

From: Symmes, Brian
To:
Date: 10/28/2013 8:03:11 AM
Subject: Morning Clips - Monday, October 28, 2013

Morning Clips – Monday, October 28, 2013

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Times and Democrat (Video): Governor Nikki Haley At South Carolina Inland Port: We Are Open For Business

http://thetandd.com/videos/governor-nikki-haley-at-south-carolina-inland-port-we-are/youtube_a2cab48-3dc5-11e3-aa8e-0019bb2963f4.html

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Job training for juvies

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131027/PC1002/131029453/1021/job-training-for-juvies&source=RSS>

Editorial

If job training is an important component of rehabilitating prison inmates, it may be even more essential to South Carolina's juvenile offenders. Many stand at the crossroads between a productive life and just more trouble, but next time as an adult. Learning a job skill can engage a young person at a critical time and can halt recidivism before it gets started. For those reasons, the state Department of Juvenile Justice is to be commended for undertaking its new Job Readiness Training Center in Columbia. The center was officially opened on Tuesday.

Note: "This job training is not only the right thing to do, but it is improving the lives of the at-risk youths within DJJ and will pay long-term benefits to our state as a whole," Gov. Nikki Haley said at the opening ceremonies.

Rock Hill Herald: S.C.'s inland port opens for business

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/27/5344522/scs-inland-port-opensfor-business.html#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

South Carolina's new \$50 million inland port, which began operating this month, is a monumental achievement for the state. Some say it could have as big an impact on the state, especially the Upstate, as the luring of BMW Manufacturing Co. BMW, in fact, will be among the top customers for the new shipping center. Both are located near Greer. Essentially, the huge inland port will both extend the reach of the port of Charleston by about 220 miles and significantly reduce truck traffic along Interstate 26. Instead of trucking goods from the Port of Charleston, the materials will be packed in huge, double-stacked containers and transported overnight by rail between Greer and Charleston.

Aiken Standard: Ryberg right choice for commission post

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131028/AIK02/131029639/1018/AIK02/column-ryberg-right-choice-for-commission-post>

Gary Bunker

The recent appointment of former Sen. Greg Ryberg as chief operating officer of the South Carolina Retirement System Investment Commission was a shrewd move on the Commission's part. Ryberg's business sense and political experience are needed on the Commission, which has been rocked by infighting between State Treasurer Curtis Loftis, one of the commissioners, and the rest of the Commission. Established in 2005, the commission is responsible for investing and managing the assets of the South Carolina Retirement System. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Ryberg helped author the legislation creating the commission. His being present at the creation is an additional plus in his role as chief operating officer.

Aiken Standard: System needs strong fix for child support

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131028/AIK02/131029641/1018/AIK02/editorial-system-needs->

[strong-fix-for-child-support](#)

Editorial

South Carolina may need six more years and almost \$75 million to complete a long-delayed child support enforcement system, according to the Greenville News. It's been 25 years since federal law mandated that we put the system into effect, but embarrassingly, South Carolina remains the only state in the nation that hasn't completed implementation. This summer, the state terminated its contract with Hewlett Packard – the third company hired to finish the project that has been tinged with chaos and missteps. The company is now in a contract dispute with the state, a conflict that is being heard by the state's chief procurement officer and is expected to last more than a month.

Island Packet: Medicare drug plans increasingly problematic

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/28/2756654/medicare-drug-plans-increasingly.html>

Editorial

Selecting a Medicare Advantage provider is becoming more complex each year. When viewing the drugs available for 2014, the facts required to make the best selection are not easily found. We need to know the total cost of the drug to determine how we will be affected by Medicare's infamous doughnut hole. Without this information we could easily be using a product that costs far more but has the same co-pay as the less costly drug. It is the total drug cost that counts when figuring when the doughnut hole is reached. As the year progresses, this could make the difference between a period of self insurance in the donut hole or a continued co-pay only with the insurer picking up the major costs.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: Many insured SC residents must buy new health plan

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7slxyl9

Seanna Adcox

Nearly a month into the health care rollout, at least one group tasked with helping South Carolina's uninsured sign up for coverage in 2014 hasn't been able to assist anyone through the problem-riddled federal website. However, several thousand residents have sought Medicaid coverage through the state's new online application. And many South Carolinians with health insurance are learning they too must buy a new policy. Despite President Barack Obama's promise that those who like their health plans will be able to keep it, residents across the country are being notified they must switch to a more comprehensive, and often more expensive, policy that complies with the federal law.

