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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, January 27, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Sun News: Horry County Schools officials want more details on Haley's funding plan for education
<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/01/27/3979557/horry-county-schools-officials.html>

Vicki Grooms

Some Horry County Schools officials are cautiously optimistic about Gov. Nikki Haley's new K-12 Education Reform Initiative, saying they are happy she is emphasizing education, but more details are needed on how the initiative will affect Horry County. "Anything to improve education is a good thing," said Horry County school board member Jeffrey Garland, citing money for technology and reading coaches as a positive move, "but the details for the funding formula haven't come up – that could be good or bad."

The State: Nikki Haley, Tim Scott among RNC's prez straw poll choices

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/26/3228640/white-house-2016-nikki-haley-tim.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

The Republican National Committee posted 32 names of 2106 GOP White House potentials after its winter meeting and a couple of Palmetto State politicians are in the mix. Gov. Nikki Haley and U.S. Sen. Tim Scott are listed in a straw poll along with frontrunners like New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and U.S. Sens. Rand Paul and Ted Cruz. The RNC poll also includes former VP nominee Sarah Palin, former U.S. United Nations ambassador John Bolton and former congressman Allen West.

WTMA: Gov. Haley: 2013 Marked Record Recruitment Year for SC

[http://www.wtma.com/common/more.php?](http://www.wtma.com/common/more.php?m=58&ts=1390791971&article=D55E37B4853211E3B51EFEFDADE6840A&mode=2)

[m=58&ts=1390791971&article=D55E37B4853211E3B51EFEFDADE6840A&mode=2](http://www.wtma.com/common/more.php?m=58&ts=1390791971&article=D55E37B4853211E3B51EFEFDADE6840A&mode=2)

Last year was a record-setting year for South Carolina in terms of recruitment, according to State officials. Gov. Nikki Haley's Office announced that in 2013 the state closed 127 economic development projects, which translated into \$5.4 billion in capital investment and 15,457 new jobs.

Note: "Getting new companies to move here and encouraging existing one to expand takes a strategic and concentrated effort, and the entire state has proven what is possible when Team South Carolina works together," Gov. Nikki Haley said in a statement.

Times and Democrat: Solicitor: More dollars needed vs. crime

http://thetandd.com/news/solicitor-more-dollars-needed-vs-crime/article_cf9a1bc0-8711-11e3-a061-001a4bcf887a.html

Ryanne Persinger

First Circuit Solicitor David M. Pascoe says last year was frustrating because budget cuts hampered the prosecution of crimes, but he's hopeful the situation will improve in 2014. In speaking to the Orangeburg Lion's Club on Jan. 20 at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center, Pascoe said cited goals for the solicitor's office. He is one of 16 elected solicitors responsible for prosecuting criminal offenses.

Note: Pascoe said he has taken the issue to Columbia and it appears Gov. Nikki Haley will seek a funding increase to prosecute cases.

S.C. Political News:

The State: Crowded SC schools chief race could get more crowded

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/27/3228592/morning-buzz.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self, Adam Beam, Andrew Shain

A leading S.C. public education advocate -- with a history of sitting on both sides of the aisle -- is mulling a run S.C. schools' chief. Molly Spearman, the executive director of the S.C. Association of School Administrators, said she is "seriously considering" running as a Republican for S.C. Superintendent of

Education and has a few more pieces to put in place before making a final decision.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier (Guest Column): Restructing takes a giant step forward

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140127/PC1002/140129523/1021/keep-building-on-momentum-for-restructuring>

Mike Campbell

This past Tuesday we South Carolinians witnessed first-hand what can be accomplished when our state leaders place the best interest of our citizens above petty, partisan politics and self preservation of power. Finally, after 21 years and thanks to Gov. Nikki Haley's leadership and persistence, along with bipartisan tireless efforts from many in the General Assembly, the next step of Dad's vision was realized.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: South Carolina needs to catch up on its road and bridge work

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140126/OPINION/401261015/1128?Title=South-Carolina-needs-to-catch-up-on-its-road-and-bridge-work#gsc.tab=0>

Editorial

In her State of the State speech last week, Gov. Nikki Haley pointed to several of the state's spending priorities, but she firmly cast aside a viable method of paying for one top priority. The governor has advocated a new education funding plan that would boost education in poor areas. It would cost \$177 million more than the state is currently spending, but the governor is correct when she says that increases in state revenue could pay for the plan.

