

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
Date: 9/5/2013 8:07:06 AM
Subject: Morning Clips - Thursday, September 5, 2013

Morning Clips – Thursday, September 5, 2013

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley scheduled to announce latest Cabinet pick

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=I9EBha7J

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is slated to announce a Cabinet appointment. The governor plans to reveal her latest agency appointment at a news conference at 10:30 a.m. Thursday. A news release from Haley's office didn't say which agency she was going to discuss, but Department of Corrections Chief Bill Byars announced last month that he was going to retire at the end of September. Byars led South Carolina prisons for three years and served as the leader of the state Department of Juvenile Justice before that.

Aiken Standard: Local farmers can apply for emergency loan due to damaged crops

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130905/AIK0101/130909757/farmers-can-get-emergency-loan>

Mayaan Schechter

Aiken County farmers have approximately eight months to apply for an emergency loan program if more than 30 percent of their crops have been damaged due to excessive rain and flooding. The U.S. Department of Agriculture approved Haley's request so farmers can become eligible for low-interest emergency loans through the next eight months.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley requested a disaster declaration on Aug. 19 for the entire state due to crop damage by flooding and rain. Haley requested 36 counties, including Aiken, be designated as Primary Disaster Counties, and the remaining 10 be labeled Contiguous Disaster Counties. Those include Abbeville, Anderson, Chester, Fairfield, Greenwood, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, McCormick and Oconee.

NBC News: SC governor locks herself out of the Governor's Mansion — in her robe

http://usnews.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/09/04/20329528-sc-governor-locks-herself-out-of-the-governors-mansion-in-her-robe?lite

M. Alex Johnson

Like many parents, Nikki Haley was on her porch in her robe packing her kids off to school Wednesday morning. Then she turned around to discover that she'd locked herself out of the house. Unlike other parents, Haley is the governor of South Carolina, and the house is the Governor's Mansion in Columbia. More than 62,000 people had "liked" Haley's post by Wednesday evening, many of them hailing her for her openness.

Greenville News: Haley Facebook post shows how politicians use social media to reach voters

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130905/NEWS/309050010/Haley-Facebook-post-shows-how-politicians-use-social-media-reach-voters>

Ron Barnett

Gov. Nikki Haley locked herself out of the Governor's Mansion Wednesday morning, while still in her robe. How do we know this? Because she told us, on Facebook. Such is the power of social media and its ability to give public figures a free platform to get their message out, unfiltered and personal. Haley's Wednesday morning confession — although it drew several slightly lurid comments — probably only serves to make her constituents feel more like she's somebody they can relate to, said Larry Sabato, director of the Center for Politics at the University of Virginia.

India West: S. Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley Woos Indian Private Sector

<http://www.indiawest.com/news/13344-s-carolina-gov-nikki-haley-woos-indian-private-sector.html>

Prakash Swamy

Indian American South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley has said that she is keen on working with the Indian private sector to help set up manufacturing facilities in her home state. Haley said India has made great strides in manufacturing and technology and she would welcome Indian industrialists to set up facilities that

would help create more jobs in her state.

Note: "I am in touch with Indian Ambassador to the U.S. Nirupama Rao in this connection and hopefully very soon something would turn out," she told PTI here.

Note: "We have to see how much our parents have sacrificed in this country and how much our parents went through in the formative years. It's only our generation could push beyond what they did and make our voices heard as well in the right corridors of power," she said.

India West: Jindal Asks Supporters to Help Haley in Her Re-Election Bid

<http://www.indiawest.com/news/13343-jindal-asks-supporters-to-help-haley-in-her-re-election-bid.html>

Endorsing South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley in her re-election bid, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal has said that his Indian American Republican colleague is one of the greatest conservative leaders of the country. "One of this nation's greatest conservative leaders is my friend, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley," Jindal said in an e-mail message to his supporters asking them to support Haley, who is seeking to be re-elected as governor of South Carolina. Haley, 41, currently is the youngest governor of the United States. She kicked-off her re-election bid in the presence of Jindal and Republican governors from Texas and Wisconsin on Aug. 26.

Associated Press: Haley to start mileage reimbursement

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=XpZ7yRbK

Seanna Adcox

Gov. Nikki Haley should have been reimbursing taxpayers for mileage in state vehicles to her fundraising events ever since she took office, the director of South Carolina's ethics agency told The Associated Press on Wednesday. The governor's attorney disagrees with that opinion and plans to seek another one from commissioners who oversees the agency. Meanwhile, any reimbursement has been put on hold.

