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**Subject:** Morning Clips – Thursday, March 27, 2014

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## Morning Clips – Thursday, March 27, 2014

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Greenville News:** Secret Service says hacking probe remains a 'priority'

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140327/NEWS03/303270011/Secret-Service-says-hacking-probe-remains-priority->

David Dykes

A criminal probe by state and federal investigators is continuing to determine who hacked into South Carolina Department of Revenue files in 2012, exposing millions of taxpayers' personal data, and one federal official Wednesday called it a "priority investigation."

**Note:** Doug Mayer, a spokesman for Haley, said the governor "continues to work with law enforcement officials to bring the criminal who attacked our state to justice, and can assure the public that the minute we know exactly who was responsible for this attack and have him or her in custody, they will be the very first to know."

### DSS Hearing News:

**Greenville News:** Testimony raises more questions about DSS

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140327/NEWS09/303270009/Testimony-raises-more-questions-about-DSS>

Tim Smith

The state's child welfare agency is once again facing questions after another Senate hearing in which witnesses testified about child deaths, child abuse and overwhelmed caseworkers. Also Wednesday, the chairman of the panel, Sen. Tom Young of Aiken, announced that DSS Director Lillian Koller, who has been recovering from a stroke since December, would appear before the panel April 16.

**The State:** SC Senate panel told of DSS 'despair'

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3350826/amidst-mounting-complaints-against.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

A mother whose infant daughter died in an illegal Greenville day-care center joined child-welfare advocates and a coroner Wednesday in urging a state Senate panel to reform the S.C. Department of Social Services. Kathryn Martin of Greenville said that she did not know about previous problems with the day-care facility where her daughter died, or that the state only would inspect the center if there was a complaint.

### S.C. Political News:

**Aiken Standard:** Bowers runs for Sen. Graham's seat, talks to Republican Club

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140327/AIK0101/140329452/1004/bowers-runs-for-sen-grahams-seat-talks-to-republican-club>

Derrek Asberry

Estill native DeTreville Bowers Jr. announced a candidacy against U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. During an Aiken Republican Club meeting on Wednesday, members asked Bowers what he thinks he can do better than Graham. Bowers responded that Graham voted for the appointment of two Supreme Court Justices – two people who Bowers said go against the social and fiscal positions of South Carolina.

### Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

**Rock Hill Herald:** Community supports summer reading

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/03/26/5809752/community-supports-summer-reading.html?sp=/100/105/121/>

## Editorial

Making sure that children's reading skills don't grow rusty over the summer is one of the most beneficial ways of putting young people on a path to a brighter future. It's uplifting to see that Rock Hill has fully embraced the summer reading concept.

**Note:** The camps were part of Gov. Nikki Haley's education plan she released in January.

**Index-Journal:** Let Hunger Games begin: Haley, Sheheen are in

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/Opinion/Opinion/Article/Let-Hunger-Games-begin--Haley--Sheheen-are-in/8/154/24547>

## Editorial

We all have known it for quite some time now, but Tuesday it all became official: Nikki Haley and Vincent Sheheen are seeking the state's highest office. On Tuesday, Haley filed for re-election and Sheheen filed to once again run against her as he did in 2010. That year, Sheheen lost by 4 percent, but what will 2014 hold?

**Florence Morning News:** Pass Emma's Law and keep drunk drivers off our state's roads

[http://www.scnow.com/opinion/article\\_7f419058-b53e-11e3-a0cd-0017a43b2370.html](http://www.scnow.com/opinion/article_7f419058-b53e-11e3-a0cd-0017a43b2370.html)

## Editorial

Don't drink and drive. Duh, right? Yeah, we know. It's a message we've all heard time and time again to the point where it feels like some sort of echo chamber. But it doesn't make it any less poignant. It is especially important to hear and heed this time of year in this particular place for a particular sub-set of our residents.

