male victim whose name was redacted from the report. He told police he was taking trash out to a can in front of his home and as he was putting trash in the can, he said he heard a popping sound and felt the trash can being struck, according to the report. The victim told police he ran behind his vehicles and eventually into his home. He also told police he saw a vehicle on Recreation Road, near where it intersects with Sly Fox Trail, drive off toward S.C. 707, the report states. He said he couldn't describe the vehicle because it was dark outside, and the vehicle was too far down the road, police said.

**The State:** Columbia College students will see big tuition drop

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article113907138.html>

Students at Columbia College will see a big drop in their tuition bill next year as the private women's college cuts by nearly \$10,000 the "sticker price" paid by its students. The college said Thursday that students will pay tuition of \$19,500 a year to attend starting with the fall 2017 semester, down from the current \$28,900. College affordability is a rising national issue. The move will bring Columbia College's price tag more in line with its average net cost — after scholarships and grants — to attend, the college said. "We have the opportunity to significantly decrease our tuition price while still maintaining and improving the high quality and lasting value that a Columbia College degree holds," president Beth Dinndorf said in a statement. Adding in the cost of room and board — currently \$7,900 a year — the change will bring the total cost of attending Columbia College to \$27,400, less than the current cost of tuition alone now, according to Monique McDaniels, marketing and communications director.

**The State:** Palmetto Moon sells majority interest

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/biz-columns-blogs/shop-around/article113867058.html>

Janet Jones Kendall

Fifteen years ago Robert and Karen Webster started a kiosk selling apparel, accessories and gifts in

Charleston. Since then, Palmetto Moon has grown into an 11-store chain—one that is successful enough to have garnered the attention of New York-based private equity fund Topspin Partners who, earlier this month acquired a majority interest in the retailer which has a location in the Midlands at The Village at Sandhill. The Websters will take a step back from the company but will continue to be involved. "In choosing a financial partner, it was very important for us to maintain the collaborative culture that we have developed over the last 15 years, and Topspin will be able to bring an extensive network of industry executives and expertise in growing companies like ours," Robert Webster said. "This new partnership will allow Palmetto Moon to grow quickly and profitably in a number of new markets."••

**The State:** Fort Jackson, Midlands enjoy economic, family bonds

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article113725739.html>

Roddie Burris

Fort Jackson's far-reaching impact on Columbia and its economy has been validated in everything from thwarting big-time U.S. defense cuts to being a tool in promoting the Midlands as an ideal place to live and retire. Fort Jackson – which is in the middle of a yearlong celebration of its centennial – pumps more than \$2 billion a year into the Midlands economy, where it accounts for 17,000 jobs locally and nearly 20,000 jobs statewide. That makes the fort, the Army's largest basic training center, a vital cog in the local economy. It also is an important cog in the overall \$15.7 billion economic impact the military exerts on the Palmetto State each year. "One of the benefits of having a strong military presence in the state from an economic standpoint is it introduces new spending activity to the state and to Columbia that wouldn't exist otherwise," said Joey Von Nessen, USC chief research economist.

**National News:**

**Associated Press:** Rockefeller Center Christmas tree cut in upstate New York

<http://bigstory.ap.org/331963926ae74f72bea57ce94e30d2b3>

This year's Rockefeller Center Christmas tree is beginning its journey from upstate New York to Manhattan. The 94-foot Norway spruce in Oneonta (oh-nee-AHN'-tuh) was cut down Thursday morning and loaded on a truck. The spruce will make the 140-mile trip to Manhattan and is expected to arrive Saturday. The tree's 50,000 lights will be switched on during a live television broadcast Nov. 30.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Jury reviews parking lot video in hot-car death

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a2da9c117219489096ffe84b69e2099f>

Jurors weighing murder charges against a Georgia man whose toddler son died in a hot car have taken a second look at surveillance video showing the father return to his vehicle, hours after he left the child inside. The jury returned to the courtroom Thursday during its third day of deliberations to watch the short video. It shows Justin Ross Harris return to his SUV during his lunch break, open the door and toss a bag containing lightbulbs inside. He then walks away. Harris left his 22-month-old son, Cooper, in the vehicle when he arrived at work the morning of June 18, 2014. He told police he forgot to drop the child off at day care and drove straight to work. Prosecutors say Harris intentionally killed his son. Defense attorneys say Harris loved his son and that the death was a tragic accident.

**Associated Press:** Autopsy: 13-year-old Ohio boy killed by police shot 3 times

<http://bigstory.ap.org/17792e4621e1436cba7191ec0f552033>

A 13-year-old boy fatally shot by Columbus police earlier this year during an investigation into a robbery report was struck three times on his left side, according to autopsy results released Thursday. The report from Franklin County Coroner Dr. Anahi Ortiz listed Tyre King's cause of death as gunshot wounds to the head and torso and the manner of death as homicide, which is standard in the county when a person is shot, regardless of the circumstances. The case will go to a grand jury following a police investigation to determine whether officers will face charges. It remains under

investigation, said police spokeswoman Denise Alex-Bouzounis. The autopsy results, done the day after the Sept. 14 shooting, were consistent with a review of Tyre's body on Sept. 18 by a medical examiner hired by the teen's family. Attorneys for the family have called for an independent investigation. A message was left with the attorneys Thursday. Tyre was shot after he ran from an officer investigating a reported armed robbery and pulled a BB gun that looked like a real firearm, according to police.

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