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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, October 27, 2015

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## Morning Clips – Tuesday, October 27, 2015

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

#### **Florence Morning News:** Haley stops in Pee Dee for disaster relief event

[http://www.snow.com/news/article\\_cb5be978-7c36-11e5-8741-ff5f73cd6ddc.html](http://www.snow.com/news/article_cb5be978-7c36-11e5-8741-ff5f73cd6ddc.html)

Joshua Lloyd

During a Monday morning visit in Kingstree, Gov. Nikki Haley helped pack disaster relief kits and talked to local flood victims about their options for repairing damages done to their property during the “1,000-year flood.” The event, held at the Williamsburg County Recreational Complex, was a part of Haley’s “Team South Carolina” initiative, aimed at providing resources to families and businesses impacted by flooding across the state.

**Note:** “Team South Carolina is out to help everybody, and we’re not going to stop until we come out of this stronger than when we started,” Haley said. “We’re going to keep coming back to these areas until they feel like they’re on their feet again.”

**Note:** “There is a real need out there, and I will tell you we have done a great job with debris removal and getting our roads back open, but turn into a neighborhood and you’ll see devastation real quick,” Haley said. “If you are a person who has been blessed, pay it forward and go help these people rebuild.”

#### **WLTX:** Team South Carolina in Clarendon County

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/local/flood-recovery/2015/10/26/team-south-carolina-clarendon-county/74658578/>

Sonia Gutierrez

Over 3,000 households have already signed up for FEMA assistance in Clarendon County. Mike Wade with FEMA says they’ve presented over \$50 million for the state, but leaders here say there’s still a lot of need. On Monday, Governor Nikki Haley helped put care packages together during the Team South Carolina event in Manning. a one-stop resource center for that Haley has been hosting across the region.

**Note:** “We’ve got some still water laying on the ground we’ve got some mosquito problems, we’ve got mosquito trucks coming in this area from other counties, then we’ve also got a lot of people in need. So if you see we’re doing free tetanus shots, we’re making sure we have cleaning kits for everybody, we’ve got food supplies, we’ve got dippers all those things just to help them get on their feet. Then we want them to register with FEMA” said Haley.

#### **WBTW:** Gov. Haley makes stop in Williamsburg County for flood relief event

<http://wbtw.com/2015/10/26/gov-haley-makes-stop-in-williamsburg-county-for-flood-relief-event/>

Nick Sturdivant

On Monday, two Team South Carolina flood relief events took place in the lower Pee Dee that Governor Nikki Haley attended. One of the events was in Manning while the other was in Kingstree.

Kingstree was hit especially hard. Gov. Haley first stopped in Kingstree to see how Florence and Williamsburg County residents are doing after the historic flooding.

**Note:** She slipped right in and spent the morning packing supply boxes and talking to people. “I don’t mind taking pictures but we got a job to do. And my job is not just behind the desk my job is to make sure they are packing boxes and that we are getting this out to the people,” Haley said.

**Note:** “We are going to keep coming to these areas until they feel like they are back on their feet again. And this is happening faster than we hoped, but it is not fast enough for me,” explained Haley.

#### **Manning Live:** Haley: Help on the way for ‘mosquito problem’

<http://manninglive.com/2015/10/26/haley-help-on-the-way-for-mosquito-problem/>

Robert Joseph Baker

Gov. Nikki Haley said during a stop Monday in Manning that two teams from outside of Clarendon County came in Monday and will be in the county Tuesday to combat the county’s ongoing mosquito problem. The

critters have gotten worse since the 1,000-year flood that caused other problems with infrastructure and homes throughout Clarendon and other hard-hit areas in the state.

**Note:** Haley's stop was part of the Team South Carolina event hosted at the Clarendon County Community Center behind Weldon Auditorium. The event served as a "one-stop" for those in need of relief from the recent torrential downpour that put more than 20 inches of rain on Clarendon County in a three-day span in early October. "This is South Carolina working together," Haley said. "We want people to know that, if you didn't have any damages, please pay your blessings forward. But if you do have damage, you don't have to come to us. We will come to you."

**Note:** Haley said she understands that South Carolina residents are "frustrated with the process (of filing for federal aid)."

**Note:** "But we know there are proper steps that you have to go through," she said. "We want you to apply with FEMA whether or not you have insurance or whether or not you're a small business."

