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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, June 9, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley vetoes \$41M from Legislature's \$7.5B budget

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3IOWXRAD

Seanna Adcox

Gov. Nikki Haley struck \$41 million worth of spending from the Legislature's \$7.5 billion budget and thanked legislators Thursday for not attempting to borrow money for college construction. "We have some major wins this year. The No. 1 win is, there was no bond bill," she said. Last year, Haley's opposition helped defeat proposals to borrow primarily for projects at universities and technical colleges. She publicly warned legislators in January not to try again. On Thursday, she applauded the more than \$100 million the state budget sends to technical colleges for one-time spending on buildings and equipment and \$30 million added to four-year colleges for recurring expenses.

Post and Courier: Gov. Haley vetoes proposal to move Confederate flag, museum to Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC1603/160609348>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley eliminated \$41.1 million in funding in the \$7.5 billion state budget, including \$3.6 million for several Charleston area attractions. She also cut out a budget directive calling for a study of the potential relocation of the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum to Charleston from Columbia. The budget proviso required the Department of Administration to use its funds to identify available building space in the Charleston area by next January for potential new museum locations. Haley said a feasibility study of the relic room's current home, housed inside a separate area within the South Carolina State Museum, has previously been completed and further study is not needed.

The State: Gov. Haley vetoes study to move military museum, Confederate flag

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article82719167.html>

Cassie Cope

Republican Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a study of moving the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum from Columbia to Charleston. The museum is the new home of the last Confederate flag to fly on the State House grounds. The proposal to explore moving the Relic Room from the former Columbia textile mill that houses it and the S.C. State Museum **emerged after** even lowered estimates of the cost of displaying the flag at the military museum came in at \$3.6 million. Lawmakers delayed deciding how much to spend to display the flag until at least next year, proposing instead a study on relocating the museum. The flag was furled from the State House grounds **last year** in the aftermath of the racially motivated slaying of nine parishioners at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church.

Note: Haley also vetoed a coyote-bounty program that would have required the state Department of Natural resources to tag 16 coyotes across the state.

WIS: Gov. Nikki Haley praises budget, but issues \$41M in vetoes

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32183956/gov-nikki-haley-praises-budget-but-issues-41m-in-vetoes>

Jack Kuenzie

Gov. Nikki Haley says South Carolina's latest spending plan will help the state's students, health services, and law enforcement agencies. Haley says the budget begins to address the new realities

of the state's pension system while bolstering mental health programs and efforts to combat substance abuse and domestic violence. But Haley has problems with other parts of the budget and issued 51 vetoes targeting a total of \$41,145,000 in spending. In a letter to House Speaker Jay Lucas, Haley says some items in the budget "represent the worst kind of legislative deal-making—pork, pet projects, earmarks, and micromanagement of state agencies."

WACH: Gov. Nikki Haley vetoes \$41.1 million in spending

<http://wach.com/news/local/gov-nikki-haley-vetoes-411-million-in-spending>

Tara Petitt

Governor Nikki Haley vetoed 41.1-million dollars in spending from the state's budget on Thursday. In total, she issued 51 vetoes- 36 less than in 2015 and roughly 11-million dollars more in spending. The Governor says the portions she struck out contain numerous earmarks, pork and pet projects. In prior years, Haley has issued as many as 109 vetoes, amounting to as much 94-million dollars. The Governor referred to several portions of the budget as "the worst kind of legislative deal-making", saying projects have been hidden in budget lines and named vaguely with little explanation of how the funding would be spent. Three vetoes amounted to 465-million dollars from the general fund, and 33 vetoes amounted to 40.1 million dollars in non-recurring funding. Fifteen vetoes had no direct price tag.

WLTX: Governor Vetoes \$41 Million from Budget

<http://www.wltx.com/news/politics/governor-vetoes-41-million-from-budget/238025227>

Governor Nikki Haley vetoed 51 budget items Thursday totaling more than \$41 million . It's one of Haley's smaller budget vetoes since she took office in 2011. One of the main vetoes was what she calls "hidden earmarks," or items that are listed in the budget, but have no specifications on use. For example, fire suppression, airline recruitment and retention, and air quality items that had no known locations or wasn't ask for by the respective agencies was nixed. She also vetoed funding for a number of museum throughout the state including Gibbs Museum of Art, the SC Military Museum and the State Museum. But she did ok funding for the African-American History Museum in Charleston. In doing so, she said she felt that one was necessary in light of last year's massacre at the Mother Emanuel AME Church.

