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## Clips – Saturday, January 9, 2016

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Associated Press:** In final State of Union, Obama aims to define his presidency  
<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/politics-government/article53884895.html>

Josh Lederman

Out of time to push a new legislative agenda, President Barack Obama will look past Congress and to the American people in his final State of the Union address, aiming to define his presidency and his legacy before others can do it for him.

**Note:** Republican Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina discussed as a potential vice presidential candidate, will give her party's response to Obama's address.

**Wall Street Journal:** Republican Candidates to Tackle Poverty at South Carolina Forum

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/republican-candidates-to-tackle-poverty-at-south-carolina-forum-1452300959>

Beth Reinhard

One of the nation's oldest public housing projects stands just 2 miles from the convention center where Republican presidential candidates on Saturday will deliver their prescriptions for poverty. It is a topic rarely addressed on the campaign trail and one that Gonzales Gardens residents suspect that most of the White House contenders know or care little about.

**Note:** Most of the other GOP candidates have opposed increasing the number of poor people eligible for Medicaid insurance under Mr. Obama's Affordable Care Act. So did South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, a potential vice-presidential candidate.

**Associated Press:** Slew of GOP candidates in SC for Kemp Foundation forum

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

A slew of candidates seeking the Republican presidential nomination are in South Carolina this weekend for a discussion on fighting poverty. The Jack Kemp Foundation is holding a forum on Saturday at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, moderated by House Speaker Paul Ryan and U.S. Sen. Tim Scott.

**Note:** After remarks by Gov. Nikki Haley and U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Florida Sen. Marco Rubio are taking part in a third panel.

**Aiken Standard:** Congressmen hint at providing funding to pay MOX fines

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160108/AIK0101/160109467/congressmen-hint-at-providing-funding-to-pay-mox-fines>

Derrek Asberry

Congressional supporters of the nation's MOX project hinted that they might attempt to appropriate money so the Department of Energy can pay a multimillion-dollar fine to South Carolina for missing a key MOX milestone.

**Note:** S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley informed U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz last month that South Carolina intends to collect the money. The move was applauded by members of the state's congressional delegation, including U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., who said he would support a federal appropriation to ensure DOE paid the fines.

**Note:** Moniz, nor the Energy Department, has responded to Haley's letter, which was sent out Dec. 14. U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., also praised Haley for attempting to levy the fines and for threatening to sue if DOE refuses to pay.

**USA Today:** Republicans say private sector — not government — is answer to poverty

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/2016/01/09/republicans-poverty-forum-paul-ryan-tim-scott-marco-rubio-jeb-bush-ben-carson-chris-chirstie-mike-huckabee/78552146/>

David Jackson

Republican presidential candidates focused more on policy than politics Saturday, pitching anti-poverty programs that emphasize the market while de-emphasizing the role of government. "The real answer to poverty is not government, but the private sector," retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson said during the Kemp Forum on Expanding Opportunity.

**Note:** Saturday's schedule also features two other prominent South Carolina Republicans whose endorsements are being sought: Gov. Nikki Haley and Sen. Lindsey Graham, who withdrew from the presidential race last month.

**Union Times:** Miller appointed Clerk of Court

*Will serve until the end of the year*

<http://uniondailytimes.com/features/lifestyle/3351/miller-appointed-clerk-of-court>

Charles Warner

More than a decade after she retired for the first time and almost two years after she retired for the second time June Miller is back on the job as Union County Clerk of Court. On Tuesday, Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order appointing Miller Clerk of Court, an office that she'd held for 20 years before her first retirement in 2004.

### **S.C. General Assembly News:**

**Aiken Standard:** Aiken lawmakers name infrastructure, ethics among top priorities for 2016 session

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160108/AIK0101/160109462/aiken-lawmakers-name-infrastructure-ethics-among-top-priorities-for-2016-session>

Christina Cleveland, Derrek Asberry

South Carolina Senate and House members will return to the Statehouse on Monday ready to discuss any pre-filed bills, including topics such as infrastructure and ethics, that have carried over from the 2015 session. The overwhelming priority for most lawmakers, including those representing Aiken County, appears to be the issue of maintaining the state's infrastructure.

