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To:
Date: 5/6/2016 8:43:49 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, May 6, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Trump: Haley wasn't going to be considered for V-P

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160505/160509638/trump-haley-wasnt-going-to-be-considered-for-v-p>

Gavin Jackson and Schuyler Kropf

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump says he never had planned to consider Gov. Nikki Haley as a running mate. "No, not Nikki Haley. She wasn't under consideration," Trump told Fox News's Bret Baier on Thursday. A Wednesday CNN news report cited an unnamed senior Trump campaign source who said Haley was a potential veep contender.

Post and Courier: Take Gov. Haley at her word — the ones she didn't say

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160506/PC16/160509645>

Brian Hicks

Everyone assumes the governor has national aspirations, and the Republican Party has certainly tried valiantly to raise Haley's profile. They chose her to give the GOP response to President Obama's State of the Union in January and put her onstage at last year's summer convention. Where, incidentally, she was better than all the party's presidential candidates. The governor has emerged as a national player in the GOP. She has raised her stock with a positive message and a willingness to speak out against some of the party's most daft attempts at self-destruction. Haley has set herself up as a serious contender for high office. And the surest way to mess that up is to hitch her wagon to the guy who is single-handedly undermining the Republican Party's electoral future.

Slate: Republican Politicians Will Support Trump. They Just Won't Say His Name.

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2016/05/republican_politicians_won_t_say_donald_trump_s_name.html

[com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2016/05/republican_politicians_won_t_say_donald_trump_s_name.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2016/05/republican_politicians_won_t_say_donald_trump_s_name.html)

Jim Newell

The entirety of American political journalism right now is working diligently to ask every single Republican politician, operative, interest group, and commentator in the country the same question: Do you support Donald Trump? For those faced with the question, it's a tricky risk calculus to work through, and the responses are ... complex, let's say. Sure, there are the "Never Trump" conservative writers and pundits flatly rejecting the presumptive nominee and cosplaying the French Resistance in their offices. But in the scheme of things they amount to a sideshow. The more interesting figures are those mainstream politicians who've lent their support to the presumptive nominee but either don't know, or are unwilling to say, the presumptive nominee's name.

Note: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who used her State of the Union response in January to lambast Trump's brand of politics, said Wednesday, "I have great respect for the will of the people, and as I have always said, I will support the Republican nominee for president." (As an elected Republican woman, Haley is automatically on Trump's vice presidential shortlist. She reiterated yesterday that she has no interest in the gig.)

Newsmax: Trump: Nikki Haley Not Considered for VP

<http://www.newsmax.com/t/newsmax/article/727456>

Greg Richter

Presumptive GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump says he does not have the governor of South Carolina on his list of potential running mates. "No, not Nikki Haley. She wasn't under consideration," Trump told Fox News anchor Bret Baier on Thursday after Baier noted she was on a reported list of people Trump is looking at. Haley has said she has no interest in the job, though she said she would be backing him as the nominee.

WACH: Trump says Haley was "never under consideration" as running mate

<http://wach.com/news/local/trump-says-haley-was-never-under-consideration-as-running-mate>

Matthew Stevens

Fox News has released a preview of their interview with Donald Trump where he discusses his potential running mate. South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley has been linked to be on a short list as a potential VP nominee, but Trump told Fox News' Brett Baier that is not the case. "No not Nikki Haley, Nikki Haley no, she was never under consideration," said Trump. Haley released a statement Wednesday that her "plate is full" and she is "not interested" in being vice president.

General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Upcoming furlough for the House, Day off for the Senate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160506/PC1603/160509605>

Cynthia Roldan

After a hectic week attempting to meet the crossover deadline and another in which the Senate finished the budget in one day, South Carolina's legislators felt like they needed a break. That's why next week half of them won't be back. The House is taking a week off, because lawmakers say they don't have much to do with so many of their bills held up in the Senate. Meanwhile, the Senate took Thursday and next Tuesday off, because they felt they had finished their work so quickly, a break was needed before heading into the next big debate: the electioneering ethics bill.

Aiken Standard: S.C. Senate budget includes reimbursements for 2014 ice storm

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160505/AIK0101/160509659>

Christina Cleveland

The S.C. Senate's 2016-17 fiscal year budget includes roughly \$12 million to 22 counties affected by the February 2014 ice storm. The \$7.5 billion budget was approved by a vote of 36-5 Tuesday. Ice storm allocations would go to Aiken County and several municipalities to finish reimbursing the counties for expenses not paid with federal emergency aid from the ice storm, known as Winter Storm Pax. Lawmakers estimate Aiken County could get around \$4.7 million, the City of Aiken around \$300,000 and the City of North Augusta around \$115,000.

