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Subject: Clips – Saturday, June 4, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Law on concealed guns among more than 40 signed by Haley
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6D3jzmsE

Seanna Adcox

New laws signed by Gov. Nikki Haley shorten the legislative session, allow South Carolinians to carry concealed guns in Georgia, and block petroleum companies from taking people's land for a pipeline. Those are among more than 40 bills Haley quickly signed Friday, a day after legislators sent them her way. Dozens more could become law within the week. While the session officially ended Thursday, legislators will return June 15 to take up Haley's vetoes.

Sun News: Gov. Haley picks sides in Horry County's GOP election primary
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/politics-government/article81638577.html>

Audrey Hudson

Gov. Nikki Haley on Friday endorsed Scott Pyle over incumbent Luke Rankin for the Republican state Senate primary, prompting a backlash of criticism from local officials who say she's trying to stack the upper chamber with lawmakers who will side with her in future disputes. During a news conference for Rankin following Haley's endorsement of his opponent, Republican State Reps. Kevin Hardee, Alan Clemmons and Horry County Council Chairman Mark Lazarus said the governor had no business interfering with Horry County elections during a party primary, which will be held June 14.

My Horry News: Gov. Nikki Haley becomes central figure in District 33 Senate race
http://www.myhorrynews.com/news/local/carolina_forest/article_14e057c6-29d1-11e6-bd7a-2b952d378ab6.html

Tom O'Dare

The intensity of the race for the state District 33 Senate seat between incumbent Luke Rankin and challenger Scott Pyle picked up Friday with Gov. Nikki Haley being the key figure. Rankin and Pyle are squaring off in the June 14 Republican primary. Haley addressed a large group of supporters for Pyle at a Carolina Forest restaurant, saying she was throwing her support behind Pyle because he is a bigger proponent of Republican values than Rankin. "If you want to vote for a Republican, vote for Scott," she said. "If you want to vote for a Democrat, vote for Luke. He used to be a Democrat and he still votes the same way."

General Assembly News:

The Herald: S.C. Legislature wrap-up: Where some bills we've covered ended up
<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/politics-government/article81666002.html>

Bristow Marchant

South Carolina's legislators wrapped up another two-year session this week with several items still on the agenda for the final day of the session Thursday. Some bills made it over the final hurdle, some did not, and others remain in limbo. Here's a rundown of a few we've written about this term...

Independent Mail: Bills targeting pipeline move on to Gov. Haley's desk
<http://www.independentmail.com/news/bills-targeting-pipeline-move-on-to-gov-haleys-desk-3464445a-2167-039c-e053-0100007f6025-381831921.html?d=mobile>

Mike Eads

Kinder Morgan decided this spring to drop its plans for the Palmetto Pipeline project, but the public and legislative backlash against the \$1 billion plan inspired two legislative measures that are on the way to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk. S.B. 868 and S.B. 1065 were both approved Thursday, the last day of this year's legislative session, after several weeks of delays that were the result of House and Senate budget haggling. "I'm very pleased they were passed," said state Sen. Tom Young Jr. of Aiken, who worked with his fellow Republican Bill Hixon of North Augusta to shepherd both bills to passage. "I anticipate the governor would sign them. Her staff has given no indications of push back against either bill."

Times and Democrat: Teachers top S.C. agenda for education

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/teachers-top-s-c-agenda-for-education/article_74e3bd25-f6d6-5141-a550-3541c5d72c02.html

Lawmakers predicted during January's annual South Carolina Press Association Legislative Workshop that 2016 would be the year for significant action to improve the state's education system. They expressed a sense of urgency in the wake of the S.C. Supreme Court decision in the 20-year-old Abbeville vs. State of South Carolina lawsuit. The court ordered the Legislature to make education improvements, particularly in poor, rural school districts. Orangeburg Democratic Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter was skeptical. She said she'd believe it when she sees it regarding a major education initiative.

WYFF: Upstate lawmaker says road repairs could begin this year

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/Upstate-lawmaker-says-road-repairs-could-begin-this-year/39889428?src=app>

Tim Walker

Upstate Sen. Larry Martin, of Pickens, said with this week's passage of a roads bill by the legislature, he expects repairs to begin soon. "Within the next year, you're going to see major road projects really moving forward," Martin said. On Wednesday, Legislators gave final approval to legislation designed to jump-start improvements to South Carolina's deteriorating roads. The House's 109-2 vote sent the compromise to Gov. Nikki Haley. Her office has not yet said whether she'll sign it.

