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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, May 6, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: SC Senate considers plan with education increases

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=pC2udbCf

Seanna Adcox

The South Carolina Senate is taking up a budget plan which expands 4-year-old kindergarten and school reading initiatives but de-prioritizes money to local governments.

Note: Like the House plan, it provides \$30 million for reading coaches in elementary schools, an additional \$4.5 million for summer reading programs and \$30 million for school technology. Those were part of Gov. Nikki Haley's suggestions.

Associated Press: Officials: Freeze means \$27M in SC peach losses

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=jFhO5fe3

Officials say a late March freeze that killed roughly 30 percent of this year's South Carolina peach crop will cause statewide losses of at least \$27 million, officials said Monday.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley also visited the Johnston orchards to see the damage from the freeze that hurt early-ripening peaches in Aiken, Edgefield and Saluda counties.

Area Development: Trelleborg Wheel Systems Invests \$50 Million To establish Spartanburg, South Carolina, Facility

<http://www.areadevelopment.com/newsitems/5-6-2014/trelleborg-wheel-systems-manufacturing-facility-spartanburg-south-carolina389342.shtml>

Leading global supplier of off-road tires, Trelleborg Wheel Systems, selected Spartanburg, South Carolina, for the company's North American manufacturing facility that will produce radial tires for agricultural machinery.

Note: "Trelleborg has facilities all over the world and they chose to build this new facility in South Carolina - that says a lot about our workforce and business environment. We have a strong partnership with Trelleborg and that's obvious through their decision to bring Trelleborg Wheel Systems to the Palmetto State. We congratulate them on their decision to invest \$50 million and create 150 new jobs in Spartanburg County," said Governor Nikki Haley.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: European tiremaker investing \$50M in Spartanburg County plant, creating 150 jobs

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140506/ARTICLES/140509781/1083/ARTICLES?p=1&tc=pg>

Trevor Anderson

A European tiremaker plans to tread new territory in Spartanburg County. Italy-based Trelleborg Wheel Systems Inc. announced Tuesday it will build its first manufacturing facility for agricultural tires in North America, a \$50 million investment that is expected to create 150 jobs by 2018.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

The State: SC GOP unhappy about Tom Ervin speaking to Republican club

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430322/sc-gop-unhappy-about-tom-ervin.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/1084/>

Andrew Shain

S.C. GOP party leaders did not want petition gubernatorial candidate Tom Ervin to speak to a group of Richland and Lexington county Republicans on Tuesday. State GOP Chairman Matt Moore said his staff called organizers of the First Tuesday Republican Club of Richland and Lexington Counties about their concerns over Ervin.

The State: Richard Cash touts anti-abortion protest arrests in new TV ad

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430385/richard-cash-touts-anti-abortion.html?sp=99/132/312/169/1084/#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

U.S. Senate hopeful Richard Cash announced a new television ad Tuesday touting his ten arrests as an abortion protester. The ad, which begins with a montage of Cash in prison, starts running Tuesday in Charleston, Columbia, Greenville and Myrtle Beach, and will hit cable markets tomorrow.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: Update on the legislative emasculate-the-attorney-general effort

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430050/update-on-the-legislative-emasculate.html#storylink=cpy>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

There never was any real danger that the Legislature would emasculate the attorney general; even if House Speaker Bobby Harrell's friends had managed to get their legislation to do that through the House, the Senate wouldn't have gone along.

S.C. Agency News:

Post and Courier: S.C. Insurance Director: Residents enrolled through Obamacare lower than federal estimate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140506/PC16/140509613/1006/sc-insurance-director-residents-enrolled-through-obamacare-lower-than-federal-estimate>

Lauren Sausser

Last week, the federal government reported that more than 118,000 residents in this state enrolled in a policy between Oct. 1 and mid-April. But S.C. Insurance Department Director Ray Farmer said Tuesday the true number of people actually enrolled is much lower.

Legislative Session News:

SCRN: Harrell says he is being targeted to weaken Charleston influence in Statehouse

<http://www.southcarolinaradionetwork.com/2014/05/06/harrell-says-he-is-being-targeted-to-weaken-charleston-influence-in-statehouse/>

Matt Long

As he waits for a judge to rule on a possible ethics investigation against him, South Carolina House Speaker Bobby Harrell went on the offensive Monday. The powerful Republican told his hometown Charleston station WTMA on Monday that he believes the investigation is politically motivated by those who want him out of the Speaker's position.

The State: Richland legislators call Thursday meeting to interview elections board applicants

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430290/richland-legislators-call-thursday.html#storylink=cpy>

Dawn Hinshaw

A committee of Richland legislators meets Thursday to nominate five members for the county elections board. Rep. Jimmy Bales, chairman of the delegation appointments committee, said he expects the group to interview 25 to 30 candidates and to submit five names to the full delegation for consideration next week.

The State: Hearing set for second ethics complaint against ex-Sen. Robert Ford

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430612/senate-panel-schedules-hearing.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

The S.C. Senate Ethics Committee has scheduled a hearing in the matter of ex-Sen. Robert Ford, the Charleston Democrat who resigned last year amid accusations that he used his campaign account to buy items from a sex shop and pay personal expenses.

