

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 1/8/2016 4:46:52 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, January 8, 2016

Afternoon Clips – Friday, January 8, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

WSPA: SC Taking Action Against Domestic Violence

<http://wspa.com/2016/01/08/sc-taking-action-against-domestic-violence/>

Dawn Logg

Gov. Nikki Haley is calling on South Carolinians to do something about Criminal Domestic Violence, or CDV, and to help, the CDV Task Force is taking action. Gov. Haley announced that her Executive Budget for 2016-2017 will fund new prosecutors, judges, and public defenders to end law enforcement officers prosecuting domestic violence crimes in the courtroom. She said this will reduce caseloads, and decrease backlogs.

Politico: Veepstakes begin as Nikki Haley takes the GOP spotlight

The SC governor texts and meets privately with 2016 contenders as speculation simmers.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/01/nikki-haley-vice-president-possible-pick-217508#ixzz3wgsuW2QE>

Alex Isenstadt

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is about to fuel a week worth of speculation that the GOP is positioning her as a potential vice presidential pick. On Wednesday, one night after delivering the Republican response to the State of the Union Address, Haley will speak to GOP leaders gathered for the Republican National Committee's winter meeting, according to two sources familiar with her schedule.

Washington Post (Video): State of the Union response pushes Nikki Haley onto the national stage

https://www.washingtonpost.com/video/politics/nikki-haley-takes-the-national-stage-for-state-of-the-union-response/2016/01/08/73c31c82-b614-11e5-8abc-d09392edc612_video.html

S.C. General Assembly News:

WIS: Man who led filibuster against SC infrastructure funding optimistic about roads bill

<http://www.wistv.com/story/30920215/man-who-led-filibuster-against-sc-infrastructure-funding-optimistic-about-roads-bill>

Jeremy Turnage

"I don't think you're going to have a need for a filibuster," Sen. Tom Davis said. "I think you're going to have a different sentiment in the chamber." And with that statement, the man who is considered by many to be the guy that helped to kill and bury roads and infrastructure funding last year may have saved renewed efforts that haven't even begun.

Note: Davis wants DOT commissioners selected by, and answering to, Gov. Nikki Haley.

Greenville News: Lawmakers: Gun-control laws unlikely this year

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/08/lawmakers-gun-control-laws-unlikely-year/78498440/>

Tim Smith

Despite 11 mass shootings in the state last year and a string of shooting tragedies nationwide, South Carolina legislative leaders are not optimistic about gun control bills passing this year. Both the Republican and Democratic leaders in the House and the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee say they have yet to be convinced that any of bills proposed thus far will make South Carolinians any safer, especially from mass shootings.

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Senator renews call for splitting of DHEC

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160108/PC1603/160109497>

Cynthia Roldan

Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler said Thursday the state's health and environmental agency is too large and should be split. The call by the Gaffney Republican came during a pre-session annual media event in which members of both chambers participate in roundtable discussions on the issues facing the state and take questions from reporters.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: State lawmakers highlight priorities for upcoming legislative session
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160107/ARTICLES/160109795/1083/ARTICLES?Title=State-lawmakers-highlight-priorities-for-upcoming-legislative-session&tc=ar>

Chris Lavender

South Carolina lawmakers said fixing state roads and improving education in rural communities top their list of priorities for the upcoming legislative session. Lawmakers highlighted some of the issues they will address this year during the annual preview workshop held Thursday in the Solomon Blatt Building in Columbia. This year's legislative session will begin on Tuesday.

Aiken Standard: Aiken lawmakers agree on body cameras, split on footage release
<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160107/AIK0101/160109542/aiken-lawmakers-agree-on-body-cameras-split-on-footage-release>

Christina Cleveland, Derrek Asberry, Maayan Schechter

Since Walter Scott, an unarmed motorist, was fatally shot by former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager in April 2015, calls across the country to release any video footage following all officer and public interactions have grown louder. Aiken lawmakers are split though on how much footage should be given to the public and at what cost.

Note: Not even a full year after Scott's death, South Carolina became one of the first states to implement a statewide body camera policy, signed by S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley in June 2015.

Greenville News: Residents sound off on coal ash at Pickens County Legislative Delegation annual meeting

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/01/08/residents-sound-off-coal-ash-pickens-county-legislative-delegation-annual-meeting/78421370/>

Ron Barnett

Members of the Pickens County Legislative Delegation got an earful from their constituents at their annual pre-session meeting, on topics ranging from roads to sex education to the structure of the school board. But the topic that generated the most heat at the public forum Thursday night at Clemson City Hall, and that speakers from across the political spectrum seemed to agree on, was coal ash.

S.C. Political News:

The State: Lindsey Graham: Not getting on main debate stage hurt 2016 chances
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article53711405.html>

Andrew Shain

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said Friday that he left the race for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination last month because he saw no clear path to the upper tier of candidates, some of whom he sees as toxic to the party.

