

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, October 1, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

TIME: South Carolina Governor Recognized for Handling of Charleston Shooting

<http://time.com/4055728/nikki-haley-charleston-harvard-award/>

Zeke J. Miller

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will receive an award from the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations Thursday in recognition for leadership after this year's Charleston shooting, her office said.

Note: Haley, who orchestrated the effort to remove the Confederate Battle Flag from the state capital grounds days after nine worshipers were killed at the Emanuel AME church, will deliver remarks about what the country can learn from South Carolina and its response to the shooting, her spokesman, Rob Godfrey, told TIME. She will also meet with students at the university's center for public service.

Associated Press: Director: Medicaid funded 222 abortions statewide in 5 years

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

Seanna Adcox

Medicaid paid for 222 abortions in South Carolina over the past five fiscal years, but none of those were provided by Planned Parenthood, the agency's director said Wednesday to legislators who are investigating state spending on abortions. South Carolina's Medicaid agency has spent \$437,361 on 222 abortions performed between July 1, 2010, and July 30, 2015.

Note: As a result of an investigation requested by Gov. Nikki Haley, the state Department of Health and Environmental Control suspended the licenses of two of the state's three abortion clinics earlier this month.

The State: S.C. Medicaid agency has paid for 222 abortions in last 5 years

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article37108467.html#storylink=cpy>

Cassie Cope

South Carolina's Medicaid agency has paid for 222 abortions during the past five years, according to a state agency. Planned Parenthood could have performed up to two additional abortions, a S.C. House oversight panel looking into how state agencies interact with Planned Parenthood was told Wednesday.

Note: Reed said the investigations of Planned Parenthood, requested by Gov. Nikki Haley and S.C. legislators, "were motivated by the political witch hunts that have been going on across the nation."

Greenville News: State's lawmakers ask agencies about abortion funding

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/09/30/states-lawmakers-ask-agencies-abortion-funding/73083558/>

Tim Smith

About 222 South Carolina women received abortions paid for by Medicaid over the past five years, though none of those occurred at Planned Parenthood's Columbia clinic, a state official says. The information surfaced during a three-hour hearing Wednesday by a state House oversight committee examining whether Planned Parenthood or other abortion providers receive state funds.

Note: GOP Gov. Nikki Haley ordered inspections by DHEC of South Carolina's three abortion clinics in August, which found dozens of violations and resulted in orders of suspension for the Greenville Women's Clinic and Planned Parenthood's Columbia Clinic.

Charleston Business Journal: 3 more S.C. counties join ranks of Work Ready Communities

<http://www.charlestonbusiness.com/news/55801-3-more-s-c-counties-join-ranks-of-work-ready-communities?rss=0>

Three more counties have received certification through the S.C. Work Ready Communities initiative, a program that establishes workforce and education goals, the Department of Employment and Workforce

said Calhoun, Chester and Orangeburg counties, along with 36 other counties, have now been awarded the certification.

WCIV: Poll: Two-thirds in SC support removal of Confederate Flag

<http://www.abcnews4.com/story/30153639/poll-two-thirds-in-sc-support-removal-of-confederate-flag>

Two-thirds of South Carolinians surveyed in the latest Winthrop Poll thought state lawmakers made the right decision to remove the Confederate Flag from Statehouse grounds. The newest poll from the university shows that by race, 54 percent of whites and 93 percent of blacks thought the flag's removal was the right decision.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, who pushed lawmakers to act in the wake of the Emanuel AME shooting and remove the Confederate Flag, has an approval rating of 55 percent, which is essentially unchanged since March.

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Confederate flag still divided by race

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151001/PC1603/151009979>

Schuyler Kropf

A new poll by Winthrop University shows two-thirds of South Carolina say the Legislature made the right decision to remove the Confederate battle flag from Statehouse grounds after the racially motivated fatal shooting at Emanuel AME Church. But it also shows there's a divide between black and white over what the flag symbolizes.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley will be in Massachusetts today to speak at a meeting of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations, where she will be honored for her handling of the June 17 shooting at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church

Greenville News: South Carolinians weigh in on Confederate flag, Graham

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/09/30/south-carolinians-weigh-confederate-flag-graham/73076044/>

Elizabeth Sanders

The latest Winthrop Poll of South Carolina residents bears bad news for Lindsey Graham. The senator who is running for President has a 40 percent approval rating in his home state. That's down from 45.5 percent in March. The poll didn't survey residents on all current presidential candidates, but it did ask what they think about current leaders. Governor Nikki Haley is higher at 55 percent.

