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Subject: Morning Clips – Wednesday, June 1, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: Verbal lashing from House Speaker spurs Senate to pass roads deal

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article80967302.html>

Cassie Cope

S.C. senators approved giving the governor more control of the state's road-repair agency late Tuesday. The move came after S.C. House Speaker Jay Lucas took to the House floor earlier Tuesday, blaming the Senate and Gov. Nikki Haley for not passing a proposal to repair the state's roads. With only two days left in the legislative session, Lucas said he tried to meet with fellow Republican Haley Tuesday morning on the road-repair deadlock, but she could not meet.

Note: "She believes her time is better spent endorsing opponents of sitting General Assembly members, rather than demand the senators across the hall do their job and pass a roads bill," Lucas said to raucous applause from House members.

Post and Courier: Speaker Jay Lucas calls out Senate, Gov. Nikki Haley on roads bill delays

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160531/PC1603/160539877>

Gavin Jackson

Hours after S.C. House Speaker Jay Lucas blasted Gov. Nikki Haley and the state Senate over delays on a roads bill, senators sent an amended roads measure back to the House after behind the scenes hand-wrangling over reforms. Senate Republicans used the debate that ran late Tuesday over S.C. State University loan repayments as leverage to spur action on the roads bond bill and to change how S.C. Department of Transportation commission members are appointed. Senators spent more than five hours on the roads discussion, most of which was done in private.

Associated Press: The Latest: Senate amends roads bill hours after criticism

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=JprGaG7s

SC State Wire

Senators passed legislation intended to start fixing South Carolina's crumbling roads hours after House Speaker Jay Lucas blasted their inaction. The Senate voted late Tuesday to amend a bill that allows for \$2 billion of borrowing for highway construction over a decade and makes governance changes to the Department of Transportation. The amended bill returns to the House.

Note: The vote occurred after Lucas took the podium to say the Senate and Gov. Nikki Haley will be to blame if the potential compromise dies when the session ends Thursday. He said senators must pass a bill now, and Haley should be demanding it.

Associated Press: Senate amends roads bill after criticism from House speaker

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8PRGegWC

Seanna Adcox

Senators passed legislation late Tuesday that's intended to start fixing South Carolina's crumbling roads, hours after House Speaker Jay Lucas blasted their inaction. The Senate amended a bill that allows for \$2 billion of borrowing for highway construction over a decade and makes governance changes to the Department of Transportation. The amended bill returns to the House. About five hours earlier, Lucas took the podium to say Gov. Nikki Haley and the Senate will be to blame if the potential compromise dies when the session ends Thursday. Senators must pass a bill, and Haley should be demanding it, he said.

WLTX: House Speaker Criticizes Senate and Governor for No Roads Bill

<http://www.wltx.com/news/local/house-speaker-criticizes-senate-and-governor-for-no-roads-bill/225079082>

Joyce Koh

With just two days left of the legislative session, lawmakers have yet to pass a bill on what they deemed their number one priority this year: Roads. House Speaker Jay Lucas took to the podium Tuesday to address the issue, saying the Senate and Governor are at fault. "I want each of you to know I realize this body has worked harder this session than ever before to do what it took to get a roads bill for the people of the state, and I refuse to let this chambers efforts go unrecognized," Lucas said. "The opportunity we pushed for cannot fall by the wayside as our friends on the other side of this building refused to compromise or build consensus among themselves."

WMBF: Gov. Haley to endorse three new challengers in local state senate seat races

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/32104834/gov-haley-to-endorse-three-new-challengers-in-local-state-senate-seat-races>

Ian Cross

Governor Nikki Haley is endorsing three local challengers over the incumbents for State Senate. She was in Georgetown Tuesday night to endorse candidate Reese Boyd, and will visit Florence county to endorse Richard Skipper and Horry County to endorse Scott Pyle. "The people of Georgetown deserve a senator they can be proud of, one that won't vote for legislative pay raises and higher taxes, and that's exactly what they will have in conservative reformer Reese Boyd," said Governor Haley. "Reese is not a politician. He's a fighter. When Reese gets to Columbia he'll make sure state government serves his constituents, not the other way around."

