

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
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Subject: Afternoon Clips - Tuesday, September 24, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Clemson poll: 53% of GOP voters give Graham favorable rating

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130924/NEWS/309240063/Clemson-poll-53-GOP-voters-give-Graham-favorable-rating>

Rudolph Bell

A little more than half of Republican voters surveyed in a new poll from Clemson University said they think favorably of U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham. Fifty-three percent of 500 South Carolina Republicans questioned gave a favorable opinion of Graham, with 36 percent saying they thought unfavorably of him. Eleven percent were undecided. The poll, which came out today, surveyed Republicans who voted in two of the last three GOP primaries. Gov. Nikki Haley fared better, with 70 percent of Republicans saying they thought favorably of her, 18 percent unfavorably and 12 percent undecided.

The State: Poll: Nikki Haley's GOP voter backing stronger than Lindsey Graham in 2014

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/24/2999429/poll-nikki-haleys-gop-voter-backing.html>

Andrew Shain

Republican Gov. Nikki Haley has a strong backing for reelection next year among GOP voters, while U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham will need to convince people in his party to give him another term, according to a new Clemson University poll. Haley received favorable marks from 70 percent of 500 Republican voters who participated in two of the past three GOP primaries. Just 18 percent said they did not like the former Lexington lawmaker. Graham, who is facing competition from the libertarian wing of the party in the June primary, was liked by 53 percent of those polled. More than one-third of GOP voters had an unfavorable opinion of the Seneca Republican.

Post and Courier: Clemson poll shows S.C. GOP with mixed feelings on Sen. Lindsey Graham

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130924/PC16/130929699/1177/clemson-poll-shows-sc-gop-with-mixed-feelings-on-sen-lindsey-graham>

Robert Behre

A new Clemson University poll shows U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham is having trouble with his Republican base here at home. Clemson political science professor Dave Woodard conducted the poll last week and found only 31 percent of South Carolina's Republicans plan to vote to re-elect Graham, regardless of who else was in the race. The poll was taken one week after Graham and U.S. Sen. John McCain strongly supported a United States missile attack in Syria — a decision that 84 percent of the GOP base disagreed with, Woodard said.

Times and Democrat: Laserflex expanding operations in Spartanburg County

http://thetandd.com/business/laserflex-expanding-operations-in-spartanburg-county/article_04cab63c-2543-11e3-b0ff-0019bb2963f4.html

Laserflex, a precision metal fabricator, announced Tuesday that it will expand its existing operations in Spartanburg County. The \$4 million investment is expected to generate 20 new jobs. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Laserflex will expand its South Carolina operations by moving to a new, 63,000-square-foot building in Wellford, which will increase the company's manufacturing space by 23,000 square feet. The expansion will allow Laserflex to add a range of new operations, including machining, paint and laser tube cutting.

Note: "While we work hard every day to recruit new companies to South Carolina, it's exciting to see one of our existing businesses choose to expand its footprint here," Gov. Nikki Haley said. "We celebrate Laserflex's decision to invest \$4 million and create 20 new jobs. Today's announcement is another indication our economic development efforts are on the right track."

The State: Judge gives Gov. Haley, AG Wilson extra time to answer S.C. gay marriage lawsuit
<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/24/2999175/judge-gives-gov-haley-ag-wilson.html>

John Monk

A federal judge has given S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley and State Attorney General Alan Wilson an extra seven weeks to file an answer to a lawsuit challenging the state's gay marriage bans. The lawsuit, filed in the Columbia division of federal court late August, was brought by an S.C. Highway Patrol trooper and the woman she legally married in Washington, D.C., last year. "The defendants request this additional time to respond due to the significant issues in this case," said a motion submitted by Wilson on behalf of himself and Haley. Judge Joe Anderson granted the extension, noting that Columbia lawyers John Nichols and Carrie Warner – who represent the two women who brought the lawsuit – did not object.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Experts: Girl in adoption dispute needs stability

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/24/2702243/experts-girl-in-adoption-dispute.html#storylink=cpy>

Meg Kinnard

Veronica's entire 4-year-old life has been lived at the center of a protracted custody dispute between her biological Native American father and a couple in South Carolina chosen as adoptive parents by her mother. Now that the legal fight is over, the struggle to create a normal existence for the young Cherokee girl begins. Late Monday, the Oklahoma Supreme Court declined to uphold a stay keeping Veronica with her father, Dusten Brown, and ordered that custody be turned over to Matt and Melanie Capobianco, of Charleston.