SC Political News:

Post and Courier: Orangeburg man among 42 prisoners granted clemency by Obama on Friday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609736>

Thad Moore

President Barack Obama on Friday granted clemency to a South Carolina man as part of an ongoing effort by the White House to release prisoners serving sentences it calls "unduly harsh." Marvin Hampton of Orangeburg was one of the 42 people whose sentences Obama shortened Friday. He was convicted in 2006 of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute and carrying a firearm during a drug trafficking crime. Hampton was sentenced in 2006 to 15 years in prison and five years of supervised release. The White House says he will be released Oct. 1, cutting nearly five years from his sentence. The administration has now granted clemency to 348 prisoners nationwide, which is more than the last seven presidents combined, the White House says.

The State: Irmo gets OK to eject town leader

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article81688142.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

Irmo officials remained uncertain Friday about how to proceed after receiving a cautious go-ahead allowing ejection of a Town Council member considered unruly. "We're not 100% sure what is the right way to go about this," Mayor Hardy King said. The uncertainty comes after the state Attorney General's office changed its mind and said ejection is permissible. But the opinion emphasized "the need for considerable caution" so the move is not used to stifle disagreement. The look at ejection follows Councilman Barry Walker's frequent squabbles with other town leaders at meetings, conduct they consider disruptive.

Sun News: Hearing continued for senate, county council candidate charged in connection with bribery

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article81671637.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

A preliminary hearing for a State Senate and Horry County council candidate charged in connection with bribery was continued a second time Friday. Dick Withington, 72, of Myrtle Beach, who is running for Horry County Council District 4 and State Senate District 34, was arrested March 29 and charged with inducement to file for, or withdraw from, candidacy for election after he allegedly accepted money during an undercover operation, which was prompted by an email he sent to several Horry County council men saying he would drop out of the race for "maybe \$20,000," according to law enforcement and arrest warrants.

SC Elections:

The State: Wedekind banks on \$100,000 loan in Midlands solicitor race

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article81686162.html#storylink=apmobile>

Tim Flach

Republican Larry Wedekind has borrowed \$100,000 to finance his bid to become chief prosecutor in Lexington County and nearby areas. The military credit union loan, listed in his latest campaign disclosure report, gives him more money for ads, mailings and other promotions than his two opponents combined in a push to, if not win outright, at least make it into a runoff. With the loan, Wedekind reported \$146,000 for his disposal compared to \$90,000 for Rick Hubbard and \$23,000 for Candice Lively as their June 14 showdown at the polls approaches. Nearly all of the money for Hubbard and Lively comes from donations, with small amounts added personally by each.

Post and Courier: Eddy Southard drops out of re-election bid

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC1603/160609733>

Schuyler Kropf

Former Berkeley County Statehouse lawmaker Eddy Southard withdrew his November re-election bid, reversing course in the wake of three allegations of sexual harassment surfacing against him in the General Assembly. "I wish to withdraw my nomination for the Nov. 8, 2016 general election," Southard, a Republican, said in a letter released late Friday afternoon on the stationery of his attorney, Mark Peper. The note went the state GOP, the state Election Commission and the Berkeley County Republican Party.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: No more delays on ethics reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160604/PC1002/160609708>

Editorial

In the previous three legislative sessions, the General Assembly came up short on ethics reform, despite the increasingly evident need for it. Who would have imagined that could happen yet again? But here we are at the end of the legislative session without new legislative ethics rules — despite all the time and effort expended on the issue. Going into the session, ethics reform was viewed as one of the two major issues for the Legislature to resolve — the other being highway funding. The Legislature wrestled long and hard on the highway issue and produced a half-measure that will provide less than 30 percent of the extra funding needed to fully address the state's safety and mobility issues. But at least lawmakers left Columbia with a highway bill for the governor to sign — even if it doesn't meet initial expectations.

