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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, April 22, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Times and Democrat : Local student regional winner in PalmettoPride art contest

http://thetandd.com/news/local-student-regional-winner-in-palmettopride-art-contest/article_be9101ac-a1b0-58f8-9ed3-993821f57ae7.html

A Bamberg student has been named one of four regional winners in PalmettoPride's 2015-2016 Litter Trashes Everyone Art Contest. Gracen Zeigler, a student at Richard Carroll Elementary School, was the Lowcountry Region winner. Gov. Nikki Haley announced the Litter Trashes Everyone Art Contest winners during a meet-and-greet at the South Carolina Statehouse yesterday. Anna Reedy from Cedar Grove Elementary School in Williamston took top honors as State Winner. Haley congratulated the students on their creativity and leadership in educating others about the effects of litter.

GSA Business: Manufacturer, educator, state jobs chief see progress

<http://gsabusiness.com/news/57457-manufacturer-educator-state-jobs-chief-see-progress>

Bill Poovey

New programs in South Carolina are better coordinating workforce development programs and connecting people to opportunities with manufacturing jobs that pay an average annual wage of \$54,000, S.C. Manufacturers Alliance president and CEO said. Lewis Gossett joined S.C. Technical College System President Jimmie Williamson and S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce Development Director Cheryl Stanton in a panel discussion today at the S.C. Manufacturing Conference and Expo in Greenville.

Note: Responding to a moderator's questions, Gossett also told hundreds of business executives at the conference in Greenville that "one of the frustrations that we experienced over the last five or six years in working with the workforce community in South Carolina is the fact that it was all over the place. There were so many people doing so many different things, and I think that is what Gov. Haley has started making great progress on."

General Assembly News:

The State: Report: Page files sexual harassment claim against SC lawmaker

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article73185827.html#storylink=apmobile>

Andy Shain

A S.C. House page has filed a sexual-harassment complaint against state Rep. Edward Southard, R-Berkeley, The Post and Courier of Charleston reported Thursday. Details of the complaint have not been released. Southard, a former Berkeley County planning commission chairman who won a special election in 2011, told the Charleston paper that he was surprised the complaint had become public. "You shouldn't be knowing about it because I was assured that no one would know about it, except me and three other people," Southard told the paper. The office of S.C. House Speaker Jay Lucas, R-Darlington, would not confirm the complaint to The State.

Associated Press: The Latest: Senate proposes pay raise for state employees

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=X62sfDGI

SC State Wire

A Senate committee has passed a budget that gives a bigger raise to state employees. The Finance Committee approved its \$7.5 billion spending plan for next budget year Thursday afternoon. The proposal gives state employees a 4 percent raise, double the 2 percent pay hike in the House plan. The Senate plan also gives teachers a 2 percent raise and raises the minimum amount teachers can be paid by years of experience by 2 percent. The Senate budget also uses \$200 million a year to borrow more than \$2 billion for the state roads over the next decade. Education funding is increased by more than \$300 million in the Senate plan, which also sets aside an additional \$2.4 million for police body cameras.

The State: Senate tightens beach development rules; delay could aid Kiawah project

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article73202807.html#storylink=apmobile>

Sammy Fretwell

South Carolina is moving to stop developers from building close to the ocean at a time of rising sea levels — but not before taking steps that could help a controversial Kiawah Island resort project. The state Senate voted 39-0 Thursday for a bill that's intended to block new hotels, condominiums and other development from being constructed farther out on the beach. But the new law would not take full effect until 2018, meaning developers across the coast could still seek state permission to build farther toward the ocean before then.

LGBT Laws:

Politico: GOP culture war breaks out over transgender bathrooms

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/04/gop-transgender-bathrooms-222295>

Sarah Wheaton

Donald Trump on Thursday freshly exposed the fissures dividing the Republican Party by responding to the transgender bathroom wars with a shrug — setting off a fierce response from Ted Cruz who accused the Republican front-runner of being no better than the “politically correct leftist elites.” The latest front in the culture wars is now a bathroom stall. The raging debate over whether transgender people should be forced to use bathrooms of their gender at birth is acutely playing out within the GOP, and it's now become a central topic on the presidential campaign trail.

