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## Clips – Sunday, March 13, 2016

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Associated Press:** SC's top legislators cite exemption from public records law

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

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina's top legislators declined to provide emails and schedules requested by The Associated Press, citing the public records exemption the General Assembly carved for itself in state law. Gov. Nikki Haley, who has no such exemption, released a detailed public schedule and provided access to more than 450 emails, though they show she conducts no business through government email subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Several hundred constituent emails to Haley contained a wide array of requests, complaints and commendations. But there was no correspondence with elected officials, Cabinet directors or other political players. There was also no substantive exchange with staff, as the vast majority of inter-office emails contained news clippings and weather reports.

**Note:** Asked how Haley communicates, spokeswoman Chaney Adams said the office's legislative affairs team is in "constant contact" with legislators. And "the governor frequently meets with elected officials, agency heads, legislators, business leaders and others in person and talks to them by phone," she said.

**Tampa Bay Times:** South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley headlines Pinellas County Lincoln Day Dinner touting Marco Rubio

<http://www.placead.tampabay.com/blogs/the-buzz-florida-politics/south-carolina-gov-nikki-haley-headlines-pinellas-county-lincoln-day/2269148>

Josh Soloman

South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, stumping for Marco Rubio Saturday night at the Pinellas County Republican Party's annual Lincoln Day Dinner, said before she endorsed the senator, she turned inward to determine what she wanted in a president. "I wanted a country with a leader who knew the value of a dollar," she said. "I wanted a leader who knows the private sector wins every time and the government needs to stay out of the way. I wanted a leader who knew the Constitution wins." "I also knew that I wanted someone with a passion who was going to fight like every day was his last," the governor said to cheers from about 400 in attendance at the Hilton St. Petersburg Carillon Park. "Ladies and gentleman, for me, that person was Marco Rubio."

**WTSP:** S.C. Gov Nikki Haley blasts Trump in Pinellas County

<http://www.wtsp.com/news/politics/elections/sc-gov-nikki-haley-blasts-trump-in-pinellas-county/79871656>

Jonathan Petramala

"We've had someone who has divided our country for the last seven years, so when you see what's happening at the rallies, to know Mr. Trump has said 'bash them in the head, take them out in a stretcher' and condoning it, that is the last thing that we need in this country," South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley said. Haley though, had a tough time uniting a room full of Pinellas County Republicans at the local party's Lincoln Dinner fundraiser. Haley only managing to draw applause from around a third of the crowd for the candidate she endorsed: Marco Rubio. "What I see in Marco Rubio is that he brings out the best in people, but what I see in Donald Trump is that he brings out the

worst in people," Haley said. With the Florida primary on Tuesday, Haley believes Florida voters will choose the eventual nominee of the Republican Party. She had a warning for those listening: "If Donald Trump wins, Hillary Clinton will win in November," Haley said.

**Florida Politics:** Nikki Haley Tells Pinellas Republicans That They're Better Than What Donald Trump Is Offering

<http://floridapolitics.com/archives/204540-nikki-haley-draft>

Mitch Perry

Nikki Haley says she's seen what Donald Trump rallies have become of late, and surmised that accepting him as the GOP presidential nominee goes against what the party of Lincoln is all about. "I'm watching a presidential candidate who at his rally is saying, 'punch him. He should be taken out on a stretcher. Do it again'," she said on Saturday night in St. Petersburg. "That's not us. That's not Republicans. That's not Americans. That's not who we are. We're better than that." Haley is supporting Marco Rubio for president in the Republican presidential race and was the keynote speaker at the Pinellas County Lincoln Day Dinner at the Hilton Carillon in St. Petersburg on Saturday evening.

**S.C. General Assembly News:**

**The State:** The Buzz: Is a new GOP-majority dawning in the SC Senate?

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article65662482.html>

Jamie Self

Driven by an anti-gas tax activists and the threat of primary opposition, a stunningly rare Republican majority delivered the S.C. Senate from its year-long stalemate over a road-repair plan. But one thing was missing from the GOP plan – the blessing of the Senate's most powerful Republican, President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman. The night the GOP coalition made its move, the Florence Republican stood silently listening as senators of both parties huddled and argued angrily, away from microphones and recording devices. Republicans were giddy about the power of their newly found working majority. Meanwhile, Senate Democrats were complaining they had been strong-armed into a plan that only patched the state's crumbling roads for a year, not a long-term fix.

