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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, November 14, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Anderson Independent: Michelin to open Tweel plant in Piedmont

http://www.independentmail.com/business/michelin-to-open-tweel-plant-in-piedmont_83873267

Nikie Mayo

Michelin North America will dedicate next week its new Piedmont plant, the site of production for its airless tire called the Tweel. Michelin spokeswoman Stephanie Tarbet said in correspondence Thursday that the plant will be the first in the world devoted to building airless radial tires.

Note: The ceremony will include a personal message from Gov. Nikki Haley, according to the company.

Florence Morning News: Retroactive diploma requests flood FSD1

http://www.snow.com/news/education/article_92775ac6-6bb0-11e4-b5f8-9377d3e8a9c5.html

Melissa Rollins

Florence School District 1 officials are looking at requests from students dating to 1990 who didn't receive a diploma because they didn't meet all requirements. Diplomas now can be awarded retroactively, because a new law abolished a requirement for students in South Carolina to pass an exit exam.

Note: FSD1 Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Randy Koon gave the board of trustees an update on the law that was passed by the S.C. General Assembly and signed in April by Gov. Nikki Haley.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Heed court: Fix S.C. schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141114/PC1002/141119657>

Editorial

Few would dispute that public education in some of the state's poorest school districts is shamefully inadequate. But in a landmark ruling Wednesday, the S.C. Supreme Court said that state government is largely responsible and, in failing those students, has violated the S.C. Constitution.

Rock Hill Herald: Another court sides with same-sex marriage

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/11/13/6527371/another-court-sides-with-same.html?sp=/100/105/>

Editorial

South Carolina was rebuffed again in federal court this week in its effort to continue barring same-sex couples from legally marrying in the state. Federal Judge Richard Gergel of Charleston overturned a state ban on same-sex marriages, ruling that gay couples have a constitutional right to marry in South Carolina.

Note: Yet despite these setbacks, Wilson – with the support of Gov. Nikki Haley – continues to pursue a futile legal battle to preserve the ban.

Greenville News: More recycling needed in Greenville

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/11/13/editorial-recycling-needed-greenville/18983967/>

Editorial

Many Greenville city residents believe that part of being a good citizen is recycling the paper, plastic bottles and aluminum cans that otherwise would be part of the household's weekly garbage. The bad news for many of these recycling champions is that you probably have been tossing some items in the recycling bin that the city doesn't want.

Times and Democrat: Preventing and battling diabetes crucial in S.C.

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/preventing-and-battling-diabetes-crucial-in-s-c/article_da4e802e-6b9a-11e4-b3ef-832eede65fe7.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Diabetes awareness; **OUR OPINION:** Disease has significant impact in state, region. How serious a problem is diabetes in South Carolina? According to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control:

The State: Chapin's mayor, council must heed voters' message

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/13/3810341/editorial-chapins-mayor-council.html>

Editorial

While voters made it clear they prefer the status quo in terms of Chapin's strong-mayor governing structure, that's hardly an endorsement of the dysfunction that has characterized town government over the past year. In refusing to change the town's form of government, voters have challenged their elected representatives to focus on doing the job they were chosen to do in the first place:

Post and Courier: A step forward on climate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141114/PC1002/141119658>

Editorial

The U.S.-China joint commitment to limit carbon emissions, announced Wednesday, attracted predictable criticism across a wide range of interests. But despite the tentative accord's flaws, both real and merely perceived, it was a major step forward on climate change by the leaders of the world's top two economic superpowers.

Post and Courier (Guest Column): How Charleston County schools raised their grades

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141114/PC1002/141119664>

Editorial

Back in 2007, about one fourth of the schools in Charleston County School District had an unsatisfactory rating on the South Carolina State Report Card. The district was considered below average on student test scores and made just average student achievement growth since the previous year.

S.C. General Assembly News:

The State: Schools solution could take time, rewrite of SC law

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/13/3810476/schools-solution-could-take-time.html>

Cassie Cope

S.C. lawmakers said Thursday they are unsure what changes will have to be made to the way the state pays for education. Those changes could take more than a year to enact, one state senator said, and, a former state schools superintendent added, could force a rewrite of the state's tax laws.