South Carolina News:

The State: SC guardsmen say final goodbyes before heading to Kuwait

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/military/article81730667.html>

The S.C. Army National Guard bid farewell Friday to 60 soldiers in a Black Hawk helicopter unit deploying for a year to Kuwait. Friday's ceremony was at McEntire Joint National Guard Base near Eastover, where Company A of the 1-111th General Support Aviation Battalion is based. The unit is deploying with 10 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters. The unit last deployed on a yearlong mission to Kosovo in 2012. Guard commander Maj. Gen. Robert Livingston Jr. says the unit is part of Operation Spartan Shield, which provides support to U.S. and

allied military units in the Persian Gulf region.

Associated Press: Tropical Storm Bonnie weakens, moves away from East Coast

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

SC State Wire

Tropical Storm Bonnie is expected to weaken as it continues to move east and away from the U.S. East Coast. The U.S. National Hurricane Center says Saturday morning that Bonnie's maximum sustained winds were near 40 mph (65 kph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center says Bonnie is expected to pick up speed during the day but does not threaten land. The storm is centered about 415 miles (665 kilometers) east of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and is moving east at 12 mph (19 kph).

WIS: Farmer: upcoming flood aid will be "huge benefit" to struggling farms

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32143296/farmer-upcoming-flood-aid-will-be-huge-benefit-to-struggling-farms>

Chad Mills

Drake Perrow is trying to forget about last October, but that's easier said than done.

"There's no doubt this was the worst disaster that I had ever seen," he said. The flood submerged his peanuts and cotton. Business slowed down at his ginning company too, the Cameron Cotton & Seed Company. "We almost had a year's worth of rainfall in a four week period," Perrow said. But Perrow said things are on the rebound. He has new peanuts in the field, and he's hoping a new law will help spur business at his gin. "This is a new year, and I think everybody feels like, when they see that check, it's going to be a welcome surprise," he said. "Nobody's really expecting it yet."

Note: Despite a veto by Governor Nikki Haley, lawmakers have sealed the deal for \$40 million in aid to the farmers impacted by the flood.

Local News:

Greenville News: Emails: students claimed Clemson banana incident not racist

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/06/03/emails-students-claimed-clemson-banana-incident-not-racist/85291820/>

Nathaniel Cary

Internal emails between Clemson University administrators show that the two students who admitted hanging bananas from a pole next to a banner honoring African-Americans claimed it was not racially motivated. In one email Almeda Jacks, Vice President for Student Affairs, questioned whether anyone would believe that story, though her email suggested that administrators did believe the students. The emails also suggest administrators still elected to use the incident to address concerns of racial hostility on campus and engage in a dialogue with concerned students, including a question-and-answer session for students the following night.

Post and Courier: Church shooting victim's family donates college scholarships to local students

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609746>

Jennifer Berry Hawes

In response to her death, Myra's son, Kevin Singleton, launched a new nonprofit called Passion to Forgive to carry on his mother's love of education and outreach to those in need. At Christmas, the Charlotte resident donated new kids bikes, Hot Wheels tracks and other toys to students at James Simons Elementary. Then on Friday, he handed out five \$1,000 scholarships to help local public school students with college costs. The money came largely from donations the community gave to his family after the tragedy. "In my heart, I know that's what my mom would want," Singleton said.

Sun News: Horry police acted as victim advocates after funding eliminated

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article81728622.html>

Audrey Hudson

Former Horry County Detective Allen Large says he was trying to help women whose rape cases he was assigned to investigate by bringing them groceries, medicine, giving rides to court hearings, paying for hotel rooms and helping them find jobs. Such assistance is typically provided through a police department's victim

advocates, but until last year, the Horry County Police Department did not employ advocates and that responsibility was left to the agency's detectives, says Sandra Rhodes, former police chief. The problem with how Large tried to help some women —now part of lawsuits filed against him and the police department — is that the jobs he urged two of those rape victims to pursue were as participants in sexual fetish videos called catfighting that paid \$2,000 per video.

The State: More abused children, homeless teens helped with Palmetto Place's expansion

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article81661607.html#storylink=apmobile>

Palmetto Place has made considerable progress with the expansion of its "hundred-year-old home" that serves abused and neglected children and homeless teens from across South Carolina. The expansion will add 10 beds to the original shelter, bringing the total to 30 and allowing the organization to serve more than 100 children each year at the home in downtown Columbia, whose address is not released to protect the teens. Palmetto Place's home provides a safe environment where children have access to after-school programs, tutoring, recreational and social activities.

