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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, May 20, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: State unveils website for those impacted by domestic violence

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160520/PC1603/160529942>

Maya T. Prabhu

South Carolinians whose lives are impacted by domestic violence now have a centralized place to access information and resources for help. When a task force began to tackle the issue of partner abuse more than a year ago, many members were frustrated there was no one place to seek resources and information. On Friday, Gov. Nikki Haley unveiled <http://safeplacesc.sc.gov> during a statewide summit with the task force created to work to reduce the number of deaths from domestic violence.

Note: “Overall we didn’t even have a state resource to go to for domestic violence,” Haley said. “So, this is an amazing website. ... It tells someone who is being abused what they can do. It tells someone who thinks they know someone’s being abused how to go about approaching them about it. It tells someone who is an offender what they can do to get help.”

ABC Columbia: Haley Announces New Website and County Challenge for Domestic Violence

<http://www.abccolumbia.com/2016/05/20/haley-announces-new-website-and-county-challenge-for-domestic-violence/>

Governor Nikki Haley began the Statewide Domestic Violence Summit today by announcing a new website aimed at providing information and resources to domestic violence survivors, loved ones, and offenders as well as to professional groups in the workplace. The Summit ended with the governor announcing Safe Place County Certifications as a challenge to counties to lead local efforts against domestic violence.

Note: “When you go to this website, not only does it ask you what town and zip code you live in, it also gives you all of the resources available to you within your community,” Governor Haley said. “But it goes a step further – it tells someone who is being abused what they can do to get help, it tells someone who thinks they know someone who’s being abused how to go about approaching the situation, and it tells someone who is an offender what they can do to get the help they need.”

WACH: Gov. Haley hosts statewide domestic violence summit

<http://wach.com/news/local/gov-haley-hosts-statewide-domestic-violence-summit>

Thomas Lanahan

In January of 2015, Governor Nikki Haley announced the formation of a state wide domestic violence task force. South Carolina has long topped lists of worst states for domestic violence. The task force, consisting of 40 agencies, associations and groups from law enforcement to survivors and private care providers, has worked for the past year and a half to curb our domestic violence problem.

Today, representatives from task force subcommittees gathered to share their findings and talk about solutions. Governor Haley tells us that 50 initiatives have been presented by the task force, 30 of which have already been implemented.

General Assembly News:

Associated Press: Advisers' forecast gives legislators no surplus for budget

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

Seanna Adcox

State economic forecasters expect no extra money coming into South Carolina's primary coffers, giving legislators less to haggle over as the chambers negotiate a final spending plan. The Board of Economic Advisors made no changes Thursday to its general fund revenue forecast for this fiscal year or next. That puts into question \$40 million worth of spending the Senate added during floor debate earlier this month on the chance collections would exceed prior estimates.

Aiken Standard: Ice storm reimbursement for Aiken County could reach \$4.5 million

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160519/AIK0101/160519319>

Thomas Gardiner

The South Carolina House passed its version of the state budget bill Thursday, including what could translate into major reimbursement dollars for Aiken County for clean-up efforts after Winter Storm Pax in 2014. The bill contains authorization for spending to reimburse 22 counties, including Aiken County, for monies spent as a result of the historic ice storm. Pax dropped roughly an inch of ice on Aiken County, taking down trees and cutting electricity and power to thousands of homes. In the House bill, Aiken County would receive about \$4.5 million from the state for the non-federal covered portion of the ice storm costs, according to S.C. Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken.

LGBT Laws:

Independent Mail: Young Democrats in Upstate hear about transgender issues

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/discussion-of-transgender-issues-highlights-meeting-of-andersons-young-democrats-333636af-6c7b-5fe9--380206931.html>

Kirk Brown

A discussion of transgender issues on Thursday night highlighted the first meeting of the Young Democrats of Anderson County. Jennifer Tague, operations director of SC Equality, said her group "battled and beat all 13 negative, anti-LGBT bills" that were considered in the current South Carolina General Assembly session. "We are the only state in the Deep South that can say that," she said. Tague said an intense lobbying effort and strong ties with the state's business community helped block the bills that her group opposed.

