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Subject: Morning Clips - Monday, March 21, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: Waters: South Carolina's pay for success improves maternal health, child well-being
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article67218187.html>

Joe Waters

When Gov. Nikki Haley launched a pay-for-success initiative focused on improving outcomes for mothers and children living in poverty, South Carolina joined a growing list of states using this new approach to solve their social problems. Backed by \$30 million in public and private funds, the pay-for-success effort expands the proven nurse-family partnership — which provides maternal-health training — to 3,200 first-time mothers and their babies.

Note: This will make a sizable impact on improving life outcomes for some of the 280,000 low-income children in the state. It also gives South Carolina an opportunity to demonstrate what's possible through the pay-for-success model, one of about a dozen in the country.

Post and Courier: Chipping away at CDV

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160321/PC1002/160329944>

Opinion

Devastating national data leave no question that South Carolina has a major problem with domestic violence. Now two promising legislative initiatives are aiming to curb the problem and remove the state from the list of the most dangerous for women at the hands of men. Tuesday, Gov. Nikki Haley signed a law establishing 16 local panels across the state — one in each of the court's circuits — to analyze circumstances behind individual criminal domestic violence (CDV) deaths. And Thursday S. C. House budget writers discussed including \$2.9 million for new prosecutors to specialize in CDV cases, and \$1.1 million for three judges to handle an increased caseload.

Note: As she signed the bill establishing local panels, Gov. Haley said, "This is the beginning of what is going to be South Carolina reforming herself to say that survivors matter, that victims matter and that domestic abuse is part of the past."

The State: Gov. Nikki Haley's role in 2016 presidential race fades

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article67250302.html#storylink=apmobile>

Andy Shain

After backing a new anti-Donald Trump candidate last week, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley's role in the 2016 Republican presidential race is fading. Haley's support of U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., won little in a year where GOP voters seem to care more about emotion than endorsements. A day after Rubio dropped out, Haley said Wednesday she now is backing U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, in the race to win the GOP nomination. The governor said she was not endorsing Cruz, suggesting a lesser role than with Rubio, where she hit the campaign trail and spoke on his behalf at county GOP dinners in Florida. And Haley's chances of becoming the Republican vice presidential nominee — already a long shot — seemed to shrink as well.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Budget week

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160321/PC1603/160329912/palmetto-sunrise-budget-week>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina's House of Representatives will be working under the dome today writing and approving of the state's roughly \$7.5 billion budget. Budget week traditionally starts on Monday and goes through Thursday, with long work nights triggered over debates on how to spend taxpayer cash. State lawmakers get into heated disputes mainly when there's extra cash to spend in the budget, because they get to vie to use money for projects and proposals in their home district. And this year, there's a whole \$1.3 billion in unspent and unallocated funds in South Carolina's coffers, with \$380 million of it seen as new money the state collected above initial forecasts.

Independent Mail: Five candidates vie in GOP primary for S.C. Senate District 4 seat

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/five-candidate-vie-in-gop-primary-for-sc-senate-district-4-seat-2e59aa7e-999a-48f8-e053-0100007f9180-372878101.html>

Kirk Brown

Voters from three counties will head to the polls Tuesday to choose from among five candidates in the Republican primary for the vacant South Carolina Senate District 4 seat. The sprawling district covers eastern and southern Anderson County, a portion of Abbeville County and the western edge of Greenwood County. The seat became open when longtime Sen. Billy O'Dell died in January with one year left in his term. The candidates in Tuesday's GOP primary are Anderson resident Willie Day, Williamston Town Councilman Rockey Burgess, state Rep. Mike Gambrell of Honea Path, Greenwood attorney Tripp Padgett and Williamston resident Mark Powell.

S.C. Politics News:

Post and Courier: 'Victory in the valley': Members of Congress learn lessons in Charleston, but solutions prove elusive

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160320/PC1603/160329924>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., has been on 11 civil rights "pilgrimages" to various significant sites in civil rights history, from Alabama to South Africa. But in Charleston this past weekend, the House minority whip couldn't recall a single legislative accomplishment that's come out of the bipartisan, bicameral trips — all sponsored by the Washington, D.C.-based Faith and Politics Institute.

Note: "We've heard so much about the power of forgiveness, so much about an active form of love, that hopefully we as members of Congress can go back to Washington and take the seeds of connection, the ability to bring people together," U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., said Sunday. He added, "as we've seen happen here in South Carolina, if we can accomplish even an aspect of that fusing together, we will have done something."