Anderson Independent: S.C. senator says he will propose medical marijuana bill

http://www.independentmail.com/news/sc-senator-says-he-will-propose-medical-marijuana-bill_27666735

Kirk Brown

A South Carolina state senator said Thursday that he will propose a medicinal marijuana bill that would allow physicians to prescribe the drug to alleviate pain and treat various conditions. Sen. Tom Davis, a Republican from Beaufort, announced his intentions during a meeting of the state Medical Marijuana Study Committee at Clemson University's International Center for Automotive Research campus in Greenville.

The State: Advocates target unregulated SC child-care providers

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/13/3810558/advocates-target-unregulated-sc.html>

Jamie Self

After-school programs and small home day cares could face stricter rules as lawmakers push for oversight of those now-unregulated child-care providers, members of a child-welfare panel said Thursday. Currently, those child-care programs are exempt from regulations, including fire and health inspections, because they care for too few children or operate for no more than four hours a day, two days a week.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

McClatchy DC: Graham seeks veto power for Congress over any Iran nuke deal

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/13/3810597/graham-wants-a-role-for-congress.html>

Daniel Salazar

When it comes to nuclear negotiations with Iran, Sen. Lindsey Graham wants Congress to have the last

word. On the Senate floor Thursday, the South Carolina Republican argued for legislation that would require President Barack Obama to submit any diplomatic agreement on the Iran's nuclear program to Congress for approval.

S.C. School District Report Cards:

The Item: S.C. gives 'average' rating to school district

<http://www.theitem.com/stories/district-receives-average-rating-in-state-report-cards,236074>

Raytevia Evans

The S.C. Department of Education released the 14th-annual report cards for districts and schools in the state this week, showing improvements for many schools throughout the state. For 2014, Sumter School District received an average absolute rating — a slight change from the previous two years in which the district received good absolute ratings.

Note: The S.C. Department of Education has also made a major push in improving literacy for South Carolina students in districts across the state, and legislators passed Gov. Nikki Haley's K-12 Education Reform Initiative in mid-April which addresses improving technology in South Carolina schools and employing reading coaches for elementary schools.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Spartanburg school districts receive 'excellent' report cards ratings

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20141114/ARTICLES/141119792/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Spartanburg-school-districts-receive-excellent-report-cards-ratings>

Zach Fox

All seven Spartanburg County school districts earned an excellent rating on state report cards, according to data released by the state Department of Education on Friday. The 14th-annual report cards award an absolute rating, reflecting academic achievement, and a growth rating, based on individual student test scores from year to year.

Greenville News: Greenville schools get top score, but report cards changing again

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/longform/news/local/2014/11/14/greenville-schools-get-top-score-report-cards-changing/18993721/>

Nathaniel Cary

Greenville County Schools earned its best ever rating on the state's report card, just in time for the state to change how it evaluates schools. Greenville's school district scored an Excellent absolute rating, the highest mark it can get on the state evaluation. It also moved up from Average to Good on its growth rating, which measures progress from one year to the next.

The State: Four Midlands school districts rated 'excellent' on state report cards

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/14/3810509/four-midlands-school-districts.html>

Jamie Self

For the second consecutive year, four Midlands districts were among the state's high flyers for overall academic performance, according to state report cards released Friday. Kershaw, Lexington 1, Lexington-Richland 5 and Richland 2 earned "excellent" ratings overall on report cards this year and last. However, each district received a "good" rating in terms of how much students improved academically.

Post and Courier: Nancy McGinley credited with Charleston schools earning best report card rating

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141114/PC16/141119662>

Amanda Kerr

On the heels of the dramatic departure of its longest-serving superintendent last month, the Charleston County School District has earned the state's highest academic rating for the first time since the rating system was put in place 14 years ago. According to new data released by the South Carolina Department of Education, the school district has earned an overall state report card rating of "excellent" for the first time, up from a rating of "good" last year.