The State: Pro-Haley, GOP group spending on SC Senate races tops \$600,000

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article82773237.html>

Jamie Self

At least three political groups – including one backing Gov. Nikki Haley's political agenda – are waging a six-figure campaign to topple state Senate Republican leaders in Tuesday's primary. Spending the most — \$500,000 — is a political group, run by Haley's political adviser, that hopes to oust powerful state senators who have clashed with the governor on roads, ethics reform and other issues or fallen out of her favor. Other groups are supporting the Senate incumbents, including the S. C. Senate Republican Caucus, which will spend \$100,000 to back two GOP state senators facing primary opponents.

WYFF: Gov. Nikki Haley signs Tucker Hipps Transparency Act into law

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/gov-nikki-haley-signs-tucker-hipps-transparency-act-into-law/39982106?src=app>

Carla Field

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has signed the Tucker Hipps Transparency Act into law, Deputy Chief of Staff of Communications and External Affairs Rob Godfrey said in a tweet Wednesday afternoon. Haley signed the bill at about 3 p.m. Hipps was a Clemson University student who was found dead in Lake Hartwell in 2014 after an early morning run with his fraternity pledge class. Under the new law, South Carolina colleges will be required to post conduct violations concerning alcohol, drugs, sexual assaults and hazing.

The Hindu: Section of US Administration raises voice against H1B visa fee hike

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/section-of-us-administration-raises-voice-against-h1b-visa-fee-hike/article8710520.ece>

Varun Aggarwal

At a time when steep hike in H1B visa is becoming a key issue in trade talks between India and US, people within the US administration and local politicians are coming out in the open to talk about the negative effects of the same. One of the biggest voices against the visa fee hike issue in the US is President Obama's former classmate and a close friend Vinai Thummalapally, who was hand picked by Obama to setup SelectUSA in 2011 to attract foreign investments into US. Voices against H1B visa restrictions can be heard even from members of opposition Republican party, who feel blocking highly skilled Indians from working in US could not only impact trade relations between the two countries but also impact the US economy, which is in dire need for skilled workforce.

Note: "We have so many Indian students that come here and go to our universities and what kills me is the fact that they are trained, they are talented and then they get sent back. There's a lot of talent in India and that talent when they come here and they get educated here, it's the first talent we want to see be able to join our forces and work for our companies," said Nikki Haley, governor of South Carolina and a prominent Republican Party leader.

General Assembly News:

Greenville News: Upstate Outdoors: SC General Assembly passes deer tag legislation

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/sports/2016/06/09/upstate-outdoors-sc-general-assembly-passes-deer-tag-legislation/85647986/>

Phillip Gentry

After more than two years of discussion, debate and public consensus meetings, the South Carolina General Assembly has passed legislation that will institute a deer tag program as part of SCDNR's hunting and fishing license structure. In addition, the bill will establish a limit on the number of antlered deer than can be harvested across the state. In the waning days of the 121st session, the General Assembly made final amendments and passed Senate Bill 454 on May 26. The legislation has been sent to the governor's office.

SC Political News:

Post and Courier: 55 members of Congress ask Obama to oppose seismic testing off the Atlantic

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC16/160609343>

Bo Petersen and Emma Dumain

Eight Republicans joined 49 Democrats in signing a letter to President Obama opposing leasing the offshore Atlantic for seismic airgun testing for oil and natural gas. The lead signees were Rep. Mark Sanford, R-S.C. and Rep. Gerry Connolly, D-Va. Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C. was the only other South Carolina delegation member to sign. The federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is proceeding with the environmental review process to issue leases for the exploration, after a March decision not to allow drilling in the same area for at least five years. At least three companies continued to want to test off South Carolina after that decision.