The State: National utility leads state in violation of green laws

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/10/27/3063124/national-utility-leads-state-in.html#storylink=cpy>

Sammy Fretwell

A toxin powerful enough to cause vomiting and even death swam silently in the drinking water at Lakewood Estates in 2011, exposing residents to a hazard many thought had been eradicated several years earlier. The hazard was arsenic, and its discovery in the Chapin neighborhood resulted in the third state enforcement case in seven years against the subdivision's utility service for failing to meet drinking water standards. But the repeat offenses were nothing new for Utilities Inc., a national corporation that owns the Lakewood Estates water company.

Aiken Standard: Higher gas tax could raise more road improvement funds

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20131028/AIK0101/131029508/1004/higher-gas-tax-could-raise-more-road-improvement-funds>

DeDe Biles

Bill Ross travels around South Carolina spreading his message that the state needs to find more money to fix its roads. On Oct. 24, he visited Aiken, where he spoke at a Kiwanis Club meeting in Cumberland Village. "Everything has got to be on the table," said Ross, who is the executive director of the South Carolina Alliance To Fix Our Roads. "I don't think there is any one answer." Members of Ross' Columbia-based nonprofit organization include the South Carolina Trucking Association, South Carolina Farm Bureau and AAA Carolinas. The Alliance supports increasing the Palmetto State's motor fuel user fee of 16 cents per gallon, which hasn't been raised since 1987 and is one of the lowest in the nation.

Note: "This past year, I've probably sat down across the table from at least half of the senators and probably a third of the House members in the state," Ross said. "Every one of them will tell you, 'Yes, we need to increase the motor fuel user fee.' But then they say that they, realistically, wouldn't be able to override a veto (by Gov. Nikki Haley)."

Post and Courier: College of Charleston met with InfiLaw on possible purchase of Charleston School of Law

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131027/PC16/131029401/1389/college-of-charleston-met-with-infilaw-on-possible-purchase-of-charleston-school-of-law>

Diane Knich

The College of Charleston and InfiLaw System have met about the purchase of the Charleston School of Law, but who attended that meeting and what was discussed there remains a mystery. In a prepared statement this month, InfiLaw officials said they had a binding contract to buy the Charleston School of Law, but they had reached out to the College of Charleston to determine if the college had the means and ability to purchase and manage the law school. Company representatives said they also were willing to talk to officials at the University of South Carolina's law school. They also said they would continue the process to obtain an operating license from the state's Commission on Higher Education, which would be required if they were to finalize the sale and take over the law school.

Post and Courier: S.C. spends plenty to educate doctors, but doesn't have enough of them

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131027/PC16/131029404/1006/>

Lauren Sausser

Lash Springs, 27, of Myrtle Beach, will graduate from the Medical University of South Carolina in the spring, which is why he's so busy these days planning his next move. Springs and thousands of other fourth-year medical students across the country are knee-deep in the process of interviewing for a residency position. Residents fall somewhere between medical students and full-fledged practicing physicians. Some medical school graduates will complete their residency training in a primary care field, like internal or family medicine. Others want to specialize in more lucrative areas, like dermatology or oncology, for which there are fewer available positions.

Associated Press: Officials participate in domestic violence meeting

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=AEOt83LB

A state representative from Columbia is sponsoring a town hall meeting on domestic violence. Democratic state Rep. Mia McLeod is holding the meeting Monday at Ridge View High School. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott and Solicitor Dan Johnson are planning to serve as panelists. Various organizations partnering on the event include Sistercare and the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. South Carolina ranks worst in the nation for violence against women.

Local News:

The State: Mayor Races Dot Lexington County Ballot

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

Tim Flach

Time-for-change talk abounds in Lexington County communities as the Nov. 5 ballot approaches for several municipal races. As many as six of 14 towns and cities could have new leaders as challengers press for advantage with insistence that a fresh outlook is better than retaining experience at Town Halls. Those facing contests include two of the longest-serving mayors in the Midlands – Stan Shealy of Chapin with 32 years and Pat Smith of Springdale with 29 years. Lexington Mayor Randy Halfacre, a rising star in Midlands political and business circles, is in a match with another town leader running as an outsider.

