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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips - Monday, March 21, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WSPA: Gov. requests flags lowered Thursday to honor officer Jacobs

<http://wspa.com/2016/03/21/gov-requests-flags-lowered-to-honor-officer-jacobs/>

SC Gov. Nikki Haley's office says the governor has requested that flags be lowered across the state Thursday to remember fallen Greenville Police officer Allen Jacobs. Jacobs was killed by a gang member Friday afternoon. The police chief says officers approached a self-admitted gang member, Deontea Mackey.

Fox Carolina: Fallen Greenville police officer to be laid to rest Thursday

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/31505573/officers-swarm-area-of-greenville-county>

Kim Kimzey, Heather Carpenter and Amanda Shaw

A Greenville police officer is dead after he was shot in the line of duty Friday. Greenville Police Chief Ken Miller said Officer Allen Jacobs died after he was fatally shot by a teenager who then took his own life. Miller said Jacobs approached the "self-proclaimed" gang member in the Nicholtown community around 12:20 p.m. Friday to speak to him. The Greenville Police Department will host a public prayer vigil in Cleveland Park near the Julie Valentine Memorial on Tuesday. Police chaplains will lead the vigil, which will begin at 6 p.m. Funeral services are scheduled for Thursday at 11 a.m. at Furman University's Timmons Arena. The burial will follow in Coleman Memorial Cemetery, located at 1599 Geer Hwy in Travelers Rest. The procession route has not yet been announced.

Note: Governor Nikki Haley has requested that all flags be flown at half-staff from sunup to sundown on Thursday in honor of Officer Jacobs.

WYFF: Prayer service, funeral arrangements announced for fallen Greenville officer

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/live-greenville-officer-shot-police-confirm/38582914?src=app>

A public prayer service and funeral arrangements have been announced for a Greenville officer killed Friday. There will be a public prayer vigil in Cleveland Park near Julie Valentine Memorial (Shelter 5 and 6) on Tuesday at 6 p.m. That event will be conducted by the police chaplains and the public is invited.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley has ordered all flags to flown at half-staff on Thursday in honor of Officer Jacobs.

WLOS: Seventy-five new jobs expected with new office in Greenville

<http://wlos.com/news/local/seventy-five-new-jobs-expected-with-new-office-in-greenville>

Jennifer Saylor

Total Quality Logistics (TQL), a third-party logistics provider, is establishing logistics and sales operations in Greenville County. The new development is creating an expected 75 new jobs over the next three years. Established in 1997 in Cincinnati, Ohio, Total Quality Logistics has grown into one of the largest freight brokerage firms in North America. With 44 offices nationwide, TQL employs more than 3,800 workers in 20 states.

Note: "It's exciting to see one of the country's fastest-growing companies make the decision to open a new office in our state. With this investment, Total Quality Logistics is creating 75 new jobs in Greenville County and continuing to show a real commitment to the people of South Carolina," said S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley

S.C. Politics News:

Associated Press: Civil rights pilgrimage seen as way of crossing party lines
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=mQjtPLso
SC State Wire

Members of Congress who finished a civil rights pilgrimage through South Carolina say what they have learned may help lawmakers work together in the polarized political atmosphere in Washington. Media outlets report 14 members of Congress wound up the three-day trip on Palm Sunday by attending services at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church. The church is where nine members were killed during a Bible study last June. Democratic U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina says during the trip lawmakers of both parties found reasons to seek each other out.

Aiken Standard: Graham to tour BAE Systems during Aiken stop
<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160321/AIK0101/160329902>

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham will tour BAE Systems during his stop in Aiken on Tuesday. The tour is expected to begin at 2 p.m. at the Aiken facility, 15 Windham Blvd. The Arlington, Virginia-based manufacturing company, which has its local facility in Verenes Industrial Park, is the U.S. subsidiary of BAE Systems, a global defense, security and aerospace company based in London.