SC Elections:

The State: Fake Democrat? Black faces Bjorn, party in 2nd District primary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article82720012.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Phil Black thinks life begins at conception, welfare recipients should be drug-tested and marriage should be only between a man and a woman. He wants to shrink the federal government, abolish the

Internal Revenue Service and establish jobs programs for welfare recipients “so people have pride again.” And yet, to the ire of the S.C. Democrats, the former Republican and semi-retired hardware-store owner is running for Congress as a Democrat in the 2nd District, which covers parts of Richland, Lexington, Aiken, Barnwell and Orangeburg counties. Black is a “fake Democrat,” says librarian Arik Bjorn, Black’s June 14 primary opponent.

Post and Courier: Hearing on Charleston County candidate residency postponed

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC1603/160609352>

Schuyler Kropf

A hearing to challenge the residency of a Statehouse candidate from Charleston was postponed after the S.C. Republican Party moved to intervene. Circuit Judge Diane Goodstein signed the order late Wednesday, halting the hearing from going forward Thursday morning. Goodstein agreed that the state Republican Party might be irreparably harmed if the hearing were to take place. The GOP contends it has the sole legal power to certify the legality of its candidates — not the Charleston County Board of Elections and Voter Registration.

Independent Mail: Burr questions 10th Circuit Solicitor’s Office fund; solicitor says account benefits retirees

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/candidate-questions-10th-circuit-solicitors-office-fund-solicitor-says-account-benefits-retirees-34d-382376871.html>

Ray Chandler

Wilson Burr, a candidate for the 10th Judicial Circuit Solicitor post, said Thursday he is calling for a state probe into a \$1.26 million account held by the solicitor’s office that Burr labeled “a slush fund,” a characterization the current solicitor dismissed. As far as he can determine, the account has not been audited, which is what he is calling on state officials to do, Burr said. Current 10th Circuit Solicitor Chrissy Adams, who is not seeking re-election, said the account is used to pay for health benefits for solicitor’s office retirees. “Wilson Burr has no idea about the inner workings of the solicitor’s office, and that is one of his problems,” Adams said.

Post and Courier: Berkeley sheriff asks SLED to investigate four politicians over allegations in County Council race

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC16/160609339>

Brenda Rindge

The State Law Enforcement Division has been asked to investigate four Berkeley County leaders in connection with possible ethics allegations. Elaine Barnette, who is running for Berkeley County Council District 3, said earlier this week she was pressured to drop out of the race by Rep. Samuel Rivers, who is a longtime friend, and offered a position with the county if she would do so. It was not clear whether she was offered a paid position or a seat on a volunteer board or commission, which are appointed by Council members. Barnette, Rivers’ challenger, Stephen Smith, and Berkeley resident Don Bailey on Thursday went to Sheriff Duane Lewis with Barnette’s concerns, which involved Rivers County Supervisor Bill Peagler, Deputy County Supervisor Tim Callanan and Berkeley County Councilman Ken Gunn.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Bennett for Senate District 38

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC1002/160609379>

Editorial

Sean Bennett has established himself as a responsible steward of taxpayer money, and a strong advocate for road-funding reform, during his first term as the state senator from District 38. Voters should give him a second term in Tuesday’s Republican primary. As a financial planner by profession, Sen. Bennett has a clear view of the vast challenge presented by South Carolina’s decaying infrastructure. He told us: “The roads problem is the most significant one we have over the

next 50 years at least.” As a resident of Summerville, he has a firsthand perspective on how rapid population growth intensifies that crisis. He favors a prudent, three-part approach...

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: 21 states suing Delaware over abandoned money orders

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0fuiSUcT

SC State Wire

Twenty-one states on Thursday sought to take more than \$150 million in uncashed money orders from Delaware, where more than 1 million businesses take advantage of friendly incorporating laws and unclaimed financial property is a major source of state revenue. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced the states would file a lawsuit before the U.S. Supreme Court over an escalating dispute involving uncashed money orders from Dallas-based MoneyGram, which has been submitting unclaimed money to Delaware.

Note: Other state in the lawsuit are Arkansas, Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah and West Virginia.