**Post and Courier:** Haley, legislative leaders double down on defying school-fix deadline

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151026/PC1603/151029438>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina's leaders are again asking the state Supreme Court to throw out a deadline for the Legislature to come up with a plan for improving schools in poorer, rural areas. A month ago, justices gave lawmakers until Feb. 1 to produce a plan for providing students with a constitutionally mandated adequate education.

**Note:** Legislative leaders and Gov. Nikki Haley have said they could not meet the deadline, calling it "arbitrary," arguing that the Supreme Court is violating the separation of powers doctrine with its Sept. 24 order and was failing to take into account the time needed to pass legislation.

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

**Post and Courier:** Lawmaker critical of task force's expungement reform proposals

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151026/PC1603/151029425>

Gavin Jackson

Efforts to keep some offenders from being permanently marked with a criminal record were dismissed Monday as too cautious and lacking in innovative ideas. Rep. Todd Rutherford, D-Columbia, said a task force's recommendations for changes to the state's expungement laws "essentially do nothing" and had already been suggested to lawmakers before.

**Post and Courier:** Palmetto Sunrise: Education task force meets this week

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151026/PC1603/151029491>

Maya T. Prabhu

Members of the state's Education Policy Review and Reform Task Force will meet this week to discuss recommendations for solving issues including teacher retention, infrastructure needs and college and career pathways at the state's schools.

**Note:** The meetings come a week after Gov. Nikki Haley and other Republican leaders asked the court to throw out a Sept. 24 order that requires the Legislature produce a plan to improve education in rural and poor districts by Feb. 1. The plaintiffs in the lawsuit also filed a petition last week asking the court to waive intermediate deadlines in the General Assembly.

**Anderson Independent:** Flooding and backlog of road projects will fuel debate on gas tax

[http://www.independentmail.com/news/flooding-and-backlog-of-road-projects-will-fuel-debate-on-gas-tax\\_78516836](http://www.independentmail.com/news/flooding-and-backlog-of-road-projects-will-fuel-debate-on-gas-tax_78516836)

Kirk Brown

With widespread damage to the state's roads and bridges from recent flooding, coupled with a looming backlog of highway projects, legislators are preparing for another debate about raising South Carolina's gas tax. Anderson Mayor Terence Roberts recently joined with the mayors of Greenville, Charleston and eight other South Carolina cities in calling for an increase in the state's 16-cent per gallon gas tax.

**Associated Press:** Matthews sworn in to fill seat of slain SC state senator

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BOp3Dy11](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BOp3Dy11)

A successor is being sworn in to fill the state Senate seat of Clementa Pinckney, who was slain in the Charleston church shootings earlier this year. Walterboro attorney Margie Bright Matthews takes the oath of office on Tuesday at South Carolina's Senate chambers in Columbia.

## S.C. Political News:

**The State:** Poll: 40 percent of S.C. GOP voters favor Donald Trump for president

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article41478057.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Donald Trump's popularity among S.C. Republican voters has reached its highest point so far, according to a new poll. Forty-percent of likely S.C. GOP primary voters said they most likely would vote for Trump in the state's Feb. 20 GOP presidential primary, according to the CBS/YouGov poll.

**Associated Press:** Dem, GOP chairs teach politics class at Univ of S. Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OU9HnVVB](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OU9HnVVB)

The men who head up both of South Carolina's major political parties are teaming up in the name of education. State Democratic Party Chairman Jaime Harrison and state GOP Chairman Matt Moore are co-teaching a class this fall on political parties at the University of South Carolina.

## S.C. Flood Recovery News:

**The State:** Walking through a flood-damaged home with FEMA

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article41503737.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Kimberly Sonnenfeld walked through the halls of what once was her home, explaining to a FEMA housing inspector which parts of the house were the kitchen, the bedrooms and the "Woman Cave." Not much is left inside the home on Glenhaven Drive off South Beltline Boulevard, now a skeleton of wood beams, ruined flooring and dangling wires.

## Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

**Post and Courier:** Vote 'yes' on Mount Pleasant recreation referendum

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151027/PC1002/151029419>

Editorial

For years, Mount Pleasant has ranked among the fastest growing communities in the country. But Mount Pleasant's recreation opportunities have not kept up with the town's growth. Existing facilities are bursting at the seams. With only a handful of fields, courts and gyms for hundreds of soccer, baseball, basketball, lacrosse and other sports teams, competition for space is as tough as competition on the field.