The State: SC Gov. Haley to endorse Myrtle Beach attorney in state Senate race

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article80945172.html>

Jamie Self

Gov. Nikki Haley is endorsing Myrtle Beach attorney Reese Boyd in the GOP primary for District 34 state Senate seat, which state Sen. Ray Cleary, R-Georgetown, will vacate when his term expires. The Republican governor was to attend a 5 p.m. Tuesday reception for Boyd at the DeBordieu Clubhouse in Georgetown. Boyd and three others are running for the open Senate seat, including state Rep. Stephen Goldfinch, R-Georgetown, who Haley and the pro-Haley political group, A Great Day SC, oppose. The PAC is running ads in the three state Senate races.

South Strand News: Haley says she's 'never been more disappointed' in legislator than Stephen Goldfinch

<http://www.southstrandnews.com/20160531/160539993/haley-says-shes-never-been-more-disappointed-in-legislator-than-stephen-goldfinch>

Max Hrenda

While most of Gov. Nikki Haley's appearance in Georgetown was spent discussing state business, after it concluded, she delivered harsh criticism toward a local state representative. "I endorsed him because he was a freshman coming in," Haley said, "but I've never been more disappointed in a legislator than in Stephen Goldfinch." Haley made her statement after appearing at a Rotary Club of Georgetown Lunch event at Chacon's of Georgetown Tuesday, May 31, and hours before she was scheduled to appear at a campaign event for Reese Boyd III.

Sun News: Haley says Atlantic Beach "shut the door" during Bikefest talks

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/state/article81004452.html>

Christian Boschult

Gov. Nikki Haley addressed crime during Atlantic Beach Bikefest on Tuesday, saying the state would continue to lend a hand to improve life for residents during the event. She said that attempts to work with Atlantic Beach to increase tourism in exchange for ending Atlantic Beach Bikefest have been unsuccessful. "We tried talking to Atlantic Beach, and they pretty much shut the door in our face," she said. "I had my director of tourism go talk to Atlantic Beach and they listened to him and they basically said no to everything we had to

offer." Atlantic Beach officials either declined to comment or couldn't be reached Tuesday.

WBTW: Haley speaks about decision to veto bill impacting tourism dollars in Horry County

<http://wbtw.com/2016/05/31/gov-haley-speaks-with-news13-about-her-decision-to-veto-a-bill-that-impacts-tourism-dollars-in-horry-county/>

Taylor Herlong

Governor Nikki Haley was in Georgetown Tuesday to speak to the Rotary club there. Her visit comes just days after she vetoed a bill both the state house and the senate passed unanimously. The tourism tax bill focuses on Horry County, but the governor says it could allow local governments to increase taxes on citizens without a public vote. The bill says the tourism development tax is one to be imposed by a municipality located in a county where revenue from state accommodations tax is at least fourteen million in a fiscal year.

General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: A late night for the South Carolina Senate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160601/PC1603/160609963>

Cynthia Roldan

While you were sleeping, the South Carolina Senate kept on going. That's right. The chamber took a break sometime after 7 p.m. Ate pizza. And went back to work through about 12:20 a.m. What kept them so long? Sen. Marlon Kimpson, D-Charleston, had to start his filibuster against the Georgia concealed weapons permit reciprocity bill, when several attempts to end the day's session late Tuesday failed. Kimpson, who is not a fan of the bill, carried the bulk load of the effort, with the occasional fellow Democratic senator chiming in to help him keep going. The effort started late, however, because the chamber spent several hours past 5 p.m., arguing over the roads bill, after House Speaker Jay Lucas slammed the chamber publicly for crawling to a compromise.

Post and Courier: Lawmakers near agreement on ethics reform law creating investigations panel

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160531/160539881/lawmakers-near-agreement-on-ethics-reform-law-creating-investigations-panel>

Maya T. Prabhu

In an effort to bring trust back into the Statehouse, members of the S.C. House and Senate are poised to agree on legislation that would create an independent panel to investigate lawmakers accused of wrongdoing. "We've always maintained that (ethics investigations) came solely within the province of the Legislature," said Judiciary Chairman Sen. Larry Martin, R-Pickens. "So I think it's a huge departure from the old way of doing business and it reflects a pretty significant change in attitude over here regarding ethics complaints." Members of a joint House-Senate committee will now take the wording to their respective bodies, where each will need to vote on accepting the changes. That comes with only two days left in the 2016 legislative session.

The State: One SC ethics reform close to becoming law

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article81000887.html#storylink=apmobile>

Jamie Self

S.C. lawmakers are steps away from ending lawmakers' practice of investigating themselves on ethics complaints. A House-Senate panel Tuesday ironed out their differences on one bill that would give an independent state ethics commission the power, for the first time, to investigate ethics complaints against lawmakers and determine whether it is likely a violation occurred. An allegation then would be made public and sent to the House or Senate Ethics committees, which would decide if a violation occurred and, if so, levy a penalty.

