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Subject: Clips – Saturday, October 10, 2015

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S.C. Flood Recovery News:

Associated Press: Rain to fall as South Carolina recovers from massive flood
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OKmHA8Cx

Adam Beam, Jeffrey Collins

After four dry days, rain is back in the forecast for South Carolina as the state tries to recover from devastating floods. A storm system will stall near the coast this weekend, bringing as much as an additional inch of rain to some areas, according to the National Weather Service. The heaviest rain is expected Saturday, although forecasters said it shouldn't be enough to flood any additional areas.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley continued to urge people in Georgetown County and other coastal areas to be vigilant as flood waters rise. No one has had to be evacuated yet, but the water was isolating some homes, and the governor warned emergency officials could start knocking on doors any time.

Note: Haley suggested instead of donating bottled water or clothes, anyone who wants to help put on an old outfit and gloves and find somewhere to start helping with the recovery. "If you want to help, go to those neighborhoods you know have seen trouble - have seen damage - and you can help with clean up," Haley said.

WMBF: Gov. Haley secures Disaster Unemployment Assistance eligibility for 3 more counties
<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/30228298/gov-haley-secures-disaster-unemployment-assistance-eligibility-for-3-more-counties>

Gov. Nikki Haley and the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) announced today that Bamberg, Colleton and Greenwood counties are eligible to receive Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) after FEMA approved them for individual assistance. This brings the total number of counties to 19.

Greenville News: SC Interstate 95 bridges damaged by floods
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/south-carolina/2015/10/09/sc-interstate-95-bridges-damaged-floods/73644150/>

Tim Smith

Engineers have identified 33 "areas of concerns" on nine bridges along a closed portion of Interstate 95, concerns that include washed out areas around some foundations caused by recent flood waters. The news surfaced as U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson toured the damaged areas of the state and urged anyone who has suffered losses from the historic flooding to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for relief.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley said Friday the concerns along a 13-mile stretch of I-95 are why the state has closed a 70-mile stretch of the interstate, from Florence to the intersection with I-26, except to local traffic.

Post and Courier: 'Storm of the millennium' reveals disaster response strengths, weaknesses
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151008/PC1603/151009429>

Gavin Jackson, Schuyler Kropf

Despite 17 deaths statewide, disaster experts generally gave South Carolina high marks for its preparation and response to the "storm of the millennium," saying 24 inches of rain in a weekend is an almost unheard of event that few, if any, emergency responders train for. What has been exposed in the last seven days is the state's outdated infrastructure, as dams have been breached, roads washed away and bridges deemed too weak to trust.

Note: State officials have been reluctant to discuss the dam breaks and whether steps were taken ahead of the breaches. Haley deflected questions at a news conference Thursday saying the focus was on keeping people safe still, not trying to assess if anyone was to blame for the 14 dams that had burst.

WBTW: Black River continues to rise forcing more people out of their homes

<http://wbtw.com/2015/10/09/black-river-continues-to-rise-forcing-more-people-out-of-their-homes/>

Jana Jones

People in Andrews are still being forced out of their homes as the Black River continues to rise. A few people are staying at the Andrews recreational facility but as rescues are being made, an American Red Cross volunteer said the road conditions are so poor and the waters are so high that people are being taken to another shelter in Georgetown county because it's very hard to get to the one at the recreational facility.

Note: But as Governor Nikki Haley said" on Thursday, this is going to be a different kind of bad" and that is why she is urging people to please get out of their homes. Evacuations are voluntary but if you need help getting out, you can call 843-545-3273.

Note: Governor Nikki Haley said South Carolina is bruised but we are not broken. We are a resilient state and we will overcome this. She encouraged all neighbors to help their neighbors if you can.

WMBF: Secretary of Homeland Security, "Your United States Government is here to assist"

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/30226343/haley-on-remaining-flood-threat-if-they-knock-on-your-door-please-leave>

DaShawn Brown, Suzelle Santos

It's been nine days since South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley declared a State of Emergency, and four days since the event was declared a federal disaster. Friday, Gov. Haley was joined by Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson, who got a first hand look at flood damage caused throughout the state. Johnson urged area residents to follow directives from state and local leaders, warning, "this is not over."

Note: On Thursday, confusion ensued for residents in Georgetown County after rumors of a mandatory evacuation. Haley responded Friday by saying, "If they knock on your door, please leave."