Note: Haley's campaign began logging mileage to her fundraising events Sept. 26 when she publicly declared her re-election bid, campaign spokesman Rob Godfrey said. He added that the campaign will begin making those payments as part of quarterly reimbursements. The Republican governor has previously reimbursed only for additional costs her security detail incurred for fundraisers during out-of-state trips, such as agents' additional hotel nights and meals.

Note: Godfrey said the campaign's decision on the timing followed "decades-old precedent" that a governor's formal announcement triggers mileage reimbursement, based on discussions with officials at the State Law Enforcement Division, which provides the governor's security as per state law.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

The State: SC Gov. Haley: Democrat Sheheen should not point fingers over hacking

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/04/2960718/sc-gov-haley-democrat-sheheen.html#storylink=cpy>

Adam Beam

A massive data breach of South Carolinians' personal information. Angry politicians vow it never will happen again. State tax dollars pay a private company to protect the credit of S.C. victims. It happened in October, when a hacker stole the personal information of 6.4 million taxpayers from the state Revenue Department. But it also happened six months earlier, in April 2012, when authorities charged Christopher Lykes with stealing the personal information of 228,000 S.C. Medicaid beneficiaries. You could hear Lykes' name again, during the 2014 governor's race, as Gov. Nikki Haley pushes back against criticism of her handling of the Revenue Department hacking.

Note: "This says a lot about who Vince Sheheen is – someone who (is) quick to chase crises and point fingers, someone who recommends a thief for a state job because the applicant's a well-connected Democrat, and someone who walks away from accepting any responsibility himself," Haley campaign spokesman Rob Godfrey said. "It's a shame but unsurprising."

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Times and Democrat: Orangeburg County ideal for tire maker

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/orangeburg-county-ideal-for-tire-maker/article_b5327472-15dc-11e3-b5b6-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: Creating a tire cluster; OUR OPINION: Hankook would find Global Logistics Triangle to be good choice for major manufacturing facility. One day after Labor Day: 2AM Group, a supplier of logistics, manufacturing and quality services to the automotive, aerospace and marine industries, announced

Tuesday it is establishing its new production facility in Richland County. The \$500,000 investment is expected to generate 100 new jobs over the next three years. Two days after Labor Day: The Crown Group, a provider of coating services to the automotive, heavy truck and agriculture industries, on Wednesday announced that it has opened a new plant in Greenville County. The \$5.4 million investment is expected to generate 42 new jobs over the next five years.

Note: According to SCDC, since January 2011, the month Gov. Nikki Haley took office; South Carolina has recruited more than \$9 billion in capital investment and more than 26,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector. In the automotive-related sector alone, the totals are \$5.1 billion in investment and more than 8,500 jobs.

Aiken Standard: Thoughtful reform needed on food stamps

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130905/AIK0201/130909769/1018/AIK02/editorial-thoughtful-reform-needed-on-food-stamps>

Editorial

More people are on food stamps today than ever before. The program has been pushed to unprecedented levels with more than 47 million Americans now receiving benefits, according to the agency that oversees it, the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In South Carolina, more than 800,000 depend on the program each month, costing taxpayers about \$1.3 billion annually. reated decades ago, the program is aimed at tackling poverty, but unfortunately, has seemingly changed from one that rose and fell with the unemployment rate to a more permanent feature of society.

Greenville News: U.S. credibility is in Congress' hands

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130905/OPINION/309050007/Editorial-U-S-credibility-Congress-hands>

Editorial

Many of President Barack Obama's opponents expressed relief last week when he said he will seek approval from Congress before launching a military strike against Syria in response to that country's use of chemical weapons against anti-government rebels. But the delay and the open disagreement spurred by such a debate could serve to render completely ineffective an already dubious course of action. The apparent actions by the Syrian government of Bashar al-Assad are deplorable. It is increasingly evident that the government used Sarin gas in an Aug. 21 attack that killed 1,429 people, including 426 children. As the Obama administration has made clear, the Syrian government's actions are reprehensible and deserve a harsh response from the international community.

