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To:
Date: 11/16/2014 10:50:24 AM
Subject: Clips – Sunday, November 16, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Times of India: Nostalgic Nikki turns emotional after paying obeisance at Golden Temple
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/nri/us-canada-news/Nostalgic-Nikki-turns-emotional-after-paying-obeisance-at-Golden-Temple/articleshow/45163342.cms>

Yudhivir Rana

Visiting the Golden Temple was an "emotional and very special moment" in the life of South Carolina governor Nikki Haley who couldn't hold back her tears after paying obeisance at the Sikhs' holiest shrine here on Saturday. Tears rolled down Nikki's eyes as she was narrating her experience.

Note: "This is very emotional and very special day for both of us, and I want everyone to know that we are here to give our respect. I am not here as a governor, I am here as someone who feels special and honoured," said Nikki, accompanied by her husband Michael Haley, while talking to media persons.

Economic Times: South Carolina keen to forge alliance with Punjab
http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/45162089.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

The Governor of South Carolina Nikki Haley today announced to forge collaboration in the varied fields of education, skill development training, livestock and food processing industries with Punjab government to boost the bi-lateral socio-economic ties. The announcement was made by Haley while presiding over the Cultural programme organised here.

Note: Haley said Punjabis had always shared cordial ties with US especially in South Carolina besides contributing enormously in its overall development and prosperity, adding she said, "India and South Carolina have a lot in common so we will like to see more Indian and Punjabi businesses in our state" Striking an emotional chord with Punjab, Haley said her Sikh parents had migrated to the US in the 1960s, where she was born.

Rock Hill Herald: Rock Hill parents will continue 3-year-old Harlan's fight against childhood cancer
<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/11/15/6532356/rock-hill-parents-will-continue3.html#storylink=cpy>
Rachel Southmayd

A little boy, as any parent can attest, makes a lot of noise. There is clanging, crashing, running, laughing and every other matter of noise that indicates fun is being had or a mess is being made.

Note: Even Gov. Nikki Haley has heard of Harlan. A few days ago, the Sullins' got a piece of mail from the governor's office. Haley had signed a proclamation declaring September 2014 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and wanted the Sullins family to have it.

The State: Alternate plan emerges for fixing and paying for SC roads
http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/15/3814946_alternate-plan-emerges-for-fixing.html?rh=1

Cassie Cope

An influential S.C. lawmaker wants to give control of roughly half of the state-owned roads to counties as a way to address the state's multibillion dollar road needs.

Note: Republican Gov. Nikki Haley, who won a second term earlier this month, has said she would veto a gas tax increase. And the GOP-controlled House is averse to tax increases.

Note: "There is no magic pot of money that's suddenly going to appear to fix roads," Haley said at a press conference after she was re-elected.

Associated Press: Haley statement on roadwork seen as overblown
http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QCY2y8gR

Seanna Adcox

Gov. Nikki Haley touts last year's transportation law among the accomplishments of her first term, saying it

provided the largest funding for roads in two decades - without raising a penny in taxes. That stipulation is the only hint she's given for the infrastructure funding plan she pledges to release in January.

Note: "A billion dollars for our roads and bridges, orange cones are going up everywhere, and we did it without raising taxes!" she said at stop after stop along her campaign bus tour.

Associated Press: A look at projects funded by SC roadwork law

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

Gov. Nikki Haley said along the campaign trail that last year's law generated \$1 billion for roadwork, leading to the "orange cones" she saw up and down South Carolina's roadways. Those pushing for far more funding note that billion dollars comes over a decade. It's also unclear whether any roadwork it funds is currently underway.

Times of India: Sikh priest gives his sword to Nikki Haley's husband, stirs row

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/nri/us-canada-news/Sikh-priest-gives-his-sword-to-Nikki-Haleys-husband-stirs-row/articleshow/45163269.cms>

Yudhivir Rana

A member of the Sikh clergy handing over his ceremonial sword to South Carolina governor Nikki Haley's husband here upset a number of people at the Golden Temple here on Saturday. Granthi of the Golden Temple, Giani Jaswinder Singh, handed over his 'siri sahib' to Michael Hayley during the couple's visit at the temple.

The State: The Buzz: Make friends like a pollster + Can you define "metacognition"?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/15/3814975/the-buzz-make-friends-like-a-pollster.html>

Jamie Self

Musical chairs in Haley camp. Gov. Nikki Haley went on a trade mission to India this week and took some staffers with her: her legislative director Katherine Veldran and Rob Godfrey, her now-former deputy campaign manager who before that was her official spokesman. Godfrey's new Haley-office job is "project-based employee." Godfrey was hired to help Haley with media relations on the trip, Haley spokesman Doug Mayer said.