**The State:** As clock ticks, will Legislature save our elections?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/27/3350301/scope-as-clock-ticks-will-legislature.html#storylink=cpy>

Cindi Scoppe

FOR ANYONE who cared to pay even a tittle of attention, it has been obvious for months that this year's elections are in danger of being essentially cancelled in most of the state because the laws that created 37 of the 46 county election commissions are unconstitutional.

**Post and Courier:** The road to favoritism

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140327/PC1002/140329461/1021/the-road-to-favoritism>

## Editorial

Former highway commissioner Johnny Edwards, a leading candidate to take over as head of the state Department of Transportation, says one reason he wants the job is because the Upstate "is due for some influence in Columbia." That might not be a disqualifying comment for the next transportation secretary, but it certainly demands some further explanation from the governor, who will make the nomination.

**Aiken Standard:** Minimum wage jump is warranted for S.C.

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140327/AIK0201/140329486/1018/AIK02/editorial-minimum-wage-jump-is-warranted-for-sc>

## Editorial

The current minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour is only going to carry people so far. That's the thinking behind a push both nationally and at the state level to increase wage rates, giving working individuals and families a needed boost.

## Legislative Session News:

**Associated Press:** SC House sends ethics reform to special committee

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xDqvdrjX](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=xDqvdrjX)

The South Carolina House has created a special committee to evaluate the Senate version of ethics reform legislation. The House on Wednesday sent the version the Senate passed last month to a Judiciary subcommittee. The House version passed last year.

**The State:** SC Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell wary of working 2 jobs

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3350760/sc-lt-gov-glenn-mcconnell-considers.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell weighed whether he could remain in office for several months while starting his new job as president of the College of Charleston, but he said Wednesday that he does not think he will try to work double duty.

**Associated Press:** McConnell: SC must prepare for 'gray tsunami'

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=adobtH4C](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=adobtH4C)

Seanna Adcox

Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell warned lawmakers Wednesday that a failure to prepare for South Carolina's oncoming "gray tsunami" will cause a budget crisis and human tragedies. McConnell told a joint session of the Legislature the state's senior population is expected to double over the next 15 years, to nearly 2 million people ages 60 and older.

**The State:** Bill to allow cannabidoil oil prescriptions in SC advances

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3350876/bill-to-allow-cannabidoil-oil.html#storylink=cpy>

Matt McNab

A bill that that would allow children with severe epilepsy to obtain an oil extracted from marijuana to help control their seizures passed the state Senate on Wednesday, after an amendment allowing doctors to prescribe the oil was approved earlier in the day.

**Anderson Independent:** I-85 study proposed

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/mar/26/i-85-study-proposed/?partner=RSS>

Kirk Brown

The South Carolina Department of Transportation is proposing a long-term study to look at how to handle traffic congestion on Interstate 85 in northern Anderson and southern Greenville counties. The study calls for developing a 30-year corridor management plan between exit 34 in Anderson County and exit 44 in Greenville County.

**Aiken Standard:** Young: Optimism grows about legislation to aid School District

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140326/AIK0101/140329453/1007/AIK0101/young-optimism-grows-about-legislation-to-aid-school-district>

Rob Novit

Proposed S.C. General Assembly legislation to amend an existing statute took a positive turn on Wednesday – moving closer to giving the Aiken County School District the authority to call for a sales tax referendum in November. The School Board is seeking new revenue to pursue facility needs.

## **S.C. Federal Delegation News:**

**Greenville News:** Stricter purchase rules for Homeland Security get House panel's OK

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20140327/NEWS03/303270016/Stricter-purchase-rules-Homeland-Security-get-House-panel-s-OK>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

A bill by Republican Rep. Jeff Duncan that would impose tighter controls on how the Homeland Security Department buys equipment won approval from a House subcommittee Wednesday. Duncan's bill, supported by Democratic subcommittee members, appears on a fast track in a Congress where few ideas produce bipartisan votes.

