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To:
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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, July 18, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Feds assure Haley no undocumented minors are being held in S.C.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140717/PC1603/140719399/1382&source=spread>

Cynthia Roldan

Gov. Nikki Haley received confirmation Wednesday that no undocumented minors who have crossed into the United States are being housed in South Carolina.

Note: "I also greatly appreciate your confirmation that there are currently no shelters or facilities - military or otherwise - in South Carolina being used to house the minors who are being abandoned at the border with Mexico, and your assurance that there are no current plans to use any South Carolina facilities for this purpose in the future," Haley wrote. "I do ask that if those plans are developed at any point going forward that you personally notify me immediately of any shift in policy."

The State: Haley: Feds have no plans to send immigrant children to SC

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/17/3569640/haley-feds-promise-no-immigrant.html>

Jamie Self

Unaccompanied migrant children who entered the United States illegally through Mexico are not being sheltered at S.C. facilities or military bases – and there are no plans to bring them here.

Note: But Haley criticized what she called a “humanitarian crisis” at the border that “highlights the failure of the federal government to adequately perform its most basic and crucial function — securing the (nation’s) sovereignty.”

Note: “As long as our border remains dangerously unsecure,” Haley said, adding, “and the policy of the United States government is to accommodate those who cross into our nation illegally for an indefinite period of time, the incentives for such migration will continue to exist.”

WHNS: Governor's office: DHS has no plans to transport unaccompanied minors to Palmetto State

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26048216/governors-office-dhs-has-no-plans-to-transport-unaccompanied-minors-to-palmetto-state>

Will Whitson

The governor's office told WIS Thursday the Department of Homeland Security has no plans to transport unaccompanied minors from the U.S.-Mexico border to the Palmetto State.

Note: "I do ask that if those plans are developed at any point going forward that you personally notify me immediately of any shift in policy," Haley wrote in a letter to Secretary Johnson. "It is my firm belief that the people of South Carolina have the right to know exactly who the federal government is placing within our borders."

Greenville News: Rumor of migrant kids to Greenville sparks inquiries

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/07/17/haley-assured-migrant-children-sent-south-carolina/12820821/>

Nathaniel Cary, David Dykes

A rumor that the federal government chose Greenville as a destination for migrant children as it deals with a wave of unaccompanied minors trekking to the border from Central America sparked a flurry of inquiries from U.S. lawmakers Thursday who grew flustered at the lack of response from government agencies about whether South Carolina facilities would be used as temporary shelters.

Note: In a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, Haley asked "that if those plans are developed at any point going forward that you personally notify me immediately of any shift in policy."

Greenville News: Jobs report could show direction of growth

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/07/17/south-carolina-unemployment-rate-june->

[indicate-direction-state-economy/12821433/](http://www.indicate-direction-state-economy/12821433/)

David Dykes

South Carolina officials release the state's June unemployment rate today, while economists watch closely to see if the economic momentum continues. Economists said a drop in the jobless rate will show the state's expansion is marching forward, while a rise could reflect a slowing in the progress.

Note: Giti, which considered other states for the plant, had to be recruited heavily, Haley told The News. The company had been considering a North American industrial site for several years and Giti officials heard her speak at a Walmart vendor conference in Florida, Haley said.

Note: "They were very nervous about what a North American plant would look like," Haley said. "They were nervous about where it would be because they had never dealt with American procedures before. It was a lot of hand-holding. It was a lot of trust. It was lot of building a relationship so that they knew that we were going to have their back long after they established a plant.

Anderson Independent: Anti-tax group makes its debut in Anderson

http://www.independentmail.com/news/antitax-group-makes-its-debut-in-anderson_54908194?autoplay=true

Kirk Brown

Anderson - About two dozen people attended a town hall meeting Thursday night hosted by the South Carolina chapter of Americans for Prosperity.

Note: Bryant said he "would love" to do away with the state's income tax. Even though Gov. Nikki Haley voiced support for this idea during a speech in Anderson last month, Bryant expressed doubt that such a proposal could muster enough support to pass in the South Carolina General Assembly.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Associated Press: Sheheen, Haley campaign spar over small business

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

Bruce Smith

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen and the campaign of his Republican opponent Gov. Nikki Haley traded jabs Thursday over which candidate is best for small business in South Carolina.