Charlotte Observer: Group of interfaith clergy calls for repealing House Bill 2

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/living/religion/article78607712.html>

Tim Funk

Citing passages from the Bible to make their case, Charlotte ministers representing a national coalition of more than 400 clergy called Thursday for repeal of North Carolina's House Bill 2. The Rev. Martha Dixon Kearse of St. John's Baptist Church said the group felt called to follow Jesus' plea to love "the least of these" – Jesus' description of society's most vulnerable people.

Associated Press: Maroon 5, citing morality, cancels North Carolina concerts

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2e0891f4f5ba4337869deb79647df97d>

Martha Waggoner

The pop group Maroon 5 on Friday joined the list of entertainers canceling appearances in North Carolina because of its law that denies anti-discrimination protections and dictates which restrooms transgender people can use. "This was a difficult decision for us to make as a band. We don't want to penalize our fans in North Carolina by not performing for them, but in the end it comes down to what we feel is morally right," the group said on its website. The band led by Adam Levine, who doubles as a celebrity musician-coach on NBC's "The Voice," won't appear Sept. 11 at Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte or Sept. 12 at PNC Arena in Raleigh.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: South Carolina jobless rate climbs slightly in April

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

SC State Wire

South Carolina's unemployment rate has edged up slightly for the second time in more than a year and a half. The Department of Employment and Workforce said Friday the state's jobless rate was 5.8 percent in April, up from 5.7 percent in March. Officials attributed the increase to the more than 10,000 people who entered the state's labor force, which rose to more than 2.3 million. State officials said the number of people working in South Carolina increased to a record last month, rising by more than 7,000 to nearly 2.2 million.

Post and Courier: South Carolina jobless rate climbs in April

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160520/PC05/160529964>

John McDermott

South Carolina's unemployment rate edged higher to 5.8 percent in April as more job seekers entered the labor force, the state said in a new report Friday. The jobless figure for March was 5.7 percent. The S.C. Department of Workforce and Employment said the South Carolinians who are working increased to a new record last month, rising by about 7,300 to more than 2.18 million.

Post and Courier: With Confederate flag down, South Carolina open for NCAA business

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160520/PC20/160529938>

Jeff Hartsell

Earlier this month, a traveling party from the S.C. Sports Alliance journeyed to NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis. Its mission: To scout out hosting opportunities for NCAA championship events. Indeed, for 15 years there had been no reason for sports commission types to bother with the trip to the NCAA's symposium on hosting championships. With the Confederate flag flying on Statehouse grounds in Columbia, the NCAA's ban on holding "pre-determined" events in South Carolina rendered pointless any such trips. But when the Confederate flag came down last July — the result of the tragic killing of nine people at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church by an avowed flag-wielding racist — the NCAA dropped its Palmetto State ban.

Local News:

Associated Press: Bomb threat evacuates Spartanburg County courthouse

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=JHI5TIVS

SC State Wire

Authorities evacuated the Spartanburg County Courthouse after a bomb threat, but say no bomb was found inside. Deputies said in a statement that the threat was made Friday morning. Along with ordering everyone out of the building, authorities also closed streets around the downtown Spartanburg courthouse, snarling traffic. Investigators say a caller made the threat to a 911 operator.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg County Courthouse evacuated after bomb threat

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160520/articles/160529969>

The Spartanburg County Courthouse is reopening after authorities swept the building following a bomb threat. Nothing was found, Spartanburg County Clerk Hope Blackley said. Emergency dispatchers received a call saying a bomb was planted inside the courthouse and would detonate at noon Friday, Blackley said.

Sun News: Body found in ocean Friday identified as missing man from Rock Hill

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article78799322.html>

A body recovered from the ocean early Friday near Myrtle Beach State Park has been identified as a missing man from Rock Hill, Horry County Coroner Robert Edge said. James Franklin Ross II, 33, was reported missing Wednesday — the day after a man, later identified as Ross, was seen struggling in the ocean about 6 p.m. Tuesday near 29th Avenue South.

Island Packet: Two Hilton Head islanders treated for possible rabies exposure

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article78861152.html>

Caitlin Turner

Two people on Hilton Head Island have started post-exposure treatment after they were possibly exposed to the disease after their dog was involved in a fight with a raccoon May 10. According to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, the raccoon tested positive for rabies May 11 after laboratory testing. The dog involved in the incident was up to date on its rabies vaccinations, but will still undergo a 45-day quarantine. Had the dog not been vaccinated, the quarantine would have been longer.

