

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
Date: 10/11/2013 8:03:26 AM
Subject: Morning Clips - Friday, October 11, 2013

Morning Clips – Friday, October 11, 2013

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Associated Press: Gov. Haley raises \$950K to Sheheen's \$565K in 3Q

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rt5tNXCR

Jeffrey Collins

Republican Gov. Nikki Haley raised \$950,000 over the past three months for her re-election campaign next year, while her expected Democratic opponent, Vincent Sheheen, raised \$565,000, according to the campaigns. Thursday was the deadline to report third-quarter campaign contributions. Sheheen's report was online by late afternoon, while Haley's report had not been posted. Her campaign released her basic information to reporters. Haley now has \$3.2 million in her campaign account to spend, while Sheheen has more than \$1 million in the bank.

Note: "Our campaign has raised more money from inside South Carolina than ever before and far more from inside South Carolina than Vince Sheheen has," Haley campaign spokesman Rob Godfrey said.

Greenville News: Haley bests Sheheen in latest fundraising report

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131010/NEWS/310100071/Haley-bests-Sheheen-latest-fundraising-report>

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley has three times as much campaign cash as her Democratic rival and collected more in fundraising for the recently ended quarter, according to figures released late Thursday by the campaigns. Haley's campaign raised \$950,000 for the quarter, compared with \$565,507 in donations to the campaign of Democratic Sen. Vincent Sheheen, the campaigns said. But the bigger difference is in their war chests. Haley now boasts \$3.175 million in cash on hand while Sheheen has \$1.1 million.

Note: "We are tremendously grateful for and overwhelmed by the outpouring of support Governor Haley received from friends, old and new, who see the results she is delivering for the people of South Carolina and who want to see our state's progress continue," said Tim Pearson, Haley's campaign manager.

Associated Press: In 3 Months, Haley And Sheheen Raise \$1.5 Million For Governor's Races

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=vE6ohfTp

Adam Beam and Andrew Shain

South Carolina's two candidates for governor in 2014 raised more than \$1.5 million from July to September. Republican Gov. Nikki Haley's campaign said it brought in more than \$950,000 in 2013's third quarter, leaving her campaign with \$3.2 million available to spend, according to a news release. Democratic state Sen. Vincent Sheheen's campaign said it had raised \$565,507 during the same period, giving his campaign \$1 million in cash on hand as of Sept. 30.

Note: "We are tremendously grateful for and overwhelmed by the outpouring of support Gov. Haley received from friends, old and new, who see the results she is delivering for the people of South Carolina and who want to see our state's progress continue," Tim Pearson, Haley's political advisor, said in a news release.

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Florence Morning News: Haley: SC OK despite shutdown

http://www.scnow.com/news/politics/article_be1f2df6-3205-11e3-adda-001a4bcf6878.html

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley told Kiwanis and Pee Dee Rotary members Thursday at a luncheon at the Florence Country Club that despite federal gridlock, "team South Carolina" is still going strong. The governor said the state is strong despite the government shutdown and the struggles of the ongoing debt ceiling debate.

Note: "Basically what we looked at was try to see who was hurt on a day-to-day basis from the shutdown, and we made sure all the WIC recipients, the pregnant mothers were taken care of. We're watching

unemployment benefits and right now that continues to be moving fine,” Haley said. “It looks like South Carolina will be stable until the end of October. After that it’s going to get real concerning.”

Note: “Every county is being lifted up. In Florence alone, we’ve had nine announcements and over 725 jobs and continue to grow,” Haley said. “So now all of a sudden every county is starting to feel life again, and every county is starting to feel like there is hope again. We knew we had to continue on and focus on infrastructure. I told the Legislature, ‘I can keep bringing jobs all day long, but if we don’t have the roads, the bridges, the air, the dual rail, all those things, the ports, to go with it, I can’t keep doing this.’”

Florence Morning News: Haley, Schofield briefly discuss penny tax

http://www.scnw.com/news/politics/article_417155e8-31fd-11e3-b04e-001a4bcf6878.html

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley gave her two cents Thursday on the penny sales tax situation in Florence County, although she admitted she only has limited knowledge about the state’s suit to stop the county from putting a renewal of the capital project sales tax on the Nov. 5 ballot.

Note: “I have been reading that there is a lot of passions behind the penny sales tax and how it’s going to be spent and it sounds like everyone is waiting on a Supreme Court hearing,” Haley said, referring to a pending court decision. “I’ve never weighed in on the local sales tax. I’ve always thought that’s not a smart way to go is to continue to tax your people. Certain counties chose to do it, but it’s up to them to decide on how it should be spent.”