Sun News: Reducing crime among top issues for all Myrtle Beach candidates

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/10/26/3794328/reducing-crime-among-top-issues.html#storylink=cpy>

Maya T. Prabhu

Any crime is too much crime. That's one thing all candidates running for election in Myrtle Beach agree on. Where they differ is whether Myrtle Beach has a higher tendency to see violent crime. All four incumbents running for reelection said crime information released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics website is skewed because Myrtle Beach's population grows exponentially during the summer tourism season and the rate is based on the city's permanent population. But some challengers said they believe the city is trying to downplay what they say is a major crime issue.

Island Packet: Beaufort County Council to discuss business license changes

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/10/27/2759952/beaufort-county-council-to-discuss.html#storylink=cpy>

Zach Murdock

Beaufort County Council will meet at 5 p.m. Monday to discuss initial changes to the way it handles business licenses. The changes would include changing the amount paid for a license to a tax from a fee, as it's now called. Changes also would include an exemption for agricultural businesses, such as those involved in crops, timber harvesting, livestock or fishing, county attorney Josh Gruber has said. Council has debated large-scale changes to county business licenses several times this year. On Oct. 14, council debated whether it should approve these initial changes and return to other ideas later or wait and approve any business license changes at once.

Rock Hill Herald: DHEC records show violations that could endanger residents at Catawba Community Care Home

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2013/10/26/5342690/dhec-records-show-violations-that.html#storylink=cpy>

Jonathan McFadden

A York County residential care facility where a 61-year-old man was recently slashed in the face by another resident was cited this year for 12 violations that might "present an imminent danger" for residents or "result in death," according to the state Department of Health and Environmental Control. During a routine inspection of the Catawba Community Care Home on Oct. 1, DHEC issued seven citations for Class 1 violations to the facility, which serves the indigent, records show. In June, DHEC cited the facility for Class I violations during a fire safety evaluation. DHEC provides oversight for all the state's nursing, retirement and community residential homes.

Sun News: Taste of Georgetown serving up food and awareness

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/10/27/3796410/taste-of-georgetown-serving-up.html#storylink=cpy>

Steve Palisin

Representatives from the Family Justice Center of Georgetown County hope everyone attending the fourth of Taste of Georgetown brings a hearty appetite to help a cause with a big heart. The eating extravaganza, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday on Georgetown's Front Street, between Queen and King streets, has become the Family Justice Center's main fundraiser, said Alicia Barnes, a board member for the Georgetown-based charity, which helps protect people countywide who cope with domestic violence. More than 20 restaurants, most from the city of Georgetown, but a few from the Waccamaw Neck, will serve up their trademark dishes.

National News:

Associated Press: A year after Romney loss, GOP woes run even deeper

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=y4BQnMSO

Charles Babington

A year after losing a presidential race many Republicans thought was winnable, the party arguably is in worse shape than before. The GOP is struggling to control tensions between its tea party and establishment wings and watching approval ratings sink to record lows. It's almost quaint to recall that soon after Mitt Romney lost to President Barack Obama, the Republican National Committee recommended only one policy change: endorsing an immigration overhaul, in hopes of attracting Hispanic voters. That immigration bill is now struggling for life and attention in the Republican-run House.

Associated Press: After shutdown, few talking about budget solutions

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Qv9iFgoC

Bill Barrow

Something is noticeably absent from congressional candidates' rampant finger-wagging over this month's bipartisan deal to extend the nation's borrowing limit and reopen government: concrete proposals to fundamentally alter the U.S. balance sheet. Blame politics as the chief reason for the lack of solutions offered by 2014 incumbents and challengers. Influential Democratic backers go to the mat to protect Social Security and Medicare. Republicans love defense spending, while key GOP groups boast absolute opposition to higher taxes.

Associated Press: Here's a tax increase Republican lawmakers support

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268798/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=tdDjzBs1

Stephen Ohlemacher

Republicans in Congress don't usually fight for tax increases, especially ones that are part of President Barack Obama's health care law. But GOP senators balked when Democrats proposed delaying a new

temporary fee on everyone covered by health insurance. So employers, insurance companies and other health plan sponsors are in line to pay \$63 a person next year for everyone who has coverage. The temporary fee covers all workers, spouses and dependents covered by health insurance. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., proposed delaying the fee in recent budget talks with Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. McConnell and other Republican senators objected; the fee was left intact.

Brian Symmes

Direct Line: (803) 734-0304

Cell: (803) 673-9437