WIS: Legislators reconcile differences to strengthen ethics bill

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32106910/legislators-reconcile-differences-to-strengthen-ethics-bill>

Jack Kuenzie

Lawmakers are working to settle differences on a bill to strengthen legislative ethics rules. House bill 3184

would reconfigure the state ethics commission and give it authority to begin independent investigations. Members of a joint conference committee on the bill made progress Tuesday afternoon. Although members of the House and Senate passed conflicting versions of the bill, the committee agreed to adopt most of the elements of the House version.

Greenville News: Senate passes \$7.5 billion budget

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/31/senate-passes-budget-216-million-roads/85198672/>

Tim Smith

The Senate has given its final approval of a \$7.5 billion General Fund budget that would enable the state to borrow \$2.3 billion for roads, grant state employees a 3.25 percent pay raise and adds \$10 million to the appropriation of local governments. House and Senate negotiators reached a compromise on Saturday, leaving final approval to both chambers. The Senate on Tuesday voted 36-9 to approve the compromise. That leaves House approval before the budget is sent to Gov. Nikki Haley.

WSPA: SC Senate Passes Budget with More Money for Roads, Education

<http://wspa.com/2016/05/31/sc-senate-passes-budget-with-more-money-for-roads-education/>

Robert Kittle

South Carolina lawmakers have agreed on a final budget for next year that includes \$200 million more for roads, \$200 million more for schools, and pay raises for teachers and state employees. The money for roads comes from the state's General Fund, which typically has not been used for roads and bridges, which are primarily paid for with gas tax money. Sen. Tom Davis, R-Beaufort, was one of the three senators and three House members who worked out the final budget. He pushed for using General Fund money for roads. "My argument was that, in a year when we've got over a billion dollars in new revenue, we ought to be talking about committing that money to pay for those roads and bridges and not raising gas taxes. There's no reason to go back to the people of South Carolina and ask for a tax increase when we have surplus funds here in Columbia."

Greenville News: Senate passes roads bill with new DOT reform

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/31/house-speaker-slams-haley-senate-over-roads/85210088/>

Tim Smith

The Senate Tuesday night passed a road-funding bill with changes designed to share power over the state's highway agency between the governor and lawmakers. The Senate voted 31-10 to approve the proposal after hours of talks between Senate Republicans and Democrats to break a stalemate with two days left in the year's legislative session. "I want to be sure we wind up with a roads bill and we're almost there," Senate Transportation Committee Chairman Larry Grooms told the Senate. "What we're attempting to do is not a fix-all but it will fix a lot."

Post and Courier: Pro-Georgia gun permit bill advances amid Charleston senator's filibuster

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160601/PC1603/160609965>

Cynthia Roldan

The state Senate worked past midnight Wednesday, after Sen. Marlon Kimpson began his attempt to block the advancement of a bill that [lets South Carolina recognize Georgia's concealed weapons permits](#). Kimpson, D-Charleston, was forced to start his filibuster against the bill when several attempts to end the day's session late Tuesday failed. The bill ultimately cleared another hurdle, but senators voted to delay debate on the amendments to the third and final vote. As of late Tuesday, there were "close to 80" amendments on the bill, according to Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster. The majority of them were Kimpson's.

Aiken Standard: Ice storm reimbursement not in state budget conference report

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160531/AIK0101/160539875>

Christina Cleveland

If Gov. Nikki Haley signs the state's fiscal year 2016-17 budget as is, Aiken County and two of its municipalities

would not receive the remaining reimbursements for the 2014 ice storm cleanup. On Tuesday, the S.C. Senate voted to adopt the state budget conference report by a 36-9 vote. Sen. Tom Young, R-Aiken, pointed out on the floor Tuesday how reimbursements for the ice storm, known as Winter Storm Pax, were not included. Aiken County was "ground zero" for the 2014 storm, experiencing catastrophic damage from fallen trees, Young said. He added the storm had been compared to Hurricane Hugo, which caused major damage to the South Carolina coast in 1989.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Energy Department recognizes SRS group with award

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160531/AIK0101/160539869>

For the first time, the SRS Community Reuse Organization and the Savannah River Site management team have jointly received a 2016 Energy Sustainability Award, a prestigious U.S. Department of Energy recognition. Each year, the Energy Department acknowledges outstanding performance by sites and individuals who contribute significantly to governmentwide programs. SRSCRO often uses excess and operating resources at SRS to benefit local communities – a positive example of sustainability. The partnership has provided an opportunity for thousands of pieces of no-longer-needed equipment and other excess government-owned items to be made available for beneficial use to local governments, nonprofits and private businesses.

