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Subject: Morning Clips – Wednesday, December 12, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley Discusses S.C. Flood Recovery Budget:

Associated Press: South Carolina's share of \$1.2B in flood damage is \$114M

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

Jeffrey Collins

South Carolina taxpayers will need to pay at least \$114 million for the state's share of damage caused by October's massive flooding, which has a price tag topping \$1 billion, the governor said Tuesday. Gov. Nikki Haley said the state won't need to borrow any money, and she will ask lawmakers to use part of a predicted increase of more than \$1 billion in revenue to pay the bills.

Note: Haley said the delay in reporting damage numbers was necessary. "It's the accountant in me. You never guess numbers. It's the worst thing you can ever do. When you guess numbers, you make mistakes," Haley said.

Post and Courier: State's share of \$1.6 billion flood damage tops \$100 million

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209967>

Gavin Jackson

South Carolina will have to pick up \$114 million of the repair costs from the more than \$1.6 billion in damage caused by deadly floods in October. Gov. Nikki Haley said Tuesday she has asked House and Senate budget writers to include the state's share of the \$493 million in damage that's eligible for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Note: She said she would include the \$114 million in the state budget plan and "we're going to ask the General Assembly to include it in their budget." "What we do know is we have doubled our reserves we're not having to tap into them, and they have already estimated \$1.2 billion in additional revenue this year."

The State: Flood damage will cost state \$114 million

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article47317850.html>

Cassie Cope

October's flood will cost the state of South Carolina an estimated \$114 million, Gov. Nikki Haley said Tuesday. The federal government will pay an additional \$493 million, the Republican governor's office estimated. Repairing S.C. roads and bridges alone will cost \$137 million with the state paying \$49 million of that cost, according to the state Transportation Department.

WOLO: Gov. Haley Announces Financial Impact From Floods

<http://www.abccolumbia.com/news/local/Gov-Haley-Announces-Financial-Impact-From-Floods-359708031.html>

Jennifer Ready

In a press conference on Tuesday, Governor Nikki Haley announced the estimated financial impact from the historic floods in early October. After tallying the numbers, Governor Haley estimates South Carolina will need to pay \$114 million to cover flood damage.

Note: "What I'm going to ask of the General Assembly is to join me and include that in our own state budget and pay that ourselves," said Governor Haley.

Note: According to the Governor, the state will be able to cover the cost due to \$1.2 billion in additional revenue expected this year. "What we want to do is do South Carolinas part, " explained Governor Haley. "Which is we see what we are able to do, we don't want to put any other states on the hook anymore than we have to. We are more than happy to take care of our share and that's what we'll do."

Sun News: Milder hurricane season comes to an end, South Carolina still recovering from flood

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article47265710.html#storylink=cpy>

Emily Weaver

The hurricane season officially ended Monday with no threats brewing offshore to give forecasters a chance to doubt the 2015 season would be counted as anything but mild. Most of the season's 10 storms stayed out to sea and away from the eastern seaboard, but the area is still recovering from massive floods spawned by a tempest of the deep that turned away.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley announced in a press release Monday that her request for a 30-day extension of the registration period for Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Individual Assistance was granted.

Aiken Standard: Researchers: Aiken economy looking good despite state flooding

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20151201/AIK0101/151209911/researchers-aiken-economy-looking-good-despite-state-flooding>

Derrek Asberry

Aiken should continue growing along with the rest of the state despite October's historic flooding and a statement Tuesday from Gov. Nikki Haley asking legislators to use at least \$114 million to help pay for flood damages. University of South Carolina researchers gave a media briefing Tuesday in Columbia where attendees gathered 2016 projections for the state economy.

Note: Haley reported Tuesday that October's flooding damage caused more than \$438 million in damages, including \$132 million in damages to roads and bridges. Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, assistance will account for about \$300 million of the needed money, Haley said.

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Mother of teen killed by cop asks Haley to watch dash cam video, show compassion

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/south-carolina/2015/12/01/zach-hammonds-mother-asks-governor-watch-dash-cam-video-show-compassion-her-sons-death-seneca-police/76621236/>

Ron Barnett

Writing as "one South Carolina mother to another," Angie Hammond sent Gov. Nikki Haley a heartfelt plea to show the same compassion she has shown in other tragedies in the state this year and "take appropriate action" against the Seneca police officer who shot and killed her son, Zachary.

Note: Haley's press secretary, Chaney Adams, said, "The governor will honor Mrs. Hammond's request. Our office is in the process of reaching out to Mrs. Hammond to schedule a time."

