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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, May 19, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Washington Post: The march against the Confederate flag continued Thursday — this time in Congress

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/05/19/the-march-against-the-confederate-flag-continued-thursday-this-time-in-congress/>

Amber Phillips

A year after America suddenly and overwhelmingly began unraveling itself from the Confederate flag, here's more evidence our relationship with it is ending. On Thursday, the House of Representatives — including 84 Republicans — voted to make it illegal to drape or hoist the flag prominently in national veterans' cemeteries, including over mass graves. Those who want to mark their ancestors' spot with a Confederate flag could do so with a small one, but only on two days a year: Memorial Day and Confederates Memorial Day.

Note: "That flag, while an integral part of our past, does not represent the future of our great state," said South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R), who led the charge. Shortly after the shooting, South Carolina lawmakers heeded Haley's call and voted to take down the Confederate flag from state Capitol grounds in an emotional debate. The flag fell in Alabama as well as on the campus of the University of Mississippi. And a design change to Mississippi's flag, which is dominated by the rebel cross, was put to a vote there. (Voters decided to keep it as-is.)

Note: This week, House Democrats also tried (but failed) to take down the Confederate flag flying at the Citadel — which is about two miles from the Charleston church, Marcos notes. But Democrats trying to take down the Confederate flag got further Thursday than they ever had.

WJBF: SC Abortion Bill Heading to Gov.'s Desk for Expected Signature

<http://wjbf.com/2016/05/18/sc-abortion-bill-heading-to-gov-s-desk-for-expected-signature/>

Jennie Montgomery and Robert Kittle

A bill that would ban abortions in South Carolina after the 19th week of pregnancy is heading to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk, after the state House gave its final approval Tuesday. She's expected to sign it because she said in March, after the Senate passed the bill, "By nature, I have always signed pro-life bills and I can't imagine any scenario where I wouldn't sign it." The bill does have exceptions for a medical emergency or severe fetal anomaly, but would not allow abortions in cases of rape or incest. Bill co-sponsor Rep. Donna Hicks, R-Boiling Springs, says a woman who is raped or the victim of incest still has almost five months to get an abortion.

Fortune: Donald Trump Still Has a Tough Climb to the White House

<http://fortune.com/2016/05/18/donald-trump-tough-climb-to-white-house/>

Euel Elliott

It has been an extraordinary month for Donald Trump. It's hard to believe that just six weeks ago, as the post-mortems following his loss to Ted Cruz in the Wisconsin primary, pundits were actually concluding that the chances of a contested convention had increased dramatically, and that Trump could not win if the convention went beyond one ballot. But even after proving them wrong as the presumptive GOP nominee, he still has a tough climb to the White House.

Note: If he concludes that he needs help with the female vote, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, Tennessee congresswoman Marsha Blackburn, or Washington congresswoman Kathy McMorris

Rogers would be real possibilities. Susanna Martinez, governor of New Mexico, would be another viable choice, as she would add a much-needed Hispanic dimension.

General Assembly News:

Associated Press: Allegation of broken rule made in SC judicial races

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=y1k1rKKY

SC State Wire

The commission that checks the qualification of lawyers to be judges in South Carolina has received allegations that a candidate broke the rules. Judicial Merit Selection Commission Chairman Sen. Larry Martin said Thursday he could not name the candidate or provide details because the commission has already sent the candidates to a Wednesday vote by the General Assembly. Martin says the rule was broken before the candidates were allowed to ask lawmakers for their votes, so the Legislature could send the matter back to the committee.

Associated Press: Independent reviews of legislators steps from being law

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=hi5sIQvf

Seanna Adcox

Complaints against South Carolina's legislators would be independently investigated under an ethics reform bill that could reach the finish line this session after four years of debate. If the Senate accepts changes that the House approved Thursday, the legislation will go to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk. Changes made by the House include how State Ethics commissioners are chosen and who decides whether a legislator likely violated the law.

Associated Press: Lawmakers, judges seek help for SC Stand Your Ground defense

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

Jeffrey Collins

A group of senators is holding off on a vote on a bill to expand the Stand Your Ground defense in South Carolina even as the state Supreme Court asked lawmakers to help them better define the self-defense law. A Senate subcommittee took no vote after hearing testimony Thursday from women who said the bill would create a culture of shoot first, ask questions later. The bill passed the House 106-0 in February.

Post and Courier: 'Stand your ground' bill stalls in Senate, unlikely to become law

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC1603/160519318>

Cynthia Roldan

A bill that would have expanded the state's "stand your ground" law by shifting the burden of proof to the prosecution will likely fail to become law before the Statehouse session ends in two weeks. Senators said they needed more time to study a South Carolina Supreme Court opinion published Wednesday to see how it plays into the wording of the current proposal. With just two weeks left in the session and one more committee meeting scheduled between now and the June 2 adjournment, the bill stands little chance of becoming law.