Rock Hill Herald: Obama goes to Congress for approval

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/09/04/5177237/obama-goes-to-congress-for-approval.html>

Editorial

Syrian Bashar al-Assad must be grateful that President Barack Obama has taken so long to mobilize a strike against Syria. It buys Assad time to relocate potential targets and deploy troops out of the likely line of fire. Nonetheless, Americans also should be grateful for this careful slow walk toward such a monumental decision. We are better off sacrificing part of the element of surprise than rushing into an attack without laying the groundwork first. Even Obama's inner circle allegedly was surprised by his decision last week to seek the approval of Congress before launching an attack. Although he already is persuaded by the evidence that Assad is guilty of using poison gas to kill more than 1,400 Syrians, including hundreds of children, and that the regime should be held accountable, he also is convinced that the support of Congress would bolster his case.

Florence Morning News: No clean resolution in debate about Syria

http://www.scnow.com/opinion/editorials/article_ee488ea8-15c4-11e3-b47f-001a4bcf6878.html

Editorial

Last week's announcement that President Barack Obama wants Congress to endorse his plan to launch an airstrike against Syria for its alleged use of chemical weapons on its own people was a well-measured action from a man that has been out of character lately. Some of the hasty "red-line" talk Obama sternly issued shortly after the suspected attack was unfitting of a president elected on an anti-war message. The decision to work with members of Congress on a calculated response feels much better to us, but even it is rife with the complexities that come with international politics.

Baby Veronica News:

Associated Press: Okla. gov. signs order for Cherokee girl's dad

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=iX2xK76w

Kristi Eaton

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin signed an extradition order Wednesday to send the father of a Cherokee girl in the middle of a custody dispute to South Carolina to face a criminal charge for refusing to hand his 3-year-old daughter over to her adoptive parents. But a lawyer for Dusten Brown says he doesn't believe his client will be extradited, insisting Brown has not committed a crime and that a judge will not enforce the order. Brown was charged last month with custodial interference, and a warrant for his arrest was issued out of South Carolina. Brown and Matt and Melanie Capobiano, of James Island, S.C., have been fighting for years over Veronica. The Capobiancos were finalized as her adoptive parents in July, but Brown did not turn over the 3-year-old girl.

Post and Courier: Oklahoma governor orders extradition of Veronica's birth father

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130904/PC16/130909733/1006/veronica-x2019-s-birth-dad-facing-arrest-warrant-clears-way-for-extradition-to-charleston>

Andrew Knapp and Dave Munday

Instead of eagerly preparing for his daughter's fourth birthday celebration, Dusten Brown grew worried Wednesday that he would be arrested and miss the milestone. Oklahoma's governor signed an extradition warrant that cleared the way for authorities there to arrest Brown and send him to Charleston, where he faces a felony charge of custodial interference for refusing to give up Veronica. The toddler, who was adopted by a James Island couple she lived with for 27 months, turns 4 on Sept. 15. Lori Alvino McGill, the Washington attorney for Veronica's birth mother who has spoken in favor of the adoptive parents, praised the governor's "decisive action" to help end the case.

South Carolina News:

The State: Health insurance navigators hustle to hire, train workers in SC by Oct. 1

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/04/2960095/health-insurance-navigators-hustle.html#storylink=cpy>

Joey Holleman

Starting in October, you might be able to sign up for health insurance at a folding table outside your grocery store, in the waiting room at your hospital emergency department or at church functions. The effort to cover nearly a million people in the state – about 750,000 uninsured and others who are underinsured – under the Health Insurance Marketplace will show up in places expected and unexpected. DECO Recovery Management, one of the three groups who earned federal grants to help people navigate the new system, is borrowing from one of the nation's most successful sales forces.

Greenville news: Duncan, Wilson oppose Syria strike, invoke Benghazi

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130905/NEWS/309050008/Duncan-Wilson-oppose-Syria-strike-invoke-Benghazi>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

Two South Carolina Republican congressmen are refusing to support military strikes against Syria, in part because they say no one has been punished for the 2012 attacks on the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Rep. Jeff Duncan of Laurens tangled with Secretary of State John Kerry at a Wednesday hearing after suggesting the Obama administration is using Syria to distract from the Benghazi incident in which four Americans were killed, including the ambassador, one year ago next week. Duncan provoked Kerry by holding up a picture of one of the Benghazi victims.

