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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, April 25, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Sumter Item: McElveen touts initiative to expand kindergarten

http://www.theitem.com/news/local_news/mcelveen-touts-initiative-to-expand-kindergarten/article_a705d15d-2b5e-58a3-a6b1-d5fedb988ab4.html

Raytevia Evans

The South Carolina General Assembly is taking steps toward expanding education for kindergartners statewide. After the House passed Gov. Nikki Haley's K-12 Education Reform Initiative, it went to the state Senate, where Read to Succeed was added and passed back to the House in early April.

Note: "We've had some conversations with them, and so far it seems like everything is moving forward. Again, we watch it every day. My fingers are crossed, and I can tell you as we go around the state, teachers and principals are very excited about what this could mean for South Carolina," Haley said Wednesday. "I've seen that they've attached it. We did the 4K kindergarten for the poverty-stricken schools, and they wanted to add the 4K in there, too. We're not going to oppose that. It's something I've always supported, so we will do that."

Note: "We always tell the school districts just to be cautious of space and building and to make sure that before we do this, they're ready to take it on because there are some schools that are concerned about that," Haley said. "But as long as that education reform is in there, and they think they can take on the 4K, I think it shows that education is big part of South Carolina's budget this year. So we'll continue to push forward in hopes that we can change education once and for all this year."

The State: SC State could get cash, advisers

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/24/3407547/sc-state-could-get-cash-advisers.html>

Andrew Shain

State government leaders are working to get S.C. State University money before the school runs out of cash next month, including a plan to have other college presidents advise the school about how to deal with its financial problems.

Note: "The crisis at S.C. State University has reached a critical stage, and Gov. Haley's proposal is a way for this important institution to get back on its feet," Haley spokesman Doug Mayer said.

Times and Democrat: S.C. State nearing 'financial disaster'

http://thetandd.com/news/s-c-state-nearing-financial-disaster/article_bc596dae-cc2b-11e3-968f-001a4bcf887a.html

Gene Zaleski

South Carolina State is a month away from running out of money and is hoping state lawmakers will save the institution from "financial disaster," the description used Thursday by the university's budget committee chairman.

Note: Elzey said the last time the university officials presented their case to the General Assembly, Gov. Nikki Haley inquired as to where S.C. State's support resides.

Post and Courier: Health care-related company to bring 615 jobs to North Augusta

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140424/PC05/140429610/1010/health-care-related-company-to-bring-615-jobs-to-north-augusta>

Warren L. Wise

A firm connected to the health care industry will bring 615 jobs to Aiken County. Medac Inc., a provider of revenue cycle and practice management services and information products to anesthesia-related health care providers, plans to establish the company's headquarters in North Augusta.

Note: "We couldn't be more excited that Medac Inc. has decided to establish its company headquarters in South Carolina," Gov. Nikki Haley said. "(It) will have a positive impact on the whole of the state and

especially the local community."

Times and Democrat: Medac bringing headquarters to North Augusta: \$12 million investment, 615 jobs
http://thetandd.com/business/medac-bringing-headquarters-to-north-augusta-million-investment-jobs/article_9ab005e8-cbf2-11e3-bf3d-001a4bcf887a.html

Medac Inc., a provider of revenue cycle and practice management services and information products to anesthesia-related healthcare providers, plans to establish the company's headquarters in Aiken County.

Note: "We couldn't be more excited that Medac Inc. has decided to establish its company headquarters in South Carolina. Their \$12 million investment and 615 jobs they are bringing to the North Augusta area will have a positive impact on the whole of the state and especially the local community," Gov. Nikki Haley said.

Aiken Standard: Company relocating to North Augusta will bring 615 jobs

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140425/AIK0101/140429641/1004/company-relocating-to-north-augusta-will-bring-615-jobs>

Scott Rodgers

The curtain was lifted on Thursday to reveal a \$12 million investment and the creation of 615 jobs in Aiken County, courtesy of Medac, a provider of services and products to anesthesia-related health care providers. The partnership was brought about when the president and founder of Medac, Bijon Memar, received a call from Chris Schoen, managing principal of Greenstone Properties.

