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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, May 16, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Manning Live: Council to discuss budget, retirement, insurance benefits at regular monthly meeting
<http://manninglive.com/2016/05/15/50403/>

Manning City Council is looking to hold second reading on an ordinance that would provide health insurance to council members starting in 2018. "The state insurance allows city council to have insurance and retirement benefits as they are treated as full-time employees," said Manning Administrator Scott Tanner. "With that said, we have to modify our ordinance to allow the city to offer this to them and paying the employer portion of it." Tanner said the ordinance is written to not take effect until after the next election in April 2018.

Note: State law does allow public officials to vote on their own compensation rates. The South Carolina House of Representatives overrode a veto from Gov. Nikki Haley after House members approved a \$12,000-a-year raise for legislators.

Express Tribune: Clinton, Trump must choose a VP: Who is in the running?

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1103735/clinton-trump-must-choose-a-vp-who-is-in-the-running/>

America's "veepstakes" are under way. Running mates have not played a decisive role in helping win the White House in a generation, but will they do so this year? Democrat Hillary Clinton's presidential bid is positively lackluster when compared to the Donald Trump spectacle, but the ex-secretary of state could give her campaign a jolt with an inspired choice of running mate. Trump has perhaps the opposite problem; the brash billionaire has never held elected office, and he is believed to be considering seasoned politicians who could provide gravitas to a high-octane campaign.

Note: South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, 44, turned a toxic debate after a shooting tragedy into a political launchpad last year by ordering the Confederate flag removed from the state capitol. Haley, the daughter of Indian immigrants, could also lend Trump credibility on the deeply divisive immigration issue.

New Yorker: Abe Sent Me

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/05/23/a-fellowship-of-hollywood-republicans>

Sheila Marikar

The day after the Indiana primary, when Donald Trump became the presumptive G.O.P. nominee and Ted Cruz and John Kasich dropped out of the Presidential race, eight conservatives who work in film and television gathered at Du-Par's, a Studio City diner known for its pancakes. A number of them would speak only anonymously, worried that they could be blacklisted for industry jobs because of their political leanings. "It's the opposite of the McCarthy era," a sound engineer and Cruz supporter said. His T-shirt spelled out "Liberty" in blue letters. Some of them had met through Friends of Abe, a fellowship of Hollywood Republicans. Clint Eastwood, Jon Voight, and Kelsey Grammer have attended meetings.

Note: Talk turned to Trump's pick for Vice-President. Nikki Haley: not high-profile enough. Kasich's dynamism was debated. "I think Rubio would be great," the commercial director said.

General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Full week in Columbia

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160516/PC1603/160519573>

Gavin Jackson

This week the House resumes work after a week-long furlough and the Senate will have a full week as well

with two bills set for priority debate. Amid a week full of meetings for members in both chambers, beginning on Tuesday, the \$7.5 billion budget is back in the House after the Senate quickly approved it on May 4. Two bills in the Senate are set for priority debate. One, H. 4548, deals with closing fees charged by a car dealer and the other, H. 3799, involves South Carolina recognizing the concealed weapon permits issued by Georgia. Given their priority status, debate on other contested legislation cannot take place until the two bills have received a vote.

Note: Meanwhile the farm aid bill, H. 4717, which would send \$40 million to flood-affected farmers, will be vetoed either today or Tuesday, according to Gov. Nikki Haley. The bill received enough support in both the House and Senate to overturn a veto, which would be Haley's first of the year. The bills were ratified on May 11 which gives Haley five days — excluding Sunday — to sign the bills, veto them or let them become law without her signature. Seven other bills, also ratified that day, have already received Haley's signature.

Aiken Standard: Aiken lawmaker pressuring S.C. senator to remove objection to FOIA reform bill

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160515/AIK0101/160519618>

Michael Smith

Four years ago, a Wagener woman requesting copies of financial records and other records from the Town of Swansea was billed nearly \$10,000 for the documents. Aiken County taxpayers seeking records about the school district's \$236 million bond referendum and other data in 2010 didn't receive an answer until well past the November election. These examples of roadblocks to public information are indicative of why the state's Freedom of Information Act, or FOIA, needs revising, said Bill Taylor, R-Aiken. They're also the inspiration behind a FOIA reform bill facing a critical deadline in the Senate.

LGBT Laws:

The State: NC bathroom law a 'double-edged sword' for South Carolina

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article77782652.html#storylink=apmobile>

Cassie Cope

South Carolina could benefit from the fallout from North Carolina's controversial bathroom law, S.C. business leaders say. Companies opposed to discriminatory laws could look more favorably on South Carolina, leaders say. However, the impact of the proposal is a "double-edged sword," said Lancaster County Administrator Steve Willis. That is because the S.C. border counties that align with Charlotte for economic development could be hurt by businesses pulling out or canceling their expansion plans in the Queen City, he said.