Bluffton Today: Jasper County children 'missed out' for years

http://www.blufftontoday.com/hardeeville/2014-11-16/jasper-county-children-missed-out-years#.VGjEzPnF_4Y

Sarita Chourey

Jasper County schools have experienced those conditions and others, according court records accumulating for years ahead of Wednesday's Supreme Court decision, which found state leaders had failed to provide the county and other poor, rural districts with the opportunity to receive a "minimally adequate" education.

Note: Wednesday's 3-2 decision lists the defendants as Gov. Nikki Haley, Hugh K. Leatherman Sr., as President Pro Tempore of the state Senate and as a representative of the Senate; and James Lucas, as Speaker Pro Tempore of the state House of Representatives and as a representative of the House of Representatives.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Aiken Standard: How our state fits into a climate commitment

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20141116/AIK0201/141119652/1018/AIK02/editorial-how-our-state-fits-into-a-climate-commitment>

Editorial

The carbon emissions agreement proposed this week between the U.S. and China certainly has its flaws. In particular, it sets only modest targets for China, the world's biggest carbon dioxide polluter. Despite this, the pact sends a message internationally that reducing emissions needs to be a global priority.

Note: The law represents an opportunity to establish a long-term market for solar, and as S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley said during a press conference announcing signage of the bill, it also keep us in step with our neighboring states.

Note: "When you look at North Carolina and you look at Georgia, they've been doing pretty well when it comes to solar energy, and they don't have any more sun than we do," Haley said.

Post and Courier (Guest Column): Signs point toward road-funding reality

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141116/PC1002/141119486>

Ron Brinson

South Carolina's 121st General Assembly opens on Jan. 13. And it shouldn't take long to see how or if Gov. Nikki Haley and legislators are going to address the practical and political mindset issues that have navigated our state's roads and bridge infrastructure system into a trap of decline and inadequacy.

Times and Democrat: Court ruling is new opportunity for rural schools

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/court-ruling-is-new-opportunity-for-rural-schools/article_44050cbe-6d5c-11e4-a31a-1b1a64a853df.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: S.C. court ruling on education; OUR OPINION: Solution is more than more money for rural districts. The South Carolina Supreme Court's ruling for poor, rural school districts in a 21-year-old funding lawsuit is being cheered by the court itself as victory for the state's school children.

Note: Now that Gov. Nikki Haley has won re-election and has a second-term mandate from South Carolinians, her plan to assist students and teachers in rural school districts would be a good place to start.

Index-Journal: Justices' ruling right; time to focus on fix

<http://www.indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Justices--ruling-right--time-to-focus-on-fix>

Editorial

They took so long to rule on the case one would think South Carolina's Supreme Court justices are the ones in elected posts, but finally, after 21 years, the high court issued what will no doubt be a contentious ruling that will ripple across the state and leave many a lawmaker squirming and fretting about his own ability to be re-elected.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Court ruling must spur lawmakers to redesign school funding method

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20141116/OPINION/411161008/1128/opinion?Title=Court-ruling-must-spur-lawmakers-to-redesign-school-funding-method>

Editorial

Last week's state Supreme Court ruling should spur lawmakers to devise a new method for funding education in the Palmetto State. A new plan has been desperately needed for years. The current state funding formulas are based on the property tax, which, as it is applied to homes, isn't even used to fund school districts anymore.

Greenville News: Drop fight against gay marriage

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/11/15/editorial-drop-fight-gay-marriage/19090645/>

Editorial

South Carolina's constitutional ban on gay marriage fell last week when U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel of Charleston ruled that the U.S. Constitution provides same-sex couples with the right to marry. Gergel's decision was as expected as it is firmly grounded in constitutional law as it has evolved.

Note: South Carolina leaders, including Wilson and Gov. Nikki Haley, have an opportunity to provide leadership at this time by helping the people who elected them understand that this battle against gay marriage is over. And it is.

Post and Courier: Nuclear waste solution: Yucca revived

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141116/PC1002/141119483>

Editorial

In late October, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced without fanfare that Yucca Mountain meets the commission's standards for safe storage of nuclear waste. That significant finding took on new, momentous meaning on Election Day, when the Republican party gained control of the Senate, effective in January.

The State: Legislature must educate all SC children

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/15/3812253/editorial-legislature-must-educate.html>

Editorial

THROUGHOUT our history, we have failed to educate all of the children in our state. Early on, we didn't educate children who were black or poor. In the 20th century, we said we would educate all children. But we didn't really, not if they lived in poor districts, not in a way that would prepare them to become productive, taxpaying citizens.

