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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Wednesday, November 12, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WTMA: Romarco Minerals to Proceed with Lancaster County Gold Mine

<http://www.wtma.com/common/more.php?m=58&ts=1415808310&article=F7499DB6691611E4B51EFEFDADE6840A&mode=2>

A company involved in the exploration and development of previous metals is entering the construction and production phase of a gold mine in Lancaster County. Romarco Minerals, Inc. is investing \$353 million to develop the Haile Gold Mine in Kershaw, S.C. The operation is eventually expected to create 270 new jobs.

Note: "It's no secret that South Carolina is blessed with natural resources, and Romarco Minerals' decision to expand their operations at the old Haile Gold Mine is an example of the positive impact those resources can have on our economy," said South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley in a statement.

S.C. Same-Sex Marriage News:

Greenville News: Judge strikes down South Carolina's gay marriage ban

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/11/12/judge-strikes-down-south-carolinas-gay-marriage-ban/18906669/>

Lyn Riddle

The word came to people, one by one across the state, by email and text, news reports and social media. In a historic ruling, U.S. District Judge Richard Mark Gergel said South Carolina's law that prevents same-sex couples from marrying violates the United States Constitution.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, who has been outspoken in her support of continuing to fight the lawsuits on same-sex marriage, ordered all state workers to answer their phones with that phrase shortly after she was elected. Haley was dismissed as a defendant by Gergel, and the day before by Childs.

Post and Courier: Federal judge strikes down state's gay marriage ban, stays ruling until Nov. 20

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141112/PC16/141119800/1177>

Jennifer Berry Hawes

A federal judge ruled Wednesday that South Carolina officials cannot enforce the state's constitutional gay marriage ban, although a temporary stay means those marriages won't happen before Nov. 20. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel granted a motion for summary judgment and enjoined state officials from enforcing the state's constitutional gay marriage ban or from withholding marriage licenses from same-sex couples.

Note: Gergel also removed Gov. Nikki Haley as a defendant in the case, as occurred in a Columbia-based gay marriage lawsuit earlier this week.

The State: Judge rules that gay people have constitutional right to marry – first federal ruling on an S.C. same-sex marriage case

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/12/3807112/judge-rules-that-gays-have-constitutional.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

Federal Judge Richard Gergel of Charleston overturned state law and ruled today that couples of the same sex have a right under the U.S. Constitution to marry in South Carolina. Gergel's decision is the first ruling in a South Carolina federal court that clearly states that state government has no compelling interest – nor does it have a right – to dictate to citizens who they can and cannot marry.

Note: However, Gergel did dismiss Haley as a defendant in the lawsuit, saying that she – unlike Wilson – had taken no direct action to stop the gay couple, Colleen Condon and Ann Bleckley, from getting married.

Associated Press: SC appealing striking down of gay marriage ban

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

Bruce Smith

A federal judge on Wednesday struck down South Carolina's same-sex marriage ban as unconstitutional, opening the door to such marriages but also giving the state a week to appeal. The attorney general said he would do so immediately.

Rock Hill Herald: York, Chester, Lancaster probate courts await directions on same-sex marriage licenses
http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/11/12/6520672_york-chester-lancaster-probate.html?rh=1#storylink=cpy
Andrew Dys

Probate courts in York, Chester and Lancaster counties are waiting for directions from the S.C. Supreme Court concerning issuing same-sex marriage licenses after a federal judge Wednesday morning overturned South Carolina's state law banning gay marriage.

MSNBC: Judge strikes down South Carolina's same-sex marriage ban
<http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/judge-strikes-down-south-carolinas-same-sex-marriage-ban>
Emma Margolin

A federal judge has struck down South Carolina's ban on same-sex marriage, positioning the deep-red state to join 32 others in allowing gay and lesbian couples to legally wed.

Note: The South Carolina suit was filed by Lambda Legal and South Carolina Equality in October on behalf of a same-sex couple who was denied a marriage license based on the instructions of the state's Republican Gov. Nikki Haley and Attorney General Alan Wilson.

GSA Business: Judge sides with Charleston County councilwoman in gay-marriage debate
<http://www.gsabusiness.com/news/53022-judge-sides-with-charleston-county-councilwoman-in-gay-marriage-debate>
Ashley Heffernan

U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel of Charleston ruled that prohibiting the marriage of same-sex couples is unconstitutional, deciding a case brought by Councilwoman Colleen Condon and her partner, Ann Nichols Bleckley, who applied for a marriage license Oct. 8. The two sued Gov. Nikki Haley, Attorney General Alan Wilson and Charleston County Probate Judge Irvin Condon.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: SC Supreme Court rules in school districts' favor
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9dEQRFgH
Seanna Adcox

A divided South Carolina Supreme Court ruled Wednesday for poor, rural school districts in a 21-year-old education funding lawsuit, saying legislators have failed to ensure that their students receive the opportunity to succeed. The justices' long-awaited 3-2 ruling directs legislators and school district officials to work together to solve the state's "constitutional deficiency."