Note: In South Carolina, Republican Gov. Nikki Haley said she doesn't think a transgender bathroom bill is necessary, and Republican Gov. Bill Haslam said he's concerned that Tennessee could lose federal funding if it enacts such a law — a factor also cited by Dugaard in South Dakota.

News & Observer: Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, spar over NC's HB2

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/under-the-dome/article73036182.html>

Jim Morrill

The issue that has roiled North Carolina erupted into the Republican presidential race Thursday, with U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz attacking Donald Trump over his criticism of the state's actions over transgender bathrooms. Trump's comments also put him at odds with the Republican-controlled General Assembly, which passed the bill last month, and GOP Gov. Pat McCrory, who signed it. “North Carolina did something that was very strong, and they're paying a big price,” he said. “Leave it the way it is. North Carolina, what they're going through, with all of the business and all of the strife – and

that's on both sides – you leave it the way it is.”

Note: S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley, addressing a similar bill in her state, said it wasn't necessary. The Republican governor of South Dakota recently vetoed a similar bill. Georgia's Republican governor vetoed a bill that critics argued was also discriminatory against the LGBT community.

WIS: Pearl Jam calls out Sen. Lee Bright during Columbia concert

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31789278/pearl-jam-calls-out-sen-lee-bright-during-columbia-concert>

Amanda Shaw

Pearl Jam got political during a concert in Columbia on Thursday. After canceling their North Carolina show due to the passing of controversial House Bill 2, frontman Eddie Vedder said the band has to stand up for what they believe in.

Vedder said during Thursday's concert at Colonial Life Arena that he opposed similar legislation on the table in South Carolina. He specifically called out South Carolina Senator Lee Bright by name, who proposed a bill mirroring House Bill 2 earlier this month. Bright's bill, S. 1203, would also require bathroom use to be based on biological sex.

SC Political News:

Independent Mail: Political Pulse: School district spokesman running for Anderson City Council

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/political-pulse-school-district-spokesman-running-for-anderson-city-council-3102dfd7-3757-466c-e053--376608761.html>

Anderson School District 5 spokesman Kyle Newton plans to run for an Anderson City Council seat. Steve Kirven, the second longest-serving member on the City Council, is stepping down at the end of June to become Anderson County's master-in-equity, a Circuit Court post that primarily handles real estate cases. He will replace Ellis Drew Jr., who is retiring.

Times and Democrat: Comer candidate for S.C. House Dist. 90

http://thetandd.com/news/article_24085b3d-3a13-59ce-b40b-f75798562ed6.html

Evert Comer Jr. of Denmark recently announced his candidacy for S.C. House District 90 in the June 14 Democratic Party Primary. The district is comprised of all of Bamberg County and portions of Barnwell and Colleton counties, which is currently represented by Rep. Justin T. Bamberg. Bamberg has filed for re-election. Saying his primary focus would be solely representing the interests of District 90 as a first and top priority, the Denmark attorney cited recent “heartfelt setbacks” in District 90.

Opinion/Editorial:

Aiken Standard: Column: A trans-ient dilemma

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160421/AIK02/160429876>

Kathleen Parker

While it is certainly understandable that some people would be uncomfortable with the idea of faux transgender males ogling their daughters, I'd be far more concerned about sending a boy into the men's room where even pedophiles are allowed to relieve themselves. Imagine what would happen to Caitlyn Jenner if she were forced to use the men's room. Or, what about a transgender man, who, though he's bald, bearded, muscled and rough, is forced to use the women's room? But of course, she and he won't. Because this bathroom law is utterly unenforceable and therefore unnecessary. What we have is a non-solution to a non-problem. And my guess is McCrory knows it. He should flush HB2 down the toilet.