WACH: Executive director James Brown III releases statement on rec commission investigation

<http://wach.com/news/local/executive-director-james-brown-iii-releases-statement-on-rec-commission-investigation>

Leah Holloway

Earlier this week, we told you how the FBI has joined SLED and the Richland County Sheriff's Department to investigate the committee. Since March, four current or former employees of the recreation commission have filed lawsuits against the agency. The complaints include sexual harassment and other inappropriate behavior by Commission Executive Director James Brown, some staffers, and board members. Thursday, the board met to discuss issues regarding the recreation commission budget.

Note: WACH FOX attempted to speak with Brown and other members of the commission; they said no comment. Brown instead gave comments in a prepared statement saying...

SC Political News:

McClatchy DC: S.C. delegation half-heartedly pledges to support Trump

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/election/article75907852.html>

Vera Bergengruen

South Carolina's congressional delegation has kept a low profile on the election front since Donald Trump became the de facto Republican nominee for president on Wednesday. Among the D.C. representatives of a deeply Republican state that handed the businessman a resounding primary win in February, there was no acknowledgment on social media that their party had for all intents decided on a presidential candidate, no statements of support. When pushed, they gave tepid answers in unison.

Note: So far no members of the South Carolina delegation in D.C. have plans to attend the Republican national convention in Cleveland in July. Haley's office said the governor would make a decision in June. "The governor is focused on finishing the legislative session strong – and once it's over, she'll make a decision on the convention," press secretary Chaney Adams told McClatchy.

SC Agency News:

WACH: Lawmakers: DJJ riots could be result of budget problems

<http://wach.com/news/local/lawmakers-djj-riots-could-be-result-of-budget-problems>

Tara Petitt

The Department of Juvenile Justice has been under the microscope for months ever since a violent riot took place at the Broad River Campus in February. While under the microscope, WACH Fox News has uncovered new details about the agency's budget and spending habits that could be affecting how the Department operates. The agency's budgets from the last several years are very similar- none request any significant increases in state funding. However, in DJJ's 2015 Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plan, it lays out major deficiencies at the facilities and within the department. In its 2016-2017 budget plan, the agency did not request funding to address the deficiencies.

Walterboro Live: A Look Inside: First offenders get a tour of Allendale prison

<http://walterborolive.com/2016/05/a-look-inside-first-offenders-get-a-tour-of-allendale-prison-news-the-press-and-standard/>

The Press and Standard

Solicitor Duffie Stone, who participated in the tour, explained that every court district in the state offers the PTI program but few have a prison tour as part of the requirements. He said the prison tour is one of the main reasons that only 14 percent of those who participate in the 14th Circuit Court District's PTI program are arrested again. "It is a prevention program; it is to prevent tomorrows career criminals," Stone said. When someone fails, he takes it personally, "It bothers me."

Note: South Carolina Department of Corrections Director Bryan Stirling, joining Stone at Allendale, found the recidivism rate in the 14th Circuit's Pre-trial Diversion program "phenomenal."

SC Elections:

Herald-Journal: Newcomer Charles Price challenging Peeler for Senate District 14 seat

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160505/articles/160509773>

Bob Montgomery

A lifelong resident of Boiling Springs and political newcomer is seeking the District 14 seat held by longtime state Sen. Harvey Peeler. Charles "Kenny" Price, 51, said his platform is focused on giving veterans a voice in Columbia and representing physically disabled people. "I believe veterans went to defend their country with a gun in their face," he said. "Come out and support the veterans and the ones we need the most."

WCSC: Dorchester County GOP candidates debate ahead of primary election

http://m.live5news.com/live5news/db_348384/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=AphK6mUU

Aaron Maybin and Alexis Simmons

Dorchester County GOP candidates faced off in a debate series, just weeks ahead from the June 14 Republican primary election. Paul Brouthers, Sheriff's Sgt. Mike Giglio and Wayne Reeves are up first in the debate series. The three GOP candidates are looking to restore order to the office after former Dorchester County Coroner Chris Nisbet was removed from office by Governor Nikki Haley. Nisbet was arrested last year for misconduct in office.

