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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, November 2, 2015

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S.C. Flood Recovery News:

Post and Courier: Charleston hotel industry rebound after floods, tourism official says

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151102/PC05/151109942>

Allison Prang

A key hotel industry measurement for the area is back above 2014 averages following the drop triggered by the historic flooding in early October, according to local tourism officials. For the week of Oct. 18-25, the number of room nights sold in Charleston County was up 4 percent compared to the same seven-day period a year ago, the Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau said.

Associated Press: Residents of 4 counties can apply this week for grocery help

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Bq68imsb

South Carolina residents who lost property or income due to last month's historic flooding are eligible for food assistance. People living in 20 counties affected by the disaster can apply for debit-like cards that can be used to buy food at grocery stores and other retailers. But they must do so in person during their county's designated week.

The State: Will Columbia waive some construction fees because of floods?

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article42131589.html>

The ordinances cite President Barack Obama's disaster declaration for the Midlands and a State of Emergency extension from S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley. Monday's meeting is at 6:30 p.m. is at City Hall, 1737 Main St., in third floor council chambers.

Times and Democrat: THE BUZZ IS BAD: Floodwaters breeding bloody-thirsty mosquitoes

http://thetandd.com/news/the-buzz-is-bad-floodwaters-breeding-bloody-thirsty-mosquitoes/article_6783e34e-5eda-5fda-9077-7b6f3bd76183.html

Gene Zaleski

Historic flooding across The T&D Region has left standing water in areas that are now serving as breeding grounds for mosquitoes. "When it gets cold, mosquitoes usually die off, but for some reason, they have multiplied," said Odell Wadell, Orangeburg County Mosquito Control supervisor.

S.C. Political News:

Politico: Rubio and Trump's South Carolina showdown

Each is counting on a Palmetto State breakthrough, but the mogul has more boots on the ground.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2015/10/trump-and-rubio-square-off-215269#ixzz3qL1cXJPU>

Ben Schreckinger

Far from the noise of Donald Trump's raucous campaign rallies, a 70-year-old man stood Monday on a quiet back road in front of a house decorated in red-white-and-blue bunting, assembling yard signs. Inside were several more volunteers and a small table in the front parlor littered with Trump campaign buttons arrayed around a candle, a copy of the Constitution and a Bible.

Note: Republicans in the state say that Rubio's association with Sullivan and Donehue make Haley more likely to endorse Bush, should he remain viable. "Anybody who says they know where Nikki's leaning ... is making it up," said Haley's political adviser Tim Pearson, who added that no endorsement will happen before Christmas.

Associated Press: Charleston voters electing their first new mayor in 40 years

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=IHrhk4T3

Bruce Smith

Charleston is getting a new mayor for the first time in 40 years. Six candidates are on the ballot this week to succeed Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr., the longest-serving mayor in the historic city's 345-year history. The 72-year-old Riley, retiring after 10 terms, is credited with overseeing an urban renaissance that transformed a city of vacant lots and empty storefronts downtown into a thriving community that is a center for the arts and a world-renowned tourist destination.

The State: Maddow plans to get Democratic presidential hopefuls off their talking points in Rock Hill
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/election/Candidate-match/article42158871.html#storylink=cpy>

Anna Douglas

MSNBC's primetime political news commentary star says she didn't pick Rock Hill to host this week's Democratic presidential forum but the location couldn't be better. "If I could do it anywhere, it would be in the South," Rachel Maddow of "The Rachel Maddow Show" said last week.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Index-Journal: Nicholson: State donates \$200,000 to United Center

<http://indexjournal.com/news/Nicholson--State-donates--200-000-to-United-Center>

St. Claire Donaghy

Nicholson, of Greenwood, made the announcement alongside members of United Center for Community Care's board of directors, the man with the vision to establish the center, Dr. Jack Parham, the center's executive director, Deborah Parks and others.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Index-Journal: Port of Charleston vital to whole state

<http://indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Port-of-Charleston-vital-to-whole-state>

Editorial

There should never have been any doubt about how important the Port of Charleston is to the manufacturing-rich Upstate, but if there had been it was permanently removed last week. An economic impact study is demonstrating not only the port's solid value to the entire state but also the unique role it plays in the economic life of the Interstate 85 corridor.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Ex-Im Bank's apparent revival gets Kenya-bound Boeing Dreamliners out of mothballs

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151101/PC05/151109972>

David Wren

Looming reauthorization of the federal Export-Import Bank has allowed Kenya Airways to take delivery of two North Charleston-made Dreamliner airplanes that Boeing Co. had been holding in storage while the carrier looked for alternative financing. The two 787-8 planes were delivered Wednesday, according to a production table compiled by New York investment banker and aerospace blogger Uresh Sheth.

Post and Courier: Folly hires firm to lobby lawmakers for beach funds

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151101/PC16/151109951>

Prentiss Findlay

Folly Beach City Council has voted to hire a lobbyist to inform state lawmakers about its problems with erosion, the cost of beach preservation and the importance of coastal areas to the economy. "You've got to educate all these legislators and people from the Upstate," said Mayor Tim Goodwin.

Local News:

Post and Courier: Nearly half of tri-county schools are above capacity, with Dorchester 2 the most crowded

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151101/PC16/151109941>

Paul Bowers

When Knightsville Elementary School ran out of space for students in its main building, the school on the once-sleepy outskirts of Summerville started adding mobile units to a parking lot out back. Then it filled in a retention pond and added more. They were supposed to be a temporary fix.

Island Packet: Hilton Head seeks nearly \$1.3 million in accommodations tax grants

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/business/article42006423.html>

Zach Murdock

The Town of Hilton Head Island is seeking nearly \$1.3 million in accommodations tax funding this year to supplement the policing, beach services and general maintenance needed to support the island's crush of tourists each summer. The town presented an application for the funds to its Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee on Thursday, and the panel will consider it alongside more than two dozen other applications at its meeting next week.

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