Greenville News: Commentary: Millennials take action in sit in

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/contributors/2016/04/21/commentary-millennials-take-action-sit/83244086/>

Guest Columnist: Will McCorkle

As a former high school teacher and current graduate student, I have taught many students from the millennial generation. I myself am at the older end of this generation. The narrative about millennials is that they are overly narcissistic, apathetic, and more obsessed with social media than with making a positive impact in society. In fact, the term "slacktivism" has been used to describe modern activism which often does not extend beyond a like click on Facebook or Twitter. This past month's sit-in at Clemson in response to the campus climate in relation to issues of diversity and race has revealed something different. It has shown a group of young people who are willing to take a stand for social justice. Five students were actually arrested for refusing to leave Sikes Hall as part of the protest. They have become known as the Clemson 5. These are millennials who are not content with the way society currently is. They are fighting for and dreaming of a more inclusive and just campus, state and nation.

South Carolina News:

The State: Lawyer who fought to keep SC courts, public meetings open to retire this year

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article73185062.html>

Clif Leblanc

South Carolina's best-known advocate of a free press and government accountability also is an adventurer who would hop on his motorcycle and drive face-first toward horizons across the United States. Attorney, professor, one-time athletics trainer and adrenaline addict Jay Bender is preparing to retire later this year at age 72. He will be roasted Friday by those who have worked shoulder to shoulder with him against power brokers and closed-door government dating to 1970. In a career as South Carolina's leading litigator for the First Amendment, open records, open courts and open public meetings, Bender leaves a hole for backers of sunshine in public life, his supporters said.

WIS: Health officials prepare for potential Zika virus case in South Carolina

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31788839/health-officials-prepare-for-potential-zika-virus-case-in-south-carolina>

Kaitlin Stansell

There are very few states left that don't have a confirmed case of the Zika virus, and South Carolina is one of them. However, officials across the state are preparing for what some consider an almost inevitable outcome, that mosquitoes in the Palmetto State may soon carry the virus that has affected so many worldwide. "While we haven't seen Zika yet here in South Carolina, our experts say there is a strong potential that we will eventually see it. We do know that neighboring states have had it," said Robert Yanity, with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Local News:

Associated Press: Teen who spread nude picture of teacher pleads guilty

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

SC State Wire

The South Carolina high school student accused of taking a former teacher's cellphone and sharing nude photos of her with other students has pleaded guilty in family court to a computer crime. Local media outlets report Deputy Solicitor John Anthony of the 16th Circuit Solicitor's Office said the

teenager pleaded guilty Thursday to a second-degree computer crime. Anthony said the teenager was ordered to receive an evaluation by the Department of Juvenile Justice. He will then return to family court for sentencing. Former Union County High School teacher Leigh Anne Arthur told news outlets she left her cellphone on her desk Feb. 18 during a class change when a teenager took it and took pictures of nude images of her on the phone.

Herald-Journal: Teen pleads guilty to taking Union teacher's phone with nude photos

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160421/articles/160429910>

Zach Fox

The teen who was charged after taking a former Union County High School teacher's phone and sharing nude photos of her with other students pleaded guilty Thursday afternoon. The student, whose name has not been released because he is a juvenile, pleaded guilty to a second degree computer crime, which involves taking possession of a device belonging to another person, said John Anthony, deputy solicitor with the 16th Circuit Solicitor's Office. Anthony said the teen was ordered to receive an evaluation by the Department of Juvenile Justice, after which he will return to family court for sentencing.

The Herald: Sheriff vindicated: Chester jury rules former deputy's forced sex claims unproven

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andrew-dys/article73087482.html>

Andrew Dys

Underwood cried tears of joy and relief because after a four-day trial filled with accusations of sex, race, money and politics, a civil jury ruled that allegations made by a former deputy who accused Underwood of forced and coerced sex in tawdry trysts and salacious liaisons that Underwood vehemently denied were not proven. "We got some evil people out here – but good triumphs over evil," Underwood said after the verdict. The jury needed less than two hours to side with Underwood against his accuser, Mary Anne Tolbert, a former lover from a decade ago who later worked for him in a senior staff job.

