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Subject: Morning Clips - Tuesday, August 6, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Haley spokesman takes new job: political adviser (Update)

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

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley's chief spokesman stepped down Monday to take a role in Haley's expected re-election campaign. Rob Godfrey told The Associated Press his new title is political adviser to the Republican governor.

Note: "Rob has been a trusted friend and adviser to me, both in the last campaign and in my time as governor, and I appreciate his continued counsel as we move forward," Haley said.

The State: Ethics Commissioners In Legal Limbo (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/06/2901881/scope-ethics-commissioners-in.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

Back in 2008, The State's Rick Brundrett discovered that a third of our state's magistrates were serving in legislative limbo: Their terms had expired, but they had been neither replaced nor reappointed. State law says governors appoint magistrates, but in reality they appoint whomever the local senator recommends — which is to say that individual senators appoint these judges. State law also says magistrates can be removed only by the Supreme Court, and only for cause, but this holdover arrangement meant they could be replaced at a moment's notice, at the appointing senator's instigation. Even if that senator practiced law before them.

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South Carolina News

Associated Press: Top SC lawmakers attending appreciation event

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/06/2614853/top-sc-lawmakers-attending-appreciation.html>

Top South Carolina lawmakers are attending a legislative appreciation event in Charleston sponsored by the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. Lt. Gov. Glen McConnell, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Sen. Hugh Leatherman, House speaker Bobby Harrell, state Sen. Paul Campbell and state Rep. Jim Merrill re among those set to attend the Tuesday event at Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site.

Greenville News: SC GOP looks to Greenville for 'voice of reason'

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130806/NEWS03/308060016/SC-GOP-looks-Greenville-voice-reason->

Rudolph Bell

The Greenville County Republican Party has ostracized itself by attacking fellow Republicans across South Carolina and needs to elect a "voice of reason" as its new chairman in order to return "from the slippery slope it's started down," a high official with the state GOP said Monday.

Index-Journal: Templeton should not lose job over TB issue

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=8&SubSectionID=154&ArticleID=20078>

Editorial

We hope Thursday's scheduled Senate Medical Affairs Committee hearing about the tuberculosis outbreak in Ninety Six will not become an opportunity for political grandstanding and posturing. Given that Greenwood's own Sen. Floyd Nicholson was among those seeking the hearing, we doubt that is the intent. At least, that is, we doubt it's his intent.

WBTW: Congressman Tom Rice tours the Pee Dee

<http://www.wbtw.com/story/23050284/congressman-tom-rice-tours-the-pee-dee>

Chasity Pendergrass

Congressman Tom Rice hosted one-on-one constituent meetings in the Pee Dee Monday. Mr. Rice calls the meetings an opportunity for constituents to discuss issues that are important to them, their families and communities. Congressman Rice also says the meetings provide he and his staff valuable information and ways to better serve everyone in the seventh district.

Associated Press: Top SC prosecutor speaking at counties' conference

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/06/2614857/top-sc-prosecutor-speaking-at.html>

South Carolina's top prosecutor is speaking this week at a gathering of county officials from across the state. Attorney General Alan Wilson is giving a keynote address Tuesday

Associated Press: Foundation ranks S.C. 49th in tax collections

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2013/aug/05/foundation-ranks-sc-49th-tax-collections/>

A national research group says South Carolina collected 18 percent less taxes per capita over a decade, ranking 49th in growth. The report Monday by the Washington-based nonprofit Tax Foundation looks at state tax collections per capita in 2011, compared to 2001, based on Census data. Only Georgia's collections declined more, by 24 percent. Alaska ranked first with an increase of 168 percent.

The Sun News: Adviser touts jobs, money as reasons to drill for oil and gas off SC shore

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/08/05/3627209/dean-elected-to-international.html>

Steve Jones

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management estimates there is about 3.3 billion barrels of oil and 31.3 trillion cubic feet of natural gas off the East Coast from Maryland to north Florida, but Rayola Dougher wouldn't be surprised if that 30-year-old figure is significantly low.

The State: Panel OKs health-care experiment for some SC workers

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/05/2902109/panel-oks-health-care-experiment.html>

Adam Beam

State officials, searching for ways to control the ever-increasing health-care costs, have approved a one-year experiment in Charleston designed to control the costs of some of the state health plan's most expensive patients.

The State: 12 SC private schools OK'd for 'choice' program

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/05/2901925/12-sc-private-schools-okd-for.html>

Jamie Self

Twelve S.C. private schools have been cleared to enroll special-needs students paying with tuition grants made possible through the state's first school-choice program. The law limits participation to private schools that are members in good standing with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the S.C. Association of Christian Schools or the S.C. Independent Schools Association.