S.C. Political News:

New York Times: All 15 Republican Candidates File for South Carolina Primary

http://www.nytimes.com/politics/first-draft/2015/09/30/all-15-republican-candidates-file-for-south-carolina-primary/?_r=0

Jonathan Martin

All 15 Republican presidential candidates have paid the \$40,000 required to run in the South Carolina Republican primary next year, the first ballot-access test in the G.O.P. race. The deadline for the Republican candidates to file and pay the fee was 5 p.m. on Wednesday.

The State: Record GOP field set for S.C. presidential primary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article37123071.html>

Andrew Shain

The S.C. Republican presidential primary could have a record 15 candidates on Feb. 20. By Wednesday's deadline to file, 16 hopefuls had paid the state party's \$40,000 fee to enter the South's first presidential primary. One who paid already has dropped out – Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker. More are expected to follow.

Greenville News: Trey Gowdy: "Every intention" to run again

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2015/09/30/gowdy-denies-plans-leave-congress-2016/73080620/>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

Rep. Trey Gowdy, after a second straight day of Capitol Hill speculation over his political future, said Wednesday that he plans to run for a fourth term in 2016. "I have every intention of doing so," Gowdy said in a brief interview walking between the Capitol and his office across the street.

Post and Courier: 15 Republicans file by deadline for S.C. GOP primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150930/PC1603/150939922>

Fifteen Republicans running for president next year will be on the ballot in South Carolina's first in the South primary on Feb. 20.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Tire Review: South Carolina: On a Roll

<http://www.tirereview.com/south-carolina-on-a-roll/>

Nikki Haley

South Carolina is on a roll. Recently dubbed the 'It' state, with a growing reputation for making premium cars and planes, South Carolina has long had the legacy as a leader in tire manufacturing. With four of the top 10 global tire manufacturers located in our state and a 40-year track record of making quality tires used around the world, South Carolina is now the top place in the nation for producing and exporting tires.

Post and Courier: No excuses: Fix rural schools

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151001/PC1002/151009978>

Editorial

The General Assembly seems to have two choices: It can complain about an order of the S.C. Supreme Court, or it can try to improve the inadequate schools in rural South Carolina. Too bad the Legislature's leadership has opted to complain, as yet another class of rural students spends the year in schools that are inadequate in the eyes of the court — and people throughout the state.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley has shown an interest in helping those poor, rural districts by offering incentives for teachers who take jobs in them, expanding the reading coach program and providing modern technology.

South Carolina News:

The State: Forest Acres police officer Greg Alia remembered as upstanding man, father

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article37135992.html>

Avery G. Wilks

The Forest Acres police officer shot and killed Wednesday morning was remembered by family and friends as a patient, caring man and an outstanding father. Greg Alia, 32, was fatally shot just before 8 a.m. Wednesday during a struggle with a suspect inside Richland Mall.

Aiken Standard: South Carolina congressmen divided on spending bill, funds provided for SRS

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20150930/AIK0101/150939935>

Derrek Asberry

None of South Carolina's Republican congressmen voted to keep the government open, leaving its lone Democrat as the only one who supported a short-term spending bill passed Wednesday just hours before the Oct. 1 deadline.

The State: Harrell must pay state \$113,475

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article37131297.html>

Andrew Shain

Former South Carolina House Speaker Bobby Harrell has until midnight Thursday to repay \$113,475 in campaign money the Charleston Republican used on legal fees during his political corruption case. The House Ethics Committee voted unanimously Sept. 1 that Harrell could not use money from his campaign account to pay his attorneys to try to fend off ethics charges.

Post and Courier: Harrell has until Thursday to repay more than \$113,000

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150930/PC16/150939911>

Schuyler Kropf

Former House Speaker Bobby Harrell has until Thursday to pay more than \$113,000 he used improperly for attorneys fees while fighting the corruption charges against him. A legislative ethics panel last month ordered Harrell, R-Charleston, to pay the money following his guilty plea and subsequent resignation.

Associated Press: Attorneys in Charleston church shooting meet with judge

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=cd2nBBAT

Bruce Smith

Attorneys in the federal government's case against a white man accused of gunning down nine black people at a Charleston church earlier this year meet with the judge hearing the case on Thursday. Twenty-one-year-old Dylann Roof faces dozens of federal charges, including hate crimes, stemming from the June 17 shootings at Emanuel AME Church.

Local News:

Post and Courier: College of Charleston contends with \$1.5 million budget shortfall

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150930/PC16/150939959>

Paul Bowers

The College of Charleston must make spending cuts this year to deal with a \$1.5 million budget shortfall, according to a college spokesman. School leaders have not yet decided where they will trim spending, but they do know the reason for the shortage: Not enough out-of-state students enrolled this year, meaning that the college is missing out on revenue from those students' higher tuition rates.

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437

Office: 803-734-0304