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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, November 24, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WFXG: Gov. Haley makes stop in McCormick County during pivotal time

<http://www.live5news.com/story/30589169/gov-haley-makes-stop-in-mccormick-county-during-pivotal-time>
Jake Rakoci

It was a big day for female business leaders in McCormick County. Governor Nikki Haley made a stop in one of South Carolina's smallest counties to speak at the Women in Business awards luncheon. It was a unique opportunity for female business leaders in McCormick County, as they got to see the Governor speak in their county.

Note: "We didn't have riots, we had vigils, we didn't have protests, we had hugs. And we through South Carolina showed that we were going to take action, that Confederate Flag has come down, and South Carolina has moved on," Gov. Haley said to the crowd.

Associated Press: Haley asks feds to speed up crop loss payments to farmers

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=c41XZMhr

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley wants the U.S. Department of Agriculture to speed up crop insurance payments to farmers who lost their harvests because of last month's historic flooding. Haley asked Secretary Thomas Vilsack in a letter Monday to activate emergency loss adjustment procedures, noting the Oct. 2-5 storm that dumped 2 feet of rain on some areas of the state mere days or weeks before expected crop harvests.

Note: "The process to file and receive payment for claims is slow and cumbersome," Haley wrote. Many farmers "are even required to harvest valueless crops at a significant expense."

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley asks feds to rush crop insurance payouts

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC1603/151129709>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley wants to expedite crop insurance payments to farmers who were hit hard by last month's floods. Agriculture, the state's largest industry, took a \$587 million hit last month when floodwaters ravaged fields at the height of the fall harvest. As a result, state officials are already predicting an increase in farm foreclosures next year.

Note: "Any effort to improve the speed and efficiency of programs and services available to farmers will greatly improve South Carolina's recovery effort and increase the likelihood that each affected small business will be operating this time next year," Haley wrote.

Greenville News: Haley asks U.S. officials to quicken farmer flood aid

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/23/haley-asks-us-officials-quicken-farmer-flood-aid/76270246/>

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley is asking federal agriculture officials to speed up the process of getting aid to flood-stricken South Carolina farmers, saying responses to claims are slow and a requirement that farmers harvest ruined crops is an unnecessary burden.

Note: In a letter dated Monday to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsak, Haley wrote her office has received information from farmers that the process for handling the farmers' claims is "slow and cumbersome" and that they are being asked to harvest "valueless" crops at "significant expense."

Note: "No South Carolina farmer that entered this fall with proper crop insurance and a viable business should lose that business solely because of the flood," she wrote.

Island Packet: Beaufort County Council to consider resolution opposing Middle Eastern refugees

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article46116155.html>

Zach Murdock

Beaufort County could be the next to join the growing roster of S.C. communities that oppose the resettlement of Middle Eastern refugees. County Councilwoman Cynthia Bensch has asked the council to consider a resolution asking Gov. Nikki Haley and the S.C. Department of Social Services to issue a cease and desist order against any refugee resettlement and asking the local legislative delegation to do the same.

Union Daily Times: Gault to serve as Mulvaney liaison

<http://uniondailytimes.com/features/lifestyle/2697/gault-to-serve-as-mulvaney-liaison>

Charles Warner

Union County Clerk of Court Freddie Gault will resign the office he has held for the past six years to become district liaison for US Fifth District Rep. Mick Mulvaney. Gault, who has served as clerk of court since 2009, announced Monday morning that he is resigning to take the position on Mulvaney's district staff.

Note: Gault said that the time between now and the date of his resignation will be busy as he takes steps to ensure that everything is in order when he leaves and that the transition between himself and his successor — who will be appointed by Gov. Nikki Haley — will go smoothly.

S.C. Political News:

The State: Hilton Head father, son to appear in Ben Carson commercial

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/election/Candidate-match/article46166150.html>

Matt McNab

If the bumper sticker on Barry Ginn's car for Dr. Ben Carson's presidential campaign didn't make clear who the Hilton Head Island resident supports in the race for the White House next year, perhaps the commercial he just filmed will.

Associated Press: Bush returns to South Carolina for events in Upstate

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=hnow8G8i

Republican presidential hopeful Jeb Bush is coming back for South Carolina for a series of events in the Upstate. The former Florida governor is starting his swing Tuesday with a Salvation Army event in Greenville. Later in the day, he stops by Spartanburg's Beacon Drive-In, a restaurant that has become a must-see for presidential campaigns as they visit South Carolina's northwestern areas.

