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To:  
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Monday, April 19, 2014

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## Afternoon Clips – Monday, April 19, 2014

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Associated Press:** New state symbol is the Columbian mammoth

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/05/19/new-state-symbol-columbian-mammoth/9293745/>

Seanna Adcox

third-grader's effort to designate an official South Carolina fossil has become law. Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill naming the Columbian mammoth as the official state fossil. Eight-year-old Olivia McConnell of Lake City requested the designation after realizing South Carolina was among just seven states without that particular symbol.

**Associated Press:** Haley signs law deleting some hotel taxes

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=uEcbBrda](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=uEcbBrda)

South Carolina travelers will no longer pay extra taxes for spa treatments, salon services and other conveniences that can be tacked onto hotel bills. Gov. Nikki Haley has signed a law deleting certain items from the additional 5 percent accommodations taxes on hotel stays. Whether travelers currently pay the tax can depend on how they pay, and legislators said that's unfair.

### S.C. Political News:

**Post and Courier:** Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stumps for Lindsey Graham

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140519/PC1603/140519244/1031/former-secretary-of-state-condoleezza-rice-stumps-for-lindsey-graham>

Robert Behre

Former Secretary of State and Sanford University professor Condoleezza Rice lent her star power to a packed fundraising luncheon here today to help re-elect a Senator who strongly supported her work under President George W. Bush.

**Greenville News:** Crowd cheers Rice for president comment

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/05/19/crowd-cheers-rice-president-comment/9294179/>

Rudolph Bell

It was a Lindsey Graham campaign event, but the biggest applause was for Condoleezza Rice. The crowd erupted with approval at the TD Convention Center Monday — and many of the more than 1,000 attendees stood — when Graham suggested Rice run for president.

**Post and Courier:** Candidates step up their game with primary approaching

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140519/PC1603/140519240/1031/candidates-step-up-their-game-with-primary-approaching>

Cynthia Roldan

The race for lieutenant governor is picking up momentum, as all four candidates step up their game with the June 10 primary approaching. Mike Campbell continues his seven-day tour in throughout the state's 46 counties today, with seven stops in the Upstate.

**Post and Courier:** Senate candidate Lee Bright giving away hand gun today

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140519/PC1610/140519275/1031/senate-candidate-lee-bright-giving-away-hand-gun-today>

Schuyler Kropf

U.S. Senate candidate Lee Bright, one of six GOP challengers facing incumbent Lindsey Graham, will give

away a Ruger 9 mm handgun today in Greenville. Bright's event comes as Graham is holding a luncheon this afternoon featuring Condoleezza Rice.

**Associated Press:** 4 Dems vying to win SC schools chief nomination

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=KEOi14QE](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=KEOi14QE)

Andrew Coffman Smith

The Democratic race for state Superintendent of Education isn't as heated as the Republican contest but it is also crowded. The race has centered on how to properly fund public education, increase teacher pay, create a fair teacher evaluation system and boost state support for the public schools.

### **South Carolina News:**

**Associated Press:** SC prisons agency appeals mental health ruling

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mg4XN1mc](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Mg4XN1mc)

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's prisons agency on Friday appealed a ruling on how to deal with mental health treatment behind bars, making official what director Bryan Stirling has said for months the agency planned to do. The appeal challenges a ruling by Circuit Judge Michael Baxley, who earlier this year sided with a group of inmates and an independent nonprofit group called Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities.

**Greenville News:** Prison system moves ahead with appeal in mental health case

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/south-carolina/2014/05/19/prison-system-moves-ahead-appeal-mental-health-case/9275187/>

Tim Smith

The state's prison system is appealing two-dozen rulings by former Circuit Judge Michael Baxley, four months after Baxley found the state violated the rights of inmates with serious mental illness and ordered a plan of improvement within six months.

**Associated Press:** SC can report inmate profiles online

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6JFGG5pp](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6JFGG5pp)

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's prisons agency is exploring a new way to catch jailbirds who tweet using banned cellphones. On Monday, Corrections Director Bryan Stirling told The Associated Press that the agency had set up a link on its Web page where people can report inmate activity on social media networks.

**Post and Courier:** Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell signs 5-year contract for College of Charleston president post

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140519/PC16/140519233/1006/>

Diane Knich

Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell has signed a five-year contract to lead the College of Charleston. The school's Board of Trustees voted March 22 to hire McConnell, but the contract wasn't completed until today. McConnell will earn a \$300,000 annual salary, with \$188,000 coming from the state and \$112,000 coming from the school's foundation.

### **Local News:**

**Island Packet:** Avoiding tax increase will cost Beaufort County more than 40 employees

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/05/19/3117622/avoiding-tax-increase-will-cost.html?sp=/99/257/266/#storylink=cpy>

Zach Murdock

Beaufort County could avoid a tax increase in the next fiscal year, but it will require cutting the equivalent of 40 to 60 salaried positions, according to county officials. That draw down would hopefully occur by holding some positions open and consolidating others as employees retire or move on to other jobs, county administrator Gary Kubic said.

**Associated Press:** \$55M arts complex proposed for Hilton Head Island

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DGHEXXzn](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DGHEXXzn)

A group of Hilton Head Island business people are proposing a \$55 million performing arts center to draw big name performers to the resort island. The Island Packet of Hilton Head reports (<http://bit.ly/1sKA3Qz>) that Community Vision of Hilton Head proposes an amphitheater that would seat 1,500 people indoors and



as many as 5,000 outside on the lawn at a 60-acre complex.

**Island Packet:** Groups ask for \$290 million in public money for sweeping list of projects

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/05/18/3116651/groups-ask-for-290-million-in.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Dan Burley

In the past three weeks, groups across Beaufort County have asked for as much as \$290 million in public money to pay for a sweeping list of projects -- likely more than the proposed 1 percent sales tax would ever raise.

#### **National News:**

**Associated Press:** US charges Chinese officials in cyberspying case

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US\\_CHINA\\_CYBERSPYING?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-05-19-10-55-37](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_CHINA_CYBERSPYING?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-05-19-10-55-37)

Eric Tucker

Accusing China of vast business spying, the United States charged five military officials on Monday with hacking into U.S. companies to steal vital trade secrets in a case intensifying already-rising tensions between the international economic giants.

**The Hill:** Christie blasts Obama's foreign policy

<http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/206468-christie-blasts-obama-foreign-policy>

Justin Sink

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) delivered a harsh indictment of President Obama's foreign policy on Sunday, saying that a "lack of American leadership" had disappointed allies and emboldened the country's enemies.

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