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Subject: Clips - Friday, March 15, 2013

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## Clips - Friday, March 15, 2013

### Governor Nikki Haley News

**Associated Press:** Haley invited to introduce Romney at meeting

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

Staff Report

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is introducing former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney at a meeting of conservatives in Washington. Haley spokesman Rob Godfrey said Romney asked the governor if she would introduce him at the Conservative Political Action Conference meeting in Washington on Friday. Godfrey said Haley wasn't planning to attend CPAC before Romney issued the invitation.

**The State:** SC Gov. Haley to introduce Romney at CPAC

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/03/14/2676095/gov-haley-to-introduce-romney.html>

Andy Shain

Gov. Nikki Haley will travel to the Washington, D.C., area today to introduce 2012 Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney at the Conservative Political Action Conference, her office said. Haley backed the former Massachusetts governor last year in the S.C. GOP presidential primary, which was won by former House Speaker Newt Gingrich. Haley also was a Romney surrogate on the campaign trail and spoke at the Republican National Convention, where he formally accepted the GOP's nomination.

**Note:** The first-term governor from Lexington was not planning to attend the annual rally of conservatives, but Romney asked Haley to introduce him, her office said. This will be Romney's first major speech since losing to President Barack Obama in November.

**Associated Press:** Crawford: Frustrations led to flippant comment

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

Seanna Adcox

The Legislature's only emergency room doctor said Thursday that frustration over Republicans' steadfast refusal to accept Medicaid expansion under the federal health care law led to a flippant comment that some are calling racist but he says was taken out of context. Republican Rep. Kris Crawford said he was telling a group of doctors the fight over Medicaid was a political one. He said his comment that "it is good politics to oppose the black guy in the White House" was not meant to be racial, but wrapped up his explanation that the vote is not over policy.

**Note:** It "in no way represents the people of South Carolina, and it's a shame that the views of a few end up damaging the image of our state as a whole," said Haley spokesman Rob Godfrey.

**Post and Courier:** Controversy ensues over S.C. House member's "black guy in the White House" comment

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319519/1006/controversy-ensues-over-sc-house-member-x2019-s-x201c-black-guy-in-the-white-house-x201d-comment>

Stephen Largen

A Republican state representative from Florence said he was taken out of context when he was quoted in January as telling a group of doctors at the Statehouse that "it is good politics to oppose the black guy in the White House." Rep. Kris Crawford was quoted in the Charleston Regional Business Journal in a Jan. 29 story about doctors' efforts to persuade lawmakers to expand Medicaid in South Carolina under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, commonly known as "Obamacare."

**Note:** Haley spokesman Rob Godfrey wrote in a statement that Crawford's "ignorant comment in no way represents the people of South Carolina — and it's a shame that the views of a few end up damaging the image of our state as a whole."

**Associated Press:** SC's Graham shows limits of tea party intimidation

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zrFzf7Mj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zrFzf7Mj)

Charles Babington and Jeffrey Collins

To gauge the limits of the tea party's ability to frighten re-election-seeking Republicans into a rightward panic, spend time with Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina. One day he's blasting tea party hero Rand Paul on the Senate floor, calling the Kentucky senator's 13-hour filibuster - which criticized U.S. drone policy - wrong-headed and "ill-informed."

**Note:** Three years ago, South Carolina Republican clubs were condemning Graham, calling him too moderate and too willing to cooperate with President Barack Obama and other Democrats. Nikki Haley, now the state's governor, supported the censures.

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## South Carolina News

**Post and Courier:** Sen. Tim Scott tells conservatives America's future is bright

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319525/1006/sen-tim-scott-tells-conservatives-america-x2019-s-future-is-bright>

Robert Behre

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., decried President Barack Obama's health care plan, but still painted a rosy picture of America's future during a 15-minute speech Thursday before a major conservative convention. Scott showed off his increasingly evangelical speaking style, moving out from behind the podium and telling personal stories, including one about his near-fatal car crash in high school.

**Gannett:** Sen. Tim Scott received warmly at CPAC

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/NEWS/303150021/Sen-Tim-Scott-received-warmly-CPAC>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

Conservatives should promote their agenda of lower taxes and smaller government using plainspoken appeals to Americans' hearts and minds, Sen. Tim Scott told a major national gathering of the political right on Thursday. Scott, the new Republican senator from South Carolina, said he prefers not to talk about federal spending in terms of billions and trillions of dollars. Instead, he prefers to say the federal government earns \$22,000 and spends \$34,000, he said.