Post and Courier: Deputies find more than 70 animals in 'deplorable conditions' at Colleton County woman's home

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609714>

Thad Moore

A Colleton County woman was arrested Friday after deputies found more than 70 animals living in bad conditions in her backyard and "numerous" others that had died. Lynne Lucille Vanhouse, 69, of Round O, faces 10 counts of ill treatment of animals, a misdemeanor animal cruelty charge, the Colleton County Sheriff's Office says. An animal control crew called the sheriff's office when they found the animals last month. Authorities took the 68 dogs and five cats into protective custody after seeing the "deplorable conditions" they were living in, the sheriff's office said in a news release.

Island Packet: Woman charged with felonies in Colleton dog-hoarding case

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article81682047.html>

Wade Livingston

The Colleton County Sheriff's Office arrested Lynne Lucille Vanhouse, 68, on Friday after charging her with 10 counts of ill treatment of animals. The charges are felonies, according to Lt. Shane Roberts of the Sheriff's Office. They stem from a Sheriff's Office investigation and stand in addition to the 10 misdemeanors Vanhouse was charged with after a Colleton County Animal and Environmental Control investigation, according to Roberts.

Post and Courier: Refrigerated resurgence: After years of planning, Port of Charleston ready to boost cold cargo

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC05/160609717>

Like the Lineage Logistics cold storage warehouse in North Charleston, which took more than five years to go from drawing board to this week's ribbon cutting, growth of refrigerated cargo at the State Ports Authority has been a slow — albeit steady — process. "This is a really long-cycle business," Jim Newsome, the SPA's president and CEO, said Wednesday morning as he prepared for a ceremony to welcome Lineage's warehouse to the Palmetto Commerce Park, where meat, fruit and other temperature-sensitive products will be stored before they are exported to foreign countries or after they are received at the Port of Charleston.

Herald-Journal: Bank of America rolls out cardless ATMs in Spartanburg, Greenville

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160603/articles/160609875>

Allison M. Roberts

Bank of America customers in the Upstate have access to some new technology that might make their ATM trips a little faster. The banking giant has been rolling out cardless ATMs since the beginning of the year, and five have been placed in the Greenville-Spartanburg area, said Matthew Daily, a Bank of America spokesman. Four of the machines are in Greenville and one is in Spartanburg near the main entrance of Spartanburg Medical Center. Daily said there will also be one machine located in Clemson and one in Anderson.

Sun News: Dustin Johnson reaches settlement in attempts to recoup \$3 million

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/golf/article81734562.html>

Alan Blondin

Dustin Johnson has reached a settlement in his attempt to recoup \$3 million he claims he was duped into giving his former attorney Nathan "Nat" Hardwick and his law partners, and will receive at least a \$2 million payment if his settlement agreement is approved by a bankruptcy court. The Coastal Carolina University alumnus and PGA Tour star filed a lawsuit against Hardwick, partners Mark Wittstadt and brother Gerard Wittstadt, and their Atlanta-based law firm in October 2014. Johnson, 31, initially claimed in the suit that the defendants conspired to bilk him of \$3 million with a fabricated investment opportunity to cover shortages in the operating and trust accounts of their firm and an affiliated real estate title company. The shortages were allegedly caused by misappropriations.

National News:

Associated Press: Fort Hood deaths in flooding raises questions about training

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d70c406ba920489a81d68ecfd50aed66>

Emily Schmall and Jim Vertuno

Nine Fort Hood soldiers who died when a rain-swollen creek swept their vehicle into rushing waters were in the right place for their intended training, according to the U.S. Army. Yet the tragedy is prompting multiple investigations into the circumstances of the deaths and how the military may handle risky training conditions in the future. The lead Army agency on safety and occupational health dispatched a team to Fort Hood on Friday to investigate the circumstances of the Thursday training exercise on the sprawling Army base.

World News:

Associated Press: Muhammad Ali, who riveted the world as 'The Greatest,' dies

<http://bigstory.ap.org/dedb61d1ce6d4aac972f8e479992723c>

Tim Dahlberg

He was fast of fist and foot — lip, too — a heavyweight champion who promised to shock the world and did. He floated. He stung. Mostly he thrilled, even after the punches had taken their toll and his voice barely rose above a whisper. He was The Greatest. Muhammad Ali died Friday at age 74, according to a statement from the family. He was hospitalized in the Phoenix area with respiratory problems earlier this week, and his children had flown in from around the country.

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