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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, June 3, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley signs laws shortening legislative session, granting Georgia gun carry rights
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC1603/160609767>

Maya T. Prabhu

Statehouse lawmakers will be in session less time in 2017 and Georgia gun permit holders can now carry their weapons in South Carolina after Gov. Nikki Haley on Friday signed dozens of bills passed by the General Assembly into law. After about 20 years on the table, lawmakers this year voted to shorten the legislative session by three or four weeks, depending on how the calendar falls. Legislators will head home on the second Thursday in May, instead of the first Thursday in June, beginning next year. Haley also signed a hotly debated law that allows Georgia residents with concealed weapons permits to legally carry their guns in South Carolina.

WACH: Haley signs two bills into law, still waiting on roads bill

<http://wach.com/news/local/haley-signs-two-bills-into-law-still-waiting-on-roads-bill>

Matthew Stevens

Governor Nikki Haley signed two bills into law Thursday. Haley first signed a bill that will shorten the legislative session. The session, which currently ends on the first Thursday in June will now end on the second Thursday of May. The second bill Haley signed is recognizing out of state concealed weapons permits. The House sponsored bill will now recognize permits that were authorized in Georgia and North Carolina, with some guidelines. Currently the governor has not signed the roads bill which was sent to her desk Wednesday.

The Hill: Nikki Haley links Trump's rhetoric to Charleston church shooting

<http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/282092-nikki-haley-on-trump-i-know-what-that-rhetoric-can-do>

Jesse Byrnes

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is sharpening her criticism of presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, linking his rhetoric to the 2015 shooting at a black church in Charleston, S.C. While Haley said she doesn't think Trump's supporters are racists, she told The Associated Press that the rhetoric he uses is dangerous. She invoked the Charleston shooting, in which Dylann Storm Roof is accused of killing nine black parishioners at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church there. "I know what that rhetoric can do. I saw it happen," Haley said. Police said Roof, who was seen holding a Confederate flag in a manifesto discovered online after the shootings, wanted to start a race war.

Washington Examiner: Nikki Haley: Divisive rhetoric like Trump's can lead to violence

http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/nikki-haley-divisive-rhetoric-like-trumps-can-lead-to-violence/article/2592944?custom_click=rss

Ryan Lovelace

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley criticized Donald Trump's "divisive rhetoric" as something that can do real-life harm to society. Haley told reporters in South Carolina she hoped Trump would communicate differently on the campaign trail, according to the Associated Press. Haley talked about the massacre at Emanuel AME Church last year as evidence of the consequences of divisive rhetoric. "I know what divisive rhetoric can do," Haley said regarding why she criticizes Trump. "I saw it happen." But Haley, who endorsed Florida Sen. Marco Rubio for president before the Palmetto State primary, told the AP she does not consider Trump supporters to

be racists.

General Assembly News:

The State: S.C. military vets will get a break on their state income taxes

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article81558002.html#storylink=apmobile>

Jeff Wilkinson

The S.C. General Assembly passed a bill offering state income tax deductions for military retirees. The plan would offer military retirees with at least 20 years of service a deduction of \$17,500 a year for those under 65 or \$30,000 a year for those 65 or older. A caveat is that the military retirees under 65 must embark on a second job in the state with an annual salary of at least \$17,500. An amendment requires the tax break to be phased in over five years. Also, the benefit would be extended to the surviving spouses of service members who have passed away. The amended bill passed the Senate and House Thursday with 18 minutes left in the session.

Note: The tax break would retain disciplined workers, according to the task force, which was appointed by Gov. Nikki Haley and chambers of commerce in the state's four military communities. The cost would be offset by taxes on the retirees' new jobs and those of their spouses.

