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To:
Date: 6/27/2015 8:25:22 AM
Subject: Clips – Saturday, June 27, 2015

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Emanuel AME Church News:

New York Times: In Charleston Funerals, Remembering Victims of Hate as Symbols of Love
<http://mobile.nytimes.com/2015/06/26/us/charleston-south-carolina-shooting-funerals.html?referrer=Lizette, Alvarez, Nikita Stewart>

In life, they did not mingle with the powerful, leading modest lives centered on family and church. In death, the powerful turned out Thursday, along with the people who knew Ethel Lance and Sharonda Coleman-Singleton best, to celebrate a different kind of power they wielded.

Note: Gov. Nikki R. Haley, Senator Tim Scott, Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr. of Charleston, and the civil rights leaders Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton all attended one or both funerals.

Note: Politics intruded momentarily on the service as well, when Mr. Sharpton said he had never met Governor Haley, but had led a protest outside the State House and had seen her looking down from her window.

Note: When her turn came to speak, Ms. Haley said, “If you were protesting outside my window, if you would have come inside and held out your hand, I would have hugged you.”

Associated Press: Obama sings hymn of hope in eulogy for slain church members
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=KsJsJSMc

Meg Kinnard, Jeffrey Collins, Jonathan Drew

President Barack Obama sang a hymn of hope and spoke with the fervor of a preacher as he eulogized a pastor and eight parishioners gunned down at a historic black church in an apparent hate crime - and he minced no words in calling for an end to racial injustice and gun violence in the United States.

Note: Obama praised Gov. Nikki Haley for moving first by asking lawmakers Monday to bring down the flag outside South Carolina’s Statehouse. Other politicians then came out saying historic but divisive symbols no longer deserve places of honor.

Post and Courier: Obama: ‘If we can find grace, anything is possible.’

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150626/PC16/150629522/1177/mourners-line-up-early-for-clementa-pinckney-service>

Schuyler Kropf, Tony Bartelme

In a soaring eulogy to the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, President Barack Obama spoke of grace’s power to heal, the nation’s enduring racial divide, and how last week’s killings in Emanuel AME Church offered a chance for a grieving country “to find our best selves.” The president’s 38-minute oratory Friday reached deep into history, probing the lingering wounds of slavery and desegregation while celebrating Pinckney’s long-standing devotion to his ministry and the poor.

Note: “For too long, we were blind to the pain that the Confederate flag stirred into many of our citizens,” he said, lauding Gov. Nikki Haley’s call to remove the flag from the Statehouse grounds.

The State: President Obama eulogizes state Sen. Pinckney

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article25554388.html>

Andrew Shain

Clementa Pinckney, the S.C. state senator and pastor gunned down with eight of his parishioners last week, was remembered Friday as a man of God and a public servant whose death could change race relations.

Note: Obama praised Gov. Nikki Haley’s eloquence in her call to remove the flag, a move that legislators must make.

Post and Courier: Volvo Cars, Benefitfocus and Google deliver major contributions in wake of church shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150626/PC16/150629513>

Warren L. Wise

Corporate donations and fundraising efforts continue in large and small ways after the June 17 shooting at Emanuel AME Church that took nine lives. Volvo Cars of North America and Benefitfocus each contributed \$100,000 to the Mother Emanuel Hope Fund. Google, which has a data center in Berkeley County, is donating \$375,000 to three different funds or groups.

WSPA: Despite Sadness, SC Lawmakers say Colleague's Funeral Uplifting

<http://wspa.com/2015/06/26/despite-sadness-sc-lawmakers-say-colleagues-funeral-uplifting/>

Robert Kittle

South Carolina lawmakers traveled together in buses to Charleston Friday for the funeral of their colleague, Sen. Clementa Pinckney. Two of them spoke as part of the service about their friend, who was killed along with eight others last week after he led a Bible study at Emanuel AME Church, where he was the pastor.

Post and Courier: As interim pastor of Emanuel AME, the Rev. Norvel Goff shepherds his flock through crisis

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150626/PC1204/150629465>

Deanna Pan

Hours after the shootings at "Mother" Emanuel AME Church, the Rev. Norvel Goff arrived at the Embassy Suites in downtown Charleston, where 300 people had packed the third-floor ballroom, waiting for news from the coroner. He walked in around midnight, calm but quietly devastated, and led them in prayer and song. His healing ministry had begun.