Post and Courier: Showdown for Dorchester sheriff heats up

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160505/PC16/160509610>

Brenda Ridge

Those hoping to become Dorchester County's top cop made their case at a debate Thursday, including a defense of embezzlement that occurred under their watch. A spirited crowd cheered and booed them. Incumbent Sheriff L.C. Knight and former Sheriff Ray Nash are facing off in June's Republican primary, a repeat of their 2004 race. Nash, who held the post for 12 years, won that year, but didn't seek re-election in 2008, when Knight won the office. He has served as sheriff since. The two disagreed over everything from budgets to illegal immigrants to the county's crime rate to school resource officers. The forum was sponsored by the county's Republican Party and also included candidates for coroner and House Seat 94.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg County candidates discuss roads, education at forum

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160505/articles/160509771>

Chris Lavender

Fixing roads and education reform were among the issues discussed Thursday night during a candidates forum hosted by the Landrum Lions Club. The forum at the Landrum Depot featured candidates for Spartanburg County sheriff, Spartanburg County coroner, S.C. House District 38 and S.C. Senate District 5. Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger faces challenger Scott Ramsey in the Republican primary on June 14.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Helping Puerto Rico dig out

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160506/160509616/helping-puerto-rico-dig-out>

Editorial

There is bad news and good news on the Puerto Rico debt crisis. The bad news is that Puerto Rico missed a \$400 million debt payment last Sunday and has shown that it cannot work its way out of its astounding \$72 billion debt by itself. It doesn't have the political will, and the economic incentives are stacked against it. The island, a U.S. territory, needs help. The good news is that Congress is on the verge of passing legislation that creates better conditions for Puerto Rico to work its way out of debt without requiring U.S. taxpayers to bail out the island.

Note: The proposal for such a board for Puerto Rico was first advanced by 3rd District Rep. Jeff Duncan, R-S.C., last year. The idea has been endorsed by the Treasury Department and congressional Democrats.

Post and Courier: Lighten up on solar users

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160506/PC1002/160509617>

Editorial

South Carolina stands to benefit in several ways from a growing solar power industry: cleaner air, lower energy bills, government incentives and sustainable power. So it is ironic that a state-owned power company has adopted policies that discourage state residents and businesses from producing solar power. While SCE&G and Duke Power, privately owned utilities, are making it more attractive to lease solar panels, Santee Cooper is doing the opposite. Pro-business Gov. Nikki Haley, who appoints the board of directors for Santee Cooper, should let them know that their policies are hurting customers and likely hurting the state's image in the process.

Post and Courier: Mythical and toxic romance with a Confederate banner

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160506/PC1002/160509620>

Editorial: James E. Clyburn

Some years ago, I wrote an opinion piece on the various myths surrounding the third flag, the Confederate Navy Jack, which flew on our Statehouse dome from 1962 until 2000. In the piece, I discussed the mythical and somewhat perverted history of that flag. I wrote at the time that it was amazing how many people would rather worship an obvious myth than accept the proven truth. I pointed out that it is a myth that the Navy Jack flying atop the dome was ever the official flag of the Confederacy. I was ridiculed by the ill-informed and

suffered silence from those who knew or should have known the truth.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Army's Fort Jackson hosts 2 days of Special Olympics events

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=VoNVa7tn

SC State Wire

Fort Jackson is hosting 1,400 athletes during a two-day celebration of the South Carolina Special Olympics. At 6 p.m. Friday, a torch bearer begins running a 7-mile course from the South Carolina Statehouse in Columbia to Fort Jackson for the opening ceremonies. A parade of the athletes, cauldron lighting and musical entertainment follow at the Solomon Center. On Saturday, competitions for aquatics, bocce, bowling, powerlifting and softball are held at Fort Jackson facilities. Badminton and track events are being held at Blythewood High School.

The State: Mother's day spending to be down slightly this year

<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/article75862567.html#storylink=apmobile>

U.S. consumers will spend an average of \$172.22 on their moms — and children's moms — this Mother's Day, down slightly from last year's record-high of \$172.63. Total Mother's Day spending is expected to be \$21.4 billion, with 84.4 percent of those surveyed planning to spend, according to the National Retail Federation.

Local News:

Greenville News: What police seized from Southern Tide founder's home

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/05/05/what-police-seized-southern-tide-founders-home/83981972/>

Anna Lee

Investigators took clothes, shotgun shells and a pair of pliers from Allen Stephenson's home after he shot and killed an intruder, according to a search warrant filed in Greenville County. Bond Court Judge Leila Foster released the search warrant in response to a Freedom of Information Act request from The Greenville News. The warrant was served after Matthew Whitman, who was armed with a pocket knife, was shot and killed March 19 outside Stephenson's Altamont Road home.