**Post and Courier:** Robert Ford will file for his old Senate seat

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160312/PC1603/160319836>

Former state Sen. Robert Ford, who gave up his seat in Columbia and was prosecuted for ethics violations, says he will file this week to regain his office. Ford said he'll enter the Senate District 42 race for the spot held by fellow Democrat Marlon Kimpson. Ford last year was sentenced to probation for misdemeanor ethics violations. Nothing in his plea agreement prevents him from running again.

**The State:** How Koch-backed grassroots group helped kill SC gas-tax hike

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article65537632.html>

Cassie Cope

DeLorey and other volunteers made more than 30,000 phone calls while state senators were considering a proposal to increase the 16.75-cent-a-gallon gas tax, according to AFP. Other AFP efforts to fight the gas tax hike included mailers sent across the state and robocalls pushing the same message to constituents: Tell your senator to kill a gas tax hike. That's exactly what senators did last week, voting to spend \$400 million out of the state's general fund budget on road repairs instead of increasing the gas tax.

**Aiken Standard:** Rep. Hixon still hopeful on gun reciprocity between South Carolina, Georgia

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160312/AIK0101/160319832>

Christina Cleveland

South Carolina Rep. Bill Hixon, R-Aiken, still feels confident about the fate of his bill designed to allow gun reciprocity between South Carolina and Georgia. The bill, H. 3799, was scheduled to go before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing last week that was canceled due to the Senate's then-ongoing debate on the roads. Hixon's bill would allow South Carolinians with concealed-weapon permits to carry their guns into Georgia. It was passed by the House 101-5 last April. Hixon, whose constituents live near the Georgia border, said he doesn't believe the bill should be controversial, but said it has drawn concern from the S.C. Sheriff's Association and The Fraternal Order of the Police. Concerns involve training, which Georgia reportedly does not require, and the frequency of mental-health checks.

**Associated Press:** 'In God We Trust' draws debate over its public display

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2gmfhoQh](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2gmfhoQh)

Jeffrey Collins

At the same time stickers with the motto "In God We Trust" are first being put on police cars in South Carolina, a state legislator is fighting to require the motto be placed in every school in the state. "I wish every school board or principal displayed the motto. But they don't," said Rep. Alan Clemmons, the bill's sponsor. Clemmons' bill is stalled in the Statehouse over concerns that requiring schools to display the motto might invite a lawsuit and the simple fact that there is nothing in state law stopping a teacher or principal from posting the official motto of the United States anywhere in a school they wish.

**Sun News:** State lawmakers want 'stronger relationship' with China, but not through financial incentives

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article65721527.html>

Charles D. Perry

When Chinese investors arrive in Horry County next month to scout locations for a \$100 million cultural village, they won't be asking for any taxpayer-funded incentives. State and local officials insist the project, which is described as similar to Epcot at Disney World, will not be eligible for economic development grants or tax breaks. Ahead of the investors' visit, state lawmakers drafted a resolution in the senate to "express a commitment to a stronger relationship between the state of South Carolina and the People's Republic of China." he resolution, which was presented by Sens. Luke Rankin, R-Myrtle Beach, and Ray Cleary, R- Murrells Inlet, states that a tighter bond between the Palmetto State and China would "mutually enrich economic prosperity and establish a bridge between the two great countries."

## **S.C. Political News:**

**Aiken Standard:** Filing for November general election to begin this week

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160312/AIK0101/160319833>

Christina Cleveland

On noon Wednesday, filing opens for all candidates seeking a political party nomination for the following offices in the 2016 General Election: U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, State Senate, State House of Representatives, multicounty district offices, solicitor (circuits 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16), and countywide and less than countywide offices, according to the South Carolina Election Commission. Filing ends at noon on March 30.

**Post and Courier:** Jenny Horne is running for Congress so South Carolinians can be 'proud' of their representative

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC1603/160319862>

Maya T. Prabhu

State Rep. Jenny Horne said she's running for Congress because the people of South Carolina deserve someone they can be proud of, who won't go "AWOL." The Summerville Republican said she is challenging 1st District Republican Rep. Mark Sanford— who notoriously said he was hiking

the Appalachian Trail during six days in June 2009 while the then-governor was in Argentina with his mistress — because South Carolinians deserve better.