The State: Audit: Public in dark about state-card abuse

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/24/2999346/audit-public-in-dark-about-state.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

S.C. lawmakers have not approved proposals to tell the public about state employees' abuse of state-issued credit cards to make small purchases, a new state audit found. State agencies are supposed to report employees punished for misusing a credit card to the Comptroller General's office, which should post disciplinary actions on its website, according to an update of a 2011 Legislative Audit Council report released Tuesday. The General Assembly has not amended the state budget to require reporting of card abuse. The Legislature also has not approved a law to monitor agencies' compliance with the state's procurement credit-card rules, the audit said.

Associated Press: 35 schools participating in TransformSC initiative

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=a1NX4LwY

Seanna Adcox

Nearly three dozen schools are participating in a business-driven initiative aimed at transforming South Carolina's education system. Business leaders with the nonprofit New Carolina on Tuesday named the 35 schools across 19 districts that are collaborating in its TransformSC initiative. AT&T South Carolina President Pamela Lackey says business leaders understand the education system must do a better job of preparing students for today's economy. All 35 schools are working on innovative ideas. School officials submitted applications to TransformSC laying out their efforts.

The State: Verizon adding 120 jobs in SC by end of year

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/24/2999572/verizon-adding-120-jobs-in-sc.html#storylink=cpy>

Verizon Wireless will hire 120 full-time employees in South Carolina by the end of the year. Positions available include customer service specialists and retail employees. Jobs are available statewide and provide a range of benefits – including health care coverage beginning on the first day of employment, adoption assistance and on-site college courses.

Post and Courier: Oceana, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy hold forum on risks of seismic testing offshore for oil, natural gas

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130924/PC16/130929695/1006/seismic-blasts-to-test-for-oil-gas-offshore-gets-airing>

The threats to marine life and coastal recreation from seismic testing offshore will be taken up at public forum Wednesday. Oceana and the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy are hosting the educational forum 6-8 p.m. at the Rita Hollings Science Center, Room 121, College of Charleston, 58 Coming St. Federal regulators are considering permitting the tests off the East Coast to explore for oil and natural gas. In seismic tests, crews detonate compressed air guns dragged behind ships, creating a series of blasts to read

the “echo” beneath the sea floor. The blasts can deafen or injure marine mammals, such as whales or dolphins, that navigate by sonar echoes, and are suspected of injuring other marine life.

Rock Hill Herald: Winthrop president pledges to ‘double down’ on veteran help

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/09/24/5241011/winthrop-president-pledges-to.html#storylink=cpy>

Anna Douglas

A student’s email critical of planned 9/11 remembrance activities has hit a nerve with Winthrop University’s president, prompting her to pledge that the school will “double down” on helping student veterans. The student emailed Winthrop President Jayne Marie Comstock the day before the 12th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that killed 2,977 people in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. He was responding to Comstock’s university-wide email sent the day before, in which she asked those on campus “pause and reflect (on Sept. 11), while also rededicating ourselves to service to our communities, our nation and the world”.

Post and Courier: Shore power: Answer to controversy over cruise ship terminal in Charleston?

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130923/PC16/130929744/1006/is-cruise-solution-as-easy-as-plugging-in>

Bo Petersen

Bringing together the two sides in the fuming battle over cruise ships in Charleston could be as simple as running an extension cord. So while that may sound simple enough, there are two problems: One is that the cord would be connected to a \$6 million shore power outlet that zings enough juice to light up several thousand homes. That’s what it takes to power a cruise ship if it switches off its engines in port to keep from burning polluting fuel.

