

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Wednesday, April 30, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: Politicians, activists, victims celebrate Emma's Law at State House

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3418506/gathering-of-republicans-democrats.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

More than 100 people gathered in the State House downstairs lobby Wednesday to celebrate the passage and signing of Emma's Law, the first bill the Legislature has passed in years targeting drunk drivers.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, who signed the bill several weeks ago, performed a ceremonial signing and gave two pens she used to David and Karen Longstreet, the parents of 6-year-old Emma Longstreet of Lexington, who was killed by a drunk driver in 2012 on her way to church.

Note: Haley gave a third pen to LaToya Jenkins, the mother of 3-year-old Josiah Jenkins, who was killed earlier this year in a car crash caused by a man police say was a repeat drunk driver.

Associated Press: SC agency makes early debt payment

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

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina's unemployment agency announced Wednesday that it made a \$60 million early payment toward its debt to the federal government, helping to reduce businesses' insurance taxes.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley also attributed the early payment to a better economy, saying it's "exactly what is possible when a state sees the kind of economic growth and success that we have." The state's unemployment rate fell to 5.5 percent in March.

The State: SC's plunging jobless rate helps agency pay down massive debt

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3417993/sc-jobless-agency-paying-down.html?sp=/99/101/#storylink=cpy>

As more people in South Carolina find jobs, the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce is whittling down the debt it took on during widespread unemployment in the worst recession in a lifetime.

Note: "With our unemployment rate at a six year low and more people working than ever before, it's clear we are moving in the right direction and today's announcement is further proof that it's paying off for the people of our state," Haley said.

Greenville News: Simpsonville Mayor Perry Eichor faces charges

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2014/04/30/simpsonville-mayor-perry-eichor-faces-charges/8515023/>

Nikki Withington

Simpsonville Mayor Perry Eichor was arrested April 22 in another dramatic turn of events for a city that has been rocked by administrative unrest for more than a year. "I'm glad I got out when I did," former Simpsonville resident Sara Church said.

Note: The mayor will be suspended from serving once Haley's office receives paperwork of an indictment, Haley spokesman Doug Mayer said.

Associated Press: State panel approves \$33 million in SC projects

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

State officials have given final approval to \$33 million worth of athletic projects at South Carolina, including redoing the plaza around football's Williams-Brice Stadium.

The State: Gov. Haley appoints new coroner for Lexington Co.

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3418426/governor-appoints-william-earl.html#storylink=cpy>

Cassie Cope

Gov. Nikki Haley appointed William "Earl" Wells as Lexington County coroner on Tuesday. Wells will succeed longtime Coroner Harry O. Harman who died on April 18, after 37 years in office. Wells, of 612 Garmony Road, near Irmo, is a temporary replacement until the next general election.

S.C State News:

SCRN: State approves loan to SC State, so long as lawmakers have more control

[http://www.southcarolinaradionetwork.com/2014/04/30/haley-leverages-loan-to-sc-state-to-set-tougher-oversight/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=Feed:+SouthCarolinaRadioNetwork+\(South+Carolina+Radio+Network\)](http://www.southcarolinaradionetwork.com/2014/04/30/haley-leverages-loan-to-sc-state-to-set-tougher-oversight/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=Feed:+SouthCarolinaRadioNetwork+(South+Carolina+Radio+Network))

Ashley Byrd

The state Budget and Control Board voted Wednesday to give \$6 million to SC State University, on the condition that the school give the Governor's Office and legislators more of a controlling hand in its finances.

Note: Haley defended her plan to have accountants and consultants work with the college's administration to correct problems. "You can all this a Band Aid or not, this is the matter of fact of are they going to get their accreditation," Haley shot back. "We won't be able to recover if they lose their accreditation... and we are asking for accountability in return."

Post and Courier: South Carolina State University's \$6 million emergency loan comes with conditions

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140430/PC1610/140439960/1177/south-carolina-state-universitys-6-million-emergency-loan-comes-with-conditions>

Jeremy Borden

South Carolina's only public historically black college received an emergency loan of \$6 million Wednesday with conditions that the state have more control over the school's spending and work with the college to attain better management.

Note: Haley said that more than 80 percent of the loan is to pay outstanding bills for basic maintenance and food service on campus. "These are essential services. This is food, this is maintenance. The thing we can do is get them moving again," Haley said.

The State: SC State University receives \$6 million state loan

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3418004/sc-state-receives-6-million-loan.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

S.C. State University, which could run out of money next month, received a \$6 million loan Wednesday from the state that will help cover part of a \$13.6 million cash shortfall.

Note: With dozens of S.C. State trustees, administrators and supporters filling the budget board meeting room Wednesday, Haley said she wanted to help the school repair its finances while working with accreditors, who placed a warning on the university. "We can't leave the school alone to figure this out," she said. "We have to be part of the solution."

Associated Press: Budget board approves \$6M loan to SC State

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=wJzoN6kT

Seanna Adcox

The Budget and Control Board has approved a \$6 million loan to keep South Carolina State University afloat. President Thomas Elzey called Wednesday's 3-1 vote a lifeline that will help the state's only public historically black university continue to tread water. He had requested a nearly \$14 million to pay bills that began piling up in October.