SC Agency News:

The State: Lawsuit forces better treatment for SC's abused, neglected kids

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article81563327.html>

John Monk

A negotiated settlement that parties said will better the lives of South Carolina's vulnerable children was filed Friday in federal court. The settlement comes almost 18 months after Children's Rights, a national child safety watchdog group, and the Columbia-based Appleseed Legal Justice Center filed a lawsuit on behalf of 11 children, alleging massive long-running failures by the S.C. Department of Social Services that have repeatedly endangered children in the agency's care.

Note: Defendants in the lawsuit were Gov. Nikki Haley and Susan Alford, the DSS director. Attorney Matthew Richardson of Columbia filed the lawsuit on behalf of the 11 plaintiffs, identified as children ages 2-17 who were at that time in the care of the state's social services system.

Post and Courier: Lawsuit demands safer conditions for S.C. foster children

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609795>

Lauren Sausser

The Department of Social Services announced Friday it settled a class-action lawsuit that alleged 11 children in foster care were abused, neglected, separated from their siblings and over-medicated in state custody. Part of the settlement will require South Carolina to find alternatives to group homes and institutions for children. The Post and Courier published a series of articles in 2015, titled "Warehousing our Children," that showed the state places its youngest foster children into group homes and institutions at a much higher rate than any other state in the country. Many experts find this practice troubling because research prove children tend to thrive when they live with families, not in congregate care.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, a named defendant in the lawsuit, issued a prepared statement about the settlement through her spokeswoman on Friday. "There is nothing more important than the safety of our children and our most vulnerable citizens, particularly those under the care of DSS. Whether it's increasing the number of caseworkers or working with partners across state government and in our communities, we remain focused on strengthening DSS," Haley said. "This settlement agreement represents yet another step in this process, and I applaud the work Director (Susan) Alford and her team do everyday."

Associated Press: DSS promises improvements in settling federal lawsuit

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=j0iBoq6Y

Seanna Adcox

The South Carolina Department of Social Services has ended a lawsuit by agreeing to lower social workers'

caseloads, put fewer children in institutions, and do a better job investigating allegations of abuse. The agreement filed in federal court Friday settles a lawsuit accusing the agency of endangering children in its care. Sue Berkowitz with Appleseed Legal Justice Center says the settlement brings life-changing improvements and a brighter future for the state's most vulnerable children.

WIS: SC Dept. of Agriculture establishes guidelines for flood aid

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32133272/sc-dept-of-agriculture-establishes-guidelines-for-flood-aid>

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture's Farm Aid Advisory Board has developed a plan for distributing aid to farmers affected by the flood disaster of 2015. The South Carolina Farm Aid Advisory Board met for the first time this week at the State Farmers Market in West Columbia. Members were appointed and flood aid distribution was discussed. Legislation passed by the State Assembly in May provides \$40 million to South Carolina farmers who suffered damage from the flood in October 2015. Part of the legislation included the formation of the Advisory Board. The legislature overrode Governor Haley's veto of the bill.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: SEC expands 'serious misconduct' rule for transfer students

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=KozWIR8u

Mark Long

The Southeastern Conference has expanded its "serious misconduct" rule for transfer students to include "dating violence, stalking or conduct of a nature that creates serious concern about the safety of others." League presidents and chancellors voted Friday to amend the bylaw as the SEC wrapped up its annual spring meetings. The new rule also mandates that schools perform background checks on transfers that satisfy the SEC's "minimum due diligence expectations" prior to allowing the student-athlete to practice or compete.

Associated Press: SC museum hopes race exhibit will foster conversations

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Z01kxgbD

Meg Kinnard

A year ago, a nation stood horrified after nine African-Americans were deliberately gunned down during a quiet, evening Bible study at a church in Charleston, South Carolina. The massacre sparked anguish and soul-searching that led to steps unimaginable even a decade ago, including the lowering of Confederate flags in parts of the South. Now, the ever-passionate conversation about race has a new venue: the South Carolina State Museum. Opening on Saturday is an exhibit that aims to tackle and explain the elements that comprise race and racism in the United States, in an effort to help explain differences and perhaps find ways to bridge them. "Race: Are We So Different?" opens June 4 and runs through September 11. Museum officials say the 5,000 square-foot exhibition is the first nationally traveling exhibit to tell the stories of race from the biological, cultural and historical points of view.