## **South Carolina News:**

**The State:** BMW has transformed SC's economy

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3350976/bmw-has-transformed-scs-economy.html>

Roddie Burris

BMW has put \$6.3 billion into manufacturing luxury cars in South Carolina's Upstate, and it has put close to 8,000 people to work in the state in the past two decades. The international carmaker has long-since exceeded public expectations – dwarfing the \$600 million capital investment and 2,000 jobs it promised when it announced in 1992 it would open its only North American manufacturing plant in Greer.

**Associated Press:** NRC schedules meetings to discuss SC reactors

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=td3umlq9](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=td3umlq9)

Federal officials are offering a chance for people to talk about safety at a nuclear plant in South Carolina. Officials from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission are in Blair on Thursday for an open house on safety performance at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station during 2013.

**The State:** SC DOT to study impact tolls could have on funding I-73

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/03/26/3351025/sc-dot-to-study-impact-tolls-could.html#storylink=cpy>

David Wren

Tolls could help pay for the construction of Interstate 73 in South Carolina, depending on the results of a study the S.C. Transportation Commission is expected to approve during its next meeting.

**The State:** New jets could help ensure air station's survival

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/03/26/3025459/new-jets-could-help-ensure-air.html?sp=/99/257/266/#storylink=cpy>

Cassie Cope

The arrival of the first F-35B fighter jets at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort in June positions the base well to survive an upcoming round of military budget cuts, officials said Wednesday. The jets give the air station an advantage as the U.S. military downsizes following 13 years of war in Iraq and Afghanistan, they said.

**Associated Press:** Marine: Beaufort on track to get 1st F-35 in June

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ud9LfzKL](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ud9LfzKL)

Susanne M. Schafer

The Marine Corps in South Carolina is getting its first futuristic F-35 fighter jets in June, a commander from the Air Station in Beaufort announced Wednesday. Marine Air Group 31 commander Col. Bill Leiblien told members of the South Carolina Military Base Task Force that the first of dozens of aircraft and pilots are due to arrive by early to mid-June.

### Local News:

**Post and Courier:** Charleston, Myrtle Beach and Hilton Head are among the fastest growing areas on the Atlantic Coast

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140327/PC16/140329484/1006/charleston-myrtle-beach-and-hilton-head-are-among-the-fastest-growing-areas-on-the-atlantic-coast>

David Slade

South Carolina was home to all three of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas on the Atlantic Coast in 2013, new Census Bureau estimates say. Greater Charleston is the largest of those metro areas, and it has accounted for nearly a third of the state's population growth since the last census in 2010.

**Florence Morning News:** Florence County latest to have on-site health care

[http://www.scnow.com/news/politics/article\\_358397b8-b54d-11e3-aca9-0017a43b2370.html](http://www.scnow.com/news/politics/article_358397b8-b54d-11e3-aca9-0017a43b2370.html)

Gavin Jackson

McLeod Occupational Health nurse practitioner Amanda Coleburn knows she changed the lives of several people in her career in worksite medical care, people who may otherwise not have taken the time out of their days to visit the doctor.

### National News:

**LA Times:** For Democrats, politicians in handcuffs point to image problems

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/politics/politicsnow/la-pn-democrats-competence-honor-analysis-20140326,0,7269359.story#ixzz2xAEDS6cL>

Cathleen Decker

Americans have low—exceedingly low—opinions about government. It's supposed to stay out of their hair until needed, at which point it's supposed to solve problems instantly. For the full range of American needs, government is supposed to provide only two things: competence and honor.

**Associated Press:** Poll: Ukraine Crisis Hurts Obama Approval Ratings

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/poll-ukraine-crisis-hurts-obama-approval-ratings>

Connie Cass, Jennifer Agiesta

Foreign policy used to stand out as a not-so-bleak spot in the public's waning assessment of Barack Obama. Not anymore. He's getting low marks for handling Russia's swoop into Ukraine, and more Americans than ever disapprove of the way Obama is doing his job, according to a new Associated Press-GfK poll.

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