Anderson Independent: Gov. Haley agrees to watch video of Zachary Hammond shooting

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/gov-haley-agrees-to-watch-video-of-zachary-hammond-shooting-25dd9b8e-7fb1-6277-e053-0100007f3b65-359791161.html>

Kirk Brown, Mike Ellis

Gov. Nikki Haley will sit down with the mother of Zachary Hammond to watch the police dashboard video of his fatal shooting. Chaney Adams, a spokeswoman for the governor, said Tuesday that Haley will honor a request made by Angie Hammond in a Nov. 29 letter.

Note: "Our office is in the process of reaching out to Mrs. Hammond to schedule a time," Adams said in an email.

WYFF: Gov. Haley to meet with mother of Zach Hammond

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/governor-haley-to-meet-with-parents-of-zach-hammond/36748570>

Liz Lohuis

Gov. Nikki Haley has agreed to meet with the mother of Zach Hammond, according to Haley's press secretary Chaney Adams. Hammond was shot and killed by Seneca police officer Mark Tiller back in July during an undercover drug operation.

WCSC: Gov. Haley to meet with mother of Zachary Hammond

<http://www.live5news.com/story/30644873/gov-haley-to-meet-with-mother-of-zachary-hammond>

Heather Carpenter

The Office of Gov. Nikki Haley says the governor will meet with the mother of Zachary Hammond after she wrote a letter to Gov. Haley. The office said they are working to establish a time in which Angie Hammond and Gov. Haley can meet.

WSPA: Gov. Haley To Meet With Mother Of Seneca Teen Killed by Police

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/2015/12/01/gov-haley-meet-mother-seneca-teen-killed-police/76645210/>

The mother of Zachary Hammond says Gov. Nikki Haley has agreed to meet with her and her husband.

Angie Hammond wrote a personal letter to Gov. Haley about the death of her son. Zachary Hammond was killed by a Seneca Police Officer in July.

Anderson Independent: Oconee County won't support Haley's stance on Syrian refugees

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/oconee-county-shelves-statement-supporting-states-stance-on-refugees-25dd46f3-92c0-548b-e053-0100007-359789801.html>

Ray Chandler

Oconee County will not add its support to Gov. Nikki Haley's opposition to resettling Syrian refugees in South Carolina. By a 4-1 vote Tuesday, the Oconee County Council removed from consideration a resolution supporting Haley's announced opposition to resettling refugees from the Syrian civil war in South Carolina and also voicing the council's opposition of resettling the refugees specifically in Oconee County.

Index-Journal: Haley extends FEMA deadline

<http://www.indexjournal.com/news/Haley-extends-FEMA-deadline>

Mary Kate McGowan

Gov. Nikki Haley announced Tuesday that Federal Emergency Management Administration approved her request for the 30-day deadline extension for individual assistance in the cleanup efforts from October's historic flooding and heavy rains, but George McKinney said it will not affect much in Greenwood County.

S.C. General Assembly News:

WLTX: No Criminal Activity Tied to SC Planned Parenthoods

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/01/no-criminal-activity-tied-sc-planned-parenthoods/76634622/>

Joyce Koh

State lawmakers announced Tuesday that a probe has found no evidence of criminal activity at South Carolina Planned Parenthood clinics. The House Legislative Oversight Committee set up to specifically study state agencies relationships and funding of Planned Parenthood and abortion clinics have held meetings on the matter since September.

Note: Although Gov. Nikki Haley signed an executive order to increase force protection at National Guard Recruitment centers following the shooting in Chattanooga, TN, she has not done the same for Planned Parenthoods in the state. "Governor Haley has been assured by SLED and our homeland security partners that there are no known threats to Planned Parenthood in the Southeast," Haley's Press Secretary Chaney Adams said. "The governor will continue to communicate with law enforcement to make sure we do everything we can to keep all South Carolinians safe, as violence is never acceptable in our state."

WACH: Lawmakers find no wrongdoing by SC's three abortion clinics

<http://wach.com/news/local/lawmakers-find-no-wrongdoing-by-scs-three-abortion-clinics>

Shelli Adamczyk

A House Legislative Oversight ad-hoc committee met Tuesday as part of the investigation into abortion clinics in South Carolina. The probe was launched months ago after Governor Nikki Haley called for a review of three clinics in the state. The issue gained national attention after secretly taped videos surfaced of Planned Parenthood officials talking about collecting fetal organs for research.

