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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Wednesday, October 28, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WCSC: Governor Haley and Team SC in the Tri-County

<http://www.live5news.com/story/30376325/governor-haley-and-team-sc-in-the-tri-county>

Karina Bolster

Governor Nikki Haley has not been working behind her desk lately, but out in the counties affected by the flood almost one month ago. Governor Haley was in the Tri-County Wednesday as part of Team South Carolina Day. "I have to work," she said. "It's who I am. It's what keeps me motivated." She has made stops all across the state to give her help with the recovery process for thousands of flood victims.

Note: "These team South Carolina Days were to bring all the services available by FEMA and the state to the people," Haley said. "We've seen record crowds from 2,800 in Orangeburg to 1,200 in Williamsburg."

Note: Haley said it's important for her to travel to these areas affected by the flooding, and see it first-hand. "You can't sit behind a desk and know that you're helping families," she said. "For me, it's been very important through this process to be on the ground, hearing the stories, talking to the people, working with these agency leaders that are coming out to help them. To make sure that they understand we don't stop until we answer every person's question. We don't stop until we meet every need that we have to. Until that happens... I'm not going to stop."

WMBF: 29 counties declared primary natural disaster areas by USDA

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/30376368/29-counties-declared-primary-natural-disaster-areas-by-usda>

Whitney Hill

Governor Nikki Haley announced Wednesday that Thomas J. Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture Secretary, has issued a disaster designation for South Carolina counties that suffered damage and losses from flooding and heavy rains. According to a news release from the South Carolina Governor's Press Office, on October 19 Governor Haley requested the disaster designation.

WCSC: Gov. Haley: 29 counties declared primary natural disaster areas

<http://www.live5news.com/story/30375761/gov-haley-29-counties-declared-primary-natural-disaster-areas>

Heather Carpenter

Gov. Nikki Haley announced that 29 South Carolina counties were declared primary natural disaster areas by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Gov. Haley announced that United States Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack issued a disaster designation for counties in South Carolina that suffered damage and losses due to heavy rains and flooding.

Post and Courier: Berkeley, Dorchester included in Department of Agriculture's disaster areas

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151028/PC16/151029296>

Christina Elmore

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has declared 29 South Carolina counties, including Berkeley and Dorchester, disaster areas in the wake of historic flooding this month that inundated much of the state, the Governor's Office announced Wednesday. Gov. Nikki Haley requested the disaster designation in a letter on Oct. 19, according to a news release.

S.C. Flood Relief News:

The State: Costs of historic flooding still being calculated

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article41676972.html>

Cassie Cope

State senators could tap into state savings to pay for damage and costs associated with this month's historic flooding, the Senate's leader said Wednesday. Borrowing or using state surplus money also could be on the

table, said Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence. How much the state will have to pay still is unknown.

The State: Richland County officials seek flood-recovery lessons in Nashville

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article41687115.html>

Richland County council members and managers are travelling to Nashville to meet officials who helped the Tennessee city rebound from a devastating flood in 2010. Among the lessons the Richland County contingent hopes to learn are best practices for navigating FEMA the policies and procedures, according to a county news release Wednesday.

The State: 2 more families sue SCE&G over flood damage to homes near Irmo

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article41685075.html#storylink=cpy>

Tim Flach

Two more families have sued South Carolina Electric & Gas Co., alleging the utility is responsible for flood damage to their homes that they say was caused by water released from Lake Murray. The lawsuits — by homeowners John Cantwell, and Robert and Kristi Sherr — bring to three the total number of actions against the Cayce-based utility in connection with the Oct. 4 flash flood in the Coldstream neighborhood near Irmo.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Greenville News: Reps. Duncan, Mulvaney, Sanford back Paul Ryan for speaker

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/10/28/duncan-mulvaney-sanford-back-paul-ryan-speaker/74693034/>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

The three South Carolina Republicans in the House Freedom Caucus are backing Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan for House speaker. Reps. Jeff Duncan of Laurens, Mick Mulvaney of Indian Land and Mark Sanford of Charleston say they'll cast ballots for Ryan when House Republicans vote behind closed doors Wednesday for a nominee for speaker, and again Thursday when the full House votes in public.

South Carolina News:

New York Times: Ben Fields, South Carolina Deputy, Fired Over Student Arrest

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/29/us/south-carolina-deputy-ben-fields-fired.html?smid=fb-nytimes&smtyp=cur>

Alan Blinder

A white sheriff's deputy in South Carolina was fired Wednesday after county officials concluded he had acted improperly when, in a videotaped confrontation, he dragged and then threw a female African-American student across a high school classroom this week.

