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Subject: Clips – Saturday, January 25, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Bill begins dividing agency's duties in July

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

Seanna Adcox

A bill praised as the largest overhaul of state government in 20 years is on its way to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk. But explaining how taxpayers benefit won't be easy as she and her Democratic opponent tout its passage on the campaign trail. The measure won't produce immediate savings, as layoffs are expected. In fact, it will require additional spending initially. But supporters say the soon-to-be-signed law will eventually save the state millions through centralized purchasing and technology services.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: State and local officials dedicate inland port

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140124/ARTICLES/140129745/1083/ARTICLES?Title=State-and-local-officials-dedicate-inland-port#gsc.tab=0>

Trevor Anderson

State and local officials gathered on Friday in Spartanburg County to dedicate the South Carolina Ports Authority's new \$43 million Inland Port. Gov. Nikki Haley and U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham joined with Reps. Trey Gowdy and Jeff Duncan to visit the 100-acre site off East Poinsett Street Extension.

Associated Press: S.C. inland port praised as good for jobs, nature

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140124/AIK0105/140129623/1015/AIK0105/sc-inland-port-praised-as-good-for-jobs-nature>

Bruce Smith

South Carolina's new inland port was praised on Friday as a not only being good for the economy and bringing in jobs, but also good for the environment and saving wear and tear on the state's infrastructure. On Friday, Gov. Nikki Haley and U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham joined about 150 other businesspeople and elected officials to welcome Norfolk Southern president and CEO Wick Moorman to the inland port just off Interstate 95.

Greenville News: Dignitaries welcome rail carrier to Inland Port

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014301250011&gcheck=1>

Port users, partners, business leaders and dignitaries gathered Friday at the SC Inland Port Friday to welcome a ceremonial train trip by Norfolk Southern, SC Ports Authority partner for the Inland Port.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley said the state is "focused on growing business in South Carolina, and there's no question that the Inland Port helps us to do that. Its presence in Greer will attract new companies to the Upstate and foster the expansion of those already located here."

Times and Democrat: S.C. State football player slain; 4 suspects being sought

http://thetandd.com/news/s-c-state-football-player-slain-suspects-being-sought/article_cd113676-852d-11e3-bc7b-001a4bcf887a.html

Gene Zaleski

A South Carolina State University football player was shot and killed outside of Hugine Suites on Friday, launching a manhunt in the surrounding area for four suspects. The student, 20-year-old Brandon A. Robinson of Goff Avenue, was shot about 1:30 p.m. and transported to the Regional Medical Center for treatment.

Note: Elzey said Gov. Nikki Haley also offered her support to the campus.

Associated Press: Suspect charged with murder in SC campus shooting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rzBO8tZg

A suspect was arrested early Saturday and charged with murder in the fatal shooting of a student outside a dormitory at South Carolina State University, law enforcement officials said. Justin Bernard Singleton, 19, of Charleston, was arrested just after midnight at the parking lot of an apartment complex in Orangeburg, where the campus is located, said Thom Berry, a public information officer with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Note: Elzey said South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley offered any help the school needed.

Times and Democrat: \$15 million investment expected to create 45 new jobs

http://thetandd.com/business/million-investment-expected-to-create-new-jobs/article_08c09cca-8542-11e3-ab42-001a4bcf887a.html

Baldor Electric Company, a leading manufacturer of energy-efficient industrial electric motors and mechanical power transmission products, is expanding its Anderson County facility with a \$15 million investment that is expected to generate another 45 jobs for the area over the next five years. Company officials made the announcement today in Belton.

Note: "Existing industry like Baldor continue to choose to increase their footprint in South Carolina, and that shows the strength of our business-friendly climate and strong workforce," said Gov. Nikki Haley. "We celebrate Baldor Electric Company's decision to invest \$15 million and create 45 jobs in Anderson County."

S.C. Political News:

Seneca Journal: Lee Bright says Graham can be defeated

<https://upstatetoday.com/2014/01/lee-bright-says-graham-can-be-defeated/>

Norman Cannada

State Sen. Lee Bright said his challenge to U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham is one he can win and if he achieves his goal, his election will "send shock waves around the country." "It will change what happens in 2016," Bright said during a meeting of the Seneca Tea Party Thursday night. "It will have an impact over who the next President is and it will have an impact on the next Congress, because people don't think he can be beaten. You've got to prove he can."

Opinion / Editorial News:

Post and Courier: Important, but imperfect, state reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140125/PC1002/140129591/1021/important-but-imperfect-reform>
Editorial

In her State of the State address, Gov. Haley rightly described the legislative creation of the Department of Administration as the most important restructuring advance since the administration of Gov. Carroll Campbell. But despite the plaudits, it's not a perfect piece of work. The Department of Administration will be a major new Cabinet agency with several major divisions previously under the arcane state Budget and Control Board.

Island Packet: State must move now to make prisons safer for mentally ill inmates

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/01/24/2909780/state-must-move-now-to-make-prisons.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

One would anticipate that a shocking 45-page order from a circuit court judge would light a fire under the Department of Corrections to make improvements and ensure the safety of its mentally ill inmates. But that does not appear to have happened -- at least not yet. "Evidence in this case has proved that inmates have died in the S.C. Department of Corrections for lack of basic mental health care," wrote Circuit Court Judge Michael Baxley.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Florence Morning News: Hearing aims to increase employment in Pee Dee

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_3f6886e6-8567-11e3-91a4-001a4bcf6878.html

Gavin Jackson

A Congressional subcommittee meeting on Friday sought to address the issues surrounding the dramatically high unemployment rates that plague the northern part of the Pee Dee region and other parts of the state. U.S. Rep. Tom Rice (R-Myrtle Beach) chaired the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access during a field hearing at the Dillon Wellness Center where he heard testimony from five local

and regional economic leaders about ways to address high rural unemployment.

