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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, December 1, 2015

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## Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, December 1, 2015

### Governor Nikki Haley Discusses Flood Recovery Efforts:

**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](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 \$1.4 billion flood damage tops \$100 million

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209967/haley-to-ask-legislature-for-114-million-for-flood-damages>

Gavin Jackson

South Carolina will have to pick up \$114 million of the repair costs from the more than \$1.4 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:** "We're going to put that in our budget, it's there we're going to include it in our budget and were going to ask the General Assembly to include it in their budget," Haley said. "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."

**Greenville News:** Haley says \$114 million is state's share of flood costs

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/12/01/haley-says-114-million-states-share-flood-costs/76609422/>

Tim Smith

The estimated cost from October's flooding could exceed \$1.4 billion, according to new figures released by Gov. Nikki Haley and previously disclosed numbers by other officials. Haley said Tuesday the state's share of those costs will be about \$114 million, which she said could be paid for by growth in state revenues.

**Note:** However, she is asking members of the state's congressional delegation to find \$140 million to help pay for restoration of an estimated 2,600 units of damaged housing for low- and moderate-income families. "What we want to do is get people back on their feet," she said.

**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

South Carolina will have to pay \$114 million to repair the damage caused during the historic rains and flooding in October totaled, Gov. Nikki Haley announced Tuesday. Haley said she will ask lawmakers to include that in the state budget next year. She said that the state can afford it because lawmakers an added \$1.2 billion to spend when they return in January.

**WSPA:** Gov. Nikki Haley Gives Update On Upstate Flood Recovery

<http://wspa.com/2015/12/01/watch-live-governor-nikki-haley-holds-news-conference/>

Robert Cox

Governor Nikki Haley held a news conference in the lobby of the Statehouse, Tuesday, to discuss South

Carolina's efforts to recover from the October flooding. 90,265 people have applied for FEMA assistance and the deadline has been extended through January 3. Gov. Haley says the state still needs \$140 million to get people back in their homes.

### **Governor Nikki Haley News:**

**Associated Press:** SC lawmakers, military advocates begin work on vet issues

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=mSs9kBLa](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=mSs9kBLa)

South Carolina lawmakers and military advocates are beginning work to help the state's veterans get the assistance they need. The panel is headed by Democratic Rep. James Smith of Columbia and includes people appointed by Gov. Nikki Haley and the head of the South Carolina National Guard, Maj. Gen. Robert Livingston.

**WBTW:** Governor's Mansion Christmas Open House Scheduled For December 7

<http://wbtw.com/2015/12/01/governors-mansion-christmas-open-house-scheduled-for-december-7/>

Nicole Boone

Governor Nikki Haley, First Gentleman Michael Haley and their children, Rena and Nalin, invite South Carolinians and their families to join them for a Christmas Open House on Monday, December 7, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Governor's Mansion. The event is free of charge, open to the public, and no reservations are required.

**Associated Press:** DHEC pursuing higher inspection fees for abortion clinics

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4yvVSoNE](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4yvVSoNE)

Seanna Adcox

Abortion clinics in South Carolina could pay hundreds more annually for inspections, as the state's public health agency seeks to make fees cover its costs. The Department of Health and Environmental Control will pursue increasing fees through regulatory changes, said Shelly Kelly, the agency's director of health regulation. Proposed changes will go to the Legislature for review.

**Note:** In August, GOP Gov. Nikki Haley asked DHEC to investigate the clinics. Less than a month later, the agency suspended the licenses of two of the clinics and fined them a combined \$10,250 - the first fines levied since at least 2010. Ultimately, sanctions were lifted and neither had to close.

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

**Post and Courier:** Fiorina says she'd beat Clinton

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209953>

Gavin Jackson

Republican presidential candidate Carly Fiorina told a group of business owners Tuesday that if she were to be the Republican nominee she could defeat Hillary Clinton, the Democratic frontrunner, in the general election. "Yes I can beat her (Hillary Clinton) but it's also important to have somebody who knows how to do the job," Fiorina, who has never held public office before, said. "We can not have on the job training in the Oval Office again."

**Post and Courier:** 79-year-old 'ambushes' Rubio with marijuana query at College of Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209966>

Schuyler Kropf

Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio came to the College of Charleston to talk about the country's future with its future leaders, only to find himself put on the spot by a 79-year-old woman who wanted to know where he stood on legalizing marijuana.

**Post and Courier:** Donald Trump to hold rally at Patriots Point on Monday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC1603/151209958>

Schuyler Kropf

Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump will be on board the aircraft carrier Yorktown in Mount Pleasant on Monday for a rally coinciding with Pearl Harbor Day. The event begins at 7 p.m. and is open to the public, though pre-registration is required and space is limited. Tickets are available at [TrumpYorktown.eventbrite.com](http://TrumpYorktown.eventbrite.com).