Note: But Chaney Adams, a spokesman for the Haley campaign, said Sheheen's record in the legislature shows he's wrong for the state. "In over a decade spent in Columbia as a lawyer-legislator, Vince Sheheen has made it clear that he is no friend to South Carolina small business," Adams said in an email. "Whether he's cheering on Obamacare, proposing a host of new taxes and fees, or voting against tort reform, so his lawyer buddies can continue to profit from frivolous lawsuits, Vince has proven he's wrong for small business."

The Item: Democrats convene on Sumter for new HQ opening

http://www.theitem.com/news/local_news/democrats-convene-on-sumter-for-new-hq-opening/article_029df0a2-d047-55c2-b6ac-91f0fad7bc30.html

Bristow Marchant

Politics and food are always a good combination, so Saturday's grand opening of Sumter Democrats' new headquarters should be filling on both fronts. The highlight of Saturday's event will be an appearance by state Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Camden, who is running against Gov. Nikki Haley for a second time this fall. Sheheen narrowly lost to the Republican incumbent in 2010.

Sun News: Senate seat in Georgetown County up for grabs

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/07/17/4360133/senate-seat-up-for-grabs.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1>

Zane Wilson

Georgetown County has a shot at gaining a second resident state senator, and thus more clout in the Statehouse, if state Rep. Carl Anderson can pull off a win in the four-way Democratic primary to replace Sen. Yancey McGill.

The State: Lexington County coroner GOP nominee Fisher largely self-financed her campaign

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/17/3569703/lexington-county-coroner-gop-nominee.html>

Tim Flach

Margaret Fisher, Republican nominee for Lexington County coroner, largely financed her campaign personally, records released Thursday show. Fisher, a Richland County deputy, contributed nearly two-thirds of the \$32,499 raised, according to reports to the State Ethics Commission.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Rock Hill Herald: Investigation of Harrell will go forward

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/17/6151955/investigation-of-harrell-will.html?sp=/100/105/>

Editorial

The unanimous decision by the S.C. Supreme Court that state Attorney General Alan Wilson was justified in investigating House Speaker Bobby Harrell is reassuring. A ruling against Wilson might have dangerously limited the authority of his office.

Post and Courier: Another blow to the public's right to know

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140718/PC1002/140719382/1021&source=spreed>

Editorial

Some secrets shouldn't be taken to the grave. Unfortunately, that's just what can happen in South Carolina. The body of a shooting victim can be buried with evidence that might explain what happened, and the autopsy report (which could document that evidence) is secret.

Times and Democrat: Autopsy report ruling another win for secrecy

http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/autopsy-report-ruling-another-win-for-secrecy/article_fd65b5f8-0e2c-11e4-bab8-001a4bcf887a.html

Editorial

THE ISSUE: S.C. Supreme Court decision that autopsy reports are private; OUR OPINION: Information about deaths under public investigation should not be withheld under guise of medical privacy. The third of Americans found by a Newseum Institute survey to believe that the First Amendment goes too far in the rights it guarantees may rejoice in a court ruling in South Carolina on Wednesday.

The State: Order in the court: sealed records, closed doors

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/17/3568780/scope-order-in-the-court-sealed.html>

Cindi Ross Scope

OUR STATE constitution requires that South Carolina's courts be open to the public, which also means that the work of the courts is supposed be open to the public, but until a little more than a decade ago, state judges routinely sealed settlements in lawsuits, even lawsuits involving state agencies.

Island Packet: US 278 traffic study could make road safer

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/17/3214838/us-278-traffic-study-could-make.html?sp=/99/342/1750/>

Editorial

A critical first step was just announced that should make U.S. 278 in Bluffton safer. The S.C. Department of Transportation, at the request of Beaufort County, will conduct a safety audit of the stretch of highway from the Beaufort-Jasper county line to Hilton Head Island.

Post and Courier: Duncan deserves high marks

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140718/PC1002/140719381/1021&source=spreed>

Editorial

Teachers unions have long provided considerable voting and financial support to the Democratic party. But over the last two weeks the top two teacher labor organizations in the United States have aimed bitter criticism not at a Republican public official, but at Democratic U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

McClatchy DC: SC's Scott joins Senate opposition to judge's federal court nomination

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/17/6152122/sen-scott-joins-opposition-to.html#storylink=cpy>

Ali Watkins

Over a year after President Barack Obama nominated South Carolina Judge Alison Renee Lee to a federal post, congressional concerns over her judicial record have apparently stymied the at-large circuit judge's chances of making it through Congress.