The Charlotte Observer: Rock Hill pastor seeks local restroom law to keep transgender people out

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/living/religion/article77770417.html>

Bristow Marchant and Anna Douglas

On the same day that the state of North Carolina and the U.S. Justice Department filed dueling lawsuits over the state's controversial "bathroom law," one South Carolina pastor wants to go further. Joey Deese told Rock Hill City Council on Monday that the city needs to take a "biblical stand" on the issue drawing national attention, and pass an ordinance that would prohibit anyone from using a public restroom that does not correspond to their biological sex. The pastor of Oakdale Baptist Church said he plans to make the same request of York County Council, and is circulating an online petition to get both bodies to pass an ordinance "to protect our women and children" in restrooms and locker rooms.

The Herald: Political backlash aimed at NC inspires HB2 fans

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article77706937.html>

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generally, as well as the city of Charlotte for kickstarting the fight with its own non-discrimination policy - some supporters of the law are not deterred from wanting a similar measure enacted in their own cities.

Today SU: ACC commissioner clarifies how North Carolina could lose events

<http://www.todaysu.com/acc-today/acc-commissioner-clarifies-how-north-carolina-could-lose-events/>

Tom Shanahan

Last week's annual ACC spring meetings presented an opportunity to discuss North Carolina's recently passed House Bill 2, controversial legislation in a state with four charter members – Duke, North Carolina, N.C. State and Wake Forest.

Note: Since 2001, the NCAA has banned Mississippi from hosting postseason events due to flying the Confederate flag over the state capitol grounds. South Carolina used to be on that list despite encouragement from South Carolina football coach Steve Spurrier and other prominent sports figures to bring it down. It took the Charleston church massacre of nine African-Americans during a June prayer service to bring down the flag. Dylan Roof, the shooter whose social media page included a photo of the Confederate flag, confessed he was trying to start a race riot.

Note: With South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley's signature, the NCAA promptly removed South Carolina from its banned list.

Associated Press: Schools offer guidance on transgender issues

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Deu732Zx

Lisa Leff

From locker rooms and sex education classes to dress codes and overnight field trips, many U.S. public schools already are balancing the civil rights of transgender students with any concerns that classmates, parents and community members might have. The Education Department is drawing on those practices to guide other schools as they work to comply with the Obama administration's directive that transitioning children be treated consistent with their gender identity.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: Democrats: Benghazi chairman ignores statement by

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d26161f7f16d4de3af2edd0f55d4e631>

Matthew Daly

The House Benghazi committee's Republican chairman is ignoring statements by his own former lawyer indicating that the U.S. military acted properly on the night of the deadly Sept. 11, 2012, attacks in Libya, the panel's Democrats said. Reps. Elijah Cummings and Adam Smith said Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., omitted the lawyer's comments when he fired back at the Defense Department for criticizing the GOP-led investigation into the attacks that killed four Americans. Gowdy's actions, coupled with delays that have pushed the 2-year-old inquiry into the heat of the 2016 presidential race, "have damaged the credibility of the Select Committee beyond repair," Cummings and Smith wrote Sunday in a letter to Gowdy.

Post and Courier: Running shoe companies say Sanford proposal would thwart American manufacturing, S.C. economy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160515/160519588/running-shoe-companies-say-sanford-proposal-would-thwart-american-manufacturing-sc-economy>

Emma Dumain

U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford says he runs in New Balance sneakers, but that endorsement probably won't be enough to quell the sneaker company's frustrations with the South Carolina Republican. New Balance is pushing back against Sanford, who is trying to stymie Congress' efforts to let the Defense Department to buy recruits' sneakers from U.S. manufacturers. "Congressman Sanford, who I have spoken to, who I have supplied information to, decided to ignore the facts as they are," said Matt LeBretton, New Balance's vice president of public affairs.

Aiken Standard: Thompson looking forward to being a South Carolina delegate at Republican National

Convention

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160515/AIK0101/160519614>

Dede Biles

Ronald Reagan was running for president, and Thompson, then a Virginia resident, remembers waving signs that endorsed his candidacy. "I have always been a political junkie," she said. This summer, Thompson, now 45, will realize a long-held dream when she travels to Cleveland, Ohio, for the Republican National Convention. She will be among South Carolina's 50 delegates at the gathering, which is scheduled for July 18 to 21.

SC Elections:

The Herald: Wes Climer runs against Wes Hayes: Youth vs. experience in Rock Hill Senate race

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/politics-government/election/local-election/article77776037.html>

Bristow Marchant

The race for Rock Hill's next senator is coming down to a campaign about the benefits of incumbency, between two men who are a generation apart. The GOP primary in Senate District 15 pits Wes Hayes, a 32-year Columbia incumbent, against Wes Climer, who was born two years before Hayes was first elected to the Legislature.