**Post and Courier:** For South Carolina's open-government law, a time of triumphs and setbacks  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC16/160319870>

Andrew Knapp

Year after year, the state's open-records law cracks a door to the activities of government that might otherwise stay secret. Information gleaned with its help has a power to change lives for the better and make governments more accountable. But some officials continue to ignore the S.C. Freedom of Information Act or find ways around it. When it has worked, the law has helped expose faults in the system for investigating police shootings and lifted a veil hiding shoddy care of foster children.

**Herald- Journal:** How SC senators voted, week ending March 11

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160313/articles/160319948>

Here's how area senators voted on major issues in the week ending March 11. The House was in recess.

### Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

**The State:** Scope: SC House panel handled latest Harrell saga well, but we still need ethics reform  
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article65497757.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

IF THE SENATE ever gives in and allows independent investigators to review legislators' ethics, the members of the House and Senate Ethics committees still will decide whether and how to punish colleagues who break the law. So it was encouraging that the House Ethics Committee fined former House Speaker Bobby Harrell for lying to the panel, reprimanded him and ordered him to forfeit \$113,000 as punishment for illegally using that much money from his campaign account to pay his criminal defense attorneys.

**Post and Courier:** DJJ problems start at the top

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC1002/160319752>

Opinion

The damages to DJJ staff, inmates and property during gang violence at the Broad River Road complex in Columbia are only part of distressing developments at the state agency. An analysis of the late February outbreak made it clear that the S.C. Department of Juvenile Justice administration is falling down on its critical job. There is simply no room for the Department of Juvenile Justice to equivocate. The DJJ system should assure that young offenders can be rehabilitated and avoid incarceration in their adulthood. They need strong counseling, sound academic instruction, good health care and assurance that they will be safe.

**Post and Courier:** Help S.C. farmers recover from costly flood damage

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC1002/160319747>

Opinion

The federal flood-relief money for South Carolina recently arrived: \$157 million. The struggling farmers, already deep in debt, again asked for some of the money to help cover a small part of their losses. And again Gov. Haley said, "No," sticking to her "fairness to all businesses" excuse. Let me make this clear. Most of the farms in our state are small businesses. They are an essential part of the economy for many of our struggling rural communities. Growing our local farms should be one of our tools to revitalize the economies of our poorer counties. If Gov. Haley has no compassion for these struggling farmers, she should at least realize that helping these farmers recover at least some of their flood-related losses to keep them in business is important for economic development in exactly the areas of South Carolina that need it the most.

**Post and Courier:** Don't weaken companies' responsibility for asbestos risks

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160312/PC1002/160319735>

Opinion

And now I'm concerned our state legislators are considering a bill that would hurt asbestos victims and their families. The so-called "Transparency in Private Attorney Contracts Act," which is pending in the state Senate and may be debated as soon as this month, contains provisions that would give the corporations responsible for exposing people to asbestos multiple ways to avoid being held accountable in court by the families they've hurt. The bill gives these companies new powers to endlessly delay a family's case by submitting numerous motions that slow the process. Because mesothelioma kills so quickly, for many families this would mean dragging out the process through and after the death of their loved one.

### **South Carolina News:**

**Post and Courier:** Some S.C. and federal tax breaks are often overlooked

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC05/160319941>

State income tax rules get less attention and scrutiny than federal income tax rules, but for people who owe income tax in South Carolina they can be a big deal. Some are tax credits, which are far more valuable than tax deductions — credits reduce your tax bill; deductions reduce your taxable income. South Carolina tax credits are "nonrefundable", which means they can reduce your state tax bill to zero, but you won't get a check if tax credits exceeds the amount of tax you would otherwise owe. Instead, any unused portion of a credit can be carried over to future years, for up to five years.

