

From: Taillon, Jeff
To: Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Clips - Monday, August 5, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Associated Press: Gov. Haley to talk to law enforcement in Columbia

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/05/2613506/gov-haley-to-talk-to-law-enforcement.html>

Gov. Nikki Haley is speaking to another group of law enforcement officials. Haley will talk to more than 500 federal, state and local law enforcement officers at 8:15 a.m. Monday at a Criminal Justice Information Services training conference.

Politico: High stakes in 2014 governor battles

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/08/governor-races-2014-high-stakes-95176.html?hp=f1>

James Hohmann

Next year, Democrats have a chance to begin to blot out a rare bright spot for Republicans: the nation's governorships. For all the GOP's well-documented problems winning national elections lately, it's easy to overlook the party's dominance at the state level that its banner 2010 election produced. Three in five governors are Republicans — and they used that power to push through far-reaching conservative agendas and quite possibly lock down the House of Representatives for a decade through redistricting.

Note: Democrats have also recruited some strong candidates who they expect will make races in red states competitive. They are most excited about South Carolina, where state Sen. Vincent Sheheen is running again. He only lost to Haley by 4 points in 2010 and has carved out an image as a moderate.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Aiken Standard: SRS Security failure may warrant added funds

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130804/AIK0201/130809794/1018/AIK02/editorial-srs-security-failure-may-warrant-added-funds>

Editorial

With the recent news of the Savannah River Site failing a mock security test, questions of the Site's ability to defend against real attackers are popping up. And with great reason.

Aiken Standard: Can Detroit's collapse happen in Aiken?

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130804/AIK02/130809793/1018/AIK02/column-can-detroit-x2019-s-collapse-happen-in-aiken>

Gary Bunker

The city of Detroit's bankruptcy filing on July 19 is the largest municipal bankruptcy in American history. With an estimated debt of \$18 billion to \$20 billion, Detroit's bankruptcy dwarfs the recent bankruptcies of Jefferson County, Ala., and Stockton, Calif.. With more and more counties and cities facing looming financial crises, not to mention entire states like Illinois and California, it's only prudent to ask how Aiken County stacks up in comparison to the imploding Motor City.

South Carolina News:

Greenville News: Facing Primary challenges, Graham says he won't change

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130804/NEWS/308040036/Facing-primary-challenges-Graham-says-he-won-t-change>

Clark Brooks

Confronted with a new challenge from his right flank, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said today that his re-election strategy won't change, nor will anything else.

Index-Journal: DHEC issues whistle-blower policy

<http://www.indexjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=20062>

Scott J. Bryan

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is instituting a new whistle-blower policy today. DHEC director Catherine Templeton, who spoke exclusively Wednesday with the Index-Journal, said the new policy "empowers" employees to leap beyond their direct supervisor if they feel there is an imminent threat. "Not only are you empowered to tell me, you've got to tell me," Templeton said.

Greenville News: Graham: US must be careful when dealing with threat

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130805/NEWS/308050012/Graham-US-must-careful-when-dealing-threat>
With 22 U.S. diplomatic posts closed for what some are calling the most serious terrorist threat in years, Sen. Lindsey Graham said Sunday that a more active al-Qaida means America must be smarter in withdrawing from Afghanistan, careful in evaluating the National Security Agency, and serious about restoring military funding sapped by

The State: SC tourism agency plans to market a 'barbecue trail'

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/04/2901110/sc-tourism-agency-plans-to-market.html>

Adam Beam

To pay for that marketing blitz, S.C. lawmakers have given the state Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism more than \$20 million in new money over the past two years, most of that money going to pay for advertising in Myrtle Beach, Hilton Head, Columbia, Charleston and Greenville. But beginning this fall, the department will embark on a \$3.5 million advertising campaign designed to showcase the state's more rural areas, including the \$1.2 million campaign, scheduled to begin later this month, highlighting the state's barbecue culture.

WLTX: Legislation Helps State Redevelopment Efforts

<http://www.wltx.com/news/article/244903/2/Legislation-Helps-State-Redevelopment-Efforts>

Dakarai Turner

More of South Carolina's old buildings may be getting an upgrade, thanks to a change in state law. A new bill signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley in June gives re-developers the ability to recoup some of the money spent on redevelopment sequestration.