Rock Hill Herald: York, Lancaster schools fare well on state report cards

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/11/14/6527128/york-lancaster-schools-fare-well.html>

Rachel Southmayd

School districts in York and Lancaster counties were given "excellent" overall ratings on their 2014 state report cards, placing them among the top half of school districts across South Carolina. Fort Mill and Clover were the top two school districts in the state, according their absolute rating index.

Island Packet: Beaufort County schools keeps 'good' rating on state report cards

http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/11/14/3430312_beaufort-county-schools-keeps.html?sp=/99/100/&rh=1

Sarah Bowman

Although the Beaufort County School District maintained its overall "good" rating on this year's state report cards, it did not improve as it had in previous years, according to the grades released Friday by the state Department of Education.

Sun News: Horry County Schools score "Good" rating on state report card

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/11/13/4604310/horry-county-schools-score-good.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1>

Claire Byun

Claire Byun

Schools in Horry and Georgetown counties showed some improvement from 2013 on their S.C. Education Oversight Committee report card ratings, but their absolute ratings for 2014 stayed the same. Horry County Schools received a "good" rating on the 2014 EOC report card, and Georgetown County Schools scored an "excellent" – the highest rating given by the EOC.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: S.C. plans to appeal same-sex marriage ruling, seeks emergency stay

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20141113/PC1603/141119719>

Schuyler Kropf

S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson filed notice Thursday that he plans to appeal a federal judge's ruling legalizing same-sex marriage and is asking for an emergency stay so that no weddings are performed while the appeal is pending.

Times and Democrat: SCSU threatened with \$2.2M shortfall in tuition, fees

http://thetandd.com/news/scsu-threatened-with-m-shortfall-in-tuition-fees/article_6066ba90-6bbf-11e4-b2ea-63d5b61c7574.html

Gene Zaleski

South Carolina State University officials say the institution could be facing a \$2.2 million shortfall in student tuition and fees heading into the spring semester due to a number of students not being able to enroll because of their outstanding balances.

Seneca Journal: Oconee prepares to marry same-sex couples

<https://upstatetoday.com/2014/11/oconee-prepares-to-marry-same-sex-couples/>

Steven Bradley

Barring a stay of a federal judge's ruling Wednesday that struck down South Carolina's ban on same-sex marriage as unconstitutional, Oconee probate judge Kenny Johns said his office is preparing to begin taking applications from same-sex couples next week.

Greenville News: Michelin to make Tweel in Piedmont

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/11/13/michelin-make-tweel-piedmont/18975635/>

Rudolph Bell

Michelin North America isn't saying how many new jobs, if any, it plans at a Piedmont site it has designated for production of its airless tire called the Tweel. The tire maker announced Thursday that it plans to officially dedicate the new plant during a ceremony next week.

The State: Record fine, illegal SC seawall up for review at DHEC

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/11/13/3810712/record-fine-illegal-sc-seawall.html>

Sammy Fretwell

An association facing a massive \$750,000 state fine for building an illegal seawall near Charleston won support Thursday from regulators who could overturn penalties against the Isle of Palms property owners' group.

Local News:

Sun News: Panel suggests downtown Myrtle Beach expand its entertainment offerings, with focus on

millenials

http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/11/13/4604570_panel-suggests-downtown-myrtle.html?sp=/99/209/&rh=1#storylink=cpy

Maya T. Prabhu

The Myrtle Beach Downtown Redevelopment Corp. hired Charleston-based Urban Land Institute to form a technical assistance panel to offer an “unbiased, fair and honest” assessment of problems facing the downtown area, as well as offer possible solutions.

National News:

Associated Press: House Speaker, next Senate leader natural allies

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_CONGRESS_LEADERS?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-11-13-16-30-30

Erica Werner

Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell joined House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio on Thursday at the pinnacle of the congressional and Republican power structures in Washington - two establishment deal-cutters, each on occasion frustrated by the other's inability to rein in their party's most zealous ideologues.

Associated Press: AP sources: Millions to get deportation protection

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_IMMIGRATION?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-11-14-04-56-29

Alicia A. Caldwell

The Obama administration is considering a plan that would shield possibly around 5 million immigrants living in the country illegally from deportation as part of a broad set of executive actions that President Barack Obama could announce as early as next week, people familiar with the discussions say.

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