

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, September 15, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Ethics reform in the wake of Bobby Harrell's indictments

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140915/PC1603/140919660/1177/palmetto-sunrise-ethics-reform-in-the-wake-of-bobby-harrells-indictments>

Cynthia Roldan

Months after the ethics reform bill failed to pass, the need for such a measure has been raised again. In the wake of House Speaker Bobby Harrell's indictments, several lawmakers said they plan to revive the ethics debate from this year that died without achieving reforms, reported The Post and Courier's Jeremy Borden.

Note: And Rep. Jim Merrill, R-Charleston, pointed to a concern that Gov. Nikki Haley pushed for independent oversight, but she would have appointed the majority of the members of the committee.

Cola Daily: Small business owners learn about technology resources at Minority Business Roundtable

<http://coladaily.com/2014/09/14/small-business-owners-learn-about-technology-resources-at-minority-business-roundtable/>

Rachel Ham

Ninety-five percent of South Carolina's economy is small businesses, according to statistics from the state Department of Commerce. Small business owners from around the region heard Friday from national experts about technology that can help their shops and stores thrive.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, who has touted job creation since the beginning of her campaign, agreed small businesses should be given every advantage to succeed. She also recalled her time spent working at the family clothing store keeping the books.

Note: "Small businesses are survivors," she said. "The only thing we can control is the service we give people when they come in the door."

WOLO: Fixing South Carolina Roads

<http://www.abccolumbia.com/news/local/Fixing-South-Carolina-Roads-275079711.html>

Rochelle Dean

South Carolina's acting House speaker has created a bi-partisan study committee to develop a plan for funding the state's dilapidated roads and bridges and reforming the Department of Transportation again.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley has repeatedly pledged to veto any bill that raises the state's 16-cents-per-gallon fuel tax to fund infrastructure.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

Washington Post: O'Malley returning to South Carolina to campaign with gubernatorial candidate

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/md-politics/omalley-returning-to-south-carolina-to-campaign-with-gubernatorial-candidate/2014/09/14/22a97adc-3abc-11e4-9c9f-ebb47272e40e_story.html?tid=hpModule_ba0d4c2a-86a2-11e2-9d71-f0feafdd1394

John Wagner

Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley plans to return to South Carolina next weekend to campaign for the state's Democratic gubernatorial nominee, party officials there confirmed Sunday. The trip will provide the latest chance for O'Malley (D) to mingle with Democratic activists who could prove helpful if he moves forward with a White House bid. South Carolina is scheduled to hold an early primary in 2016.

Associated Press: SC Democrat critical of taxpayer-funded commute

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=yrD56BJE

Seanna Adcox

The Democrat challenging Secretary of State Mark Hammond is generating interest in the down-ballot race

by criticizing his 183-mile round-trip commute to Columbia that's funded by taxpayers. There's nothing illegal about Hammond's commute from Spartanburg. His assigned 2007 Dodge Durango is considered a job benefit.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Give Second Chance Act another chance

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140915/PC1002/140919711>

Editorial

South Carolina has made big strides in reducing recidivism among prison inmates, and some of the credit is due the state's use of training funds under the Second Chance Act. Indeed, South Carolina is being held up as an example for other states to follow.

Post and Courier: BP disaster shows risks of human factor

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140915/PC1002/140919710>

Editorial

Anyone anticipating a risk-free financial bonanza for South Carolina and other Atlantic coastal states from opening the outer continental shelf (OCS) to drilling should pay close attention to the recent ruling on the responsibility of British Petroleum for the Deepwater Horizon deep-sea oil well blow-out in May 2010.

