

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 7/10/2014 8:07:41 AM
Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, July 10, 2014

Morning Clips – Thursday, July 10, 2014

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haleys report earning more than \$280,000 in 2013

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=LJkFA2Zs

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley and her husband reported earning more than \$282,000 in her third year as the state's CEO and donating \$126,000 to charity, according to 2013 tax returns she allowed reporters to view Wednesday afternoon.

Post and Courier: Nikki Haley's family reports earnings of more than \$280,000 in 2013

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140709/PC1603/140709357/1031&source=spreed>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley and her husband, Michael, earned \$282,384 during her third year in the state's top post, according to their 2013 tax returns. The Haleys paid \$20,691 in taxes. Of that total, \$16,743 were federal taxes and \$3,948 were state taxes. Haley's returns were presented to reporters for review on Wednesday.

The State: SC Gov. Haley's earnings boosted by real estate income

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/09/3556230/sc-gov-haleys-earnings-boosted.html>

Andrew Shain

Despite a drop in their taxable wages, Gov. Nikki Haley and her husband earned a little more last year due to a spike in income from their real estate investments, according to income-tax records released Wednesday.

Greenville News: Plan to ship German nuke waste to SC questioned

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/07/09/plan-ship-german-nuke-waste-sc-questioned/12434185/>

Eric Connor

Plans to ship German nuclear waste to South Carolina might not be legal, as government officials try to depict the highly radioactive material as the product of research and not fuel used for profit, nuclear watchdogs say.

Note: Haley spokesman Doug Mayer didn't address questions about whether the governor supports shipping the German waste to SRS, but he said that "no one has fought harder" to get waste removed from SRS.

Aiken Standard: White House threatens to veto bill involving MOX

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140710/AIK0101/140709338/1004/white-house-threatens-to-veto-bill-involving-mox>

Derrek Asberry

The White House threatened on Wednesday to veto a United States House bill partly because it includes \$345 million in funding for construction of the Savannah River Site's MOX facility – \$149 million more than President Barack Obama's fiscal year 2015 budget request.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Greenville News: Ervin says he'd raise gas tax to fix roads

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/07/09/gov-candidate-tom-ervin-raise-gas-tax-fix-roads/12412333/>

Rudolph Bell

Distinguishing himself from his Republican and Democratic rivals, independent gubernatorial candidate Tom Ervin says an increase in the state gasoline tax will be part of his upcoming plan to fix South Carolina's crumbling roads and bridges.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Rock Hill Herald: Few hindered by state's voter ID law

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/09/6128291/few-hindered-by-states-voter-id.html?sp=/100/105/>
Editorial

South Carolina's voter ID law is working well, according to state Election Commission officials. But, thankfully, it's working well because it's not working as its legislative sponsors intended it to. Election commission officials say the June 10 primaries represented the first state-wide test of the law since it was implemented last year.

Horry News: Casinos not the answer to road problems

http://www.myhorrynews.com/opinion/article_f5071632-07aa-11e4-bfc2-0017a43b2370.html
Editorial

Allowing casinos in Myrtle Beach is a concept that's been kicked around as long as I can remember. At first blush, it seems like a good idea. On closer examination, allowing casinos into our beach communities is an invitation to disaster.

Note: Doug Mayer, the governor's spokesman, said Haley believes most South Carolinians do not support casino gambling.

Note: "The governor, like the majority of South Carolinians, doesn't support casino gambling and will never take any action that allows it to happen here," he said.

Post and Courier: Court rules for legislative ethics

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140710/PC1002/140719973/1021&source=spreed>
Editorial

The General Assembly may have taken a pass on ethics reform this year, but the state Supreme Court handed down a ruling on Wednesday that assures stronger safeguards for legislative ethics. The court unanimously decided that the state grand jury has jurisdiction over an ethics complaint against House Speaker Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston.

Post and Courier: IRS excuses still don't compute

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140710/PC1002/140719974/1021&source=spreed>
Editorial

The IRS has come under withering scorn from the news that it lost emails it was under court order to retain, and that it failed to carry out the basic information security procedures it demands of taxpayers.

