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Subject: Clips – Sunday, July 13, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Aiken Standard: Funding pushes deadlines back for SRS waste missions

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140713/AIK0101/140719776/1004/funding-pushes-deadlines-back-for-srs-waste-missions>

Derrek Asberry

The Savannah River Site's liquid waste contractor used its Liquid Waste System Plan to outline funding as the reason why it will not meet tank removal deadlines. Savannah River Remediation, or SRR, released Revision 19 to the plan back in May.

Note: Officials have often noted that closing the tanks are a top priority, including Gov. Nikki Haley who has regarded the liquid waste as the biggest threat to environmental health in the state.

Times and Democrat: Bamberg District 2 gets state funds to hire reading coach

http://thetandd.com/news/bamberg-district-gets-state-funds-to-hire-reading-coach/article_8f0d5008-0953-11e4-80c6-0019bb2963f4.html

Ryanne Persinger

Bamberg School District Two has received funding for an elementary school reading coach for the upcoming school year. The state's Read to Succeed bill requires students to learn how to read before reaching the fourth grade. At the regular monthly board of trustees meeting on July 7, Superintendent Dr. Thelma Sojourner reported the district had received approximately \$60,000 for a reading coach at Denmark-Olar Elementary School.

WLTX: Despite New Law Allowing It, SC Families Can't Get Cannabis Oil

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/local/2014/07/11/cannabis-oil-new-law-sc-unavailable/12552823/>

Robert Kittle

A new South Carolina law allows the possession of cannabis oil, with a doctor's prescription, for the treatment of epilepsy. But there's a big problem—no one can get it. ut there's a big problem—no one can get it. Federal law prohibits the cannabis oil, also known as CBD oil, which is made from the marijuana plant, from being shipped across state lines.

Note: Tabitha Gregory was ecstatic when Gov. Nikki Haley signed the bill into law last month.

S.C. Political News:

Index-Journal: Sheheen visits festival

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/News/News/Article/Sheheen-visits-festival/4/40/26501>

Kate Hruby

State Senator and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen spoke and shook hands with guests, and indulged in some barbecue tasting at the Festival of Discovery on Saturday afternoon. He said the event helped to showcase small businesses in Greenwood and across the state.

Anderson Independent: Campaign notes: Democrats gather for annual barbecue in Anderson

http://www.independentmail.com/news/local-news/campaign-notes-democrats-gather-for-annual-barbecue-in-anderson_89405118

Kirk Brown, Nikie Mayo

About 100 Democrats gathered Saturday at the Anderson Arts Center for barbecue and political pep talks. State Sen. Vincent Sheheen, the Camden lawyer who is running against Gov. Nikki Haley, headlined the Anderson County Democratic Party's annual summer barbecue dinner.

Associated Press: Ravenel says SC petition ready for US Senate bid

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ImcDd0CB

Former South Carolina treasurer Thomas Ravenel says he's collected enough signatures on a petition to add his name to this fall's ballot as an independent candidate for U.S. Senate.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Greenville News (Guest Column): Protect patients who need access to pain medicine

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/contributors/2014/07/13/protect-patients-need-access-pain-medicine/12547899/>

Todd Warrick

Prescription drug abuse is a national epidemic. According to a recent report by the Trust for America's Health, prescription drug-related deaths now outnumber those caused by cocaine and heroin combined. Fortunately, South Carolina has just become the latest state to join the fight against this epidemic.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley recently created the Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Council. The council, which includes representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services and several other state agencies, is examining the problem of prescription drug abuse and developing a proactive plan to combat it.

Index-Journal: Politics, not leadership, keeps governor's road plan in dark

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/Opinion/Opinion/Article/Politics--not-leadership--keeps-governor-s-road-plan-in-dark/8/154/26490>

Editorial

Politics is an interesting animal. We love it, we hate it. We've even heard some people describe it as akin to marriage, but we'd like to think a marriage is far better.

Note: Take the governor's race in South Carolina for example. Gov. Nikki Haley has been criticized lately for being a bit of a tease. She said she has a great plan for getting our failing and crumbling highway and bridge system back in top-notch shape, but she won't share that plan until January.

The State: SC Supreme Court's Harrell decision upholds rule of law

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/12/3559705/editorial-sc-supreme-courts-harrell.html>

Editorial

THE SUPREME Court's unanimous order allowing an investigation to continue into corruption allegations against House Speaker Bobby Harrell overturned a dangerous ruling that severely reduced the attorney general's authority.