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Obama calls for flag to be lowered as act of grace

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2015/06/26/thousands-gather-president-obamas-eulogy-charleston/29329501/>

Tim Smith

President Barack Obama came to the funeral of Sen. Clementa Pinckney Friday to preach and sing a eulogy of grace that touched upon gun violence, race relations and the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds.

Note: Haley, who called earlier this week for the Confederate battle flag to be removed from the Statehouse grounds, received a standing ovation for her request.

Note: The murders spawned an outpouring of love and mercy among those in the Holy City and across the state as well as calls from Haley for the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Upstate lawmakers split over removing Confederate flag

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20150626/ARTICLES/150629793/0/search?tc=ar>

Trevor Anderson, Chris Lavender

Nine legislators representing Spartanburg, Union and Cherokee counties in the South Carolina Statehouse say they will support the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the South Carolina Statehouse grounds. Two will not. One is undecided, and four did not respond to the Herald-Journal's inquiries.

Note: After the horrific shooting of nine people at the historic black church in Charleston, including the late state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, Gov. Nikki Haley called for the flag to be taken down.

Greenville News: Pantex's first U.S. facility will be in Simpsonville

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2015/06/26/pantexs-first-us-facility-will-simpsonville/29351755/>

Scott Keeler

Pantex, a hygiene materials producer primarily serving the global personal care market, is establishing its first U.S. facility and it will be located in Simpsonville. The \$10.4 million investment is expected to bring 45 new jobs over the next five years.

Note: "The fact that Pantex has chosen Simpsonville as the first place in the country to establish operations is further proof that companies from around the world are now looking at South Carolina as an ideal place to do business," Gov. Nikki Haley said. "The \$10.4 million investment and the 45 new jobs it will create are a huge reason to celebrate in Greenville County and across the state."

Post and Courier: Plenty of jobs coming, but will there be enough workers?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150626/PC05/150629427>

David Wren

Back-to-back announcements this spring that Daimler AG and Volvo Cars will build new manufacturing plants in the Charleston region were met with applause over the combined \$1 billion investment and up to 5,360 new jobs at the vehicle factories — not to mention hundreds more from suppliers moving to this area.

Note: “We come back and train every single employee to fit the needs of that company,” Gov. Nikki Haley said after the Daimler announcement in May, adding that 97 percent of the people who are trained in the ReadySC program get hired. “It’s a custom process.”

McClatchy: Charleston tragedy puts Sen. Tim Scott in spotlight

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/national/article25650538.html>

William Douglas

As South Carolina’s legislature prepares to debate removing the Confederate battle flag from the statehouse grounds, Sen. Tim Scott is weighing in with state lawmakers in typical Scott fashion – quietly and behind the scenes.

Note: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley elevated him from the House of Representatives in 2012 to fill the seat of Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., who resigned to head the conservative Heritage Foundation think tank.

Note: He had an 83 percent approval rating among likely South Carolina Republican voters – higher than Haley’s 79 percent, Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham’s 58.2 percent, and the state legislature’s 61 percent approval ratings in an April poll by Winthrop University.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Sun News: Horry County state lawmakers split on future of Confederate flag at Statehouse

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/politics-government/article25185919.html#storylink=cpy>

Maya T. Prabhu

State legislators in Horry County are split regarding the possibility of removing the Confederate flag from the S.C. Statehouse grounds. Gov. Nikki Haley said Monday that the flag needs to be removed from the Statehouse grounds.

Note: “Today, we are here in a moment of unity in our state, without ill will, to say it is time to move the flag from the Capitol grounds,” Haley said in a news conference Monday afternoon. “My hope is that by removing a symbol that divides us, we can move our state forward in harmony, and we can honor the nine blessed souls who are now in Heaven.”

Sun News: The flag, the boycott, the beach | Local legislators, leaders weigh in

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/politics-government/article25588366.html#storylink=cpy>

Zane Wilson

The killing of a member of the state Legislature shocked other members into action to remove the Confederate battle flag that flies on the State House grounds, a development that the tourism boycott imposed by the NAACP 15 years ago had not so far accomplished.