The State: Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin should report trip

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/09/3555508/editorial-columbia-mayor-steve.html>
Editorial

IT REMAINS a mystery why prosecutors went out of their way to feature Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin so prominently in the public corruption trial of Jonathan Pinson.

The State (Guest Column): Cleary: Leadership needed now on SC road repairs

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/10/3555500/cleary-leadership-needed-now-on.html>
Senator Ray Cleary

According to a January review by the state Department of Transportation, only 15 percent of South Carolina roads are in good condition. How is this possible, and why hasn't it been addressed? It should be the responsibility of the Legislature, with the governor's leadership, to provide South Carolinians with safe and adequate roads.

Speaker Harrell Investigation:

Post and Courier: S.C. Supreme Court rules in favor of Attorney General Alan Wilson in Bobby Harrell dispute

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140709/PC1603/140709371/1031&source=spreed>
Jeremy Borden, Schuyler Kropf

South Carolina's attorney general is free to investigate House Speaker Bobby Harrell, the S.C. Supreme Court ruled unanimously on Wednesday, overturning a lower court's decision and turning their fight into a seesaw battle that is expected to continue.

Associated Press: Justices: Prosecutor can investigate House speaker

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=0AyM2ejT

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's top prosecutor has the authority to investigate House Speaker Bobby Harrell, the state's highest court ruled Wednesday, saying Attorney General Alan Wilson properly empaneled a state grand jury to consider allegations the powerful Charleston Republican abused his power for personal benefit.

Greenville News: Court backs Wilson probe of Harrell

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/09/court-backs-wilson-probe-harrell/12427877/>

Tim Smith

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson has the authority to investigate House Speaker Bobby Harrell over ethics violations, according to the state Supreme Court. But Circuit Judge Casey Manning, who ordered Wilson to halt the state grand jury probe into Harrell, also has the authority to stop the grand jury, the justices said in a unanimous decision on Wednesday.

The State: SC Supreme Court: Harrell probe can continue

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/09/3555674/sc-supreme-court-rules-in-favor.html>

Jamie Self

South Carolina's Supreme Court on Wednesday dealt a blow to S.C. House Speaker Bobby Harrell, granting Attorney General Alan Wilson's request to allow a State Grand Jury probe of Harrell to continue. Still up in the air is whether Wilson can continue leading the State Grand Jury proceedings.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

New York Times: Reputation for Zeal Precedes Republican Leading New Benghazi Inquiry

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/10/us/politics/reputation-for-zeal-precedes-republican-leading-new-benghazi-inquiry.html?_r=0

Jennifer Steinhauer

Mr. Gowdy, a South Carolina Republican and a former prosecutor whose peculiar hairstyle has generated almost as much news media coverage as his voting record, has made a name for himself over his barely two terms in office with his tenacious questioning of Obama administration officials in committee rooms.

Politico: Benghazi panel receives classified briefing

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/07/benghazi-panel-classified-briefing-108730.html>

Lauren French

Members of the House Select Committee on Benghazi received a classified briefing on Wednesday focused on the Libyan militia leader accused of masterminding the 2012 terrorist attacks. Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy (R-S.C.) and Maryland Rep. Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the panel, said they appreciated the opportunity to question Obama administration officials on Ahmed Abu Khattala.

Post and Courier: Charleston Chamber of Commerce calls on Rep. Sanford for immigration reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140709/PC1603/140709362/1177/charleston-chamber-of-commerce-calls-on-rep-sanford-for-immigration-reform>

Schuyler Kropf

Immigration reform is dead this year, many in Washington predict, but the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce is urging that something be done, even calling on U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford to join in.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Acting VA secretary: Dorn Center improving

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=N111LVZZ

Susanne M. Shafer

The Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia has reached out to veterans, added staff and extended clinic hours to add 1,700 new appointments in coming weeks for veterans awaiting care, acting Veteran Affairs Secretary Sloan Gibson said Wednesday.