Associated Press: Police may charge Kingstree school official for chokehold

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2UdWntRn

SC State Wire

A high school official in Kingstree who was caught on cell phone video using a chokehold on a 15-year-old student could face a criminal charge. Media outlets report the incident started Monday as a fight between two girls at Kingstree Senior High School. A police report says that in cell phone footage, 69-year-old Assistant Principal Mack Burgess can be seen trying to separate the girls. The report says that as the fight continued, Burgess grabbed one girl's neck from behind. A Kingstree police sergeant and magistrate say enough evidence exists for an arrest warrant for Burgess on one count of third-degree assault and battery. Currently, no one has been arrested.

The State: Kingstree police investigate altercation between high school official and student

<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article75976312.html>

Rachael Myers Lowe

A 15-year-old Kingstree high school student was taken to a local hospital Tuesday after a school official allegedly held her in a choke hold long enough to cause unconsciousness. Kingstree High School assistant principal Henry Burgess and another man apparently intervened to break up a fight between two female students. A video of the incident shows Burgess trying to restrain one of the girls, wrapping his arm around her neck, which she resists. At some point she goes limp and Burgess releases her. A 15-year-old Kingstree high school student was taken to a local hospital Tuesday after a school official allegedly held her in a choke hold long enough to cause unconsciousness.

The State: Lexington County restaurants, bars sued in alleged DUI death

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article75937542.html>

John Monk

Four Midlands restaurants and bars are being sued for allegedly serving alcohol to a woman who then drove her car "in an intoxicated state" and killed a 21-year-old woman riding in another car. The lawsuit was filed in state court in Lexington County by Bruce Johnson, the father of Olivia Johnson, 21, who was killed in an early morning crash Sept. 1 on I-26. The suit asks for unspecified actual and punitive damages.

Aiken Standard: Aiken residents ask for 'America to find God again' during National Day of Prayer

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160505/AIK0101/160509654>

Dan Brown

America is in trouble spiritually, according to the nation's faithful, who represented many faiths united in prayer Thursday to ask God's help for America. "Pray for America" was the message offered up at more than 42,000 locations around the nation, including in Aiken during the National Day of Prayer. "America needs to find God again," said Roger Rollins, chairman of the Aiken National Day of Prayer Committee, at the start of Aiken's prayer ceremony.

Independent Mail: 350 converge in Anderson for National Day of Prayer event

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/350-converge-in-anderson-for-national-day-of-prayer-event-321ec6d3-fcb4-7753-e053-0100007f516f-378331011.html>

Abe Hardesty

As Buddy Avant took his usual place in the trailer of a Gethsemane Baptist Temple trailer at 1 p.m. Thursday, he already began thinking about next year's National Day of Prayer Service. Avant, who has been part of the service at the Courthouse Square for the past six years, loaded folding chairs into the trailer as fellow Gethsamane members hoisted them in his direction. "We brought 300 this year," Avant said as he took chairs from all directions. "That was a good number. We brought 225 last year. "I plan on 400 next year, if the Good Lord sends us here again."

Note: Republican U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan of South Carolina (no relation to the pastor) was also among those who offered a prayer on the sunny, autumn-like afternoon.

The Herald: Spartanburg residents observe National Day of Prayer

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160505/articles/160509785>

Chris Lavender

Residents came together outside the Beacon Drive-In Thursday to express support for the community during the National Day of Prayer. About 120 people took part in a prayer and worship service led by the First Baptist North Spartanburg Praise Team. The event was one of many nationwide to observe the 65th annual National Day of Prayer, which is designated as the first Thursday of May.

Morning News: Florence leaders take part in National Day of Prayer ceremony

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_5aa01202-1332-11e6-a7a5-0f511879c36d.html

Shamira McCray

The Florence Baptist Association sponsored a National Day of Prayer program Thursday that brought together church, government, business and education leaders at the Florence County Complex. Eight Florence leaders attended the program and each prayed aloud.

The Herald: Day to pray in Fort Mill, U.S.

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article75882427.html>

Kelly Lessard

Local church leaders and laypeople called for America to "turn back to God" at a National Day of Prayer event in front of Town Hall on Thursday. "I really know that America needs a great turnaround," said JoAnna DiPastena of Fort Mill. "I'm glad they're doing this. We need to have (these events) considering our nation and our needs." A couple dozen people attended the noontime event, traditionally held the first Thursday in May.

Aiken Standard: Mental Health America promoting Mental Health Month

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160505/AIK0101/160509658>

Dede Biles

Brightly colored pinwheels spin merrily in the breeze on the grounds of Mental Health America of Aiken County's headquarters on Pendleton Avenue. The toys' purpose is to remind visitors and passers-by that May is Mental Health Month. "We are here for people who struggle with mental illness, and we wanted to represent the people we serve in a positive way with these pinwheels," said Mental Health America Executive Director Lisa Tindal. "We believe that it is everyone's right to have good mental health."