S.C. Political News:

The State: RedState's Erick Erickson endorses Det Bowers in US Senate race

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3418075/redstates-erick-erickson-endorses.html>

Jamie Self

U.S. Senate hopeful Det Bowers on Wednesday picked up an endorsement from Erick Erickson, Fox News contributor and Editor-in-Chief of RedState, a conservative grassroots website.

S.C. Agency News:

Associated Press: Sheriff: DSS didn't follow up on complaint

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=kMq639vP

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott says social workers trying to find the mother of a 5-month-old child who died from an unmonitored heart condition waited weeks before contacting the medical professional who made the complaint to them.

Greenville News: Woman charged in DSS death

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2014/04/30/woman-charged-dss-death/8505063/>

Tim Smith

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott said today that if state Department of Social Services workers had done more to find a five-month-old child, the child might still be alive. DSS officials have said they tried repeatedly to find the child and its family after opening an investigation in early March but did not locate the family until April 25, three days after the child died.

Post and Courier: Sheriff: DSS 'never followed up' on complaint of infant's medical care

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140430/PC1603/140439924/1177/sheriff-dss-never-followed-up-on-complaint-of-infants-medical-care>

Cynthia Roldan

It took the Department of Social Services 49 days to reach out to a medical professional, who called with reports that an infant was not receiving proper medical care, according to information revealed during a continuing investigation by law enforcement.

Legislative Session News:

Associated Press: SC Black Caucus: Eckstrom needs to apologize

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6BzNoS3W

Seanna Adcox

The South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus says the state's top accountant needs to apologize to the students and alumni of South Carolina State University for offensive comments. Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom said Wednesday that South Carolina State can't rely on its students to bail out the university from its debt.

The State: Black lawmakers ask SC comptroller general to apologize for remarks

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3418538/black-lawmakers-ask-sc-comptroller.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

Black lawmakers want S.C. Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom to apologize for saying many students attend S.C. State University because they could not afford to go elsewhere. Some of the more than 30 S.C. State supporters attending the Budget and Control Board meeting in Columbia started groaning and with some shouting "no" at Eckstrom.

Times and Democrat: Sellers files bill to add students to college boards

http://thetandd.com/news/sellers-files-bill-to-add-students-to-college-boards/article_516b532a-d006-11e3-8d61-001a4bcf887a.html

Bamberg County Rep. and lieutenant governor candidate Bakari Sellers, alongside Reps. Joshua Putnam, R-Anderson, and Leon Stavrinakis, D-Charleston, filed the Student Empowerment in College Governance Act, which would add two student members to each public universities' board of trustees.

The State: SC soldier shares Holocaust remembrances as exhibit opens

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/29/3417113/sc-soldier-shares-holocaust-remembrances.html#storylink=cpy>

Jeff Wilkinson

In April 1945, near the end of World War II, U.S. Army paratroopers commanded by T. Moffatt Burriss, a young lieutenant from Anderson, helped liberate a concentration camp near Wobbelin, Germany. A U.S. Jewish soldier recently assigned to Burriss' company had escaped from Austria after the German occupation and made his way to the United States.

Sun News: Brewpub bill that would allow for Stone Brewing Co. introduced in SC House

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/04/30/4197904/brewpub-bill-introduced-in-sc.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Steve Jones

A bill that would amend South Carolina's brewpub law so that Stone Brewing Co. could brew and sell its

beer at the same location was filed in the state House of Representatives on Wednesday. The bill is a duplicate of one introduced recently in the Senate.

Associated Press: SC 20-week abortion ban advances, with exceptions

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=N5PfmzEH

Andrew Coffman Smith

Legislation banning and criminalizing abortions after 19 weeks in South Carolina has advanced in the state Senate. A panel voted 4-1 on Wednesday to advance the bill after amending it to exclude cases of rape, incest, fetal anomaly and where the life of the mother is in danger.

South Carolina News:

The State: Florida company one step closer to operating Charleston law school

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/30/3417988/sc-regulator-staff-recommends.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

Staff at the S.C. Commission of Higher Education has recommended granting Infilaw a license to operate the private Charleston School of Law, according to a report released Wednesday. The commission that regulates S.C. colleges is scheduled to vote on the license Thursday.

Post and Courier: Commission on Higher Education staff: Grant InfiLaw a license to operate Charleston School of Law

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140430/PC16/140439969/1006/commission-on-higher-education-staff-grant-infilaw-a-license-to-operate-charleston-school-of-law>

Diane Knich

Staff at the state's Commission on Higher Education has recommended granting InfiLaw System a license to run the Charleston School of Law. The commission will consider the staff's report and recommendation at its meeting Thursday in Columbia. It then could vote on whether to grant a license to InfiLaw.

National News:

CNN: GOP has intensity edge right now

<http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2014/04/30/gop-has-intensity-edge-right-now/>

Paul Steinhauser

With just over six months to go until November's midterm elections, two new national polls suggest Republicans have an enthusiasm edge over Democrats. And in midterm contests, which traditionally have a much lower turnout than presidential elections, getting out the base is crucial.

Wall Street Journal: White House, Critics Duel Over Latest Benghazi Documents

http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2014/04/30/white-house-critics-duel-over-latest-benghazi-documents/?mod=WSJ_Politics_Blog

Siobhan Gorman

White House documents obtained under court order and released Wednesday provide new evidence of high-level White House concern over fallout from anti-American protests that were underway around the time of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack that killed a U.S. ambassador and three other U.S. citizens in Benghazi, Libya.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437