Greenville News: House panel advances road-funding, DOT reform bill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/18/house-panel-advances-road-funding-dot-reform-bill/84480218/>

Tim Smith

A bill is headed to the House floor that could ultimately mean \$4 billion in additional road and bridge work in South Carolina and governance reforms at the state's highway agency. The House Ways and Means Committee on Wednesday voted 22-0 to approve the legislation, a marriage of a Senate road-funding bill and a House proposal for reforms at the state Department of Transportation. There were few questions and little debate.

Greenville News: Sen. Larry Martin receives award from League of Women Voters

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/05/19/sen-larry-martin-receives-award-league-women-voters/84583800/>

Ron Barnett

The South Carolina League of Women Voters has presented state Sen. Larry Martin with its Issues and Action Award for his efforts in pushing ethics reform over the past two years. Martin, a Republican from Pickens, was one of two legislators who received the honor. Rep. Kirkman Finlay III was given the award for his work on the same issue in the House.

LGBT Laws:

Post and Courier: Senate stalls on Berkeley transgender bathroom bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC1603/160519321>

Gavin Jackson

Top state education and economic officials helped sway senators to stall a bill reversing a school district policy allowing students to use restrooms with which they identify. Third reading was delayed Thursday, preventing the bill from heading to the House for a vote by members of the delegation. The bill would require Berkeley County students to use the restroom that corresponds with their gender at the time of birth. The bill only affects county schools and only the 2016-17 school year, but prominent state officials worry it would jeopardize \$870 million in federal education dollars and perspective economic development.

Politico: Poll: Transgender bathroom laws split Americans

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/05/poll-transgender-bathroom-laws-223356>

Nick Gass

Americans are divided over whether transgender people should be allowed to use the public bathrooms of the gender with which they identify or the gender they were born as, according to the results of a CBS News/New York Times poll released Thursday. Nearly half—46 percent—said transgender people should be required to use the bathroom corresponding with their birth gender, while 41 percent said they should be able to use the restroom bearing the gender with which they identify.

SC Political News:

Post and Courier: House votes to remove Confederate flags from VA cemeteries

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC1603/160519336>

Emma Dumain

The House of Representatives voted to bar the Confederate flag from being flown at cemeteries operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs in the latest movement against displaying the rebel banner at federal sites. Thursday's vote was the first of its kind to be allowed to proceed on the House of Representatives floor since the June 2015 racially charged shooting of nine black parishioners at Charleston's Mother Emanuel AME Church. Eighty-four Republicans joined with nearly all of the Democrats in the 260-164 vote in favor of the amendment. All six of the Republicans in the South Carolina delegation voted against it.

Greenville News: Sen. Lindsey Graham backs having women register for draft

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/19/sen-lindsey-graham-backs-having-women-register-draft/84550130/>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

The GOP's traditional resistance to having women register for a potential military draft is fading on Capitol Hill, where key Republican lawmakers like Sen. Lindsey Graham now support the idea. "Women are an indispensable element of the war fighting machine," Graham said Wednesday. "So when it's time to get ready to inventory the nation to supplement the all-volunteer force, leaving half

the population out makes no sense to me." Graham, who retired last year from the Air Force Reserves after 33 years of military service, said his position on the issue has evolved over time.

SC Elections:

Post and Courier: Horne takes Sanford's vote to close Gitmo to the campaign trail

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC1603/160519342>

Emma Dumain

Republican primary challenger Jenny Horne is seizing on U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford's vote to close the terrorist prison at Guantanamo Bay as a vote to bring detainees to Charleston. Sanford says that's not true and that he's just being consistent. So begins what could become a major campaign issue in the congressional primary fight between Horne, a state representative from Summerville, and Sanford, the 1st District incumbent.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: No sign of mechanical issue in plane that crashed at airshow

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gGNh9sHd

SC State Wire

There's no sign of mechanical problems in a plane that crashed during a Georgia airshow, killing the pilot, a federal investigator said. The pilot, 50-year-old Greg Connell, was the only one aboard the plane that crashed Saturday afternoon during the Good Neighbor Day Open House Airshow at the DeKalb Peachtree Airport just northeast of Atlanta, authorities said. Connell was flying in tandem with another plane during an aerial acrobatics stunt show when the plane crashed and caught fire.