Local News:

Associated Press: White supremacists' kill claims 'bluster'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130805/PC16/130809737/1006/sheriff-white-supremacists-x2019-kill-claims-x2018-bluster-x2019>

Jeffrey Collins

Claims made by a white supremacist couple facing murder charges that they were involved with several different killings and other crimes across South Carolina have not panned out, a sheriff said. Jeremy and Christine Moody are each charged with killing a registered sex offender and his wife in their Jonesville home last month. They appear to be like many members of loosely knit white power groups charged with committing violent crimes, going out on their own to settle a score against someone who represents something they don't like, according to law enforcement officials and an organization that monitors hate groups.

Associated Press: Columbia police chief, mayor to talk about gangs

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/05/2613503/columbia-police-chief-mayor-to.html>

Columbia's mayor and police chief are gathering community and church leaders to discuss how the city can stop gangs. Interim Columbia Police Chief Ruben Santiago and Mayor Steve Benjamin will announce their efforts to stop gang crime and violence Monday morning at St. Anna's Park. Columbia and surrounding Richland County has seen several high-profile gang crimes this summer. A bakery worker was killed by gang members, a man was killed at an apartment complex during a gang fight and a 4-year-old girl was critically injured when she was hit by a stray bullet fired during a shootout between gang members.

Post and Courier: New civil rights marker in Charleston drawing attention

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130804/PC16/130809741/1006/civil-rights-marker-drawing-attention>

Dave Munday

A prominent black-and-white sign in front of the S.H. Kress Building at 281 King St. marks the site of a 1960 lunch counter sit-in that started the push for desegregation in Charleston. The big historical marker was uncovered after a 3 p.m. program explaining its significance. The program, organized by the Preservation Society of Charleston, was held inside the building, because too many people showed up to fit on the sidewalk.

Aiken Standard: Attracting business in Aiken County

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130805/AIK0101/130809758/1004/attracting-business-in-aiken-county>

Amy Banton

Aiken County wants to be known as a business-friendly community. The County, along with the assistance of the Economic Development Partnership, has played a major role in attracting companies eyeing this area or helping those that already exist expand. On Wednesday, Tognum announced the expansion of its MTU Plant located in Graniteville, and Council will soon conduct its final reading of an amendment to extend the fee agreement that was initially made with the company when it chose Aiken County as its home.

Union Daily Times: Union County Day set for Aug. 10

http://www.uniondailytimes.com/view/full_story/23279130/article-Union-Co-Day-set-for-Aug-10

Union County Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 10 at the University of South Carolina-Union, 309 E. Academy St., as a part of a major statewide initiative designed to provide the tools and resources needed for challenged South Carolina communities to grow economically.

Note: "Union County has so much potential and raising awareness with events such as Union County Day will encourage family projects, school and church projects and civic group projects from all areas of the state that will lift up our neighbors in

Union County and beyond,” Gov. Nikki Haley said in making the announcement. “I am encouraged by the level of interest we have had from individuals, businesses, organizations, churches and groups who want to show Union County that neighbors helping neighbors will make South Carolina an even better place to live.”

The State: Sumter Police Department Offers Gun Buy Back Event

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Xu0oifqF

Bristow Marchant

Anyone with an unwanted gun in their home and in search of a way to get rid of it will have a chance to trade it in for a free gift card this weekend. The Sumter Police Department is holding an anonymous gun buy back event Saturday in hopes of getting potentially deadly weapons out of the hands of those who might use them to commit crimes. And they will be offering complementary Walmart gift cards in exchange for the firearms.

National News:

Associated Press: White House prospects mix at governor’s meeting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268773/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CJEbhiTz

Thomas Beaumont

Health care, budgets and education topped the official agenda for governors at their annual summer summit. But the 2016 presidential race was never far from view or conversation, given the clear White House interest from some in the crowd gathered near Lake Michigan.

Wall Street Journal: Senate Map Favors the GOP in 2014

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323420604578648183267197210.html?mod=ITP_pageone_1

Patrick O’Connor

Senate Republicans, after coming up short two elections in a row, are again optimistic they can win the seats needed to recapture the majority in next year’s midterm elections. As in 2012, the map of competitive races tilts heavily in the GOP’s favor, with Democrats again defending more competitive seats than the GOP. Democratic retirements also have boosted Republican prospects in states that already were up for grabs.

Time: How Obama’s 2012 Victory Made Way For GOP State Gains

<http://swampland.time.com/2013/08/05/how-obamas-2012-victory-made-way-for-gop-state-gains/>

Zeke Miller

Barack Obama’s decisive electoral victory over a moderate Republican in 2012 has yet to transfer into many lasting gains in statehouses around the country. In fact, the President’s success last year may be coming back to hurt him.

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Jeff Taillon

(803) 734-5129|Direct Line

(803) 767-7653|Cell