WRHI AM: Ongoing sewage overflows in Tega Cay gains the eye of S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley

<http://www.wrhi.com/2013/10/ongoing-sewage-overflows-in-tega-cay-gains-the-eye-of-s-c-gov-nikki-haley-84945>

Andrew Kiel

Raw sewage, percolating out of the ground. In your backyard. It’s a site nobody wants to see, but some in York County see right through their windows on a regular basis. Now, residents in Tega Cay and River Hills have a new ally in the fight against Utilities, Inc. and Carolina Water Systems — S.C. Governor Nikki Haley. For years, residents in and around Lake Wylie have grown accustomed to signs closing off coves, caution cones and sewage appearing to boil out of sewer lines.

Note: “We’re still at that point to try and figure out what is happening,” Haley said. “We’ve been in conversations with DHEC as well as received your letters. I think we’ll know something soon.”

The State: Haley will not use state money to reopen closed federal parks

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20131011/NEWS10/310110018/Haley-will-not-use-state-money-reopen-closed-federal-parks>

Andrew Shain

Gov. Nikki Haley has no plan to reopen closed national parks and monuments in South Carolina with state money as some other governors have requested. State Natural Resources director Alvin Taylor wrote the U. S. Interior and Agriculture secretaries last week asking the government reopen the unmanned Buck Hall boat landing in the Francis Marion National Forest in Charleston County.

Note: “Federal parks are closed because President (Barack) Obama has failed to lead and has allowed this government shutdown to last 10 days with no end in sight,” Haley spokesman Doug Mayer said. The state Department of Natural Resources “will happily patrol the parks and hunting and fishing grounds that it can with existing personnel, but South Carolina is not going to shell out our tax dollars to cover federal expenses,” Mayer added

The Item: Tri-county area observes fire-prevention week, month

http://www.theitem.com/news/local_news/cook-with-care/article_78f1b8d7-b1ae-5f18-bc9d-f6a5df9b98a5.html

Jade Anderson

October is Fire Prevention Month, and Gov. Nikki Haley designated Oct. 6-12 as Fire Prevention Week.

“The No. 1 cause of house fires in South Carolina and the whole country are kitchen fires,” said Battalion Chief Johnnie Rose with the Sumter County Fire Department. In 2011, more than 150,000 house fires started in the kitchen and led to 470 deaths, he said. That same year, more than 5,000 injuries were sustained in house fires. In 2012, 72 South Carolinians were killed by fires with 97 percent of these deaths occurring in homes, according to the governor’s office. Sumter had seven deaths last year and five already this year, Rose said.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: Fix SC Law On State Subsidies For Political Events

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=iFrmsDI5

Editorial

Gov. Nikki Haley says she has gone further than previous governors by signing an agreement to reimburse the state when her security detail accompanies her on in-state campaign events. And that's a good thing. Equally important might be her pledge to make those reimbursements promptly, since she waited 18 months to do that earlier in her administration, as negotiations dragged on over what she owed for security for out-of-state political events. The agreement the governor signed earlier this month with SLED Chief Mark Keel and Ethics Commission director Herb Hayden requires her campaign to pay the state quarterly for the extra cost of providing security when she attends campaign events.

Post and Courier: Obamacare is no laughing matter

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131011/PC1002/131019928/1022/obamacare-is-no-laughing-matter>

Editorial

The federal government shutdown, the debt ceiling showdown and the so-called Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act are serious matters. But those objects of public debate are also fodder for the comic relief Jon Stewart airs nightly on "The Daily Show." And though the liberal host launches most of his sarcastic barbs at conservatives, he aimed on-target ridicule at U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius while interviewing her Monday night.

Island Packet: Extortion not solution for spending problems

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/10/2731481/extortion-not-solution-for-spending.html>

Editorial

Rep. Mark Sanford is right: There is a constitutional issue with the current shutdown of the federal government. If three years after a democratically elected House, Senate and president enact a law either party decides to hold hostage funding the government until the law is undone or weakened, then our democracy no longer functions as designed by our Founding Fathers. Where does this end? Should the Democrats shut down the government until the Republicans agree to reverse the Bush tax cuts, or until they agree to pass immigration reform or sensible gun control? No, each of these laws must stand or fall on its own merit. The Affordable Care Act has zero to do with a continuing resolution to keep the government operating. It is a hold-up, pure and simple.