Rock Hill Herald: UC Synergetic makes \$2.2M investment for Fort Mill move

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/04/24/5900845/uc-synergetic-moving-to-fort-mill.html?sp=/100/101/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

UC Synergetic, an engineering and technical services company which supports power and communications utilities, is combining its Charlotte operations and moving to Fort Mill. UC Synergetic is investing \$2.2 million to purchase and upfit the former Springs Industries research and development building at 123 N. White St. as its corporation headquarters and engineering operations.

Note: The company's commitment to Fort Mill for the next 10 years is expected to have a positive impact on the development of technical talent and job creation in South Carolina, Gov. Nikki Haley said in a statement.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Post and Courier: South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley's campaign says contribution allegations by Democrats are a distraction

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140424/PC1603/140429628/1005/>

Cynthia Roldan

Hours after the chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party said there were new instances of "unethical activity" by Gov. Nikki Haley, the state ethics commission said one was a typo and the other wasn't a requirement.

Note: "As the ethics commission said today, there are no ethics violations here," said Rob Godfrey, Haley's campaign spokesman. "Today's press conference was nonsense, and nothing more than an attempt by Democrats to distract from the new revelations that Vince Sheheen makes money by getting reduced sentences for violent criminals, including those who victimize law enforcement, woman and children, and violent drug dealers."

Greenville News: Governor's race heats up with party chairs on attack

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/04/24/governors-race-heats-party-chairs-attack/8133015/>

Tim Smith

The race for governor is heating up and drawing fire from outside the state, as two campaign ads are being criticized as misleading and Democrats are alleging Gov. Nikki Haley's campaign has committed ethics infractions.

Note: Haley campaign spokesman Rob Godfrey called the Democrats' accusations "nonsense, and nothing more than an attempt by Democrats to distract from the new revelations that Vince Sheheen makes money by getting reduced sentences for violent criminals, including those who victimize law enforcement, woman and children, and violent drug dealers."

Post and Courier: S.C. GOP defends advertisement criticizing Democratic gubernatorial candidate

Sheheen

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140424/PC1603/140429608/1031/sc-gop-defends-advertisement-criticizing-democratic-gubernatorial-candidate-sheheen>

Jeremy Borden

Matt Moore, chairman of the S.C. Republican Party, on Thursday defended a Republican Governors Association advertisement that has prompted criticism from lawyers across the country. In the ad, Democratic candidate Vincent Sheheen is criticized for "taking money" to defend clients who committed domestic assault and other crimes against women.

The State: Graham agrees to S.C. debate

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/24/3407792/graham-agrees-to-sc-debate.html>

Jamie Self

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has agreed to debate his June Republican primary challengers in an event hosted by Educational Television in collaboration with The State newspaper, The Greenville News and other state newspapers, ETV said Thursday.

Greenville News: Graham to debate primary rivals

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/04/24/graham-debate-primary-rivals/8132963/>

Woody White

Sen. Lindsey Graham will face his Republican primary challengers three days before the June primary in a debate put on by Educational Television in collaboration with The Greenville News, The State and other South Carolina newspapers.

Politico: Lindsey Graham foe: Children-loving women cause divorces

http://www.politico.com/story/2014/04/lindsey-graham-det-bowers-south-carolina-senate-2014-elections-106007.html?hp=t2_3

Manu Raju

Det Bowers, a pastor challenging Lindsey Graham in the South Carolina GOP Senate primary, once blamed women for causing most divorces — even when husbands are unfaithful to their wives. During a sermon on the Book of Peter delivered at the Christ Church of the Carolinas, Bowers said it was an "abominable idolatry" when wives love their children more than their husbands, arguing that's what causes divorces most of the time.

Greenville News: Graham Campaign Provides Health Insurance to Staff

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/2014/04/24/lindsey-graham-campaign-provides-health-insurance-to-staff/8119025/>

Mary Troyan

Sen. Lindsey Graham's re-election campaign provides health insurance for its 11 employees, an unusual benefit for people working jobs that last only as long as an election. Since the South Carolina Republican's campaign employs fewer than 50 people, it's not required by the Affordable Care Act to provide coverage for them.