### **S.C. Political News:**

**Aiken Standard:** Sen. Rubio speaking in Aiken area today, George P. Bush campaigning for Jeb

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160108/AIK0101/160109481/sen-rubio-speaking-in-aiken-area-today-george-p-bush-campaigning-for-jeb>

Derrek Asberry

GOP presidential candidate Sen. Marco Rubio will speak today in Aiken about his "vision for A New American Century" – a talking point he has used during his campaign to win the Republican nomination for president. Organizers of the event announced Friday that the venue has changed to accommodate more people.

**The State:** Trump finds protests, enthusiastic crowd in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article53851185.html>

Jamie Self

Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump rode a wave of good news into South Carolina Friday night – his continued dominance in the GOP presidential primary. Trump started his appearance at Winthrop University by touting a new Fox News poll, out Friday, that has him at 35 percent support with U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, trailing at 20 percent.

**Rock Hill Herald:** Trump talks tough at Winthrop rally, thrills crowd of 6,500 in Rock Hill

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article53765715.html#storylink=cpy>

Bristow Marchant

Most presidential candidate's rallies don't quite go like the one at the Winthrop Coliseum on Friday night. From the beginning, Donald Trump made an entrance that was more like the Eagles' basketball team, or maybe a pro-wrestling champion, with rotating spotlights over an introductory montage of media clips and rock music that pumped up the raucous, capacity crowd.

**Charlotte Observer:** Donald Trump rallies supporters in Rock Hill

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/politics-government/article53842725.html>

Jim Morrill

Calling the presidential election one of "competence not niceness," Republican Donald Trump on Friday

night ripped President Barack Obama, Democrat Hillary Clinton and even Washington Republicans. “We can no longer be the stupid country,” he said to more than 6,000 people who packed Winthrop Coliseum.

**Rock Hill Herald:** Trump faithful in Rock Hill: He ‘has guts’ to say what we’re thinking  
<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andrew-dys/article53883395.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Dys

The hundreds turned into thousands outside and then inside the Winthrop Coliseum on Friday to hear the one and only Donald Trump. The rich Trump. The Trump who tells off candidates, media and naysayers, while bellowing that he is great.

**Post and Courier:** Trump fires up Rock Hill ahead of debate  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160108/PC1603/160109419>

Gavin Jackson

South Carolina has stood with Donald Trump from the beginning of his campaign, the Republican front-runner said Friday in Rock Hill, but with six weeks to the primary he will start advertising. “I’m actually going to start to spend money because I don’t want to take a chance, I’m afraid to take a chance,” Trump said at Winthrop University Coliseum.

**Note:** Establishment GOP support in the state, however, is in short supply. Gov. Nikki Haley and S.C. GOP Chairman Matt Moore in December slammed Trump’s call at a Mount Pleasant rally to ban Muslims from entering the country. “It’s absolutely un-American, it’s unconstitutional, it defies everything this country was based on and it’s just wrong,” Haley said Dec. 8.

**Post and Courier:** Lindsey Graham says his presidential campaign had potential  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160108/PC1603/160109452>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham said his candidacy for president had potential but that he was not given a fair shot at the job. It’s been nearly three weeks since Graham announced he was ending his bid for the White House. On Friday, he was again critical of the guidelines the Republican Party used to determine which candidate got on the main debate stages.

**Aiken Standard:** U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham says polls, media impacted his campaign  
<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160108/AIK0101/160109480/us-sen-lindsey-graham-says-polls-media-impacted-his-campaign>

Derrek Asberry

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham wouldn’t say whether he plans to put his name on the Republican ballot in 2020 or beyond to serve as the nation’s commander-in-chief, but as the longtime Republican congressman from South Carolina spoke about his campaign, he said that he “liked it enough to do it again.”