SC Elections:

Independent Mail: Pickens senator rakes in campaign cash

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/pickens-senator-rakes-in-campaign-cash-34283584-7cfd-1c3b-e053-0100007fb486-381451431.html>

Kirk Brown

State Sen. Larry Martin collected and spent more campaign cash in the past two months than any other candidate who will be on the June 14 primary ballots in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties. Martin received \$62,598 in campaign contributions in April and May, according to a disclosure report he filed this week with the South Carolina State Ethics Commission. He also spent \$90,150 during the same period, with \$80,000 of that amount devoted to airing two TV ads. The Republican from Pickens is facing three GOP challengers in his bid for a seventh term in the Senate.

The State: Dalhi Myers to face Bernice Scott in runoff election for Kelvin Washington's seat

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article81024952.html>

Sarah Ellis

It will take one more election to decide who will fill Kelvin Washington's vacated Richland County Council seat between now and the November general election. Political newcomer Dalhi (pronounced DALE-ya) Myers and council veteran Bernice Scott – who represented District 10 for 20 years before her son-in-law, Washington, was elected in 2008 – will face each other in a runoff election June 14.

The State: Solicitor candidates swap jabs at Chapin forum

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article81034442.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

The three candidates for 11th Circuit solicitor traded jabs Tuesday over whose experience and vision best qualifies them to become chief prosecutor in Lexington County and nearby areas. The exchanges among the three Republicans occurred in reply to 16 questions during a forum at Chapin Town Hall two weeks before voters make their selection. Each of the three said it's time for changes in an office that retiring Solicitor Donnie Myers held for a state record of 40 years, while differing on how to reduce a backlog of pending offenses contributing to overcrowding in the Lexington County jail.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Nix traffic ticket quotas

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160601/PC1002/160609967>

Editorial

Speed limits and other laws of the road are intended to make them safer and to make traffic flow more smoothly. They also make money for the municipalities and police agencies that enforce them. Nobody would argue against giving motorists incentives to be safe and efficient drivers. And it makes sense for traffic fines to help pay for the cost of law enforcement. But some departments cross the line by giving officers a quota of tickets to issue. Quotas can encourage them to make stops that aren't necessary. Those stops can reflect poorly on law enforcement and erode the public's confidence that officers are there to keep them safe.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: \$2M grant to help Clemson professor study ways to make composite parts cheaper

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160531/PC05/160539878>

David Wren

Amod Ogale has spent decades studying composite materials that are stronger and lighter than steel and can increase fuel efficiency in airplanes and automobiles. Now, the Clemson University professor wants to find a way to make those carbon-based materials cheaper. On Wednesday, Ogale received a \$2 million grant to research new production methods through the school's Center for Advanced Engineering and Films. The funding is part of a collaboration with the Center for Composite Materials at the University of Delaware.

Local News:

Associated Press: Prosecutors: Revoke release of mom who drove kids into ocean

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=lhgp0hGN

SC State Wire

Prosecutors are asking a judge to send back to jail a South Carolina woman who drove her three young children into the Daytona Beach surf two years ago. Ebony Wilkerson was found not guilty of child abuse by reason of insanity, and has been receiving mental health treatment at a facility in Lake Wales. The motion filed Tuesday by the State's Attorney's office says the request for jail was triggered by an episode at the facility. But the document is heavily redacted, so key details are not available. It's unclear what treatment she might get in jail.

The Herald: Former SC prosecutor gets house arrest for dropping cases for sexual favors

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article80927142.html>

William "Billy" Whitney, a former city of Union prosecutor and city attorney, will avoid three months in prison yet will spend the next year under house arrest after pleading guilty to dropping criminal charges in exchange for sexual favors. Whitney, 68, pleaded guilty May 19 in Union in front of Judge Dan Hall to misconduct in office, according to Hayley Thrift, spokesperson for the S.C. Attorney General's Office which prosecuted Whitney. In that hearing Whitney was sentenced to 90 days in jail, plus community service and two years' probation. A one-year prison term was suspended.