WYFF: Donald Trump to hold S.C. rally, as Upstate GOP head endorses Jeb Bush
<http://www.wyff4.com/news/donald-trump-to-hold-sc-rally-as-upstate-gop-head-endorses-jeb-bush/37333124>

Nigel Robertson

The current GOP front-runner is making a visit to South Carolina, as the Upstate GOP head endorses someone else. Donald Trump is back in South Carolina and will be holding a rally for supporters Friday night at Winthrop University in Rock Hill. The visit will be the Republican presidential front-runner's first trip to Winthrop University.

Greenville News: Incensed by Trump's mockery, Pendleton restaurateur goes to work for Bush
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/08/incensed-trumps-mockery-pendleton-restaurateur-goes-work-bush/78498678/>

Rudolph Bell

Pendleton restaurateur Tim Dyar says he doesn't identify as a Republican or a Democrat and was never involved in politics until he saw Donald Trump, frontrunner for the GOP presidential nomination, appearing

to mock a reporter with a physical disability.

USA Today: GOP candidates gather to talk poverty and seek endorsements

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/01/08/republicans-south-carolina-ryan-scott-rubio-bush-christie/78498438/>

David Jackson

Republican presidential candidates gather in South Carolina on Saturday to talk about poverty and, perhaps, vie for some prominent endorsements. The Kemp Forum on Expanding Opportunity will be moderated by House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and Sen Tim Scott, R-S.C., and the seven Republican presidential candidates in attendance would love to have the support of both, or either.

Index-Journal: Special election to fill O'Dell's senate seat

<http://indexjournal.com/news/Special-election-to-fill-O-Dell-s-senate-seat>

In the wake of state Sen. Billy O'Dell's death, the state will have a special election to fill the District 4 state Senate seat, according to Connie Moody, Greenwood voter registrations and elections department director. Filing for the election runs from noon Jan. 22 to noon Feb. 1, she said. The primary will be March 22, with run-off elections on April 5 if necessary.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

WIS: My Take: Gov. Haley's State of the Union response

<http://www.wistv.com/story/30911011/my-take-gov-haley-state-of-the-union-response>

Next Tuesday night, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley has a once-in-a-political-lifetime honor -- chosen by her party to deliver the Republican response to President Obama's final State of the Union address. It's a calculated move by the GOP to provide viewers with a fresh look at its youngest governor, a groundbreaking figure as the state's first woman and first minority chief executive.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Angry over Walter Scott case, protesters confront police, each other in North Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160108/PC16/160109496>

Andrew Knapp

Protesters and activists stood outside North Charleston City Hall on Friday to again fault how legal and police authorities have handled the aftermath of Walter Scott's shooting death, insisting they were united in issuing a set of demands for the officials.

Aiken Standard: Aiken gun store owners: Questions arise following Obama's executive action

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160107/AIK0101/160109549>

Christina Cleveland

Aiken gun store owners said they have not seen a huge uptick in sales following President Barack Obama announcing his executive action to reduce gun violence in the United States on Tuesday. Instead, they're getting a lot of questions.

Post and Courier: Santee Cooper refinances debt with \$544M bond sale

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160108/PC05/160109489>

John McDermott

Santee Cooper estimates it will save \$78 million in interest under a new refinancing plan. The board of the state-owned electric utility on Friday approved on a bond sale totaling nearly \$544 million. The proceeds will be used to retire existing higher-cost debt. The interest rate on the new bonds is 3.65 percent. They will mature from 2021 through 2049.

Post and Courier: Petition started in battle over Capt. Sam's Spit

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160108/PC16/160109464>

Bo Petersen

A grassroots petition has been launched online to try to persuade state leaders to stop a controversial development on Capt. Sam's Spit. The petition, started by island resident Greg Bragg, calls for the state legislature to pass a Senate bill that would fix in place a regulatory setback line restricting how close to a beach you can build.

Local News:

The State: Richland County to use public input to plan for future natural disasters

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article53561195.html#storylink=cpy>

Avery G. Wilks

Richland County this month will hold six public meetings to hear from residents about their experiences during and after the historic Oct. 4 storm that struck South Carolina, the county said Thursday.

The State: Councilmen didn't fully report incomes to ethics agency

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article53624315.html>

Sarah Ellis

A Richland County councilman and former Columbia City councilman who were charged this week with failing to file state income taxes also have spotty records of reporting their taxpayer-paid incomes to the State Ethics Commission.

National News:

Associated Press: US employers hire at blistering pace, defying global trends

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/national-business/article53678975.html>

Christopher S. Rugaber

American employers added a robust 292,000 jobs in December, suggesting that the U.S. economy is so far defying global weakness and growing solidly. The strong hiring underscores the resilience of the United States at a time of financial turmoil stemming from China's slowing economy and plummeting stock market.

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437

Office: 803-734-0304