**Post and Courier:** Lawsuits portray turbulent Charleston airport agency

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160312/PC16/160319827>

Warren L. Wise

Charleston International Airport has ascended to a major economic force in the Lowcountry, but internal strife is rippling under the surface, threatening to mar its glossy image. As the state's busiest airport, it is home to Boeing's 787 Dreamliner assembly campus, shepherds 3.4 million passengers a year and impacts the local economy to the tune of \$1.1 billion annually. But a darker image of the Gateway to Charleston is emerging, one that delves into the underbelly of its operations. A series of recent lawsuits portray the Charleston County Aviation Authority as a dysfunctional, turbulent workplace enmeshed in allegations of adultery, conspiracy, questionable spending, negligent supervision and paranoia over electronic surveillance.

**Independent Mail:** Studies offer pros, cons to Kinder Morgan pipeline bid

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/studies-offer-pros-cons-to-kinder-morgan-pipeline-bid-2dd05ce4-fc76-341a-e053-0100007f50cd-371888681.html>

Mike Eads

A new analysis questions Kinder Morgan's claims of the economic benefits to be had from building the Palmetto Pipeline through South Carolina and Georgia. Kinder Morgan released studies in January that predict significant job creation, safer roads, improved tax revenues and downward pressure on retail gasoline prices for both states, as well as northern Florida. The Houston-based pipeline operator commissioned those studies from economists at the University of South Carolina and the University of Georgia.

### **Local News:**

**The State:** Election races taking shape for posts in Richland, Lexington counties

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article65735807.html>

Sarah Ellis and Tim Flach

Political races for elected posts in Richland and Lexington counties are about to shift into high gear. After weeks or months of preparation, candidates officially will file for several offices starting

Wednesday through March 30. Some incumbents face challengers. Other races will have all new faces as incumbents decline to run again. Primary elections to settle on Democratic and Republican nominees for each post are June 14, with run-offs slated for June 28 if needed. Voters will make their final ballot choices Nov. 8.

**The State:** Richland 1 single-member voting districts being redrawn for first time in 30 years

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article65732532.html>

Sarah Ellis

For the first time in 30 years, some voters in Richland 1 will select their school board members from new voting districts. State and school district officials are in the process of redrawing boundaries for Richland 1's four single-member voting districts to accommodate population shifts. The new lines will be in effect by the school board candidate filing period in August before the November election. Richland 1's three other board members are elected districtwide.

**The State:** Nuclear workers say they were retaliated against for exposing wrongdoing

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article65707887.html>

Lindsay Wise and Sammy Fretwell

In her job at the Savannah River Site nuclear weapons plant in South Carolina, Sandra Black was responsible for looking into concerns raised by employees about everything from health and safety to fraud, abuse, harassment and retaliation. But in fall 2014, when federal investigators with the Government Accountability Office asked her whether she had the necessary independence to do her job, Black says she answered truthfully: She told them her supervisors had interfered with her work and had tried to intimidate her into changing her findings if they validated employees' complaints. Black disclosed her conversation with the GAO investigators to her bosses. A few weeks later, on Jan. 7, 2015, she was fired.

**The State:** Battered Gills Creek dams pose hazard

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article65701742.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Some of the dams in the Gills Creek watershed were so battered by last fall's devastating flood that they are at risk of further damage or failure the next time a storm hits the area, according to a consulting company and a local watershed association. Even a storm less powerful than the one last October could make it difficult for some dams to perform as expected, says a report completed recently by HDR Engineering for the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The good news, according to the association and the HDR report, is that pond levels in many lakes have been lowered in an effort to prevent downstream problems if a dam did break in another storm.

**The State:** More of the Riverfront Park walking trail to reopen to public

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article65688997.html>

Some areas of the Riverfront Park walking trail are still under repair but more sections will reopen to the public on Tuesday. October flooding breached the Columbia Canal and inundated areas of the linear park downtown. Visitors to the park, located at 312 Laurel Street, will now be able to stroll 2 1 / 2 miles of the trail between the main parking lot on Laurel Street to the Diversion Dam and fish passage at the north end of the park, the city said.