Associated Press: Graham scheduled to speak at Greenville luncheon

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=287w8M1O

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham is set to give some South Carolinians an update on what's going on in Washington. On Thursday, his office says the Republican is the scheduled keynote speaker at the Greenville Chamber of Commerce's Washington Update Luncheon. Graham has given conditional support to President Barack Obama's request for congressional authorization of military action in Syria. Earlier this week, Graham told reporters in Goose Creek that he's convinced that Syrian President Assad used chemical weapons on his own people.

The Item: Graham stresses military readiness

http://www.theitem.com/news/local_news/graham-stresses-military-readiness/article_4dc0cd21-4b56-5b56-b77b-9855af5166c6.html?_dc=500914624193.6833

Bristow Marchant

Lindsey Graham wants America's military to respond forcefully to the use of chemical weapons in Syria, but he worries the effects of sequestration have reduced the country's readiness to respond quickly to developing situations around the globe. "Sequestration will give us the smallest Air Force ever, the smallest Army since 1940 and the smallest Navy since 1915," Graham said. South Carolina's senior U.S. senator spoke Wednesday after an appearance before the military affairs committee of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce. He stressed the need to maintain military readiness in an age when Graham admits many Americans are weary after a decade of war. The consequences of a decline in American power around the world could be chaos.

Post and Courier: State higher education commission to consider sale of Charleston School of Law to InfiLaw

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130904/PC16/130909725/1006/state-higher-education-commission-to-consider-sale-of-charleston-school-of-law-to-infilaw>

Diane Knich

State Rep. Leon Stavrinakis says quality and affordability are the two main goals for South Carolina's higher-education institutions, and the company poised to buy the Charleston School of Law doesn't appear to strive to meet either. At its Thursday meeting, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, the state agency that approves operating licenses for for-profit institutions, will discuss the Charleston school's pending sale to InfiLaw System, a company that owns three other law schools. The commission and the American Bar Association must approve the sale before it can become final.

Aiken Standard: Report reveals radionuclide leaks in SRS vault

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130905/AIK0101/130909728/1007/AIK0101/report-reveals-radionuclide-leaks-in-srs-vault>

Derrek Asberry

The Savannah River Site has confirmed its efforts to maintain radionuclide leaks caused by cracking in a vault on Site. Vault 4 was previously used for the disposal of nuclear waste from high-level waste tanks. As of now, the vault is no longer being used to receive radioactive salt waste. Information on the leakage was uncovered after Tom Clements, a member of Friends of the Earth, filed a Freedom of Information Act request on Aug. 6. The Department of Energy's Savannah River Site identified the leakage in February. Department officials stated the problem stems from cracks in the roof of the vault. On July 31, SRS submitted a letter to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control outlining the issue and the Site's repair efforts.

Associated Press: DJJ doing community service across South Carolina

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=fEgLv8uv

The Department of Juvenile Justice is launching a three-day community service effort in South Carolina. Starting Thursday, DJJ says its youth and staff are teaming up with community partners and volunteers for various projects around the state. Organizers say they expect hundreds of volunteers to help refurbish buildings, organize food pantries and spruce up gardens. This is the fifth consecutive year that DJJ has worked on the "Restoring Carolina Through Youth Service" effort. Last year, the agency says it did 82 service projects across South Carolina.

Times and Democrat: I-95, annexation hot topics at chamber event

http://thetandd.com/news/local/i--annexation-hot-topics-at-chamber-event/article_53293064-15e0-11e3-b54e-001a4bcf887a.html

Gene Zaleski

South Carolina needs to focus its development efforts on Interstate 95, Orangeburg County Development Commission Director Gregg Robinson said at a business forum Wednesday. "If we truly want to improve this state, we have got to focus on I-95. ... The I-95 corridor has to be a focus for infrastructure, tax incentives and tourism delivery," Robinson said. He pointed to the county's promotion of the Global Logistics Triangle as one of the efforts to help develop the area along I-95. The county markets the area within I-95, I-26 and U.S. 301 as the Global Logistics Triangle.

Florence Morning News: State of South Carolina files lawsuit against Florence County over penny tax

http://www.scnow.com/news/politics/article_b41e5238-15b2-11e3-8429-001a4bcf6878.html

Lindsay S. Buchanan

The South Carolina Attorney General's Office and the S.C. Department of Revenue have asked for an injunction to stop the Nov. 5 referendum to extend the Capital Project Sales Tax in Florence County. The

lawsuit, filed Wednesday afternoon, lists Florence County, Florence County Council and the Florence County Registration and Elections Commission. It asks for an injunction against a referendum vote. Council pushed forward with extending the tax, first approved by voters in 2006, by setting up community meetings earlier this year to solicit feedback and formulating a referendum question with a list of proposed projects that would be paid for by the seven-year tax, also known as the penny tax.