Independent Mail: Deputy: More details released related to Clemson criminal sexual conduct charge

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/deputy-more-details-released-related-to-clemson-criminal-sexual-conduct-charge-3105018e-d5bd-18f3-e0-376640691.html>

Nikie Mayo

Capt. Greg Reed of the Sheriff's Office said Thursday that the alleged incident occurred during an April 15 party at the fraternity house in Seneca, but happened outside. He described the party as "primarily a young people gathering," but it is not clear who was hosting the party or if the party was described to attendees as being a Sigma Chi party. Reed said the woman in the case and Brownlee are acquaintances from the university, but it's not clear how well they know each other. Reed said Brownlee and the woman did not come to the party together and did not go outside together before the alleged incident. "He sought her out," Reed said.

Associated Press: Clemson students end 8-day diversity sit-in protest

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=C577yzqo

SC State Wire

Clemson University students say they are ending their sit-in protest over a lack of diversity on campus. The protesters left Sikes Hall, Clemson's administrative building, Thursday afternoon after an eight-day demonstration prompted by a bunch of rotting bananas placed on an African-American history sign. Protesting students say Clemson does not do enough to promote diversity. Clemson President Jim Clements issued a statement promising to release specific goals on getting more

minorities enrolled at Clemson by the end of the summer. Clements also promised to find a temporary and later a permanent home for a multicultural center. About 6 percent of Clemson students are black, the lowest of any of South Carolina's four-year public colleges.

The State: USC panel takes aim at Islamophobia

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article73246272.html#storylink=apmobile>

Avery G. Wilks

A panel of scholars put Islamophobia in its crosshairs Thursday night at the University of South Carolina. Professors from three South Carolina colleges for more than an hour discussed the fear of and bigotry against Islam and Muslims in America and urged the roughly three dozen people listening to be understanding and tolerant. "Today, we need dialogue in light of the long, global history of tensions and wars between Christians and Muslims," said the Rev. James Thomas, a professor at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia. "The only way to move forward is dialogue."

Post and Courier: Citadel cadet punished after leaking hijab story

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160421/PC16/160429823>

Paul Bowers

A cadet at The Citadel said he is being punished with 33 hours of marching after he revealed in a Facebook post that the school was considering allowing an incoming cadet to wear a hijab in uniform. The cadet, senior political science student Nick Pinelli, said officials at the public military college originally sought to charge him with behavior "unbecoming to a cadet," a Class I offense that can lead to dismissal under the school's disciplinary code. Instead, he said the school reduced the charge to "gross poor judgment" and handed him the maximum punishment: 40 "tours," each consisting of 50 minutes of silent marching with a rifle in a barracks quadrangle. Pinelli, who has also been working as an intern for Donald Trump's presidential campaign, must complete the tours before graduating on May 7.

Herald-Journal: Spartanburg sheriff calls NAACP 'racist group'

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160421/articles/160429906>

Daniel J. Gross

Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright says the comments he made about racism and minority groups at a meeting recently are being twisted into "political nonsense." During a talk at a Greenville Spartanburg Republican Women meeting April 7, Wright called the NAACP and Ku Klux Klan racist groups. He was responding to a question about the Ferguson, Mo., officer-involved shooting. He told the group the "most racist people in America right now sometimes are even minorities." "I feel like that (NAACP) is a racist group, as well as the KKK. I don't care about them either," he said during the meeting. "I don't want to be a part of no group that's got something to do just because of your color. I don't think they're right."

Post and Courier: The most surprising things about The Citadel's new gun regulations

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160422/PC16/160429846>

Brian Hicks

When this business of allowing Citadel cadets to keep guns in their cars first surfaced, a lot of people had the exact same thought: That's going to make "Hell Week" a lot more interesting. Think about it — knobs go through an intense, confrontational plebe year that is, frankly, hard for outsiders to understand. Some folks no doubt think any hotheaded fresh meat who gets his head dunked in a toilet might be inclined to retaliate — especially if he had a pistol nearby. Even if that is the exact opposite of what plebe year is supposed to instill. But that was the joke around Charleston after

Cadet Austin Lee brought up the issue with Gov. Nikki Haley when she appeared on campus last month. Actually, he'd raised the same question with administration months before — and had a petition signed by half the Corps of Cadets.