Rock Hill Herald: Local farmers call on Congress to reform immigration laws

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/09/6128116/local-farmers-call-on-congress.html?sp=/100/101/&ihp=1>

Don Worthington

A coalition of business leaders representing the tourism, agricultural and manufacturing industries called on Congress Wednesday to reform immigration laws.

Post and Courier: Study: South Carolina and other state Legislatures passed fewer abortion restrictions in 2014

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140709/PC1603/140709364/1031&source=speed>

Jeremy Borden

States around the country enacted the fewest number of abortion restrictions this year since 2010, mirroring the recent legislative session in South Carolina when such efforts were largely stalled, according to a new study from the sexual and reproductive health rights research group Guttmacher Institute.

USA Today: Two S.C. schools' budgets altered following gay-themed assigned reading controversy

<http://college.usatoday.com/2014/07/09/two-s-c-schools-budgets-altered-following-gay-themed-assigned-reading-controversy/>

Jenna Lyons

After facing budget cuts following a controversy over gay-themed assigned reading, two South Carolina universities have had their funding restored under the condition that the schools use the money to teach the U.S. Constitution and similar founding documents.

Note: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley chose not to veto the subsection in June. "We just didn't want to interject ourselves into that," Haley said in a press conference.

Note: At the same time, Haley expressed disapproval of the legislators' actions. "To go in there and micromanage books that are being read, and things like that, I kind of think is out of our purview," she said.

Post and Courier: Former schools chief candidate lands temp job in embattled school

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140709/PC1603/140709367/1031/former-schools-chief-candidate-lands-temp-job-in-embattled-school>

Cynthia Roldan

The State Board of Education confirmed Wednesday the temporary appointment of a former deputy superintendent to a new position overseeing South Carolina's public residential school for troubled teens.

The State: Childs OK'd to lead McCormick at-risk youth school

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/09/3556242/childs-okd-to-lead-mccormick-at.html>

Jamie Self

The John de la Howe School for at-risk youth has a new chief operating officer. The State Board of Education on Wednesday approved the appointment of Meka Childs to the position, created by the state Legislature, to help the McCormick public school make improvements.

Post and Courier: Boeing: Nearly 37,000 new airplanes needed over next 20 years; single-aisle jets to dominate market

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140710/PC05/140719983/1382&source=speed>

Warren L. Wise

Worldwide demand for new airplanes will soar over the next 20 years with nearly 36,000 aircraft valued at \$5.2 trillion needed, Boeing projected Thursday in its annual market outlook.

WIS: Mental illness training in SCDC showing early benefits

<http://www.wistv.com/story/25977373/mental-illness-training-in-scdc-showing-early-benefits>

Renee Standera

Sgt. Travis Reese feels much more comfortable going to work as a South Carolina corrections officer now. "I'm at ease now," he said. Reese was one of 26 South Carolina corrections officers who underwent training for the Crisis Intervention Team two weeks ago.

The State: Six Pinson prosecution witnesses face sentencing

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/09/3556145/six-pinson-prosecution-witnesses.html>

John Monk

Six men who pleaded guilty in the just-completed federal public corruption trial of former S.C. State

University board chairman Jonathan Pinson are expected to be sentenced in coming months. No date has been set, according to federal records of those cases.

Local News:

Greenville News: Belk to expand Union e-commerce center

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/07/09/belk-expand-union-e-commerce-center/12418119/>

Woody White

Belk Inc., the Charlotte-based department store retailer, said Wednesday it is expanding its e-commerce distribution and fulfillment center operations in Union County — the second time since siting the facility there in June 2012.

National News:

Associated Press: Different Attackers in Benghazi?

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/apnewsbreak-different-attackers-benghazi>

Donna Cassata, Bradley Klapper

Newly revealed testimony from top military commanders involved in the U.S. response to the Benghazi attacks suggests that the perpetrators of a second, dawn attack on a CIA complex probably were different from those who penetrated the U.S. diplomatic mission the evening before and set it ablaze, killing Ambassador Chris Stevens and another American.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437