Associated Press: Man, woman arrested after Myrtle Beach motel slaying

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dmd7Pfos

SC State Wire

A 24-year-old man and 19-year-old woman have been arrested following a deadly shooting at a Myrtle Beach motel last week. Citing online jail records, The Sun News of Myrtle Beach (<http://bit.ly/1UtP8pQ>) reports that Lourie Earl Maurice Pearson was charged Sunday night with murder in connection with the slaying of 23-year-old Pierre Allen. Horry County Deputy Coroner Darris Fowler says Allen died at a hospital shortly after being shot early Friday at the Fountainbleau Inn.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach leaders say Bikefest safety measures are working

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/bike-rallies/article80987437.html>

Emily Weaver

Attendance for this year's Atlantic Beach Bikefest in Myrtle Beach appeared lower this year than in years past, but city council members say it's hard to know what spawned the change. "Overall I think it went pretty good," Mayor John Rhodes said of Bikefest and the public safety plan the city and community partners worked to put in place in 2015. The measures included a 23-mile traffic loop, pedestrian barricades, blocked side streets, extra law enforcement and, this year, a ban on golf carts along Ocean Boulevard. "Of course, we don't know what affect overall the weather had on anything. It's hard to pinpoint if things were down because of weather," Rhodes said, referring to Tropical Storm Bonnie, or because of the public safety measures that went into effect to the dismay of some Bikefest attendees.

Sun News: PAI's Don Christy pleads guilty to fraud

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article80908862.html>

Wade Livingston

A former Hilton Head Island property manager pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count of federal wire fraud and is now facing the possibility of prison time and paying restitution, which could total millions of dollars. Don Christy, who owned Property Administrators Inc., pleaded guilty to the felony charge — Count No. 5 — in U.S. District Courthouse Tuesday in Charleston. The charge stemmed from a Jan. 28, 2013 transaction during which Christy wired \$5,000 — money the federal government alleged he stole from his clients — to a New Jersey bank.

The Herald: TV show shot in Rock Hill, York and Chester gets debut this week

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article80890362.html>

Bristow Marchant

The TV show that filmed on location in Rock Hill, York and Chester last year will make its broadcast debut this week. "Outcast," a show about demonic possession and exorcism in a small Southern town, will premiere at 10 p.m. Friday on Cinemax. The show was **shot on location** in York and Chester counties in 2015, transforming the area into the fictional small town of Rome, W.Va. A mural of the Mountaineer State was painted on the side of a building on the corner of Congress and Liberty streets in York.

National News:

Associated Press: Testy Trump takes his war with the press to a new level

<http://bigstory.ap.org/4257780cdb2245389e04655aff41821b>

Michael Biesecker, Jill Colvin, and Steve Peoples

Donald Trump's heated war with the media reached new heights as he turned the brag-worthy feat of raising \$5.6 million for veterans' charities into a sparring match with reporters pressing him on the issue. "The press should be ashamed of themselves," a defensive Trump railed during a Tuesday news conference at Trump Tower, called to announce a list of 41 charities that received a cut of the money he raised during a highly publicized January fundraiser.

World News:

Associated Press: Egypt says signals picked up from doomed plane's black boxes

<http://bigstory.ap.org/22f87d61c06f42fd9bb653911a3ae325>

Maggie Michael

Egypt said Wednesday that a French ship has picked up signals from deep under the Mediterranean Sea, presumed to be from black boxes of the EgyptAir plane that crashed last month, killing all 66 passengers and crew on board. The Civil Aviation Ministry cited a statement from the committee investigating the crash as saying the vessel Laplace was the one that received the signals. It did not say when the signals were detected but the French Navy confirmed the Laplace arrived on Tuesday in the search area.

Associated Press: UN warns 20,000 children are trapped in Iraq's Fallujah

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3b5d5febccc94a779a96194afc9ea5b9>

Sinan Salaheddin

The U.N. children's fund on Wednesday issued a stark warning to Iraqi troops and Islamic State militants in the battle for Fallujah to spare the children, the most vulnerable among the tens of thousands of civilians who remain trapped by the fighting for control of this city west of Baghdad. Backed by aerial support from the U.S.-led coalition and paramilitary forces mainly made up of Shiite militias, Iraqi government troops more than a week ago launched a military operation to recapture Fallujah which has been under control of the extremist group for more than two years.

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