Local News:

The State: Dental records confirm identity of Columbia woman who died fleeing police

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article81583382.html>

Jane Moon Dial

After officials sought help from the public to identify a woman who died in a car crash after fleeing from Forest Acres police, dental records confirmed the remains were of a Columbia resident. Richland County Coroner Gary Watts said Lennetta Tierra Perry, 22, of Colleton St. was involved in a single-vehicle wreck around 3:30 a.m. Sunday on the 3100 block of Two Notch Road, according to a news release from his office. She reportedly drove off at a high rate of speed after the Forest Acres Police Department attempted a traffic stop on the 5200 block of Two Notch Road.

Post and Courier: Michael Slager attorneys ask federal officials for evidence in Walter Scott shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609772>

Andrew Knapp

Attorneys for former North Charleston police officer Michael Slager have asked federal authorities for evidence in Walter Scott's shooting death. Slager is charged with counts of depriving civil rights under the color of law, obstruction of justice and using a firearm in a violent crime. He stopped Scott, 50, for a traffic violation on April 4, 2015. Scott ran and got into a fight with Slager before the policeman shot him five times as he ran away. Slager said that Scott had grabbed his Taser before a bystander captured the shooting on video.

Post and Courier: Activist decries another shooting in North Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609802>

Dave Munday

The rising gun violence in North Charleston continues to frustrate efforts to reverse it. A man was shot Friday morning outside the Max Quick Stop on McMillan Avenue, according to police. The shooting was reported at 10:17 a.m. Police blocked off the shopping center across from Naval Hospital at Rivers Avenue for several hours. A forensic unit combed the area for evidence while a helicopter circled overhead. Police didn't say if they were looking for a suspect. National Action Network President James Johnson, who has expressed frustration over the increasing violence, arrived at the scene and called Chief Eddie Driggers. "He says it's a homicide, black on black," Johnson told a reporter. "There are just too many guns on the street."

Island Packet: 3 teens who died in Ridgeland crash were clocked at 109 mph, police say

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article81534577.html>

Lucas High

Moments before a white Lexus carrying four South Carolina teenagers careened off an Interstate 95 exit ramp, rolled several times and smashed into a tree Wednesday night, the car was clocked by police speeding down the highway at 109 mph.

Island Packet: Blue Angels pilot who died in crash served in Beaufort

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/bg-military/article81559257.html>

Stephen Fastenau

U.S. Marine Capt. Jeff Kuss was fascinated with flying, beginning as a child playing with toy jets. His passion took him through Beaufort and onto the instantly recognizable flight team of some of the most highly skilled pilots in the world. The Blue Angels pilot died after a training flight crash Thursday in Tennessee. Kuss was a great father and husband and the life of a room, said Port Royal resident Diana Newman, who with her husband were friends of Kuss and his wife.

Island Packet: American Airlines adds new daily route out of Savannah airport

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article81617037.html>

Rebecca Lurye

Local travelers will have one more daily route from Savannah to Washington, D.C. starting this fall. American Airlines will begin offering a daily nonstop flight from Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport on Oct. 6, adding to its single weekend departure. United already provides three daily nonstop flights to Washington Dulles International Airport.

Post and Courier: Kiawah and Jamaican workers reach \$2 million deal to end lawsuit

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160603/PC16/160609794>

Tony Bartelme

Kiawah Island Inn Co. and lawyers representing a large group of Jamaican employees have agreed on a \$2.3 million deal to settle a federal class action lawsuit over claims that the luxury golf resort failed to properly pay its guest workers. Documents filed May 27 in U.S. District Court in Charleston said both sides are asking a federal judge to approve the deal to avoid further litigation. Kiawah denied doing anything wrong. "I think the settlement document speaks best about our position on the case," said Roger Warren, president of Kiawah Island Golf Resort. The agreement says that about 240 Jamaican housekeepers, cooks and other service workers would share \$2 million, Kiawah agreed to pay an additional \$300,000 in attorney costs and fees.