Florence Morning News: SC tough on women, but not a much of a surprise

http://www.scnw.com/opinion/editorials/article_ba366e4a-31f4-11e3-a5e1-001a4bcf6878.html

Editorial

In the latest round of ominous national rankings, South Carolina recently received a D letter grade on three issues relating to women — leadership, economic security and health — ranking the Palmetto State 35th in the nation for women to live in, according to a recent report by the Center for American Progress, a think tank on policy issues. This certainly sounds discouraging, and it is, but it is hard not to be just a little ho-hummish when a fevered report like this comes along. Sure, it's big news that some comprehensive and official-sounding report says that women in South Carolina face harder challenges than those in places like Maryland, California and New York.

Note: South Carolina received a D in women taking leadership roles, averaging 34th in the nation. Despite Gov. Nikki Haley, less than 13 percent of the Statehouse is made up of women, one of the lowest figures in the nation. But 40 percent of the state's women hold management jobs

Post and Courier: Charleston schools don't play class size politics

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131011/PC16/131019958/1177/charleston-schools-don-x2019-t-play-class-size-politics>

Brian Hicks

You have to figure parents in Mount Pleasant are a little worried about the state schools superintendent's latest scheme. Mick Zais wants the South Carolina Board of Education to lift the cap on class sizes in most grades. He says it will give school districts, which aren't exactly rocking with cash flow, some much needed flexibility. That Zais — always thinking about public education. Well, when he's not trying to figure out some new way to undermine it with another boost for "school choice." But he's right, lifting the cap would give districts some flexibility. Instead of building a whole new elementary school in Mount Pleasant, the Charleston County School District could just stack 45 or 50 kids in every classroom. Problem solved.

Rock Hill Herald: Governor late in paying state

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/10/5294616/haley-late-in-paying-state.html>

Editorial

Gov. Nikki Haley has had so many close calls with ethics violations, we would think she would scrupulously avoid any behavior that might even faintly suggest misuse of the public purse. But she continues to live on the edge, the latest example being the conflict over her use of state vehicles and security officers for a campaign-related trip to North Carolina. She might have avoided the scuffle by simply reimbursing the state the cost of the trip, but instead the matter was sent to the State Ethics Commission for consideration. And even an apparent exoneration from Ethics Director Herb Hayden didn't stop the complaints. So, in the end, she ponied up money to cover the expenses for the trip – which is what she should have done in June when the trip occurred.

Aiken Standard: Drug abuse controls offer lasting impact

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131011/AIK0201/131019942/1021/AIK0201/editorial-drug-abuse-controls-offer-lasting-impact>

Editorial

State health officials are smartly moving forward with a new initiative aimed at curbing an epidemic in our state. The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control is partnering with law enforcement officials to crack down on prescription drug abuse, hoping to curb problems such as addiction and deaths from overdose. Health officials are shortening the amount of time pharmacists have to turn over prescription information, aiming to more quickly identify people who might be illegally filing prescriptions and abusing drugs.

Times and Democrat: Loss of political center is problem in Washington

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/loss-of-political-center-is-problem-in-washington/article_c094b1ee-31fd-11e3-9439-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Government shutdown; OUR OPINION: Poll shows Americans blame both sides and their hard lines; where is real governance? President Barack Obama and lawmakers must rise above their bickering and do more to end the partial government shutdown, according to a poll this week that places the brunt of the blame on Republicans but finds no one standing tall in Washington. The Associated Press-GfK survey affirms expectations by many in Washington — Republicans among them — that the GOP may end up taking the biggest hit in public opinion from the shutdown, as happened when much of the government closed 17 years ago. But the situation is fluid and there's plenty of disdain to go around.

South Carolina News:

The State: US Senate hopeful had \$31,000 stake in SC blogger's site

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/10/3031942/us-senate-hopeful-had-31000-stake.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Republican U.S. Senate hopeful Nancy Mace received about \$18,500 for selling her ownership stake in a website whose editor, Will Folks. FITSNews still owes Mace \$13,000 for her ownership stake, which Mace's Charleston communications and marketing firm received instead of cash for design and web development work done for the site, according to a statement from Mace's campaign. Mace reported in financial disclosures to the U.S. Senate that FITSNews, a politics-and-rumor site, paid her \$13,500 for her "equity stake" in the business. She also reported an agreement to be paid an additional \$18,000 for her stake in the site. Mace's campaign said she has received \$5,000 toward the \$18,000 owed.

