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To:
Date: 5/3/2016 5:13:57 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, May 3, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: South Carolina military police on tap for Guantanamo force

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pzG9JHoC

Susanne M. Schafer

Military police from the South Carolina Army National Guard have been ordered to prepare for a possible deployment to Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba as early as this fall, a Guard official said Tuesday. About 100 members of the 131st Military Police Co. in Beaufort (BYOO-fort) have been told to prepare for a potential deployment in the new fiscal year, which begins in October, said National Guard spokeswoman Col. Cindi King.

Note: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has been sharply critical of any plan to send detainees to the brig or anywhere else in the state. Last week, Haley criticized the federal government for keeping her in the dark about plans regarding any possible prison site for the detainees, which she contended would make her state a target for terrorists. "I don't want it going into any state in the country," Haley told a House Homeland Security subcommittee.

The Hill: Administration speeds up review boards for Guantánamo detainees

<http://thehill.com/policy/defense/278542-administration-speeds-up-review-boards-for-gitmo-detainees>

Kristina Wong

The Obama administration has quietly been speeding up the pace of review boards for Guantánamo Bay detainees in an attempt to whittle down the number of prisoners. Since mid-April, the Pentagon has scheduled about two review boards per week through the end of May, up from about two to three per month earlier this year. So far, the number of review boards scheduled and conducted for 2016 is 21, almost double the 12 conducted in 2015. Two more reviews are planned but don't have a date scheduled. "All initial hearings are planned to be completed by the end of the fall," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Gary Ross, a Pentagon spokesman.

Note: South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley (R) denounced the plan last week during a House hearing. "Moving detention operations from a secure facility outside of the continental United States and into Charleston, South Carolina will not stop the propaganda," she said. "This line of thinking is giving these terrorists too much credit and validity. Terrorists do not need a jail to hate us. They hate us all on their own."

Note: "Whether the terrorists are detained on an American military base in Cuba or somewhere in the United States, they will be held under the same legal authority, by the same country, in the same manner, for the same duration, and for the same reasons. Why does the zip code matter from a foreign relations standpoint?" she added.

Greenville News: Cable assembly firm to create 72 jobs in Easley

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/05/03/cable-assembly-firm-create-72-jobs-easley/83872112/>

Rob Barnett

An Iowa-based company that assembles and distributes fiber optic and copper cables is opening up operations in Easley and plans to create more than 70 jobs, the company founder said. Zero Connect had decided to locate its new facility in Greenville before meeting Ray Farley, director of Alliance Pickens, and other Pickens County officials, Larry Kendall said.

Note: "The investment that Zero Connect is making in the people of South Carolina is a significant commitment to our state and is a real reason to celebrate," Gov. Nikki Haley said in a release from the Commerce Department. "The 72 jobs this great company is creating in Easley will make a real difference in the lives of South Carolinians, and we look forward to seeing the impact it will have on this community for years to come."

The State: Today's 24-hour giving challenge, Midlands Gives, supports nonprofits

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article75282007.html>

Midlands Gives has reached the \$500,000 mark as of 2:10 p.m., though it is experiencing technical issues with its website. The fundraiser with more than 380 nonprofits participating has raised about \$510,000 through about 4,900 gifts since midnight. Organizer said issues with the platform for donations on its website, MidlandsGives.com, is causing glitches or slow loading. Those interested in donating can continue to visit the site and refresh the page until the donation form loads correctly.

General Assembly News:

Associated Press: Senators' \$7.5B budget covers counties' 2014 ice storm costs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cYtV7fDP

Seanna Adcox

The South Carolina Senate's \$7.5 billion spending plan for the coming fiscal year would finish reimbursing counties' clean-up expenses from the 2014 ice storm. The plan tentatively approved Tuesday would distribute nearly \$12 million to 22 counties. Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman says the \$4 million provided in the current budget covered just 25 percent of expenses not paid with federal emergency aid. That \$12 million is the first priority among roughly \$50 million in spending senators added Tuesday. The supplemental list will be funded if tax collections exceed current estimates.

WACH: SC lawmakers join water experts for SC Clean Drinking Water Day

<http://wach.com/news/local/sc-lawmakers-join-water-experts-for-sc-clean-drinking-water-day>

Ryan Burgee

The South Carolina Rural Water Association (SCRWA) hosted its inaugural SC Clean Drinking Water Day on the State House grounds. Tuesday allowed for water industry professionals to meet with lawmakers in order to exchange ideas, promote actions, and discuss challenges relevant to the state's water supply. "We have a good news story here in South Carolina. Ninety six percent of the water systems that we have monitored over the past five years have had no exceedences of the lead action level, those water systems, that four percent, we are working on dealing with those in cooperation with the rural water association to help figure out solutions for those systems," says Blaze.