Note: "There are no threats at this time for any of our Planned Parenthood areas that's something we always do so there's no need to do that now, we've been doing that for five years," Haley said at a news conference Tuesday.

Post and Courier: Democrats criticize Republican lawmaker's Planned Parenthood 'fear mongering'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209945>

Maya T. Prabhu

Democrats declared open season Tuesday on a Republican lawmaker who's been the driving force behind a series of inspections and investigations involving Planned Parenthood that uncovered no criminal activity.

Note: Haley said Tuesday that she had been in contact with the State Law Enforcement Division and was assured there are no known threats to any of the clinics.

Note: "I work very closely not only with Chief [Mark] Keel at SLED but with all of our law enforcement partners. I am aware of all of the threats that are in South Carolina right now and continue to work with them closely on how we protect people in South Carolina," she said. "That's something we always do, so there's no need to suddenly do it now. We've been doing that for five years."

Post and Courier: Legislature advances Capt. Sam's Spit bill
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC16/151209941>

Bo Petersen

A subcommittee removed language that would have fixed in place a regulatory setback line that restricts how close to a beach you can build. The line could determine whether there's enough legal space to build a road across the narrow neck access to the spit, where Kiawah Partners also is attempting to build a revetment wall to hold the road in place.

The State: Kiawah Island project wins support from lawmakers
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article47320905.html>

Sammy Fretwell

For a decade, developers at Kiawah Island have sought to build high-end homes on a narrow sand spit that environmentalists say is too fragile — and too close to the ocean — to support the construction project. On Tuesday, Kiawah Development Partners II won an important victory in the state Legislature.

S.C. Flood Recovery News:

The State: SC floods' damage: \$12 billion, economists say
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article47471060.html>

Roddie Burris

The October floods inflicted about \$12 billion in damage on South Carolina, putting the two-day storm's impact on the same magnitude of Hurricane Hugo in 1989, according to early statistical analyses by the USC Darla Moore School of Business.

Florence Morning News: Two state roads remain closed in Florence County after flood damages
http://www.scnow.com/news/article_c8cd1c78-9873-11e5-a351-ef9c3a22cc97.html

Joshua Lloyd

Nearly two months after historic rainfall hit the state and left dozens of Pee Dee roads in shambles, state road repair crews have narrowed flood-related closures down to just two in Florence County. In the Effingham area, Hill-Harrell Road remains closed from McLaughlin Road to Stagecoach Road, and in the vicinity of Pamplico, the bridge on South Old River Road between Keefe Road and River Road remains out.

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: GOP presidential contender Carson makes South Carolina swing
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cPtN2tPB

Republican presidential contender Ben Carson is visiting South Carolina for a number of campaign appearances. Carson begins the day Wednesday with a town hall meeting at noon at Sun City Carolina Lakes in Fort Mill. His next stop is in Rock Hill, where he holds a town hall at Winthrop University, beginning at 1:45 p.m.

Associated Press: Fiorina wrapping up 3-day campaign swing in South Carolina
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bTWPT45

Republican presidential hopeful Carly Fiorina is wrapping up her three-day swing through South Carolina. The businesswoman is participating in an event sponsored by the Lowcountry Chapter of Credit Unions on Wednesday. It's taking place at the South Carolina Federal Credit Union in North Charleston.

National Journal: Six Candidates to Speak at South Carolina Forum on Poverty
<http://www.nationaljournal.com/s/123275/six-candidates-speak-south-carolina-forum-poverty>

Adam Wollner

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina, Ohio Gov. John Kasich, and Sen. Marco Rubio are slated to attend at a forum focused on poverty hosted by House Speaker Paul Ryan and Sen. Tim Scott in Columbia, S.C. on Jan. 9.

Seneca Journal: Experts: Door closing on Graham's presidential run
<https://upstatetoday.com/2015/12/experts-door-closing-on-graham%E2%80%99s-presidential-run/>

Carlos Galarza-Veve

Take it from someone who's worked to help get Lindsey Graham elected in the past — the U.S. senator's

days as a presidential candidate are numbered. As Graham's campaign manager when he first ran for Congress in 1994, Clemson University professor David Woodard takes no joy being quoted in an article that, for all intents and purposes, is the equivalent of a political obituary.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Santee Cooper needs to remember its mission, and it's not pure profit
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151202/PC16/151209951/1177/santee-cooper-needs-to-remember-its-mission-and-it-x2019-s-not-pure-profit>

Brian Hicks

When Santee Cooper was set up during the Great Depression, it had a pretty simple mission: provide cheap power to rural areas of South Carolina. That was a decidedly good thing, seeing as how some parts of the state hadn't changed much since the Civil War.