**Post and Courier:** Deadline approaching for free credit-monitoring service - and many have yet to sign up

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319512/1006/deadline-approaching-for-free-credit-monitoring-service-and-many-have-yet-to-sign-up>

David Slade

As the deadline nears for South Carolina residents to sign up for a free year of credit monitoring and identity-theft protection, nearly two-thirds of those eligible have not signed up. The deadline is March 31. The ProtectMyID service from Experian, paid for by the state at a cost of \$12 million, is being offered to anyone who has filed a South Carolina tax return since 1998. The offer came after the state Department of Revenue computers were attacked by hackers last year and massive amounts of data were compromised.

**Associated Press:** South Carolina Senate approves early voting bill

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Vp8D8dMQ](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Vp8D8dMQ)

Seanna Adcox

The Senate on Thursday passed a bill that would allow state voters to cast ballots during a 10-day window before Election Day, with no voting on Sundays or the Monday before an election. The measure was passed by a 34-5 vote.

**The State:** SC Senate OKs early voting

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/03/14/2675640/senate-give-preliminary-ok-to.html>

Andy Shain

The state Senate gave preliminary approval Thursday to an early-voting proposal that would allow South Carolinians to cast ballots in the week before an election. S.C. voters now can cast absentee ballots up to 30 days in advance of an election if they can provide one of 18 reasons, such as a trip, to explain why they cannot go to the polls on Election Day.

**Post and Courier:** S.C. Senate bill could alter sex crimes investigations on college campuses

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319511/1006/sc-senate-bill-could-alter-sex-crimes-investigations-on-college-campuses>

Andrew Knapp

The College of Charleston said Thursday that it would “welcome and appreciate” help from the city police force in investigating sexual assaults on campus, if a change in state law allows it. Its statement came in response to a bill introduced Wednesday in the S.C. Senate to clarify a law that politicians said the school has misinterpreted since it was passed in 2007.

**Associated Press:** Deadline nearing for DHEC applications to team

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mi62ttCA](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mi62ttCA)

Staff Report

The deadline is here for applications to a contest that state health officials hope will encourage kids to stay active and healthy. The Department of Health and Environmental Control says Friday is the deadline for applications to its All-Health Team.

**Post and Courier:** Calling DOT to account to on I-26 median trees (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC1002/130319535/1021/calling-dot-to-account-to-on-i-26-median-trees>

Editorial

The state Department of Transportation continues to draw fire for its drastic plan to clear-cut nearly 30 miles of median along I-26, and rightly so. Too bad there’s been no apparent movement by the DOT to reconsider the proposal. Maybe a Senate measure to halt the project, pending a legislative review, will get the agency’s attention. Its sponsor, Sen. Larry Grooms, spoke for those who have raised objections to the plan: “I really want to see why they are doing it, and if there is an alternative.”

**Greenville News:** Give teachers fair evaluations (Opinion)

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/OPINION/303150015/Editorial-Give-teachers-fair-evaluations>

Editorial

South Carolina teachers’ performance should be evaluated by a system that accounts for classroom performance and student success, and that system eventually should be used as part of a merit-based pay system such as what most Americans face in their workplaces. But teachers also deserve to be evaluated fairly and in a way that does not diminish that they are highly trained and essential professionals. The state Department of Education’s efforts to revise its appraisal system recently was approved by the federal Education Department. The plan has been highly criticized, primarily by the education community and primarily because of a scale that uses letter grades just like those received by students. They say it is demeaning for teachers to be graded on the same scale as their students.

**Associated Press:** SC lawyers need permission to discuss evidence

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

Jeffrey Collins

Prosecutors and defense attorneys will need the court’s permission before they talk to reporters about evidence in the case of an ex-Secret Service charged with trying to kidnap a former judge, a South Carolina judge ruled Thursday. Circuit Judge Lawton McIntosh issued the ruling after prosecutors asked for a gag order in James Bartee’s attempted kidnapping case. Bartee was arrested during a court hearing last May while he was running for Oconee County sheriff. His lawyer has said local authorities and state police were conspiring to knock him out of the race.

**The State:** Report: Gov’t incentives favor nuclear over renewable energy in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/03/14/2676165/govt-incentives-favor-nuclear.html>

Sammy Fretwell

As SCE&G and other utilities work to complete atomic power plants, the law that made construction possible gives power companies less incentive to use solar, wind and other forms of alternative energy. That’s one conclusion in a broad study that criticizes the way South Carolina, Georgia and Florida have helped utilities afford the multi-billion dollar costs of building nuclear power plants.

**Greenville News:** Study says customers get raw deal in new reactors

*Duke, SCE&G say paying in advance for nuclear projects benefits ratepayers long term*

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/BUSINESS/303150024/Study-says-customers-get-raw-deal-new-reactors>

Eric Connor

South Carolina electricity ratepayers on the hook for funding new nuclear reactors yet to be built would be better served if their power providers abandoned the plans, potentially saving billions of dollars, a new economic energy study says. The report — authored by economic analyst Mark Cooper of the Vermont Law School Institute for Energy and the Environment — focuses on SCE&G plans to build two reactors in Fairfield County, as well as plans by Duke Energy to build a new reactor in Florida.