The State (Guest Column): Why Republicans should love Uber

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/09/14/3677193/moore-why-republicans-should-love.html>

Matt Moore

Uber, the personal car service, allows users to contact a driver from their smartphone to pick them up and go almost anywhere. It's as simple as pressing a button on your phone and dropping a pin for your location on a map. And it's often cheaper than a traditional taxicab.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Washington Post: Lindsey Graham: We need troops to fight Islamic State 'before we all get killed here at home'

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/post-politics/wp/2014/09/14/lindsey-graham-we-need-troops-to-fight-islamic-state-before-we-all-get-killed-here-at-home/>

Philip Bump

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) was characteristically energetic in offering his opinion of the Obama administration's plan to undermine the Islamic State on Fox News' "Fox News Sunday." "At the end of the day, ISIL has to be encouraged by what was just said" in Fox host John Roberts's interview with White House chief of staff Denis McDonough, Graham said, using an alternative acronym for the Islamic State.

Politico: Lindsey Graham: ISIL America's fight; administration 'delusional'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140915/PC1603/140919663>

Katie Glueck

Sen. Lindsey Graham offered a scathing assessment on Sunday of the way the Obama administration has handled the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant ascendant in the Middle East. In an interview on "Fox News Sunday," he said the administration's approach to destroying the ISIL, with a focus on airstrikes and opposition to American ground troops in the Middle East, is "delusional."

South Carolina News:

The State: Mayor's Florida trip could add fuel to SC ethics reform

http://www.thestate.com/2014/09/14/3681774_mayors-florida-trip-could-add.html?rh=1

Clif LeBlanc

Critics of the ethics climate in South Carolina say the fact that the state agency empowered to police standards of conduct for public officials has sanctioned that trip by Mayor Steve Benjamin as private, not public, could add to the call for reforms. S.C. Policy Council director Ashley Landess said it's clear to her that trips such as the one Benjamin took should by law be reported publicly.

Aiken Standard: Advisory board looks to improve communication with DOE

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140915/AIK0101/140919704/1004/advisory-board-looks-to-improve->

communication-with-doe

Derrek Asberry

The Savannah River Site's Citizens Advisory Board, or CAB, is working to improve its communication with the Energy Department by gaining information directly from DOE, rather than reading about the Site in the media. The board has two draft recommendations on the table that will be put to vote during its bimonthly meeting beginning Sept. 22.

Post and Courier: Pegasus Steel carves niche in Charleston region

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140914/PC05/140919789>

Warren L. Wise

Sparks whiz through the air as David Player uses a plasma cutter on a metal plate for a part to be used on armored vehicles. Player is one of 105 people employed at Pegasus Steel, a 103,000-square-foot factory where lasers, water jets and other instruments slice through large sheets of steel to make parts used by the military, maritime, aerospace and transportation industries.

Local News:

Greenville News: Area breweries investing millions, adding staff

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/business/2014/09/14/area-breweries-investing-millions-adding-staff/15623083/>

Tony Kiss

Asheville's craft brewery boom continues to see explosive growth, with many beer producers dropping millions on expansion and staff. But brewery growth is not confined just to North Carolina, with more than 100 breweries and brewpubs. South Carolina, home to 20 breweries statewide, is seeing it too, said Brook Bristow, spokesman for the South Carolina Brewers Association.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Spartanburg area law enforcement agencies take advantage of military surplus

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140914/ARTICLES/140919796/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Spartanburg-area-law-enforcement-agencies-take-advantage-of-military-surplus>

Daniel J. Gross

Militarization of law enforcement has drawn national attention after clashes between protesters and heavily outfitted police in Ferguson, Mo., where a black teenager was shot and killed by a white police officer this past month.

National News:

New York Times: Health Law Has Caveat on Renewal of Coverage

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/15/us/politics/renewing-health-coverage-may-not-be-as-automatic-as-government-says.html?_r=0

Robert Pear

Millions of consumers will soon receive notices from health insurance companies stating that their coverage is being automatically renewed for 2015, along with the financial assistance they received this year from the federal government.

Associated Press: Hurdles for Obama health law in 2nd sign-up season

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/hurdles-obama-health-law-2nd-sign-season-1>

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar

Potential complications await consumers as President Barack Obama's health care law approaches its second open enrollment season, just two months away. Don't expect a repeat of last year's website meltdown, but the new sign-up period could expose underlying problems with the law itself that are less easily fixed than a computer system.

Brian Symmes

Cell: (803) 673-9437

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304