South Carolina News:

Times and Democrat: Clafin, DJJ sign education agreement

http://thetandd.com/news/a-new-path-clafin-djj-sign-education-agreement/article_8c6d1d22-0e05-11e4-

a8d8-0019bb2963f4.html

The leaders of Claflin University and the S.C. Department of Juvenile Justice have put pen to paper for an agreement that grants DJJ employees greater access to several of Claflin's degree programs.

The State: Dorn VA wait times shrinking, but serious incidents have been too frequent

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/17/3569509/dorn-va-wait-times-shrinking-but.html#storylink=cpy>

Joey Holleman

Even as Dorn VA Medical Center's wait time for appointments improves, more statistics indicates the depth of the other problems at the Columbia facility in recent years. The Department of Veterans Affairs' twice-monthly release of waiting times data that began two months ago indicates the wait time at Dorn has decreased for new primary care patients.

Associated Press: Officials to release SC jobless figure for June

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=JKfOkT8E

State officials are set to release details on South Carolina's unemployment picture for the month of June. On Friday, the Department of Employment and Workforce is scheduled to release last month's jobless numbers.

National Journal: South Carolina Republican Says Hispanic Immigrants Are Lost Cause for GOP

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/next-america/population-2043/south-carolina-republican-says-hispanic-immigrants-are-lost-cause-for-gop-20140717>

Alexia Campbell

Lee Bright represents Greenville and Spartanburg in the South Carolina Senate and was one of six conservative candidates to unsuccessfully challenge U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham in the June GOP primary. Bright, who describes himself as South Carolina's most conservative state senator, supports federal legislation that would deny American citizenship to the U.S.-born children of undocumented immigrants.

Post and Courier: New earthquake maps show Charleston still in the bull's-eye on East Coast

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140717/PC16/140719391/1382&source=spreed>

Brenda Rindge

Alarms aren't going off in South Carolina after the U.S. Geological Survey updated its earthquake hazard maps for the first time since 2008, but the Charleston area is considered a high risk spot for future temblors.

Local News:

Sun News: PTR takes a couple more slugs

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/07/17/4359269/ptr-takes-a-couple-more-slugs.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1>

Steve Jones

There appears to be more downside to the slowdown at PTR Industries than laid-off employees and trimmed management paychecks. The company recently paid Horry County part of payments it had missed for work done at its building at Cool Springs Business Park near Aynor.

Rock Hill Herald: York County hospitality tax panel holds off on new tourism funding criteria

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/07/17/6151695/york-county-hospitality-tax-panel.html#storylink=cpy>

John Marks

Producing more questions than answers, York County's new hospitality tax committee decided this week to maintain the status quo on current funding requests as it lays out criteria for future spending.

Post and Courier: Bar, restaurant industry speaks out against midnight closing ordinance

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140717/PC16/140719384/1382&source=spreed>

Diane Knich

To hear Charleston Mayor Joe Riley tell it, if the city doesn't act quickly to prevent the spread of bars in the peninsula's nightlife district, other kinds of businesses will refuse to locate there. But the majority of people who attended a packed public meeting on a midnight closing ordinance for new establishments in that area that sell alcohol adamantly disagreed with him.

Anderson Independent: Tobacco-free campus back up for a look

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/tobacco-free-campus-back-up-for-a-look>

Mike Eads

Making the Clemson campus tobacco free is back up for consideration as the university's board of trustees meets Friday morning at the Madren Center. The proposal "prohibits the use of all forms of tobacco products on or within University property," according to the policy language provided to the trustees.

National News:

The Hill: Pressure builds on Obama for decision on employer mandate

<http://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/212625-pressure-builds-on-obama-for-decision-on-employer-mandate>

Elise Viebeck, Benjamin Goad

The White House needs to make a decision soon on whether ObamaCare's controversial employer mandate will take effect in 2015. With the mandate set to take effect in January, businesses are awaiting final word from the administration on whether they will be required to track and report how many of their employees are receiving coverage.

Associated Press: AP Source: Missile Took Down Jet in Ukraine

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/obama-talks-putin-asks-aides-plane-reports>

Julie Pace, Lolita C. Baldor

American intelligence authorities believe a surface-to-air missile took down a passenger jet in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, a U.S. official said, but the Obama administration was still scrambling to confirm who launched the strike and whether there were American citizens killed in the crash.

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