**Greenville News:** Michelin invests in 4 local businesses

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/BUSINESS/303150022/Michelin-invests-4-local-businesses>

Angelia Davis

Four local businesses are the latest to benefit from an investment by Michelin. Blues Boulevard Jazz, Divine Healing Health Care Services, High Performance Gym, and 9 Round have received a low interest loan and business expertise from Michelin Development, a subsidiary of Michelin North America.

**Associated Press:** TD bank scheduled to open new hub in Greenville

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pNSSN8od](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pNSSN8od)

Staff Report

A major bank is celebrating its new presence in South Carolina. TD Bank plans to cut the ribbon officially opening its new building in Greenville at 10 a.m. Friday. The new building will be the bank's hub for operations across the Southeast. Officials say several hundred employees are already working there, will hopes to have up to 1,400 people by 2016.

**Greenville News:** Small businesses adopt technology to improve customer service and boost bottom lines

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/BUSINESS02/303150017/Small-businesses-adopt-technology-improve-customer-service-boost-bottom-lines>

Amy Clarke Burns

David Haskins sat in the traditional dentistry chair, the spotlight hovering overhead and the tray of instruments laid out behind him. The paper bib crinkled around his neck and a gentle melody played over the room's speaker. But when Dr. Judson Suber reviewed Haskins' X-rays with him, traditional dentistry took a turn toward modernity. Pulling up a rolling seat next to Haskins, Suber flipped back the cover of an iPad, called up Haskins' digital X-ray images and began to zoom in on the crown that needed repairing.

**Post and Courier:** Graham wishes Christie had been invited to CPAC

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319526/1006/graham-wishes-christie-had-been-invited-to-cpac>

Staff Report

Sen. Lindsey Graham told reporters at CPAC on Thursday that he thinks New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie should have been invited, saying that the GOP governor is a "good voice" within the Republican Party. "It's up to the people (who organized CPAC) to invite him," Graham (R-S.C.) said. "But I think he's a good voice in the Republican Party. Yeah, I would've like to have seen him invited. I just think he represents an element of the party, but it's up to people here."

**Gannett:** Gowdy: Legal immigrants wait years for family to join them

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/NEWS/303150020/Gowdy-Legal-immigrants-wait-years-family-join-them>

Erin Kelly

The U.S. visa system forces legal immigrants to remain separated from their spouses and children for years, and Congress must address their plight as it moves toward comprehensive immigration reform, experts told a key House panel led by Rep. Trey Gowdy on Thursday. "Our commitment to reunifying the nuclear families of green card holders is almost a false promise," Demetrios Papademetriou, president of the Migration Policy Institute, told the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

**Post and Courier:** Many candidates, few voters (so far)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319517/1006/many-candidates-few-voters-so-far>

Robert Behre  
So far, absentee voting in the 1st Congressional District points toward light turnout for Tuesday's primaries. Charleston County, the largest of the five counties in the district, has had 787 absentee ballot returned through Thursday, less than half a percent of the 189,611 eligible voters there.

**Island Packet:** Polls: Former SC gov. Mark Sanford leading

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/03/15/2676338/polls-former-sc-gov-mark-sanford.html>

Gina Smith

In the days before the 1st Congressional District primaries, former Gov. Mark Sanford has become the Republican to beat. Internal polling by several campaigns indicate Sanford has captured about one-third of likely GOP voters, making him the front-runner.

**Post and Courier:** Let the voter beware (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130315/PC16/130319518/1006/hicks-column-let-the-voter-beware>

Brian Hicks

We've got some real winners running for the 1st Congressional District seat. To hear some of these candidates tell it, their opponents are a bunch of lying, cheating, budget-busting, door-bashing, airport dictators who peddle spare parts from UFOs and get kicked off domestic flights.

**Greenville News:** Envision SC: KSI President Linda Ketner focuses on making a difference

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/NEWS09/303150019/Envision-SC-KSI-President-Linda-Ketner-focuses-making-difference>

Making Your Voice Heard

Linda Ketner is an incredibly astute and passionate person and anyone fortunate enough to have a conversation with her will instantly realize, she is most passionate about people. As president of KSI Corporation, a firm specializing in leadership and management development. Ketner has long since established herself as a highly regarded professional with a list of clients that includes the U.S. Department of Education, General Foods, and Rotary International. But it is perhaps her staggering list of "side" ventures that truly give an insight into this remarkable woman's focus.

**Associated Press:** Marine Corps drill platoon, color guard visits SC

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

Staff Report

One of the most famous ceremonial units in the Marine Corps is scheduled to perform for the public at the recruit depot on Parris Island. A spokeswoman says the Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment is appearing at 4 p.m. on Wednesday March 20.