Florence Morning News: Education ruling will test leadership in the legislature

http://www.snow.com/opinion/article_ae807234-6cff-11e4-9ea0-4b69328f4928.html

Editorial

In November 1993, 40 of what then were 91 school districts in South Carolina sued the state over funding. And then they waited ... and waited ... and waited. The "Corridor of Shame" came out in 2006. The provocative documentary highlighted the poor state of education in some of the poorest counties in the nation, along what largely is the Interstate 95 corridor.

The State: We don't play the race card often enough

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/16/3812255/bolton-we-dont-play-the-race-card.html>

Bolton

HERE I GO, playing the race card again. At least that's what some readers charge every time I even come close to broaching the subject of race. Many people don't want to talk about race. The mention of it draws the now worn-out retort, "You're playing the race card again."

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Post and Courier: Don't misspell Jim Clyburn

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141116/PC16/141119543>

Way to go, James Clyburn? The Outdoor Advertising Association of America has taken down - and apologized for - spelling Jim Clyburn's name incorrectly in a Columbia billboard put up after Clyburn breezed to victory on Nov. 4.

Should voters be able to vote anywhere? What if Charleston County voters could vote anywhere in the county on Election Day? Would it increase turnout? Reduce frustration? Make the election process run more smoothly?

Tim Scott picks up first 2016 endorsement: The 2014 elections are barely over but a leading conservative group already is generating support for Republican U.S. Sen. Tim Scott's re-election.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Sun News: Horry County legislators warn that gas tax talk is coming in 2015

[http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/11/15/4608043_horry-legislators-warn-gas-tax.html?](http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/11/15/4608043_horry-legislators-warn-gas-tax.html?sp=/99/209/&rh=1#storylink=cpy)

[sp=/99/209/&rh=1#storylink=cpy](http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/11/15/4608043_horry-legislators-warn-gas-tax.html?sp=/99/209/&rh=1#storylink=cpy)

Jason M. Rodriguez

Grand Strand legislators warn there will be a push for a motor fuel tax next legislative session to help bridge the gap of the state's road improvement needs and funding. Area legislators spoke at a luncheon hosted by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce and presented by the Coastal Carolina Association of Realtors last week and were pretty clear about one major topic on the agenda in 2015.

Bluffton Today: S.C. lawmakers balk at hospital-expansion deregulation

http://www.blufftontoday.com/bluffton-news/2014-11-16/sc-lawmakers-balk-hospital-expansion-deregulation#.VGjE4fnF_4Y

Sarita Chourey

The state health agency is proposing ways to reduce the need for a state permit when a medical facility purchases equipment or upgrades its buildings. South Carolina, like Georgia and the majority of states, requires a hospital to acquire a "certificate of need" as a way to prevent duplicate services from being concentrated in one location, to the deprivation of another area.

Note: If Wednesday's committee meeting was contentious, it paled next to the fallout of Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of nearly \$2 million that DHEC required to run the Certificate of Need program.

Rock Hill Herald: State Rep. Pope of York already thinking about 2018 gubernatorial election

http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/11/15/6529609_four-years-from-now-in-an-election.html?rh=1

Bristow Marchant

While many voters are glad to have the 2014 elections behind them, state Rep. Tommy Pope is already looking forward to the state's next big election. Nikki Haley earlier this month won a second four-year term as governor after a contentious campaign that ended with a 15-point victory.

Greenville News: Greenville looks to state lawmakers for road fix

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/11/16/greenville-looks-state-lawmakers-road-fix/19090463/>

Eric Connor, Robbie Ward

The narrative has been clear since the crushing defeat of the sales tax for roads: Greenville County voters didn't want it, by a 2-to-1 margin, and don't appear to have an appetite for another go at it anytime in the foreseeable future. In the county, in every municipality, in a majority of voting precincts, the penny sales tax that would have provided \$673 million to fix the area's substandard infrastructure failed.

Times and Democrat: Legislator shares his Vietnam War experience with students

http://thetandd.com/news/legislator-shares-his-vietnam-war-experience-with-students/article_7db829ba-6d38-11e4-a797-57e9c25152b2.html

Rep. Lonnie Hosey of S.C. House District 91 told students, staff and veterans gathered at Denmark-Olar Middle School on Tuesday to continue thanking veterans for their service. Hosey, who was the featured speaker at the school's Veterans Day program on Nov. 11, served in the United States Marine Corps from 1966-1969.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Junk food ban cuts into profits at some SC schools

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

Nathaniel Cary

A slew of volunteers man the Generals' Store at Wade Hampton High School, selling snacks to hungry high school students during breakfast and lunch hours. In the past, students have loaded up on the store's staple items - chips and candy bars - but this year those snacks are noticeably absent from the store.

