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To:
Date: 1/31/2014 5:43:19 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, January 31, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

The State: SC emergency officials say early decisions helped prevent winter storm problems
<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/31/3238335/sc-emergency-officials-say-early.html>

Joey Holleman

South Carolina emergency officials say the state escaped this week's winter storm relatively pain-free in part because they follow one mantra: Make decisions early so you can manage the situation before the situation manages you. It helped that the worst of the snow and ice arrived after sunset Tuesday or before dawn Wednesday, when most people were safely in their homes.

Note: "This is the first time we've had to play this out, and I'm very, very proud of our team," said Gov. Nikki Haley.

Note: "On Wednesday, I was getting text messages from people saying, 'You were right,'" Haley said. "But it's not about being wrong or right, it's about keeping people safe."

WIS: Economic Developers: Southeast may become 'Gun Valley'

<http://www.wistv.com/story/24604154/econ-developers-southeast-may-become-gun-valley>

Jeremy Turnage

Ask Gov. Nikki Haley and she'll tell you the Palmetto State is becoming known as the "Beast of the Southeast" when it comes to manufacturing. But in 2013, gun manufacturers made their mark on the state, and there's no sign that's about to slow down.

Note: "When you do legislation that goes against a company like that, we've got two or three of them now because of that. Our goal is to stay out of the way of business," said Haley.

SC DOT Director Robert St. Onge resigns:

Associated Press: S.C. Transportation Director Onge resigns after DUI arrest

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140131/PC16/140139889/1177/sc-transportation-director-onge-resigns-after-dui-arrest>

Seanna Adcox

The director of South Carolina's Department of Transportation has resigned following a drunken driving arrest. Robert St. Onge resigned Friday, citing personal reasons. Gov. Nikki Haley notified legislative leaders in a letter obtained by The Associated Press that Christy Hall will be acting secretary until she finds a permanent replacement. The Lexington County Sheriff's Department website said St. Onge was arrested Friday and charged with driving under the influence first offense.

The State: SC DOT chief resigns after DUI arrest

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/31/3238636/sc-dot-chief-resigns-after-dui.html>

Andrew Shain

S.C. Department of Transportation Secretary Robert St. Onge resigned after he was arrested Friday morning for driving under the influence. He was charged Friday by a S.C. Highway Patrol trooper, according to Lexington County court records.

Note: "General St. Onge is a good man with a lifetime of service to his country, and more recently, our state," Haley spokesman Doug Mayer said. "That said, we have a no tolerance policy for our state agency directors, and so Gen. St. Onge has resigned as Secretary of Transportation. The governor thanks him for his work fixing the serious fiscal issues he inherited at the Department of Transportation – the state is better off because of his service."

WLTX: SCDOT Secretary Robert St. Onge Jr. Resigns After DUI

<http://www.wltx.com/news/article/262989/2/SCDOT-Secretary-Resigns-After-DUI?odyssey=tab%>

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Tony Santaella

The secretary of the South Carolina Department of Transportation is resigning following his arrest on a charge of DUI. Robert St. Onge Jr. submitted his resignation to the governor's office Friday.

Note: "General St. Onge is a good man with a lifetime of service to his country, and more recently, our state," said Haley spokesman Doug Mayer in a statement. "That said, we have a no tolerance policy for our state agency directors, and so General St. Onge has resigned as Secretary of Transportation. The governor thanks him for his work fixing the serious fiscal issues he inherited at the Department of Transportation - the state is better off because of his service."

SCRN: SCDOT chief resigns after DUI arrest

<http://www.southcarolinaradionetwork.com/2014/01/31/scdot-chief-resigns-after-dui-arrest/>

The man who led South Carolina's highway department for the past three years has resigned following an arrest for suspected DUI early Friday morning. Robert St. Onge, Jr., was a retired Army general when he was appointed to be Secretary of the Department of Transportation by Gov. Nikki Haley shortly after she took office in 2011. The Governor's Office said he submitted his resignation letter Friday morning.

Note: Haley's spokesman Doug Mayer confirmed the resignation in an email. "General St. Onge is a good man with a lifetime of service to his country, and more recently, our state," Mayer wrote. "That said, we have a no tolerance policy for our state agency directors, and so General St. Onge has resigned as Secretary of Transportation. The governor thanks him for his work fixing the serious fiscal issues he inherited at the Department of Transportation - the state is better off because of his service."

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Associated Press: SC's US Senate incumbents have millions on hand

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

Bruce Smith

South Carolina U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has \$7.6 million in campaign funds while fellow Republican U.S. Sen. Tim Scott has \$3.1 million on hand for next fall's campaigns, giving them a formidable money advantage over their opponents. The numbers come from their 2013 year-end fundraising reports filed with the Federal Election Commission and due on Friday.

The State: Lindsey Graham has \$7.6 million to spend

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/31/3238089/election-2014-lindsey-graham.html>

Jamie Self

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham has more than \$7.6 million spend, after raising more than \$1.3 million from October through December, making it his second-best career fundraising quarter, his campaign announced Friday. He raised more than \$5 million in 2013 for his re-election bid, and more than \$10.7 million in the six-year election cycle, according to his campaign.

