

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Clips – Sunday, April 13, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Rock Hill Herald: Few S.C. hospitals willing to take risks while certificate of need program suspended
<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/04/12/5864191/few-sc-hospitals-willing-to-take.html?sp=/100/101/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

In a matter of days last June, Gov. Nikki Haley, the legislature and the state's Department of Health and Environmental Control changed – at least temporarily – rules covering new health care construction and equipment in South Carolina. Haley vetoed almost \$2 million in funding for the state's certificate of need program for health care projects.

The State: Help coming for SC State – finally?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/12/3384495/sunday-buzz-help-coming-for-sc.html>

A deal could be in the works to get S.C. State University the money that it says it needs to avoid interrupting campus services and to win over accreditors. Gov. Nikki Haley told The Buzz last week that state leaders are working on a solution to help S.C. State University with its \$13.6 million cash shortage.

Going the Santorum way: U.S. Senate hopeful Det Bowers has tapped two top campaign advisers for Republican Rick Santorum's unsuccessful 2012 White House run.

What are friends for? He received \$49,500 from the S.C. Democratic Party in March. State parties can give up to \$50,000 per election cycle. Haley got \$50,000 from the state GOP party in December 2012.

Post and Courier: Officials hope to put end to 'profound crisis' in corrections bureau

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140412/PC16/140419720/1006/officials-hope-to-put-end-to-profound-crisis-in-corrections-bureau>

Cynthia Roldan, Glenn Smith

For nearly a decade, South Carolina's dirty little secret remained all but hidden behind concrete walls and dense legal papers before a court ruling this year accused prison officials of running a virtual chamber of horrors for mentally ill inmates.

Note: Neither Gov. Nikki Haley nor legislative leaders have signaled support for pouring that kind of money into the prisons.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Island Packet: Sheheen grilled about reducing disparities in South Carolina

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/04/12/3056973/sheheen-talks-womens-issues-during.html?sp=/99/257/#storylink=cpy>

Rebecca Lurye

State Sen. Vincent Sheheen, the expected Democratic nominee for governor, sat down with a group of local women Saturday afternoon -- one of four stops across the state to discuss women's issues in South Carolina. Some of the attendees at the Women for Sheheen event, held at a Hampton Hall home, questioned him on his plans to address equal pay for equal work and domestic violence.

Anderson Independent: Campaign notes: Some candidates stockpiling cash

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/12/campaign-notes-some-candidates-stockpiling-cash/?partner=RSS>

Kirk Brown, Nikie Mayo

State Rep. Brian White has the largest campaign fund of any South Carolina House of Representatives candidate in the Independent Mail's circulation area, according to an analysis of financial reports. White has \$77,746 in his campaign account, according to a quarterly report that he filed Thursday with the state ethics

commission.

Post and Courier: Liberty Rally on Customhouse steps in Charleston decries "big government"

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140412/PC16/140419726/1005/liberty-rally-decries-government-intrusions>

Dave Munday

Six Republican candidates trying to get U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham out of office spoke at a Liberty Rally in downtown Charleston Saturday afternoon. "We've got a senator that must be replaced, period," said candidate Bill Connor of Orangeburg, an attorney, Citadel graduate and Army Reserve Lt. Colonel.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Don't text and drive

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140413/PC1002/140419739/1021/dont-text-and-drive>

Editorial

The dangers of texting while driving are so obvious that police shouldn't have to enforce laws banning it. But many motorists evidently haven't caught on to the possibly fatal folly of that appallingly popular practice. Thus, the S.C. House finally passed legislation outlawing it Wednesday by a 97-16 margin.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Ban texting while driving

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140413/OPINION/404131012/1128?p=1&tc=pg>

Editorial

The S.C. House of Representatives has passed a ban on texting while driving. The Senate also should pass the bill to emphasize safety and to simplify rules for motorists. The bill is a moderate measure that emphasizes the rights of motorists.

Post and Courier: Voter fraud is no myth

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140413/PC1002/140419740/1021/>

Editorial

Opponents of voter identification legislation consistently contend that it proposes a solution to a non-problem. President Barack Obama, during a speech at Al Sharpton's Action Network Conference in New York City on Friday, put it this way: "Let's be clear. The real voter fraud is people who try to deny our rights by making bogus arguments about voter fraud."

The State: Columbia's minor league baseball park deal disappointing

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/12/3382058/editorial-columbias-minor-league.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

WHILE FAR from surprising, Columbia City Council's approval of a baseball park deal that heavily favors a minor-league team owner is disappointing. The management contract for a city-owned ballpark calls for Hardball Capital of Atlanta to bring a minor-league team to Columbia and to operate the facility.

Post and Courier: Ease paperwork burden on veterans' medical care

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140413/PC1002/140419742/1021/>

Editorial

Having worked in health care my entire professional career, I can attest that the doctors and nurses at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center are of top quality in education, training and caring for and about their patients. The problem with the VA and any government-run health care system is the mind-numbing amount of paperwork.

Florence Morning News: Committee's 'stand your ground' tweak is misguided

http://www.scnow.com/opinion/article_05ba5f96-c28e-11e3-9199-0017a43b2370.html

Editorial

Thanks to hoodies and loud music in Florida, "stand your ground" laws are under an intense microscope these days. Depending on personal tastes and sensibilities, the laws are generally viewed as perfectly reasonable or patently ridiculous. Just to further illustrate the national dissonance, almost exactly half of the states (23) in the nation have a version of "stand your ground" on the books.

Greenville News: State's sealed adoption records a roadblock in quest for birth parents

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/04/12/retreat-designed-women-farmers-ranchers/7659249/>

The Clemson Institute for Economic and Community Development is hosting Annie's Project, a risk-management education retreat for farm and ranch women. Annie's Project is a national program that teaches women about farm-management skills, Clemson officials said.