**Post and Courier:** 'Tough December' for North Charleston paper mill owner KapStone

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC05/160319812>

John McDermott

The North Charleston paper mill has been pretty much a home run for KapStone since the Chicago company bought it nearly eight years ago. That lengthy rally sputtered at the close of 2015, partly because of an unexpected setback at the Cooper River site. On top of that, the historic floods that soaked the Southeast last fall and global economic pressures chipped away at KapStone Paper and Packaging's fourth-quarter financial scorecard. CEO Roger W. Stone was characteristically blunt in

his replay of the October-December period, when he returned to work after taking medical leave. “The fourth quarter was far below our expectations,” Stone said during a mostly glum conference call recently with industry analysts. “Actually, it was a bad December that hurt the quarter the most.”

**Times and Democrat:** GKN ‘makes it real’ at Orangeburg plant

[http://thetandd.com/news/local/article\\_02661dfa-5111-5d6c-827c-b45091a14392.html](http://thetandd.com/news/local/article_02661dfa-5111-5d6c-827c-b45091a14392.html)

Gene Zaleski

The hum of machinery and flurry of worker activity is a sweet sight for Orangeburg County Development Commission Chairman Kenneth Middleton. “This is what makes it real. This is why we do what we do,” Middleton said during a tour of the county’s two GKN Aerospace facilities. Middleton says the hard work and long meetings can seem challenging as the commission members and other county leaders work to attract industry, but it all becomes worthwhile when they see people work. British-based GKN announced in 2011 it was going to invest \$38 million and create about 278 new jobs in Orangeburg through 2018. GKN opened in August 2012 with a 150,000-square-foot building on 21 acres in the Orangeburg County/City Industrial Park on U.S. 301 near Interstate 26. About 80,000 square feet is occupied so far. Currently, the plant employs 138.

**The State:** Lexington County looks at larger buffers around some businesses

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article65707352.html>

Tim Flach

Lexington County officials are looking at slightly enlarging the landscape buffered required in many commercial areas. The goal is to increase protection for nearby homes from noise and other disruptions associated with the operation of nearby businesses. No immediate action on the recommendations is likely as council members await reaction from developers, business groups and neighborhoods. It’s time to update many development standards, some of the nine council members say.

**Post and Courier:** Schools continue struggle with exodus of students under school choice

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160312/PC16/160319732>

Jennifer Berry Hawes

For almost 30 years, the Charleston County School District has added more and more public school-choice options for parents: magnet schools, charter schools, Montessori schools, you name it. New online school-choice applications this winter made seeking spots for next year’s classes easier than ever. And parents responded: They submitted more than twice as many applications as the previous year. But at what cost? The district’s latest data shows thousands of students are crisscrossing the 100-mile-long district this school year to pursue those choices, often leaving behind neighborhood schools that serve mostly black low-income students even though their campuses sit in gentrifying areas. “We’re an intentionally resegregated school district,” said the Rev. Nelson Rivers III, a North Charleston pastor and vice president of the National Action Network.

**Greenville News:** Pickens School Board committee to recommend closing two of three schools on chopping block

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/03/12/pickens-school-board-committee-recommend-closing-two-three-schools-chopping-block/81690094/>

Ron Barnett

The Pickens County School Board’s facilities committee on Saturday voted to recommend closing A. R. Lewis and Holly Springs elementary schools while keeping Ambler Elementary open and taking Dacusville schools out of the consolidation plan that was given initial approval. The committee’s action goes against the will of hundreds of parents and school supporters who have pleaded with the board to keep all three of the “mountain schools” open because of their deep community ties and small-school environments.

**Aiken Standard:** Aiken City officials seek to purchase School District property for Eustis Park

development

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160312/AIK0101/160319845>

Dan Brown

Aiken City Council will consider a resolution Monday to purchase property earmarked for the proposed Eustis Park Senior Youth Center. City officials hope to purchase 5.5 acres of property at the intersection of Barnwell and Morgan streets for \$425,000 from the Aiken County Public School District for the proposed development of the senior youth center. Last year, the City approached the Aiken County School Board about purchasing the tract of property currently being used as the school system's maintenance facility. After considering the proposal, the school board voted against the sale of the land.

**Herald-Journal:** Supporters of Spartanburg District 7 school plan hold rally

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160312/articles/160319900>

Allison M. Roberts

Supporters of the \$185 million Spartanburg School District 7 referendum went door to door Saturday to encourage people to vote yes on Tuesday. Ministers, political leaders and community members gathered at South Converse Street Park in the afternoon to hold a rally before heading off to canvass neighborhoods. If passed, the referendum would raise taxes by 10 mills, roughly equivalent to an additional \$40 on a home valued at \$100,000. The increase would pay for the construction of a new Spartanburg High School and elementary school and for moving McCracken Middle School into the newer parts of Spartanburg High.