Associated Press: Charges pending in deaths of unborn twins in South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=og1aDCQP

SC State Wire

Authorities say a man charged with three counts of murder in a slaying in rural South Carolina now faces two additional counts stemming from the death of unborn twins one of the victims was carrying. The Charleston County Sheriff's Office announced Thursday additional charges will be filed against 23-year-old Kenneth Ancrum of Ravenel, who's accused of gunning down three members of the same family.

Greenville News: Southside HS teacher charged with sexual battery with a student

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/19/southside-hs-teacher-sexual-battery-student-greenville-sc/84581578/>

Romando Dixon

Investigators charged a celebrated Southside High School teacher in connection with numerous sexual encounters with a student and the attempted sexual assault of two others, the Greenville County Sheriff's Office said Thursday. Erickson Lamar Bynum, 38, of Simpsonville, was charged this week with sexual battery with a student and two counts of second-degree assault and battery, according to arrest warrants. He was arrested Wednesday and released from the Greenville County Detention Center on his own recognizance.

Morning News: Florence County Sheriff's Office holds memorial service to honor the fallen

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_b5ecae2e-1e16-11e6-937f-77e34323428e.html

Jessica Imbimbo

The Florence County Sheriff's Office held a memorial service Thursday morning at Florence Baptist Temple, honoring the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice in service of their community. A crowd of both law enforcement officials and members of the public attended the service. The event was scheduled in conjunction with National Police Week, which began in 1962. Each year, a national memorial service is held in Washington, D.C., honoring officers across the nation who were killed in the line of duty.

The Herald: Remembering their sacrifice: Tributes honor fallen York County lawmen

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article78748972.html>

Teddy Kulmala

The Police Honor and Memorial Service has been an annual event for 21 years. It coincides each year with National Police Week, which began in 1962 when President John F. Kennedy proclaimed the week of May 15 would be dedicated to remembering officers who made the ultimate sacrifice. "It's a somber ceremony," said Capt. Mark Bollinger of the Rock Hill Police Department. "But it's also a time to reflect and a time to honor those families and tell them we still appreciate the sacrifice they made and that we still love them."

Post and Courier: Lowcountry Digital History Initiative publishes Emanuel AME Church tribute

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160520/PC16/160529943>

The Lowcountry Digital History Initiative has published an online tribute to Emanuel AME Church that documents local and national responses to the June 17 mass shooting. The exhibition, "A Tribute to the Mother Emanuel," uses photographs and other media to document the outpouring of grief for the victims, survivors and their families, as well as efforts in the weeks and months following the shooting to address racial injustice and violence.

Island Packet: Lowcountry towns maintain pace among fastest-growing places in SC

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/business/real-estate-news/article78667307.html>

Kelly Davis

Three places on the South Carolina coast — Charleston/Mount Pleasant, Myrtle Beach and the Beaufort/Hilton Head Island area — were among the 20 fastest growing regions of the country last year, according to new US Census data estimating growth between 2014 and 2015. Mount Pleasant in suburban Charleston became the 10th fastest-growing town in the United States of 50,000 people or more, and several Beaufort and Jasper county locations were among the fastest-growing SC cities and towns in the new estimates.

Greenville News: Funding cuts at SHARE hit the homeless

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/05/20/funding-cuts-share-hit-homeless/84183450/>

Angelia Davis

The number of Greenville residents living on the streets or in their cars could grow as a funding source to help the homeless has shrunk. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has slashed funding for the SHARE WE CARE Transitional Housing program in Greenville by 73 percent, from \$693,000 to \$186,000. The program is administered by Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources (SHARE). As a result of the cut in the agency's WE CARE program, it has had to cut its 49 transitional housing units (39 in Greenville and 10 in Pickens County) to 16.

Post and Courier: Charleston airport land swap to clear way for \$42M new terminal road

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160520/PC05/160529944>

Warren L. Wise

A land swap near Charleston International Airport is expected to clear the way for the \$42 million construction of the new road leading to the terminal. Charleston County Aviation Authority, which oversees the airport, voted unanimously this week to give the S.C. Department of Commerce, which owns the Boeing Co. site, 23.2 vacant acres the aircraft manufacturer now leases behind its assembly buildings in exchange for an equal amount of undeveloped land controlled by the state close to a flight zone at the end of a runway.

