

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips - Thursday, December 12, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

CNN: Ann Romney: 'It's too bad the election isn't today'

<http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2013/12/11/ann-romney-its-too-bad-the-election-isnt-today/>

Dana Davidzen

The wife of former Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney said she and her husband have moved on from last year's election. "We don't look back," Ann Romney said in an interview with CNN's Wolf Blitzer airing on the "Situation Room" Wednesday. "Neither one of us ever look back."

Note: She also ticked through a list of woman she believes would serve the Republican party well in the 2016 presidential election, including Republicans Sen. Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez.

Greenville News: McCall Farms to expand in Florence, hire 140

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013312120045&nclink_check=1

McCall Farms Inc., a producer of Southern canned and frozen vegetables in Florence County, announced an expansion today expected to generate a \$19.3 million investment and 140 new jobs over the next five years. Founded in 1838 as a 2,000-acre farm in Effingham, McCall Farms operated as a farm until 1954. Through hard work, innovative farming techniques and the fertile soil of Florence County, McCall Farms became well-known for bringing fresh Southern vegetables to dinner tables all across the South, said Gov. Nikki Haley's office.

Note: "It's exciting to see homegrown companies continue to prosper within our state borders," Haley said. "We applaud McCall Farms' expansion and the 140 new jobs it will bring to Effingham."

Associated Press: Michelin celebrates newest SC plant in Upstate

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0LdSFUR6

The first massive Michelin Earthmover tire is about to roll off the assembly line at the tire maker's new Anderson County plant. Michelin officials celebrated the completion of the plant in Starr on Thursday. The 12-foot tall, 5-ton tires are some of its most in-demand products for heavy equipment in mines, quarries and construction sites, with company officials saying they are often sold before they are produced.

Capt. Michael Haley returns from deployment to Afghanistan:

Associated Press: Gov. Haley's husband returns from Afghanistan (Received statewide coverage)

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Z1Yy2T4V

Susanne M. Schafer

Gov. Nikki Haley and family brushed aside tears Thursday as they embraced her husband upon his return from Afghanistan with some 40 fellow South Carolina Army National Guard soldiers. "Terrific!" Capt. Michael Haley said with a broad smile when queried how he felt as friends and reporters snapped photos of him, his wife, 12-year-old son Nalin, and 15-year-old daughter Rena. "We just got our Christmas gift!" said the governor, smiling but also wiping aside tears from both cheeks.

The State: Michael Haley's SC Guard unit returns to Columbia (Received statewide coverage)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/12/12/3155265/michael-haleys-sc-guard-unit-returns.html>

Andrew Shain

Capt. Michael Haley squeezed his son and daughter before reaching over for a long embrace with his wife, S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley, after returning home Thursday from a nearly year-long deployment in Afghanistan. "We just got our Christmas gift," Gov. Haley said after the couple kissed and she wiped away tears. Michael Haley said he felt "terrific" as he and more than 40 other members of his S.C. National Guard agriculture-training unit were welcomed by their families near the Columbia airport. Haley is the first spouse of a sitting

governor to deploy to a combat zone with the National Guard, the governor's office believes.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Greenville News: Budget deal includes Duncan proposal on Gulf drilling

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131212/news03/312120034/budget-deal-includes-duncan-proposal-gulf-drilling>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

The two-year bipartisan budget agreement moving through Congress this week includes a provision from Rep. Jeff Duncan to allow oil and gas drilling in the western Gulf of Mexico. The Obama administration negotiated a deal with Mexico to jointly open about 1.5 million acres to offshore drilling, but it needs congressional approval to take effect. Duncan's bill approving the drilling agreement passed the House in June. A similar version passed the Senate in October, but negotiations on a final bill were delayed.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: SC comptroller faces ethics hearing

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=QIV5KDyS

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina's top accountant is accused of using campaign money to accompany his girlfriend to the Republican National Convention last year. The state Ethics Commission found probable cause that Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom violated state ethics law. Documents obtained by The Associated Press on Thursday show he faces six charges of using campaign money for personal benefit. The Republican reported spending \$1,642 in campaign money for gasoline, food and the hotel stay during the GOP convention in Florida. Eckstrom's chief of staff Eddie Gunn contends the law allows for such political expenses.

