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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, May 27, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Palmetto Business: Aiken, Union counties become South Carolina Work Ready Communities

<http://palmettobusinessdaily.com/stories/510742974-aiken-union-counties-become-south-carolina-work-ready-communities>

South Carolina's Aiken and Union counties recently became the 43rd and 44th counties in the Palmetto State to be certified as South Carolina Work Ready Communities (SCWRC). This certification is awarded to communities that have met workforce and education goals set forth in the initiative, which is available in all 50 states. To date, South Carolina boasts the most certified communities in the nation.

Note: "With Aiken and Union counties being named Certified Work Ready, we are only two counties away from reaching our goal of being the first state in the country to be fully certified," South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said. "This is a testament of Team South Carolina's hard work in making sure we have the most competitive business environment in the world for companies looking for a place to call home."

General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Jenny Horne makes tearful farewell speech on S.C. House floor

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160527/PC1603/160529453>

Maya T. Prabhu

Rep. Jenny Horne gave a tearful farewell speech Thursday morning as she prepares for her last days in the S.C. House of Representatives. Horne, R-Summerville, thanked former state Treasurer Thomas Ravenel for her foray into politics. When Ravenel was suspended in 2007, after being indicted on cocaine charges, District 94 Rep. Converse Chellis was appointed to the post. Horne and three other Republicans ran for the seat in a special election primary to finish Chellis' term, sending her and Heyword Huston to a runoff. She credits her congratulatory call to Huston with giving her the drive to try again.

Post and Courier: Charleston senator working to block bill allowing Ga. gun permits in S.C.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160526/PC1603/160529474>

Maya T. Prabhu

A gun law reform senator from Charleston is setting himself up to potentially filibuster a bill that would allow Georgia residents with concealed weapons permits to carry their weapons in South Carolina. Democratic Sen. Marlon Kimpson has drafted 80 amendments he hopes will show senators why the bill is bad legislation. After about 20 minutes of discussion and a short break Thursday, the Senate adjourned without voting on any of the amendments. "With three more days in the session, time is in my favor," Kimpson said. "They have the votes (to pass the bill). What I am trying to do is educate the body so they will make the right decision."

Post and Courier: S.C. House tacks 'dark money' regulation amendment on income disclosure bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160526/PC1603/160529488>

Maya T. Prabhu

The South Carolina House is attempting to tackle the issue of regulating outside organizations' spending on political campaign materials, which the Senate has yet to formally debate this year. House members Thursday amended a bill that requires elected officials to report income from private companies so that it also requires nonprofit organizations to reveal the source of their money that is spent on elections. "It's been debated long and hard up here," said author and Laurens Republican Rep. Mike Pitts. "This amendment requires third

parties who get involved in elections to do the same thing that you and I are required to do. We are required to report what money comes to us. We are required to report where the money goes.”

The State: SC lawmakers move to ban private school-choice nonprofits

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article80212857.html>

Jamie Self

Lawmakers want to ban the most successful – and controversial – nonprofit in the state’s private school-choice program along with other private groups that work to raise money for the \$12 million-a-year program. State budget writers have agreed to ban the Palmetto Kids First Scholarship Program and three other nonprofits from raising money to help students with disabilities pay private-school tuition. Those donations qualify for a state tax credit.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: Federal judge rules out third party in MOX suit, while Senate committee express ‘growing concern’ over facility

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160526/AIK0101/160529570>

Thomas Gardiner

This week a federal judge rejected a third party wanting in on the legal battle between the state of South Carolina and the U.S. Department of Energy over the construction of the Mixed-Oxide Fuel Fabrication facility at the Savannah River Site. And just one day after the judge’s order, a scathing letter obtained by the Aiken Standard sent from the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee to Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz outlined a number of concerns with the lack of progress over MOX.

Dylann Roof Case:

The State: Judge Gergel advances date of Dylann Roof’s next hearing

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article80158867.html#storylink=apmobile>

John Monk

Federal Judge Richard Gergel has moved the date of a court hearing for accused race killer Dylann Roof forward one day, to June 7, in Charleston. Gergel gave no reason for the change. The hearing at 2 p.m. on June 7 will be the first for Roof since federal prosecutors announced Tuesday afternoon they will seek the death penalty.

Post and Courier: New time set for June 7 Dylann Roof hearing

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160526/PC16/160529484>

Andrew Knapp

A hearing next month in the federal case against Dylann Roof, suspected of killing nine worshippers at Charleston’s Emanuel AME Church, has been rescheduled for later on the same day. The bar meeting will be at 2 p.m. June 7 in Judge Richard Gergel’s downtown courtroom, according to a filing Thursday. It had been set for that morning. The judge could set a date for Roof’s death penalty trial. With a trial in state court planned for Jan. 17, it’s still unclear which government will try Roof first.