The State: Hubbard makes his move to become top prosecutor in Lexington County

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article77809107.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

The dining area at Rick Hubbard's home near Gilbert is serving as the headquarters of his bid to succeed his political mentor. Campaign material occupies that part of the home that Hubbard otherwise calls a "complete escape" from his 21 years as a prosecutor in Lexington County and three adjoining counties. The political war room is where he is solidifying his campaign efforts to become the first new 11th Circuit solicitor in more than a generation. Being in charge of the 11th Circuit is a goal that blossomed during Hubbard's rise through the ranks to become second-in-command to retiring solicitor Donnie Myers.

Opinion/Editorial:

Aiken Standard: GUEST COLUMN: Farming unlike any other industry

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160516/AIK02/160519730>

Doug Busbee

There has been much said about our governor's lack of support for South Carolina farmers during the aftermath of the recent floods. Her lack of support is leaving many people perplexed as to why. Gov. Nikki Haley said, "It is about treating every industry fairly." Well, not all industries are farms. Our very existence depends upon farmers and their ability to keep pace with the demand for food. There is only a seven-day food supply in the major cities in the U.S., and any disruption of this supply could cause major problems. We have been blessed in the United States. We have never known famine in this land and it is because farmers have always been able to out produce demand, even when of a flood or drought hits a particular region of the country.

The State: What we can do to protect South Carolina from Zika

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article77513192.html#storylink=apmobile>

Guest Columnist: Jacqueline Fox

As a public-health law expert and mother, I am truly concerned about the Zika virus and what it could do to the people of South Carolina in the next few years. The mosquito that carries the virus already lives in this state, and it is likely that we will have an outbreak of this mosquito-born illness this summer. Recent studies have shown that as many as 29 percent of babies born to women who get infected with Zika during their pregnancy have serious birth defects. The disease is not currently treatable, and there is no vaccine. This means we must focus on public-health initiatives and personal measures to combat Zika's negative effects. We must educate people about the risks, clean up breeding grounds for mosquitoes and provide birth control

to those who do not want this risk. This is the most significant communicable public health threat I have seen since HIV.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: S.C. Medicaid agency apologizes for patient privacy breach

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160516/PC16/160519730>

Lauren Sausser

The South Carolina Medicaid agency apologized this month to a man whose identity was compromised when a staff member misplaced his health insurance application. Jim Connor tried to apply for low-income Medicaid coverage in December after he was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. At the time, he had no insurance. Instead of processing the application, a Medicaid employee in Dorchester County told him he wouldn't qualify for the program. She advised him to drink some green tea and research his cancer diagnosis online. "I was so upset," Connor said. "I couldn't believe someone in that position would say something like that."

Local News:

Associated Press: Extra officers to be at SC school where student shot self

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

SC State Wire

Officials say additional law enforcement officials will be present at a Greenville County high school where a student accidentally shot himself. The Greenville News reported (<http://grnol.co/24Tsx18>) the extra officers will be present Monday at Southside High School. One student shot himself at the school Friday, and he and another student face charges. Greenville County schools spokeswoman Elizabeth Brotherton says additional psychologists and social workers trained in handling trauma will be at the school also.

Greenville News: Additional officers assigned to Southside High School

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/15/southside-high-school-greenville-sc-more-officers/84274516/>

Romando Dixon

Additional law enforcement officers will be present at Southside High School on Monday, a spokeswoman for Greenville County Schools said. A student accidentally shot himself Friday in the cafeteria, and he and another student face charges in the incident. There will also be additional psychologists and social workers at the school to assist school guidance counselors with students and staff members who need help processing the events of Friday, said Elizabeth Brotherton, a spokeswoman for the school district.

Sun News: Horry County Police hiring internal affairs inspector

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article77515222.html>

Audrey Hudson

The Horry County Police Department is hiring an inspector to investigate allegations of unlawful, immoral, or improper actions of officers within the agency. The position is not new, but has been vacant since January when that officer was transferred to another department, said Lisa Bourcier, Horry County spokeswoman. The professional standards and accreditation inspector will investigate complaints filed by citizens as well as fellow officers, according to the advertisement for the position posted May 10.

Associated Press: Get Your Motor Running: Its Bike Week on the Grand Strand

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=00acjcS9

SC State Wire

The rumble of motorcycles can be heard along streets in Myrtle Beach and along South Carolina's Grand Strand. The 10-day Myrtle Beach Bike Week is underway and continues through Sunday. Local media outlets report thousands of bikers, mainly riding Harley-Davidsons and other big bikes, are in the area. Some vendors in Murrells Inlet say it's the best turnout in recent years.

