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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, September 8, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Island Packet: 120 former students who failed exit exams petition for diplomas

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/09/07/3300215/120-former-students-who-failed.html?sp=/99/257/266/>
Sarah Bowman

Several years after failing to graduate, at least 70 former Beaufort County students will now receive their high school diplomas. And that number is expected to grow.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley signed a law in the spring eliminating the state's exit exam, effective this school year. She also said all students since 1990 who didn't get a diploma solely because they failed the exit exam could petition for it.

Aiken Standard: Climate for future health care development in Aiken

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140908/AIK0101/140909533/0/SEARCH&slid=1>

Maayan Schechter

In July, the Aiken Standard reported that the Aiken County Planning and Development Department had a development permit from University on file, issued on May 23, for a new medical center near USC Aiken and Aiken Regional Medical Centers.

Note: Last summer, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control suspended its rule over the law after Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed almost \$2 million in the state's budget to pay for the program.

Note: The South Carolina Supreme Court ruled 4-1 in April that the state's Certificate of Need law is a permanent law that cannot be expunged by Haley, which means the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control must continue to enforce the law.

Post and Courier: Port gatherings dominate Charleston business agenda this week

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140908/PC05/140909639>

The maritime trade will be awash in industry information this week. The tide starts to roll in Monday, when State Ports Authority CEO Jim Newsome delivers his "State of the Port" address before the 330-member Propeller Club of the Port of Charleston.

Note: The rift between Charleston's main industry-recruiting agency and the three Lowcountry counties that help support it financially hasn't missed the attention of Gov. Nikki Haley. The governor said Thursday she was aware of the tiff and had dispatched Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt to intervene. "They need to work together," Haley said.

Index-Journal: New laws aid grandparents with custody, visitation rights

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/News/News/Article/A-HELPING-HAND/4/40/27462>

St. Claire Donaghy

Amendments to specific sections of the South Carolina Code of Laws could make things clearer for grandparents who find themselves seeking child custody or court-ordered visitation of grandchildren.

Note: In June 2013, the South Carolina General Assembly passed bill H-3464 and it was signed into law that same month by Gov. Nikki Haley.

Note: In June 2014, the South Carolina General Assembly passed by H-4348 and it was signed into law that same month by Gov. Nikki Haley. The bill concerns child visitation and does not pertain to DSS cases.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Putin's aggression unchecked

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140908/PC1002/140909552>

Editorial

On Aug. 28, Russian President Vladimir Putin dismissed Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's offer of a

cease-fire, saying only the Ukrainian rebels could make that decision. Ukraine, outgunned, has little choice but to accept. The question is what should the United States, NATO and the European Union do about this naked aggression?

South Carolina News:

Aiken Standard: S.C. House committee to strengthen domestic violence laws

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140908/AIK0101/140909524/1007/AIK0101/sc-house-committee-to-strengthen-domestic-violence-laws>

Derrek Asberry

House members from the Aiken County Legislative Delegation are in favor of a recently formed House committee that will work to strengthen the state's domestic-violence laws. S.C. Rep. Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston, recently announced the formation of the Special Criminal Domestic Violence Ad Hoc Committee.

Island Packet: 56 immigrant children relocated to Beaufort County, but whereabouts secret

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/09/07/3300141/56-immigrant-children-relocated.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1>

Matt McNab

Of the tens of thousands of children taken into federal custody, nearly four out of five have been temporarily released and sent to a small share of counties, according to recent data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Settlement.

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Republicans nationally focus on S.C. neighbor

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140908/PC1603/140909502>

Jeremy Borden

As the U.S. Senate, gubernatorial and S.C. House races dominate South Carolina's political discussion, Republicans nationally are intently focused on North Carolina's U.S. Senate race. As the GOP looks to pick up six seats in the Senate, which would swing the majority, North Carolina's race between Democratic Sen. Kay Hagan and Republican challenger Thom Tillis could change the balance.

The State: Fort Jackson means millions for local businesses

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/09/06/3663828/fort-jackson-means-millions-for.html>

Jeff Wilkinson

The Dey family of Wisconsin never had taken a family vacation. A farm family, they work seven days a week and rarely leave their home in New London. But on Tuesday, five family members boarded a plane at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport and flew to Columbia to watch Kaitlyn Dey — their daughter, sister and niece — graduate from basic training at Fort Jackson.

Associated Press: SCDOT holds meetings on state transportation plan

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Wn3hoVW5

The Department of Transportation is holding the first in a series of public meetings on a draft of the new state transportation plan. The plan, updated every five years, charts the state's transportation needs including everything from interstate and other highway needs, to rail, freight service and public transportation.

Associated Press: SC ports chief delivers annual address

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

The head of the South Carolina Ports Authority is delivering his annual State of the Ports address. Jim Newsome is speaking at noon on Monday in North Charleston at the meeting of the Charleston Propeller Club.

Local News:

Island Packet: Beaufort private school to start \$1.7M scholarship fund

http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/09/07/3300602_beaufort-private-school-to-start.html?sp=/99/100/&rh=1

Sarah Bowman

In March, the Rev. Chad Lawrence stood before the students, families and staff of Holy Trinity Classical Christian School, challenging them to raise \$750,000 for a scholarship fund. If they could reach that goal in six months, an anonymous donor had promised to match that amount.

The State: Effort to sell Lexington County tax increase starts

http://www.thestate.com/2014/09/07/3666773_effort-to-sell-lexington-county.html?rh=1

Tim Flach

Supporters are starting a low-key effort to sell a penny-on-the-dollar sales tax for roads and other improvements in Lexington County. It's a locally focused effort initially featuring yard signs, speeches to civic groups and neighborhood newsletters that will blossom into a higher-profile campaign with ads and mailings.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama to outline strategy on Islamic State

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/obama-outline-strategy-islamic-state>

Tom Raum

He'll outline his evolving tactics when he meets with congressional leaders from both parties at the White House on Tuesday and then delivers a speech Wednesday on the eve of the 13th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

The Hill: New challenges for O-Care's second year

<http://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/216834-obamacares-second-year-brings-new-challenges>

Elise Viebeck

The Obama administration is facing new challenges in ObamaCare's second year. The health insurance exchanges are set to re-open for enrollment in just two months. This countdown has the White House and federal health officials bracing to see if the system encounters any fresh technical problems.

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