SC Agency News:

Associated Press: Police search for man who escaped from Columbia prison

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

SC State Wire

Officials are looking for an inmate who escaped from a Columbia prison. Multiple media outlets reported that 24-year-old Catrell Davis escaped from Walden Correctional Institution around 6 p.m. Thursday. The Newberry County Sheriff’s Office said in a statement that the inmate had been spotted with a woman. Deputies said the inmate and woman are thought to have left the area after releasing another woman and her child from a car.

The State: Newberry authorities say prison escapee may be in area

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article80208517.html#storylink=apmobile>

Rachael Myers Lowe

A SC prison escapee with a female accomplice is on the run after escaping from the Walden facility on Broad River Road around 6 p.m. Thursday night. Catrell Davis, 24, and his accomplice are believed to be driving a grey Hyundai hatchback and was last headed toward Fairfield County. The Newberry County Sheriff's Department said the two left the Keitt's Crossroad area (US 176 and SC 34) "after letting a young woman and her child out of the car." Davis and his accomplice agreed to let the young woman and her child out of the car once they were in a remote area.

SC Elections:

Aiken Standard: S.C. House candidate Susan Swanson withdraws from race

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160526/AIK0101/160529608>

Christina Cleveland

Due to work commitments, Susan Swanson has withdrawn her candidacy for the S.C. House of Representatives District 84 seat. Swanson, a Republican, withdrew in April before the June 14 primary, according to scvotes.org. Incumbent Rep. Chris Corley, R-Graniteville, is the only other candidate who has filed for the seat.

Independent Mail: Bryant, Burdette spar at Senate candidate forum

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/bryant-burdette-spar-at-senate-candidate-forum-33c95e82-ad98-1a54-e053-0100007f25a5-381056531.html>

Kirk Brown

State Sen. Kevin Bryant and his challenger, United Way of Anderson County President Carol Burdette, sparred over numerous issues Thursday night in their last faceoff before next month's Republican primary. In a more contentious debate than their two previous encounters, Bryant and Burdette spoke before more than 60 people in Cox Hall at the Clemson Little Theatre. The event was hosted by the League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area.

Independent Mail: Political Pulse: Confederate flag raised as issue in Upstate races

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/political-pulse-confederate-flag-raised-as-issue-in-upstate-races-33c476e8-ea3d-469c-e053-0100007fcc-381033541.html>

Last year's removal of the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds in Columbia has become a factor in some Upstate political contests. Candidate Allan Quinn posted an unflattering photo of Sen. Larry Martin on his Facebook page Thursday to remind voters that Martin voted to take down the flag. Quinn is one of three challengers running against Martin in the June 14 GOP primary. "The flag is gone. Next is going to be our monuments," said Quinn, whose great, great-grandfather served in the Confederate army.

Opinion/Editorial:

Aiken Standard: Editorial: South Carolina road bill lacks sustainability

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160527/AIK0201/160529577>

South Carolina lawmakers patted each other on the back following passage of S. 1258, a Senate road funding bill that legislators say will increase funding by more than \$4 billion in the next 10 years. Indeed, the Senate bill provides a funding boost and restructures the S.C. Department of Transportation and State Infrastructure Bank. It also amplifies funding, lawmakers say, by making it easier to secure a series of short-term loans to expedite road projects as opposed to floating larger, long-term general obligation bonds. But it's also not entirely accurate to suggest S. 1258 won't potentially impact the general fund and the agencies that would be dependent on it.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Senate agrees on concessions for Carolinas boundary changes

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=42vKRBj1

SC State Wire

North Carolina legislators are lining up concessions necessary for the redrawn boundary between North Carolina and South Carolina to take effect in 2017 after more than 20 years of work. The Senate voted unanimously Thursday to confirm the re-established 334-mile boundary separating the states and alleviate problems for about two dozen homes and businesses shifting states. The bill addresses public schools, taxes, sewer districts and an alcohol beverage permit for a South Carolina convenience store that will wind up in North Carolina.

Associated Press: US government set to release hurricane season outlook

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5991J0Wr

Jennifer Kay

The U.S. government will release its forecast Friday for how many hurricanes and tropical storms are expected to form over Atlantic and Caribbean waters in the next six months. It's an annual reminder from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that coastal living comes with significant risks. The Atlantic hurricane season officially starts June 1, but tropical weather got a head-start this year: Hurricane Alex made an unseasonable debut in January over the far eastern Atlantic, and the National Hurricane Center says an area of low pressure between Bermuda and the Bahamas could be brewing into something bigger Friday or Saturday. Note: The 2015 season was slightly below average with 11 named storms, including two tropical storms that made landfall and caused flooding in South Carolina and Texas. Hurricane Joaquin, one of two storms to reach major hurricane strength, killed all 33 mariners aboard a cargo ship that sank off the Bahamas in October.