Local News:

Island Packet: Sanford stops in Beaufort Thursday

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/04/2666072/sanford-stops-in-beaufort-thursday.html>

U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford will make two stops in Beaufort on Thursday. The congressman for the 1st Congressional District, which includes most of Beaufort County, will be at the Beaufort Kiwanis meeting at 7:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral at 122 Robert Smalls Parkway and at the Beaufort Republican Women's Club luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Dataw Island Club at 100 Dataw Club Road.

The State: Columbia's Strong Mayor Issue Won't Make Fall Ballot

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=wGeVxL6D

John Monk

A massive drive to collect signatures to force a referendum on a strong-mayor form of government in Columbia won't get the 11,000-plus signatures needed to put the issue on the Nov. 5 ballot. Any special election to let voters decide the strong mayor question now almost certainly will be held after Jan. 1. Petition drive organizers said Wednesday that about 5,000 or so verified registered city voters have signed the petition calling for a referendum. Under state law, they have to have signatures of 11,500-plus city residents, or 15 percent of the city's 75,000 or so registered voters.

Associated Press: Economic development forum set in SC 7th District

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

South Carolina Rep. Tom Rice is scheduled to hold an economic development forum in Florence. Thursday's event is designed to discuss ways businesses can work together to create more jobs in the state's 7th Congressional District, which reaches from the Pee Dee to the coast. Rice's appearance is set for the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology. Representatives from the University of South Carolina's Economic Engagement Team will also hold seminars at the forum.

The State: SLED Examines Lexington Co. Magistrate Court Money Problems

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8mDB2JsB

Tim Flach

The State Law Enforcement Division is looking into reports of financial irregularities in Lexington County magistrate court. SLED spokesman Thom Berry confirmed the investigation Wednesday, saying only that it is underway. He declined further comment. An unnamed court worker "is no longer employed," county administrator Joe Mergo said. The amount in question is less than \$2,000, two officials familiar with the investigation said. The officials asked to remain unidentified. Preparation for a regular audit of court finances discovered the problem, Chief County Magistrate Gary Reinhart said.

Aiken Standard: Employment expo an opportunity for employers, job seekers

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130905/AIK0101/130909756/1007/AIK0101/employment-expo-an-opportunity-for-employers-job-seekers>

Derrek Asberry

The Aiken Standard and Aiken Staffing will sponsor an employment expo on Thursday, Sept. 19. The expo will be held at the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center from 3 to 7 p.m. There are 6,600 job seekers in the area, said Dee Taylor, the advertising director at the Aiken Standard. The expo will be a great way to potentially find employment, she said. "Due to the success of our expo in February, we felt like another expo this year would find the same success," Taylor said. For employers, expo organizers are offering several sponsorship and exhibitor packages that include exhibitor space, print and online advertising.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach election flier: Support for incumbents, subtle warning to challengers or both?

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/09/04/3687925/myrtle-beach-election-flyer-support.html#storylink=cpy>

David Wren

A full-color advertisement promoting the incumbents in this year's City Council race touts that group's

leadership and accomplishments, but some political experts say there's also a hidden message in the flier mailed to city residents this month – challengers beware. "Oh, it definitely makes a statement," said Donald Smith, who has run a political consulting business in Horry County for more than a decade. "It sends a message that the business community is satisfied with what they have and they like the job the incumbents have done. Any challenger that's thinking about getting into that race has to factor that into their decision."

National News:

Associated Press: Early look at health law's premiums

http://thetandd.com/business/apnewsbreak-early-look-at-health-law-s-premiums/article_d8745bcb-60cd-5b39-a591-c04b8d3e6027.html

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar

The No. 1 question about President Barack Obama's health care law is whether consumers will be able to afford the coverage. Now the answer is coming in. The biggest study yet of premiums posted by states finds that the sticker price for a 21-year-old buying a mid-range policy will average about \$270 a month. That's before government tax credits that act like a discount for most people, bringing down the cost based on their income. List-price premiums for a 40-year-old buying a mid-range plan will average close to \$330, the study by Avalere Health found. For a 60-year-old, they were nearly double that at \$615 a month.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437