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

**The State:** SC Democrats say House probe into abortion clinics was without merit

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article47346015.html>

Jamie Self

A state House investigation into whether state money has paid for abortions likely will wrap up next month – without any findings of criminal activity, lawmakers said Tuesday. Part of the S.C. House Legislative Oversight Committee, the panel began its probe this summer after a state audit showed that the state's health and environmental agency failed to inspect abortion clinics consistently.

### **South Carolina News:**

**Post and Courier:** New forecast calls for growth in South Carolina economy in 2016

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC05/151209955>

John McDermott

University of South Carolina economists are predicting broad-based growth in most industries across the state next year, along with increases in employment and income levels. “We’re optimistic going into 2016,” said Joey Von Nessen of the USC Moore School of Business research division. “The economy appears to be firing on all cylinders.”

**Post and Courier:** Dylann Roof may stand trial first in state court, federal prosecutor says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC16/151209972>

Andrew Knapp

Dylann Roof probably will stand trial in state court first as federal prosecutors continue to ruminate over whether to seek the death penalty in their civil rights case, one of the authorities said Tuesday. In the state proceeding set for July 11, the 21-year-old Eastover man will face execution if convicted of murder counts.

**Associated Press:** No agreement to prevent closing of SC aluminum smelter

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0ffyttFB](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0ffyttFB)

There is still no agreement to keep Century Aluminum's smelter in Goose Creek operating with its 600 jobs, despite the pleas of workers. The board of the state-owned utility Santee Cooper voted Monday to reject the company's latest proposal, local media outlets report.

**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.

**Post and Courier:** USGA officially announces 2019 Women’s Open to be played at Country Club of Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151201/PC20/151209971>

Tommy Braswell

The Women’s Open, the world’s most prestigious women’s golf tournament, will be played on the Seth Raynor-designed course May 30-June 2 in 2019, USGA president Thomas J. O’Toole Jr. said at the Country Club of Charleston. And it was the success of the 2013 U.S. Women’s Amateur that was the nexus for Tuesday’s announcement.

**Greenville News:** Hospital safety efforts save 87,000 lives, \$20 billion

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/12/01/hospital-safety-efforts-save-87000-lives-20-billion/76623738/>

Liv Osby

More than 2 million hospital-acquired conditions like infections and pressure ulcers were prevented in recent years nationwide because of concerted patient safety efforts, federal health officials said Tuesday.

**The State:** South Carolina ranked 8th ‘most dangerous state to drive in’

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article47333880.html>

South Carolina was recently ranked as the 8th “most dangerous state to drive in,” according to a study released by a Delaware-based financial news and opinion company. 24/7 Wall Street found that there are

16.1 deaths in every 100,000 residents for South Carolina, which exceeds the national rate of 10.3 deaths per 100,000 residents.

### Local News:

**Greenville News:** National Geographic features Greenville in 'must-see' issue

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/12/01/national-geographic-features-greenville-must-see-issue/76604802/>

Eric Connor

The charm and success of Greenville continues its run of national acclaim - closing 2015 with a nod from "National Geographic" that looks toward the best places to visit in the world in 2016. Following a centerpiece spotlight of 20 "must-see" places in the new year, Greenville is featured with an 11-page spread in the magazine's "National Geographic Traveler" December 2015/January 2016 issue.

**WYFF:** Greenville spotlighted in National Geographic's 'Best of the World'

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/Greenville-spotlighted-in-National-Geographic-s-Best-of-the-World/36719558>

Carla Field

Greenville has earned an 11-page spread in the annual National Geographic Traveler issue that features the "Best of the World." The magazine spotlights "20 must-see places for 2016," with each getting a paragraph to sum up why it was chosen.

**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 to his death at Memorial Stadium, authorities said. Campus police was called about a body behind the football stadium at Gate 13 about 8 a.m., an incident report said.

**Sun News:** Horry County Schools committee votes to increase class size at middle, high schools

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/education/article47231980.html#storylink=cpy>

Claire Byun

Horry County Schools started taking some preliminary looks at the districts 2016-17 budget this month, and some costs are expected to rise as usual. To help combat those costs, the district may add a total of two students to each class size in middle and high schools over the next two years.

**Island Packet:** Partisan email sent by elections official not an ethics violation, but Democratic Party chair seeks apology

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/politics-government/election/article47387100.html#storylink=cpy>

Matt McNab

An email sent by Beaufort County's Board of Elections chairman in October urging fellow Republican Party members to get involved in the party's push toward the 2016 election did not constitute an ethics violation, according to a state elections commission official, but that didn't stop Democratic Party members from demanding the chairman issue an apology and recuse himself from further party matters.

**Note:** He added it was unrealistic to expect or even ask for Clifford's removal from the board, since it would require Republican Gov. Nikki Haley to make that change.

### National News:

**Associated Press:** US sending new special ops force to fight Islamic State

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/national/article47356490.html>

Deb Riechmann

The U.S. will deploy a new special operations force to the Middle East to help fight Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Tuesday. Carter told the House Armed Services Committee that over time, these special operators will be able to conduct raids, free hostages, gather intelligence and capture Islamic State leaders.

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