Associated Press: Soldier aims to run 100 miles while wearing a gas mask

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

Dash Coleman

The soldier in the gas mask goes by "Unbreakable." He's been seen along Ga. 144 on Saturday mornings, determined and steady as he runs, oxygen intake dramatically reduced and heat building between the black plastic and his face. The black Special Operations gas mask doesn't leave his head until he gets to his unit's Fort Stewart compound - 18 miles later. That's nothing compared to what the 3rd Infantry Division soldier, Sgt. 1st Class Augusto "Tito" Piñero, plans to do Friday. The 37-year-old aims to run for 100 miles straight in Greenville, South Carolina, while wearing the oxygen-restricting device. If Piñero succeeds, he will, by default, surpass the 41-mile world record for distance run in a gas mask.

Greenville News: Simpsonville cemetery to get state historical marker

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2016/05/19/simpsonville-cemetery-get-state-historical-marker/84588950/>

Scott Keeler

A Simpsonville cemetery that houses a grave that dates back nearly 175 years is set to be recognized for its historical significance. The Simpsonville Municipal Cemetery has been awarded a South Carolina historical marker from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Local News:

Associated Press: The Latest: SC police investigate officer shooting of driver

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ANb1tnWL

SC State Wire

State police say there is dash camera video of an incident involving the shooting of a black suspect by a white police officer in a Columbia enclave. State Law Enforcement Division spokesman Thom Berry says the agency is still checking on surveillance video of the shooting early Thursday morning

in Forest Acres, a small residential community surrounded by the city of Columbia. Officers in the area do not have body cameras.

The State: Forest Acres officer involved in shooting early Thursday

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article78572672.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

A white Forest Acres police officer shot a black driver who tried to strike him with his car early Thursday, according to a State Law Enforcement Division spokesman. The officer, whose identity was not immediately available, approached a man in a parked vehicle while responding to a report of a loud noise on Brookwood Court between 1 and 2 a.m., SLED's Thom Berry said. Berry says the driver tried to strike the male officer with the vehicle and the officer fired as the vehicle sped away.

Post and Courier: Columbia-area officer shoots at suspect in car

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC16/160519332>

Tony Bartelme

A suburban Columbia police officer shot a man in a car Thursday morning after the officer said the driver used the car as a weapon, a State Law Enforcement official said. The shooting in Forest Acres triggered a short car chase that ended when the driver crashed into an ATM at the South Carolina Federal Credit Union, said Thom Berry, SLED spokesman. The Forest Acres police officer, whose identity was not being immediately released, wasn't harmed.

Sun News: Lawsuit accuses Horry detective of sexually assaulting rape victim

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article78578592.html>

Audrey Hudson

A lawsuit filed Wednesday against the Horry County Police Department and former Detective Troy Allen Large accuses the officer of sexually assaulting a woman whose rape case he was assigned to investigate. The lawsuit also accuses the detective of pressuring the victim to participate in nude, "catfight" videos with other women who were sexual assault victims.

Aiken Standard: FBI civil rights investigation ongoing in the 2014 North Augusta officer-involved fatal shooting

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160519/AIK0101/160519355>

Maayan Schechter

The FBI Columbia division is continuing its civil rights investigation into the actions of former North Augusta police officer Justin Craven for his role in the 2014 shooting death of an Edgefield County resident. This is the first known public acknowledgment of the FBI investigation. The Aiken Standard reached out to the FBI and Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice to determine where, and if, an investigation stood into the shooting death of Ernest Satterwhite Sr., 68, the evening of Feb. 9, 2014.

Associated Press: Man shot in neck by deputy in South Carolina dies of wound

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

SC State Wire

A man who was shot in the neck by a sheriff's deputy in South Carolina has died. Coroner Parks Evans tells local media that 53-year-old Reginald Darnell Dogan died Wednesday of the neck wound he received on May 2. Greenville County Sheriff Steve Loftis says his deputies were called to respond to a gun-waving man in the Greenville suburb of Taylors.

Associated Press: While jury deliberates murder, man pleads to lesser charge

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=nn8ia60g

SC State Wire

Even as a jury deliberated whether to convict him of murder, a Boiling Springs man pleaded guilty to a lesser charge in Greenville County court. The Greenville News reports (<http://grnol.co/252MWu8l>)

that Stephen Arthur Harry pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter on Tuesday. Harry working as a security guard at a hotel when he shot 28-year-old Ledrekus "Lee" Sloan in March of March 2013. Prosecutors said the shooting occurred following a drug deal.

Post and Courier: MUSC protesters still dissatisfied with grievance policy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC16/160519316>

Derrek Asberry

Following last month's words of optimism over changes to the Medical University of South Carolina's grievance policy, protesters with Healthcare Workers United said Thursday that they should have been allowed to review the changes before they were sent to the state for approval. MUSC attorney Annette Drachman said the group didn't see the changes until a week after the April 8 meeting. However, group members did contribute comments and questions.

