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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, October 23, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Index-Journal: Dams damaged from storm, flooding

<http://www.indexjournal.com/news/dams-damaged-from-storm--flooding>

Ariel Gilreath

After major rain and flooding at the beginning of the month, the Department of Health and Environmental Control has ordered 63 dams in South Carolina be fixed or replaced, three of which are in Greenwood County. The dams were apparently damaged during what Gov. Nikki Haley termed the "1,000 year storm" in the beginning of October that led to flooding across South Carolina.

WMBF: Gov. Haley to host Team South Carolina for Florence, Williamsburg counties

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/30330820/gov-haley-to-host-team-south-carolina-for-florence-williamsburg-counties>

Whitney Hill

Governor Nikki Haley will be in Kingstree on Monday, October 26, for the Team South Carolina event for Florence and Williamsburg counties that will be held at the Williamsburg Recreation Center from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., according to a news release from the South Carolina Governor's Office.

Manning Live: Governor to bring Team SC to Clarendon Monday

<http://manninglive.com/2015/10/22/governor-to-bring-team-sc-to-clarendon-monday/>

Robert Joseph Baker

Gov. Nikki Haley will bring the Team South Carolina initiative to Clarendon County on Monday, according to Manning Mayor Julia Nelson. Haley and other representatives from state and federal agencies will be present from noon to 4 p.m. Monday at the Clarendon Community Center (the old Manning High School gymnasium), 7 Maple St. in Manning.

Greenville News: Latest test results a "warning"

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2015/10/22/latest-test-results-warning/74396312/>

Nathaniel Cary

Results from the first year of statewide testing through ACT and ACT Aspire indicate that the majority of South Carolina students across multiple grade levels aren't prepared to succeed in school and failed to meet college-readiness benchmarks. Statewide, 11th-grade students, all of whom took the ACT college-readiness test for the first time, failed to meet the college-readiness benchmarks in all four ACT subject areas: English, mathematics, reading and science.

Note: She said state lawmakers and Gov. Nikki Haley should be commended for recognizing the state needed to measure whether its students were prepared for two-or-four year colleges or industry certification.

S.C. Flood Recovery News:

Aiken Standard: South Carolina floods bring back vivid memories for Aiken residents

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20151022/AIK0101/151029772/1004/south-carolina-floods-bring-back-memories-for-aiken-residents>

Tripp Girardeau

Earlier this month, bad weather brought severe flooding to Aiken County, and that brought back memories for some local residents who remember the last time there was serious flood damage in Aiken, back in the late 1960s. On April 15, 1969, a storm blew across the South, drowning parts of Aiken in up to 10 inches of rain water, according to an article from the Aiken Standard archives.

S.C. Political News:

The State: Marco Rubio's 'stealth' campaign returns to SC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article41131929.html>

Jamie Self

On the heels of his slow but steady rise, Republican presidential hopeful Marco Rubio returns to the Midlands on Friday and to a state where he has deep ties. Rubio, the protege of former U.S. Sen. Jim DeMint, R-Greenville, is popular in the first-in-the-South primary state, where he is in third place, according to polls.

Post and Courier: Joe Riley endorsing Hillary Clinton for president

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC1603/151029764>

Schuyler Kropf

The biggest Lowcountry "get" in the Democratic race for the White House is going to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Less than 24 hours after Riley's first choice — Vice President Joe Biden — bowed out, Riley said he will support Clinton for president. Up until this week, Riley had told everyone in the state's political circles that he would be a lock for Biden if the VP opted to get in the race.

The State: Charleston mayor backs Hillary Clinton

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article41023431.html>

Andrew Shain

Hillary Clinton received a major S.C. endorsement Thursday when Charleston Mayor Joe Riley chose to back the 2016 Democratic presidential front-runner. The Holy City's mayor for the past 40 years switched his support from Vice President Joe Biden, who said Wednesday that he would not enter the race, Riley's office confirmed.

Greenville News: Huckabee talks 'morality,' 'taking on' Clinton

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/10/22/huckabee-talks-morality-taking-clinton/74382106/>

Amanda Coyne

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee got up close and personal with Greenville supporters at a campaign event at downtown coffee and ice cream shop Spill the Beans on Thursday afternoon. Huckabee talked one-on-one with many who attended the event, which is part of a two-day trip in the Upstate. Guests asked him about topics, including immigration and higher education before he took the microphone to stump and take audience questions.

Associated Press: Rubio in S. Carolina for constitutional chat with prosecutor

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mos7IIPq

U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio is back in South Carolina this week, talking law and the constitution with the state's top prosecutor. On Friday, the Republican presidential hopeful is in West Columbia to take part in a forum sponsored by the Conservative Leadership Project. The gathering at the Brookland Banquet and Conference Center is moderated by Attorney General Alan Wilson.