Post and Courier: New DHEC policy denies flu vaccines to insured patients at county health departments

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131010/PC16/131019932/1006/new-dhec-policy-denies-flu-vaccines-to-insured-patients-in-county>

Lauren Sausser

North Charleston resident Charles Eichman, 76, tried to make an appointment for his annual flu shot on Sept. 12. The health department told him to call back in October. On Oct. 1, he tried again and learned that the vaccine hadn't arrived yet and that he should call in mid-October. He tried once more this week to schedule that appointment and found out he won't be able to get the flu shot at all this year through the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control because the department is no longer offering them to patients with Medicare, Medicaid or private health insurance.

The Item: Mulvaney says Shaw civilian furloughs weren't necessary

http://www.theitem.com/news/local_news/mulvaney-says-shaw-civilian-furloughs-weren-t-necessary/article_514dfb06-2285-57d0-8462-88c210375b5b.html

Braden Bunch

U.S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., said Thursday he fully expects the civilian employees recently furloughed at Shaw Air Force Base to be paid for the four days they were absent and that a law passed the day before the federal shutdown should have prevented the furloughs from happening in the first place. "We thought that the bill that we had passed the day before the government shutdown covered all civilian employees. It was intended to cover all civilian employees. It took the Defense Department a week to determine it covered all civilian employees, and it did," Mulvaney said.

Aiken Standard: Lieutenant governor candidate to speak at Democrat fundraiser

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131011/AIK0101/131019913/1007/AIK0101/lieutenant-governor-candidate-to-speak-at-democrat-fundraiser>

Amy Banton

The Aiken County Democratic Party is holding its 11th annual fish fry next week with two speakers, including a candidate vying for the South Carolina lieutenant governor seat next year. The keynote speaker will be U. S. Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., and S.C. Rep. Bakari Sellers, D-Bamberg, who announced his candidacy for lieutenant governor in the 2014 election, will also be at the event as a guest speaker. The event will be held on Thursday from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Aiken Electric Cooperative, 2790 Wagener Road. Party Chair Harold Crawford Jr. said the group is expecting a great turnout, as the event has grown over the years. He said ticket sales have been "tremendous," and there are still a few left for anyone interested in attending the fish fry.

Anderson Independent: School lunch program to run out of money during government shutdown

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/oct/10/school-lunch-program-to-run-out-of-money-during/>

Sarah Freishtat

School meal programs may run out of money if the government does not resume operating, according to a notice from the state department of education. The federal Food and Nutrition Service has enough money to provide lunches in South Carolina for 10 to 12 days if the government does not reopen soon. Funding from other federal food programs, such as the Fresh Food and Vegetable program, has been put on hold. Local school districts plan to continue providing school meals, and say they will pay for them through their general funds if they have to.

Anderson Independent: Legislative battle expected over state fund for local governments

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/oct/10/legislative-battle-expected-over-state-fund-local/>

Ray Chandler

Two lobbyists for county governments say a main battle in the next session of the legislature will likely be about efforts to get the state to fully fund the Local Government Fund. "In 2008, the Local Government Fund was \$280 million. Now it's \$180 million. That's \$100 million of property tax relief that's not going back to the public," said Tim Winslow of the South Carolina Association of Counties. Winslow and Josh Rhodes, both attorneys with the association, spoke Thursday at the monthly meeting of the Oconee Alliance, a civic organization of county business and government leaders, and outlined issues likely to affect the counties.

Associated Press: Port security topic of Charleston conference

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BZq9qAhn

Port security, including threats from terrorists and smuggling, are the topics of a two-day conference at The Citadel. The Southeast Region Security and Intelligence Conference is scheduled to begin on Friday at the state military college in Charleston. This year's theme is protecting the nation's ports, and topics include such things as best port security practices and responding to a port disaster. Among the experts expected at the conference is Letitia Long, the director the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

The State: Tighter food safety rules on the horizon in South Carolina

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/10/3030837/tighter-food-safety-rules-on.html#storylink=cpy>

Sasmmy Fretwell

New rules for restaurants and delis would ban some workers from handling food with their bare hands, require eateries to use nationally certified equipment and take other steps to better protect food from germs that can make diners sick, according to a plan advanced Thursday by the state health department. The S.C.

Department of Health and Environmental Control board agreed to seek public comment on whether to overhaul the state's food regulations. Department staffers said they have the support of many restaurant owners. The rules would need approval from the Legislature.