**The State:** S.C. Democrats’ dinner to feature party’s presidential hopefuls  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article53760380.html>

Jamie Self

All four Democratic presidential hopefuls will speak at the “First in the South Dinner” in Charleston next weekend, the S.C. Democratic Party said Friday. The lineup for the Jan. 16 dinner features former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, former Maryland Gov. Martin O’Malley, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Willie Wilson of Chicago.

## **Opinion / Editorial Roundup:**

**Index-Journal:** Addressing our state’s shrinking rural areas  
<http://indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Addressing-our-state-s-shrinking-rural-areas>

Editorial

Lowcountry residents are unlikely to be surprised that South Carolina’s population is growing. Mount Pleasant, Charleston and Summerville are all attracting so many new residents that they struggle with how to provide roads and schools to meet the increased needs. But in many rural parts of the state, population is shrinking, and their economies are shrinking too.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley is to be commended for recognizing that rural areas need assistance. In addition to designating additional funds for rural schools, she has worked to direct new business and industry to small towns that need jobs -- and reasons for people to move in, not out.

**Tribune News Service:** The news out of the State of the Union? Nikki Haley  
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article53732020.html>

Ann McFeatters

Resign yourselves. It's time for POTUS to give the SOTU address. I know. I know. It seems as though it just happened yesterday. But it has been a year. This is the constitutionally mandated occasion when the president assesses the condition of the nation for us.

**Post and Courier:** Riley's admirable character transcends his tenure  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160109/PC1002/160109434>

Ron Brinson

This "Goodbye, Joe" story of recent weeks has been an over-the-top confusion of the Joe Riley story. The simple bottom line is that Mayor Riley is a good and honest and ethical man who committed his career capital to elective office — and, most remarkably, Charleston voters renewed his contract 10 times. His constituents liked his style — that Joe Riley "brand."

**Post and Courier:** A difficult ruling to understand  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160109/PC1002/160109429>

Editorial

Michael Slager is out of jail on \$500,000 bail. The family of Walter Scott, whose murder he is charged with, are understandably distressed. Protesters are angry. And lawyers are struggling to explain to a confused public why his house arrest is called for by law.

**Post and Courier:** Important exam questions  
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160109/PC1002/160109431>

Editorial

Students are usually the ones expected to answer questions. This time it should be the Charleston County School Board. The question should be: Why would educators think an 85 average is good enough to exempt a student from taking a final exam? Someone in the district administration must have thought so and promoted it in the form of a 2014-2015 pilot policy — without the knowledge or consent of the board.

## **S.C. Federal Delegation News:**

**Index-Journal:** Duncan: Bypassing Congress bigger issue than gun control  
<http://indexjournal.com/news/Duncan--Bypassing-Congress-bigger-issue-than-gun-control>

Colin Riddle

In what was likely a brief sampling of President Barack Obama's State of the Union Address scheduled for Tuesday, the president rolled out a series of executive actions in an effort to curb gun violence. A GOP-led Congress has been reluctant to pass such measures for fear of violating the Second Amendment right to bear arms -- the right that seemingly is becoming a cornerstone of the conservative pulpit.

## **Local News:**

**The State:** Newman's 'mentor-protege' program paid \$38,000 to train him for penny contract work  
<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article53757765.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk, Sarah Ellis

Attorney Brian DeQuincey Newman's law firm was paid more than \$82,000, including an outlay of \$38,000 for apparent on-the-job legal training for work done for the Richland County transportation penny tax program.

## **National News:**

**Associated Press:** Obama vetoes bill to repeal signature health care law  
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160108/WIRE/160109791/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Obama-vetoes-bill-to-repeal-signature-health-care-law&tc=ar>

Protecting his signature domestic achievement, President Barack Obama on Friday vetoed Republican-inspired legislation to repeal his health care law, saying to do so "would reverse the significant progress we have made in improving health care in America."

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