Opinion/Editorial:

The State: Mazyck: State tax credit can turn inequality into opportunity
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article67290032.html#storylink=apmobile>
Letter

According to a new report by the Corporation for Enterprise Development, almost half of South Carolinians are financially insecure. That's nearly 2 million families who are just one broken-down car or unexpected medical expense away from serious economic hardship. At the same time, wealth inequality is skyrocketing, with the wealthiest 0.1 percent now owning about as much as the bottom 90 percent of Americans combined. There is one wealth-building tax program that expands opportunity for working families: the Earned Income Tax Credit. At its heart, the Earned Income Tax Credit is a wealth-building, economic opportunity program. This is why advocates in South Carolina are pushing the Legislature to create a state version of the federal credit.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: SCDOT numbers show roundabouts cut accidents, injuries
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xe382OKi
SC State Wire

More traffic circles are being built in South Carolina and figures from the state Department of Transportation show they help reduce the number of accidents and injuries at intersections. The Independent Mail of Anderson (<http://bit.ly/1UJ8Y1n>) reports that 15 traffic circles have been built in the state. DOT numbers show those traffic circles have resulted in a 74 percent reduction in total crashes, a 68 percent reduction in crashes with injuries and a 100 percent reduction in the number of fatal crashes compared to the standard intersections they replaced.

The State: Four killed on S.C. roadways over the weekend
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article67304962.html>

South Carolina Department of Public Safety officials said there were seven road deaths reported over the weekend. Officials said all four deaths occurred on U.S. routes, S.C. roads and secondary roads. In two of the deaths, officials said a seat belt was used, while one other did not use a seat belt. The other person killed was a pedestrian. As of March 20, 180 people have died on state highways, compared to 200 highways deaths during the same time period in 2015. Of the 128 motor-vehicle

occupants who have died in 2016, 68 were not wearing seat belts.

Post and Courier: S.C. gas prices climb for 4th straight week

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160321/PC05/160329905>

Warren L. Wise

For the fourth straight week, gasoline prices jumped higher across South Carolina while the national average is now nudging up to \$2 a gallon. The price climbed 6 cents to an average price of \$1.75 a gallon across the Palmetto State last week, according to gas price service GasBuddy. Motor club AAA's Daily Fuel Gauge Report puts the price a penny higher. The price is now up 25 cents a gallon in four weeks across S.C. For a person buying 20 gallons a week, that's an extra \$260 a year in fuel prices.

Island Packet: S.C. gas prices climb 25 cents in 4 weeks

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/business/article67316772.html>

Mandy Matney

The average price of gasoline in South Carolina has climbed for the fourth straight week, but still remains 50 to 60 cents cheaper than one year ago. The national average price of gasoline has increased by 17 cents in the past two weeks to just over \$2 per gallon, according the Associated Press. In South Carolina, the average price of gasoline have climbed 25 cents per gallon in the last four weeks.

Associated Press: Groundbreaking being held for Volvo interchange

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pf2OudWZ

SC State Wire

Ground is being broken for a new interchange on Interstate 26 to provide access to a \$500 million Volvo Cars manufacturing plant. Officials will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Monday for the interchange to connect a road leading to the plant. The plant is about 30 miles northwest of Charleston and is already under construction as is work at the interchange. The interchange was part of the incentive package to attract the company which will eventually employ as many as 4,000 people.

Greenville News: Brewery buyout comes to Carolinas

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/entertainment/2016/03/21/brewery-buyout-coms-carolinas/82080870/>

Tony Kiss

The equity fund that controls Oskar Blues Brewery in Brevard is taking over Cigar City Brewing in Tampa, Florida, which was scouting here last year for a possible second brewery location. They are squeezed for brewing capacity in Florida. Fireman Capitol Partners, which has majority stakes in these two breweries, is becoming quite a force in craft brewing. They also control some western U.S. breweries. But they can help Cigar City grow production and distribution. Right now, Cigar City beers are not sold in North or South Carolina and are available only in a handful of states. Beyond this situation, don't be surprised if some other Carolina brewery is purchased or merged with another band.