Local News:

Times and Democrat: 'Penny tax' thrown into question by court case

http://thetandd.com/news/local/penny-tax-thrown-into-question-by-court-case/article_88befd68-3227-11e3-84f2-001a4bcf887a.html

Martha Rose Brown

A case before the South Carolina State Supreme Court has Orangeburg County officials wondering about the future of the capital projects sales tax and taking steps to protect projects already in the works. While the case involves Florence County's use of the tax, Orangeburg County attorney D'Anne Haydel said the "drive-by legal action" could have a local impact. "This is an ever-changing legal landscape that just started about two weeks ago and hopefully will be finished up by the end of October," Haydel said during Tuesday's meeting of Orangeburg County Council.

The Item: Continental could go live by year's end

http://www.theitem.com/news/local_news/continental-could-go-live-by-year-s-end/article_e40e977a-91b9-5144-87a3-16f60a20708c.html

Bristow Marchant

A year and a half after breaking ground in a muddy field off U.S. 521, Sumter's Continental Tire the Americas plant is now a fully fledged, 1-million-square-foot manufacturing facility with machinery in place and ready to be switched on by the beginning of next year. Plant officials led media on a tour of the nearly completed facility Thursday, touting the Germany-based manufacturer's ability to start turning out tires - and provide more than 300 jobs - by the time Continental hits its projected opening date in January. Tom Tompkins, the plant engineering manager, thinks the plant could even begin production before the end of the year.

Seneca Journal: Emerson Rose Foundation helping children abroad

<https://upstatetoday.com/2013/10/emerson-rose-foundation-helping-children-abroad/>

Greg Oliver

Jason and Susan Smith have fused their grief over losing their firstborn daughter, Emerson Rose, in 2011 into establishing a heart foundation in her memory and successfully seeking legislation screening newborns for heart defects. The Smiths have seen the Emerson Rose Foundation provide pulse oximeter machines to 12 hospitals, in Illinois, Indiana and Louisiana in addition to South Carolina. Now the couple is expanding those efforts abroad. This week, Eastside High School in Greenville is conducting its annual Spirit Week. During the week, the school raises money to benefit a specific charity, and the Emerson Rose Foundation was selected as this year's recipient. The Foundation, in turn, will donate half of the money raised to the Children's Heart Project — a ministry within Samaritan's Purse — that brings children from war-torn or impoverished countries to North America for heart surgery.

Post and Courier: Recession thawing? Poplar Grove expansion sought

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131010/PC16/131019910/1006/a-project-too-big-for-hollywood>

Dave Munday

The recession may be thawing for builders, but are residents ready for it? Rumors of plans for 5,000 new houses in largely rural western Charleston County packed council chambers for a town meeting Thursday night. About 75 people filled the seats and crowded the walls of a space not much bigger than a residential great room. After several years of inactivity, the developers of Poplar Grove want to expand. The new houses would be built on 750 acres in Charleston County, across County Line Road from the existing houses in Poplar Grove. Hollywood would annex the property and provide sewer service. The city of Charleston would provide water.

Anderson Independent: New strategy needed for Oconee County sales tax vote, official says

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/oct/11/new-strategy-needed-oconee-county-sales-tax-vote/>

Ray Chandler

If a sales tax for capital projects is going to be sold to Oconee County voters, the list of projects should be short and have broad appeal, a veteran of past referendum efforts said Thursday. A 2006 referendum included more than 50 projects, far too many, said Don Fuller, who was part of a commission that worked in

support of that referendum. Fuller now is a member of a newly appointed commission to build support for another referendum on the November 2014 general election ballot. "It was something for everybody," Fuller said. "This time I'd recommend three to five at the most."

Island Packet: Bluffton Town Council salary increases deserved and overdue, members say
<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/10/2731476/bluffton-town-council-salary-increases.html#storylink=cpy>
Dan Burley

Bluffton Town Council salary increases deserved and overdue, members say. Former councilman running again for office disagrees. Salaries for Bluffton Town Council members will nearly double Jan. 1, when they receive a pay hike that will put Mayor Lisa Sulka's annual pay on par with counterparts in cities such as Summerville and Anderson. To see how the town of Bluffton's salaries compare with other governments in South Carolina, click on this story at islandpacket.com. Salaries for Bluffton Town Council members will nearly double Jan. 1, when they receive a pay hike that will put Mayor Lisa Sulka's annual pay on par with counterparts in cities such as Summerville and Anderson.