**Herald-Journal:** Spartanburg District 7 referendum in 1998 led to 4 new schools

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160312/articles/160319893>

Zach Fox

Tuesday's vote won't be the first time Spartanburg School District 7 has asked taxpayers to help fund new facilities. In 1998, taxpayers approved a \$60 million referendum for an expansive series of facility additions and upgrades. That referendum led to the construction of Carver Middle School; the Cleveland Academy of Leadership, then known as Cleveland Elementary School; E.P. Todd Elementary School; and Mary H. Wright Elementary School.

**Post and Courier:** Attacks on The Citadel's Confederate flag misplaced

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160313/PC16/160319841>

Brian Hicks

The military college reported that campus police had arrested a man trying to get into Summerall Chapel late at night to — what else? — tear down the Confederate flag. Torrence Forney, class of '93, led public safety on a rousing chase across campus before he was nabbed. They charged him with failure to stop for a blue light, reckless driving and disorderly conduct. The Citadel's chapel, and has been for years. The part that some folks, including Forney, apparently miss is that this is not The Citadel's call. Gen. John Rosa, The Citadel Board of Visitors and the school's alumni group all want the flag removed. The City Council voted Tuesday in support their position. Well, you might ask, what's stopping The Citadel from just going ahead and doing what Forney was attempting? The state Legislature.

**Morning News:** Florence focus group aims to bridge racial divide

[http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article\\_b3d5608c-e8a5-11e5-bd13-cfad6f0e3b30.html](http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_b3d5608c-e8a5-11e5-bd13-cfad6f0e3b30.html)

Shamira McCray

The Racial Bridging Focus Group, a subcommittee of Helping Florence Flourish, is working to help unify the Florence community. The group meets once a month at Cumberland United Methodist Church and usually includes 30 to 40 people each time. We open and close every meeting with a lot of prayer, prayer for our community, prayer for the hearts of people here, prayer that the spirit will see visible changes within the community," said Frances Swink, co-chairwoman of the Racial Bridging Focus Group. Before the focus group could attempt to bridge the racial divide in Florence, the

members first had to build relationships among themselves. Swink said members of the group often grab lunch or coffee together as an effort to understand the different perspectives they all have and celebrate the differences while realizing they have a lot in common, too.

**Greenville News:** Greenville PD overhauls force policy; shooting at cars prohibited

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/03/12/greenville-pd-overhauls-force-policy-shooting-cars-prohibited/80086464/>

Anna Lee

Under the department's updated use of force policy, shooting into cars is only allowed when there is an "imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person," and the officer has "exhausted all means possible to remove themselves from the path of the vehicle." The more restrictive changes — spelled out over 18 pages — come in the wake of racially charged shootings in Baltimore, Cleveland and North Charleston as well as recent events much closer to home, such as the motel shooting in 2013 and the shooting death of an unarmed Seneca teen last summer. In Greenville, Police Chief Ken Miller said his department is training officers to get out of the way of cars, which will help minimize deadly force situations. Officers last year reported 54 use of force incidents out of 4,815 arrests, though none involved firing into vehicles, according to police department records.

**Times and Democrat:** Counties await money for body cameras

[http://thetandd.com/news/local/article\\_e512ea0e-762c-5c1a-8003-ac96c407b7e4.html](http://thetandd.com/news/local/article_e512ea0e-762c-5c1a-8003-ac96c407b7e4.html)

Princess B. Williams

T&D Region sheriff's offices had their body camera policies approved ahead of the state's deadline. Now Orangeburg and Calhoun counties are awaiting funding for the cameras. Bamberg County officers have had them for seven years. Bamberg County Sheriff Ed Darnell said the cameras "work too. They'll either save you or put you in jail." "They're the greatest things since the invention of chocolate ice cream. I recommend them for everybody," he said. South Carolina lawmakers decided last year that all law enforcement officers will eventually have to wear body cameras, although it has not yet provided funding.

