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Subject: Morning Clips – Wednesday, January 20, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Domestic violence to be focus of Gov. Nikki Haley's annual State of State
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160119/PC1603/160119285>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley will call for more action to end the "domestic violence epidemic" plaguing South Carolina in her State of the State speech Wednesday night. "We need a culture of empowerment rather than one of re-victimization," Haley will say, according to an excerpt of her speech.

Note: "No survivor deserves to show up in court and see a well-meaning but legally untrained police officer arguing his or her side, while a highly-paid defense lawyer argues on behalf of the abuser," Haley will say. "If you join me, in South Carolina no survivor ever will."

The State: Haley to use Pinckney's memory in call for unity

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article55551755.html>

Andrew Shain

Gov. Nikki Haley will invoke the memory of slain state Sen. Clementa Pinckney to ask state lawmakers to work together for South Carolina, according to an excerpt of her State of the State address obtained by The State.

Note: "I did not know him well, but what I knew was that in every interaction we had, he was always kind and respectful," the Lexington Republican plans to say Wednesday of the late Democratic lawmaker and pastor at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church, who was slain last June with eight of his parishioners.

Note: "The building we sit in invites disagreement," according to the excerpt. "Honest policy differences do not need to morph into personal dislike, distrust and disillusion. After all, to paraphrase something I read last June, we are more than just members of warring political tribes, but brothers and sisters and fellow South Carolinians."

Associated Press: Gov. Haley gives 5th State of State amid national scrutiny

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

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will call for amicable political disagreement in her fifth State of the State address Wednesday as she continues the message of her State of the Union response. Haley's address to state legislators will draw unusual national scrutiny a week after her Republican response to President Barack Obama cast her as the GOP's moderate voice and fueled speculation she could be on the presidential ticket.

Note: "I knew him to be a man who never seemed to speak against anyone or anything, but instead to advocate for the people and the ideas that he believed in," she will say, according to an excerpt of her prepared remarks provided to The Associated Press.

Note: "The building we sit in invites disagreement. That is a good thing, a healthy thing," the excerpt continues. "But disagreement does not have to mean division. Honest policy differences do not need to morph into personal dislike, distrust, and disillusion."

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Gov. Haley to deliver State of the State, deadline to register for GOP primary Wednesday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160120/PC1603/160129964/1031/palmetto-sunrise-gov-haley-to-deliver-state-of-the-state-deadline-to-register-for-gop-primary-wednesday>

Maya T. Prabhu

Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver her sixth State of the State address Wednesday night with plans to focus on her domestic violence initiatives. Wednesday also is the Republican governor's 44th birthday. The speech starts at 7 p.m. Wednesday and will last about 40 minutes. It will air on eTV. Rep. Mandy Powers Norrell of

Lancaster will deliver the Democratic response.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: State, local leaders break ground on \$1.4B Toray plant in Moore
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160119/ARTICLES/160119651/1083/ARTICLES?Title=State-local-leaders-break-ground-on-1-4B-Toray-plant-in-Moore>

Textiles fed local industry for more than a century. Now, a new fiber will help feed Spartanburg County's economy. State and local officials on Tuesday joined with executives from Toray Industries to break ground on the Japanese manufacturer's \$1.4 billion plant that will be constructed on 400 acres near the intersection of highways 290 and 221 in Moore.

Note: "When we look back this was a long time coming. There were a lot of years, talks and relationships and things we had to build to get to this point," S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley said. "They care about the quality of their product. They care about the ability to have a workforce that can maintain their reputation. They cared about the community they were going to live in. And they wanted to be actively involved and be in a community that would accept them back."

Post and Courier: Palin for Trump '16 echoes Palin for Haley '10
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160119/PC1603/160119299>

Schuyler Kropf

Donald Trump is hoping Sarah Palin can do for him what she did for Nikki Haley six years ago. By endorsing Trump on Tuesday in Iowa, the former Alaska governor and tea party favorite could be the boost Trump needs among skeptical conservatives in a tight race.

Note: "It is a tremendous honor to receive Gov. Palin's endorsement," Haley said at the time. "Sarah Palin has energized the conservative movement like few others in our generation."

Southern Political Report: Haley for veep?
<http://www.southernpoliticalreport.com/2016/01/20/haley-for-veep/>

Hastings Wyman

South Carolina's Gov. Nikki Haley (R) did something unusual in her Republican response to President Obama's State of the Union address. She made a strong – and good – impression. Not for her the poor delivery and goofs that characterized the GOP responses of Bobby Jindal and Marco Rubio in prior years. Haley's speech was marked by reasonable, common-sense points delivered with a genuine demeanor, as if she were talking without a script.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Senator says lack of confidence in federal government creates need for tracking, halting aid to refugees

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160119/PC1603/160119287>

Maya T. Prabhu

An Upstate opponent of South Carolina accepting refugees said there is little that could change his mind regarding a proposed bill that would track refugees. A second bill would prohibit state agencies from providing refugees aid. The state Department of Social Services "can't tell us (if refugees are properly vetted)," said state Sen. Lee Bright, R-Roebuck, chairman of a Senate Judiciary subcommittee.

