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To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, January 22, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Index-Journal: NTD cases increase statewide, pushes program to work harder

<http://www.indexjournal.com/news/NTD-cases-increase-statewide--pushes-program-to-work-harder>

Mary Kate McGowan

As Gov. Nikki Haley proclaimed January as Birth Defects Awareness Month, Jane Dean, South Carolina Birth Defects Prevention Program coordinator, said the governor's support greatly helps the program not only because Haley is a political leader but also a mother. "She knows the importance (of folic acid)," Dean said. "I think, women all of ages knowing that she is supporting what we do at the Greenwood Genetic Center for South Carolina is very important."

S.C. Political News:

Greenville News: Marco Rubio courts conservative Christian voters in SC

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/22/marco-rubio-courts-conservative-christian-voters-sc/79158294/>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

Sen. Marco Rubio is making a play for the conservative Christian vote in South Carolina with a new list of religious advisers, including several from the Greenville area. Friday's announcement signals the Florida senator intends to challenge front-runners for a share of the powerful evangelical vote when South Carolina Republicans hold their first-in-the-South presidential primary on Feb. 20.

South Carolina News:

Greenville News: Winter takes aim at Upstate

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/22/winter-takes-aim-upstate/79157744/>

Elizabeth Sanders

The National Weather Service says the Foothills of South Carolina should expect 3 to 5 inches of snow to accumulate between now and Saturday afternoon. An icy mix is currently falling across much of the Greenville area, and is expected to build to about a half and inch before switching to snow.

Associated Press: 4 inches of snow; tenth an inch of ice in SC, 20,000 without power

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160122/PC16/160129820>

Meg Kinnard

The National Weather Service reports several inches of snow have fallen in the Upstate and ice has coated tree branches as far south as the northern suburbs of Columbia. Forecasters said more snow, sleet and freezing rain are coming for areas that have already been hit.

Associated Press: The Latest: 4 inches of snow; tenth an inch of ice in SC

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

The latest developments in a winter storm bringing snow and freezing rain to portions of South Carolina:

2:50 p.m. The National Weather Service reports several inches of snow have fallen in the Upstate and ice has coated branches as far south as the northern suburbs of Columbia. Forecasters said more snow, sleet and freezing rain are coming for areas that have already been hit.

Associated Press: Revenue details efforts to fight theft from false SC returns

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=FitsK2sw

Seanna Adcox

The director of South Carolina's tax collection agency says delaying refunds, using software to flag

suspicious returns and collecting wage documents quicker will reduce the theft of taxpayers' money. Director Rick Reames said those are among the fraud prevention strategies the agency is rolling out this year. People should not expect to see a refund before March 1, no matter how early they file.

The State: Outcry to provide records of failed dam grows in South Carolina

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article55985470.html#storylink=cpy>

Sammy Fretwell

Open government advocates on Thursday joined Sen. Lindsey Graham in calling for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to release records of a dam that failed on Fort Jackson during a major storm last fall. Adam Marshall, an attorney with the Reporters Committee For Freedom of the Press in Washington, called it "incredibly unfortunate" that the Corps has refused requests for the information.

Local News:

Greenville News: GHS seeks state funding for traffic improvements

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/22/ghs-seeks-state-funding-traffic-improvements/79177830/>

Liv Osby

Greenville Health System is seeking funding from the Greenville County legislative delegation for a variety of traffic improvements it wants to make near Greenville Memorial Hospital. The main project would install a traffic light on Faris Road at the entrance to the emergency department.

National News:

Associated Press: Clinton faces challenge in Iowa Caucus reminiscent of 2008

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_DEM_2016_CLINTON_SANDERS?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

Ken Thomas, Lisa Lerer

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is finding herself in a heated contest against insurgent rival Bernie Sanders reminiscent of her 2008 face-off with then-Sen. Barack Obama. Sanders has soared to a nip-and-tuck race in Iowa and holds an advantage in New Hampshire, putting Clinton back on the brink in her second presidential bid.

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