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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Tuesday, April 1, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WBTW: Copac Expands Spartanburg County Operations

<http://www.wbtw.com/story/25127633/copac-expands-spartanburg-county-operations>

Copac Global Packaging, a leading provider of packaging services to domestic and global customers, today announced the completion of its expansion at its Spartanburg County facility.

Note: "It's always great news when an existing business decides to continue growing and succeeding in our state. We congratulate Copac on their decision to invest \$14.8 million and create 32 new jobs in Spartanburg County." -Gov. Nikki Haley

Anderson Independent: Copac expands Spartanburg County operations

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/01/copac-expands-spartanburg-county-o-perations/>

Copac Global Packaging, a leading provider of packaging services to domestic and global customers, announced the completion of its expansion at its Spartanburg County facility. The \$14.8 million expansion is expected to create 32 new jobs.

Note: "It's always great news when an existing business decides to continue growing and succeeding in our state," said Gov. Nikki Haley. "We congratulate Copac on their decision to invest \$14.8 million and create 32 new jobs in Spartanburg County."

The State: Piedmont Medical Center awarded right to build Fort Mill hospital

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/01/3361236/piedmont-medical-center-says-it.html?sp=/99/132/#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

Piedmont Medical Center has been chosen by an administrative law judge to build a Fort Mill hospital. In a ruling released Tuesday, judge Phillip Lenski overturned a decision by the state Department of Health and Environmental Control to award a certificate of need to Carolinas HealthCare of Charlotte, parent company of Carolinas Medical Center.

Note: Also to be consider is Gov. Nikki Haley's veto last June of \$1.7 million in DHEC funding for the certificate of need program. Haley said the program restricts access to health care, drives down quality and drives up cost.

WMBF: Gov. Haley makes a stop on the 'BBQ Trail' in Florence

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/25130954/gov-haley-makes-a-stop-on-the-bbq-trail-sunday>

Governor Nikki Haley stopped by Cain's BBQ in Florence on Sunday, one of the stops on the "South Carolina BBQ Trail," according to her Facebook page.

Note: "Michael Haley and I tried a new BBQ restaurant traveling back from Dillon County yesterday. We had a great lunch at a family owned restaurant, Cain's BBQ in Florence. Great people, great BBQ!" the Facebook post states.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

The State: GOP challenger Tom Ervin calls Gov. Nikki Haley 'deceitful'

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/01/3361444/gop-challenger-tom-ervin-calls.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/>

Andrew Shain

Former state Rep. and judge Tom Ervin, who is seeking the GOP nomination for governor, said he offers leadership in the state lacking under Republican Gov. Nikki Haley.

Note: "We appreciate Mr. Ervin's desire for public service, but a trial lawyer and former Democratic lawmaker, who wants to raise taxes and embrace Obamacare, should probably be running in the Democrat primary," Haley campaign Rob Godfrey said. "Gov. Haley is focused on the legislative session, passing

historic education and ethics reforms, and keeping the fantastic economic and jobs momentum going."

Associated Press: Former judge explains why he's challenging Haley

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

Seanna Adcox

Former state House member and judge Tom Ervin said Tuesday the story of a 4-year-old boy who was beaten to death after being returned from foster care is part of what drove him to challenge Gov. Nikki Haley in a Republican primary.

Note: "We appreciate Mr. Ervin's desire for public service, but a trial lawyer and former Democratic lawmaker?, who wants to raise taxes and embrace Obamacare, should probably be running in the Democrat primary," Godfrey said.

Post and Courier: New Hampshire's Ayotte stumping for Graham at The Citadel

<http://politics.postandcourier.com/2014/04/01/new-hampshires-ayotte-stumping-for-graham-at-the-citadel/>

Schuyler Kropf

The U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham re-election campaign is sponsoring a free barbeque luncheon Friday at The Citadel with guest Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-New Hampshire. The event will be at 12:30 p.m. at The Citadel's Altman Athletic Center at Johnson Hagood Stadium. Ayotte is a Graham ally in the Senate.

Legislative Session News:

Greenville News: Senate panel to issue report today on state investment commission

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140401/NEWS03/304010159/Senate-panel-issue-report-today-state-investment-commission?nclick_check=1

Tim Smith

A Senate panel that looked at the commission overseeing the state's \$28 billion pension fund and its relationship with State Treasurer Curtis Loftis will issue its final report today, concluding at least in part that some of the treasurer's allegations are not true.