Note: A few years back, Gov. Nikki Haley said no public utility was going to be the reason a company went out of business. Sounds like it's time to repeat that admonishment.

Greenville News: Computer system costs out of control
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/02/computer-system-costs-out-control/76570782/>

Editorial

A computer system designed to streamline child support collections for the state Department of Social Services that is nearly 20 years overdue could wind up costing taxpayers \$500 million, according to a recent report from Greenville News reporter Tim Smith. The mounting costs for the computer system are a depressing example of government inefficiency.

Rock Hill Herald: Mulvaney's visit set a good example
<http://www.heraldonline.com/opinion/editorials/article47432260.html>

Editorial

Following the recent attacks in Paris by Islamic State terrorists, the world has heard a chorus of condemnation of Muslims, claiming they all are terrorists at heart. The rhetoric and get so heated and distorted that those who simply refuse to join in those accusations seem reasonable and informed.

Post and Courier: Yes, remember Confederate history
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151202/PC1002/151209937>

Rev. Joseph A. Darby

The prolific writer Kirkpatrick Sale offered a compelling argument for why the Confederacy should be remembered in his column of Nov. 23. He decried attempts to eradicate the symbols and history of the Confederate States of America and wrote that the Confederacy was "an embodiment of the Jeffersonian vision of an America in which states' rights would predominate."

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: S.C. attorney general opposes court-ordered bathroom access for transgender students
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC16/151209944>

Paul Bowers

In a Nov. 30 amicus brief that was signed by three other attorneys general and two governors regarding the Virginia case G.G. v. Gloucester County School Board, Wilson wrote that the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals "should hesitate long" before becoming the first court in the U.S. "to admit adolescent biological females into boys' bathrooms and locker rooms, and adolescent biological males into girls' bathrooms and locker rooms."

Greenville News: SC AG Wilson files brief in transgender restroom case
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2015/12/01/sc-ag-wilson-jumps-into-transgender-restroom-case/76628660/>

Nathaniel Cary

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson has filed a brief along with officials in five other states that challenges the Obama administration in a lawsuit over whether local school districts must permit transgender students to use the restroom of their choice.

Post and Courier: At Port of Charleston, big ships are already here, with more on the way

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC05/151209940>

David Wren

Big containerhips are making their way to the Port of Charleston more frequently than in the past, even months before the Panama Canal's expansion next spring is expected to kick off a big-vessel boom along the East Coast. Ships carrying between 5,000 and 10,000 cargo boxes — so-called post-Panamax ships — made up 52 percent of the total number of vessel calls at the port in fiscal 2015, which ended June 30.

The State: Will feds seek death penalty for Roof? No answers yet

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article47312560.html>

John Monk

A federal judge grilled a federal prosecutor Tuesday in Charleston on when the case of accused church gunman Dylann Roof would be ready for trial and whether prosecutors would seek the death penalty against him.

Post and Courier: Prison officials deny South Carolina deliberately skirted law on lethal injection drugs

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209959>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina corrections officials deny intentionally breaking federal law when they obtained a lethal injection drug from an overseas supplier several years ago, a drug that was never used for an execution and has since been turned over to authorities.

Greenville News: Clemson student found dead at Memorial Stadium

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2015/12/01/clemson-student-found-dead-memorial-stadium/76620694/>

Anna Lee, Nathaniel Cary

A Clemson University student was found dead Tuesday after falling 120 feet at Memorial Stadium, authorities said. Campus police officers were called about a body behind the football stadium about 8 a.m., an incident report said.

Local News:

The State: Columbia Council OKs purchase of body cameras for police

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article47428655.html>

Sarah Ellis

Columbia City Council on Tuesday approved spending nearly \$170,000 to purchase 300 body-worn cameras for Columbia police officers. The Columbia Police Department began looking into the possibility of introducing body-worn cameras in June 2014.

National News:

Associated Press: Bush spends millions on TV but has yet to rise in GOP race

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=eck6ozFq

Thomas Beaumont, Julie Bykowicz

Jeb Bush and his allies are spending circles around his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination. Yet for all the money they've invested - \$26 million on television ads alone - they've yet to see a substantial return. Having fallen from summer front-runner to autumn afterthought, the former Florida governor made deep spending cuts to his campaign operation in October.

Brian Symmes

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