Morning News: Timmonsville residents speak out on education needs

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_6cd216a6-0837-11e6-bd7b-13f32e9104d2.html

Shamira McCray

Education representatives from across the state told Timmonsville residents Thursday evening that there are no simple solutions to the education situation facing the town. "In the next six months, we will renegotiate again with the state to see where we stand as a school, our progress," said Richard Hodges, chairman of the district board of trustees. "I know that between now and February, we will be able to sustain. Sustainability, that's what we're worried about right now, being able to sustain before we change drivers."

Aiken Standard: Child Advocacy Center promoting child abuse awareness

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160421/AIK0101/160429856>

Dede Biles

The Child Advocacy Center of Aiken County is doing its part to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect during National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. Members of the nonprofit's staff and 100 Women Initiative placed blue pinwheels in flowerpots containing sand to create a pinwheel garden. The garden has been on display for much of the month at the Child Advocacy Center on Trolley Line Road. "The pinwheels represent the carefree, happy childhood that every child deserves to have," said Gayle Lofgren, executive director of the Child Advocacy Center. Blue is the color used to promote child abuse awareness.

Morning News: Three projects to bring \$25 million of investment to Florence County

http://www.scnow.com/news/business/article_ddc29d42-0817-11e6-9497-f7e0c2a5a895.html

Joshua Lloyd

Project Launch. Project Mirror. Project Dogwood. These three yet-to-be-named projects appeared on the Florence County Council's April agenda on Thursday and officials said the projects will bring \$25 million or more in economic development to Florence County. Council Vice Chairman Kent Caudle said specifics of the projects will be announced later this year by the developers, but he added that each project stems from businesses already established in Florence County.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama's UK visit overshadowed by debate about leaving EU

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:268e07f5ab8a46d4af730b018e8be0d1>

Jill Lawless

It's springtime in London, but President Barack Obama might sense a chill in the air. The U.S. leader is being welcomed by British Prime Minister David Cameron and wined and dined by the royal family on a three-day visit to the U.K. that began late Thursday. But Britain's looming June 23 referendum about whether to stay in the 28-nation European Union has strained the "special relationship," with several senior U.K. politicians bluntly telling the president to butt out of Britain's debate. They have branded Obama "anti-British" and "unsuccessful" and accused him of meddling for suggesting that the U.S. would be happier if Britain stayed in the bloc. The White House says Obama is willing to speak out on the subject. "If he's asked his view as a friend, he will offer it," U.S. Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes said, adding that the American stance was clear. "As the president has

said, we support a strong United Kingdom in the European Union."

Associated Press: Britain's EU 'leave' campaign annoyed by Obama intervention

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:ee48dcd834604daab912eb7aea17b31d>

Campaigners for a British exit from the European Union reacted angrily Friday to U.S. President Barack Obama's call for the U.K to stay in the bloc. In an article for the Daily Telegraph newspaper, Obama said that the EU "enhances Britain's global leadership." Nigel Farage, leader of the anti-EU U.K. Independence Party, said Obama — who is due to meet Prime Minister David Cameron later Friday — should "butt out." London Mayor Boris Johnson, a leader of the exit campaign, said Americans "would never contemplate anything like the EU for themselves." Writing in The Sun newspaper, Johnson said Obama's stance "is a breathtaking example of the principle of do as I say, not as I do."

World News:

Associated Press : Brussels subway station damaged in suicide attack to reopen

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:2435197a3d814ac986084ecb8d093bed>

The subway station in the Belgian capital where a suicide bomber killed 16 people a month ago will reopen Monday. The Brussels regional transit authority, commonly known as the STIB, announced the reopening Friday on social media. The March 22 bomb attack aboard a Brussels Metro train during morning rush hour also damaged the Maelbeek station, and it has been closed since. That same day, two other suicide bombers killed 16 more victims at Brussels Airport. The attacks were claimed by the Islamic State group. Belgian media say a "wall of memory" has been installed at Maelbeek station so that once service resumes, subway riders can express their emotions by leaving written messages or drawings.

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