The State: Could Supreme Court footnote mean case closed for Harrell investigation?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/13/3559715/scoppe-could-supreme-court-footnote.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

Wednesday's unanimous Supreme Court order allowing a Grand Jury investigation of House Speaker Bobby Harrell to proceed contains language that threatens to draw a veil of secrecy over a matter far outside the Grand Jury's reach: one of the most important power struggles in modern South Carolina history.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Nation's nuclear dump

Taking in German waste is the latest federal task for the Savannah River Site

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140713/OPINION/407131011/1128/opinion?p=1&tc=pg>

Editorial

Too much high-level nuclear waste is already being stockpiled at the Savannah River Site, an ecologically sensitive location that wasn't designed for long-term storage of the dangerous material. So the last thing we should be doing is importing more nuclear waste into the site from Germany.

Post and Courier: A quorum of one in the Senate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140713/PC1002/140719722/1021&source=spread>

Editorial

When state Sen. Hugh Leatherman ran for governor in 1986, his slogan was "Leatherman Means Business." He lost that race but has since set up shop in the General Assembly as its most powerful legislator, perhaps in decades. Concentrating so much power in a single senator isn't exactly a model of representative government.

Greenville News: Latest immigration crisis born of inaction

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/07/12/editorial-latest-immigration-crisis-born-inaction/12552211/>

Editorial

The flow of tens of thousands of young children across the United States' southern border is a brewing immigration crisis that underscores the need for this country to get at the root causes of illegal immigration and address them in a meaningful way.

Island Packet: Agency overly harsh in canceling contract

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/12/3208039/agency-overly-harsh-in-canceling.html?sp=/99/342/>

Editorial

In a recent conversation with a S.C. Department of Natural Resources, we were told that alligator wranglers are allowed leniency in following the agency's nuisance rule to make judgment calls based on their expertise.

Sun News: New Horry County education board policy will create problems

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/07/12/4348095/editorial-new-horry-county-education.html?sp=/99/158/1251/>

Editorial

A new discretionary spending plan for Horry County school board members is likely to create more problems than it will resolve. As the proposal stands, pending school board approval, each of the 12 members would have an annual fund of \$7,500 to use for "education-related items."

Post and Courier (Guest Column): Leatherman is the right man for power

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140713/PC1002/140719727/1021&source=spreed>

Ron Brinson

Those frenetic last days of the legislative session were anything but an exercise of calm, deliberative governance. The "University of Charleston" issue and Glenn McConnell's departure as lieutenant governor created a bitterly fought musical chairs free-for-all for Senate leadership posts.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: South Carolina education officials act swiftly to replace Common Core

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140712/PC1603/140719781/1382&source=spreed>

Cynthia Roldan

Members of the state's Board of Education are expecting to vote on math and English language arts standards educators will use for teaching students during the 2015-16 school year as early as December, with a team of writers producing the new standards no later than August, said Larry Kobrovsky, who represents Charleston and Berkeley counties on the board.

Associated Press: DSS accused of keeping abusive siblings together

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

Meg Kinnard

South Carolina's social services agency repeatedly placed a young girl and her brother together in the same foster homes, even though officials knew for years that one was sexually abusing the other, according to a lawsuit filed against the state Department of Social Services and others.

The State: The Buzz: Richland County delegation 'allergic to meetings'

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/12/3561502/the-buzz-richland-county-delegation.html>

Cassie Cope

The Richland County Legislative Delegation has yet to select the five members of the county's Elections and Voter Registration Board, which hires the director of the office that manages elections.

Leatherman, the locomotive: "I don't see it as a power position, but as one that makes the train run on time without running over fellow senators," Leatherman wrote in his column, lauding the value of compromise.

Last-minute dough for GOP schools chief candidates: In the Republican Primary runoff for superintendent of education, some last-minute money flowed in for candidates Sally Atwater and Molly Spearman. Spearman even borrowed money for the first time.