Legislative Session News:

The State: SC solar bill is no quick fix

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/12/3384505/sc-solar-bill-is-no-quick-fix.html#storylink=cpy>

Sammy Fretwell

For people hoping to install low-cost solar panels on their roofs, a plan working its way through the state Legislature doesn't guarantee that will happen any time soon. If the bill passes, it could be a year or more until a statewide program would be established that many hope would lower the price of home solar energy systems.

Anderson Independent: S.C. House legislation takes aim at attorney general

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/12/sc-house-legislation-takes-aim-at-attorney/?partner=RSS>

Kirk Brown

Two measures filed in the South Carolina House of Representatives last week could weaken the prosecutorial powers of the state attorney general. Rep. Kris Crawford, a Republican from Florence, filed a bill that would give legislative leaders the authority to appoint special prosecutors to handle public corruption cases against constitutional officers in South Carolina.

Post and Courier: Push for statewide legislative fix for birth center compliance is running out of time

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140413/PC1603/140419809/1177/push-for-statewide-legislative-fix-for-birth-center-compliance-is-running-out-of-time>

Jeremy Borden

An S.C. House bill aimed at solving an impasse between centers that offer women natural births and the agency that regulates them appears to be foundering. Palmetto State birth center owners fear that the bill's unlikely prospects may leave few options for their businesses.

Anderson Independent: Marijuana legalization far off in South Carolina

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/12/marijuana-legalization-far-off-in-south-carolina/?partner=RSS>

Kirk Brown

The trend that has led to an easing of marijuana laws in dozens of states has gained a foothold in South Carolina. State legislators have embraced proposals to treat seizure-prone children with a cannabis extract and to allow farmers to grow hemp. But unlike Colorado and Washington, where buying and selling pot is no longer a crime, full-blown marijuana legalization remains unlikely in the Palmetto State.

Associated Press: Lawmakers look to combat seafood fraud

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=eG49tuQI

Bruce Smith

Lawmakers in state capitals and in Washington are working to see that consumers are getting what they think they are getting when buying seafood. More than 90 percent of America's seafood is imported and mislabeling is rife. The conservation group Oceana reported last year that 33 percent of the more than 1,200 seafood samples it purchased and tested nationwide were mislabeled.

South Carolina News:

Florence Morning News: State officials examine resources available to investigate child abuse, fatalities

http://www.scnw.com/news/article_90021188-c295-11e3-9b23-0017a43b2370.html

Traci Bridges

In January 2011, 3-year-old Ty'Lashia Grant of Florence died as a result of sepsis from second- and third-degree burns about her buttocks and genitals that were inflicted upon her by adults who poured pans of scalding hot water down her underwear in an effort to potty-train her.

Post and Courier: Attorney General Eric Holder speaker at local drug court ceremony

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140411/PC16/140419805/1006/attorney-general-eric-holder->

[speaker-at-local-drug-court-ceremony](#)

Christina Elmore

Katie Swiatocha remembers the fear more than anything. All she wanted was her son. But instead of being with her child, the young mother found herself alone, frail from drug use and in the custody of U.S. marshals. She was charged with conspiracy to distribute narcotics. A lot can change in a year, though. Swiatocha's life is evidence of that, she said.

Rock Hill Herald: Is Carolinas HealthCare appeal a signal for future litigation?

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/04/12/5864135/is-carolinas-healthcare-appeal.html?sp=/100/101/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Don Worthington

Carolinas HealthCare System's request that an S.C. Administrative Law judge reconsider his decision to allow Piedmont Medical Center to build a Fort Mill hospital may signal the system's strategy for appealing in state or federal courts, legal experts say.

Post and Courier: S.C. Medicaid uses 'social listening' to track online chatter, improve customer service

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140412/PC16/140419729/1006/sc-medicaid-tracks-chatter-on-social-media>

Lauren Sausser

Big Brother isn't watching you - but he is listening. The S.C. Department of Health and Human Services, one of the largest, costliest agencies in state government, pays Clemson University's Social Analytics Institute \$50,000 a year to "scrape data" from 150 million public, real-time feeds each day and report back to the agency what people on the Internet are talking about.

Post and Courier: Don't give the government free money

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140413/PC05/140419955/1177/dont-give-the-government-free-money>

David Slade

Back in college, after completing a particularly difficult final exam on media law, my classmates and I marked the end of the ordeal by ritualistically burning our note cards. "Marbury v. Madison" (fwhoosh), "Falwell v. Flynt" (fwhoosh), and so on. I'm tempted to do something similar each year after I file my income tax returns - a cleansing ritual, if you will.

Local News:

Greenville News: Home sales strong, in demand

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/04/12/home-sales-strong-demand/7625649/>

Angelia Davis

One of the strengths of the local housing market made finding a home a challenge for folks like Meredith Miler and Keith Tye. When the couple, who plan to get married in July, started the hunt for their first home, they were surprised to find their options were few due to tight inventory.

Times and Democrat: Lack of financial data, records leads to adverse audit opinions

http://thetandd.com/news/lack-of-financial-data-records-leads-to-adverse-audit-opinions/article_6d7be00a-c2bb-11e3-930b-001a4bcf887a.html

Dionne Gleaton

Bamberg County is working to make financial reporting and management improvements following an audit that was conducted for the year ending June 30, 2013. Dawn Strickland of Orangeburg-based C.C. McGregor & Co. presented the audit report during a meeting April 7.

National News:

Associated Press: Obama, Republicans compete for support among women

<https://news.yahoo.com/obama-republicans-compete-support-among-women-121639582--election.html>

Nedra Pickler

After months on the defensive over his health law, a more combative President Barack Obama has emerged to fight about gender politics, leading to an election-year competition with Republicans for support from women.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437