Index-Journal: Fire department can't access grant money during government shutdown
<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=21338>
Chris Trainor

At least one local fire department is watching the current federal government shutdown debacle with great interest. In August, Greenwood's Northwest Volunteer Fire Department was informed it would be getting \$49,000 in Assistance to Firefighters grant funds to help purchase a new air compressor and fill station for the department. However, at the moment, Northwest is not able to access that funding because of the government shutdown. Northwest officials said they received an email last week from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) informing the department there would be no grant funding provided until FEMA received appropriations.

Rock Hill Herald: Tuesday's election first for Rock Hill under voter photo ID law
<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/10/5294677/tuesdays-election-first-for-rock.html#storylink=cpy>
Anna Douglas

Residents who want to vote in Tuesday's Rock Hill city election will be asked to show a photo ID at the polls, but York County's director of elections says no registered voter without the identification will be turned away. The election will be the first in Rock Hill since new voter ID laws went into effect in South Carolina. Passed by state lawmakers and signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley in 2011, S.C.'s voter ID law was challenged by the U.S. Department of Justice prior to the 2012 presidential election. Federal judges sided with South Carolina, but said the law could not be implemented until 2013 and that certain allowances must be given to those who can not produce a photo ID at the polls.

Rock Hill Herald: Fort Mill students get schooled on fire safety
<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/10/5295034/fort-mill-students-get-schooled.html#storylink=cpy>
Rachel Southmayd

There was a great big fire department ladder truck parked next to Fort Mill Elementary this week, but it wasn't there responding to a fire. It was there as part of Fire Prevention Week, a staple in schools across the state and the country as firefighters teach children about everything from smoke detectors to fire trucks. At Fort Mill Elementary on Tuesday, fireman Andrew Mosher made his presentations interactive. "What do we do if we hear the smoke detector?" he asked the students. "Do we call 911 to order a pizza?"

Rock Hill Herald: Disabled Rock Hill veteran invites himself to dinner with congressmen
<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/10/5295043/disabled-rock-hill-veteran-invites.html#storylink=cpy>
Andrew Dys

Bobby Free, 72, is 100 percent disabled by cancer caused by exposure to the defoliant Agent Orange in the Vietnam War. Melba Free, his disabled, diabetic wife, has half a foot. Free is not willing to wait to see if the government shutdown will slow or even halt the benefits that keep them both alive. So he has invited himself – and Melba and their disabled daughter and a couple other family members he supports – to eat at the homes of South Carolina's congressmen. He is bringing his bills, including the \$992 rent, to the meal.

Post and Courier: God save the U.S. from becoming the laughingstock of the world, North Charleston mayor prays
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131010/PC16/131019916/1006/god-save-the-us-from-becoming-the-laughingstock-of-the-world-north-charleston-mayor-prays>

David Slade

The partial shutdown of the federal government has been felt in far-flung corners of the economy and in local communities, and North Charleston is praying it will end soon. Mayor Keith Summey typically leads City Council in prayer at public meetings, usually asking for guidance and blessings for the city. On Thursday night, he called upon God to do something about the mess in Washington. Summey prayed for divine intervention to “stop the bickering in Washington” so that the United States would not be “the laughingstock of the world.”

National News:

Associated Press: Poll: Americans Find Little To Like in Washington

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/poll-americans-find-little-washington>

Nedra Picker and Jennifer Agiesta

Americans are finding little they like about President Barack Obama or either political party, according to a new poll that suggests the possibility of a "throw the bums out" mentality in next year's midterm elections. The AP-GfK poll finds few people approve of the way the president is handling most major issues and most people say he's not decisive, strong, honest, reasonable or inspiring. In the midst of the government shutdown and Washington gridlock, the president is faring much better than his party, with large majorities of those surveyed finding little positive to say about Democrats.

Associated Press: Obama admin says it will allow states to pay to reopen some national parks

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/apnewsbreak-obama-admin-will-allow-state-to-pay-to-reopen-some-national-parks/2013/10/10/2ddbdbb0-31cc-11e3-ad00-ec4c6b31cbcd_story.html

Under pressure from governors, the Obama administration said Thursday it will allow some shuttered national parks to reopen — as long as states use their own money to pay for park operations. Governors in at least four states have asked for authority to reopen national parks within their borders because of the economic impacts caused by the park closures. All 401 national park units — including such icons as the Grand Canyon and Yosemite and Zion national parks — have been closed since Oct. 1 because of the partial government shutdown. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees have been furloughed, and lawmakers from both parties have complained that park closures have wreaked havoc on nearby communities that depend on tourism.

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