The State: Tax-free means heavy store traffic

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/05/2902127/tax-free-means-heavy-store-traffic.html#>

Roddie Burris

The popular S.C. sales tax holiday, where businesses suspend collection of the 6 percent state sales tax and any local sales taxes on applicable items for three days – like their online competitors can do year round – ended at midnight Sunday. Some states, like North Carolina, are nixing their tax-free holidays next year as they change tax policies.

Post and Courier: Free text messages to new moms may help improve South Carolina's infant mortality rate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130806/PC1610/130809699/1356/free-text-messages-to-new-moms-may-help-improve-south-carolina-x2019-s-infant-mortality-rate>

Lauren Sausser

State officials are prioritizing ways to improve South Carolina's infant mortality. To that end, they are now encouraging new moms to sign up for a free service that offers parenting advice via text message.

Associated Press: North Charleston observes National Night Out

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130806/APN/1308060595>

Residents of at least seven neighborhoods in North Charleston are marking National Night Out. During the Tuesday evening event, residents of the state's third-largest city are turning on their porch lights to let

criminals know the city is organized and fighting back against crime.

The State: Columbia, SC Facing List of Expensive Decisions

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

Clif LeBlanc

Columbia City Council's agenda on Tuesday is top heavy with financial decisions just one month into the fiscal year. Council is scheduled to decide on \$1.5 million in requests from organizations seeking financial help from the city as well as whether to spend \$850,000 on a children's splash pad at Finlay Park and how to deal with a new, nearly \$200,000 bill for running the fall election.

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National News

Real Clear Politics: Democrats Own Obamacare, and Its Political Cost Keeps Rising

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2013/08/06/democrats_own_obamacare_and_its_political_cost_keeps_rising__119512.html

Michael Barone

Nothing is free in politics, but there is some question when you pay the price. That's been a saying of mine for many years, though I may have unconsciously plagiarized it from someone else. I think it applies to Obamacare. My American Enterprise Institute colleague Norman Ornstein has been shellacking Republicans for trying to undercut the implementation of the Obama health care legislation. He calls it "simply unacceptable, even contemptible."

Wall Street Journal: Why Christie Is Wrong (Opinion)

<http://blogs.wsj.com/peggynoonan/2013/08/05/why-christie-is-wrong/>

Peggy Noonan

I can't shake my dismay at Gov. Chris Christie's comments, 12 days ago, on those who question and challenge what we know or think we do of the American national security state. Speaking at an Aspen Institute gathering attended by major Republican Party donors, a venue at which you really don't want to make news, Christie jumped at the chance to speak on the tension between civil liberties and government surveillance. He apparently doesn't see any tension.

USA Today: Excuse me? GOP to blame for ObamaCare?

Republicans don't deserve criticism for trying to get rid of an unpopular law.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2013/08/05/obamacare-affordable-care-act-gop-column/2620861/>

Jonah Goldberg

The Affordable Care Act— aka ObamaCare— is off to a very rocky start, and according to the law's biggest defenders, the blame falls squarely at the feet of Republicans. It's an odd claim. Republicans did not write the law. They did not support the law. And they are not in charge of implementing it. Yet, it's got to be the GOP's fault, right?

Associated Press: House GOP plans anti-Washington push in August

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

Charles Babington

House Republicans will take a carefully orchestrated, staunchly anti-Washington campaign to voters this month, blaming President Barack Obama and his fellow Democrats for Americans' unhappiness with government.

Associated Press: GOP dominates Kan. panel on 'Hard 50' law rewrite

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/06/2903044/gop-dominates-kan-panel-on-hard.html#>

Republicans will dominate the Kansas Legislature's new joint committee examining the state's "Hard 50" criminal sentencing law, in keeping with GOP majorities in both chambers.

Associated Press: Immigration bill critics focus on health law delay

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=9KA5MH8m

Erica Werner

In the weeks since the announcement that employers won't have to provide health insurance for another year, complaints have increased among House Republicans that they can't trust the Obama administration to implement any law they pass. That includes strict requirements for immigrants, tighter border security and genuine workplace hiring enforcement.

Associated Press: State Dept. urges US citizens to leave Yemen

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=8WE77Pyr

Deb Riechmann

The State Department on Tuesday ordered non-essential personnel at the U.S. Embassy in Yemen to leave the country following the threat by al-Qaida that has triggered temporary shutdowns of 19 American diplomatic posts across the Middle East and Africa.

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