Associated Press: SC Supreme Court: No Libertarian Party primary

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HWN5sv1o

Meg Kinnard

The state Supreme Court on Thursday upheld the law that governs how South Carolina's elections are conducted, dismissing the Libertarian Party's arguments against it - and potentially averting an Election Day disaster.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Get back to academic freedom basics

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140425/PC1002/140429596/1021/get-back-to-academic-freedom-basics>

Editorial

Maybe it's time for some members of the S.C. State Legislature to get teaching credentials. In February, the House voted to cut \$52,000 from the College of Charleston's budget to protest its choice of a summer reading assignment after Rep. Garry Smith, R-Simpsonville, said the book "goes beyond the pale of academic debate" and the college was "promoting the gay and lesbian lifestyle."

Post and Courier: Rewarding bad behavior at IRS

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140425/PC1002/140429597/1021/>

Editorial

Just by the nature of what it does, the Internal Revenue Service isn't held in high regard by American taxpayers. So who would be surprised if the agency felt the need to bolster the self-esteem of employees? But blue ribbons for everyone?

Legislative Session News:**Huffington Post:** South Carolina GOP Official Wants To Shut Down Grand Jury Investigating Him For Corruption

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/04/24/south-carolina-bobby-harrell_n_5201295.html

Andrew Perez

South Carolina's Republican state House speaker, who is facing a grand jury investigation on corruption allegations, wants a state court to end the probe and allow his colleagues to decide first if he has done anything wrong.

South Carolina News:**Greenville News:** Foreclosure sales up in Greenville, down across SC

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/04/24/foreclosure-sales-greenville-across-sc/8129961/>

Angelia Davis

Fewer homes sold across the state in the year's first quarter were foreclosure properties. RealtyTrac's Q1 2014 Residential & Foreclosure Sales Report shows that 5.9 percent of all homes sold in the state during that period were foreclosures. That's down from the 9.1 percent in first quarter 2013.

Greenville News: Partnership tackles doctor shortage

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/health/2014/04/24/ghs-ngu-launch-physician-assistant-program/8095321/>

Liv Osby

Greenville Health System and North Greenville University on Thursday announced a partnership to develop a physician assistant program that's designed to help allay the shortage of doctors and other health-care providers.

Powdersville Post: Congressman makes stop at Easley business

<http://www.powdersvillepost.com/news/news/4561990/Congressman-makes-stop-at-Easley-business>

D.C. Moody

U.S. Congressman Jeff Duncan made several stops around the upstate April 23, including Palmetto Plating in Easley as part of a business tour of his district and the discussions led to international affairs. The international community is having an impact on Palmetto Plating, prompting the global marketplace discussion.

Local News:**Anderson Independent:** Official says Oconee Nuclear Station protected against severe flood

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/24/official-says-oconee-nuclear-station-protected/?partner=RSS>

Ray Chandler

For the Oconee Nuclear Station to be seriously threatened by a flood, the Lake Jocassee dam would have to suddenly disappear or the area would have to receive about 48 inches of rain in 72 hours. That is nearly a year's average rainfall in three days.

The State: \$2.3 million federal grant announced for Columbia veterans nursing home

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/24/3407289/2-million-dollar-federal-grant.html?sp=99/132/#storylink=cpy>

A \$2.3 million construction grant has been awarded to the Stone Pavilion nursing home for veterans, U.S. Rep. James Clyburn announced Thursday. The Stone Pavilion, at 2200 Harden St., in Columbia, is one of three nursing homes for men and women who have served in the armed services statewide.

National News:

Wall Street Journal: Harry Reid Becomes a Republican Campaign Fixture

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304518704579521783441670214?mg=reno64-wsj>

Janet Hook

The Senate's top Democrat is playing a starring role in campaign ads and fundraising pitches across the country—but on behalf of Republicans. GOP leaders have launched a new effort to try to turn Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada into a political symbol of all that ails Washington, just as they did with House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California in past election years.

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