Post and Courier: Senior executive at Charleston-based Blackbaud to step down

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160520/PC05/160529945>

John McDermott

A longtime senior executive at Blackbaud Inc. is stepping down next year. Charles T. Cumbaa, executive vice president of corporate and product strategy, will retire March 31, the Daniel Island-based technology company said in a filing Friday with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Until then, Cumbaa, 63, will continue in his current role and will assist management with the transition of his responsibilities, Blackbaud said.

National News:

Associated Press: Trump gets endorsement of National Rifle Association

<http://bigstory.ap.org/242204ee1ecc4ba3a2969fd965d41e06>

Julie Pace

The National Rifle Association is endorsing Donald Trump for president. Chris Cox, the executive director of the NRA's political arm, announced the endorsement ahead of Trump's appearance at the group's convention. Trump called the endorsement a "fantastic honor" and said he would not let NRA

members down. Cox focused most of his remarks on likely Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, calling her a threat to gun owners. He says that with the next president likely to have a Supreme Court vacancy to fill, "The Second Amendment is on the ballot this November."

Associated Press: Makeover coming for food nutrition labels

<http://bigstory.ap.org/cab3aa5e25894aabbbc4e7d61c2fd8fc>

Darlene Superville and Mary Clare Jalonick

Nutrition facts labels on food packages are getting a long-awaited makeover, with calories listed in bigger, bolder type and a new line for added sugars. And serving sizes will be updated to make them more realistic — so that a small bag of chips won't count as two or three servings, for example. "You'll no longer need a microscope to figure out whether the food is actually good for your kids," first lady Michelle Obama said Friday. She was announcing final rules for the new labels in a speech at an annual health summit as part of her "Let's Move!" campaign against childhood obesity.

Associated Press: TSA head: Agency needs more resources for more screeners

<http://bigstory.ap.org/0259ca4f8a57402fbacdda7e6fa9d68b>

The head of the Transportation Security Administration says Congress' shifting of \$34 million is a "good down payment" but the agency needs greater resources to address a shortage of screeners. Peter Neffenger briefed officials in Chicago on Friday about efforts to address recent delays in getting passengers through airport security. Steps include the immediate deployment of 58 screeners and more canine units for Chicago airports. Congress provided the TSA the \$34 million to let the agency pay overtime to existing staff and hire an extra 768 screeners by June 15. Airlines say lines are long because the TSA is understaffed and that travel is expected to hit a record high this summer.

Associated Press: Mexico OKs extradition of drug lord 'El Chapo' Guzman to US

<http://bigstory.ap.org/4176fe0bb44d49b083b0843b621727c5>

Mark Stevenson

Mexico's Foreign Relations Department ruled Friday that the extradition of convicted drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman to the United States can go forward. The process can still be appealed, meaning it could be weeks or months before the Sinaloa cartel leader may be sent to the U.S., where he is wanted in multiple jurisdictions on charges related to drug trafficking and organized crime. Guzman's lawyers now have 30 days to appeal the decision.

World News:

Associated Press: As 1st debris found from Egypt plane crash, no clue on cause

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d961bc75c7d24b6c9f4efcc4fc056eb7>

Maggie Michael and Paisley Dodds

Search crews found human remains, luggage and seats Friday from the EgyptAir jetliner that fell out of the sky over the Mediterranean Sea, as investigators pored over the passenger list and questioned ground crew members in Paris for clues to whether terrorists brought the plane down. With no bodies to bury yet, relatives and friends of some of the 66 people on board held special prayers in mosques for the lost. But the mystery remained over why the Airbus A320 — which had been cruising normally in clear skies on a nighttime flight from Paris to Cairo early Thursday — suddenly lurched left, then right, and plummeted from 38,000 feet into the sea, never issuing a distress signal.

Associated Press: What caused EgyptAir plane crash? A look at likely scenarios

<http://bigstory.ap.org/73a20221bc754971a7c2803a6a781c91>

Karl Ritter

While nothing can be ruled out yet, what's known about the erratic behavior of EgyptAir flight 804 before it crashed suggests the cause was human rather than technical, or potentially a combination of both, aviation experts told The Associated Press. Greek authorities say the plane swerved 90 degrees left and then 360 degrees right before it plummeted into the Mediterranean Sea.

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