Greenville News: With more refugees on the way, senators push restrictions
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/19/senators-begin-hearings-refugee-settlement-sc/78994016/>

Tim Smith

The president of a private agency that resettles refugees in South Carolina is opposing two pending bills that would restrict state agencies in their assistance of refugees, saying the bills are "unnecessary and will only promote fear of all refugees."

Note: In November, Gov. Nikki Haley asked Secretary of State John Kerry not to place any of the Syrian refugees in South Carolina because of concerns of inadequate security checks and the possibility that some terrorists might infiltrate the thousands of refugees being processed for settlement into the United States.

Associated Press: DOT director to give update on South Carolina's roads
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=KqcCgkTy

Jeffrey Collins

The interim director of South Carolina's roads agency is getting ready to make her case to get the job

permanently and also tell lawmakers what she needs. Christy Hall will appear before the Senate Transportation Committee on Wednesday for her confirmation hearing. She also is expected to tell lawmakers the status of her agency and South Carolina's poorly-maintained roads.

Associated Press: Legislators to get details of proposed flag display

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=88vONoF5

Seanna Adcox

Legislators are scheduled to get details on a multi-million-dollar proposal to display the Confederate flag removed from Statehouse grounds last summer. Officials with the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum will appear Wednesday before a House budget-writing committee.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley said last week the price tag should come down further.

Associated Press: Bill would require South Carolina journalists to register

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=RnrSB6lk

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina journalists would be required to register with the government before reporting the state's news under a bill introduced Tuesday by a Republican state lawmaker who linked his proposal to press coverage of gun issues. The bill would establish a "responsible journalism registry" with requirements that journalists must meet before working for a news outlet in the state.

The State: Senators consider proposals to restrict refugees

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article55522630.html>

Cassie Cope

Barring state agencies from interacting with refugees will hurt law-enforcement efforts, S.C. Law Enforcement Division chief Mark Keel told state senators Tuesday. The senators are considering two proposals that would restrict refugee resettlement in South Carolina. One bill would bar state agencies from interacting with refugees in South Carolina.

Post and Courier: College of Charleston president calls for the state to help fund crumbling infrastructure

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160119/PC1603/160119289>

Cynthia Roldan

College of Charleston President Glenn McConnell expressed concern Tuesday over the desire by some legislators to have the state's extra cash spent on roads instead of its crumbling infrastructure. McConnell went before the Ways and Means Higher Education and Technical Colleges Subcommittee to discuss C of C's budget, just like most higher education institutions will be doing during the next few weeks.

Index-Journal: Pitts files journalist registry bill, triggers Constitution debate

<http://indexjournal.com/news/Pitts-files-journalist-registry-bill>

Colin Riddle

State Rep. Mike Pitts, R-Laurens, set off a frenzy Tuesday when he filed a bill establishing requirements for journalists and media outlets as well as a "responsible journalism registry." Pitts represents portions of Laurens and Greenwood counties.

The State: Car dealer bill over closing fees moves to S.C. Senate

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article55488885.html>

John Monk

A hotly-contested bill that would kill some 200 pending consumer class action lawsuits against car dealers was passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday. But a minority report to be filed by Sen. Brad Hutto, D-Orangeburg, who opposes the bill, makes it likely the bill, under Senate rules, will need a supermajority of 30 or 31 senators to get to the floor for debate and a vote.

Index-Journal: Bill pushes for more privileges for dental hygienists

<http://indexjournal.com/news/Bill-pushes-for-more-privileges-for-dental-hygienists>

Mary Kate McGowan

Dentistry has created a Cadillac, but that is not an economical option for some people, said Tammi Byrd of South Carolina Dental Hygienists' Association Council on Regulation and Practice. "90 percent of our population cannot afford the Cadillac," she said. "They need to have another option for the individuals who need the Altima."

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Haley, GOP insiders betray conservatism

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160120/PC1002/160129971>

Richard A. Viguerie

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley's tone-deaf, anti-conservative, establishment Republican "rebuttal" to Obama's final State of the Union speech last week was supposed to be her audition for the vice presidential spot on a Rubio, Bush, Christie or Kasich ticket.

Post and Courier: Needed school district lessons

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160120/PC1002/160129974>

Editorial

The Charleston County School Board needs to make a better case to the public for changing its meeting schedule. It could start by giving citizens more than a minute to speak on school issues under revised rules. Amid fallout from an unexpected \$18 million deficit and a report of possible fraud, taxpayers aren't inclined to accept blindly anything the board does.