The State: Canadian company looking for gold in South Carolina

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article80154972.html#storylink=apmobile>

Sammy Fretwell

A Canadian corporation is looking for gold in an area of South Carolina near the historic Brewer mine, an abandoned operation that once produced tons of the precious mineral but today is undergoing a major pollution cleanup. Pancontinental Uranium Corp. said in a news release this week that it had acquired 100 percent interest in a "high potential, advanced exploration stage gold project" in "mining friendly South Carolina."

Local News:

Greenville News: Pickens County gets first woman resident judge

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/05/26/pickens-county-gets-first-woman-resident-judge/84969242/>

Ron Barnett

Pickens County has a new Family Court judge. Karen Sanchez Roper has been elected to succeed Alvin D. Johnson, who will retire on June 30 after 20 years on the bench. She is the first woman to be appointed by the General Assembly as a resident judge for Pickens County. Roper is an attorney and founding partner of Roper Law Firm in Pickens. She will leave the law practice upon assuming her duties on the bench.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley appointed Roper to the Anderson-Oconee-Pickens Mental Health Board in 2014.

The State: Tension among town leaders roils Irmo

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article80171087.html>

Tim Flach

Bad blood among Irmo town leaders is threatening to boil over. Three Town Council members led by Mayor Hardy King are looking for a way to eject another whom they consider excessively argumentative and unruly at meetings. Their search is under way despite [advice from the state attorney general's office](#) that council members aren't allowed to oust one of their own from sessions because that person is being disruptive.

The Herald: York police summer camp will introduce kids to local emergency responders

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article80156732.html>

Teddy Kulmala

The York Police Department will hold two summer camps next month to give kids a chance to get up close and personal with local emergency responders. The first camp will be June 6-10 for children ages 8 to 12, and the second camp will be June 13-17 for children ages 13 to 18. On each day of the weeklong camp, participants will learn from a different emergency response agency, including York Police, York Fire Department and Piedmont EMS. The Rock Hill Police Department bomb squad will bring its robots, and the last day of the camp will feature a visit from the medical helicopter at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

Sun News: More than 600 law enforcement land in Myrtle Beach to prepare for Bikefest

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/bike-rallies/article80180692.html>

Claire Byun

More than 600 police will be patrolling the Grand Strand this weekend, but Myrtle Beach Police Chief Warren Gall wants all visiting law enforcement agencies to remember one thing: be a peace keeper, not an occupier. That's the message Gall lent to about 600 officers Thursday evening as they met at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel to be briefed on the city's operational plan for Memorial Day weekend.

Sun News: NAACP to monitor racism, discrimination during Atlantic Beach Bikefest

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/bike-rallies/article80162262.html>

Audrey Hudson

Local and national NAACP leaders say they will monitor police and business practices to ensure that Atlantic Beach Bikefest attendees are not discriminated against during the Memorial Day weekend event. This year marks the 10th year that officials from the organization have monitored the Grand Strand event, which they say will draw 300,000 African-American visitors. Speaking during a news conference Thursday on the steps of the Sandy Grove Baptist Church in Myrtle Beach, NAACP leaders urged attendees who are refused service or turned away at local hotels, restaurants or other businesses, or who are harassed by police, to file complaints by calling 888-362-8683 or online at <http://action.naACP.org/page/s/bikeweek>.

Post and Courier: NAACP calls for federal complaints against Charleston County schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160526/PC16/160529454>

Paul Bowers

Building on a week of public outcry over racial inequality in the public school system, the NAACP Charleston branch kicked off a campaign to file federal civil rights complaints against the Charleston County School District on Thursday. Addressing about 50 people in the church fellowship hall, local education advocate Jon Butzon suggested filing complaints with the U.S. Department of Education and the Office for Civil Rights about issues including racial disparities in school disciplinary actions and performance on Advanced Placement tests. According to school district data, black students are six times more likely to be suspended than their white counterparts.

The Herald: Accused Rock Hill educator has \$1.2 million bond reduced to \$15,000

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article80168447.html>

Jennifer Becknell

A Northwestern High School administrator accused of sexual misconduct with students had his \$1.2 million bond reduced to \$15,000 Thursday after telling a judge that he is not a threat. "I apologize for us being here," Kenneth Andrew Williams told Circuit Court Judge Daniel Dewitt Hall on Thursday in a York courtroom. Williams said the 12 charges against him are "an embarrassment." "I am not a threat to the community," Williams told the judge.