LGBT Laws:

Greenville News: Bright's latest effort on bathroom rules fails

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/05/03/brights-latest-effort-bathroom-rules-fails/83878452/>

Tim Smith

A proposal by Sen. Lee Bright to withhold funds to local governments that pass certain bathroom ordinances has failed, likely ending any legislative debate on the issue this year. Bright's proposal came as the Senate began debating its version of the budget for the fiscal year starting in July. The proviso would have withheld funds from any local government if it adopted any ordinance or regulation "requiring a business to allow a person to use a restroom, dressing room, or shower room different than the restroom, dressing room or shower room designated for that person's sex as identified on that person's birth certificate." But senators asked that the proposal be ruled out of order citing a rule that requires amendments be germane and not alter permanent law.

Aiken Standard: Aiken School District releases statement amid national debate on transgender students use of restrooms

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160503/AIK0101/160509862>

Maayan Schechter

The Aiken County School District has released a statement amid national debate of how public school districts should accommodate transgender students in its public restrooms and locker rooms. Responding to inquiries, school district spokeswoman Merry Glenne Piccolino released a statement on Tuesday to the Aiken Standard. "Aiken County Public Schools does not have a present policy directly related to restroom or facility use in the District other than by conventional designations, as with all traditional public facilities. However, it is has been our practice to work closely with parents and individual students in order to provide reasonable accommodations for student needs while respecting the rights of individual privacy of all students as well."

Associated Press: Shouts and Song: Clash at meeting over transgender bathrooms

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

SC State Wire

About 500 people turned out, some of them singing and shouting to drown out others, as the Horry County Board of Education discussed the use of bathrooms by transgender students. Local media outlets report the board on Monday agreed to support an appeal of a Virginia federal court ruling allowing students to use the bathroom of the gender with which they identify. The board agreed to file a friend of the court brief.

Associated Press: Chicago: Students can access bathrooms by gender identity

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:0df86934bb424a64a19e5d3b87cd3cf3>

Sophia Tareen

Chicago Public Schools will allow transgender students and employees to use bathrooms and locker rooms corresponding to their gender identities, according to guidelines released Tuesday by the nation's third-largest school district. The policy, which also applies to "gender non-conforming students," covers all education opportunities, including overnight field trips, and allows for alternative arrangements if requested, such as a single-stall restroom or separate changing schedule. "CPS, like much of the country, has become far more aware of the needs and experiences of the transgender community, and it's crucial for CPS guidelines to reflect our commitment to promoting safe and inclusive schools," district Chief Education Officer Janice Jackson said in a statement.

SC Political News:

Associated Press: So ordered: SC judges must attend human trafficking summit

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

SC State Wire

South Carolina's chief justice is ordering all Circuit and Family Court judges in the state to attend a summit this summer on human trafficking. The order signed by Chief Justice Costa Pleicones (Pluh-KON-us) was issued Friday. It said the state Office of Court Administration is working with Attorney General Alan Wilson's office in planning the event which is scheduled for Aug. 16 in Columbia. Prosecutors and public defenders from across the state are also being invited.

Post and Courier: S.C. Supreme Court orders family, circuit judges to attend human trafficking summit

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160503/PC1603/160509802>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina's high court has ordered all family and circuit court judges attend a human trafficking summit. The order by the South Carolina Supreme Court, which was published Friday, highlights the state's increased effort to tackle the issue of growing concern in South Carolina. Attorney General

Alan Wilson has been working on bringing attention to the issue since 2014, when he rolled out a plan to combat human trafficking in South Carolina.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Black motorist fatally shot: Ex-officer trial date disputed

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

SC State Wire

Attorneys for a white former North Charleston police officer charged in the shooting death of a black motorist are opposing a bid to reschedule the murder trial. Prosecutor Scarlett Wilson last week asked that the trial of Michael Slager be held starting either this August or in May 2017. Slager is currently set to stand trial Oct. 31 in the death of Walter Scott. Wilson says she won't be able to try the case starting in October because she needs then to prepare for another trial, that of Dylann Roof in the Charleston church mass shooting. That trial is set for next January.

Post and Courier: With federal action possible, trial date for ex-officer Michael Slager is disputed

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160503/PC16/160509787>

Andrew Knapp

The former North Charleston police officer who shot Walter Scott objected this week to a prosecutor's proposal to change his trial date. Michael Slager is scheduled to be tried on a murder charge starting Oct. 31. But a delay in the state's prosecution of Dylann Roof, the accused killer of nine at Emanuel AME Church, prompted 9th Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson to ask for the proceeding to be moved up to August or pushed back to May 2017. The state's high court has excused Wilson from appearing in cases other than Roof's until Roof is tried.

Local News:

Associated Press: South Carolina sheriff praises officers in suspect shooting

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

SC State Wire

A South Carolina sheriff is praising his officers Tuesday for not immediately firing on a man who pointed a gun at them because there were other people around in a busy retail area of Greenville County. The officers found Reginald Darnell Dogan around 7:30 p.m. Monday after someone called to report a suspect waving a gun, Greenville County Sheriff Steve Loftis said at a news conference. The first deputy demanded the man drop the gun, and instead he pointed it at the officer. The deputy did not fire because he feared he might hit other people visiting restaurants or stores on the busy streets nearby, Loftis said. "This took an incredible amount of self-control and discipline," the sheriff said.

