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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, October 22, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: State revenues on pace for \$260 million surplus

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article40886280.html>

Cassie Cope

State revenues posted a projected \$18 million surplus from July through September and timing issues could add another \$47.8 million to that surplus. If that growth continues, there could be about \$260 million more for lawmakers to spend when they return to Columbia in January. The surpluses would bring the state's total general fund budget to about \$7.9 billion.

Note: The increase in state revenues is driven by new jobs coming to the state, Rainwater said. More South Carolinians are finding good jobs, said Walldorf, who is appointed by Gov. Nikki Haley.

Area Development: Nupi Americas, Inc. Plans Manufacturing Facility In Early Branch, South Carolina

<http://www.areadevelopment.com/newsItems/10-22-2015/nupi-americas-hampton-county-south-carolina892383.shtml>

Nupi Americas, Inc., a North American subsidiary of Nupi Industrie Italiane, S.p.A., is establishing warehousing and distribution operations in Hampton County, South Carolina. The \$4.9 million investment is expected to create 37 new jobs over the next five years.

Note: "It truly is a reason to celebrate when a company decides to invest in one of our rural counties. We have always made it a priority to show the world that all of South Carolina is open for business, and Nupi America's investment in Hampton County does exactly that. We're thrilled to welcome Nupi America to the South Carolina family, and look forward to watching its operations in Hampton thrive and grow," said Governor Nikki Haley.

Hampton County Guardian: Nupi Americas, Inc. establishing operations in Hampton County

<http://www.hamptoncountygardian.com/news/2015-10-22/nupi-americas-inc-establishing-operations-hampton-county#.VillU36rS70>

Nupi Americas, Inc., a North American subsidiary of Nupi Industrie Italiane, S.p.A., is establishing warehousing and distribution operations in Hampton County. The \$4.9 million investment is expected to create 37 new jobs over the next five years. Established in 2001 and headquartered in Houston, Texas, Nupi Americas is a subsidiary of Nupi Industrie Italiane, S.p.A., which has been manufacturing and marketing the NIRON product line since 1982.

Note: "It truly is a reason to celebrate when a company decides to invest in one of our rural counties. We have always made it a priority to show the world that all of South Carolina is open for business, and Nupi America's investment in Hampton County does exactly that. We're thrilled to welcome Nupi America to the South Carolina family, and look forward to watching its operations in Hampton thrive and grow." –Gov. Nikki Haley

S.C. Political News:

Post and Courier: Democrat Martin O'Malley talks gun control in North Charleston

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC1603/151029769>

Schuyler Kropf

With Vice President Joe Biden and former U.S. Sen. James Webb dropping out of contention this week, trailing Democratic presidential candidate Martin O'Malley has a chance to make a dent among South Carolina party members looking for options. On Thursday, the former Maryland governor made his first trip to the Charleston region since entering the White House race, using his time to focus on gun control and what he said was a new round of needed and sensible ownership reforms.

The State: SC's Sheheen to co-chair Martin O'Malley's state presidential campaign

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article40872228.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

South Carolina's 2014 Democratic candidate for governor is backing Martin O'Malley's underdog bid for the presidential nomination. State Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Kershaw, will serve as O'Malley's state campaign co-chair, the campaign announced Thursday.

Note: The former chairman of the Democratic Governors Association campaigned with Sheheen in his failed bid last year to unseat Republican Gov. Nikki Haley. Sheheen also ran unsuccessfully against Haley in 2010.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Post and Courier: Sen. Tim Scott to visit Guantanamo Bay terrorist prison site

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC1603/151029790>

Schuyler Kropf

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott will tour the terrorist prison camp at Guantanamo Bay in the coming days for an in-person look at the lockup the Obama administration wants to close and send up to 50 of the inmates to the U.S. mainland, possibly including the Navy brig in Hanahan.

Aiken Standard: Obama veto stalls bill that funds Savannah River Site MOX project

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20151022/AIK0101/151029803/1004/obama-veto-stalls-bill-that-funds-savannah-river-site-mox-project>

Derrek Asberry

A final showdown to fund the MOX project and other items in the federal defense bill was set up Thursday when President Barack Obama vetoed the bill due to higher spending levels. Congress sent the bill to Obama's desk Tuesday afternoon after passing it earlier in the month.