Associated Press: Group escapes Kentucky cave through neck-deep water

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

Claire Galofaro and Bruce Schreiner

Russell and his group were among 19 people who escaped the flooded Hidden River Cave on Thursday afternoon. They navigated neck-deep water, rushing currents and mud so thick it sucked off the police chief's

boot. It was pitch black. "It was shooting waterfalls out of the ceiling. The walls were thundering, there was so much water moving through it," said David Foster, the executive director of the American Cave Museum at Horse Cave and a guide for 30 years, who rushed into the darkness to help with the rescue. "You just don't know what Mother Nature is capable of. There's only so much cave, and there's way more water." The group that spent more than six hours inside the cave included Clemson University students, four tour guides and two police officers who got trapped when they tried to rescue the group, Kentucky State Police Trooper B.J. Eaton said.

Greenville News: High-tech fix coming for bumps on Swamp Rabbit Trail

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/26/high-tech-fix-coming-bumps-swamp-rabbit-trail/84770880/>

Elizabeth Sanders

On parts of the Greenville Health System Swamp Rabbit Trail smooth asphalt has given way to bumps, roots and white paint to mark the potential dangers for runners and cyclists. It's a sign that one of Greenville's most popular attractions, which opened in 2009, is showing a little age. Ty Houck, Greenways, Natural & Historic Resources Director for Greenville County, says the county is buying special equipment to fix many of the issues before they get out of control and at the same time not mess up anyone's routine.

Greenville News: Pharmaceutical company not saying much about distribution center near Reidville

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2016/05/26/pharmaceutical-company-not-saying-much-distribution-center-near-reidville/84912872/>

Rudolph Bell

Valeant Pharmaceuticals International isn't saying much about plans for a distribution center in western Spartanburg County, including whether the proposed facility would replace the Bausch & Lomb warehouse along Pelham Road in Greenville. Canada-based Valeant is the parent company of Bausch & Lomb, which makes contact lens solution at a factory along Pelham Road and operates a related warehouse nearby. Valeant earlier this year filed an application for a land development permit with the Spartanburg County Planning Department in which it disclosed plans for a 432,120-square-foot distribution center at the intersection of S.C. 101 and S.C. 417 near Reidville.

Associated Press: 40-year mark: Spoleto Festival USA opens in South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=SnJq8bj8

Bruce Smith

The Spoleto Festival USA is opening its 40th season, which promises to be a celebration of the spirit of Charleston, South Carolina. The internationally known arts festival opens Friday with speeches and a brass fanfare in front of City Hall. This year's schedule includes Spoleto's first production of the opera "Porgy and Bess," which is set in Charleston. A number of performances also pay tribute to the memory of the victims of the shootings at Emanuel AME Church nearly a year ago.

National News:

Obama at Hiroshima: 'Death fell from the sky'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/fd86ff19961149a7874ae6273748dd71>

Nancy Benac and Foster Klug

Barack Obama on Friday paid tribute to the "silent cry" of the 140,000 people killed by the world's first atomic bomb attack and sought to renew attention in his unfulfilled vision of a world without nuclear weapons, as he became the first sitting U.S. president to visit Hiroshima. "Death fell from the sky and the world was changed," Obama said, after laying a wreath, closing his eyes and briefly bowing his head before an arched monument in Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park that honors those killed on Aug. 6, 1945, when U.S. forces dropped the bomb that ushered in the nuclear age. The bombing, Obama said, "demonstrated that mankind possessed the means to destroy itself."

Associated Press: Dump Trump? Some millennials aren't so sure

<http://bigstory.ap.org/14bf30b4f301465b861daa06ea6d9c9d>

Gillian Flaccus

Dozens of college-aged protesters shouted on the other side of a police line, but De Regla, 22, stood unwaveringly in support of Trump. While most polls show Bernie Sanders is the overwhelming favorite of millennials — voters between the ages of 18 and 35 — some young voters are taking a serious look at Trump as the primary season rolls on. In a Harvard Institute of Politics poll out this spring, 25 percent of people under 30 said they would vote for Trump if he faced off against Hillary Clinton in the fall.

Associated Press: Origin of key Clinton emails from report are a mystery

<http://bigstory.ap.org/448aebdc154648db9ed23bf578cc8c09>

Chad Day, Stephen Braun and Jack Gillum

Since her use of a private email server was made public last year, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton has insisted she turned over all work-related emails to the State Department to be released to the public. But after 14 months of public scrutiny and the release of tens of thousands of emails, an agency watchdog's discovery of at least three previously undisclosed emails has renewed concerns that Clinton was not completely forthcoming when she turned over a trove of 55,000 pages of emails. And the revelation has spawned fresh criticism from presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump.

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