WOLO: End Racism Day Promotes Harmony Throughout the State

<http://www.abccolumbia.com/2016/03/21/end-racism-day-promotes-harmony-throughout-the-state/>

Ashley Dolan

The South Carolina Human Affairs Commission is encouraging goodwill and harmony throughout the state on Monday. It's all in an effort to promote End Racism Day. The day has been observed since 1966, but this year will be the first time South Carolina has hosted events coinciding with the day. Officials say its an effort to show the county how South Carolina is moving in a positive direction.

Local News:

Associated Press: Firefighter hit by engine, dies responding to house blaze

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:44051350d20d47e6929d6d1816cadc09>

A South Carolina firefighter has died after being struck by a fire engine while responding to a house fire. Conway Fire Chief Le Hendrick tells local news outlets that firefighter Christopher Gene Ray died Sunday afternoon while responding to a structure fire. Cpl. Sonny Collins of the South Carolina Highway Patrol says Ray had been riding on a Conway fire engine when he fell off and was struck as the fire truck reversed over him.

Associated Press: Authorities investigate church fire in Florence

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0tfqVpU4

SC State Wire

Authorities in Florence are investigating the cause of a fire that destroyed a downtown church on Palm Sunday. Police Maj. Carlos Raines tells local media outlets that the fire at the New Life Assembly of God was reported about 4:30 a.m. Sunday. The church was engulfed in flames when fire crews arrived. There were no injuries.

Sun News: Horry County police grappling with surge in gang violence

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article67356722.html>

Charles D. Perry

Of the 19 murders Horry County police investigated last year, nine stemmed from gang activity. The same could be said of 88 shootings and 1,011 calls for shots fired. And those numbers don't include statistics from the city of Myrtle Beach. "We're finally taking notice of the gang relationship," said Horry County Police Chief Sandra Rhodes, adding that while gangs have been operating in the county for decades the county only started studying them in 2006. "We pretty much had our heads in the sand for a long time, thinking that they didn't exist."

Island Packet: Investigation into Parris Island Marine recruit's death could take 3 weeks

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/bg-military/article67296577.html>

Stephen Fastenau

The investigation into a recruit's death Friday at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island could take almost three weeks. Raheel Siddiqui, a 20-year-old male recruit from Taylor, Mich., died Friday on Parris Island. The circumstances of his death are not yet clear. The Naval Criminal Investigative Service is investigating with Parris Island authorities, a process requiring about 20 days, Marine spokesman Capt. Greg Carroll said Monday. Beaufort County Coroner Ed Allen said Monday he could not release any information on Siddiqui's death without first being cleared by the military.

The State: Date set for Kelvin Washington's 2nd court appearance on DUI charge

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article67302657.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Former Richland County Councilman Kelvin Washington did not appear in court for his felony DUI charge Monday morning as originally scheduled. The 5th Circuit Solicitor's Office excused Washington's first appearance and set his second appearance for June 30, Washington's attorney Mike Duncan said. Duncan said first appearances are used for scheduling purposes, and that it's normal for the solicitor's office to excuse a first appearance when a defendant already has an attorney.

Note: Also on March 16, Gov. Nikki Haley signed an executive order declaring Washington's Lower Richland council seat vacant because Washington had recently been convicted of failure to file state income tax returns for three years.

National News:

Associated Press: Castro urges Obama to lift limits on Cuba in Havana meeting

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:dfde695b43a94bef85ab8f6ebad5015a>

Josh Lederman

Cuban President Raul Castro called on President Barack Obama on Monday to lift longstanding U.S. trade and other restrictions as he and Obama pledged to move forward with normalizing relations between Cuba and its longtime Cold War-era foe. "This is a new day," Obama said, standing alongside Castro after their meeting at Havana's Palace of the Revolution. In a history-making meeting in Havana, Castro praised Obama's recent steps to relax controls on Cuba as "positive," but deemed them insufficient. He called anew for the U.S. to return its naval base at Guantanamo Bay to Cuba and to lift the U.S. trade embargo.