Associated Press: Clinton defends herself on Benghazi as GOP probes her record

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article40821450.html>

Bradley Klapper, Matthew Daly

Hillary Rodham Clinton firmly defended her record before, during and after the Benghazi attacks as she came face-to-face Thursday with the Republican-led special investigation of the 2012 violence in Libya, hoping to put to rest the worst episode of her tenure as secretary of state and clear an obstacle to her presidential campaign.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: South Carolina insurer shutting down, blames drop in Obamacare payments

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC05/151029792>

John McDermott

A North Charleston-based health insurance company that provides medical coverage for about 67,000 individuals and small businesses in South Carolina is closing because of changes to the Affordable Care Act. Consumers' Choice Health Insurance Company has agreed to a voluntary run-off and will not sell policies in 2016, the S.C. Department of Insurance said.

Greenville News: Consumers' Choice health plan shuts down

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/10/22/consumers-choice-health-plan-shuts-down/74387990/>

Liv Osby

Consumers' Choice Health Insurance Company will not offer coverage next year in the Health Exchange, leaving its 67,000 subscribers to find another plan next year, state insurance officials said Thursday. "They are in a financially hazardous condition," Ray Farmer, director of the state Department of Insurance, told The Greenville News.

Associated Press: Insurance carrier closing after Affordable Care Act changes

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Wiy62Cyj

A South Carolina health insurance company says it is closing because of changes in the Affordable Care Act leaving 67,000 individuals and businesses looking for new coverage. The state Insurance Department

announced Thursday that Consumers' Choice Health Insurance Co., a health insurance cooperative, will not sell policies in 2016.

Post and Courier: Century Aluminum says it may close Berkeley County smelter on Dec. 31

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC05/151029791>

John McDermott, Warren L. Wise

Century Aluminum stepped up its threat to mothball its Berkeley County smelter Thursday, notifying employees it will shut down the 600-worker metal plant Dec. 31, when its power contract with Santee Cooper expires. The state-owned electric utility said it was disappointed by the announcement but will continue to try to work out a deal to keep the Mount Holly site open, despite what it described as unreasonable demands from Century management.

Associated Press: Aluminum company says it may close South Carolina plant

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

Bruce Smith

Century Aluminum has notified the 600 workers at its Mount Holly aluminum smelter that it will close the plant by year's end unless it can reach a power transmission agreement with Santee Cooper, South Carolina's state-owned electric utility. Century, based in Chicago, said in a news release Thursday it has secured a contract with a third-party provider to supply the power if it can reach an agreement to transmit that power over Santee Cooper lines.

Post and Courier: Federal magistrate lowers bail to \$25,000 for Dylann Roof friend

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC1603/151029770>

Andrew Knapp, Cynthia Roldan

A federal magistrate on Thursday set \$25,000 bail for the friend of Dylann Roof's charged with not warning authorities of a scheme to shoot black people at Emanuel AME Church. Joseph "Joey" Meek, 21, had been jailed in lieu of \$100,000 bail since his arrest last month on charges of misprision of a felony and lying to federal agents.

The State: Judge gives Dylann Roof's friend Joey Meek reduced bond

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article40954368.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

The man who opened his doors to suspected Charleston church shooter Dylann Roof and later was charged with knowing what Roof planned and not telling authorities was given a reduced bond Thursday afternoon in Columbia.

Associated Press: Company investing \$5M, creating 37 jobs in Hampton County

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

A company that makes pipe is investing almost \$5 million in a new warehouse and distribution center in Hampton County, creating 37 new jobs. Nupi Americas, Inc. announced the investment on Thursday. The company makes a polypropylene pipe and fitting system used in plumbing and air conditioning systems.

The State: Darla Moore: 'You've got to focus on having your impact locally'

<http://www.thestate.com/news/special-reports/state-125/article40636194.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

The University of South Carolina's biggest benefactor made her fortune on Wall Street, but she never forgot her roots in a Pee Dee farming community. How could she. Her Southern style – being tough, yet feminine in the mold of Scarlett O'Hara – helped make her a star of leveraged buyouts and the first woman on the cover of Fortune magazine.

Local News:

Post and Courier: Mount Pleasant gets bond rating upgrade

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151022/PC16/151029768>

Robert Behre

This town has something else in common with the city of Charleston, aside from Charleston Harbor. They are the only two South Carolina cities with triple-A bond ratings from both Moody's and Standard and Poor's rating agencies. The town received word recently that Moody's Investors Service was raising its rate from Aa1 to Aaa —a step that will lower the town's cost to borrow money.

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