Associated Press: Past president of US Bar Association speaks at U of SC

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=d7H6j561

SC State Wire

University of South Carolina trustee William Hubbard is scheduled to address graduates of the University of South Carolina. Hubbard, who served as the president of the American Bar Association in 2014 and 2015, speaks Friday at the 3 p.m. ceremony in the Colonial Life Arena. He is a partner at the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Columbia.

Sun News: CCU stadium expansion request again denied by state

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article75945117.html>

Ryan Young and Claire Byun

Coastal Carolina University made its latest attempt at securing phase two state approval for its football stadium expansion project Thursday, returning before the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education with a 21-percent reduction to its budget and a lesser request for bonding. It still wasn't enough. CHE commissioners voted 9-4 against Coastal Carolina's project, meaning the school will have to try again – perhaps as soon as next month – and further stall the expansion of Brooks Stadium that is essential for the Chanticleers' announced move to the Sun Belt Conference and NCAA's Football Bowl Subdivision.

Times and Democrat: New investment 'a big deal'

http://thetandd.com/news/local/new-investment-a-big-deal/article_cdadf6cf-9265-5c51-a313-232d956eeb84.html

Martha Rose Brown

"This is a big deal," Thomas Houser said. "I never thought I'd live to be here this long." Houser is one of three Husqvarna employees who have been working at the Orangeburg plant since it opened. "You know, 44 years, that's a long time to be here and I enjoy every minute of it," Houser said. Houser has been working as a die-setter and driving a forklift for most of his career at the plant, which originally opened as Roper Lawn Mower Co.

Note: Ford Graham, the S.C. Department of Commerce director of international strategy and trade, attended the ceremony on behalf of Gov. Nikki Haley and S.C. Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt III.

National News:

Associated Press: Community questions delay in Amber Alert for Navajo girl

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:1dcea1d79bd34ec2bb8d1aefb3623c26>

Felicia Fonseca and Mary Hudetz

Several hours after a stranger abducted an 11-year-old Navajo girl as she played near her home, few outside the reservation knew she was missing. Cellphone alarms jolted New Mexico residents at 2:30 a.m. Tuesday, giving the first warning beyond the Navajo Nation to keep watch for Ashlynnne Mike and the man who lured her into his van. He took the girl and her brother Monday afternoon soon after they got off the school bus in a desolate stretch of the reservation. The Amber Alert's delay has drawn sharp criticism from those who believe more could have been done to find Ashlynnne alive, while others say issuing it earlier would have made little difference.

Associated Press: Los Angeles man guilty in 10 'Grim Sleeper' serial killings

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:8b06cad0b13d48278a682fb9a2404879>

Brian Melley and Amanda Lee Myers

A former Los Angeles trash collector was convicted Thursday of 10 counts of murder in the "Grim Sleeper" serial killings that targeted poor, young black women over two decades. Lonnie Franklin Jr. showed no emotion as the verdicts were read and family members who had wondered if they would ever see justice quietly wept and dabbed their eyes with tissues in the gallery.

Associated Press: AP Analysis: For Republicans fearing Trump, Ryan offers out

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:f4cfa1b34b73414e9c0155c4af2044b8>

Julie Pace

Within the span of a single hour, Donald Trump gave Republicans wary of his presidential nomination yet another reason to worry — and House Speaker Paul Ryan tried to give them a way out. In a surprise rebuke, Ryan announced Thursday that he was "just not ready" to support Trump, who became the presumptive Republican presidential nominee this week after a big win in Indiana forced his remaining rivals from the race. Ryan told CNN that his party should have a leader who "appeals to a vast majority of Americans."

World News:

Associated Press: Behind closed doors, North Korea opens ruling party congress

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:c37fee52cf0948659c6cf683fa76f028>

Eric Talmadge

North Korea on Friday opened the first full congress of its ruling party since 1980, a major political event intended to showcase the country's stability and unity under young leader Kim Jong Un despite international criticism and tough new sanctions over the North's recent nuclear test and a slew of missile launches. North Korea's information committee said the congress began Friday morning. More than 100 foreign journalists — brought in to give the event a global audience — were bused to the venue but were allowed to view it only from outside. No one but presumably the thousands of delegates and officials were allowed inside the ornate April 25 House of Culture, draped in red party banners and flags.

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