Associated Press: Fiorina returning to campaign in South Carolina's Lowcountry

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=JG7NzROr

Businesswoman Carly Fiorina is bringing her presidential campaign back to South Carolina this week with a couple of events in the Lowcountry. First, Fiorina holds a town hall meeting in the auditorium at the University of South Carolina's Beaufort campus.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Aiken Standard: Bringing order to chaos in the U.S. House

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20151022/AIK0201/151029801/1018/AIK02>

Editorial

Paul Ryan may be a reluctant draftee to one of the most powerful and stressful offices in the United States, but he appears to be the best bet for House Republicans. Ryan, after initially ruling out a bid to be the next Speaker of the House, has had a change of heart, albeit with some caveats.

Post and Courier: South Carolina a 'state of shame' when it comes to education

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151023/PC16/151029757>

Brian Hicks

That was the gist of a reasonable motion this week from the plaintiffs in the "minimally adequate" school funding lawsuit that's dragged on for decades. Schools attorney Carl Epps suggested the state Supreme Court move its deadline for the Legislature to make meaningful change in education from February to the end of the 2016 session in June.

Post and Courier: Thank Joe for 40 years

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151023/PC1002/151029737>

Editorial

Joe Riley's 40 years as mayor of Charleston have produced some extraordinary changes, among them the Spoleto Festival, Waterfront Park, a thriving tourism industry, the Joe Riley baseball stadium, recovery from Hurricane Hugo, the aquarium and most recently the rebuilding of the Gaillard Auditorium. So it is fitting that a public celebration Sunday to thank him for his service will reflect some of those accomplishments.

Greenville News: Carolina students on right track

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/22/editorial-carolina-students-right-track/74409934/>

Editorial

Carolina High School and Academy students are on the right track to prepare for graduation and a brighter life, and the success story starts with one innovative and engaged principal. An inspirational and encouraging story about students in one of Greenville County's poorest areas was told last week by Greenville News reporter Nathaniel Cary.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Friend of massacre suspect receives lower bond

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Bg6bHID8

Seanna Adcox

A nonviolent past and lack of hard drug use were factors cited by a judge who lowered bond for a man accused of failing to tell authorities all he knew about a friend accused of massacring nine black parishioners at a South Carolina church. U.S. Magistrate Judge Shiva Hodges lowered Joey Meek's bond Thursday to \$25,000, down from the \$100,000 that was set after his arrest last month.

Post and Courier: Fewer than 50 percent of South Carolina seniors are ready for college, according to ACT results

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151023/PC16/151029753>

Deanna Pan

Fewer than half of all South Carolina seniors are ready for college, according to their results on the ACT exam, assessments released Friday by the state Department of Education show. For the first time last spring, all high school juniors statewide were required to take the ACT college entrance exam. The ACT measures students' college readiness in four subject areas — English, math, reading and science — on a 36-point scale.

Post and Courier: Power struggle: Aluminum maker may close South Carolina smelter Dec. 31

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC05/151029791>

John McDermott

The threat of a shutdown of the Century Aluminum plant near Goose Creek escalated Thursday, when the owner announced it will close the 600-worker smelter Dec. 31 unless Santee Cooper agrees to step aside as its power supplier. The company also said it won't negotiate further with the state-owned electric utility.

Greenville News: South Carolina still may land brewery

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2015/10/22/south-carolina-still-may-land-brewery/74320604/>

Tony Kiss

South Carolina is still in the running for the Deschutes eastern expansion brewery, the company's president said Thursday evening. But the public announcement may not come before 2016. Wrapping up a whirlwind two-day visit to Asheville, Michael Lalonde said potential brewery sites still include Greenville or Charleston, South Carolina, along with Asheville and locations in Virginia and elsewhere. "We haven't ruled anything out," he said.

Local News:

Island Packet: School board to discuss new nepotism policy, Moss' performance

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article41056575.html>

Rebecca Lurye

Residents have been questioning when the board would put a nepotism policy in place since it announced it would do so one month ago in the wake of the Sept. 19 resignation of the superintendent's wife, Darlene Moss, just four days after she started work in a \$90,000-salary administrative job.

National News:

Associated Press: Under GOP grilling, Clinton seeks to close book on Benghazi

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=PIC0LP0t

Bradley Klapper, Matthew Daly

Hillary Rodham Clinton strove to close the book on the worst episode of her tenure as secretary of state Thursday, battling Republican questions in a marathon hearing that grew contentious but revealed little new about the 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya. She firmly defended her record while seeking to avoid any mishap that might damage her presidential campaign.

Associated Press: US Transportation chief talks transportation in Southeast

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0tqLR9Ui

U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx is joining state and local officials to discuss the transportation infrastructure in the Southeast. Foxx visits Charleston on Friday to appear on a panel with North Carolina Department of Transportation Secretary Nick Tennyson, Charleston Mayor Joe Riley and Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin.

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