Post and Courier: BMW's South Carolina plant marks new manufacturing milestone

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC05/160519339>

John McDermott

BMW Manufacturing has produced the 3.5 millionth automobile at its South Carolina plant. The mineral white BMW X4 xDrive20i will be shipped through the Port of Charleston to a customer in Fuyang, China, about seven hours west of Shanghai, the luxury automaker said Thursday. BMW is investing \$1 billion to expand the Greer plant, which produces the X3, X4, X5 and X6 models.

Independent Mail: South Carolina BMW plant builds 3.5 millionth vehicle

<http://www.independentmail.com/business/south-carolina-bmw-plant-builds-35-millionth-vehicle-33342312-7101-36bb-e053-0100007f7ad5-380120691.html>

BMW Manufacturing announced on Thursday that it has produced the 3.5 millionth BMW made in South Carolina. "This achievement is due to the outstanding commitment and dedication of our associates to produce premium quality vehicles for customers," said Manfred Erlacher, president and CEO of BMW Manufacturing. "Customers around the world love our products and our X models are an important part of the company's success." Made in Spartanburg, the white BMW X4 xDrive20i is headed to a customer in China. It will be sent by rail to the Port of Charleston and start its journey overseas.

Post and Courier: Charleston C-17 cargo jet will fly NASA's asteroid-bound spacecraft across the country Friday

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160519/PC16/160519329>

Schuyler Kropf

A Charleston-based Air Force cargo jet will carry a NASA spacecraft across the country on Friday to Florida where it will be launched later this year toward an asteroid in outerspace. The C-17, part of the 437th Airlift Wing at Charleston Air Force Base, will deliver the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft from Buckley Air Force Base in Colo., to the Kennedy Space Center's Shuttle Landing Facility.

National News:

Associated Press: House would ban Confederate flags on VA cemetery flagpoles

<http://bigstory.ap.org/46bbf9cc30fb453f98b59542853d6ae2>

Andrew Taylor

he House voted on Thursday to ban the display of the Confederate flag on flagpoles at federal veterans' cemeteries. The 265-159 vote would block descendants and others seeking to commemorate veterans of the Confederate States of America from flying the Confederate Battle Flag over mass graves on the two days a year that flag displays are permitted. California Democrat Jared Huffman drafted the prohibition, saying the flag represents "racism, slavery and division."

Associated Press: Oklahoma lawmakers OK bill criminalizing performing abortion

<http://bigstory.ap.org/13bac300a736477f9a776adb575e9412>

Sean Murphy

Oklahoma lawmakers have moved to effectively ban abortion in their state by making it a felony for doctors to perform the procedure, an effort the bill's sponsor said Thursday is aimed at ultimately overturning the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 decision that legalized abortion nationwide. The bill, which abortion rights group Center for Reproductive Rights says is the first of its kind in the nation, also would restrict any physician who performs an abortion from obtaining or renewing a license to practice medicine in Oklahoma. It passed 33-12 Thursday with no discussion or debate.

Associated Press: Veteran '60 Minutes' newsman Morley Safer dies at 84

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5756a90cadb24decb32effd8885ac74d>

Frazier Moore

Morley Safer, the veteran "60 Minutes" correspondent who was equally at home reporting on social injustices, the Orient Express and abstract art, and who exposed a military atrocity in Vietnam that played an early role in changing Americans' view of the war, died Thursday, according to Kevin Tedesco, a CBS News publicist. Safer, who had been in declining health, died at his home in Manhattan. He announced his retirement last week and "60 Minutes" aired a tribute hour on Sunday, which he watched from his home, Tedesco said.

Associated Press: Clinton grapples with Trump's ability to stay in spotlight

<http://bigstory.ap.org/bbe5a84b89294ce49fd18309ecdcc413>

Julie Pace

Donald Trump kept himself planted firmly in the political spotlight this week with one headline-grabbing move after another — launching a social media defense of his treatment of women, listing possible Supreme Court nominees, rapidly declaring an Egyptian plane crash an act of terrorism. His likely general election opponent, Hillary Clinton, seemed content to hang in the background. But Clinton's stay-above-the-fray attitude masks unresolved questions that have gnawed at her campaign since Trump virtually locked up the Republican nomination.

World News:

Associated Press: Terrorism suspected in crash of Egyptian plane; 66 missing

<http://bigstory.ap.org/08d5c9e674ff4bfd8688e3649381c956>

An EgyptAir jetliner en route from Paris to Cairo with 66 people aboard swerved wildly in flight and crashed in the Mediterranean Sea early Thursday, authorities said. Egyptian and Russian officials said it may have been brought down by terrorists. There were no immediate signs of survivors. EgyptAir Flight 804, an Airbus A320 with 56 passengers and 10 crew members, went down about halfway between the Greek island of Crete and Egypt's coastline after takeoff from Charles de Gaulle Airport, authorities said.

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