Associated Press: Columbia police agrees to help hard-of-hearing people

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

SC State Wire

The Columbia Police Department has agreed to take steps to help people who are hard of hearing like providing sign language interpreters. The police department negotiated an agreement with the U. S. Justice Department after a deaf person filed a complaint. In the agreement, the police department will designate a coordinator to make sure the agency complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The agency will also provide officers with a card within 90 days to help them communicate with hard-of-hearing people. The agreement also requires the police department to provide a special phone used by the deaf in every station and substation.

The State: DOJ, Columbia police reach agreement for hearing disabled

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article75327257.html>

Jane Moon Dial

The U.S. Department of Justice announced Tuesday it reached a settlement with Columbia Police Department concerning communications access to those with hearing disabilities. "Our first responders play a critical role in protecting the safety of our communities, and we must ensure they can communicate effectively with all people, including those with hearing disabilities," said Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Vanita Gupta, head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. "This settlement will ensure that the Columbia Police Department complies with federal law, protects the civil rights of all its residents and more effectively advances public safety."

Sun News: Horry Council mulls sales tax increase to build roads

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article75318272.html>

Audrey Hudson

The final list of proposed road construction projects for the RIDE III program goes to the Horry County Council Monday night for their first vote to approve the ballot question on the tax increase measure. More than a dozen major road projects were selected by a special tax commission for construction over the next several years of this program, to be funded by a one percent tax increase. Also included in the projects are 100 miles of unpaved county roads that would get new pavement. The final decision on whether the projects move forward will be up to county voters, who will cast ballots on the tax increase measure in November.

The State: USC student rakes in \$150,000 in lottery winnings

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article75288927.html>

Jane Moon Dial

A University of South Carolina student is \$150,000 richer after purchasing a winning Powerball ticket. The student, a Lexington resident, said he purchased a lottery ticket after his mother urged him to while shopping at Publix, 847 U.S. 378, Lexington. The winner told lottery officials he plans to pay off his student loans and take the whole family on a vacation.

Post and Courier: Citadel will earn \$500,000 for 2018 football game at Alabama

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160503/PC20/160509797>

Jeff Hartsell

The Citadel will earn a guarantee of \$500,000, bringing its total take from games against North Carolina, Clemson and Alabama over the next three years to \$1.2 million. The game also means The Citadel will have played 12 of the 14 teams currently in the SEC, missing only Mississippi State and Missouri.

National News:

Associated Press: Police begin wider body camera use after months of testing

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:3e5f23f1d1df4d75b1d37b42ee4621b6>

Philip Marcelo

After months of testing, many of the nation's big-city police forces are planning to expand their use of body cameras by the summer, but the number of officers with such gear will still be relatively small, an Associated Press review found. The 2014 killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and other deaths at the hands of police around the U.S. have led to demands that officers be issued wearable cameras to deter misconduct and document shootings and other clashes. But because of cost concerns, union resistance and other factors, the rollout has been slower than some cities envisioned.

Associated Press: Trump repeats unsubstantiated claim Cruz dad has Oswald ties

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:f2a4739aee004db8abf7b84716297961>

Jonathan Lemire and Jill Colvin

Republican front-runner Donald Trump rehashed unsubstantiated claims Tuesday that his rival Ted Cruz's father has links to President John F. Kennedy's assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. In a telephone

interview broadcast by Fox News on Tuesday, Trump cited a National Enquirer story that claimed Rafael Cruz appeared in a 1963 photo in New Orleans with Oswald and others as Oswald distributed pro-Cuba leaflets. The Cruz campaign immediately denounced the claims as "garbage" and Trump offered no proof beyond citing the supermarket tabloid.

Associated Press: Once a Clinton stronghold, Appalachia now Trump country

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:da2250880cf84f89ba4df2c91bb08f1a>

Lisa Lerer

When President Bill Clinton rolled into the small Appalachian town of Ashland, Kentucky, in 1996, cheering crowds lined the streets. Local boy-turned-country music star Billy Ray Cyrus performed a special version of his hit, "Achy Breaky Heart" before nearly 20,000 supporters at a riverfront re-election rally. Back then, this was Clinton country. Today, it looks an awful lot more like Trump town. Hillary Clinton was met in Ashland on Monday by just a handful of supporters and a lone heckler, who shouted: "Go home, Hillary!" Later on, hundreds of protesters stood in pouring rain, waved Donald Trump signs and chanted "Kill-ary" as Clinton toured a health center in Williamson, West Virginia.

Associated Press: US combat death in Iraq reflects intensifying war

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:25b86d0309d74a54bb4d8fd274652c93>

Robert Burns and Susannah George

The combat death Tuesday of a U.S Navy SEAL who was advising Kurdish forces in Iraq coincides with a gradually deepening American role in fighting a resilient Islamic State, even as the Iraqis struggle to muster the military and political strength to defeat the militants. The SEAL, who has not been further identified, is the third American serviceman to die in combat in Iraq since the U.S.-led coalition launched its campaign against the Islamic State in the summer of 2014.

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