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: The battle against AP History continues
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141112/PC1603/141119805>
Cynthia Roldan

Jon Williamson, executive director of AP Curriculum and Content Development, will address the board a month after Jane Robbins, a senior fellow for the American Principles Project, told the board that the revised course is a "radical rejectionist view" of the nation's history that focuses on conflict.

Associated Press: Resilient transportation called national challenge
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Y0vbsjVc
Bruce Smith

The nation's transportation grid must be built to withstand a new normal of more serious natural disasters and it won't be cheap or easy, a top official of the U.S. Transportation Department warned Wednesday.

Greenville News: Jackson calls on GOP to follow 'moral compass' of Jesus
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/11/12/jackson-calls-gop-follow-moral-compass-jesus/18919439/>
Ron Barnett

The Rev. Jesse Jackson on Wednesday called on the new leadership in the Republican-controlled Congress to follow the "moral compass" of Jesus as set forth in the Gospels and not use politics as a religion of exclusion. The GOP took control of the U.S. Senate in last week's elections, giving the

Republicans control of both houses of Congress.

Greenville News: Group: SC ranks third worst in combating lung cancer

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/health/2014/11/12/group-sc-ranks-third-worst-combating-lung-cancer/18911671/>

Liv Osby

To mark Lung Cancer Awareness month, WalletHub conducted an analysis of the states and the District of Columbia on 11 metrics, including cigarette taxes, lung cancer mortality rate and the price of a pack of cigarettes with 1 being the best and 25 being average.

Greenville News: Couple makes health care in India their mission

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/health/2014/11/12/couple-makes-health-care-india-mission/18902853/>

Liv Osby

Volunteers from Upstate South Carolina, Western North Carolina and the Charlotte area join him on the trips, providing medical care, logistical support and other essential services, such as crowd control and tent set-up. They're stunned by what they see.

Local News:

Greenville News: New office building coming to ICAR

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/11/12/new-office-building-coming-icar/18903209/>

Rudolph Bell

Clemson University's International Center for Automotive Research marked a milestone Tuesday when officials broke ground for the sixth and final building of phase one. The 82,000-square-foot office building is scheduled to open late next year.

Associated Press: SC welding firm to cut 60 jobs by December

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

A welding firm in Florence is cutting 60 jobs by December and moving part of its manufacturing to Texas and Mexico. The Morning News of Florence reported Wednesday (<http://bit.ly/1zjDmTu>) that 60 employees at ESAB Welding and Cutting Products were given 60-day notices last month and their last day is Dec. 19.

National News:

New York Times: Dan Sullivan Holds On to Win Alaska Senate Race for G.O.P.

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/13/us/dan-sullivan-holds-on-to-win-alaska-senate-race-for-gop.html?ref=us&_r=0

Kirk Johnson

Senator Mark Begich of Alaska, a Democrat who squeezed into office in 2008 by a narrow margin in a conservative state, narrowly lost his re-election bid as a count of absentee ballots a week after the election put his opponent, Dan Sullivan, over the top, according to The Associated Press.

Associated Press: Obama, Xi seek to downplay persistent tensions

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/AS_OBAMA_CHINA?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-11-12-01-51-46

Julie Pace

Following an intense two days of talks, President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping unveiled an array of agreements on climate change, military cooperation and trade as they sought to overcome persistent tensions between the world's two largest economies.

Washington Post: McConnell sharply criticizes Obama's climate change deal with China

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2014/11/12/mcconnell-sharply-criticizes-obamas-climate-change-deal-with-china/>

Ed O'Keefe

Well, that didn't take long. Any hope for Congress to reconvene with a sense of bipartisanship was erased pretty quickly on Wednesday morning as Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) sharply criticized the announcement of a new climate deal between the United States and China.

Washington Post: Democratic Party approval hits record low

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2014/11/12/democratic-party-approval-hits-record-low/>

Jose A. DelReal

The Democratic Party's approval numbers have hit their lowest point in at least two decades following an electoral drubbing that gave Republicans control of both houses of Congress, according to a new poll released Wednesday. The Gallup survey has the Democratic Party pulling a 36 percent favorability rating, a 6-point drop since September.

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