Post and Courier: Hearing date set in Robert Ford ethics case

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140506/PC1610/140509569/1177/hearing-date-set-in-robert-ford-ethics-case>

Schuyler Kropf

Former state senator Robert Ford of Charleston will face a lingering ethics complaint next week, even

though he resigned from the Senate almost a year ago. The S.C. Senate Ethics Committee has set a hearing date for next Wednesday, May 14, in Columbia to address a complaint filed in January.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Washington Post: The undercover senator: Tim Scott goes anecdote shopping in South Carolina
http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/the-undercover-senator-sen-tim-scott-goes-anecdote-shopping-in-south-carolina/2014/05/06/98e534b0-cbb9-11e3-93eb-6c0037dde2ad_story.html

Ben Terris

There's a new volunteer at the Goodwill clearance center, and there's a lot to learn. He's told to toss anything that requires an outlet, to put purses in their own box, and to never throw away a Bible. His guide for the morning, James Copeland, has been working at this warehouse for the past five years. Copeland, who's missing a finger, came here straight from prison.

South Carolina News:

Rock Hill Herald: 1,500 jobs coming to Chester County

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/05/06/5936539/1500-jobs-coming-to-chester-county.html?sp=/100/101/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

Chester County is negotiating with a company that could invest up to \$500 million and create 1,500 jobs, according to county officials. The County Council gave initial approval Monday to an ordinance that would create a fee-in-lieu-of tax arrangement and transfer land to the company.

Associated Press: Lois West, widow of SC Gov. John West, dies

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IZDGg6VL

Lois West, the 92-year-old widow of former South Carolina Gov. John C. West, has died. Jack West says his mother died suddenly Tuesday morning at her home on Hilton Head Island. West said his mother had suffered heart problems. He said a funeral will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Camden.

The State: Winthrop alum Lois Rhame West, former SC first lady and 'bright light,' dies

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430155/winthrop-alum-lois-rhame-west.html?sp=/99/132/#storylink=cpy>

Lois Rhame West, an alumna of Winthrop University and a longtime advocate for wellness, physical fitness and health care policies, has died. She was 92. The Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education, and Wellness Center on the Winthrop campus is named for the wife of the late Gov. John C. West, who also served as U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Greenville News: BMW profits top analysts' expectations

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/05/06/bmw-profits-top-analysts-expectations/8762513/>

Woody White

BMW chairman Norbert Reithofer said Tuesday the company plans to roll out the updated X3 sports activity vehicle this month, followed by the new X4 sports activity coupe in July. Reithofer made the announcement as BMW released first-quarter financials, a rosy report that showed an earnings rise of 11 percent that beat analysts' expectations.

Greenville News: Haworth Inc. pledges \$3M gift to help Clemson center

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3429811/haworth-inc-pledges-3m-gift-to.html#storylink=cpy>

The partnership between Clemson and the international company in furniture and organic workspace design and products is a comprehensive engagement in collaborative research activities, product use and demonstration, and philanthropic support, university officials said.

Associated Press: Charges dropped against South Carolina Medicaid protesters

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140506/PC1603/140509619/1031/charges-dropped-against-south-carolina-medicaid-protesters>

Charges have been dropped against more than two dozen people arrested or ticketed while protesting South Carolina's decision to reject federal money to expand Medicaid. South Carolina Progressive Network

director Brett Bursey said city prosecutors on Tuesday dropped charges against 27 people detained during several weeks of protests at the Statehouse.

Local News:

Post and Courier: Dorchester County faces funding cuts in new budget

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140506/PC16/140509576/1006/dorchester-county-faces-funding-cuts-in-new-budget>

Taylor Griffith

Dorchester County, like most counties and municipalities across the state, is looking at state funding cuts, which will slash its new budget by about \$400,000. In the first reading on Tuesday of the \$103,880 budget for 2014-2015, local council members said the continued reduced funding from the state was starting to hurt the bottom line.

The State: Richland thinks big with list of new tourist attractions

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/05/3429143/richland-thinks-big-with-list.html?sp=/99/205/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Dawn Hinshaw

Consultants outlined a set of five new tourist attractions Monday for Richland County Council, projects including what would be the largest water park in S.C. and an arena with more basketball courts than anywhere else in the southeastern U.S.

The State: City homeless shelter's life extended until July

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/06/3430433/city-homeless-shelters-life-extended.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

Columbia's homeless shelter will stay open until into the summer – until July 6 – at a cost of \$331,000, City Council decided Tuesday. Council voted 7-0. No second vote is required. The cost includes spending \$206,000 to install an air-conditioning system for the shelter, which is near the city's water plant, at the Columbia Canal in the Vista.

National News:

Associated Press: Dems open door to taking part in Benghazi probe

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_BENGHAZI_ATTACK?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-05-06-14-10-55

Bradley Klapper, Donna Cassata

House Democrats opened the door Tuesday to participating in a special panel's investigation of the deadly attack in Benghazi, Libya, even if they see it as little more than an election-year ploy by Republicans to discredit the Obama administration and motivate GOP voters.

FiveThirtyEight: Are Democrats in Worse Shape Than They Were in 2010?

<http://fivethirtyeight.com/datalab/democrats-generic-ballot-republicans-2010-2014/>

Harry Enton

The Pew Research Center released a survey Monday showing Republicans leading the generic House ballot among registered voters by 4 percentage points, 47 percent to 43 percent. The poll is more optimistic for the GOP than any other recent national survey.

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