Herald-Journal: Support Alzheimer's bill

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160321/opinion/160329990>

Letter

According to the Alzheimer's Association's 2015 Facts and Figures, there are currently an estimated 81,000 South Carolina citizens living with Alzheimer's disease and approximately 295,000 people providing unpaid care for these individuals. There is a solution to this scenario. The HOPE for Alzheimer's Act (S. 857/H.R. 1559) addresses these issues, but it needs additional co-sponsors in both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. This landmark bill would provide Medicare coverage for care planning services for both the individual and the care provider after a dementia diagnosis.

Note: U.S. Rep. Tom Rice, R-S.C., recently signed on as a co-sponsor for the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, the first of the nine members of the S.C. congressional delegation to do so. We need Sen. Lindsey Graham, Sen. Tim Scott and Rep. Trey Gowdy to join Rep. Rice by co-sponsoring this legislation.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Cobb-Hunter: Pay raise for state employees is a long overdue investment

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article67218447.html>

Opinion

Every day, South Carolina's state employees are on the front lines enforcing laws, helping citizens and delivering vital services all across our state. They are the corrections officers, nurses, mental health workers, sanitation employees, firefighters and so many others who keep our state running safely and efficiently. These men and women are some of the most important people in this state. But when it comes to compensation, South Carolina ranks near the bottom nationally. We may appreciate the work state employees do, but we certainly aren't reflecting that appreciation in how they are paid.

Aiken Standard: New grading scale will benefit S.C. students

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160321/AIK0201/160329996>

Editorial

South Carolina State Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman announced last week that South Carolina is expected to shift from a 7-point grading scale to a 10-point scale beginning with the 2016-17 school year. This is good news for South Carolina high school students. Since the 2000-2001 school year, South Carolina students have been at a disadvantage on a national scale with other states. Since GPAs are assigned based on those letter grades, students in South Carolina were at a disadvantage when it came to scholarship criteria when judged against students from other states, particularly when applying to out-of-state colleges. More scholarships for eligible South Carolina students and a level playing field against other states are positive changes for the future of South Carolina high school students.

Greensboro News & Record: No drilling, for now

http://www.greensboro.com/opinion/n_and_r_editorials/our-opinion-no-drilling-for-now/article_719956b4-e98c-5949-b40c-d492c8a52eca.html

Opinion

First, the Obama administration will leave office in 10 months. The next president can reopen the issue. Second, any deposits of oil and natural gas off the North Carolina coast aren't going anywhere. They can be extracted at a future time when conditions are right — and perhaps more safely than could be done today. In the meantime, McCrory might take a cue from Sanford and acknowledge the legitimate concerns along the coast. People who live in those communities aren't "far-left activists." They're small business owners, fishermen and ordinary folks who choose to live on or near the beach for its beauty and serenity. Their views should count as much as those from within the oil industry.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Feds sue manager of Savannah River Site for \$5 million

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=E3IUOhAX

SC State Wire

The U.S. government is suing the company that manages the Savannah River Site, saying it has overcharged the government more than \$5 million since 2008. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/1pURJ1K>) the lawsuit was filed Friday against Savannah River Nuclear Solutions and one of its parent companies, Fluor Federal. The lawsuit says the charges violated the companies' contract with the Department of Energy.

The State: British ships in Japan to carry plutonium to SC's Savannah River Site

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/technology/article67278102.html>

Mari Yamaguchi

Two British ships arrived in eastern Japan on Monday to transport a shipment of plutonium — enough to make dozens of atomic bombs — to the U.S. for storage under a bilateral agreement. It will take

several hours to load the plutonium-filled casks onto the ships, both fitted with naval guns and other protection. Washington has increasingly voiced concerns about the nuclear spent-fuel-reprocessing plans by Japan and China to produce plutonium for energy generation, a technology South Korea also wants to acquire, saying they pose security and proliferation risks.

Local News:

Island Packet: Recruit's death under investigation at Parris Island

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article67221862.html>

Rebecca Lurye

The death of a recruit at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island is under investigation. The recruit, Raheel Siddiqui of Taylor, Mich., died Friday at the depot, Marine spokesman Capt. Greg Carroll said Sunday. He had arrived at Parris Island just one week earlier, on March 7, and was assigned to the Recruit Training Regiment, Carroll said. Carroll declined to comment further on the circumstances of his death, as it is being examined by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

The State: Columbia aims to build relationships with National Youth Violence Prevention Week

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article67215537.html#storylink=apmobile>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Columbia city officials and police officers are teaming up April 3-8 for National Youth Violence Prevention Week. "Worldwide, especially in the U.S., the gap is widening and distancing between police and our citizens," said Columbia Lt. Ron Felder. "What we're trying to do is regain the confidence we have lost and reassure the ones we haven't lost that we're still here to protect and serve."