**Associated Press:** SC woman dies while being taken to mental check

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WUJAZZDv0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WUJAZZDv0)

Staff Report

Sheriff's deputies say a 39-year-old Greenville County woman has died while being taken for a mental evaluation. Deputies say they served mental evaluation papers on a woman in her apartment Thursday afternoon and called for an ambulance because she had a physical condition that prevented her from sitting in a patrol car.

**Greenville News:** SLED investigates Greenville woman's death while she was in custody

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130315/NEWS06/303150033/SLED-investigates-Greenville-woman-s-death-while-she-custody>

Staff Report

The Greenville County Sheriff's Office said SLED is investigating the death of a 39-year-old woman who died Thursday while in custody. Deputies said they responded to an Emily Lane apartment, where the woman agreed to go with deputies and EMS personnel and was placed on a stretcher outside of the apartment to be taken to a hospital for evaluation.

**Associated Press:** SC group to help clean beaches hit by Sandy

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Bm65hINS](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Bm65hINS)

Bruce Smith

A Charleston-based nonprofit that seeks to connect veterans with environmental cleanup jobs is organizing volunteers to clean debris from Long Island beaches hammered by Superstorm Sandy. Rudy Socha, CEO of the group Wounded Nature-Working Veterans plans to have several hundred volunteers working to clean beaches on Jamaica Bay next week. The beaches are part of the National Park Service Gateway National Recreation Area in New York and New Jersey.

**Associated Press:** Fla. charity figures pumped \$1M to politicians

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=F37uNvrb](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=F37uNvrb)

Curt Anderson and Gary Fineout

The key players behind a purported veterans charity accused of setting up illegal gambling rooms pumped more than \$1 million into the campaign accounts of politicians who had the power to regulate or put them out of business. As the untaxed, barely regulated industry mushroomed into a billion-dollar industry, money went to the campaigns of governors in Florida and North Carolina as well as dozens of state legislators, and state political parties.

**Associated Press:** Officials: Fla. lawyer at center of \$300M scheme

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=XVSmk2pF](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=XVSmk2pF)

Mitch Weiss and Russ Bynum

One of the men who authorities say was at the center of a scam to use a veterans charity as a front for an illegal gambling operation that took in nearly \$300 million was a well-known attorney who once ran a marathon in a suit as a publicity stunt. Another man involved in the case was described by friends as a small-town "pool hustler" in South Carolina.

**Associated Press:** USC School of Medicine plans student match day

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OIxrG10f](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OIxrG10f)

Staff Report

Graduating students at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine are poised to learn where they will get their advanced years of medical training. They are scheduled to participate in Friday's nationwide Match Day, in which medical students from across the country learn where they have been accepted for their residencies. That is the final stage of their medical training.

**Associated Press:** USC arena is site for regional science fair

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vinJlvh0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vinJlvh0)

Staff Report

High school science and engineering students from throughout central South Carolina are set to hit the University of South Carolina to show their expertise. The university is hosting the 57th annual science fair on Friday for area students who present their findings to judges.

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## Hyperlocal News

**Associated Press:** 3 Rock Hill Hell's Angels members convicted

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=AYB4CiHh](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=AYB4CiHh)

Staff Report

Three members of the Hells Angels from Rock Hill have been convicted on federal weapons and drug charges. The men were convicted Thursday in a trial that ran more than five weeks in U.S. District Court in Columbia.

**The State:** Mayor Benjamin discusses gun violence (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/03/15/2677061/mayor-benjamin-discusses-gun-violence.html>

Mayor Steve Benjamin discusses gun violence Friday morning at First Nazareth Baptist Church in downtown Columbia. Benjamin called for the forum that brought together members of Columbia's faith community, an event related to the Gun Violence Prevention Sabbath Weekend coordinated by Faiths United, a program of nearly 50 denominations. The prevention weekend is March 15-17

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## National News

**Associated Press:** Census shows record 1 in 3 US counties are dying

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

Hope Yen

A record number of U.S. counties - more than 1 in 3 - are now dying off, hit by an aging population and weakened local economies that are spurring young adults to seek jobs and build families elsewhere. New 2012 census estimates released Thursday highlight the population shifts as the U.S. encounters its most sluggish growth levels since the Great Depression.

**Associated Press:** GOP Sen. Portman of Ohio now supports gay marriage

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/03/15/2677044/gop-sen-portman-of-ohio-now-supports.html>

#### Staff Report

Republican U.S. Sen. Rob Portman is now supporting gay marriage and says his reversal on the issue began when he learned one of his sons is gay. Ohio's junior senator disclosed his change of heart in interviews with several Ohio newspapers and CNN. In an op-ed published Friday in The Columbus Dispatch he said the decision came after a lot of thought.

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