Associated Press: Pat Conroy Literary Center to open this fall in SC

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1GIbhiOh

SC State Wire

Barbra Streisand and John Grisham are among the honorary board members for a facility dedicated to the late Pat Conroy that plans to open this fall. The Pat Conroy Literary Center will be based in Beaufort, South Carolina, where the author known for such novels as "The Prince of Tides" and "The Great Santini" lived for many years. His publisher, Doubleday, told The Associated Press on Thursday that the center will host readings, lectures and book groups; offer writing courses and scholarships; and help facilitate other educational programs.

Local News:

Associated Press: Relative of shooting victims wants seized belongings

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=iLLY3a3K

SC State Wire

The daughter of a couple who were among four victims in a killing in Anderson County last year wants authorities to release tens of thousands of dollars in belongings seized as evidence. A married couple and their two mothers were found dead in their home in Pendleton in early November and the case has not been solved. Local media outlets report that as part of the investigation, deputies seized more than 100 items including \$60,000 in cash and two vehicles. Authorities say the items are evidence.

Associated Press: Lake Wylie searched for missing boater near SC-NC state line

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UJPuL61d

SC State Wire

Fire department officials are searching for a missing boater in Lake Wylie near the North Carolina-South Carolina state line. Charlotte, North Carolina, Fire Department Capt. Dennis Gist told local media outlets that a 30-year-old man was reported missing in the water shortly after 5 p.m.

Wednesday. The search was called off around 9 p.m. Wednesday because of darkness. The search is being conducted near a bridge on state Highway 49. The man's name has not been released. Gist says someone on a boat went into the water. Gist said searchers don't know if the man fell or jumped into the water.

Associated Press: Charleston sweep: \$350,000 in cash, drugs seized, 9 arrested

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=D23bEUtz

SC State Wire

Charleston police say nine people have been arrested and about \$350,000 worth of drugs and cash seized in a sweep tied to the shooting death earlier this year of a Charleston man. Police held a news conference Wednesday where they announced the haul included 43,000 Xanax and synthetic marijuana pills, cocaine, LSD, military-style rifles and four cars. Police Chief Greg Mullen says there has been an increase in violence in Charleston as well as in other communities and that the violence is connected to drugs and weapons.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg County Courthouse evacuated after threat

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160609/articles/160609644>

The Spartanburg County Courthouse has been evacuated as a result of a bomb threat Thursday afternoon. An unknown individual called 911 to say he would "blow Spartanburg County up at 2 p.m.," said Hope Blackley, the Spartanburg County clerk of court. Blackley said bomb-sniffing dogs are searching the courthouse to determine if there are any explosives. "Since it was for Spartanburg County it could be any place, but we take nothing for granted," she said.

The State: Columbia water customers spared rate increase, but might be hit doubly hard next year

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article82765297.html>

Clif Leblanc

More than 140,000 customers of Columbia's water and sewer system won't face a rate increase this year, but that could result in rates jumping double digits next year, critics warn. City Council on Tuesday voted down a proposed 4.2 percent overall increase over the objections of Mayor Steve Benjamin and Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine. Both said that delayed investment likely would trigger rate hikes of 10 percent or more next year – an election year for a majority of council. The vote means city staff must find \$5.3 million – the amount the rate increase would have generated – to cut from the 2016-2017 water system budget. None of the reductions will be to the sewer system, which is under a federal court mandate to make repairs.

Post and Courier: Robinson-Berry taking over top spot at Boeing's North Charleston operations

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC05/160609349>

David Wren

Joan Robinson-Berry — who overcame a childhood in gang-infested eastern Los Angeles County to become one of the first African-American women in her community to earn a technical degree — is the new vice president and general manager of Boeing South Carolina, the company announced Thursday. Robinson-Berry will succeed Beverly Wyse, who will become president of Boeing's Shared Services Group — a unit that provides common internal services, such as finance and human resources, to the aerospace giant's worldwide locations. Wyse was named to take over Boeing's North Charleston operations in January 2015 following the retirement of Jack Jones later that spring.

Post and Courier: Patriots Point to add new monument to honor families of war victims

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160609/PC05/160609347>

Warren L. Wise

Patriots Point will soon offer another facet to its naval and maritime museum offerings. In a Flag Day ceremony at 11 a.m. Tuesday, a ceremonial ground-breaking will take place for a new monument meant to recognize and honor Gold Star families, those who have lost loved ones to war. Through its placement, a shadow throughout the day will symbolize efforts of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The actual location of the monument is yet to be determined, depending on other pending developments at the Mount Pleasant tourist attraction, but the ceremony will take place near the waterfront cannons beside the visitors' parking lot, according to spokesman Chris Hauff.