Greenville News: New museum would portray slave experience

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/contributors/2016/03/21/new-museum-would-portray-slave-experience/81637802/>

Opinion

Former Charleston Mayor Joe Riley thinks we'd all be better off if we knew more about the roots of slavery beyond the obvious. He has said we'd know about the nation's African Americans — and therefore more about ourselves. The former mayor said he wants to construct an International African American Museum in Charleston in the next few years. Budgeted at \$75 million, there's \$21 million still to be raised, he said. The museum would be built near the site where Africans originally arrived on slave ships from countries from Africa's western coast.

Note: In January, both Riley and Gov. Nikki Haley were honored by the Riley Institute for their extraordinary and timely leadership last summer following the massacre at Charleston's Emanuel African Methodist Church (one of the oldest churches of its type in America) and the removal of the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds in Columbia.

Associated Press: Catawba Indian Nation buys multi-media production company

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pd0fbhux

SC State Wire

The Catawba Indian Nation has bought its own multi-media production company, a move that comes at a strategic time for the tribe. The Herald of Rock Hill reports (<http://bit.ly/1ZgRycY>) Red Heritage Media recently moved into offices in Fort Mill. The Catawba Indians purchased the company from Chris Cates of Charlotte and then hired Cates to run it as the rebranded Red Heritage Media.

The State: Richland 1 offering new language immersion program this fall

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article67261677.html>

Sarah Ellis

Richland 1 is launching a new language immersion program, similar to programs offered by some other Midlands school districts. Starting with up to 128 kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students,

the curriculum will be taught half in English and half in one of the two foreign languages. The district hopes the program will help produce more global-minded students, said Regina Thompson, Richland 1's chief of teaching and learning.

The State: Fundraiser aims to get Forest Acres school back on its feet after October flood

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article67218802.html#storylink=apmobile>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Sunday afternoon, school board members, teachers, parents and friends threw a fundraiser aimed at raising funds to repair flood damage. Harmony wasn't up to building code before the flood, but it was grandfathered in, school director Deborah Holmes said. Now, school staff have to bring it up to code before their flood insurance will kick in – and it's going to take about \$50,000 to do that. Holmes said the goal is to have things back to normal by the start of the fall term. In addition to the fundraiser, school staff also are appealing to the community with a GoFundMe page.

The State: Lexington golf course bouncing back from flood after dam broke

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article67261477.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

Play is getting back to normal at the Golden Hills Golf Course in Lexington after repairs due to an unexpected flood. Five of 18 holes at the 28-year-old course were inundated after the Old Mill Pond dam a half-mile upstream broke during record rain Oct. 4. Tee boxes have been rebuilt, cart paths replaced, fairways resodded after drying out and rock added along sections of 12 Mile Creek on the edge of the course to prevent erosion.

Post and Courier: North Charleston couple lands products in big-name retailers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160320/PC05/160329971/north-charleston-couple-lands-products-in-big-name-retailers>

Warren L. Wise

A stumbled-upon marinade recipe is now a million-dollar enterprise for an aspiring North Charleston couple, and two big-name retailers have joined others in stocking it. Last month, Wal-Mart and Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse agreed to carry Charleston Gourmet Burger Co. products, helping the 4-year-old business to triple its production of marinade and sauce inspired by nine Lowcountry herbs and spices.

Note: Even Gov. Nikki Haley once invited them to the Governor's Mansion to cook burgers for her guests. They've spoken at political events for Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton about being entrepreneurs. And they received a letter from President Barack Obama acknowledging their business prowess.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama in Cuba: Historic Castro summit a key test for détente

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:dfde695b43a94bef85ab8f6ebad5015a>

Josh Lederman and Michael Weissenstein

Obama opened the first presidential visit to Cuba in nearly 90 years on Sunday when Air Force One touched down in Havana. Brushing past profound differences, President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro will sit down Monday at Havana's Palace of the Revolution for a historic meeting, offering critical clues about whether Obama's sharp U-turn in policy will be fully reciprocated.

Associated Press: Seoul: North Korea fires 5 short-range projectiles

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:b84dd60a94054986a514dd6054cc547a>

Hyung-Jin Kim

North Korea fired five short-range projectiles into the sea on Monday, Seoul officials said, in a continuation of weapon launches it has carried out in an apparent response to ongoing South Korea-U.S. military drills it sees as a provocation.

Associated Press: Judge wants US to protect Trump associate's secret history

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:7560f1bf9cc146d4a3782d31cfa7854e>

Jeff Horwitz

A U.S. judge is urging the Obama administration to protect from public disclosure federal court records related to the once-secret criminal history of a former Donald Trump business partner. In a highly unusual order prompted by The Associated Press, U.S. District Judge Brian M. Cogan said that unless the Justice Department acts before April 18, he will decide whether to make the court files public under the assumption that federal prosecutors don't care.

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