The State: First new non-Common Core standards up for review

http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/15/3814707_first-new-non-common-core-standards.html?rh=1

Jamie Self

S.C. teachers soon will have new guidelines — replacing the controversial Common Core standards — for teaching reading and writing in classrooms from kindergarten through high school. But to read them, they will need to know what “metacognition” means – a word that appears dozens of times throughout the guidelines.

Post and Courier: Shortage of skilled laborers hitting construction industry

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141115/PC05/141119592>

Warren L. Wise

Hammers pound nails in new housing developments. Cranes hoist steel beams for new hotels. Commercial structures rise where empty lots once sprouted weeds. Throughout the Charleston area, construction activity has done a one-eighty since the stark years of the deep recession.

Greenville News: School prayer debate resumes in federal court

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/11/15/school-prayer-debate-resumes-federal-court/19121485/>

David Dykes

The American Humanist Association and Greenville County Schools have resumed their debate in federal court over the inclusion of school-sponsored prayers at an elementary school graduation that the association said violated the First Amendment.

Post and Courier: Pastors plan more active 'stand' on moral issues

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141116/PC1603/141119605>

Jeremy Borden

Charleston pastor Kevin Baird and other evangelical Christians say they will be more outspoken during the coming legislative session about what they see as persistent attacks on morality and their values.

Post and Courier: Pro-Interstate 526 group unfazed by project delays

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141115/PC16/141119470>

Diane Knich

Charlestonians for I-526 is a Facebook group launched in 2012 that supports the completion of the highway across Johns and James islands. The page now has more than 7,000 likes. Brad Taggart, a purchasing

analyst from Johns Island and one of the group's administrators, answered some questions about the group.

Post and Courier: Cost of I-526 road maintenance swap would fall to Charleston County taxpayers

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141115/PC16/141119468>

Diane Knich

Charleston County residents were told they wouldn't be on the hook for any of the costs associated with the completion of Interstate 526. But county leaders now have agreed to take over the maintenance of 37 miles of state roads at nearly \$1 million per year in exchange for the state Department of Transportation maintaining the 8-mile highway extension.

Local News:

Sun News: Myrtle Beach metro area sees one of nation's highest rates of job growth

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/11/16/4608547/myrtle-beach-metro-area-sees-one.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Steve Jones

The Myrtle Beach Metropolitan Area had the sixth highest rate of job growth in the U.S. between August 2013 and August this year, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and some say the surge seems to have spread through the economy better than in the past, when such a spurt would have been limited mostly to businesses that catered to the area's huge tourism industry.

Associated Press: Water bottling plant to bring 50 jobs to McBee

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tqq4D4Ut

A new \$40 million water bottling plant is expected to bring as many as 50 new jobs to Chesterfield County in a little more than a year. County economic development officials announced in a release on Friday that Nestlé Waters North America will build a 200,000-square-foot plant near McBee.

Aiken Standard: School District receives 'excellent' rating again

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20141116/AIK0101/141119580/1004/school-district-receives-excellent-rating-again>

Rob Novit

For the second straight year, the Aiken County School District has received an "excellent" rating on the State Department of Education's report cards. That rating indicates the District is substantially higher than the standard for progress in South Carolina.

Florence Morning News: Florence County fire districts putting new funds to good use

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_465ab14c-6d18-11e4-8bde-d3583e5e2575.html

Gavin Jackson

One of the most critical aspects of the Florence County unified fire protection district is its ability to pay firefighters such as Stephen Joyner in Sardis-Timmonsville or Chris Humphries in Johnsonville to be at the station during the daytime with others.

The State: Richland 2 task force to examine discipline policy, expulsions of black students

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/15/3814751/richland-2-task-force-to-examine.html#storylink=cpy>

Carolyn Click

A 53-member community task force has started work in Richland School District 2 to examine a thorny question: Why does it seem that so many of the school district's black male students are suspended or expelled from school?

National News:

Associated Press: Obama accuses Putin of not living up to ceasefire

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/AS_UNITED_STATES_EUROPE_RUSSIA?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-11-15-18-45-25

Julie Pace

President Barack Obama on Sunday bluntly accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of not living up to a cease-fire agreement in Ukraine, but offered no new plans for how the West might change his calculus. Obama spoke shortly after huddling with European leaders to discuss the conflict and worsening security situation.

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