National News:

Associated Press: The Latest: Obama calls on Democrats to unify behind Clinton

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3c6afddb214340dca88b1060c295e10a>

President Barack Obama is announcing his formal endorsement of Hillary Clinton. In an online video, Obama calls on Democrats to unify behind his former secretary of state's bid and "build on the progress" of his eight years in the White House. "I want you to be the first to know that I'm with her," he says. Obama is also praising Democratic primary candidate Bernie Sanders for engaging young voters and highlighting the issues of income inequality and money in politics. "Embracing that message is going to help us win in November," says Obama. Clinton and Obama will campaign together in Green Bay, Wisconsin, on June 15.

Associated Press: Obama endorses Clinton as Sanders vows to team up fight GOP

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8ad1a56c78c34b11a79ac5e1a371c1e9>

Kathleen Hennessey and Josh Lederman

President Barack Obama formally endorsed Hillary Clinton's bid for the White House on Thursday, praising his former secretary of state's experience and grit, and urging Democrats to unite behind her in the fight against Republicans in the fall. "Look, I know how hard this job can be. That's why I know Hillary will be so good at it," Obama said in a web video circulated by the Clinton campaign. "I have seen her judgment. I have seen her toughness." Obama called for unity among Democrats and vowed to be an active force on the campaign trail. As it circulated the Obama video, the Clinton campaign announced their first joint appearance on the campaign trail will be Wednesday in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The campaign said Obama and Clinton will discuss building on the progress made during his presidency "and their vision for an America that is stronger together."

Associated Press: Ali remembered in prayer as an icon who pushed for unity

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e8af8f7346c44165885e0980315a4da9>

Bruce Schreiner, Rachel Zoll, and Jeff Karoub

Thousands of fans, dignitaries and faithful from across the globe filled a Kentucky arena Thursday to honor Muhammad Ali at a traditional Muslim prayer service where he was remembered as a global icon who used his celebrity to promote unity among faiths, races and nations. The service, known as Jenazah, began two days of remembrances for the boxing legend, who died Friday at age 74. Ali designed his final memorials himself years before he died, and intended them to be in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky, and open to all. "He was a gift to his people, his religion, his country, and ultimately, to the world. Ali was an unapologetic fighter for the cause of black people in America," said Sherman Jackson, a leading Muslim scholar who spoke at the service. "Ali was the people's champion, and champion he did the cause of his people."

Washington Post: Washington National Cathedral to remove Confederate battle flags from its windows

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2016/06/08/washington-national-cathedral-to-remove-confederate-battle-flags-from-its-windows/>

Michelle Boorstein

Washington National Cathedral, one of the country's most visible houses of worship, announced Wednesday that it would remove Confederate battle flags that are part of two large stained-glass windows honoring Confederate generals Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee. Cathedral leaders said they would leave up the rest of the windows — for now — and use them as a centerpiece for a national conversation about racism in the white church. The announcement comes a year after the cathedral's then-dean, the Rev. Gary Hall, said the 8-by-4-foot windows have no place in the soaring church as the country faces intense racial tensions and violence, even though they were intended as a healing gesture when they were installed.

World News:

Associated Press: Israel beefs up troops in West Bank after Tel Aviv shooting

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2872ff4ff9bc483594f4508fe5716a99>

Daniel Estrin

Israel on Thursday imposed a series of sweeping restrictions on Palestinian movement and deployed hundreds of additional troops to the West Bank in response to a Tel Aviv attack that killed four Israelis. The shooting, carried out by two West Bank Palestinians, targeted a crowded tourist and restaurant district in the heart of Tel Aviv and was among the deadliest and most brazen attacks in a nine-month wave of violence. The area is located across the street from the Israeli military's headquarters. As Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu prepared to meet with his Security Cabinet to discuss further responses, the Israeli military announced that it was deploying two additional battalions to the West Bank "in accordance with situation assessments." The deployment, involving hundreds of troops, includes soldiers from infantry and special forces units.

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