Local News:

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Spartanburg GOP office could close

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130924/ARTICLES/130929839/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Spartanburg-GOP-office-could-close>

Felicia Kitzmiller

The Spartanburg County Republican Party could abandon its headquarters because of a cash flow problem. During Thursday’s executive committee meeting, party officials will discuss the possibility of not renewing the lease on the downtown office the group has occupied for about five years. Chairman Nic Lane said he and other county party officers will recommend abandoning the property in favor of a lower cost community presence. “Our first preference is to have a physical presence in the community but we have been unable to make the economics work,” Lane wrote in a letter to the executive committee.

Greenville News: GHS OKs budget with no price increase

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013309240053>

Liv Osby

Greenville Health System trustees today approved a \$1.8 billion budget for 2014 that includes no price increase for the first time in at least 10 years. The budget reflects almost 500 new jobs, as well as renovations, system improvements and investment in new technology, officials said. “Strong financial discipline has allowed us to add hundreds of new jobs, while at the same time holding the line on no additional price increase for patients,” said GHS President and CEO Michael Riordan.

Post and Courier: Summerville’s Flowertown Elementary named a National Blue Ribbon winner

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130924/PC16/130929697/1389/summerville-x2019-s-flowertown-elementary-named-a-national-blue-ribbon-winner>

Brenda Rindge

Flowertown Elementary School was named a National Blue Ribbon School on Tuesday. The Dorchester District 2 school is one of 286 in the nation to receive this year’s award from the U.S. Department of Education. “I have never worked with a staff this dedicated,” said Principal Donna Goodwin, who is in her sixth year at the school. “Their hard work is the reason we won this.” When the school was named a finalist in December, Goodwin and district Superintendent Joe Pye, who was the school’s first principal, shouted the news from the school’s rooftop.

Island Packet: Okatie Elementary earns national Blue Ribbon award + video

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/09/24/2701768/okatie-elementary-earns-national.html#storylink=cpy>

Sarah Bowman

Okatie Elementary School is one of five South Carolina schools to earn 2013 National Blue Ribbon Schools awards. The awards, announced by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, were announced Tuesday. According to a news release, The U.S. Department of Education considers the schools that earn the Blue Ribbon distinction a "model of excellence that other schools can emulate. Winners are either academically superior or demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement."

Anderson Independent: S.C. Bar offers free legal clinic in Anderson

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/sep/24/sc-bar-offers-free-legal-clinic-anderson/>

The S.C. Bar Pro Bono Program will sponsor a free legal clinic from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 7. The topic is wills, estates and probate issues, featuring attorney Stephen G. Potts. The seminar is free for anyone who would like to attend. The format typically consists of an overview followed by a question-and-answer session. For more information, call 803-799-6653, ext. 158. The clinic will be at the Anderson County Library at 300 N. McDuffie St.

National News:

Associated Press: On the budget, most prefer compromise

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/sep/24/budget-most-prefer-compromise/>

Jennifer Agiesta

Political gridlock in Washington may bring the government itself to a halt next week, although two new polls reflect a broad desire among the public for compromise. Both the Pew Research Center and Gallup released polls showing majorities of Americans in favor of compromise, both the overall principle and the specific example of striking a deal on the budget by politicians who reflect "your views." In the Gallup survey, 53 percent said it was more important for political leaders to compromise in order to get things done, more than double the 25 percent who said it was more important for leaders to stick to their beliefs.

Associated Press: Cruz vows to speak till he can't against Obamacare

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HpOI97Tk

Donna Cassata

Freshman Sen. Ted Cruz says he will speak until he's no longer able to stand in opposition to President Barack Obama's health care law. Standing on the Senate floor Tuesday afternoon, Cruz began a lengthy speech urging his colleagues to oppose moving ahead on a bill he supports. The measure would prevent a government shutdown and defund Obamacare. Cruz's quixotic approach is designed to prevent Majority Leader Harry Reid from stripping the health care provision from the bill. But Cruz faces opposition from his Republican leaders, Mitch McConnell and John Cornyn, as well as other Republican senators.

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