Post and Courier: Ports chair blasts Mark Sanford, Tim Scott for opposing spending bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140124/PC1610/140129620/1031/ports-chair-blasts-mark-sanford-tim-scott-for-opposing-spending-bill>

Robert Behre

The head of the State Ports Authority has called out U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford and U.S. Sen. Tim Scott for their recent votes against the \$1.1 trillion appropriations bill, which contains money for deepening Charleston's harbor. Chairman Bill Stern said state voters ought to know that Sanford's and Scott's votes jeopardized South Carolina's most important economic development initiative.

Aiken Standard: Rep. Joe Wilson talks SRS in roundtable discussion

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140125/AIK0101/140129622/1007/AIK0101/rep-joe-wilson-talks-srs-in-roundtable-discussion>

Derrek Asberry

U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., said he is focused on maintaining a full workforce at the Savannah River Site now that the Site has recently received its requested funding. The congressman held an SRS Roundtable meeting on Friday afternoon at Aiken Electric Cooperative. There, community and elected leaders from Aiken and Barnwell counties, as well as SRS contractors, joined in a discussion that was closed off to the media.

The State: U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has two events in Charleston on Saturday

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/24/3225242/election-2014-us-lindsey-graham.html#storylink=cpy>

Adam Beam

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, who is facing four Republican primary challengers and one Democratic challenger, will hold two events in Charleston on Saturday, according to his campaign.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Charleston man arrested in shooting death of S.C. State football player

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140125/PC16/140129566/1006/charleston-man-arrested-in-shooting-death-of-sc-state-football-player>

Cynthia Roldan

A Charleston man has been charged with murder in the fatal shooting of a South Carolina State University student. Justin Bernard Singleton, 19, was arrested shortly after midnight at the parking lot of an apartment complex in Orangeburg, said Thom Berry, spokesman for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. Singleton was arrested without incident in connection with the death of Brandon Alexander Robinson, Berry said.

Post and Courier: Solar farm gives Lowcountry a new jolt of sun power

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140124/PC16/140129598/1006/>

Prentiss Findlay

On a brutally cold day, a bundled-up crowd celebrated the advent of a new chapter in South Carolina's quest to harness the energy of the sun. The Colleton Solar Farm roughly doubles the solar power generating capacity in the Palmetto State. When operating at its peak, the farm is capable of creating enough electricity to power about 300 homes annually. "We believe it is part of our mission," Santee Cooper Board Chairman Leighton Lord said Friday.

The State: Farm Bureau labels SC potato farm critics 'radicals'

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/24/3225644/farm-bureau-labels-sc-potato-farm.html#storylink=cpy>

Sammy Fretwell

Wayne Furtick never thought much about environmental causes until hearing that a mega potato farm wanted to siphon billions of gallons of water from his community's beloved river. So late last year, the 73-year-old Springfield cattle farmer began speaking against the water withdrawal plan, worried that a Michigan agribusiness could drain the river while irrigating potato fields.

Associated Press: Red flag fire alert issued for all of SC

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=S3e9Yq0Y

Windy and dry conditions are leading authorities to issue a red flag alert against outdoor burning for all of

South Carolina. The state Forestry Commission said the alert is in effect all day Saturday. The alert doesn't outlaw burning in many areas, but is an advisory that fires can easily spread. Forecasters say winds could gust up to 30 mph and humidity values will be low, making it easier for wildfires to start.

Local News:

Sun News: Qualified mortgage process not expected to hinder area market

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/01/24/3979744/qualified-mortgage-process-not.html#storylink=cpy>
Steve Jones

The era of qualified mortgages has arrived, and Strand bankers and real estate officials don't think it will put a dent in the pace of area real estate sales. "The longer it goes, the easier it's going to get for the consumer," said Mark Branstrom, president of the Retail Mortgage Group for CresCom Bank. A qualified mortgage is a term born of the burst of the housing bubble and the stock market tumble that followed.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach area restaurant owners react to new gun legislation passed by S.C. legislature

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/01/25/3979527/myrtle-beach-area-restaurant-owners.html#storylink=cpy>

Debbie Merlo

Gun legislation that is now awaiting the signature of Gov. Nikki Haley after being passed by state legislature may have conjured visions of gun battles, bad guys and shoot-outs during dinner in the minds of many, but allowing people with concealed weapons permits to bring their guns into restaurants and bars in South Carolina is a dilemma business owners must address immediately.

The State: Belk expanding presence at Harbison's Columbiana Centre

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/24/3224735/belk-expanding-presence-at-harbisons.html#storylink=cpy>

Kristy Eppley Rupon

Belk will expand its presence at Columbiana Centre, moving into a portion of the space being vacated by Sears. The Charlotte-based department store chain will open a standalone men's apparel and shoe store in less than half of the former Sears – about 50,000 square feet. It's still unclear what will go into the remaining 58,000 square feet. Two weeks ago, Sears said it would close down its Columbiana store and auto-care center in early March.

National News:

Associated Press: Fear of slowing growth pushes down global markets

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140124/AIK0103/140129647/1009/AIK0103/fear-of-slowng-growth-pushes-down-global-markets>

Paul Wiseman and Joshua Freed

Fear is back in the market. Investors are worried about slower economic growth in China, a gloomier outlook for U.S. corporate profits and an end to easy money policies in the United States and Europe. They're also fretting over country-specific troubles around the world – from economic mismanagement in Argentina to political instability in Turkey.

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