**The State:** Let facts, not preconceived notions, dictate flood recovery decisions

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article41465277.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

THE FLOODWATERS hadn't receded before we saw our state dividing into two camps over what lessons, if any, we should take away from the deluge and the floods. And the divisions, I fear, are hardening by the day.

## S.C. Federal Delegation News:

**Reuters:** Some Republicans who opposed defense bill may back veto override

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/10/26/us-usa-fiscal-defense-idUSKCN0SK2UI20151026>

Patricia Zengerle

Some congressional Republicans who voted against a sweeping defense policy bill would consider voting to override President Barack Obama's veto of the measure, three members of the Freedom Caucus, one of the party's most conservative groups, told Reuters on Monday.

**Post and Courier:** Palmetto Sunrise: White House, GOP leaders reach agreement on budget

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151027/PC1603/151029411>

Maya T. Prabhu

In what are expected to be his last days as Speaker of the House, John Boehner, R-Ohio, and other GOP Congressional leaders reached an agreement with Democrats and the White House on a budget late Monday night. According to NPR, Boehner is "clearing the barn" for his successor by submitting a budget bill

that raises federal spending by \$80 billion over the next two years and lifting the debt ceiling until March 2017.

## **South Carolina News:**

**Associated Press:** Sheriff seeks information on officer-student confrontation

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zJ880ATB](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zJ880ATB)

A sheriff's deputy in South Carolina is on leave after a video showed him tossing a female high school student from her desk and dragging her across a classroom. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott was returning to Columbia on Tuesday from a conference in Chicago to get more information about the confrontation at Spring Valley High School.

**The State:** Video shows confrontation between resource officer and student at Spring Valley High

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article41478366.html#storylink=cpy>

Noah Feit

The Richland County Sheriff's Department is investigating an incident between a school resource officer and a female student at Spring Valley High School on Monday, after a video showing a confrontation was posted online. The female student and a male student were arrested for disturbing the peace, said Richland County Sheriff's Department spokesman Lt. Curtis Wilson.

**Greenville News:** Pickens County Council says no to Syrian refugees

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/10/26/no-martians-expected-land-here-nor-syrians-says-relocation-official/74643796/>

Ron Barnett

Pickens County Council has gone on record: Refugees from war-torn Syria are not welcome here. Meanwhile, Greenville County Council is working to set up a meeting to get answers from federal officials on the refugee resettlement program and its potential impact within its borders.

**Florence Morning News:** S.C. Highway commissioner discusses DOT with Florence Rotary Club

[http://www.scnow.com/news/article\\_251eb16c-7c36-11e5-9fae-affe51fa8bd2.html](http://www.scnow.com/news/article_251eb16c-7c36-11e5-9fae-affe51fa8bd2.html)

Joe Perry

S.C. Department of Transportation Commission Vice Chairman Mike Wooten used figures and statistics to make the case for a gas tax increase when he spoke Monday to the Florence Rotary Club. Wooten, who represents the 7th Congressional District that stretches across Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion and Marlboro counties, strongly refuted any notion of fiscal mismanagement at the state Department of Transportation.

**Note:** Christy Hall, who had been acting secretary since July, was recently appointed head of the 5,000-employee agency by Gov. Nikki Haley.

## **Local News:**

**Post and Courier:** Mount Pleasant election to shape town's growth

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151027/PC16/151029447>

Robert Behre

This town's Latin motto translates into "to grow," and voters here will go to the polls Nov. 3 and decide how. Twelve candidates, including three incumbents, are vying for the four at-large Town Council seats up for grabs in an election that has been dominated by development issues and concerns.

**Post and Courier:** Wentworth and Barre closed, significant flooding expected

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151027/PC16/151029410>

Dave Munday

Streets in downtown Charleston are starting to close as the tide rises, and more closings are expected. Wentworth and Barre closed because of water on the roads around 7:15 a.m. The National Weather Service has issued a coastal flood warning until 10 a.m.

**Associated Press:** Panel approves nearly \$7.6M plan to repair roads in county

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Vuf2LLvq](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Vuf2LLvq)

A panel has approved a nearly \$7.6 million plan to repair dozens of roads in Anderson County. The Anderson Independent-Mail reports (<http://bit.ly/1KCkrXe>) the county's transportation committee

unanimously approved the plan Monday. The plan lays out how to spend the county's share of a \$216 million appropriation in the state's 2015-16 budget.

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