Post and Courier: Save S.C. coast from development

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160120/PC1002/160129976>

Editorial

The S.C. Legislature is being urged to enact a law that fails to do what its sponsor intended: protect the coast. Debate on the Senate bill could begin as early as today. And sadly, people are at the ready to take advantage of the ill-advised changes that have been made to it.

Aiken Standard: Registry for journalists impedes on First Amendment rights

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160120/AIK0201/160129999/1018/AIK02>

Editorial

The First Amendment says it best. There shall be no law abridging freedom of speech, or of the press. One Upstate lawmaker appears to have skipped the First Amendment and gone straight to the Second Amendment, which he favors and insists be held sacrosanct – even in news stories.

Index-Journal: Moped legislation needed this year

<http://indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Moped-legislation-needed-this-year>

Editorial

For some traveling South Carolina's roads, mopeds are their only ticket to ride. But legislation passed by the state House last week might put some of the two-wheeled vehicles in park, and that's got more than a few people fuming, to include some lawmakers and business owners who sell or rent mopeds.

The State: Corps of Engineers should release study of dam faults

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/editorials/article55469700.html>

Editorial

THE UNITED STATES Army Corps of Engineers needs to stop hiding behind national security and provide Richland County residents details about Fort Jackson's Semmes Lake dam, which broke during the October floods.

South Carolina News:

Aiken Standard: Congressmen: Shutting down MOX would cost \$500M

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160120/AIK0101/160129989>

Derrek Asberry

It would cost \$500 million to mothball construction of the Savannah River Site's MOX facility – one of the many reasons U.S. Reps. Joe Wilson, R-S. C., and Rick Allen, R-Ga., are advocating to continue building the facility which would turn weapons-grade plutonium into commercial nuclear fuel.

Post and Courier: South Carolina to delay state tax refunds in effort to fight fraud

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160119/PC05/160119297>

David Wren

South Carolina taxpayers won't get their state income-tax refunds until after March 1, regardless of how early they file as the S.C. Department of Revenue joins a growing list of agencies nationwide taking stricter

measures to combat fraud. "Our number one priority is to make sure your refund ends up in your pocket," Rick Reames III, the department's director, said in a statement.

Associated Press: South Carolina to delay state tax refunds to fight fraud

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BB8BL3aY

In an attempt to combat fraud, South Carolina taxpayers won't be receiving their state income-tax refunds until after March 1, regardless of how early they file. In a statement, the South Carolina Department of Revenue says that the delay will give the department time to verify wage documents with the Internal Revenue Service and ensure that taxpayers' refunds aren't stolen.

Post and Courier: Stakes high in S.C. in Supreme Court immigration case

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160119/PC16/160119293>

Bo Petersen, Cynthia Roldan

Thousands of people's lives in the Lowcountry could be changed by the Obama immigration overhaul. South Carolina is among 26 states that have challenged it as unconstitutional. That is what's at stake here with the U.S. Supreme Court's hearing of the controversial executive order that has opened a seismic fault in Congress, the country, political candidates and voters.

Times and Democrat: S.C. State Board to hold special meeting today

http://thetandd.com/news/s-c-state-board-to-hold-special-meeting-today/article_d98736fc-5130-5b05-b201-dd01fbd62a17.html

Dale Linder-Altman

The South Carolina State University Board of Trustees will hold a special called meeting at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in the Lowman Hall board room. Under discussion will be the university's upcoming meeting with the S.C. House Ways and Means Higher Education budget subcommittee.

Local News:

Associated Press: Group against gas tax hike to pay tax for Lexington drivers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=C4HbKaXR

A group opposed to South Carolina raising its gas tax plans to tell drivers about their beliefs by paying their tax at the pump. Americans for Prosperity will be at the Exxon near downtown Lexington starting at 7 a.m. Monday, knocking 45 cents off the price of a gallon of gas and telling people about their stance.

National News:

Associated Press: Sarah Palin: 'No more pussyfooting around' if Trump elected

<http://www.thestate.com/latest-news/article55476805.html#storylink=cpy>

Jill Colvin

Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump received the endorsement Tuesday of conservative firebrand Sarah Palin, giving the billionaire businessman a potential boost less than two weeks before Iowa's kick-off caucuses. "Media heads are spinning," the former vice presidential candidate said after taking the stage at a Trump rally at Iowa State University.

Associated Press: Michigan governor devotes speech to Flint water crisis

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/nation-world/national/article55566140.html>

David Eggert

Only a year ago, Rick Snyder began his second term as Michigan governor promoting the same achievements that had propelled him to victory in 2014: The state was at last in the midst of an economic comeback, and Detroit had emerged from bankruptcy.

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