Post and Courier: Graham far ahead in money toward June primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140131/PC1610/140139898/1177/graham-far-ahead-in-money-toward-june-primary>

Schuyler Kropf

Incumbent Republican U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said the fourth quarter of last year was his second-best fund-raising period ever. On Friday he reported collecting \$1.3 million from October through December, leaving him with more than \$7.6 million cash on-hand. The time frame includes the 16 days of the partial federal government shutdown, when both sides of the Washington political aisle blamed each other for bringing D.C. to a standstill and keeping most of the federal workforce at home.

The State: SC politics: Lindsey Graham challengers' fundraising numbers coming in

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/30/3237138/sc-politics-lindsey-graham-challengers.html#storylink=cpy>

Early birds in the race to oust U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-Seneca, reported their fundraising totals for the final quarter of 2013 ahead of Friday's Federal Election Commission deadline. Republican businessman Richard Cash of Easley raised about \$76,200 from October through December and has \$255,400 to spend after contributing about \$200,000 of his own money to his campaign last year.

The State: Mark Sanford has \$323,000 on hand

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/31/3238028/election-2014-mark-sanford-has.html>

Jamie Self

U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford, R-Charleston, raised more than \$160,000 from October through December and has \$323,000 to spend, according to an email from his campaign. Sanford raised \$62,300 from July through September, ending that quarter with \$195,500 to spend. The Federal Election Commission deadline for filing campaign finance reports for 2013's final quarter is today.

The State: SC's congressional representatives report 2013 fundraising

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/31/3238392/election-2014-scs-congressional.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Almost all of South Carolina's U.S. House members have reported fundraising totals for the final quarter of 2013. Reports for U.S. Reps. Jim Clyburn, D-Columbia, and Joe Wilson, R-Springdale, are not available yet online. But Wilson's spokeswoman Caroline Delleney said they reported \$260,000 to spend. None of the state's incumbent congressmen face serious challenges at this point.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Medicaid agency to get enrollment data from feds

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=XPRw2gdG

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina's Medicaid agency expects to start receiving data it can use to enroll Medicaid-eligible residents who applied for health insurance through the federal online marketplace. Deputy Director John Supra told The Associated Press an estimated 10,000 South Carolinians will be added to Medicaid rolls when the agency processes the backlogged applications it should start receiving next week.

Associated Press: 13,000 in SC have new photo voter ID card

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

State election officials say more than 13,000 people have obtained the new voter registration cards with their photos. The state began issuing the cards with a photo of the voter in December 2012, The State newspaper (<http://bit.ly/1n2OqwT>) reported Friday. Richland County leads the state, with nearly 2,300 of the photo ID voter cards issued. South Carolina has nearly three million registered voters.

Associated Press: 4 more men charged in death of SC State student

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=z0CE34Nr

More people face charges in the death of a 20-year-old South Carolina State University student shot outside a campus dorm. The State Law Enforcement Division said Friday that four men were charged with accessory after the fact of murder in junior Brandon Robinson's death. Nineteen-year-old Justin Bernard Singleton of Charleston was charged with murder a day after Robinson was shot in the neck last Friday.

The State: ELECTION 2014: American Party of SC looking for quality candidates

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/31/3238171/election-2014-american-party-of.html>

Andrew Shain

A new third party, American Party of South Carolina, is certified with state election officials and seeking candidates for local, statewide and federal offices. The party founded by Jim Rex, former Democratic S.C. Superintendent of Education, and Oscar Lovelace, a physician who once ran for governor as a Republican, will nominate candidates at a convention in early May, spokesman Scott Malyerck said.

Post and Courier: Republican and Democrat launch new third party in S.C.

<http://blog.postandcourier.com/palmetto-politics/2014/01/31/republican-democrat-launch-party-s-c/>

Jeremy Borden

Former Republican gubernatorial candidate Oscar Lovelace and Democratic Education Superintendent Jim Rex formally announced the creation of a third political party in South Carolina this morning, the American Party, which they say will put forward moderate, solution-minded leaders.

Local News:

Rock Hill Herald: 'Clover was Herb Kirsh:' Longtime state rep. remembered

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/01/31/5633815/clover-was-herb-kirsh-longtime.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Dys

No doubt, Herb Kirsh would have approved of the small, warm, memorial service Friday that honored his life

in politics and eight decades of life. Because to remember Herb Kirsh – who at the time he left office in 2010 was the longest-serving legislator (32 years) in the General Assembly – is to hear the voices of all parties and people who not just loved the man, but respected him. He died Tuesday at 84 after a series of falls during the past two months.

National News:

Associated Press: GOP committee has \$21M banked to defend House

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dd7XuGhv

The Republican committee charged with keeping the party's majority in the House raised almost \$61 million last year. The National Republican Congressional Committee said Friday it raised \$4.2 million in December and has \$21 million banked for this year's elections. The Democrats' committee to elect members to the House raised almost \$76 million last year to fund its effort to retake the majority. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has \$29.3 million in the bank.

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