Note: Haley stressed the state is not out of the woods yet, but state officials have a clearer view of the damage that's been done.

Note: "We've looked through peoples homes that are damaged. I flew over some areas yesterday, and to look at Kingstree, to look at Givhans Ferry and all that, there are no words to describe," Haley said during a news conference on Friday.

WMBF: Local, state and federal leaders address flood concerns and plans moving forward

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/30229664/local-state-and-federal-leaders-address-flood-concerns-and-plans-moving-forward>

Jenna DeAngelis

Nine days have passed since Governor Nikki Haley declared a State of Emergency for South Carolina, but still many homes, businesses and communities remain almost under water. Federal, state and local leaders, Friday, each addressed the impact of the flood in press conferences, from the rivers to the roads to recovery, but with 19 storm related deaths, the number one topic still remains your safety.

Note: "If they come to your door, it is time for you to leave," Gov. Haley said. "We don't need you to think about it we need you to be prepared we need you to go and we don't have to come back and check on you, after that."

WYFF: Government offering aid to Upstate after floods

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/greenwood-eligible-for-fema-funding-after-floods/35760318>

Liz Lohuis

Government help could soon be on the way for flood victims in the Upstate. Parts of Greenwood County were underwater after last weekend's record rain. Emergency officials are trying to assess some of that damage and make sure people have the means to fix it. Bishop's 89-year-old mother lost most of her first-floor town home in the storm.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley announced Friday people like Fazio may be eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency funds.

WCIV: Homeland Security chief tours flooded North Charleston neighborhood, but residents concerned help won't come

<http://www.abcnews4.com/story/30229571/homeland-security-chief-tours-flooded-north-charleston-neighborhood-but-residents-concerned-help-wont-come>

The Federal Emergency Management Administration on Friday said they've inspected nearly 3,000 homes and roughly 25,000 people and businesses have applied for disaster assistance. Across the state, FEMA is working alongside other disaster teams including the Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, and the National Guard.

WHNS: Nikki Haley shares 10-year-old's picture of hope

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/30229116/nikki-haley-shares-10-year-olds-picture-of-hope>

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley received a bright message of hope after historic flooding caused destruction across the Palmetto state. As South Carolinians in the Lowcountry braced for more rain on Friday, the governor shared a little girl's picture on Instagram.

Note: Haley expressed appreciation for the picture. "Thank you to 10 year old Emily for sending this picture to remind us that we will get through this. #SCStrong" Haley posted.

Post and Courier: South Carolina insurance chief says floods damaged at least 12,000 cars

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151009/PC05/151009342>

John McDermott

At least 12,000 vehicles in South Carolina, many of them in the Midlands, were damaged in last weekend's floods, the state insurance director said Friday. Ray Farmer cautioned it was "an extremely preliminary number." "Adjusters are just now getting out," he said. "It's going to be at least 12,000 overall." Farmer added that many cars would be "pretty close to a \$100 million event" for insurers.

Associated Press: Epic rainstorm a serious problem for South Carolina farmers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=JYvE0sEk

Hannah Raskin

The 2 feet of rain that fell on parts of South Carolina this weekend indiscriminately smothered newly planted seeds and crops ready to harvest, creating a near-total loss for area farmers. "It's just a complete disaster," said Clemson Extension agent Charles W. Davis Jr., who spent Monday morning navigating around closed roads to document blown-out dams and underwater fields.

Associated Press: The Latest: Worst floods may be over on coast, official says

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=mE7TswgD

The latest on the rainstorm that pounded parts of the East Coast (all times local):

4:40 p.m. Officials say they are optimistic that the worst flooding may be over in one coastal county in South Carolina. Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway said Friday afternoon that the Waccamaw River has crested and the Black River is near its crest.

Local Flood Recovery News:

The State: Assessing condition of Richland County roads 'a changing target'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article38450064.html>

Andrew Shain

State transportation officials have started assessing some roads in Richland County after Sunday's historic rainfall, discovering more damage as flood waters recede. "It's a changing target a little bit for us," said Christy Hall, acting director of the S.C. Department of Transportation. "We're still very much in the response mode somewhat."

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley said the state Transportation Department has contract road and bridge engineers ready to work.