Post and Courier: Boeing to add up to 400 jobs in North Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131212/PC05/131219806/1180/boeing-to-add-up-to-400-jobs-in-north-charleston>

Warren L. Wise

Boeing today announced it will establish technology research centers in Alabama, California, Missouri, South Carolina and Washington as it continues to lay the foundation for increased competitiveness and future growth. About 300 to 400 jobs are coming to North Charleston. The company will restructure its Boeing Research & Technology organization, the company's central research-and-development unit, through the establishment of research centers in Huntsville, Ala.; Southern California; St. Louis; North Charleston; and Seattle.

Greenville News: Michelin opens new plant in Starr

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131212/BUSINESS/312120043/Michelin-opens-new-plant-Starr?gcheck=1&nlick_check=1

Angelia Davis

Greenville-based Michelin North America marked the opening today of its newest manufacturing facility in South Carolina. The company's executives and employees were joined by dozens of dignitaries from across the state to celebrate the milestone just 17 months after breaking ground on the Anderson County facility, which will produce large tires for earthmoving equipment. The new facility, known as US10, is Michelin's 19th in North America and ninth in the state. It will produce large Earthmover tires — which can stand up to 13 feet tall and weigh up to 5.5 tons — for more than 1,300 mining operations around the world.

Greenville News (Video): Lawmakers: Road funding and ethics form on the table

http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131212/NEWS03/312120048/Lawmakers-Road-funding-ethics-form-table?gcheck=1&nlick_check=1

Rudolph Bell

Members of Greenville County's delegation to the state Legislature say they expect ethics reform and road funding to be among the big issues when lawmakers reconvene next month. They also predicted lots of campaigning with a race for chief justice of the state Supreme Court, one senator running for governor and another for U.S. Senate. Lawmakers briefed business leaders this morning during the Greenville Chamber's annual legislative breakfast at the Westin Poinsett Hotel downtown.

Post and Courier: Millions at stake for MUSC as state government considers changes to graduate medical education funds

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131212/PC16/131219803/1177/millions-at-stake-for-musc-as-state-government-considers-changes-to-graduate-medical-education-funds>

Lauren Sausser

The Medical University of South Carolina Board of Trustees chairman is worried that MUSC could lose millions of dollars if the state government moves forward with a plan to change the way it pays for medical residents and the attending physicians who train them. "Anytime we lose \$10 million, \$15 million, it's something to be very concerned about," said MUSC board Chairman Tom Stephenson, after a string of board committee meetings on Thursday. But the board has not considered cutting the number of medical residents that MUSC trains to control costs, he said. "I can't imagine we would cut residency slots. That's one of the last resorts."

Greenville News: 'Illegal exports' of Upstate BMWs, other luxury cars under investigation

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013312120031>

David Dykes

BMW said it has been working closely with federal authorities for almost two years to stop what they contend are illegal exports involving auto brokers of the company's vehicles from the United States, including some made in the Upstate. In an affidavit unsealed in federal court in support of seizure warrants, a U.S. Secret Service special agent said investigators have probed what they described as illegal smuggling of vehicles manufactured for sale inside the U.S. Asked if any criminal charges had been filed, a spokesperson for Bill Nettles, U.S. attorney for the District of South Carolina, declined to comment, citing pending actions.

National News:

Associated Press: House Republicans get behind budget agreement

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=fSULrqBp

Andrew Taylor

Speaker John Boehner sharply criticized outside conservative groups opposed to year-end budget legislation on Thursday and said the measure "takes great steps in the right direction." Hours before a scheduled vote on the bill, Boehner repeatedly denounced tea party-aligned organizations for their opposition, saying they were seeking to further their own objectives, not those of the Republican Party or the country. "Frankly, I think they're misleading their followers. I think they're pushing our members into places where they don't want to be. And frankly, I just think that they've lost all credibility," Boehner said at a news conference.

Associated Press: Gridlock in the Senate, progress in the House

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2kS6Y9AU

Laurie Kellman

A budget agreement between key Republicans and Democrats. Even President Barack Obama was on board. All without anyone threatening to repeal this or shut down that. Gridlock, however briefly, took an early holiday in the bitterly polarized, Republican-run House. But across the Capitol, the high-minded Senate remained in the grip of some of the worst partisan warfare in its history after majority Democrats curbed the Republicans' power. A round-the-clock talkathon is the result, putting no one in the mood for cooperation.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437