National News:

Associated Press: US hiring grinds to a near-halt; many stop looking for work

<http://bigstory.ap.org/960eaf25e931426b9a354fd19eca4ef2>

Christopher S. Rgaber and Josh Boak

U.S. hiring slowed to a near-standstill in May, sowing doubts about the economy's health and complicating the Federal Reserve's efforts to raise interest rates. While unemployment slid from 5 percent to 4.7 percent, the lowest since November 2007, the rate fell for a troubling reason: Nearly a half-million jobless Americans stopped looking for work and so were no longer counted as unemployed. Employers added just 38,000 jobs in May, the fewest in over five years.

Associated Press: Clinton hopes to clinch nomination by Tuesday

<http://bigstory.ap.org/66e50af23be847039df6cd94d2e4ab6a>

Catherine Lucey

Hillary Clinton is hoping to lock up the Democratic nomination in just a few more days. Campaigning in California Friday, Clinton told about 500 cheering supporters that "if all goes well, I will have the great honor as of Tuesday to be the Democratic nominee for president." Clinton is just 70 delegates away from clinching the nomination. She and rival Bernie Sanders are both campaigning aggressively in California, which votes on Tuesday.

Associated Press: Fundraising in high gear for Democratic, GOP conventions

<http://bigstory.ap.org/4118e5a923564387ade7197bc243022d>

MaryClaire Dale and Julie Carr Smyth

With just weeks to go before Republicans and Democrats gather to nominate a presidential candidate, organizers in Philadelphia and Cleveland are hustling to hit fundraising targets that top \$60 million apiece. Organizers in Cleveland, which hosts the Republican National Convention from July 18 to 21, said this week they have raised \$56 million of their \$64 million goal. In Philadelphia, where Democrats will gather July 25 to 28, former Gov. Ed Rendell said the host committee is about \$9 million short of topping \$60 million. Rendell, the lead pitchman for the Philadelphia 2016 Host Committee, said he's used to the eleventh-hour challenge.

Associated Press: 3 guilty of conspiracy to commit murder abroad in IS case

<http://bigstory.ap.org/04dd968a83e445408f47b36089c3f450>

Three Minnesota men accused of plotting to go to Syria to join the Islamic State group were convicted Friday of conspiracy to commit murder overseas. The federal jury convicted 21-year-old Guled Ali Omar, 22-year-old Abdirahman Yasin Daud (Ahb-DEER'-ah-mahn YAH'-sin Dah-OOD') and 22-year-old Mohamed Abdihamid Farah of the most serious charges they faced. Conspiracy to commit murder overseas carries the possibility of life in prison. The three are among 10 young men accused in the conspiracy. Six have pleaded guilty to one count each of conspiracy to support a foreign terrorist organization. A seventh, 22-year-old Abdi Nur, is at large, believed to be in Syria.

World News:

Associated Press: Iraqi military takes a slow approach in battle for Fallujah

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f9c5f69c3d8345ea83d2f0254bbb45c1>

Qssim Abdul-Zahra

The battle for Fallujah is shaping up to be unlike any of the other assaults in the Iraqi military's town-by-town war with the Islamic State group. In the nearly two weeks since the operation began, airstrikes have been used sparingly, Shiite militias have so far been kept to the perimeter, and the initial advance on the symbolically important town has been slow. U.S.-trained Iraqi counterterrorism forces, wary of coming street battles in the city, are already facing fierce resistance on the outskirts from well-entrenched militants. Those fighters are believed to include many foreign jihadis who are considered better-trained than the ones in towns that have been retaken in recent months.

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