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**Subject:** Afternoon Clips – Thursday, September 18, 2014

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## Afternoon Clips – Thursday, September 18, 2014

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Post and Courier:** Report: S.C. gets big bang for its highway bucks  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140918/PC1610/140919421>

Robert Behre

The Reason Foundation, a libertarian nonprofit group, released its Annual Highway Report on Thursday. It noted that more money is being spent on state highways, but states have seen "very little progress in improving their condition." South Carolina ranks fourth in the nation in overall highway performance and cost-effectiveness in the latest report - up from fifth the year before.

**Note:** House Speaker Pro Tempore Jay Lucas recently appointed a new committee to make recommendations about fixing up the state's roads, while Gov. Nikki Haley said she'll release her plan next year, if re-elected.

**Post and Courier:** South Carolina Medicaid faces new, expensive federal autism rule  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140918/PC1610/140919419/1177/south-carolina-medicaid-faces-new-expensive-federal-autism-rule>

Lauren Sausser

Gov. Nikki Haley's top health care adviser agrees that South Carolina should comply with a new federal rule that requires Medicaid to cover autism services for children. How many millions of dollars this will cost the state and exactly when children may start receiving the therapy are still unclear.

### 2014 Campaign Cycle News:

**Associated Press:** SC GOP cherry-picking lines from Sheheen's book  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BchLXufN](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BchLXufN)

Seanna Adcox

The state Republican party is using Sen. Vincent Sheheen's book to accuse him of hiding his agenda, pointing to pages the GOP says supports liberal tax increases. State GOP Chairman Matt Moore said Thursday that Sheheen's book titled "The Right Way" represents the wrong way for South Carolina.

**Post and Courier:** South Carolina Club for Growth backs Democrat for 1st time  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140918/PC1603/140919430/1177>

Schuyler Kropf

The conservative South Carolina Club for Growth has made its first endorsement of a Democrat seeking statewide office, backing Ginny Deerin over Republican incumbent Mark Hammond for Secretary of State.

**The State:** Fiscally conservative group backs first statewide Democratic candidate  
<http://www.thestate.com/2014/09/18/3689256/fiscally-conservative-group-backs.html>

Cassie Cope

The South Carolina Club for Growth made history by endorsing its first statewide Democratic candidate. The political action committee, which is a group of fiscal conservatives that focuses on lower taxes, smaller government and free enterprise, backed Ginny Deerin of Sullivan's Island in the race for secretary of state.

**Associated Press:** SC Club for Growth backs Democrat for 1st time  
[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Lr5aFAqc](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Lr5aFAqc)

It's the first time since the group's founding a decade ago that the network of fiscal conservatives has endorsed a Democrat for statewide office. Ginny Deerin says she's running to make the office more efficient, to include putting more bureaucratic functions online.

## S.C. Federal Delegation News:

**Post and Courier:** Palmetto Sunrise: Congressman seeks to drum up support for drilling

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140918/PC1603/140919441>

Jeremy Borden

Rep. Jeff Duncan is touting a new report that focuses on the benefits of offshore drilling for the Palmetto State, Robert Behre of the Post and Courier reported. While environmentalists remain skeptical, drilling offshore for oil has long been seen as a potential boon for business and allow the U.S. to become less dependent on foreign oil.

## South Carolina News:

**Aiken Standard:** SRS waste facility cost jumps \$1 billion

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140918/AIK0101/140919435/1121>

Derrek Asberry

A facility key to liquid waste cleanup at the Savannah River Site will cost nearly \$1 billion more to start up than the original estimate projected in 2009. The Salt Waste Processing Facility, or SWPF, is a first-of-a-kind radioactive-waste-treatment facility that is critical for the disposition of salt waste, which makes up the bulk of the 37 million gallons of radioactive Cold War nuclear waste in underground tanks at SRS.

**Associated Press:** SC pension fund's worth rises to \$30 billion

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=GGOmFYPM](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=GGOmFYPM)

The director of the agency that invests South Carolina's pension portfolio says investments earned \$4 billion last fiscal year, pushing the fund's worth to nearly \$30 billion. Retirement System Investment Commission Director Michael Hitchcock told a Senate panel Thursday that amounted to a 15.3 percent return for the fiscal year ending June 30, after all management fees were paid.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston School of Law founder Westbrook launches nonprofit group as alternative to InfiLaw

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140918/PC16/140919397/1177/charleston-school-of-law-founder-westbrook-launches-nonprofit-group-as-alternative-to-infilaw>

Diane Knich

Charleston School of Law founder Ed Westbrook has formed a nonprofit corporation to run the school, which he thinks is a better alternative than selling it to the for-profit InfiLaw System. But it remains unclear if George Kosko and Robert Carr, the other two remaining founders who strongly support the sale, will go along with Westbrook's new plan.

**Associated Press:** SC recalls Hurricane Hugo 25 years ago, new threat

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=uPWcbCED](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=uPWcbCED)

Susanne M. Schafer

This weekend's 25th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo can remind South Carolina residents of the devastation wrought by their worst storm in the past century - and to be ready in case another such tempest comes. Hugo made landfall north of Charleston just before midnight on Sept. 21, 1989, with maximum sustained winds of 138 mph.

**Associated Press:** Clemson suspends mandatory student sex survey

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Yivo746U](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Yivo746U)

Clemson says it has suspended a mandatory survey of students the school says was part of a review to prevent sexual discrimination, harassment and assault. The university said in a news release Thursday the training course will not be reinstated until officials can review and revise the content.

## Local News:

**Island Packet:** Boats, other personal property added to delinquent-tax list

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/09/17/3319796/boats-other-personal-property.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1>

Zach Murdock

This year for the first time since treasurer Doug Henderson took office, owners of boats and other taxable items could also find their names on the list, if they haven't paid the Beaufort County Treasurer's Office.

**Associated Press:** Lawsuit over ocean views on SC coast in mediation

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WzChOSso](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=WzChOSso)

A judge has ordered mediation in a lawsuit involving ocean views on Sullivans Island northeast of Charleston. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/1mhl6Hm> suit) that two property owners are suing over a town policy regulating the trimming shrubs along a strip of land between the beach and their oceanfront property.

#### **National News:**

**Politico:** Democrats turn on Debbie Wasserman Schultz

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/09/democrats-debbie-wasserman-schultz-111077.html>

Edward-Isaac Dove

Democratic National Committee Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz is in a behind-the-scenes struggle with the White House, congressional Democrats and Washington insiders who have lost confidence in her as both a unifying leader and reliable party spokesperson at a time when they need her most.

**Associated Press:** Clinton: turn female economic issues into movement

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US\\_HILLARY\\_CLINTON?](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_HILLARY_CLINTON?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

[SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_HILLARY_CLINTON?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

Ken Thomas

Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Thursday that voters need to turn pay inequity and women's economic security into a political movement in the November elections and beyond, pointing to an issue that could animate a future presidential campaign.

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