Associated Press: Sheriff fires deputy for tossing teen across classroom

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QYmiaPR2

Meg Kinnard

A deputy who flipped a disruptive student out of her desk and tossed her across her math class floor was fired on Wednesday. The sheriff called his actions "unacceptable," and said videos recorded by her classmates show the girl posed no danger to anyone.

Post and Courier: Sheriff fires deputy taped tossing girl out of chair

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151028/PC1610/151029329>

Cynthia Roldan

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott has fired the South Carolina deputy who was recorded on cellphone video tossing a teen from her desk and throwing her across the room at a Columbia high school. Lott met with reporters Wednesday to discuss the case involving Master Deputy Ben Fields, a school resource officer at Spring Valley High School.

The State: Sheriff fires Richland deputy after altercation with Spring Valley student

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article41674731.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Richland County Sheriff's Department Senior Deputy Ben Fields was fired Wednesday, two days after an

altercation between him and a female student at Spring Valley High School was caught on video and posted online.

Greenville News: Family responds, officer remains on leave in Zach Hammond case

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/10/28/hammond-family-issues-statement-response-seneca-police-shooting-decision/74731280/>

Ron Barnett

The parents of Zachary Hammond plan a Thursday news conference to further press their claim that the Seneca police officer who in July shot and killed their teenage son during an attempted drug arrest was “an overly aggressive and poorly trained officer who violated every known police protocol.”

Associated Press: Prosecutor: Officer who fatally shot teen committed no crime

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1y32bjl8

Seanna Adcox, Bruce Smith

A state prosecutor said a Seneca officer who fatally shot a 19-year-old during a drug sting didn't correctly approach the teen's vehicle, but that doesn't make him criminally responsible. Solicitor Chrissy Adams announced Tuesday that no charges will be filed in South Carolina against Lt. Mark Tiller in the July 26 death of Zachary Hammond.

Associated Press: Texas firm investing \$100M in SC, creating 300 jobs

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=d8KFIH6x

A Texas company that makes polyethylene film for such things as trash bags and plastic sheeting is opening a plant in South Carolina, investing \$100 million and creating 300 jobs. Poly-America will open a new plant on a 200-acre tract in Chester. The company in Grand Prairie, Texas, expects the new plant will be operational by the middle of 2017.

Associated Press: Task force formed to solve slayings of 4 people at SC home

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6KwNj04p

An Orangeburg County shooting in which four people were killed and a small child critically injured last summer was "a planned hit" and a task force of local, state and federal investigators has been formed to solve the case, Sheriff Leroy Ravenell said Wednesday.

Local News:

The State: ‘Ceasefire Columbia!’ initiative aimed to curb gun violence in north Columbia neighborhoods

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article41688057.html#storylink=cpy>

An new initiative developed by the U.S. Attorney's Office and Columbia Police Department aimed at reducing gun violence in north Columbia neighborhoods will kickoff Thursday, according to local law enforcement officials.

Post and Courier: Charleston School of Law names attorney Ed Bell president

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151028/PC16/151029303>

Paul Bowers

Attorney Ed Bell will take over as president of the Charleston School of Law Thursday. Bell founded the Bell Legal Group in 1983 and has offices in Georgetown and Sumter. The practice's specialties include medical malpractice, nursing home neglect, wrongful death, product liability, environmental law and police misconduct, according to its website.

Post and Courier: Coastal flood advisory expected tonight, most Charleston streets open again after flooding

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151028/PC16/151029334>

Dave Munday

The National Weather Service has issued a coastal flood advisory that will go into effect at 7 p.m. in the Lowcountry and last until midnight. Low-lying coastal areas in Charleston, Beaufort, Hilton Head and parts of Savannah should prepare for possible road closures and minor flooding, the Weather Service reported.

National News:

USA Today: House Republicans nominate Paul Ryan to be speaker

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/10/28/house-republicans-choose-paul-ryan-speaker/74737170/>

Erin Kelly

Paul Ryan's election as House speaker was all but assured Wednesday as the GOP conference voted in a closed-door meeting to nominate the 45-year-old Wisconsin Republican as their top leader. The nine-term congressman still must be elected Thursday in a public vote by the full House.

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