Associated Press: Trump returns to South Carolina for Myrtle Beach rally

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3rJfp7qS

Donald Trump is returning to South Carolina for a campaign stop along the Grand Strand. Trump is holding a rally in Myrtle Beach on Tuesday night. The event was initially scheduled for Broadway at the Beach, but the campaign says it was moved to the Myrtle Beach Convention Center due to overwhelming demand.

Associated Press: NBC agrees to give time to 4 Republican candidates

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=g2QYgV7n

David Bauder

NBC agreed Monday to give four Republican presidential candidates free time on affiliates in Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina after they complained Donald Trump unfairly benefited from appearing as "Saturday Night Live" host earlier this month.

S.C. General Assembly News:

WLTX: Bill Would Ban Low-Level Drone Flights Over Private Property in SC

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/2015/11/23/bill-would-ban-low-level-drone-flights-over-private-property-sc/76287598/>

Robert Kittle

Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Camden, says he'll pre-file a bill in the state Senate in a few weeks to ban low-level drone flights over people's homes or private property in South Carolina.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Two steps to protect historic Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151124/PC1002/151129669>

Editorial

Charleston City Council tonight will consider two issues that could shape the historic city's appearance. It has wisely given first approval to a proposal to add a second panel of the Board of Architectural Review. One would consider small projects (10,000 square feet or smaller). The other would handle larger projects.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Prison system making progress meeting court mental health order

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC1603/151129679>

Gavin Jackson

Nearly two years after being ordered by a judge to improve mental health care for inmates, the state's prison system is adding counselors but remains at less than 60 percent of the staffing level set by the court. Bryan Stirling, director of the state Department of Corrections, told the S.C. Sentencing Reform Oversight Committee on Monday that more counselors have been hired and progress is being made now that the Legislature has provided the necessary funding.

Post and Courier: DSS wants rapid-response teams to investigate child deaths

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC1603/151129689>

Cynthia Roldan

The Department of Social Services is working with lawmakers to create rapid-response teams to quickly investigate the cases of children who die from suspected abuse or neglect. The move is part of a continued effort by the once-embattled child welfare agency to improve the way it responds to cases.

Greenville News: SC child support system could cost nearly \$500 million

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/23/sc-child-support-system-could-cost-nearly-500-million/76253692/>

Tim Smith

A state computer project to provide automated child support enforcement services and family court case management, already decades overdue, could cost nearly \$500 million when completed. That's the projected total cost provided by the state Department of Social Services to lawmakers in the agency's latest update on the project.

Post and Courier: U.S. Women's Open coming to Country Club of Charleston in 2019

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC20/151129727>

Tommy Braswell

The world's premier golf event for women, the U.S. Women's Open, is coming to the Country Club of Charleston in 2019. The U.S. Golf Association will make the announcement at a press conference on Dec. 1 at the Country Club. Club president Cordes Ford referred questions about the press conference to the USGA's Christina Lance, only saying he was excited to host the press conference.

Local News:

Post and Courier: S.C. gets \$30M grant for new charter schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC16/151129682>

Paul Bowers

The U.S. Department of Education recently announced that it plans to give \$30.4 million to the S.C. Department of Education for the creation of new public charter schools throughout the state. In South Carolina, the cash infusion will help new charter schools get off the ground, according to Mary Carmichael, executive director of the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina.

Post and Courier: Tidal flooding expected during Tuesday rush hour; roads likely to close

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC16/151129670>

Melissa Boughton

There's a recipe for major flooding during Tuesday morning rush hour brewing: developing northeast winds and high astronomical tides due to the approaching full moon, according to the National Weather Service in Charleston. The tide at Charleston Harbor is forecast to reach 8-feet, which is typically when major flooding occurs along the coast.

Greenville News: After pastor weds same-sex couple, Baptists vote to sever ties with Greenville church

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/11/23/after-pastor-weds-same-sex-couple-baptists-vote->

sever-ties-greenville-church/76011420/

Eric Connor

The revelation that First Baptist Greenville would marry same-sex couples sparked renouncements and rejoice over the summer — left wing, right wing, casual non-believers, an issue wrapped in tradition and the ripe moment of a cause.

National News:

Associated Press: \$160B deal to combine Pfizer and Allergan raises tax outcry

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151123/PC1601/151129686>

Linda A. Johnson, Tom Murphy

A \$160 billion deal announced Monday to merge Pfizer and Allergan and create the world's biggest drug company renewed the outcry in Washington over "inversions," in which U.S. corporations combine with companies overseas to lower their tax bill.

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