Post and Courier: Helmet bill warrants support

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140127/PC1002/140129520/1021/helmet-bill-warrants-support>

Editorial

South Carolina legislators are being given an opportunity to save lives and money by making mandatory the use of motorcycle helmets. But then, they've been given the same opportunity before and passed it by. It's time for a change. Three state representatives, Reps. Wendell Gilliard, D-Charleston, Seth Whipper, D-North Charleston, and Carl Anderson, D-Georgetown, pre-filed a bill that would require all motorcycle riders to wear helmets.

Legislative Session News:

Island Packet: Proposal would require summer camps for third-graders failing in reading

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/01/26/2913616/proposal-would-require-summer.html#storylink=cpy>

Sarah Bowman

Beaufort County elementary students could have their school year extended by six to eight weeks starting this summer. The General Assembly is considering a requirement that school districts and the state Department of Education provide summer reading camps for third-graders who are not reading at grade level. The directive would come with little state funding -- \$1.2 million total -- so the local districts likely would have to pick up a majority of the tab for the camps.

Local News:

Post and Courier: In Mount Pleasant, a big bill coming due

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140126/PC16/140129527/1006/in-mount-pleasant-a-big-bill-coming-due>

Robert Behre

Two years ago, consultants told town officials they must spend about \$14 million more per year to keep pace with needed road repairs, drainage ditches and aging stormwater pipes. Since then, the town has budgeted only a fraction of that sum, and some officials, including Mayor Linda Page, said a time is coming when Town Council must either raise taxes or fees or usher in an era of reduced services.

Associated Press: 'Famously Hot' Columbia vies for tourists

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/jan/26/famously-hot-columbia-vies-tourists/?partner=RSS>

Bruce Smith

When you think of visiting South Carolina, thoughts of waterfalls in the upstate, carriages in Charleston's Historic District and waves washing the shore in Myrtle Beach. But between the mountains and the sea,

Columbia is redoubling its efforts to attract visitors as it markets itself as "Famously Hot."

Greenville News: Proposed hand-held ban goes to City Council

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014301270019>

Eric Connor

The day-to-day task of driving is poised to change in Greenville — for residents, commuters and downtown enthusiasts — as city leaders prepare to vote on a law that would ban motorists from talking and texting on hand-held mobile devices. The impact would extend beyond the city, forcing the debate elsewhere to other local governments.

Post and Courier: Wild Dunes erosion might soon see fixes; resort golf course cited for sandbags

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140126/PC16/140129516/1006/wild-dunes-erosion-might-soon-see-fixes-resort-golf-course-cited-for-sandbags>

Bo Petersen

Poking its sparkling head up at low tide is the first bit of bright news in a while for beleaguered homeowners on the disappearing beach of this island resort. A long-sought offshore sandbar "reattachment" is finally making an appearance. Sand is beginning to build up on the beach in front of it. That's the fix expected to stabilize - for now - the highly erosive Dewees Inlet eastern tip of the island, where the resort's signature golf course hole and a line of condominiums are on the brink of the sea, with only sandbags to stave off storm tides.

National News:

Politico: DGA ads to target Rick Snyder

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/01/dga-ads-rick-snyder-michigan-102599.html>

Alexander Burns

The Democratic Governors Association is preparing to launch its first television ads of the 2014 midterms, booking airtime in the battleground state of Michigan where GOP Gov. Rick Snyder is up for reelection, media tracking sources told POLITICO. The ad reservations total over a million dollars during a three-week time span, according to one source tracking the air war. The commercials are set to begin early next week.

National Review: We Need School Choice Now

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/369444/we-need-school-choice-now-jeb-bush>

Jeb Bush

Consumer choice created the most innovative and powerful economy in the world. Choice makes computers cheaper, images sharper, cars safer, and services faster. Choice rewards success and weeds out stagnation, inefficiency, and failure. This is why school choice is critical to the education-reform movement, and why National School Choice Week, which began this Sunday, January 26, is more than just a proclamation. It is a call to action for one of our most cherished principles.

Associated Press: US resumes nonlethal aid to Syrian opposition

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FU4dtSTA

Bradley Klapper

The United States has restarted deliveries of nonlethal aid to the Syrian opposition, officials said Monday, more than a month after al-Qaida-linked militants seized warehouses and prompted a sudden cutoff of Western supplies to the rebels. The communications equipment and other items are being funneled for now only to non-armed opposition groups, said the U.S. officials.

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