Post and Courier: As flood recedes, Charleston region focuses on paying for recovery, getting back to business

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151009/PC05/151009343>

David Wren

The economic toll this past week's flooding took on South Carolina is still being tallied, but experts say the Charleston region and the rest of the state should have no problem financing the recovery. A report this week by Moody's Investors Service says the credit impact from the flooding will be minimal on Triple-A-rated South Carolina and most of its local governments.

Rock Hill Herald: 'A lot of lives were saved': York County responders recall time in S.C. flood zones

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article38538558.html#storylink=cpy>

Teddy Kulmala

York County Emergency Management Director Chuck Haynes has seen roadways washed out, homes destroyed and people left with little more than the clothes on their backs while assisting in the flood recovery this week in Georgetown County. One thing that hasn't succumbed to the floodwaters, Haynes said: humanity.

Post and Courier: Charleston is dry, open for business, hotel industry says after storm

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151009/PC05/151009341>

Allison Prang

Charleston's tourism industry turned to social media, emails and phones this week to let the world know that one of the nation's top destinations has dried out and is ready for visitors again. It was part of a mostly grass-roots effort in response to the steep drop-off in guests during the recent record rain in South Carolina.

Post and Courier: Flash flood watch issued as more rain is expected

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151010/PC16/151019903>

More rain is about to fall on the already drenched South Carolina Lowcountry. A flash flood watch is in effect until this evening. According to the flash flood watch issued by the National Weather Service at 3:45 a.m., rainfall amounts of 1 to 2 inches are likely with locally higher amounts to the north of Charleston.

The State: Columbia takes steps to ensure ample water supply

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article38325264.html>

Clif LeBlanc

Columbia's boil water advisory likely will be lifted sometime next week, city officials said Friday as water tankers with police escorts ferried more than 150,000 gallons of water to replenish the downtown water treatment plant's permanent reservoir.

Post and Courier: Flooded churches rally to overcome with help of community

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151009/PC1204/151009347>

Sybil Fix

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you," says Isaiah, 43:2, "and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you." Well, for the most part, at least. The biblical words resonated with area church leaders and parishioners affected by this week's storm as they assessed the damage to their places of worship and helped each other find alternative spaces for upcoming services.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Correct call on Scott settlement

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151010/PC1002/151019913>

Editorial

North Charleston City Council made the right decision in its \$6.5 million settlement with the family of Walter Scott, who was shot to death by a city policeman last April. It takes the high ground in resolving a moral obligation to the family and in what it says to the citizens of North Charleston.

Post and Courier: Do right by Emanuel Nine families

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151010/PC1002/151019912>

Editorial

Nine families will deal for the rest of their lives with the unspeakable pain of having their loved ones shot dead during Bible study at Emanuel AME Church. But in the midst of the nightmare, they have experienced a comforting outpouring of love and support — both emotional and financial — from people around the country and beyond.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Greenville News: Lawmakers ask GHS to suspend restructuring

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/health/2015/10/09/lawmakers-ask-ghs-suspend-restructuring/73682304/>

Nathaniel Cary

Concerned about public oversight of the Upstate's largest healthcare provider, Greenville lawmakers on Friday asked Greenville Health System to indefinitely delay further steps GHS wants to take to change how it is structured. The Greenville County legislative delegation's medical affairs committee voted 3-1 on the recommendation, which the full delegation will vote on as soon as Monday.

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: Donald Trump, brash New Yorker, picks up Southern campaign

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=NUXOW3ki

Bill Barrow

Donald Trump is a brash New Yorker who knows the path to the Republican presidential nomination runs through a swath of Southern states where residents pride themselves on graciousness and gentility. He leads many state polls in the region just as he does nationally.

South Carolina News:

Aiken Standard: Official: Funding, shut-down threats affect Savannah River Site MOX project

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20151009/AIK0101/151009397/1121>

Derrek Asberry

Funding uncertainties and threats of shutting down the MOX project are impacting employment and potential stakeholders, a high-ranking MOX official said Thursday in Aiken. David Del Vecchio, the president and project manager for MOX contractor CB&I AREVA MOX Services, addressed the Savannah River section of the American Nuclear Society.

Local News:

Sun News: Horry County gives gun maker PTR Industries more time to pay overdue rent

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article38452707.html#storylink=cpy>

Charles D. Perry

The extension is the third the company has received this year, though public records indicate PTR, which makes military-style rifles, has been paying its monthly rent since the county threatened to retake the building that serves as PTR's headquarters in June.

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