Associated Press: Rising Rents: Charleston leaders discuss affordable housing

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

SC State Wire

Charleston leaders are gathering to discuss what can be done to keep housing affordable in a city that attracts 43 new people a day and in which home prices and rents are steadily increasing. Mayor John Tecklenburg and other local leaders speak Monday evening at a forum sponsored by the Historic Charleston Foundation. Officials say the high rents and home prices mean it's harder for middle and low-income people to find housing.

Post and Courier: North Charleston eyeing \$15 minimum wage

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160516/PC16/160519692>

Brenda Rindge

The city of North Charleston is poised to take a big step in ensuring its lowest-paid workers can make ends meet, joining a national conversation over paying people a living wage. If Mayor Keith Summey has his way, the city will raise its lowest hourly pay to \$15 an hour — an almost 33 percent increase for those currently on the bottom end of the city's pay scale. "If we are going to expect other people to enhance the quality of life for their employees, we have to set the example," Summey said. "If we are not willing to set the example, then I don't think we have a voice."

Associated Press: Slave remains unearthed at construction site to be buried

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=zx9yW5fo

SC State Wire

The remains of three dozen people, most of them slaves buried in the late 1700s, will be buried in a church near where they were unearthed in downtown Charleston. The remains were found more than three years ago during the construction of the \$142 million Gaillard Center, the most expensive municipal project in city history which opened last year.

Post and Courier: Charleston has plan for reintering Gaillard remains

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160516/PC16/160519688>

Diane Knich

Three dozen wooden boxes likely containing the remains of slaves currently sit inside a secured West Ashley storage facility, but they soon will find a more permanent resting place. Workers on the Gaillard Center construction site discovered graves near the corner of George and Anson streets in February 2013, when trench-digging equipment accidentally broke into a human skull. The city removed the remains and hired Brockington and Associates to conduct an archeological study. If the current plan moves forward, the remains will be buried in two or three vaults along the southern wall of the garden, which is named in honor of Charleston's famed blacksmith. The city would cover the burial costs, Herdina said.

National News:

Associated Press: Citizen-scientists: Uncle Sam wants you to fight Zika!

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

Jennifer Kay

The mosquitoes that can spread Zika are already buzzing among us. The U.S. government could use some help figuring out exactly where. No experience is necessary for what the U.S. Department of Agriculture envisions as a nationwide experiment in citizen-science. Teenagers already have proven themselves up to the task in tryouts involving a small number of high school students and science teachers. Now it's time for the Invasive Mosquito Project to scale up and fast, since Zika has been linked to serious birth defects and health officials are preparing for the possibility of small outbreaks in the United States.

Associated Press: Obama casts Trump philosophy as one of ignorance, isolation

<http://bigstory.ap.org/acfce1e24887473f88238c30575857b6>

Josh Lederman

President Barack Obama cast Donald Trump's positions on immigration, trade and Muslims as part of an

ignorance-and-isolation philosophy that the president says will lead the U.S. down the path of decline. Obama used his commencement speech Sunday at Rutgers University to tear into the presumptive Republican nominee, without ever mentioning his name. Time and again the president invoked specific Trump policies to denounce a rejection of facts, science and intellectualism that he said was pervading politics.

Associated Press: Trump says he expects poor relationship with UK leader

<http://bigstory.ap.org/7f1842d7187f4d629c0e6973e70468ea>

Danica Kirka

Presidential candidate Donald Trump says he may have a poor relationship with Prime Minister David Cameron in light of the British leader's criticism of Trump's call for all Muslims to be temporarily banned from entering the United States. Trump's comments, broadcast Monday on ITV's "Good Morning Britain" made headlines in Britain, which claims a "special relationship" with America. Trump's suggestion of a temporary Muslim ban led to a petition signed by half a million people demanding that Parliament hold a debate on whether he should be banned from the country. Lawmakers held the debate, but rejected a ban.

World News:

Associated Press: Afghan capital locked down for massive demonstration

<http://bigstory.ap.org/6743f344ef364d94b06ad5dc8833d948>

Karim Sharifi

Tens of thousands of Afghanistan's ethnic Hazaras marched on Monday through downtown Kabul, demanding the government reroute a planned power line through their poverty-stricken province so they can get more access to electricity. The massive protest reflected widespread dismay with the administration of President Ashraf Ghani. Concerns that the protest could turn violent prompted the police to block off roads leading into the city's central commercial district. Stacked shipping containers prevented the marchers from reaching the presidential palace. A November rally by Hazaras protesting the beheadings of members of their minority by militants had turned violent.

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