Island Packet: Scientists suggest local waters are birthing site for great white sharks

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/12/3208527/scientists-suggest-local-waters.html?sp=/99/257/266/>

Zach Murdock

The great white sharks patrolling the Beaufort County, South Carolina and Georgia coasts aren't just passing tourists. They're starting families here in what has become the prime birthing location of the north Atlantic Ocean, according to some marine scientists who study the ancient predators.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Spartanburg takes a look back at landing BMW

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140712/ARTICLES/140719893/1083/ARTICLES?p=1&tc=pg>

Jason Spencer

It's hard to imagine Spartanburg County, or South Carolina for that matter, without BMW. The manufacturer is directly credited with quadrupling the automotive industry in this state since the first car rolled off the line 20 years ago.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: BMW: 20 years as the ultimate economic machine

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20140713/ARTICLES/140719946/0/search?p=1&tc=pg>

Trevor Anderson

In the early 1990s, state and county officials watched in terror as South Carolina's textile industry withered on the vine. Tens of thousands of manufacturing jobs were lost to countries like China, Mexico and India. The mills that pumped the state's economic lifeblood began to shutter one by one.

Sun News: Schools to see more changes in snacks, meals as new federal regulations take effect

[http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/07/12/4348335/schools-to-see-more-changes-in.html?](http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/07/12/4348335/schools-to-see-more-changes-in.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy)

[sp=/99/209/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy](http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2014/07/12/4348335/schools-to-see-more-changes-in.html?sp=/99/209/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy)

Vicki Grooms

Students at Socastee High School are accustomed to buying Chick-fil-A sandwiches at school during their break, but the practice will stop in the fall due to the latest round of federal nutrition guidelines aimed at instilling healthy habits in students.

The State: Developer's email raises questions about Benjamin's 2010 Florida trip

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/12/3561247/developers-email-raises-questions.html>

John Monk

An email from a Florida developer that surfaced during a federal public corruption trial last month is raising questions about Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin's assertion that a 2010 trip to Florida was a "personal business trip." The email, dated Dec. 17, 2010, was a surprise exhibit at the trial of former S.C. State University board chairman Jonathan Pinson, a longtime business partner of the mayor.

Local News:

Island Packet: Schools work to increase Internet access for low-income families

[http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/12/3208525/schools-work-to-increase-internet.html?](http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/12/3208525/schools-work-to-increase-internet.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1)

[sp=/99/100/&ihp=1](http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/07/12/3208525/schools-work-to-increase-internet.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1)

Sarah Bowman

The Beaufort County School District will allow many students to take their school-issued tablets home this fall, but officials worry some of them don't have the Internet access to use the devices. As a result, the district is partnering with local communications companies to bring lower-cost Internet access to low-income families.

Post and Courier: Activists, families take stand against violence as tri-county body count rises

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140712/PC16/140719834/1177&source=speed>

Andrew Knapp

For a year, Tamika Myers has looked at her front door and expected her daughter to open it. If she had walked in, Sierra Truesdale would have talked about the teenage pregnancy and domestic violence she saw in her community or about how gun violence ended too many lives around her. She would have talked about how life is short.

Grenville News: Families of infection victims seek answers

<http://www.grenvilleonline.com/story/news/health/2014/07/12/families-patients-infected-rare-bacteria-wants-answers-grenville-health-system/12582857/>

Eric Connor

Two deaths. Two rare infections. Two families left searching for answers. Two patients' families who say a fatal infection during surgery in the Greenville Health System claimed their loved ones' lives have come forward to share their stories and pursue legal action if they can't get the answers they want.

Greenville News: GHS infection probe focuses on water

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/health/2014/07/12/health-officials-look-water-possible-source-infection-greenville-health-system/12583233/>

Liv Osby

Federal health officials say they are focusing on water as the potential source of the bacteria that infected 15 patients at Greenville Memorial Hospital in recent months and which may have contributed to the deaths of three of them.

National News:

Associated Press: Republican governors' words shift on gay marriage

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/07/12/3560897/republican-governors-words-shift.html>

Steve Peoples, Erik Schelzig

Deep in the nation's Bible Belt, new signs emerged this weekend of an evolution among Republican governors on gay marriage, an explosive social issue that has divided American families and politics for years.

The Hill: Why hasn't Obama visited the border?

<http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/212058-gohmert-why-hasnt-obama-visited-the-border>

Justin Sink

Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-Texas) said the White House was "recycling the same explanations" offered by the Bush Administration after Hurricane Katrina to rebut questions over why President Obama hadn't visited the Texas border.

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