**Independent Mail:** Coroner: Overdoses are Anderson County's No. 1 preventable killer

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/coroner-overdoses-are-anderson-countys-no-1-preventable-killer-2b4a58ac-d50c-3448-e053-0100007f0da3-371884021.html>

Mike Ellis

Most of the overdose deaths in Anderson County happen with a combination of opiates and other drugs slowing down respiration, said Anderson County Coroner Greg Shore. Overdoses are whispered about and the cause of death is rarely mentioned in an obituary. There have been at least six fatal overdoses in Anderson County this year, including Ted Arrowood. More people in the county die of overdoses than traffic accidents. "It's the leading cause of preventable death," Shore said.

**Morning News:** Local government fund shortfall a concern for Florence County

[http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article\\_1cfc9838-e8a5-11e5-b656-7f3b7e8cde38.html](http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_1cfc9838-e8a5-11e5-b656-7f3b7e8cde38.html)

Joshua Lloyd

County and municipal governments in South Carolina have not received their mandated share of money from the state's Local Government Fund since the "Great Recession" of 2008. This includes Florence County, which was underfunded last year by more than \$2 million and by similar figures each year since 2008. This isn't exclusive to Florence County, however. State law requires the legislature to give 4.5 percent of the previous year's state general fund base revenue to county and city governments for required local operating costs of state agencies, such as social services and county election commissions. The General Assembly held up the 4.5 percent mandate from 1991 until 2008, and started partially funding local governments 2009 during the economic downturn.

**National News:**

**Associated Press:** Rubio wins District of Columbia's GOP convention

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:3083956515c74d9ba2687de2bf1c9b5e>

Ben Nuckols

Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida narrowly won the District of Columbia's Republican convention on Saturday, seizing his third primary-season victory as a critical contest looms in his home state. The small band of establishment-friendly Republican voters in the nation's capital also offered a rebuke to GOP front-runner Donald Trump, who failed to win a single delegate. Rubio got 37 percent of the vote and won 10 delegates, and the runner-up, Ohio Gov. John Kasich, won nine delegates with 36 percent of the vote.

**Associated Press:** Intelligence advice for next president: Rocky road ahead

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:f44efa888d31489b9c4eaca63aa12c5f>

Deb Riechmann

Their forecast calls for a slowing global economy dragged down by sluggish growth in China, and political volatility across the world, spurred by disillusionment with the status quo. Insecurity will deepen rifts among social classes and religious groups. Extremists will consolidate into large-scale networks across Africa, the Arab world and parts of Asia. Competition among the U.S, China and Russia will heat up, raising the risk of future confrontations. Climate change is a problem now. And technological advances will force governments and their citizens to wrestle with securing data, privacy, intellectual property and jobs lost to high-tech innovations.

**Associated Press:** Iran says US companies welcome to invest in petroleum sector

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:b8df8ab8cbdf44f6b3a4f5b60cca9c34>

U.S. companies are welcome to invest in Iran's oil and gas industry, the Iranian oil minister said Sunday. State-run Press TV quoted Bijan Namdar Zangeneh as saying that "in general, we have no problem with the presence of American companies in Iran." He said it is the U.S. government that is "creating restrictions for these companies," without elaborating. Zangeneh also confirmed that Iran's state-run oil company has held talks with General Electric.

**Associated Press:** Israel demands world powers punish Iran for missile tests

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:a693ac28babd46a3b43f0bbe3baf17e6>

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday called on world powers to punish Iran after the country test-fired two ballistic missiles emblazoned with the phrase "Israel must be wiped out" in Hebrew. Netanyahu said he instructed Israel's Foreign Ministry to direct the demand to the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany — the countries that signed the deal lifting sanctions on Iran in exchange for Tehran curbing its nuclear program.

**Associated Press:** Unusually widespread flooding across Louisiana, Mississippi

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:1258b1d7352145b5a2392466d1f5efa1>

Emily Wagster Pettus

Downpours — part of a system affecting Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Alabama — submerged roads and cars, washed out bridges and forced residents to flee homes. MEMA reported major damage to 95 homes, minor damage to 277 others, with reports still coming in from 41 of the state's 82 counties. Smithson said Mississippi is dealing with the most widespread flooding since Hurricane Isaac dumped more than two feet of rain throughout the state.

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