Associated Press: Health insurance gains due to Obama's law, not economy

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:ad378489998a45f69dc9cbe3630a6753>

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar

There's growing evidence that most of the dramatic gain in the number of Americans with health care coverage is due to President Barack Obama's law, and not the gradual recovery of the nation's economy. That could pose a political risk for Republicans running against "Obamacare" in the GOP primaries as they shift to the general election later this year. While the health care law remains highly unpopular in the party, the prospect of taking away health care coverage from millions of people could trigger a backlash if the eventual GOP nominee's plan to replace it is seen as coming up short.

Associated Press: Obama seeks more coordination on dealing with drought

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kRLbHf3A

Darlene Superville

President Barack Obama on Monday directed the federal government to come up with a less reactionary and more long-term strategy for dealing with drought. About 12.5 percent of the continental U.S. was experiencing drought as of mid-March, said Alice Hill, a key Obama aide on this issue. That translates into more than 39 million people, or about one-eighth of the U.S. population, living with drought in the lower 48 states, mostly in the West and with much of California suffering through its fifth year of dryness.

Washington Post: Study: These are the U.S. cities that could be hit by a Zika outbreak

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/03/21/study-these-are-the-u-s-cities-that-could-be-hit-by-a-zika-outbreak/>

Sarah Kaplan

So far, in the United States, 258 people have gone to hospitals with the Zika virus — the mosquito-borne disease that has spread quickly through much of Latin America. None of them acquired the illness from a bug bite in the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports. But that may only be a matter of time. A recent study in the journal PLOS Currents: Outbreaks found fifty U.S. cities where the six-legged, blood-sucking vector of the virus — the mosquito *Aedes aegypti* — would be able to survive in the upcoming summer months. Nine of those cities, home to an estimated 14 million people, could have a "high abundance" of the virus-carrying mosquitoes by July, the study says, and the mosquito could be a problem as far north as New York.

Associated Press: First Airbus jet made in US undergoes successful flight test

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/48e71db04a0144179db1bb848f5a7d99/first-airbus-jet-made-us-undergoes-flight-test-over-gulf>

European aircraft maker Airbus says the inaugural test flight of its first airplane made in the United States was a success. The A321 passenger jet took off Monday from the company's new plant in Mobile, Alabama. The three-hour flight over the Gulf of Mexico was to include a series of maneuvers and tests of all the airplane's operating systems. The company later tweeted that the flight was successful. The aircraft will be delivered to purchaser JetBlue in a few weeks after final preparations.

Associated Press: Trump spent \$9M in February, campaign chief got pay raise

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:25a1aa3cbe204266a80c08dc7ffc8ff>

Chad Day

Donald Trump's campaign paid out more than \$9 million in February, spending big on political advertising, direct mail and airfare booked mostly through his own airline, according to an Associated Press review of the New York businessman's latest federal election filings. Trump's campaign has so far expended more than \$33 million since he joined a crowded field for the GOP presidential nomination last year. And his latest finance reports give some insight into who's benefiting from his campaign, which has been financed by about \$24 million in loans from Trump himself and another \$9.5 million in donations from the public.

Associated Press: Belgium hunts for man linked to key Paris attacks suspect

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:a2c4cd5ec2c849c7979488e17764e845>

John-Thor Dahlburg and Elaine Ganley

Belgian authorities are focusing a new search on a man known to have traveled with key Paris attacks suspect Salah Abdeslam, who was captured last week in Brussels, officials said Monday. Federal prosecutors appealed to the public for information about 24-year-old Najim Laachraoui, who allegedly traveled to Hungary with Abdeslam before the Nov. 13 carnage, and has been traced to safe houses under a false name. Laachraoui was checked by guards at the Austria-Hungary border on Sept. 9 while driving in a Mercedes with Abdeslam and one other person, Belgium's federal prosecutors said in a statement.

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