Associated Press: Legislators' debate on Confederate flag likely starts July 6

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7VzOaGT7

The South Carolina Legislature will likely reconvene July 6 to consider overriding Gov. Nikki Haley's vetoes and take up proposals to remove the Confederate battle flag from Statehouse grounds. Both House Speaker Jay Lucas and Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman have informed their members of the likely start.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

News and Observer: Death of S.C. legislator changes Confederate flag debate

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/john-drescher/article25598236.html#storylink=cpy>

John Drescher

Two Citadel cadets lowered the Confederate battle flag from the State House dome in South Carolina 15 years ago on July 1 just before noon. A minute later, as mandated by a hard-fought legislative compromise, Civil War reenactors raised a square version of the Confederate flag on a 30-foot pole at a prominent place on the State House grounds, where the flag has flown ever since.

Note: That flag, the source of so much passion that day, could be coming down. In the wake of the murders of nine people in a Charleston church, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley has proposed removing the flag from its prominent spot behind the Confederate Soldier Monument.

Post and Courier: President's inspiring tribute

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150627/PC1002/150629417>

Editorial

President Barack Obama eulogized the Rev. Clementa Pinckney on Friday as a man of faith, grace and compassion. And he spoke of Mr. Pinckney's life of service and perseverance as a state senator. The congregation of 5,400, many who had waited in line for hours to get in the TD Arena for the service, got to their feet more than once to affirm what he said.

Note: Mr. Obama noted that the Confederate flag "has always represented more than ancestral pride." He gave S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley warranted praise for her "eloquence on the subject" of removing it from the Statehouse grounds.

Aiken Standard: A flag should unite our state, not divide it

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20150627/AIK0403/150629587>

Jeff Wallace

Nine South Carolinians were murdered while at church last week in an act of racial hatred that most find incomprehensible. The victims were black. The perpetrator was white. The crime brought the glare of national attention to our state in ways that were both terrible and wonderful

Note: It should not come down because Jeb Bush, Hillary Clinton or any other presidential hopeful says so. It should not be removed from the capitol grounds because S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley wants it down. It should be moved because it is the right thing to do for all the people of this state.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: US ruling ends SC attorney general's gay marriage challenge

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8s4opRvj

Seanna Adcox

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling Friday that legalized same-sex marriage in all 50 states officially ended South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson's defense of the state's constitutional ban on gay marriage. Wilson said the high court's 5-4 ruling delivered a "devastating blow" to states' rights under the Tenth Amendment.

The State: Supreme Court: Same-sex couples have a right to marry in any state

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article25562977.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday declared that same-sex couples have a right to marry anywhere in the United States. Gay and lesbian couples already can marry in 36 states and the District of Columbia. The court's ruling means the remaining 14 states, in the South and Midwest, will have to stop enforcing their bans on same-sex marriage and recognize marriages performed in other states.

Post and Courier: U.S. Supreme Court rules same-sex couples have right to marry in all 50 states

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150626/PC16/150629514>

Jennifer Berry Hawes

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled Friday that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry, setting a long-awaited national precedent for couples living in a country sharply divided over the issue. The justices voted 5-4 with Chief Justice John Roberts dissenting with the conservative wing of the court, Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito.

Greenville News: Supreme Court legalizes same-sex marriage

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/06/26/supreme-court-legalizes-same-sex-marriage/29325863/>

Amanda Coyne

Ivy Hill breathed a sigh of relief Friday morning when the Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marriage in all 50 states. Hill and Misha Gibson, both of Piedmont, will marry in October. The Supreme Court ruling means that their union now will be legally recognized not only in South Carolina but across the country.

Greenville News: Church leaders: Court ruling threatens religious liberty

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2015/06/26/gay-marriage-religion-liberty/29360149/>

Nathaniel Cary

In a state where the majority of residents oppose gay marriage, reaction from religious groups to a Supreme Court ruling that legalized gay marriage nationwide was swift. Many on Friday said the court created a threat to religious liberty. It comes in a state where 53 percent of residents oppose gay marriage, according to a recent Winthrop poll.

Local News:

Rock Hill Herald: York County still split on same-sex marriage

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article25581199.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Dys

Friday's U.S. Supreme Court ruling upholding legal same-sex marriage is being called a troubling disappointment that flies in the face of God and the Bible by many who oppose gay marriage, but is being lauded as validation by gay couples and others who support marriage by same-sex couples.

Sun News: Online summer classes beneficial to some Horry County Schools students

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/education/article25606441.html#storylink=cpy>

Claire Byun

Summer school has gone digital. For the past six years, Horry County Schools has offered supplemental online courses during the school year and summer to middle and high schoolers, all at no charge to the student. Course offerings include core classes such as Algebra and history, and electives such as journalism and computer programming.

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