Greenville News: Pro-solar groups: Bill would allow Duke to monopolize solar energy

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140401/NEWS/304010118/Pro-solar-groups-Bill-would-allow-Duke-monopolize-solar-energy>

Nathaniel Cary

A bill that's been proposed in the state Senate would allow Duke Energy and other utilities in South Carolina to monopolize the sun's power and would stifle competition for rooftop solar, national solar business groups said Monday, though Duke Energy called the bill fair to all involved.

The State: Joe Scarborough visits Columbia, sparking 2016 talk

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/01/3361826/joe-scarborough-visits-columbia.html?sp=/99/132/312/169/#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

MSNBC talk show host Joe Scarborough visited Columbia on Tuesday stoking talk about a 2016 White House run that he has been trying to tamp down. He spoke at a S.C. GOP House caucus lunch, touting his new book, "The Right Path," and signed copies for lawmakers.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Associated Press: Lawmakers again call on Obama to keep MOX open

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1EAHs3Zf

Meg Kinnard

Lawmakers are again calling on the Obama administration to keep open a South Carolina facility to process weapons-grade plutonium into commercial reactor fuel, arguing that plans to close the plant would jeopardize an international nonproliferation agreement and could trigger millions in federal penalties.

Local News:

The State: Now-Columbia, ex-Georgetown County business recruiter charged with mispending public funds

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/01/3361712/now-columbia-ex-georgetown-county.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

Columbia's newly hired business recruiter has been charged with embezzling public money while he held the same post in Georgetown County. Wayne Gregory, 36, is in Richland County's Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center awaiting transfer to the coastal community for a bond hearing, according to a news release from the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office.

Post and Courier: Former Georgetown County economic development director arrested on embezzlement charges

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140401/PC16/140409934/1177/former-georgetown-county-economic-development-director-arrested-on-embezzlement-charges>

Dave Munday

Georgetown County's former economic development director has been arrested on embezzlement charges. Wayne Emerson Gregory Jr., 36, of Autumn Circle in Columbia is accused of diverting more than \$100,000 from the county for his own use, according to the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office.

Florence Morning News: Former Georgetown County official charged with embezzling more than \$100,000

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_150cea42-b9d1-11e3-8c55-0017a43b2370.html

Christopher McKagen

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) arrested a former county official Tuesday and charged the man with embezzling more than \$100,000 from the county for personal use. Wayne Emerson Gregory, 36, of Autumn Circle in Columbia will be booked at the Georgetown County Detention Center on Tuesday afternoon and charged with embezzlement of public funds over \$10,000.

Associated Press: Spartanburg company adding 32 jobs

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

A packaging company says it is expanding its Spartanburg operations, creating 32 new jobs. Copac Global Packaging said it is spending nearly \$15 million to expand its plant. The company says the 50,000-square foot expansion will allow it to increase productivity and add capacity.

Florence Morning News: Florence County School District Three holds public meeting on restructuring

http://www.scnow.com/newsandpost/news/article_0a53f23e-b9b9-11e3-9619-001a4bcf6878.html

Donna Tracy

Florence County School District Three held the first of two public meetings March 25 to explain the upcoming restructuring of the districts grade schools and answer any questions from the community. About three dozen community members including parents and teachers attended the informational meeting held by Dr. V. Keith Callicutt, district superintendent.

National News:

Associated Press: GOP's Small-State Edge Boosts Its Senate Hopes

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_GOP_SMALL_STATE_EDGE?](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_GOP_SMALL_STATE_EDGE?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-04-01-15-20-41)

[SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-04-01-15-20-41](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_GOP_SMALL_STATE_EDGE?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-04-01-15-20-41)

Charles Babington

Republican senators are entrenching themselves in small states that elected Democrats a few years ago, brightening the GOP's future if Americans continue their trend of voting for the same party in Senate and presidential races. The Senate's make-up has always given disproportionate power to less populous states.

Associated Press: Ryan unveils House GOP budget, claiming balance

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/01/ryan-unveils-house-gop-budget-claiming-balance/?partner=RSS>

Andrew Taylor

House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan unveiled an updated Republican budget plan Tuesday that would slash \$5.1 trillion in federal spending over coming decade and promises to balance the government's books with wide-ranging cuts in programs like food stamps and government-paid health care for the poor and working class.

Brian Symmes

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